



# in the First Place

Volume 43 | Issue 22 | October 24, 2019

## Support the Causes You Care About at the Christmas CareFair Nov. 3 and 10

For the first two Sundays in November, First Church will be holding our annual Christmas CareFair to give members and others the chance to purchase goods and honor cards that support causes close to our hearts.

The purpose of the Christmas CareFair is to make it convenient for us to look at Christmas giving alternatives. We bring some of the nonprofits FUMC-LR supports all year long, along with representatives of First Church's own ministries, to the Fellowship Hall to raise essential end-of-the-year funds to support work that helps our community THRIVE.

Last year at the CareFair, I found beautiful placemats and napkins at the Sew and Serve booth and a fun tote bag to benefit Camp Aldersgate. This year I'm sure I plan to purchase another chocolate bar to share during the sale and company Christmas Cards with a donation to Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance.

Whether you're a regular shopper or first-time visitor, you're welcome at the Christmas CareFair! Don't forget to come by the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 3 and 10 to find Christmas gifts for your friends and family. I promise you will be intrigued by the offerings from:

- Arkansas Foodbank
- Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance
- Camp Aldersgate
- Central Arkansas Library
- Cookson Hills Ministry
- Creative Co-op from Mozambique
- Dandy Line Food
- Equal Exchange
- Esse Purse Museum
- Five to THRIVE Backpack Ministry
- FLAME
- Heifer Project
- Hendrix College
- Honduras Hope
- Hope Rises
- Literacy Action of Central Arkansas
- Lucie's Place
- Methodist Family Health
- Ozark Mission Project
- Pancake Breakfast for FANN
- Sew and Serve

*Jessica Szenher, Event Chair*

**Sunday, November 3rd - Pancake Breakfast 8:30-10 am**  
**Sunday, November 10th - Soup-To-Go by The Dandy Line Kitchen**

723 Center Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201  
501.372.2256 • [www.fumclr.org](http://www.fumclr.org)

### NEWS & EVENTS

**Bra Ministry Pack & Sort**  
Saturday, October 27th

**Family Movie Night**  
Sat., November 2nd at 5 pm

**20 Somethings Brunch**  
Sunday, November 3rd at 10 am

### 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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## NEW & EVENTS

### 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**

### Petit Jean anyone?

On Wednesday, October 30th, a church van will be headed to Petit Jean for lunch and a trip down memory lane. We will leave the church at 10 am and return mid afternoon. Cost is \$10, plus lunch at the Mather Lodge. To reserve your seat on the bus or for more information contact Donna, [dhankins@fumclr.org](mailto:dhankins@fumclr.org).

### First Arts needs you!!

Do you play Jenga? How are you with Legos? Can you take attendance? Many of our regular volunteers are out of town for dates during October, and we are in need of substitute volunteers to donate a Tuesday or a Thursday from 2:30 until roughly 4:15. If you have the time available for us, we have a job for you (and we promise it will be fun). Please contact James Stanley ([jstanley@fumclr.org](mailto:jstanley@fumclr.org)) or Cindy Hedges ([cindyhedges@me.com](mailto:cindyhedges@me.com)).

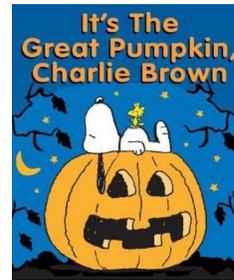
### Stewpot Volunteers Needed

#### 4th Tuesday of every month, 9:15am-10:30 am

We need more hands and bodies helping prepare the food for the Stewpot meal on the 4th Tuesdays of every month. Do you have an extra hour to spare once a month? There is a small team working to prepare the food, but we don't have enough help to make it run at full capacity. If you would like to be added to the Stewpot email list, please contact Haley at [hjones@fumclr.org](mailto:hjones@fumclr.org). We can add you to the list, and you can volunteer based on your schedule. SERVEing our community is easy at Stewpot!

### 20-Somethings Brunch Sunday, November 3rd 10 am, First cup Cafe

Calling all 20-somethings! If you were born in the 90's we are talking to you! Join us on Sunday, November 3rd at 10 a.m. in the First Cup Cafe for a brunch and a chat. We will have delicious food, hot coffee, and a chance to catch up with or meet for the first time, other young adults at First Church! Questions? Contact Rev. Brittany.



### Family Movie Night

#### Saturday, November 2 at 5 pm

Come for one last spooky celebration as we gather for food, fellowship, and film! We will gather for dinner at 5 pm. After dinner will have a fun activity and finally a showing of "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" in the Children's movie theatre. Kids (and adults) are invited to get one last wear out of their Halloween costume! Everyone is invited! Questions? Contact Rev. Brittany Watson ([bwatson@fumclr.org](mailto:bwatson@fumclr.org)) or Tammy Felder ([tfelder@fumclr.org](mailto:tfelder@fumclr.org)).

### The Teen Age: A Parent Training

#### Next Session - Nov. 6th 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. 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. Nov. 6- Middle Teens (15-17), Dec. 4- Late Teens (18-20)



### Church Women United Central Arkansas South's World Community Day Celebration, Fri., Nov. 1st

#### at Christ Episcopal Church, 509 Scott Street

9:30 am Registration and Refreshments and 10:00 am Program

The 2019 theme for Church Women United is THE TIME IS NOW! and the theme for World Community Day is "Resolve to Love." As women of faith we have a responsibility to reach beyond Christian denominations to brothers and sisters who are Muslim, Buddhist, Jewish and many others. It is a move from an ecumenical to an interfaith celebration. We want, through mutual respect, to create an inclusive community that is just, caring and supportive. The speaker will be Wendy Moursi. She converted to Islam after a lifelong search for her spiritual path. She will be talking about her Muslim faith. Everyone is welcome.

**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.

## In Giving, You Receive.

Seeing firsthand how a gift changes lives and brings joy to others can change the lives of those that give. Most of us have experienced this through the eyes of a child when presented with a gift. A philanthropic gift can have many of the same benefits. There's that word again, "philanthropy". Why not just say charity or charitable gift? Philanthropy can be broadly defined as love for humankind. It comes from the Greek words "philos" which means loving, and "anthropos" which means humankind. The purpose of philanthropy is to improve the wellbeing of humankind by preventing and solving social problems. Philanthropy dates back thousands of years and has been influenced by religious beliefs and people's belief that giving is a way to honor the sacredness of each individual. As in the book of Matthew, when Jesus says, "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it for one of these least brother of mine, you did it for me" (Matthew 25:40). Philanthropy does not mean giving millions, it means giving from your heart and from your love of God and others.

Philanthropy is important because it provides opportunities. It supports projects and endeavors that otherwise might not be available to promote the social change that is needed in the world today and to come. Philanthropy, a culture of giving, must be woven into our daily lives if we are to see a lasting change in the lives of our children and generations to come. In giving, we make the world a better place, a safer place.

*Sonja Taylor-Larkowski, Finance Manager*

## FRIENDS & FAMILY



### Welcome New Members

We welcomed Marcia Adams and Amy & Leo Freer into membership on Sunday, October 13th. Give them all a big FUMC welcome!

We welcomed Irma Nelson in membership on Sunday, October 20th during First Word. When you see Irma, give her a warm First Church welcome.



### Congratulations

To Molly McNulty on the birth of her daughter, Mary Carter McNulty, born on October 9th.

### Sympathy

To the family and friends of Jim Christian who died on Oct. 13th.

To Lesley Andrews and family following the death of her grandmother, Joyce Coday, on October 15th.

To Pat Blackstone following the death of her brother Jerry on October 18th.

To Pat Withrow following the death of her husband, Charlie Withrow, on October 22nd.

## KIDS@FIRST

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You are invited to join us as we celebrate children during worship at 11:00 am. While the children's choir will sing, children of all ages will be recognized and celebrated during the service.

WE WANT TO KNOW  
IF YOU'LL MAKE IT!  
PLEASE EMAIL TAMMY FELDER  
TFELDER@FUMCLR.ORG



## YOUTH

Oct. 27- Fun/Game/Activity Night 5-7

Nov. 3- Pineapples and Power (and some competition) 5-7

### Youth Basketball Church League

Teams can be made of church members and friends. Players cannot be on a school basketball team. Email Brandon for more information.

### 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** November 12th at 6 pm stay tuned for next meeting (email bwatson@fumcl.org for place)

**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@fumcl.org).

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

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*The next issue of In the First Place will be published on November 7, 2019. Submission deadline is November 4.*



# Christmas Care Fair

**November 3rd & 10th**  
Fellowship Hall

Honor your friends and family this Christmas with gifts that support the causes they care about.

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