

# THE HERALD

Listening to God's Heart from the heart of the city.



This month, we are focusing on our outreach ministries! Look inside for updates on different ministries throughout the church and for ways that you can get involved this fall!

## OUTREACH

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The month of August often serves as a time of transition, and a marked time of growth. Students will begin school again this month. Students will change grades; some students will move to new schools, all signs that they are growing physically, mentally, and socially. Before you know it, we'll be back in the "regular" swing of things here at First UMC (is there ever really a "regular" time here??). Classes and Bible studies will start up again, as well as our school year children's and student ministries. This place will be bustling.

Of course, we can't simply rely on what is happening inside the walls to help the church be the church. The congregation, to be at its healthiest, also has to engage with the world. We have to reach out in acts of compassion, mercy, and justice.

In keeping with last month's articulation of some "What's Next?" findings, we're going to focus this issue of The Herald on some of our outreach ministries. In these pages, you'll find some updates on ministries that we are already doing outside the walls, including who to contact if you'd like to get involved. You'll also read about some new initiatives that are in the birthing stage, and you may feel God calling you to help bring those to infancy and new life.

Whatever we do, in word or deed, we reflect the image of Christ to the world. When we're not engaged in acts of mercy, compassion and service, we perhaps aren't living as fully into life with Christ as we might need to be. This month, before all the mayhem begins again, take some time to pray and ask God's Spirit to open your heart and mind to what God needs you to do - to take a step outside of yourself for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ. Perhaps God wants to use you to bring a little bit of heaven to earth!

I'll see you in worship!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Regan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is contained within a thin black rectangular border.

Pastor Jay

PS. Charlotte Crofton's last Sunday to be with is us Sunday, August 5. Please make sure you express your appreciation to her for her ministry with us this summer!

# GREETINGS FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

As the Church Council is busy analyzing the responses from the “What’s Next?” conversations, one area that we’d like to shine the spotlight on is our robust outreach ministry. We’re including a series of snippets on various ministries, which will hopefully explain what they are, get everyone excited to volunteer, and let you know how you can make an impact. But we need your help. We are blessed with so many ministries, that there is no master list. I know right now, that we’re going to miss some. So if you’re involved in a ministry that we have missed, please email me and let me know, and consider writing an article so that we all might be made aware. [quick\\_r@hotmail.com](mailto:quick_r@hotmail.com)

- Robert Quick

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

This outreach is when one or more of our Outreach Committee visits the homes of families who have attended our services. A canvas bag filled with church related gifts and children's items are presented to them. Pamphlets with information about our church, our ministries, missions, Sunday School classes, etc. is provided to them. A baked item is also taken. We strive to project a warm and friendly invitation to join our church family.

- Linda Null

## MATS

MATS (Mom and Tots Sing) was developed as a result of a seminar from *The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts* in response to a need in the community for moms and their little ones to fellowship and socialize. We meet on Tuesday mornings October thru May at 10:30 a.m. for Bible lessons, songs, rhythm instruments, bells, dancing and games. Age appropriate coloring and worksheets have highlighted the Fruits of the Spirit, Mother's Day, Christmas, Easter and other events. Our group includes birth to prekindergarten and their Moms. A snack is provided. Contact Antje Pippin at 618-562-0859 or [antje2959@hotmail.com](mailto:antje2959@hotmail.com) for more information.

- Antje Pippin

# CLEANING BUCKETS FOR DCFS

The Outreach Committee led a fundraiser of loose change gathering in M&M tubes to buy cleaning supplies that were used to help clean homes by the Department of Children and Family Services. The buckets were supplied to our church by Wal-Mart and Robert Quick and I purchased the cleaning supplies from them. The children's Sunday School classes filled the buckets with the supplies. This mission helps families to be reunited in a clean and safe environment.

- Linda Null

# HERITAGE HEALTH NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Each 2nd Sunday of the month at 2:30 pm, our church is responsible for providing a worship service for the residents & their families at the Heritage Health Nursing Home in Robinson. It is a time when we pray, worship, sing hymns together, read poetry, scripture, & share communion with one another. Please come & join in this valuable outreach ministry of our church. Trust me, you will be touched & blessed by the experience--- just ask Thelma Gifford, Kay Albin, Tambryn LaCorte, Paula Summers, Julia Roberson, Janelle Oxford, Connie Carter, Krosby Goebel, or me!

- Dennis Inboden

# TRUNK OR TREAT

The second annual Trunk-or-Treat will be here before we know it! FUMC provides a fun and safe place for trick or treaters to come and get goodies! We set up in the north parking lot that is perfectly lit and volunteers decorate the trunks in themes that reflect the virtues of the church or Bible stories. The trunk or treat will be held during Robinson's trick or treat hours.

We will be collecting large bags of candy all of September and October, for anyone that wants to donate! Please contact Jennifer Boatman if you'd like to decorate a trunk! We had 10 vehicles last year and we hope to get more this year! Happy Halloween! (because it's never too early!)

- Kirbie Ackman

# SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT

We've just recently started our outdoor family movie nights. Our goal is one movie a month on a weeknight. Growing up, I always enjoyed the experience when the city showed outdoor movies. There's something neat about being outdoors with popcorn and a soda and watching a movie with both friends and strangers on a big, blow up screen. The church has the movie rights and a new popcorn machine to boot. Our next movie is **Wednesday, August 8**, after 2nd Wednesday Dinner. If you're interested in volunteering, just come to a movie night and bring your friends, or you can contact Daniel Boatman or Robert Quick.

- Robert Quick

# REFRESH BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY

The REFRESH Breakfast & Bible Study for youth grades 6-12 is held at the church on Wednesday mornings during the school year at 6:30 am. It is a great time of food & fellowship. I have been blessed to serve as one of the cooks for this ministry. Some of the other men who regularly join me on Wednesday mornings at 5:30 am to prepare breakfast for the youth are Larry Bonnell, Ron Veenstra, Gary Oxford, & John Brimberry. We have a great time cooking a variety of menus (eggs, bacon, pancakes, breakfast burritos, biscuits & gravy, fruit salad, etc.). We typically serve 20-25 kids each week. Pastor Jay, Janelle Oxford, & Nina Davis lead Bible study and prayer time for the youth after their breakfast. Steve Diel takes anyone who needs a ride to school on the church bus after Bible study. We would welcome anyone who would like to join us in this ministry----we're always looking for more cooks, dishwashers, & bus drivers!

- Dennis Inboden

# PRAISE FEST

Praise Fest is a ministry that brings in Christian musicians and artists as well as local praise groups for an evening full of praise through music. The event allows people in the community to come together for fellowship, while there are activities such as bounce houses and cake walks for kids, and the chapel is always open for prayer. Since starting our Praise Fest a few years ago, the movement has spread, and around 3 Praise Fests a year take place throughout the county. This year's Praise Fest will be the Saturday of Heath Harvest Festival. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Daniel Boatman or Robert Quick.

- Robert Quick

# FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES (FCA)/ SPREAD THE WORD

This is a combo ministry. We support the FCA by hosting one or two of their meetings a year, usually in Asbury Hall, and providing snacks. We also have made it our mission to provide every student that joins the Robinson High School FCA with a Sports Bible (Spread the Word program). For some students, FCA may be their only experience with the Bible, so we don't want to miss the opportunity. I want to note that membership is not restricted to athletes, it is a club that is open to all students. Lastly, the Spread the Word program not only provides each FCA student with a Bible, but it also provides Bibles in the narthex that are free for anyone to take that needs one. God's word was given to everyone, and meant to be shared. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, please contact Robert Quick.

- Robert Quick

## WOMEN'S JAIL MINISTRY

*"I was in prison and you came to visit me...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:36, 40*

God often calls us to branch outside of our comfort zones in order to spread His good news of grace, mercy, and love. Back in 2015 a group of six women came together to do just that as we began a Jail Ministry program here in Crawford County. It has certainly been a learning process and the group has evolved over the years. We currently rotate, visiting the jail in pairs every Thursday evening from 6:00-7:00 pm. During this time we pray together, sing, and share a short devotion & discussion. Although at first glance it may seem that these women have a very different life than those of us visiting, after a brief time it is quite clear that we are all sisters in Christ with much in common. We often say that it feels like the women we meet impart far more wisdom upon us than we give to them. There are many ways to contribute to this ministry besides visiting the jail. We are always looking for people to write cards to the women who go on to rehab or prison, you can help to knit prayer shawls that go into bags we have available for the ladies to pick up before they move on to their next placement, you can contribute money for Bibles and materials, or you can simply continue to pray for the ladies whom we meet and their children. This is a ministry about planting seeds and letting God help them to grow! For more information please contact Janelle Oxford, Shannon Goebel, Becky Veenstra, Linda Null, Brenda Graham, or Thelma Gifford.

- Shannon Goebel

# NUTRITION ON WEEKENDS (NOW PROGRAM)

The NOW Program began in January 2013 as a response to a growing population of at-risk children in the Robinson School District. Our three-pronged approach allows students (who are identified by school staff) to receive meals on weekends throughout the school year, lunches three times per week in the summer, and a strong start to the school year with our Back-to-School Shopping Days.. We are always looking for volunteers and would love to have you.

The shopping days are just around the corner, Aug 6th and 7th, and volunteers are still needed it's a worthwhile experience that we promise you'll love.

Please contact Kirbie, 618-544-8016 or [fumcrob@frontier.com](mailto:fumcrob@frontier.com), for more information.

- *Kirbie Ackman*

## MUSIC AND ARTS CAMP

For all in attendance Sunday, July 15th, it was a delight and a blessing to see and hear the children from our church along with children from the community present the musical, "Nailed It!" This musical was the culmination of the Music/Arts Camp the week of July 9th.

Led by Nina Davis, our Director of Christian Education, and a group of over 20 adult volunteers, the week consisted of crafts and building to create the set, a Bible Lesson based on the theme of the camp from Matthew about the foolish man who built his house on the sand and the wise man building his house on rock. Music practice, games, and a home cooked lunch rounded out the day. An average of 54 children attended each day.

The Camp was a huge success with our sanctuary full that Sunday with church members who were given the opportunity to greet families from the community whose children had attended our camp. I talked with as many parents from the group of children with which I worked to tell them how much I enjoyed working with their children, and all of them were full of praise for what had been accomplished in one week. The kids all expressed the desire to come back next year.

- *Linda Null*



# KIDS' CLUB

Kids' Club will start for the 2018-2019 school year on Wednesday, September 5. Students from Washington Elementary School and Lincoln Grade School are picked up by the church bus (with a volunteer) after school and brought to the church, where they stay with their other school classmates for the entire ministry time (3:00-5:00 pm). Students rotate through snacks, recreation, chapel, and music over the course of their time with us. Kids' Club is a great educational outreach ministry of First UMC! Students can participate by accessing a registration form on our website; we are also exploring having an app to send reminders to parents on their cell phones for registration and various events, like when Praise Kids sings in worships. We are always looking for volunteers. If you would like to help provide snacks, you can speak with Sue Roales or Susan Inboden. If you would like to assist with recreation, please contact Libbi Fearday. We're also always looking for people who can help our students with their Bibles during chapel, so if you are available, please contact Pastor Jay. A possible extension of this ministry for middle school students (tutoring and fellowship, as well as assisting with Kids' Club) is in the works, but also needs volunteers - please contact Nina Davis if you would like to help.

- Pastor Jay

# RADIO BROADCAST

One of our most enduring outreach programs is our Sunday morning airing of our church service from our local radio station, WTYE 101.7 FM at 9:00 am. For our local and not so local shut ins it can be a blessing to be able to listen to a church service when not physically able to attend. On more than one occasion I have been surprised to hear folks from other communities, such as Lawrenceville, say they listen to our church broadcast.

For those who've never heard the word of God, or those not affiliated with a church it's a wonderful service provided by FUMC. We may never know how many have been or will be touched by listening to our Sunday morning broadcast, in the privacy of their homes or while driving in their cars. For years FUMC has provided this service.

The cost of the broadcast is \$100. If no one has sponsored on a particular Sunday, the church provides. Since there's 52 Sundays in a year, perhaps we can get 52 of our church members to commit to a Sunday of their choice. Remember, you can dedicate a broadcast in someone's honor or memory, for a birthday, anniversary, etc. There is a sign up outside of the office or call Kirbie to reserve your Sunday today.

- Debbie Goff



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is a lay ministry that trains people to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people within our congregation and surrounding community. Stephen Ministers listen to and assist care receivers dealing with hurts such as grief, divorce, illness, life transitions, job loss, aging, and many other difficult situations. Stephen Ministry is a non-denominational ministry that has existed since 1975 and is currently shared in over 70,000 congregations worldwide. Each of us has need for emotional care during different times of our lives and Jesus calls us to be a caring, reaching, and equipping church. Galatians 6:2 reads: "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." If you are interested in learning more, possibly serving as part of our Stephen Ministry, or making a donation to help raise funds for training, please contact Pastor Jay, Susan Inboden, Linda Null, Janelle Oxford, or Lori Treadway. If you would like to be included in the Stephen Ministry group emails, please notify Janelle Oxford, and she will add you to the email group. You can also learn more at [www.stephenministry.org](http://www.stephenministry.org). This ministry needs continued prayer from our congregation to see where the Holy Spirit might be calling the church to use this ministry. Thanks, Robinson FUMC Family, for your continued prayers and support for this important care and outreach ministry.

- Janelle Oxford



## SECOND WEDNESDAY DINNER

2nd Wednesday dinner will be a "Hot Dog Bar". Hot dogs and brats and multiple toppings will be available along with dessert. Free will donation to be used to support one of our church programs. August's 2nd Wednesday Dinner is being offered by the Koinonia Class.

## **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- 8/3 Jay Holtzhouser  
8/4 Mike Parker  
8/6 Liz Dhom  
8/7 Tyler Carter, Ellen Wilson,  
Nancy Mattsey  
8/8 Brian Wilson  
8/9 Janis Brigham  
8/10 Phuong Quick, Kevin Harness,  
Daphine Devonshire,  
Hannah Britton  
8/12 Matthew Schmidlin  
8/13 Kirbie Ackman  
8/14 Don Heleine  
8/15 Janet Clark  
8/16 Leslee Thomas  
8/17 Emmanuel Regennitter  
8/19 Paula Summers  
8/22 Myra Jones, Joyce Owen,  
Janelle Oxford  
8/24 Lois McConnell  
8/25 Lucille Hedges  
8/26 Doris Stanley  
8/27 Brent Owen  
8/29 Margaret DeMent, Antje Pippin  
8/30 Justin Edit  
8/31 Jason Holtzhouser, Walker Odom

## **AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

- 8/3 Brandon & Melinda Harmon  
8/4 Jim & Suzanna Wallace  
8/10 John & Thelma Gifford  
08/14 Jason & Amy Hartke  
8/15 Brian & Julie Wilson  
8/28 Gerald & Karen Gordy  
8/30 Amy Hartke & Jason Hartke

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

John, Jeremy, and Greg Markello;  
Carol Wolf; Carl and Helen  
Blanton; Judy Wilson Wall; Michael  
Brady; Patty Steele; Cathy  
Thomas; Judson Richardson; Jerry  
Adkins; Jennifer Newlin; Jennifer  
Null; Julie Zhang; Bill Thompson;  
Bob Duzan; Michael Keene; John  
Larrabee; Larry Nichol; Janet &  
Charley Clark; Allen Summers;  
Nicole Young; Bev Turkal; Evan  
Prah; Ray Dotson; Bev Arrington  
Campbell; Margie Moore  
McNamara; Richard Youngs; Kay  
Young; John Poland; Bob Berty;  
Joan Fulling; Nancy Young;  
Jackson Barry; John Mosher; Tim  
Roth; Fred White; Kip Davis;  
Vonnetta Shipman; Nash Drake;  
Rodney Denoux; Becky Goodwin;  
Caius Bell; Nelda Dotson; Jan  
Fouk; Kim Collins; Sidney Iubelt;  
Bill Hubbard; Brenda Wolfe;  
Alastair Titsworth; Ashley Griffith;  
Claudette Mejean; Paul Goebel;  
Robert Riddle; Madison Utterback;  
Tricia Anderson; Jeff & Renda  
Tuttle; Ava Seaney; Cancer  
patients; Lillian Powers; Thelma  
Gifford & Family; The Boatman  
Family; Demmie Long

# AUGUST 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>10:30 am</b> NOW Summer Lunch	2 <b>10:30 am</b> NOW Summer Lunch <b>6:00 pm</b> Jail Ministry <b>7:00 pm</b> Unbinding the Gospel	3	4
5 <b>9:00 am</b> Worship <b>10:00 am</b> Sunday School <b>2:00 pm</b> NOW Shopping Day Set-Up <b>6:00 pm</b> Evening Worship	6 <b>4:00 pm</b> NOW Back-to- School Shopping Day	7 <b>9:00 am</b> NOW Back-to- School Shopping Day	8 <b>5:30 pm</b> Second Wednesday Dinner <b>8:30 pm</b> Outreach Movie Night	9 <b>6:00 pm</b> Jail Ministry <b>7:00 pm</b> Unbinding the Gospel	10	11
12 <b>9:00 am</b> Worship <b>10:00 am</b> Sunday School <b>2:30 pm</b> Heritage Health Service <b>6:00 pm</b> Evening Worship	13	14	15 <b>6:00 pm</b> Committee Meetings <b>7:00 pm</b> Church Council Meeting	16 <b>4:00 pm</b> NOW Bagging <b>6:00 pm</b> Jail Ministry <b>7:00 pm</b> Unbinding the Gospel	17	18
19 <b>9:00 am</b> Worship <b>10:00 am</b> Sunday School <b>6:00 pm</b> Evening Worship	20	21	22	23 <b>4:00 pm</b> NOW Bagging <b>6:00 pm</b> Jail Ministry	24	25
26 <b>9:00 am</b> Worship <b>10:00 am</b> Sunday School <b>6:00 pm</b> Evening Worship	27	28	29	30 <b>4:00 pm</b> NOW Bagging <b>6:00 pm</b> Jail Ministry	31	

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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