

# in the First Place

Volume 43 | Issue 20 | September 26, 2019

## A THRIVEing First Arts

First Arts is in full swing, and things are going great! We currently have an enrollment of 110 students spread evenly across Tuesday and Thursday. Once again, half of our students are on some sort of scholarship provided largely through donations and savvy stewardship. Every day, we receive emails from parents thanking us for this program and letting us know that their children are having a wonderful time. It's amazing to think of what First Arts has become in the last three years-- not only have we seen more participation from the community, we also have seen an enormous increase in participation in children from First Church.

Every Tuesday & Thursday, students come into our Church after school. They are given a snack and offered homework help. They play games in our gym and watch a movie in our theater. They participate in theater, choir, and art classes taught by qualified professionals. Every Tuesday and Thursday, children come to our church and find a place where they belong and adults who care about them. Every Tuesday and Thursday you can find our volunteer staff and our teachers living out First Church's THRIVE initiative by making sure our community has a safe place to learn.

So, how can I help? We need your time. If you can spare a few hours on Tuesday or Thursday afternoon, we need you-- particularly if you can be here between 2:30 and 4:30 when most of the "action" takes place. You don't need to be an artist or a musician to participate; if you have time for us, we have a job for you. We're always looking for people who can substitute as a van driver-- being able to bus kids to our program has been a real cornerstone of our growth. You can donate a scholarship for \$200; we won't let finances keep a child from learning, and it's the church's generosity that empowers that. Also, you can donate to our snack fund. We feed over 100 children every week from your donations. There are so many ways to assist in this important ministry! If you feel led to help, please contact James, Kyle, or Tammy; we'd love to have you.

**James Stanley, Associate Director of Music Ministries**



## NEWS & EVENTS

### InterGenerama

September 29th 9-10:30 am

### Faith Based Advocacy Training

October 4th-5th, Details Inside.

### Honoring a Visionary

**Dr. Kesley Caplinger**

Sunday, October 13th

## WELCOMING STATEMENT

You are a child of God created in the Divine Image. You are welcomed, affirmed, and included at First Church, not despite, but because of your age, ability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity. This is how the Holy Spirit works: when you are welcomed, all are welcomed. When all are welcomed and embraced as the Body of Christ, the world is transformed into a place where all of God's Children can THRIVE, finding the Trust, Health, Relationships, Imagination, Value, and Education they need. We are all children of God. Thanks be to God!

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**FUMC LR**  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - LITTLE ROCK

## NEW & EVENTS



### InterGenerama

an ElderandChild Intergenerational Experience

**Sunday, Sept 29th 9-10:30 am, Fellowship Hall**

If you haven't heard of the ElderandChild program, here's your chance to check it out. Come one! Come all to participate with no one left out. Mark your calendars for an event to link our generations in celebration and service. Puppet, song, picture book sharing, theater games, light snack, and a service project bring us together as we discover what is possible when generations unite in troubled times. Everyone, ages 0 to 100, is invited!

### The Teen Age: A Parent Training

#### Next Session - Oct. 2nd at Noon

This first series, led by Pearman Parker, PhD, RN, is in 4 parts, focusing on the brain, its development, and effects on students. If you, or any friends could utilize this, please register. You can bring your own lunch, or we can provide one. Registration is only open for the second session on Oct. 2. Please save the future dates for the ones that apply to you, as registrations for each one will open on the first Thursday of the month. Oct. 2- Early teens (12-14) , Nov. 6- Middle Teens (15-17) Dec. 4- Late Teens (18-20)

### Bra Ministry Needs Support

In May of 2016, I recognized a need in our community for bras. With the help of a network of friends and family, we have distributed more than 6000 bras to 18 organizations. We have honored specific requests for people needing special sizes, sports bras, nursing bras, and mastectomy bras.

This ministry has benefited from all the women that purchase the wrong bras! It seems that we all have several in our drawer that we aren't wearing. We accept new and gently used bras.

We will be collecting bras at the church during the month of October. Please drop those off at the church in one of our labeled receptacles. If you are not in the neighborhood, there is always a receptacle inside BA Framer in the Heights. On October 27th, we will gather in the Community Café to sort and package those bras. Please call me if you identify any group needing bras that we may not know about. This is not a nonprofit. We do not collect any money. Our only goal is to get the bras to those in need. **Donna Smith 501.681.8187**



**Sunday, October 13th**

**11:30am - 3:00pm**

CAMP ALDERSGATE | 2000 ALDERSGATE RD | LITTLE ROCK, AR

**TICKET \$15 - Kids 6 and under free.**

Tickets will be sold at FUMC on Sunday, Sept. 29th & Oct. 6th

### In Honor of a Visionary - Dr. Kelsy Caplinger

On **Sun, October 13th**, we will honor FUMC member Dr. Kelsy Caplinger for his visionary leadership in the creation of the **Med Camps at Camp Aldersgate**. Dr. Caplinger was one of the leading Asthma and Allergy doctors in the region throughout his career. Many of Dr. Caplinger's young patients could not attend typical activities like summer camp because of the limitations from their asthma. So, he started a camp specifically designed for kids with asthma. At this camp they were able to do all the usual camp activities under the protection of staff and volunteers who knew how to protect them from asthma related complications. In addition, campers received training in how to monitor and control their condition. Being a Methodist in Little Rock, he reached out to Camp Aldersgate to hold this first camp. After Dr. Caplinger's initial idea, they began replicating these camps for children with various conditions such as Cystic Fibrosis, Spina Bifida, and Downs Syndrome. This was the start of Med Camps at Camp Aldersgate. All these years later, Med Camps at Camp Aldersgate continue to be a thriving ministry to children with special needs. First Church is deeply grateful to the vision and work of our own member, Kelsy Caplinger. We can continue to support Camp Aldersgate by attending the Fish Fry on October 13th. Tickets will be on sale at FUMC the next two Sundays.

### LifeGroup Ministry

Our LifeGroup ministry is an opportunity to gather with people who share your experiences in a casual and meaningful way.

**Life Group: Caring for Aging Parents** meets on the third Monday of the Month at Noon in the Community Cafe

**Life Group: Medical Professionals** stay tuned for next meeting.

**Life Group: Moms who Lunch** second Wednesday of the month at noon in the Community Cafe

We are slowly adding new groups, so if have an idea for a new LifeGroup please contact Brittany (bwatson@fumclr.org).





**LRSD/LREA  
Community Meeting  
Monday, September 30  
6 pm-7:30 pm: Sanctuary**

We are the host of a community meeting regarding the future of the Little Rock School District and the Little Rock Education Association.

You are invited and encouraged to

show up as a faith advocate that seeks to speak on behalf of the education of every child in Little Rock. Your presence is an important witness to our belief that all children in Little Rock should THRIVE. Education is a crucial component in building a healthy community, and we cannot see our city's education system segregated. If you have any questions about the issues facing the LRSD, please email Rev. Haley at [hjones@fumclr.org](mailto:hjones@fumclr.org). Please join us. Your mere presence is advocacy.

**Moms Demand Action  
Arkansas Monthly Meeting**

**Tues., Oct. 1st at 5:30 pm, Cokesbury Center**

Join Moms Demand Arkansas for their monthly update meeting. Common sense gun reform is one of our advocacy efforts at FUMC, LR. Let's join our voices with Moms Demand Action.

**Faith Based Advocacy Training**

Join us to learn how you can use your voice to make a positive change on the local, state, and national levels as we explore advocacy rooted in our faith and tools to make your voice heard.

**First United Methodist Church  
Oct. 4th, 6:30-9:30 pm, Oct. 5th, 9 am-3 pm**

**Rebecca Cole**, Director of Organizing,  
Church and Society in Washington D.C.

**John Hill**, Assistant General for Advocacy  
and Grassroots Organizing

\$25 fee includes meal, snacks, t-shirt and resources  
Register: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/faitbasedtraining>

Sponsored by the Arkansas Board of Church and Society  
Made possible by a grant from the Arkansas United Methodist Foundation. Scholarships available for high school and college students. Questions? Contact [hjones@fumclr.org](mailto:hjones@fumclr.org) or [jclark@phumc.org](mailto:jclark@phumc.org)

**ONES FOR THE MANY.** Each week all the \$1 bills placed in the offering plate are donated to 'Ones for the Many.' These donations will go to support our friends and neighbors who visit us in need of birth certificates, state ids, prescriptions, and a place of rest in the Community Cafe. Your donations go directly back to our community.

SAVE THE DATE  
**CHILDREN'S  
CHRISTMAS  
Pageant**  
SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 15TH!  
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.







## Can I Make a Difference?

Philanthropy is a big word that simply put means an expression of your generosity with the understanding that your gift can make a difference. There are many ways your giving can make a difference in the lives of others through the ministry of FUMCLR. It is not the size of the gift that is important, but the heart of the generous giver. First Church has many such generous givers not only through tithes and offerings but through memorials and honorariums. When combined those memorials and honorariums make a huge impact on the programs and church as a whole. Because of your gifts in memory or honor of a loved one the first 8 months of 2019, the following ministries were blessed. So, you see, you can make a difference.

Perpetual Endowment	\$63,865.11
Children's Ministry	\$300.00
Music Ministry	\$625.00
Lucie's Place	\$2,000.00
FUMC Library	\$100.00
Youth Ministry	\$75.00
Hendrix College	\$100.00
SPEAK Committee	\$150.00
Operating Budget	\$545.00
Flower Fund	\$615.00
Maintenance Fund	\$50.00

## Koinonia Sunday School Class studies Max Lucado's Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World now through November 10th

Ever experience anxiety? Don't we all! Max Lucado presents evidence that we are living in an age of unprecedented anxiety and angst today, and he offers sound Biblical based solutions to reduce that stress. You are welcome to join us in this study as we seek some needed calm in the chaotic world in which we live today. For more information contact Bob Nelson at 501-565-0453 (rbclnelson@sbcglobal.net) or Linda Baker at 501-372-4685 (bakerlinda384@gmail.com). Koinonia Class meets at 9:45 AM each Sunday in room 209. We welcome visitors and new members.

## YOUTH

**Sept. 22-** Youth Night 5-7. Theme- Pineapples and Power pt. 2 (if you missed the first one, you can easily catch up for the second one)

**Sept. 29-** Youth 5-7. 'Three Lily's'

**Oct. 6-** Tech Training Night 5-7. Join us as we help some adults in the church with how to better utilize their cell phones.

**Oct. 13-** MORNING QUAPAW QUARTER BREAKFAST 7:30-10am



We will go Nov. 8-10.

Cost- \$55. Registration opens Sept. 8.

After Sept. 22, the cost goes up to \$85

## FRIENDS & FAMILY



### Welcome New Members

We welcomed Bill Westerman into membership during First Word on Sunday, September 15th. Bill joined by transfer of membership from another Methodist church. Please give Bill a warm First Church welcome.

## Memorials and Honorariums

### In Memory of John Shaw

by Bowen Cabe Sunday School Class, Craig & Nancy Wood

### In Memory of Edward Monroe Turner

by Cherry Light, Martha Faulkner

### In Memory of Hattie Wise

by Craig & Nancy Wood

### In Memory of Nancy McKenzie

by Patsy Frost

### In Memory of Tena Bultena

by Martha Faulkner, Craig & Nancy Wood, Irma Jewell

### In Memory of John Sanders

by Martha Faulkner

### In Memory of Sarah Posey Smith

by Craig & Nancy Wood

### In Memory of Paul Jones

by First United Methodist Church UMW, FUMC Altar Guild

### In Honor of David Freeman's Birthday

by Judy Jewell

### In Honor of Robyn & Robbie Pryor

by Maurice Webb, Jr.

### In Memory of Robert Cress

by Robert Cress Bequest



<<FullNameWithSalutationsAndNoTitles>>  
<<AddressLine1>>  
<<AddressLine2>>  
<<AddressLine3>>

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*The next issue of In the First Place will be published on October 10, 2019. Submission deadline is October 7.*

**WORSHIP SERIES SEPTEMBER 8 - OCTOBER 13**

# both and

Living faithfully in an either/or world.

PROGRESSIVE  
SAVED  
TEACHER  
SCIENTIFIC  
INTROVERTED  
WRONG



EVANGELICAL  
UNSAVED  
STUDENT  
RELIGIOUS  
EXTROVERTED  
RIGHT