## **NEWS & EVENTS**

#### Sacred Spaces Commitment Sunday, April 21

Join us for our Sacred Spaces Commitment Sunday in both worship services on April 21st. This will be a special day where we present our commitments to this campaign and ask God to bless them. After several months of praying about our commitment to the Campaign for Sacred Spaces, this will be our opportunity to live our faith by filling out our commitment cards and bringing them to worship on the 21st.

Rev. Britt Skarda will be our special guest preacher that day. Before retiring in 2020, Britt served some of the most dynamic United Methodist Churches in Arkansas, including Pulaski Heights UMC. He's lived out his passion for justice and inclusion throughout his ministry and currently serves on the board of the Interfaith Center. In 2022, his book Sabbath Born was published. Britt is a dynamic preacher.

This will be a day of meaningful worship and celebration of all God is doing through our church. Please make a special effort to be at church that Sunday.



### Prayers for UMC General Conference 2024

With all of our focus on the Campaign for Sacred Spaces, we've hardly mentioned the upcoming General Conference for the United Methodist Church in this space. It will meet in Charlotte, NC April 23-May 3. General Conference is the governing body of the global denomination that typically meets every 4 years. However, the 2020 meeting got postponed and eventually cancelled. Therefore, this is the first meeting since 2016. Since it met last, our denomination has been through a great deal of change and transformation. Many churches have disaffiliated which has changed the landscape of Methodism in significant ways. These changes bring challenges as we try to discern our structure, policies, and focus. But this gathering will also help the general church better understand who we are and what God is calling us to be going forward. There are great possibilities and opportunities that this transformation affords. Please be in prayer for this gathering, the Arkansas delegation and specifically, our own Rev. Natasha Murray, who is a member of the delegation. May God's Spirit move, challenge, and usher in a beautiful future for the people of the United Methodist Church.

# JOURNEY CARD

We're glad you're here! Please complete the card and place in the offering plate.

#### □ CHECK IF FIRST-TIME GUEST

FULL NAME - Please Print

CHILDREN & YOUTH PRESENT TODAY
Names & Ages
ADDRESS
СІТҮ
STATE ZIP
PHONE
EMAIL(s)
My info has changed.
Please update my records.
Repeat Guest
Member Friend
Subscribe to E-Newsletter
□ I am interested in joining FUMC.
□ I would like more information
about FUMC. I would like a call from the pastor



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#### **PRAYER REQUEST**

YOUR NAME - Please Print

Person or situation for which you are requesting prayer.

### SPEAK Truth in Love Opportunity

For several years, FUMCLR has sought to cultivate justice oriented voices in Little Rock and beyond. You may have recently seen several opportunities to petition for legislation that would support the THRIVEing of God's beloved children. The Unity Sunday School Class is sponsoring another opportunity on April 21 before and after worship:

The education rights amendment of 2024 is sponsored by For AR Kids, a coalition of organizations including the AEA, ARTA, the Arkansas chapter of the NAACP, Arkansans for World-Class Education, Citizens First Congress, and the Arkansas Public Policy Panel.

The proposed amendment would:

1) Require any school receiving state funds to follow the same standards that public schools have to follow ( think transportation, lunches , and teacher certification, to name a few ).

2) Establish the minimum standards ordered by the Arkansas Supreme Court in the Lakeview decision.

3) Guarantee universal access to pre K 3 and 4, after school and summer programming, and funding for special education.

If you would like to sign the petition, you may find our Unity friends "tableing" before and after worship on April 21.

## Little Rock n' Roll Wash Update a mobile washing van for the unsheltered.

Thank you so much for your support of the new ministry Lil' Rock n' Roll Wash. We have more news to celebrate! We have received a \$25,000 grant from the Arkansas Methodist Foundation for the project. FUMCLR has committed to raise \$5,000 and manage the project for years to come through maintenance and volunteer coordination. "Outfitting" of the van will start, and we cannot wait to share the progress. Please sign up for our volunteer list, if you have the slightest interest in

volunteering: https://fumclr.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/98/responses/new

#### **Donate your Eclipse Glasses**

If you still have your eclipse glasses, please drop them at the church in the front office or the donation baskets. All glasses will be donated to a local organization that will send them to Latin America so that children can view the October 2024 Eclipse.

## ABUNDANCE

We are reminded of the spiritual and physical abundance given to us by the Holy One -

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

"The meek shall inherit the land, and delight

themselves in abundant prosperity." (Psalm 37:11)

"Mortals ate the bread of angels, (The Holy One) sent them food in abundance." (Psalm 78:25)

Reflect on this question for yourself: If I could describe my experience of abundance what would I include? Write or reflect on five central words that name your abundance.

A CENTERING MOMENT WITH MARY JANE

 $\Box$  Share with the congregation.

□ For Pastors Only

For Pastors & Prayer Team Only