
THE HERALD

Listening to God's Heart From the Heart of the City



This month at FUMC, we have a lot to celebrate! Read inside to find out more about all of the great things happening in our congregation!

From the Pastor's Desk

I always look forward to October. There's something about cooler weather, falling leaves, the way you get bundled up for Friday night football, all things pumpkin, and so much more that just resonates on my heart. It's almost as though October gears us up for celebrations that are to come.

And celebrate, we will! Throughout the pages of this newsletter, you're going to have the opportunity to join in celebrating what God is doing among us here at First UMC! Make sure you read all of the articles to find out what's happening in the life of our congregation – you won't want to miss a thing!

Specifically, we want to make sure that you join us on Sunday, October 4 for a wonderful day of worship and celebration. It's World Communion Sunday, so we will celebrate communion at our 9:00 am worship service. Executive Assistant to Bishop Jonathan Keaton, Rev. Janice Griffith, will be preaching. But make sure that you come back at 2:00 pm, as we dedicate our new worship space for God's glory! We have some wonderful things planned for that afternoon, including great music by our Chancel Choir and Glory Handbell Choir, a brand-new hymn commissioned for the day, participation by our district superintendent and bishop's assistant, as well as a reception. On a weekend when we celebrate our town and its heritage, there is no better way to cap off the celebration as we gather, not only as a congregation, but as a community, to consecrate our building for the glory of God!

But there's more, lest you think we're going to peak the celebrating too early in the month! First UMC is hosting the cluster charge conference on Sunday, October 11, at 2:00 pm. We will be looking for some assistance in putting together some refreshments following the charge conference, so please contact me if you're willing to provide fruit, a dessert, or punch. It will be a great time for us to review where we've been as a congregation, all that we have accomplished this year, and look toward the future.

Keep reading, friends! These pages are full of wonderful things to celebrate, so plan to take part fully in what God has in store for First UMC. Our best days are still ahead!

Grace and peace,



Pastor Jay



2nd Wednesday Dinner

Our 2nd Wednesday dinner in October is a celebration time! Join us at the parsonage (804 North Scott Drive) at 5:30 pm for a cookout on October 14. While this is going to be a great time of fellowship, it's also a time where we are gathering to celebrate God's healing power for the Goff family. Leonard and Debbie want to thank First UMC for the many ways you have supported them during Debbie's illness, so they are providing dinner for you that evening! All you need to bring is an appetite and roasting sticks! Please RSVP by signing up in the welcome center or the church office by October 12.

Young Adult Gathering

Young adults of First UMC will be gathering at the parsonage (804 Scott Drive) on Wednesday, October 7, beginning at 7:00 pm. Bring a snack/beverage to share, and a lawn chair if you'd like to sit outside around the fire. We'll have a great time of fellowship and celebration together!

Staff Celebrations

We've had a lot of changeover this year in staff at First UMC, as we have grown in positions, said goodbye to some staff members, and said hello to new staff. Kirbie Ackman officially joins our staff on October 1 as office manager. She comes to us from the Southeastern Illinois Counseling Center in Robinson, where she served as office manager. She also works at the Eagle Theater part-time as an assistant manager.

Tara Wever's last Sunday on our childcare staff is October 4. Thanks to Tara for providing a great transition after Debbie Dunlap's departure. As Tara leaves for full-time work, we welcome Danielle Stuller and Jennifer Boatman as childcare staff. Danielle is a senior at Eastern Illinois University, majoring in elementary education, and is a Robinson resident. Jennifer Boatman is no stranger to us, having been a part of our worshipping congregation and joining by profession of faith in August.

Please take time to welcome our new staff members and help us celebrate their ministry among us!

Financial Update

Friends, we want you to celebrate with the finance committee! What a wonderful year that First UMC is having! As of this writing (September 22), our income year-to-date is \$194,955.52, and expenses are \$178,573.61; we are running in the black by \$16,381.91. Not only that, but we've been able to operate this well even as we've added new Sunday school classes with new curriculum; sent 16 people on a youth mission trip; held five spiritual gifts workshops at no cost to participants; advertised each month since July at the Eagle Theater; paid our apportionments each month; begun a ministry to women at the county jail; added new staff; purchased new entryway furniture and new classroom furniture; remodeled the half bath and replaced the deck at the parsonage; and so much more! All that we've accomplished is possible because our committees have been good stewards of your giving; and because you've been generous and faithful in your giving to fund the ministries of this church. Thank you! Please celebrate with us, and help us continue this strong trend through the end of 2015. What great news!

Thank You For Your Support!

Our youth ministry raised \$986.00 at the September 2nd Wednesday dinner. Isn't that great news? This first fundraiser for our mission trip helps so much in paying lodging, travel, and meal expenses. We appreciate your support of our yard noodling fundraiser this month. Please be sure to get your "noodling insurance" for \$75, pay \$25 to have us "noodle" someone's yard, or pay \$25 to have the noodles removed from your own yard. What a great and fun way to give us a visible presence in our community, and to help us raise more funds for our mission trip to Louisiana!



Did You Know?

The NOW Kids' Shopping Day in August saw more than 100 children pass through our doors, where they each received two shirts, two pants/shorts, new underwear and socks, brand new tennis shoes, toiletries, and school supplies. Did you know that we are feeding more than 100 children each week through our food distribution? We can only do that because of your support! As we move into October, our "Just One" item collection is for shampoo. Please consider picking up just one bottle and putting it in the collection bin outside the church office. We are so grateful for your support, and know that we can reach our goal of 120 items for next year's Kids' Shopping Day!

Jail Ministry

Thank you so much for your support of the jail ministry! We are excited that you support us by your gifts to the general fund. Our team of six women has been going to the jail twice a month. We provide them with a Bible and a Bible study book. Beginning in October, we will be going each week (Thursday nights, 6:00 pm). Please contact Thelma Gifford, Shannon Goebel, Brenda Graham, Linda Null, Janelle Oxford, or Becky Veenstra if you would like to participate. This ministry is truly making a difference in the lives of women in the county jail.

We would like to expand this ministry to include men in the county jail. Please contact Kurtis Goebel if you have any interest in being part of a men's team. We are also working with the Robinson Correctional Center to begin working with the prison to provide a worship service on 5th Sundays (four times per year). We are so grateful and excited for what God is doing through this ministry!

Become a Member!

Interested in baptism or in becoming a part of First UMC? Our next date for baptisms and new members is October 18. Please contact Pastor Jay by October 11 if you are interested so that paperwork can be prepared.



Prayer Requests

Charlie Clark; Bev Harness; Donita Holmes; Jerry Phillipe; Vicki Lewis; Debbie Doom; Harold & Bernie Limper; Margie Moore McNamara; Sam Mitchell; Taya Harmon; Jim Currie; Greta Rich; Eleanor Laswell; Peg, John, Jeremy, and Greg Markello; Ruth Rice; Nora Busby; Ashley Reed; Dee Dee Trout; Erma Baum; Tom Carrow; Deb Goff; Carolyn Enlow Nickum; Lucille Hedges; Jay Holtzhouser; Ken Martin; Jennifer Null; Donald Boehm; Waneta McCann; Tom Willey; Kathy Allen

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Shirley Treadway at gwtsea@hotmail.com, so that the request can be shared with the prayer chain.

Farewell Note

Dear Friends of First United Methodist,

Thank you for your friendships over the past 13 years that I have worked here at FUMC. I have enjoyed visiting with you on the phone and in person, working with you and sharing in your lives. You made this the best place to work. From day one, I always said "These are the best people to work with." I have lots of pleasant memories to take with me when I leave.

Thank you for your kind words, well wishes, beautiful cards and your gifts. It has been a joy and pleasure to have met you over the years and to have worked at your church. Thank you.

With Love and Prayers,

Anita Kocher

October Birthdays

10/1 Ka Su Kelly, Julie Pfeiffer, Julia Roberson
 10/3 Emily Holtzhouser, Kenton Carver
 10/4 Sabra Adams, Maezie Fearday
 10/6 Robert Quick
 10/7 Rich Johnson
 10/12 Greg Markello
 10/13 Leavone Johnson, Victoria McMillan
 10/14 Allison Damron
 10/16 Janey Branson
 10/19 Ann York, Colby McGahey, Calvin Turner
 10/21 Allen Lowry
 10/22 Dema Rich
 10/24 Mary Jourdan
 10/25 Shirley Wakefield
 10/27 Sydney Harmon
 10/30 Bob Berty, Julie Wilson

October Anniversaries

10/2 Gary & Susan Rodgers
 10/7 Bill & Kaye Damron, Lance & Tabitha Seaney
 10/16 Janet & Charley Clark, Billy and Connie Calvert
 10/21 Jack & Edna Frakes
 10/27 John & Marcia Schmidlin

2016 Flower & Radio Signups

The 2016 flower and radio charts ready for sponsor sign ups! To sponsor Flowers is \$20 and to sponsor the radio broadcast is \$100. Sign up in the office or in the Welcome Center.

October 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30 am Disciple II	2	3 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Youth handing out water at Heath Harvest Festival
4 9:00 am Worship 10:05 am Children's Choir 10:15 am Sunday School 1:00 pm Choir 2:00 pm Dedication Service	5 9:30 am Chrismon Ladies	6 6:00 pm Disciple II	7 3:00 pm Kids' Club 7:00 pm Young adults at parsonage	8 9:30 pm Disciple II 4:00 pm NOW bagging 6:00 pm Jail Ministry 7:00 pm Handbell choir	9	10
11 8 & 11 am Choir 9:00 am Worship 10 am Children's Choir 10:15 am Sunday School	12 9:30 am Chrismon Ladies	13 6:00 pm Disciple II	14 3:00 pm Kids' Club 5:30 pm 2nd Wednesday Dinner 6:30 pm Worship committee	15 9:30 pm Disciple II 4:30 pm NOW bagging 5:00 pm Finance Committee meeting 6:00 pm Jail Ministry 7:00 pm Handbell choir	16	17
18 8 & 11 am Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:05 am Children's choir 10:15 am Sunday School	19 9:30 am Chrismon Ladies	20 6:00 pm Disciple II	21 3:00 pm Kids' Club 6:00 pm Lay Leadership	22 9:30 pm Disciple II 4:30 pm NOW bagging 6:00 pm Jail ministry 7:00 pm Handbell Choir	23	24
25 8 & 11 am Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:05 am Children's Choir 10:15 am Sunday School 2:00 pm Youth pumpkin carving & bonfire at Oxford's	26 9:30 am Chrismon Ladies	27 6:00 pm Disciple II	28 3:00 pm Kids' Club 5:30 pm Trustees	29 9:30 am Disciple II 4:30 pm NOW bagging 6:00 pm Jail Ministry 6:00 pm SPRC 7:00 pm Handbell Choir	30	31

First United Methodist Church
201 West Walnut Street
PO Box 45
Robinson, IL 62454
fumcrob@frontier.com
www.robinsonfumc.org
618-544-8016

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Robinson, IL
62454
Permit No. 3

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First United Methodist Church

Pastor: Jay Regennitter

fumc@frontier.com

Office Manager: Kirbie Ackman

fumcrob@frontier.com

Communications Coordinator: Brennan Tracy

brennansethtracy@gmail.com

Music Director: Antje Pippin

antje2959@hotmail.com

Organist/Pianist: Brenda Graham

doubleg@mediacombb.net

Custodian: Scott Long

Nursery Staff: Jennifer Boatman, Danielle Stuller