

First Connection

A Publication of First United Methodist Church of Blue Springs

February 7, 2018

Volume 12, Issue 2

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

SALVAGED: "I once was lost, but now am found." What does it mean to be saved? From what have you been saved? To what are you being saved? This Lent, we'll explore encounters between Jesus and some deeply broken people, to see what it means for God to salvage the brokenness of our lives and turn us into something beautiful. After all, as they say, God don't make no junk.

February 17/18: Nathanael: Too Much Doubt to Believe. John 1:43-51

February 24/25: Zacchaeus: Stuck in a Meaningless, Dead-End Job. Luke 19:1-10

March 3-4: The Nameless Bleeding Woman: When Nothing Helps. Luke 8:43-48

March 10/11: The Paralyzed Man: Take Your Cot Home. Matthew 9:1-8

March 17/18: The Blind Man: Twice Healed. Mark 8:22-26

March 24/25: Palm Sunday: Malchus: Healed in Spite of Intending Harm. Luke 22:47-53

March 31/April 1: Easter: Peter: From Denial to Resurrection Hope. Mark 16:1-8

LITERACY INITIATIVE

First UMC is starting a Literacy Initiative in the Blue Springs School District. We will be volunteering with kids in several schools helping kids with reading or just reading to and with them. Time commitment is at least one hour a week.

If you are interested, call Linda Cox at 898-3608 or email at lindacox53@gmail.com so we can get background checks started. We currently have 15 volunteers and would love to get 25.

We will have a Literacy meeting on Sunday, February 11, from 3:00-4:00pm in room 117 for more information and to sign up.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Several opportunities for scholarships are available at First UMC. A brochure describing the criteria for the scholarships can be found on the information table in the lobby.

Scholarship forms can also be found on the church website: bluespringsumc.org. Go to Connect, then Scholarship.

Copies of the forms are also available on the information table in the lobby. Applications must be printed and turned in to the church office.

Application deadline for First UMC scholarships is noon on Friday, March 30, 2018.

Ash Wednesday Services

February 14, 2018

10:30am and 7:00pm



We'd like to extend a special thanks to Rev. Paul Bond in using his talent to carve a new John Wesley statue for our front garden.

The old statue will be retired; the new one will be moved outside in the spring. In the meantime, stop and take a look at the new John Wesley in the lobby!



First UMC's Mission Statement:

Making faithful, hopeful, loving disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



First Connection



Dear First Friends,

These words from Rachel Carson seem particularly appropriate as I write this column: "There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature—the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter." We're in the thick of wintry winter, and yet we have full trust that spring will come soon.

In the same way, every season of Lent is followed by the assurance of Easter. Next Wednesday, we are entering the season of Lent. At our Ash Wednesday services at 10:30am and 7:00pm, we will receive the mark of ashes as a reminder of our mortality. We will then receive the gift of Holy Communion as a reminder of Christ's sacrificial love for us in life, death, and life beyond death. It is a beautiful service for which it is worth making room in your busy schedule.

During Lent, you might be surprised when you walk in and see our chancel area. I don't want to give away the surprise, but if you're a fan of DIY television shows, you might feel at home. Our Lenten sermon series is called "Salvaged," and we'll be looking at the ways that Jesus took broken people and made them into something new. If Jesus did that for people in his day, he can surely do the same thing for us.

Finally, I want to encourage you to read carefully the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter about our new literacy project. Bishop Farr is encouraging every church in Missouri to help move the needle on poverty in Missouri by working on childhood literacy, since there is a strong correlation between increased literacy rates and decreased poverty rates. We are going to be partnering with several schools in our district, and our goal is to have at least 50 volunteers by next fall. We are already putting people into schools this month. Come join us and be part of making a difference for our community!

Blessings,
Sally



January 20-21, 2018		
Giving:	2018	2017
One Fund.....	\$18,931	
YTD One Fund	\$51,654	\$39,297
<u>Worship Attendance:</u>		
Worship.....	367	
Sunday School		
Children.....	55	
Youth.....at WOW		
Adults.....	121	
Total	176	
Wednesday Evening Youth: 31		
More detailed financial information is available at the information table in the lobby or in the church office.		

January 27-28, 2018		
Giving:	2018	2017
One Fund.....	\$25,897	
YTD One Fund	\$77,551	\$58,056
<u>Worship Attendance:</u>		
Worship.....	375	
Sunday School		
Children.....	65	
Youth.....	6	
Adults.....	120	
Total	191	
Wednesday Evening Youth: 23		
More detailed financial information is available at the information table in the lobby or in the church office.		

February 3-4, 2018		
Giving:	2018	2017
One Fund.....	\$22,026	
YTD One Fund	\$99,577	\$74,818
<u>Worship Attendance:</u>		
Worship.....	357	
Sunday School		
Children.....	67	
Youth.....	9	
Adults.....	108	
Total	184	
Wednesday Evening Youth: 25		
More detailed financial information is available at the information table in the lobby or in the church office.		



First UMC Children's
Ministry

Weekly Sunday School—Join us every Sunday morning at 9:15 and 10:40. There are classes for 3-year-olds and up. Nursery is available for all worship services, birth through two years old.



Join us:

—Sunday mornings at 10:40 downstairs in the youth room 014 for Sunday School! Fellowship Groups meet on Sunday evenings.

—and Wednesday evenings at 5:00 for youth group!

All are welcome—students and parents!

First Connection

First Kids

Contact Michelle Mueller-Hinton at mmueller-hinton@bluespringsumc.org

Wee Singers and Children's Chimers

Power Praise Kids

Wee Singers is for children ages Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 1. They meet on Sundays at 10:15am in room 115.

Contact Brooke Roskop at broskop@bluespringsumc.org.

Children's Chimers

Children in grades 2 through 5 have the opportunity to develop their musical skills through Children's Chimers (hand chimes). Chimers meet on Sundays at 10:45am in room 154.

Contact Liz Mueller at e.a.mueller@sbcglobal.net.

Power Praise Kids

Children in grades 2 through 5 have the opportunity to develop their musical skills through Power Praise Kids (vocal). Power Praise Kids meet on Sundays at 4:00pm in room 116.

Contact Linda Cox at lindacox53@gmail.com.

Learning Ladder Early Enrollment

Fall enrollment for church members is underway. Registration information can be found on the church website under the Ministries tab, then look for Learning Ladder Preschool. Please contact the Learning Ladder office at 229-9949 with any questions.

Impact Youth Ministry

Contact Mark Hansher at mhansher@bluespringsumc.org

February:

It is officially that time again! Youthpalooza 2018 is here and we are excited!

On the weekend of February 10-11, the youth are taking over all four services at First UMC, and it will be great!

We'll be transitioning into the season of Lent, attending the Ash Wednesday service on February 14, as a youth group. We'll then be working through a Lenten study up until Easter during our regular Wednesday evening meetings.

Speaking of Easter! Our youth are once again being called on to plan the Sunrise Service on Easter morning, April 1.

More information will be sent out soon, so mark your calendars!



HEALTH CONCERNS

Larry Allen	Mary Arth	Doris Brooks
Max Brown	Willis Byram	Susan Delap
Marti Dietrich	Judy Gregston	Maxine Hall
Vicki Kerr	Lois Krueger	Ken Land
Jean Moore	Wayne Ogilvie	Pat Parr
Marvin Rinne	Chere Semple	Janet Tabler
C.R. Wooderson	Steve Young	

Beverly England, friend of Gwen Wheeler
Chris Longest, per Chelsea Morehouse
Doreen Ninemire, Nathan Ninemire's mother
Grant Hess, Jean Moore's brother-in-law
Jean and Bill Best, per Marisa Gilbert
Karen Gangestad, friend of Gwen Wheeler
Kathy Fields, friend of Kay and Perry McCormick
Kelsey Kwapnoski, Kenny and Lenora Stoecklein's granddaughter
Leila Lenning, Richard Lenning's mother
Mandy Lockhart, per Brenda Yanney
Marilyn Callighan, Jean Moore's sister-in-law
Nancy Binkley, per Jim and Marti Dietrich
Pete Shelton, friend of Randy Williams
Rita and Bill Thompson, per Jean Moore
Ryan McCormick, Kay and Perry McCormick's nephew
Teresa Thurman, Betty Hartwig's sister-in-law

MILITARY

Michael Bailey*	Alec Kinder
Sean Batulis	Ben Patillo
Tyler Byrd	Christian Schroeder
Emily Brittingham	Justin Schroeder
Mason Buckler*	Randall Schroeder
Brady Dean	Jason Tisdale*
Tony DeMack	Randall Shaffer
Ethan Endicott	Cole Sims
Robert Gordanier*	Ryan Stacy
Tim Gorsline	Jonathan Tucker
Henry Grubb*	Seth Turman*
Rick Hansen	Brandon Walls
Brenton Jones	Michael Wagner
Drew Kerber	Angela Weigel-DeLuna
	Chase Weber*

Highlighted names—FUMC members *deployed overseas

SYMPATHY

To Bob and Kay Blaine on the passing of Kay's brother, Bob Harris, on January 16.
To Kenny and Lenora Stoecklein on the passing of Lenora's sister, Carol Lanners, on January 19.
To Tracy Shelton on the passing of her cousin's husband.
To Kathe White on the passing of her cousin, Scott Dowell.
To Cheryl Oldham on the passing of her brother, David Doughten, on January 28.

JOYS

To Richard and Barbara Orrison who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.
To Ed and Judy Jones who celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on January 28.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>Sunday, February 11</u>		
Wee Singers	10:15am	115
Children's Chimers	10:45	154
Disciple Bible Study	10:45	117
Literacy Initiative Meeting	3:00pm	117
Youth Fellowship Group-High School Students	4:00	014
Power Praise Kids Rehearsal	4:00	116
Youth Fellowship Group-Mid. High Girls	4:00	011
Youth Fellowship Group-Boys	5:30	014
<u>Monday, February 12</u>		
<u>Tuesday, February 13</u>		
Pickleball	7:00pm	Gym
Worship Team Rehearsal	7:00	Sanctuary
<u>Wednesday, February 14</u>		
Ash Wednesday Service	10:30am	Sanctuary
Impact Youth Group	5:00pm	014
Ash Wednesday Service	7:00	Sanctuary
<u>Thursday, February 15</u>		
Back Fence Bible Study	9:30am	100
Grief Recovery Group	1:00pm	015
Diabetes Workshop	2:30	117
Pickleball	7:00	Gym
<u>Friday, February 16</u>		
Joy Ringers Rehearsal	9:30am	154
Adult Volleyball	7:00pm	Gym
<u>Saturday, February 17</u>		
Worship Service	5:00pm	Sanctuary
<u>Sunday, February 18</u>		
Wee Singers	10:15am	115
Children's Chimers	10:45	154
Disciple Bible Study	10:45	117
Youth Fellowship Group-Mid. High Girls	3:00pm	011
Youth Fellowship Group-High School Students	4:00	014
Power Praise Kids Rehearsal	4:00	116
Youth Fellowship Group-Boys	5:30	014
<u>Monday, February 19</u>		
Gospel Singers Rehearsal	7:00pm	150
<u>Tuesday, February 20</u>		
Methodist Men's Lunch	12:00pm	015
Pickleball	7:00	Gym
<u>Wednesday, February 21</u>		
Widows' Support Group	11:30am	Sinclair's
Impact Youth Group	5:00pm	014
Glorious Spirit Handbell Rehearsal	6:00	154
Men of Praise Rehearsal	6:30	150
Worship Team Rehearsal	7:00	Sanctuary
Creative Crafts/Prayer Shawl Ministry	7:00	103
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30	150
Rhapsody Ringers Rehearsal	7:30	154
<u>Thursday, February 22</u>		
Back Fence Bible Study	9:30am	100
Grief Recovery Group	1:00pm	015
Diabetes Workshop	2:30	117
Hearts and Hands	6:30	112
Pickleball	7:00	Gym



First UMC Missions News



Calling All High School Students –

There will be a new, regular service opportunity for high school students beginning in March. We will begin going to Uplift Organization (www.uplift.org) on the second Saturday of each month. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Uplift or are just learning about the organization, they are a homeless outreach program. They are an all-volunteer group founded in 1990. First UMC Blue Springs has sent many groups to Uplift over the last few years, including youth. Uplift opens their warehouse to volunteers on the second Saturday of each month. They have a variety of needs in the warehouse including sorting, organizing, cleaning, etc. Our first trip will be March 10. We will meet in the church parking lot at 8:30am and be back at 12:30pm. High school students and parents are welcome.

Contact Brooke Roskop, broskop@bluespringsumc.org, with questions.

Impact went to the Souper Bowl!!

First UMC sent ten youth to Harvesters for their annual Souper Bowl. They handled MANY peppers!!



Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)

Feed My Starving Children® is a Christian non-profit committed to feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple: children and adults hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children, and we ship these meals to distribution partners around the world. Mark your calendars and invite your friends to pack these special meals. We will host a mobile pack in our gym on May 11 and 12. There are jobs for everyone from 5 years old to 105 years old!! Stay tuned for information on how to sign up.

reStart

First UMC prepares and serves meals to reStart residents as one of our community outreach missions. We need volunteers to prepare and/or serve Sunday lunches on the following dates:

February 18

April 15

August 19

December 16

Please contact Kay McCormick at 223-0820 if you or your group would like to participate.



Methodist Men's Breakfast
 Mark your calendar for the next men's breakfast on Saturday, March 3, at 8:00am in room 015.
 We will have a presentation from the City of Blue Springs; we will also discuss how we can help with the Irish Feast.
 Yours in Christ,
 Allen Fails

First UMC Men's Softball Team
 First UMC will once again sponsor a men's softball team. Games begin on Sunday, March 18. The cost is \$30. If you would like to sign up or have questions, please contact Todd Brewer at tbrewerkc@gmail.com.

Free Concerts Coming!
Heritage Philharmonic
 Saturday, February 24
 7:30pm in the sanctuary.
Kansas City Metro Men's Chorus
 Saturday, March 3
 2:00pm in the sanctuary.

Widows' Support Group

The Widows' Support Group will meet for lunch on Wednesday, February 21, at 11:30am
 Sinclair's
 756 40 Highway
 Blue Springs

Contact Joyce Maggard at 229-1300 or Carol Sartain at 229-9753 for reservations or more details.

70th Wedding Anniversary

Please join in celebration of Harry and Leola Bennett's 70th wedding anniversary on February 22.

Cards can be sent to:

Harry Bennett The Montclair, Apt 303 1000 E. Montclair Street Springfield, MO 65807 816-564-3320	Leola Bennett The Manor at Elfindale 1707 W. Elfindate Street Springfield, MO 65807
--	--



Hi With a Smile

The Invitational Ministries Committee is currently looking for one or two persons to greet at the main entrance for a half hour before the 9:30 church service on the first Sunday of each month; but there are other opportunities as well to serve in this way throughout the year, at various times of the day.

The Education Wing entrance is an area that needs greeters on Sunday mornings, particularly at 9:00am and 10:15am; currently just one person is there as often as possible. Though there is a scheduled group for the main entrance, substitutes are needed for both entrances.

Greeters are always requested for the special services throughout the church year at the main entrance; some are daytime and some are evening commitments, but usually for no more than a half hour: Ash Wednesday; Maundy Thursday; Good Friday; extra services on Easter and Christmas Eve. The Learning Ladder pre-school appreciates greeters prior to their Christmas program and their graduation service; and First UMC also provides a church presence in the narthex during funeral visitations by having one or two individuals available to provide assistance and aid to the funeral home personnel. Other occasions may arise from time to time.

These are all rewarding ways to participate in church ministry; won't you consider these that are listed and give a call to the office at 229-8108 or Jane Rosendahl at 224-5660 for more information or to help out.

An Irish Feast of Food and Song
 Featuring The Men O'Praise and Special Guests
 Friday, March 9, 2018
 Food at 5:45pm Song at 7:00pm
 Tickets are available in the lobby beginning February 24-25
 The cost is \$10.
 Tickets will also be available at the door.





Cancer Support Network

The Cancer Support Network meets the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30. Our goal is to provide support and education to cancer survivors, those currently diagnosed with cancer, and their family members. All are welcome. If you'd like more information, please call the church office.



Diabetes Workshop: Get Back 2 Better

A Self-Management Program

Dates: Thursday afternoons at 2:30 in room 117 from February 15-March 22, 2018. This is a **free** six-week intensive workshop to learn:

- The formula for a healthy eating plan
- Preventing or delaying complications
- Dealing with depression and stress
- Preventing low-blood sugar

To register, call 252-5051.



Military Addresses

As a church family, we would like to reach out during the year to those on our military service list.

If you have a current address for someone on our list, please email it to office@bluespringsumc.org.

Valentine Fundraising Dinner

Our Friday night volleyball group is hosting a fundraising dinner on Saturday, February 10, at 5:30pm in the gym.

The funds raised will go to help with medical expenses of Sandy Green, who is battling cancer.

Come for a fun-filled night of pasta, karaoke and games. There will also be a photo booth, silent auction and raffle.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and kids under 12 are \$5.



Dress and Shorts Mission Project

2018 Mission Trips Planned

Rev. Steve Williams with St. Luke's UMC will be taking 60 dresses and shorts on their mission trip to Juarez, Mexico, in April. This will be the first trip to Mexico that we have sent dresses and shorts.

In June, First UMC will be taking clothing on our mission trip to Costa Rica. We are so excited for our own team to be helping children there.

Please continue to sew, ladies! We are now in our eighth year with this ongoing mission and will continue as long as we have people willing to sew. We are grateful for all the work that goes into this project and pray it will continue into the future.

Invitational Ministries

Invitational Ministries will be sending out Easter Invitations to all Learning Ladder families and to our neighbors around our church property. We are looking for donations of small plastic Easter Eggs, filled with candy treats or toys for this project. Any leftover eggs will go into our Easter Egg Hunt on March 25. We are anticipating needing approximately 2,600 eggs for the invitations and 1,000 eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please bring your donations to the church office or the education office. We will begin "Egging" the neighborhood around the week of March 18. If you are interested in being a part of the neighborhood egging, please contact Kristi Harris at kharris@bluespringsumc.org.

First Connection

First United
Methodist Church

Blue Springs

Ministers

All members who have pledged to uphold First UMC with their prayers, presence, service, gifts, and witness.

Pastors

Rev. Dr. Sally Haynes
email:
shaynes@bluespringsumc.org

Rev. Jan Bond
email:
jbond@bluespringsumc.org

Worship

Saturday, 5:00pm
Sunday, 8:15, 9:30, and
10:45am

Office Hours

8:00am—4:30pm
Monday-Thursday
8:00am—12:00pm Friday

Church Office: (816) 229-8108
Church fax: (816) 229-6705

Email
office@bluespringsumc.org

Learning Ladder Preschool
(816) 229-9949

Church Website
www.bluespringsumc.org

Like us on Facebook:
Blue Springs UMC



February 7, 2018

First United Methodist Church
of Blue Springs
301 SW Woods Chapel Road
Blue Springs, MO 64015

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Blue Springs, MO 64015
PERMIT No. 21

Address Service Requested



Scan this QR code to get an electronic copy of the newsletter

Church Day Camp is Coming Here!

Early Registration DISCOUNT will be closing on February 28. Don't forget to sign up for this AMAZING opportunity as well as invite your friends and neighbors to join in the fun!

July 2-6, 2018; 9:00am-4:00pm.

www.eaglelakecamps.com/FUMCBlueSprings



Church Pictorial Directory

Save the Dates!

Lifetouch Photography will be with us April 7-10, 12-14, 15, 17-18, for individual and family portraits for our new pictorial directory.

Appointment sign-ups will begin on March 3/4 in the lobby and online. Watch for more details as the date gets closer.

If you would be interested in working at the sign-up table or checking people in for their appointments, please email Andrea Lyttle at alyttle@bluespringsumc.org or call the office. Volunteering qualifies for A+ hours for students.

