



in the First Place

Volume 44 | Issue 05 | March 5, 2020

MARCH

Food, Cooking & Dining

If you are ever at a loss to support a flagging conversation, introduce the subject of eating. These words of wisdom, while offered more than 200 years ago by an English poet, highlight the role that food has held and continues to hold in our lives. We interact with food every day - sometime by ourselves, often with others. Frequently we eat as a matter of routine, but we also dine as a means of celebration and connection. There are those of us who draw tremendous satisfaction from growing food, others enjoy the process of preparing food; still others derive the greatest pleasure from eating or sharing food with those around them. Simply put, food occupies a major place in our world, it is a significant brick in the structure of our brick and mortar lives.

During the month of March, we will highlight the ways in which food and dining support, sustain, and connect us. The church calendar holds several opportunities for people to come together and share a meal and conversation. While I hope you take advantage of these gatherings, I know you already have a myriad of ways food fosters connection and nourishes the relationships among your family and friends. Please share those moments with us! We want to hear your stories and see your pictures of how food enriches your life.

Join us this month as the spotlight on our brick and mortar life shines on food and the ways we share it, serve it, and celebrate God's gifts of love and abundance through it.

Bon Appetit!
Rev. Donna



NEWS & EVENTS

UMW Lunch & Program

Sunday, March 15th

It's Easter egg time!

We need help filling eggs, take a bag from the containers around the church. Return by April 5th!

Friendship Camp registration opens soon!

See details inside.

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

Lenten Sermon Series : Who Do You Say That I Am?

Jesus is called many things; Son of God, Holy one of Israel, Messiah, Christ, Lamb of God, etc. Each description of Jesus has a specific meaning about who Jesus is. But, who do you say that Jesus is? Or maybe even more so, how does your life proclaim who Jesus is? Each Sunday during Lent, we're examining different scripture passages in which someone makes a declaration about who Jesus is. From these stories, we'll discover who Jesus is and how that is reflected in our everyday, ordinary lives.



Lenten Beer Tasting Stone's Throw Brewing Monday, March 30

Stone's Throw Brewing in Stiff Station is hosting a special Lenten beer tasting for First Church and friends. Ian Beard, brewery co-owner, will teach us about the connection of beer, Lent, and monasteries both near and far. Tickets for the tasting are \$25.00, and seating is limited to 45 people. You will receive 5 taster pours of beer and charcuterie at your table in the ticket price. Doors open at 5:30 pm, and the program starts at 6:00 pm. All proceeds of this event go directly to Faith Promise, our extra mile giving ministry during Lent to help hunger relief both locally and globally. Join us for local beer and a good cause! Buy tickets online: fumclr.org/registrations.



As part of our March Brick & Mortar theme of Food, Cooking and Dining, we want to give you a SNAP Challenge! Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of

needy families so they can purchase healthy food and move towards self-sufficiency. In Arkansas, the average daily benefit for recipients is \$3.60/person.

As we reflect on the relationship between our faith and food during the month of March, we are challenging the congregation to live off of the same daily average of \$3.60/person for the week of March 16-20. Many of our low income neighbors and neighbors experiencing homelessness do it every day. Can you?

Don't have time to participate in the SNAP Challenge that week? You can "opt out" by sending one weeks grocery bill to the church to be added to our Lenten Faith Promise program helping hunger relief in Arkansas and beyond. For an additional challenge, or general information, visit fumclr.org/snap Federal guidelines for healthy eating based on calories and a balanced diet, if you'd like to buy food utilizing this information. Taking part in the challenge? Let us know how it goes and send Lesley Andrews (landrews@fumclr.org) to let us know about your experience.



Help fill eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt. Grab a bag from the bins around the church and return by Sunday, April 5th.

Sew & Serve Donation to UMCOR

Thanks to the purchases made at the Christmas Care Fair, Sew & Serve is able to make a donation of \$1500 to United Methodist Committee On Relief. You made this possible by buying table linens, crocheted dishcloths, scarves, and gift sets of towels and crocheted dishcloths that we made last year. If you would like to join us, we meet on Tuesdays in room 207 from 9-11 am.

Jericho Way St Patrick's Day Housing Party Monday, March 16, 6:00-8:00 pm

We're the host of Jericho Way's next quarterly housing party that celebrates our neighbors moving from homelessness to housed. We need volunteers to set up, greet, serve the meal, eat with our friends, and clean up. If you'd like to be a volunteer, reach out to Rev. Haley at hjones@fumclr.org.

MARCH 8 & 15TH SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Bowen Cabe: March 8: Ms. Carol Roddy; March 15: Mr. Bill Waddell, Esq. Attorney for the Methodist Bishops (Meeting with other classes in the Chapel)

Unity: Currently Studying: \$2.00 A Day, Living on Almost Nothing in America written by Kathryn J Edin & H. Luke Schaefer

Koinonia: Currently: Adult Bible Study Series

Quadrilateral: Currently: John Wesley & the Methodist Movement

Choate: March 8: Clark Watson, March 15: Bill Waddell (in Chapel)

Anderson Sherman: Currently: The Last Week by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan

Pop-Up Sunday school: March 1- April 5 in the First Cup Cafe Studying the weekly scripture lesson through the lens of pop culture and current events.

Faith Promise: Did you know?

Potluck Food Rescue for Arkansas saved 211,094 pounds of food last year. No food should go to waste when we have hungry neighbors. Food waste is a large contributor to environmental degradation. Our community needs Potluck Food Rescue and part of our Faith Promise pledge goes to support their hunger relief efforts. Have you turned in your Faith Promise pledge card? You can donate online at www.fumclr.org/giving.

United Methodist Women Lunch & Meeting Sun., March 15, at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall

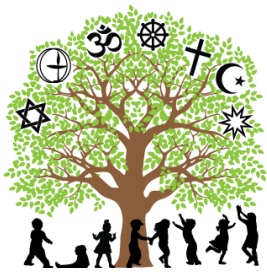
After lunch the speakers will be Elizabeth and David McCormick who are with the General Board of Global Ministries. They had previously served in Mozambique, South Africa. Elizabeth served as unofficial community pharmacist and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project Manager. David was assigned as Director of Chicupe Rural Hospital, a collaboration between the United Methodist Church of Mozambique and the Mozambique Ministry of Health. Having finished their contract in Africa, they returned to the United States for their next appointment as Mission Advocates. They are assigned to the South Central Jurisdiction, where they work with Annual Conferences to promote mission directives, raise support and awareness, and share stories of their mission experiences. Please call the church office at 372-2256 or sign the Journey card in the bulletin to make a reservation for lunch. Everyone is welcome!

YOUTH

March 8- Mission Night. 5-7.

March 15- Worship Night 5-7.

March 22 & 29 We will have Sunday School but no Sunday Night Youth



KIDS@FIRST

Friendship Camp, Registration opens soon!

Friendship Camp is a week long day camp offered for 3rd to 6th grade children to build friendships and understanding between children of diverse faiths.

Location: St. Margaret's Episcopal Church (20900 Chenal Pkwy, Little Rock, AR 72223)

Hours: 9 am - 3:30 pm daily

Cost: \$75 for the first child in a family, \$60 for each additional sibling. Scholarships available.

Ages: For rising 3rd-6th graders (current 2nd-5th graders)

Activities: Each day we'll learn about the superheroes in different faith traditions through daily lessons, small group activities, music, art and teambuilding. Each day will also include time for meditation, prayer and reflection. On Friday, we may take a field trip to a local destination related to our camp theme.

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Thank You!

I wanted to thank each and every one of you for the warm wishes and love throughout the years. *Jonathan Caudle*

Sympathy

To Ian Beard following the death of his grandfather, Lonzo Beard, on February 26th.

Join members of the Chancel choir as we support one of your own. Next Sunday is Jonathan's senior composition recital. This hour long performance is all music he has written, performed by various groups, including our choir.



MARCH 15, 2020
7PM

SNOW FINE ARTS

RECITAL HALL

UCA



UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL
ARKANSAS



Welcome New Members

We welcomed John and Karen Jarboe into membership during First Tradition on Sunday, February 23rd. We are so excited to officially welcome you to

FUMCLR!

We welcomed Nicki Morehead (and her son Hudson) into membership during First Tradition on Sunday, February 23rd. When you see Nicki and Hudson, give them a warm FUMCLR welcome!



Note pictured: We also welcomed Cory Olson into membership during First Tradition on Sunday, February 23rd. Welcome Cory!

Follow us!
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The next issue of In the First Place will be published on March 19, 2020. Submission deadline is March 16.

**Support the Faith Promise
Campaign to relieve hunger both
locally and globally.**

Make your pledge today!



**faith
PROMISE**

Live boldly in the
faithful promise of
abounding grace.