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First United Methodist Church Newsletter

October-November-December, 2022

I LOVE FALL! Fall is my favorite season! The turning leaves, the crisp cool air, cloudy days and starry nights. I love all of the activities that define Fall. Bonfires, pumpkins pies, and times of Thanksgiving. Below are a few of my favorite things that are happening this season at our growing Church. I look forward to seeing you there!

THE PARANORMAL AND THE CHURCH The month of October our sermon series continues on The Paranormal and the Church. Ghosts. Psychics & Mediums. Angels and Demons. Are they real? Scripture has much to say about these mysteries! If you missed this past Sunday on "Ghosts" you can watch and share the recorded livestream from our facebook page. This weekend we explore mediums, psychics and sensitives. The rest of the series is outlined in the a graphic in our newsletter. So, who are you going to invite to come with you?!

NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON, OCT 23 Are you interested in membership at First UMC? Join our Pastors for lunch Sunday, October 23, 11am-3pm, for a wonderful meal and great conversation that will encourage you and connect you with Christ and with one another. Sign up on your bulletin Communication Card or call Deb in the office. 636-937-6205.

HARVEST DINNER / ONE SERVICE, NOV 13 It is a wonderful tradition for us to join together for a meal of Thanksgiving in November in our Fellowship Hall. The main dish and drinks will be provided. You are invited to bring a side dish to share. To enhance our time together we will once again have ONE SERVICE that weekend, Nov 13, Sunday at 10am.

ALTAR AREA REBUILD We are excited to announce that our Time Capsule is going into our Altar Area Rebuild this week and we will have full worship on our beautiful new altar space in the sanctuary this weekend. Thank you for your patience and that allows us to continue to prepare our space for greater worship and ministry. You can give safely and securely to our Vital Ministries at www.festusumc.org/give

This weekend, plan to attend worship Saturday 5pm or Sunday 10am as we gather with Joy, Unity, and Making a Difference. God is with us!

PS See the graphics and stories inside for more upcoming opportunities! You can always find a church bulletin and the most recent newsletter at www.festusumc.org/media.

Pastor Tish

A Brief Methodist History and Theology By Pastor Adam

One question I am often asked is what exactly is a United Methodist and what makes us distinctly different from other denominations, and the simple answer to this is we follow what is known as the Book of Discipline and seek guidance from what is known as the Book of Resolutions. However, this answer, although speaking to the technical answer, doesn't speak to the heart of what it means to be a United Methodist. The heart of what it means to be United Methodist comes down to three main points: The Social Gospel, a personal connection with the divine, and unity in the face of adversity and disagreement. Over the next few newsletters I will be highlighting one of these aspects and explaining what exactly it means to be a United Methodist.

The first major heart of the church is the idea of the social gospel, also known as the social principle. This is the idea that we are a church that cares deeply about the wellbeing of all the world and the communities in which we serve. It is our duty as Christians to work to better the lives of those around us in whatever ways we can. This idea dates back to 1908 with the establishment of the Social Creed which reads a following *The Methodist Episcopal Church stands –*

For equal rights and complete justice for all (people) in all stations of life.

For the principle of conciliation and arbitration in industrial dissensions.

For the protection of the worker from dangerous machinery, occupational diseases, injuries and mortality.

For the abolition of child labor.

For such regulation of the conditions of labor for women as shall safe guard the physical and moral health of the community.

For the suppression of the "sweating system."

For the gradual and reasonable reduction of hours of labor to the lowest practical point, with work for all; and for that degree of leisure for all which is the condition of the highest human life.

For a release from employment one day in seven.

For a living wage in every industry.

For the highest wage that each industry can afford, and for the most equitable division of the products of industry that can ultimately be devised.

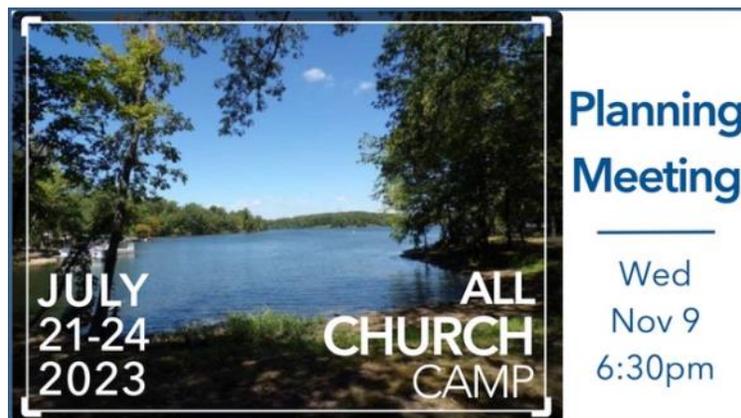
For the recognition of the Golden Rule and the mind of Christ as the supreme law of society and the sure remedy for all social ills.

These ideas became a building block for Methodist Doctrine and a driving force behind many of their stances on social issues. Over time this Social Creed expanded to cover more social issues present in the world and systemic evils that plague our hearts and souls. Eventually over time the name changed into what is now known as the Book of Resolutions, which although not binding in terms of theology or polity, has become a staple of Methodist Identity and momentum as we continually strive towards perfection and a better life for all.



INTERESTED IN HELPING SERVE AS A GREETER, USHER OR LITURGIST?

If so, please contact Joyce Laiben regarding being a greeter or usher. Her number is 636-937-6923. If you would like to serve as liturgist during the Saturday evening services, call Deb Cambron at 636-937-6205 and she will add your name to the call list. You can also indicate your interest to serve on the communication tear off card on the church bulletin. Thanks!



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The Food Pantry is gearing up in anticipation of a busy Fall season! Upcoming events include the annual Boy Scout Food Drive (Saturday, November 19), Christmas basket preparation and distribution, and Pantry client enrollment for 2023. All of this is in addition to our current project—moving our storeroom to larger area/Room 107. This move provides us space for better organization of Pantry items as well as a safer work area.

Our continued notes of appreciation go out to the entire congregation for their support of this Mission. Without your dedicated donations of Pantry items and monetary gifts, none of this would be possible. We will be restarting our “Pantry Pickers” program, first week in October, for food donation suggestions. In addition, we will be requesting physical assistance during the Scout Drive (Nov. 19, 9:30a-4pm) and Christmas Basket distribution (date TBA). Several of you have asked how you can help in the Pantry and, as you can see, we will certainly need your additional help in the coming months. More info will be coming concerning dates and times as well as sign-up sheets made available.

Our Food Pantry has been in existence for 20+ years, evolving with the times, but always with the same mission to:

“Do No Harm” - Treat everyone with Dignity and Respect

“Do Good” - Provide those in need with food and other basic essentials, thereby giving Hope for a better life

“Stay in Love with God” - Spread the message of God’s Love

PIANO RECITAL

There will be a piano recital and dedication of the grand piano dedicated by John and Karen Evans on Sunday, October 23, at 2 pm, at the First Christian Church, 415 North Mill Street in Festus, Missouri. All are invited to attend this recital and dedication.

BALCONY WINDOW RESTORATION PROGRESS

Our final and largest stained glass restoration project has begun. The week of August 28 we met our initial goal of \$10,000 which allowed our artisan, William Sumner, to pull the three remaining windows from the balcony and begin the intricate work of restoration. The total cost of this window is \$43,000 and will take well into 2023 to complete. Thank you for your continued generosity as we beautify and preserve our place of worship. Honor the Past. Embrace the Future. Giving options are available to www.FestusUMC.org/give.



A POEM FROM ANNE WELLS

Cool autumn, stands aloof, reserved,
Letting her colors speak for themselves.
Inscrutably, she stares back at summer.

Detached, she shrugs at winter.

Her voice is a gentle wind

That belies the brilliance of her stance.

She is resigned to her moments of glory and her death.

She knows of Resurrection,
And so, smiles softly to herself.

MAGNOLIA HOUSE AND KEATON CENTER MINISTRIES....

In April some of the Magnolia House residents attended Sunday service at FUMC. On that Sunday, Pastor Tish spoke about Emmaus. One of the Magnolia House residents was moved by what he heard, but was told he could not attend Emmaus. So Mark Laudau decided he would bring an Emmaus-like ministry to the residents of Magnolia House. Each Wednesday Mark brings the gospel to those residents and offers communion. In addition, FUMC has provided food pantry items to residents and Tom Wells has visited to play his saxophone.

Mark was moved to expand his ministry and started the process to enter Comtrea's Keaton Center. This involved a mountain of paperwork, background and drug checks and a TB test. He is currently offering gospel ministry and communion to six residents there and with great success.

Please pray for Mark's continued success with his ministry efforts!

PRAYER SHAWL NEWS....

Theresa Perry, who coordinates Prayer Shawl activities, would like to remind everyone that prayer shawls are always available and can be found in the Narthex. She encourages everyone who needs prayer to take a shawl.

On Sunday, September 18, 25 shawls were blessed. On that day 8 shawls were taken. If you would like to help make prayer shawls, please call Theresa at 636-937-4559. The group meets the second Monday of every month in Room 200. Thanks!

BIRTHDAYS

October

2 Bernard Laiben
 5 Marcia Grant
 6 Lauren Deichmann
 6 Keith Vinyard
 7 Mark Caputo
 8 Harrison Fonner
 9 Patty Bone
 10 Kenny Bender
 11 Ben Zoellner
 12 Elinor Baird
 12 Joshua Morrison
 13 Janet Staggs
 14 Ruth Tucker
 15 Margaret Morgan
 15 Joshua Thornborrow
 16 Daniel Cathcart
 16 Janice Lentz
 17 Eugene Baumgarth
 17 Kathy Cage
 17 Ryan Fonner
 19 Patricia Borgfield
 19 Faye Strother
 22 Joyce Miller
 23 James Anderson
 23 Samantha Cathcart
 23 Michael Robinson
 23 Kimberly Wilson
 24 Matthew Coleman
 24 Larry Wood
 25 Karen Fitzsimmons
 25 Larry Geiler
 25 Trish Oetting
 26 John Craig
 26 Callie Leitnerman
 26 Gina Prather
 27 Suzanne Collier
 29 Mary Dunn
 30 Audrey Lammert
 31 Patrick Gerding
 31 Gaila Kelso
 31 Justin Kozel
 31 Freda Turnbough

November

2 Steve Bargman
 2 Howard Inman
 4 Betsy Hazen
 5 Mike Rozog
 7 Jerry Kelso
 8 Karleen Pontius
 9 Caylie Fix
 9 Shirley Gerding
 11 Denise Carr
 11 Faye Mulvey
 18 Richard Lea, III
 20 Cole Edward
 20 Pat Parsons
 20 Travis Williams
 23 Cassandra Blanks
 23 Gabriella Burch
 24 Nancy Johnson
 24 Jeffrey Whaley
 25 Charlotte Whaley
 26 Frances Brock
 29 Clarkson Wells
 30 Josephine Lammert



December

1 Carol Bailey
 1 Emily Dunn
 1 Rachel Foster
 1 Emily Lammert
 2 John Litton
 3 Becky Richards
 3 Deborah Roth
 3 Drew Smith
 5 Keith Drinen
 5 Linda Reifsteck
 7 Anna Mae Alford
 8 Susan Gravenmier
 8 Michele Oestricker
 10 Gregory Lentz
 10 Jeffrey Reese
 11 Levi Green
 12 Fayo Edwards
 16 Cory Fix
 17 DeRonda Krug
 17 Michael Rickman
 17 Ike Schevers
 19 Karen Koenig
 20 Sheila Reese
 22 Dustin Burch, Jr.
 22 Natalie Fox
 22 Harold Oetting
 22 Craig Vinyard
 24 Mary Albright
 25 Dee Meadows
 25 Mary Bender
 25 James Blanks, Jr.
 25 Carole Gwyn
 26 Kathy Ciscell
 27 Nancy McDaniel
 28 Lois Adams
 29 Robert Guidroz
 29 Ruby Higgins
 29 Jeannie Thornborrow
 31 Beverly Land
 31 Justin Oestricker

CHOIR CHAIRS PURCHASED...A big thank you to all who gave so quickly and generously to purchase 35 new chairs for our Choir Room. The wooden folding chairs have certainly served their purpose for the last many decades. The new chairs are stronger, more comfortable, light weight and stackable. Thank you!

THE PANCAKE BEAKFAST...We enjoy opportunities to partner with Festus and Crystal City to provide wonderful community events. On September 10, 2022 we provided a free Pancake Breakfast to kick of Twin City Days. We served 174 people and raised \$610 in donations for our Food Pantry. Thank you to all who made this a great success!



Ghosts. Psychics & Mediums. Angels & Demons. Are they real? Can they affect me?

You may be surprised to learn that Scripture has a lot to say about these mysteries. Explore **The Paranormal and The Church** this October with Pastor Tish Laiben Green at First United Methodist Church of Festus/Crystal City.

10/02	Ghosts
10/09	Mediums, Psychics & Sensitives
10/16	Angels
10/23	Demons
10/30	Spiritual Warfare

Modern Worship **Sundays 10am**
Traditional Worship **Saturdays 5pm**

First United Methodist Church of Festus/Crystal City

113 Grand Avenue, Festus, MO 63028

www.FestusUMC.org ~ 636-937-6205

New Members United

FALL
2022

Interested in membership at First UMC?
Join our Pastors for lunch and conversation.
Sign up on your Communication Card.

Sunday, Oct 23, 11am - 3pm

OCT

Southeast District

Eagle Sky Christian Camp
Piedmont, MO 10am-3pm

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LAITY EVENT

www.FestusUMC.org/Grow

Harvest Dinner

Sunday
Nov 13
11:30 am

Main dish
& drinks
provided

You are
invited to
bring a side
dish to share!

First United
METHODIST CHURCH

ONE WORSHIP
Service

NOV 13 ~ SUN 10AM

SANCTUARY PLATFORM REBUILD



Work began Sunday afternoon, September 18, 2022, to rebuild the sanctuary platform that holds our altar, choir loft, pulpit, and lectern. The Church Council approved the work to address safety concerns over the uneven nature of the previous platform. The finished product is a beautiful oak hardwood floor that is one level with a single stair outlining the seven sides which preserve the original rounded appearance. Two hand rails were added to assist those climbing the stair, the organ was placed in a more accessible space, and all new electric and audio wiring was installed, removing some knob and tube wiring that was still in use! In addition to the improved safety, the new platform provides more space for large events such as our Annual Christmas Concert with orchestra and 40 voice choir and our growing praise and worship arts ministries.

Matching kneelers made from the previous railings will complete the project. Thank you for your patience during the rebuild and for your continued generosity that enables us to address safety concerns and enhance the worship and ministry of First UMC.



**1924 Design
Photo 1950**



**1973 Design
Photo 2022**



METHODIST NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Over 30 First UMC fans enjoyed a Cardinal win over the Reds on Methodist Night at the Ballpark. Notice Bishop Bob Farr wearing number 6 jersey in the background!



BUREN CHAPEL AME CHURCH

Several from First UMC supported Buren Chapel AME Church by attending a fundraising event on Sunday, September 18, 2022. First UMC has shared in ministry with Buren Chapel and Rev. Gabrielle Kennedy-Smith on several occasions including Easter in the Park, Thanksgiving Community Service, and Good Friday Worship. We are fulfilling the work of Christ among us when we partner with other believers to do good work in our community. Pictured: Rev. Tish Green, First UMC; and Rev. Gabrielle Kennedy-Smith, Buren Chapel AME Church.





Christmas Cookie Bake!! Attention all Bakers, Decorators and Would Be Cookie Chefs!!

On December 8th and 9th we would love to have your help to bake and decorate Christmas cookies in our church kitchen. No previous experience or expertise is required. Just come help us bake, decorate and fellowship. The cookies will then be sold that following weekend here at church in the Fellowship Hall. More details will be coming soon! You are most welcome to come join us!

United Women in Faith

CHRISTMAS MISSIONS...Karen Evans

Christmas is a time when we draw nearer to God and remember how fortunate we are. It is a time when we have the opportunity to help others. One way is to donate gift cards for the Homeless Youth Initiative (HYI). In our county we have approximately 123 homeless youth. This does not necessarily include youth that are in foster care or couch surfing (couch surfing is where a student will stay at a friend's house a few days then at another friend's house and just surfs

CHRISTMAS MISSIONS...Karen Evans (continued)

The Homeless Youth Initiative helps with college readiness, scholarships, emergency food, cost of transportation, school supplies and personal care products. In addition to these activities, they help provide Christmas gifts. Many of the youth request gift cards. This is where we can assist.

This Christmas we are requesting gift cards for \$10-\$20 from Walmart and Amazon. If you do not want to buy a gift card, you may make a donation to UMC marked HYI Christmas.

TIME CAPSULE

Last but not least, a time capsule will be installed in the new altar area. Items included are the bulletin from the one service on September 24/25, 2022, a signed document of those in worship that weekend, a thumb drive of the livestream video, a handwritten notecard from Pastor Tish Green, photos of the 1924, 1973 and 2022 altar area, digital photos of the altar area rebuild and church events from 2021-22, a red face mask with First UMC logo, cross ornament given by Sherri Connell from the Church Christmas Tree and an updated church history.



ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER....

We hope you have enjoyed reading the second FUMC newsletter of 2022. This is a quarterly publication. If you would like your newsletter to be mailed, please contact me at 636-937-6205 or via email at welcome@festusumc.org. This newsletter was sent via Constant Contact and was posted on the First UMC website. Hard copies are available in the narthex.

Thanks!

Deb Cambron

First UMC Office Manager