

August 4, 2009

Volume 54

Issue 18

The MESSENGER

First United Methodist Church Hot Springs, AR

HARRISON HALL GRAND REOPENING SCHEDULED

Final preparations are being made for a "premier" of the new youth space in Harrison Hall. The gala event is scheduled for Sunday, August 30 @ 5 p.m. with a presentation at 6 p.m. Put this on your calendar, and come enjoy seeing the new space for our youth ministries and what your Holy Ground Fund contributions have been doing. It's going to be awesome!

THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

AUGUST 9, 2009

8:15, 9:30 AND 10:55 A.M.

SERMON

"Songs of the Heart: The Pause That Refreshes"
Worship strengthens our spirit.

SCRIPTURE : Psalm 84:1-12

HYMNS

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"
"O Worship the King"
"To God Be the Glory"

HEAD USHERS: Paul Dahl, Brooks Clem

ACOLYTES

8:15 a.m. - Megan Ratcliff & Emily Carter
10:55 a.m. - Callie Dodd & Paige Whitley

OPEN HEARTS PEER BUDDY:

Sam Hogue

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL: Bart & Jen Bledsoe

ANGELS

Latt Bachelor	Eardie Stadler	Doug Arnold
Steve Burns	Ralph Stadler	Lori Arnold
Jim Shults	Doug Miller	
Mable Ross	Russell Dahl	
Reba Nickels	Karolyn Fankhouser	

NEXT WEEK'S

CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

AUGUST 16, 2009

8:15, 9:30 AND 10:55 A.M.

SERMON

"Songs of the Heart: Welcome to Worship!"
The Psalmist answers the basic questions of worship.

SCRIPTURE : Psalm 100

HYMNS

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"
"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"
"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

HEAD USHERS: Paul Dahl, Kirby Williams

ACOLYTES

8:15 a.m. - Bailey Wooldridge & Haleigh Dooley
10:55 a.m. - Madelyn Lawrence & Caroline Folds

OPEN HEARTS PEER BUDDY:

Meg Ballard

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL: Mike & Katie Smith-Johnson

ANGELS

Ron Bailey Sr.	Arlean Rogers	Darrell Meyer
Lee Richardson	Peggy Smith	Larry Frazier
Mildred Smith	Deborah Reynolds	Pat Frazier
Brenda Richardson	Robert Reynolds	Mel Willess
Frances Simmons	Karen Reeves	Ginger Willess

MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT LOOKS GOOD!

Because of the economic recession, belts have been tighten in our nation, community, homes, and in our church. Though we are working with a reduced budget this year, we are happy to report that through the end of June, our financial support for God's ministry through our church has been strong. We are diligently trying to be good stewards of our resources and have been able to cut or curtail significant expenses. But we are so grateful that our church members have also responded with faithful giving to keep our ministry strong and active through these tough economic times. We appreciate you! Keep up the good work!

In the ministry fund at the end of June, we had finished 50% of our ministry year, and we had received 49% of our Ministry Fund Budget (\$801,260) for the year. Historically, we have received 49% of our ministry fund giving by this point in the year. One-twelfth of our Ministry Fund budget for the year is \$136664; our

receipts in June totaled \$103,458. Our ministry expenses for the month were \$127,409. Our YTD expenses were \$804,357.

In the Holy Ground Fund, we received \$20,646 in June. Since the first of the year, we have received \$263,474. We have reduced the principal on our loans by approximately \$10,000 and paid \$1,150 in interest. As we complete our capital projects, we will have to borrow funds, which will then be covered by Holy Ground contributions. Our current indebtedness is \$746,665. Our total pledges for the campaign were \$1,595,405. Since May 2008 far we have received \$467,908 (30%). That leaves us \$1,127,497 to complete our Holy Ground Campaign by May of 2011.

If you have any questions about your contribution record this year, contact Lisa Humphreys in the church office. Thanks for your help to keep our ministry strong!

ARKANSAS UNITED METHODISTS CALLED TO PRAYER

At Annual Conference this year, Bishop Charles Crutchfield initiated a small group to study the direction of United Methodism in Arkansas. This small group, dubbed "Imagine Ministry," will work with a consultant for two years to propose a strategic plan for the United Methodist Church in Arkansas. The bishop believes "Imagine Ministry" is "a way we can 're-think and re-do' the way we do church in the Arkansas Annual Conference."

As the foundation of this process, Bishop Crutchfield is calling the United Methodists of Arkansas to "an apostolate of prayer" during August, before the first meeting of the group. *Dictionary.com* defines "apostolate" as an organization of the laity devoted to the mission of the Church. The only way this process will bear fruit is for the people of our United Methodist Churches to hold it and bathe it in prayer.

Bishop Crutchfield wrote, "As part of preparing us, our local churches, districts and Annual Conference for the journey that is ahead, you are invited to join with your brothers and sisters in an apostolate of prayer. This prayer guide over the next eight weeks will hopefully assist groups and individuals in the journey of discernment and prayer for God's guidance in the days and months ahead. May our collective prayers form an amazing grace-filled foundation for the work that is before us."

A copy of the Apostolate of Prayer is available on-line. You may download the entire Prayer Guide by going to www.arumc.org/imagineministry. (Or call the church office if you do not have internet, and we will print one for you.)

Our senior minister, Dr. Bud Reeves, will be part of this small group, so keep him in your prayers as well as the entire team.

CHILDREN'S MINISTER POSITION FILLED

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is excited to announce that the position of Children's Minister has been filled with a familiar face. Michelle Wilkins, who has worked as our Administrative Secretary for the last three years, felt a call to pursue a new ministry which is also vital to our church. Michelle has done an excellent job in the church office, and we are looking forward to the gifts she will bring to the children's ministry.

Moving into Michelle's position as administrative secretary will be Donna

Mory, who has been our part-time membership and assistant financial secretary. Donna will now be the voice you hear when you call the church office (unless you get one of our excellent volunteers).

At the present time, we will not fill the membership/assistant financial secretary position, to conserve our funds and to evaluate how we can more efficiently cover all our ministry bases.

Though Michelle and Donna are already familiar faces, we congratulate them on their new ministries!

AUGUST 2

ATTENDANCE RECORDS:

8:15 Service.....	213
9:30 Service.....	200
10:55 Service.....	261
Nursery.....	16
Total.....	690

JULY 26

ATTENDANCE RECORDS:

8:15 Service.....	243
ConneXion.....	177
10:55 Service.....	225
Nursery.....	12
Total.....	657

SHEPHERD'S STAFF: Gearing Up for Fall



For me, music is one of my favorite stress-relievers. In particular, Jimmy Buffet, played at high volume while I'm driving home or on a Friday afternoon, always puts me in a relaxed mood. One of

his songs, "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes," starts off, "I took off for a weekend last month just to try and recall the whole year..."

That's sort of what I did last week. We didn't go anywhere, having blown our vacation budget earlier in the year. I did write a sermon, and kept tabs on what was going on at the church. But I stayed away from the office as much as possible. We went to see our mothers; I played golf twice in one week; I got plenty of sleep and prayer time; and I finally read *The Shack*. (More on that later—I found it to be a provocative way of getting at some profound theological issues.) It was a time of physical and spiritual refreshment, and I needed it.

I understand why Jesus was intentional about getting away periodically.

Thinking back over the last year, I can see God at work in my life, in the lives of individuals I have talked to, and in the church. God is so good, and even in the turmoil that our world has been in the last few months, God has been a rock-solid place of refuge and a source of great blessings for me, my family, and our community of faith. It was

providential that my sermon last week was from Psalm 46. It really reflected where I was spiritually. If we could just "be still and know" God better, we could float above the turmoil and live by faith without the fear and anxiety that change produces in us.

So now it's August already! The summer has flown by. But I am so excited about what is ahead for us this fall. I'm ready to get it all cranked up again. Children, youth and adult discipleship ministries are going to be great—excellent plans have been prepared. The church will soon be buzzing with activity again every day. I'm always ready for folks to return from vacations and be back in worship in larger numbers (Yes, we have missed you!). The music program will get busy again. And we are about ready to open up the newly-renovated Harrison Hall for the youth. (It is going to be so cool!)

So enjoy your last days of summer, hit the lake/golf course/beach/whatever another time or two, and get yourself fully refreshed. Then join with me and the staff this fall for a great time of ministry together. Find a friend or two to invite to come with you, and we'll splash in the "river whose streams make glad the city of God." (Psalm 46:4)

Revived and ready,

Bro. Bud

A Note from Rev "O"

One of the many things that I am so excited about here at FUMCHS is the opportunity to learn about our faith!! This fall we are offering many different classes both long term and short term. I believe that small group studies are the best places to ask and ponder with others difficult questions about our faith. They are safe places to ask questions. If you are like me, maybe you've wondered if you missed that Sunday when they covered that topic, or maybe – you dozed off or "spaced-out" during that part!

When I was in seminary I continued to wonder, why I didn't I know about this or that? Why hadn't the church told me? Maybe you have had questions like, how the trinity works?

Or why did Jesus have to die on the cross – or did he? Or what is the deal about dying for my sin, when I was not even born yet?

In seminary I realized that there are some faith questions that are really hard to deal with in a Sunday morning worship service. I realized that I needed to ponder some of these questions awhile; I needed to visit with other people about them and get "their take" on them. In seminary and quite frankly since, I've learned that some things, are just too controversial and decisive to deal with in Sunday morning worship!

Small groups are a great place to study about our faith and ask some tough questions, but many other bene-

fits occur as well. Friendships are developed, classes become caring communities – and they are a great way to get "plugged-in" with folks at the church!!

In the upper room on the night before Christ gave himself up for us, he gathered with a diverse group of people (his disciples) reminding them that they needed each other to learn, share, love and commune. I hope you will take advantage of one or more of the small group opportunities this fall, to gather in community to do the same.

Journeying with you in Christ,
Carl Ownbey

Rev. "O"

Discipleship

Teresa Holt
discipleship@fumchs.com
623-6668 Ext. 116

Extended Studies You Need to Check Out
To register or learn more about these classes, go to www.fumchs.com and click on adults, then extended studies.

Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study is a 34 week study that moves through the Biblical story from Creation to Revelation. The vision of the study is to develop Biblically nourished persons committed to live as disciples of Christ. Cost of \$35.00 for study book.

Mondays, 8:30 a.m., begins August 17th, CLC 207

Sundays, 5:00 p.m., begins August 30th, CLC 207

Internet Class - Requires Headset with Microphone and an additional \$30.00 for internet website fee.

Companions in Christ is a powerfully transforming small group experience in spiritual formation. The series explores classic spiritual practices, and invites participants to develop daily patterns that open their lives to a deepening relationship with God and one another. Cost of \$20.00 for book. The class meets on Thursdays, 8:30 a.m., and begins September 17th, CLC 207.

Christian Believer is a unique opportunity to know more of the doctrine of the Christian Faith. This 30 week class emphasizes the relationship of worship, belief, and daily life. Cost is \$45 for study book and book of readings. Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. beginning August 20th, and Mondays, 6:00 p.m. beginning August 17th. Both classes meet in CLC 214.

Covenant Discipleship Group is a spiritual formation small group focused on a balanced spiritual life incorporating the prac-

tices and spiritual disciplines seen in Jesus' life and the history of the church. Cost is \$10.00 for each study book (2 separate studies). Class meets on Thursdays, 9:00 a.m., beginning August 27th, CLC 211.

Wesley Ministry Network Group is a small group for those desiring a more challenging study of the Bible. The small group will focus on Christian Ethics and Science and Theology. Cost is \$8.00 for each study book (2 separate studies). The class begins on September 21st, CLC 211.

Upcoming Short Term Studies for Fall

To register, go to www.fumchs.com and click on adults, then short term studies.

Plug In is designed to do just that! Plug you into First United Methodist Church; our ministries, our small groups, our beliefs and church structure. Plug In meets four times a year at different times, and is facilitated by our church leadership. Plug in will meet this Fall (two separate opportunities) on Wednesdays, September 2 - 23rd, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., CLC 209 and on Sundays, October 18 - November 8, 10:45 a.m., CLC 209.

When Godly People Do Ungodly Things

Mondays, September 14 - October 26, 9:00 a.m., Susan Bean and Suzi Burton facilitators, This Beth Moore study examines how devoted followers can fall into the enemy's traps. It is a guide to authentic repentance and restoration, as well as equipping believers with heightened dis-

cernment. For more information and directions to home group, contact Susan Bean 501-525-5599. Cost of Book is \$13.00.

Griefshare

Wednesdays, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. September 9th, Ellen Rucker, facilitator, CLC 209. GriefShare is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life. Participants are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch. Materials provided at no cost.

Thin Within Support Group

Mondays, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. September 14 - December 7th, CLC 204, Lynda Jackson and Brenda Henderson, facilitators. Cost of materials is \$45.00 Are you tired of watching your weight yo-yo up and down? Always trying the latest diet trend? Join our support group that uses a faith-based, grace-oriented approach to lasting weight loss.

Charis, Women's Small Group is now meeting in the CLC Parlor, Sundays, 10:45 a.m. They are currently studying World Religions.

FOTC (Finding Ourselves through Christ), Young Adult Small Group will resume meeting on Sundays, 10:45, CLC 214 on August 23rd.

Children's Ministry

Michelle Wilkins ext. 115

JUST WHAT IS GOD EXPECTING?

We expect to come to church on Sunday morning and find the steeple standing tall. We expect to come to worship and hear the Word. We expect that there will be a minister to lead us in worship. When we join the church we are expected to give our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our services. When our children are baptized, we promise as a church family to surround them with love and

to live so that they grow in knowledge and love of God through Jesus Christ. Children learn to love God and be part of the Christian community by participating in acts of faith through Sunday school. Together, we must work to fulfill our responsibility as a community of faith to teach our children about God's love. We expect that when we bring our children to Sunday school, there will be a teacher to teach them. Who are we expecting to teach our children? Ask yourself, "What is God expecting of me and where does he want me to be?" Answer that expectation by offering hope and transforming lives of the children through teaching on Sunday mornings. You can be that teacher!

OUTREACH

Candy Poirier
outreach@fumchs.com
623-6668 ext. 117

ICE CREAM SOCIAL & HYMNSING

Wednesday, August 19th at 6:00 pm we are having our annual Ice Cream Social and Hymnsing in Cupp Hall. All are invited to bring homemade ice cream to share and again we will have a group of judges to award the "Best Homemade Ice Cream" for 2009!! We hope you will join us for an evening of great fellowship to close the summer and begin a new fall. Call Candy Poirier if you are bringing ice cream at 623-6668 ext. 117.

UMCOR—OCTOBER 11—16, 2009

This is a reminder we will be traveling to Baldwin, La. on October 11th through the 16th to work at UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). There is room for 10 to 12 people for the week. The cost is \$205 per person which includes room, food and lots of fun. Call Candy for more information at 623-6668 ext. 117.

FAITH FRIENDS

"I think the program is a good idea and I would be happy to participate. I think that it sounds like fun to get to know new people. New people mean new ideas, new energy, and refreshing enthusiasm for

the programs already in place in our church. I spent my younger years moving around the world. It was always exciting to meet people with different ideas and cultural backgrounds. I learned from every new experience. Who I am today is a result of all these experiences with new people (as well as family influence), so naturally, I look forward to getting to know new church members. "

-Paulette Johnson

SOUL FOOD CAFÉ

Soul Food Café will begin serving dinner again August 26th followed by worship. We need volunteers to help prepare and serve in the kitchen on Wednesday's once a month. This is always a great evening of fellowship, good food and an evening of joining together to worship. If you would like to help, please call Candy Poirier at 623-6668 ext. 117 and get plugged in.

Outreach Committee Backpack Mission

The Outreach Committee filled 100 backpacks to join forces with the Hot Springs School District and Project Backpack Inc. to help children, kindergarten through high school, get a good start to the new school year. We handed out around 80 backpacks on Saturday from 1pm to 3pm. This was an outreach to the community that was so very heart warming and to see those little ones pick their very own backpack for school was so exciting to them and for us. In all they were expecting around 2500 children to receive backpacks this year. Thank you to the Outreach Committee for your support, help and time you gave to this project.

Mike's Mic...

A big thanks to all of the youth that helped out in the Garbage Skit a couple of Sundays ago during The ConneXion. You guys were awesome! That really helped drive home the reality of how Christ wants to carry our hurts, pains and extra baggage.

In the past few weeks we have had some amazing worship services in The ConneXion. I don't say this to pat anyone on the back, it's all due to work of the Holy Spirit, in a lot of different areas. God has definitely been at work in people lives.

The Creative/Design Team has been incredible. The careful consideration of "how can we make this connect to the congregation, and the congregation connect to God" continues to progress more and more each week. All ideas are listened to and through "teamwork". The Tribe of Dan, our altar team, also attends that meeting. They take away all of the ideas and direction, meet separately and seek the Holy Spirit on what should visually go be-

fore the congregation. And as you can "see", it's been awesome each week. They actually have 2 teams that rotate, and will be adding more (hint, hint) in the near future. The Praise Team works hard Thursday night preparing the music. What an incredible team of musicians and singers we have, we are so blessed! The Audio/Visual Team shows up Sunday mornings to run through the service with Praise Team and to make sure everything "technical" is ready to go. They are a very professional and dedicated group of people. The greeters and welcome Team are out front welcoming the members and visitors, the Ushers are making sure everything is ready to go for their part of the service. Bro. Carl gets his notes together and shakes hands w/ the crowd. And Bro. Bud prepares himself to bring a message that will challenge us and speak to us. Wow, that's a lot!

But it doesn't stop there. Hopefully we've come into God's house ready to be worshipers and not "consumers" of worship. The scriptures tell us that we're to "bring a sacrifice of praise". A sacrifice requires something of us. Everything that I mentioned in the last paragraph is to help the congregation connect to Christ in a very real and meaningful way, so that when you

"team" up with that during worship, everything is directed where it belongs, straight up. Are you preparing yourself during the week? Are you playing your part on the team? Preparation is key. So bring your "A" game Sunday. Be ready to team up with those around you to give God the glory through worship (a verb). Amen!

Children's Choir Help Needed for Fall

Our Children's Choirs will be kicking off in September, and that'll be here before you know it. There are several areas where volunteers are needed. Accompanist: you don't have to be a pro, mainly we're asking you to play simple melody parts and occasionally 2 lines. This is a huge help to our directors and it frees them up to be in front of their choir. Choir Monitors: this volunteer will help w/ taking roll, walking the kids to choir from the CLC and help in the classroom. Singing is not a must. When performance time rolls around, we will need help w/ costumes, sets, choreography and things that will help the kids have a successful musical. We'll be sure to put the word out when the time is near. In the meantime, if you would like to help out in one of the areas please call Mike Lovelady at 623.6668 Ext. 107.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

Bill Skaggs ext. 123

Welcome to the 2009-2010 School Year and some exciting things at UMY!

The first thing on the list is welcoming the new 7th graders into youth. We are planning our Pyramid Night for August 22 from 9-11 p.m. at Bro. Bud & Karen's House!

This is a great way to welcome the new youth to our group and to show them what being a member of the UMY is all about. The more member of UMY we have present, the better welcome we can give our new youth. The night is designed to show, using symbol of the pyramid, how the UMY are

connected to the local church, the larger Methodist Church, and to all Christians in the world. We hope that everyone will come and participate and plan to stay after and play a few games with us.

...then

YOU ARE INVITED...

To join us in celebration of the new youth space! We are soon moving into our new youth space! The grand opening will be on August 30th. Doors will open at 5 p.m. with a short presentation at 6 p.m. This is

a very exciting space and we hope that everyone will come out to help us celebrate this wonderful opportunity.

We are looking forward to a great new year with lots of great opportunities for you to connect to God and to people.

-Skaggs

HO HUM (Holy Older Healthy United Methodists) HAS A PLACE FOR YOU!

Friday, August 7: CLC # 205

9:00 a.m. Low Impact Exercise
and/or

10:00 a.m. Movie: *Patch Adams: The incomparable Robin Williams* enriches our HO HUM humor goal!

Friday, August 14: CLC # 205

9:00 a.m. Low Impact Exercise
and/or

10:00 a.m. An opportunity to be with renowned speaker and life coach, Toni Spears as she leads us in "Embracing Your Inner Creative Child."

Don't rob yourself of this exceptional privilege.

Special Gifts

In memory of Suzy Graham

Mary Wright
Ronny and Penny Marshall
Winnifred Lyell
Deenie Johnson
Lois McMahan
Bruce and Cathy Terry
Rena Lou Elliott
George and Sammie Bachelor
Joe and Gretta Kaufman
Nitalynn Sigman
J.P. Jarrell Plumbing Co, Inc.
Weenie French
The McCleary Family
Mary E. Carey
Patricia Wright

In memory of Reba Nickels' sister

Ivy Bergman
In memory of Charles Ashcraft
George and Sammie Bachelor
Dub Davenport
Mildred Smith
Barbara Mahoney
John and Karen Poe
Ann Shelton
Jerry and Daudet Schreurs
Weenie French
Frances Dalme
Bob and Joan Case
The Friendship Class
Forest View Property Owners
Association

In memory of Margaret Polk,
mother of Rev. John Polk

Tommy and Blanche Donoho
Joe and Gretta Kaufman
Ann Shelton
Joe Dickson
The Saints and Sinners Class
Jerry and Daudet Schreurs
Mary Humphreys
Louise Cain
Deenie Johnson

In memory of Lorene Heard,
mother of Nancy Vandegrift

Barbara Mahoney
Cliff and Bobbie Horton

Church Calendar

Wednesday, August 5

8:30 a.m. Pilates
 9:00 a.m. Ho Hum Low Impact Exercise
 6:00 p.m. UMY Video Production
 6:30 p.m. Choir

Friday, August 7

8:30 a.m. Pilates
 9:00 a.m. Ho Hum Low Impact Exercise
 10:00 a.m. Ho Hum Class

Sunday, August 9 - UMW Sunday

8:15 a.m. Worship Service
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. The ConneXion
 10:45 a.m. Connect Groups
 10:55 a.m. Worship Service
 4:00 p.m. Youth Praise Band Practice
 5:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth

Monday, August 10

8:30 a.m. Pilates
 11:00 a.m. Beginning Handbells
 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 12

8:30 a.m. Pilates
 9:00 a.m. Ho Hum Low Impact Exercise
 10:00 a.m. Smocking Guild Meeting
 1:30 p.m. Knitwits
 6:00 p.m. UMY Video Production
 6:30 p.m. Choir

Friday, August 14

8:30 a.m. Pilates
 9:00 a.m. Ho Hum Low Impact Exercise
 10:00 a.m. Ho Hum Class

Sunday, August 16

8:15 a.m. Worship Service
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. The ConneXion
 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion - Humphreys Chapel
 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion - Humphreys Chapel
 10:45 a.m. Connect Groups
 10:55 a.m. Worship Service
 4:00 p.m. Youth Praise Band Practice
 5:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth

Monday, August 17

8:30 a.m. Pilates
 8:30 a.m. Disciple I
 11:00 a.m. Beginning Handbells
 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Christian Believer

Tuesday, August 18

7:00 a.m. UMM Breakfast
 6:00 p.m. Stephen Supervision Meeting

Wednesday, August 19

8:30 a.m. Pilates
 9:00 a.m. Ho Hum Low Impact Exercise
 6:00 p.m. Hymnsing & Ice Cream Social
 6:00 p.m. UMY Video Production
 7:00 p.m. Choir

**Don't forget WAK will be here before we know it...
 please call the church office to find out more!**

You're Invited to a UMW Coffee

United Methodist Women would like to invite you to UMW Sunday on August 9. You are also invited to a coffee on September 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the Shelton Room. There will be a short program highlighting one of the missions we support. We would love to start a new evening or weekend circle. Those interested, please call Paulette Johnson at 525-1444 or join us at the coffee on September 1.

XYZ TO HEAR NEW EXECUTIVE MINISTER

The XYZ has set its next luncheon meeting for Thursday, August 20. Rather than the usual potluck, salad and spaghetti will be provided. The program will be presented by our new executive minister, Rev. Carl Ownbey. Rev. Ownbey will tell us about his life experiences and former pastoral appointments.

The group will gather in the Shelton room of the CLC at 11:30. After recognition of those who have birthdays in June, July and August, the lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. A brief business session will follow the meal and speaker.

All persons 55 and over are invited to join us in welcoming Rev. Ownbey to our congregation and getting to know him better.

First United Methodist Church 1100 Central Avenue Hot Springs, AR 71901

Periodicals postage paid at Hot Springs, Arkansas. The First United Methodist Church *Messenger* [USPS 198-840] is published bi-weekly by First United Methodist Church, 1100 Central Avenue, Hot Springs, AR 71901. Subscriptions are 50 cents per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to First United Methodist Church, 1100 Central Avenue, Hot Springs, AR 71901.

The Methodist Men's Handymen group along with many other church volunteers combined efforts on Saturday morning July 25th to take care of some much needed maintenance items for our church. We also helped others who called in for help. Brother Bud was there to begin our day in prayer and to help organize the many chores to do around the church. Thanks also to Tom McCarver for his help to organize this important effort.

We were blessed with a large turn-out of very hard workers and some good weather. The church lawn was mowed, hedges were trimmed, a flower bed was completed, a

CHURCH WORK DAY A BIG SUCCESS

By Greg Poirier

storage room was painted, the music library was cleaned up, and lots of yard work was completed.

In addition to the work at church, we built a ramp so a woman could leave her home in her wheel chair to go to the hospital.

The following people gave up their time Saturday morning to make all of this possible:

Jerry Bush, Bart Bledsoe Jim Blakley, Sam Clark, Bill Allen, Latt Bachelor, Ron Muse,

Andy Calloway, Scott Sellers, Ralph Stadler, Mike Wooldridge, Don Cassil, Chuck Dudley, Wade Bradley, Larry Walker.

We were so busy, and there were so many people. Please let me know if I omitted you from our list so I can mention you in the next *Messenger*.



IN THE HOSPITAL:

Veteran's: Jim Haynie

St. Joe's: Wally Towle, Gayle Hurst

National Park: Caroline Shults

Released: Wayne Neaville, Jane Tullous, Aryn Claire Martin, Louise Cain, Mack Koonce

Cares & Concerns

Condolences to the family and friends of:

- Charles Ashcraft
- Glen Minton

Welcome New Members:

- Jim & June Blakley

