

The Messenger

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First United Methodist Church



Prayer Walk / Salad Lunch

As part of our church's "Abundant Health" initiative, the Missions Covenant Team is sponsoring a prayer walk immediately after the 11:00 a.m. worship service on October 15. Everyone is invited. We will leave the church with water bottles in hand, and walk to several downtown locations to pray for specific needs in our community. The 35-minute walk will bring us back to the church for lunch. Each family is asked to bring a big, healthy salad to share. So bring your walking shoes and join us!



► **Church Council**
Monday, 10/23, 5:30 p.m.

► **Charge Conference**
Sunday, 10/29, 2:00 p.m.

The Bishop is Coming!

FUMC is excited to welcome Bishop David Graves to speak at 6 p.m. on **Sunday, October 29!** Following his message, you'll have the opportunity to meet Bishop Graves at a reception in the fellowship hall. Please join us for this very special event!



Bishop David Graves

Sermon for Sunday, October 15

Stones From a Rubble Heap

Nehemiah 6:1-3

Guest preacher: Britt Martin



Saturday, October 28

5:30 – Trunk or Treat
6:00 – Chili Cook-off & Supper

Prizes awarded for:

- ◆ Best kid's costume
 - ◆ Best trunk
 - ◆ Best chili
- Please sign up to:
- ◆ Provide a decorated trunk (may use 2 parking spaces)
 - ◆ Enter chili cook-off (please use a crock pot)

Get ready for a wonderful Saturday evening! Following our Trunk or Treat event, we will enjoy a hotdog and chili supper. The church will provide hotdogs, chips and cookies, and the chili will be provided by the cook-off contestants! Please sign up in the fellowship hall or email the [church office](#) by October 15.

October 15 Volunteers

► Acolytes

11:00 – Sulli Calton, Maddox Givens

► Sacristy Prayer Leaders

8:30 – Virginia Clark

11:00 – Jim Calton

► Ushers

8:30 – Morris Whitfield

Toni Davidson

11:00 – Charlie Schaeffer

Brandon Coates

Charles Irvin, Lamar Lee

► Lay Readers

8:30 – Virginia Clark

11:00 – Jim Martin

► Greeters

8:30 – Pam Wilkes

11:00 – Doug & Betsy Purcell

► Children's Church

11:00 – Alison Tye

► Elevate Meal

6:10 – Dee Miller, Denise Padgett

Calendar of Events

► Sunday, October 15

Worship	8:30
Sunday School	9:45
Worship	11:00
Prayer Walk/Salad Lunch	12:00
Elevate	5:30

► Tuesday, October 17

CARE Team 4:30

► Wednesday, October 18

Children's Choirs	4:30
Supper	5:00
Elevate Next Level (youth)	6:00
Handbells	6:00
Chancel Choir	7:00

Recharge Menu

Wednesday, October 18

Pork Chops, Cabbage,
Creamed Potatoes & Gravy,
Cornbread, Dessert

Hey FUMC Family,

Here's this week's *Elevate Top 5!*



1) Last week at Elevate we started a new series called Family Values. Every family has values that make it tick. We all have things that are most important to us. This month we're looking at what values make our youth group family function; the things that we want to drive everything we do. Last week we talked about the first value – Lift. When we say lift we're really talking about worship. We define worship as LIFTING Jesus high in our lives. We talked about how worship is SO much more than going into a room on Sunday to sing hymns and hear a sermon. Worship is a RESPONSE to God for the gifts, providence, and presence that God provides. Worship is SURRENDER to the fact that God has our best in mind and that God's way is the best way, and worship is GRATITUDE for the fact that God sent Jesus to bring the Kingdom of God to Earth! This month is like a big family meeting. Come check out our next value this Sunday at 5:30!

2) For the next few weeks on Wednesday nights we're talking about Anxiety. We all have it, but how we deal with it makes all the difference in the world. *Next Level Bible Study* happens Wednesday nights at 6. It's a time when we really dig in to God's word without all the games and fluff. If you're looking for a little more, this is for you!

3) SAVE THE DATE: February 9-11 is our second annual IMPACT Weekend! Registration is opening really soon! Be on the lookout for more info about this awesome weekend and be sure to register early to take advantage of the early bird discount.

4) I know it seems like summer just ended, but believe it or not, we're already hard at work on plans for Summer 2018. Stay on the lookout for a BIG announcement about our High School Mission trip for next summer!!

5) Be sure to follow us on social media to stay up to date on everything that is happening with us. We also post lots of fun pictures on our social media pages. You can find us on Facebook at "FUMC Eufaula Youth Ministry" and on Instagram at ElevateEufaula.

That's all for now. God looks good on you –
Britt

Trustee Report (part 1 of 2)

Dear Church Family,

Your Board of Trustees provided a Trustee report to you in June, and the following is an update on issues the Trustees have addressed on behalf of the church since that time.

First, we want to thank Billy & Toni Houston for donating the watercolor depicting our church which the Trustees decided to hang above the couch in the lobby outside of the sanctuary. We hope you're enjoying this addition.

We would also like to thank Jeff Wilbourne for refinishing the doors entering the sanctuary. It was noted on our walk-thru of the church at the beginning of the year that these doors needed work, and we appreciate Jeff taking on

that project and donating his time and talents. Jeff has also been working on several parsonage repairs.

If you have not noticed yet, please take a look at the new youth room color. Upon request, the Trustees approved Britt and the youth painting the room a lighter shade, and we think it's a nice change.

The Trustees remain on a tight budget. The major maintenance fund is currently \$9,645.94, however, \$5,000 of that is earmarked to pay the deductible for the new parsonage roof which has been scheduled to be replaced. We have approximately \$1,126.25 remaining in our church repair fund (\$5,000 was budgeted), and we are over budget by \$371.35 in our parsonage repair fund (\$2,500 was the budget). At the beginning of this year when the budget was set we didn't know about our preacher change. A lot of parsonage expense was incurred for sprucing up the house to welcome the Cassadys and issues related to dead trees and storm damage.

In June, we reported that we were addressing the water intrusion in our new connector building after heavy rains. Anderson Construction replaced the threshold but also redesigned a portion of the sidewalk leading up to the threshold. They discovered the concrete was slightly unlevel creating a gap which we believe allowed water to enter under the floor. They have redesigned that area, and we are monitoring to make sure this has solved our water intrusion at this area. Anderson Construction completed that fix at no cost to us. As discussed previously, Anderson also added new flashing outside the choir room which we hope will help continue to keep water out of that area of the church. We have asked Bryan Alexander to check our clogged storm drains and will follow up on that as that was a recommendation from Anderson to continue to help keep water out of our buildings.

Since the last report we have had leaks in the yard in front of the office and a sprinkler system repair. We have also had several fixes on A/C units in our education building, fellowship hall, and the large unit outside of the sanctuary. C&C Contractors has been called several times. C&C recently replaced the belts on the large outside unit and cleaned the unit. The largest and most expensive job, however, was the replacement of the A/C unit in the back closet of the Fellowship Hall. This unit is an additional cooling unit for that room. It had a condensation catch pan leak and has caused significant damage to the closet floor and the ceiling of the girls' bathroom in the nursery hall which is directly below the closet. This unit was 27 years old. Cheaper more temporary fixes were proposed but led to risks of finding more problems due to working on a unit that is 27 years old. Therefore, after much discussion among the Trustees and with the approval of the Finance Committee, the Trustees recommended we replace this unit which we hope will also provide more efficiency in the future. Because the cost is a little over \$5,000, the Trustees requested approval of this expense from the Finance Committee. It is not final, but this expense will likely be paid ½ from the major maintenance fund and ½ from the church's line of credit so as not to completely use the remainder of the Trustees' annual budgeted funds for this year as we have more immediate repairs to address. Those immediate needs include addressing the damaged Fellowship Hall closet floor and the girls bathroom ceiling on the nursery hall, significant cracks in the sound room walls of the sanctuary, addressing leakage around the storm windows, repairing broken outlets, removing exposed wires in nursery hall, and handling drainage and gutter issues. We are also checking into the cost of sanctuary pew repairs and cost of utility mats to prevent slipping on the front porch. *(Part 2 will continue in next week's edition of The Messenger.)*

Prayer List

▶ New concerns:

Mitzi Tzerman

▶ Continue to pray for:

Dave Allen
Herbie Weaver
*Jane Pody
Alison Haas
Jim Roberts
George Williams
*Louise Trammell
Mary Sellers
Linda Dudewicz
Cruz Rios
*Mel Stephenson
*John Hagood
*Louise Britt
*Betty Searcy
Walter Harmer
*John Jenkins
Bobby Gray
Kathy Armstrong
*Taylor Washington
*Jeff Richards
*Brian Devlin-Meagher
Mary Lindsey Hannahan
*Richard Boyette

▶ Prayer list guidelines:

If you would like to place someone's name on the list, please ask that person's permission before calling the office. Names remain for 4 weeks unless requested to remain. * denotes church members.

A Look at October 8

Sunday School	60
8:30 Worship	15
11:00 Worship	80
Total Worship	95
Offering received	\$TBA
YTD received	\$TBA
BTT balance	\$338,937

Birthdays

Sunday, October 15

- ▶ Meredith McWhorter
Tim Shirley



▶ Monday, October 16

Mike Killian

Tuesday, October 17

- ▶ Jerry Stanley

Wednesday, October 18

- ▶ Ben Conklin
Florence Saurman

*Happy
Birthday!*

**Music
Notes**

A graphic of a blue treble clef with several musical notes floating above it.

just not that easy to do sometimes. I would like to be able to do it. I certainly believe it and yet, I am the type of person that just can't let go of the tiller so to speak. I would imagine that I am not alone in this.

My children's sermon on Sunday had to do with my planting a very small vegetable patch at the age of four. Now that in itself isn't very earth shaking. But the thing is, I planted it in what was once a storage spot for coal in the old house in which I lived when very young. In fact, the dirt was black with coal dust. But I still did not let that bother me. And too, the spot was in a great place where I could be observed by adult eyes without their actually being right there with me. I prayed every night for my "garden to grow good"...I remember doing it. I had no doubt that my little garden was going to prosper and that God would help it grow. And guess what, it did grow. In fact I got a few butter beans from it that were cooked for me for one of my meals. The carrots would have done better had I left them alone. But I kept pulling them up to check on their progress. I heard my grandmother say that I must have a lot of faith to grow the garden in a coal bin but I really didn't understand what she meant. I just knew God was going to help my garden.

At what age do we lose that type of faith? Is it when we pray for something so specific and God feels a better outcome is in order so we are disappointed? Is it when we become more independent and feel that we don't need help from anyone? I'm not sure. But I do know that it is hard to "let go and let God" as the phrase says. Obviously, there have been many poets and hymn writers who have pondered this. It seems that it would be easy to totally trust a being who created all that is around us. It's something in which I believe and I plan to keep working at it as I am truly thankful for God's love, grace, and forgiveness.

I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday. God bless, Billy

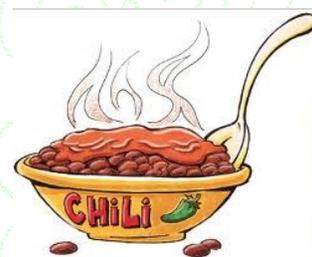
The mission of First United Methodist Church is to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our church, community and world.

No Bible Study Tonight

If you usually attend the Adult Bible Study on Wednesday evenings, please remember that Pastor Alan is on vacation so you will not meet tonight or next Wednesday. The study will resume on October 25.

We Need Chili!

This Sunday, October 15th is the deadline to sign up for the Chili Cook-Off which will be held immediately following our Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 28th. Why not go ahead and sign up now! Click [here](#) to get that task out of the way!



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