

First Edition

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FUMCFV
FEBRUARY 2016



A Note from the Pastor

As much as I love a beautiful snowfall, I never like having to decide if we need to cancel Sunday church services as we did January 24. I agonize over the decision, even with the input from our Trustee ministry. However, a conversation with my 86 year old mother during this most recent snow and ice storm gave me a new perspective on this decision.

My mother's church in Dunn did not close. When I spoke with her Saturday night, I suggested that with their health and mobility issues, she and my father should stay home. She politely listened to me and then indicated they would be there if the church was open. Who else would teach her Sunday School class?

In exasperation, I said, "It's because of people like you that I cancel services!" She did agree that it is easier when the church makes the decision to close, so that congregation members don't have to decide for themselves whether to venture out or not.

As I said, I never like having to cancel services, but would feel even worse if someone were to get hurt on our sidewalks and steps. Most are brick and in the shade, so they are treacherous for quite some time. Please know that when our services are cancelled we do so for the safety of our church family.

If there is another Sunday where wintry conditions are threatening, our closing will be listed on WRAL as "1st UMC Fuquay-Varina," and on WTVD as "First UMC Fuquay-Varina." We will also send out a church-wide email and put the closing on our website and Facebook page.

Lastly, weather permitting, join us for our Ash Wednesday service February 10 at 7 pm.

Grace and peace,

Anne

Church Events

- Feb 3rd - Love Thy Neighbor
- Feb 3rd - Wed Night Dinner
- Feb 5th - Family Night
- Feb 7th - God Squad
- Feb 7th - CREW Super Bowling
- Feb 7th - Superhero Sundae
- Feb 10th - Ash Wednesday Service
- Feb 11th - UMW Meeting
- Feb 14th - Church Book Club
- Feb 17th - Wed Night Dinner
- Feb 27th - CREW Mystery Dinner

Music at FUMC

"I will sing and make music to the Lord"
Psalm 27:6

music@fumcfv.org

Director of Music Ministry Helga Bogardus

Organist Ellen McCord



Chancel Choir

Easter Cantata

There's Room at the Cross: the Story of Compassion

Sunday, March 20

Join rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7pm to participate in this meaningful and powerful worship service.

Chancel Choir will also be preparing music in addition to 11:00 Sunday Worship Services

February 10, ASH WEDNESDAY "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

March 24, Maundy Thursday

March 27 Easter Sunday "Come and See" conclusion of cantata [There's Room at the Cross](#)



Children's Choir will share a gift of music on Sunday, February 14 and April 17. Rehearsals are Sundays 4:15-5:00pm. No rehearsal Sunday, February 14 and Easter Sunday, March 27.

Grace Notes welcomes Sarah Weston! Sarah fits right in with her love of music and sense of humor! If you also have a love of music and enjoy working with others we have 2 additional ringing positions available. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:00pm.

contact Helga music@fumcfv.org



Music Team Adds a contemporary flare to 8:30 worship. Youth and adult vocalists and guitarists with a heart to PRAISE are invited to join rehearsals on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 5:00pm

Thank you to those who enhanced worship through the Advent and Christmas seasons with their gift of music.

Emma Rese Vaughn, Natalie Peele, Sarah Munzenmaier, Children's Choir, Connor Grummer, Dylan Grummer, Christopher Bogardus, Ally Weitz, Alli Armstrong, David Markle and Jerry Currin.



“Jerry Currin Sings from the Heart”

Jerry was committed to the music ministry at First UMC with his participation in the Chancel Choir and as a soloist. He will be missed at First UMC but we rejoice that Jerry's rich bass voice has joined the Heavenly Choir!

Jerry knew his voice and talent were a gift from God. His way of returning the gift was to produce a CD to share his favorite gospel hymns and songs with those he loved, his friends and family. Every time Jerry sang it was a testimony to how this music drew him closer to God, especially during his battle with cancer. His final wish was to share this legacy with you in order that you would know God's presence as he did.

Jerry's wish was that this CD would continue to glorify God by supporting the Music Ministry at First UMC. Please consider a donation to the music ministry in honor and memory of Jerry and receive the CD “Jerry Currin Sings From the Heart” as a thank you gift. Order forms will be available later in February or contact Helga music@fumcfv.org

Haiti School Update

Our mission team would like to thank the First Church congregation for all of your support with the Haiti school fundraiser! We are very close to our goal of building a kindergarten school in the village of Cotin, Haiti! So many lives will be changed with the addition of this school in their village.....200 kids will be empowered with an education and adults will have job opportunities, both in building and working at the school. This school is one step towards better leaders for this struggling country. Boaz, Helen Little's Haitian son, grew up in this village. Now that he is older and has a degree in architectural design, he is doing all he can to help this village be a better place to live!

We have raised \$11,015 out of \$15,500 needed for the school. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, please submit a check to First UMC with Haiti school in the memo line. Contact Dana Vaughn at djjv_vaughn@yahoo.com with any questions.

March Madness Food Drive Starts February 14

We will be collecting 1 lb. bags of white rice and 1 lb. bags of dried pinto beans to support the Fuquay Varina Food Pantry. Bring your donations to the stage in the Fellowship Hall starting February 14 and place them in the bin for your favorite team. The contest will run until Sunday, March 13 at 6:00. The UNC fans are talking a big game after they defended their crown last year! NC State was a close second, so we'll see if they can finally pull it off this year.

Mission Trip to South Carolina

If you are interested in serving those in need in our neighboring state of South Carolina as they recover from last fall's storm, please contact Matt Jackson at jacksonm3@gmail.com. We have a group going this summer and will pin down a date within the next month.

UMW will be hosting our annual Methodist Home for Children (MHC) Potato and Salad Bar Luncheon on Sunday, February 28th immediately following the 11AM service. You don't want to miss this important Sunday in the life of our church. We will have a guest speaker that day, Donna Tate, Development Officer at MHC.

MHC works to provide safe, stable homes where children can thrive and live fully into their God-given potential. It may be a group home that helps juvenile offenders transition to healthy, independent living or a foster home that shelters a child while a family is stabilized. The end goal is always the same- a safe, stable home. Our church has set a goal of \$3,000 to support the MHC 1K for 1Kid fundraising campaign. We will also once again sponsor the Sunday School Change Challenge between the adult and children Sunday School classes. The class that collects the most change will win a sweet treat. SS change collection begins, Sunday February 7th.

UMW is also excited to announce a new UMW sponsored bible study at First Church. We chose Keep It Shut written by Proverbs 31 very own Karen Ehman. The group will meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, starting Tuesday February 9th at 6:45 PM at Emily McFalls' house. The study has 6 sessions with an optional 7th gathering. Please contact Emily McFalls @ 919-434-8722 if you would like to join.

Sister Acts Service Project

Instead of handing out beads, Sister Acts is handing out essentials for women in need. We are collecting new bras, underwear, feminine hygiene products, and wipes for homeless



women through the Raleigh Rescue Mission. These items are often forgotten when donations are made – they're overlooked or deemed too pricey even though they are some of the most basic needs.

We will be collecting donations through February 14th. You may drop them off on the Fellowship Hall stage or at our Sister Acts "Mardi Bras" meeting on February 18th. All women of the church are invited to attend! Monetary donations are welcome as well. We hope to see a "Parade" of donations come through for the Raleigh Rescue Mission!

Love Thy Neighbor: Wednesday, 2/3 at 11:20am

Join us for lunch, worship and fellowship at First Baptist Church, near West Jones Street Park! We will meet at First UMC at 11:20am to load supplies and then head over to the other church. We will be serving chili for lunch. Please contact Dana Vaughn at djv_v Vaughn@yahoo.com with any questions.



Children's Events

February 2016

February 5th: "Candyland" Family Night at 6:30pm

You are invited to a fun night with your church family where we will be reminded of the sweet blessings in our lives and encouraged to embrace people who need forgiveness and mercy. Supper will be provided!



February 7th: God Squad meeting at 12pm

All 3rd-5th graders are invited! Join us in the basement from 12-2pm for lunch, fellowship, games and devotion. Our lesson is entitled "Media Madness, MTV and Me: Take remote control!" Bring a friend!

February 7th: Superhero Sundaes at 3:15pm

All Kindergarten-2nd graders are invited! Join us in the basement from 3:15-4:15pm as we explore the Superheroes of the Bible. We will learn about Superhero David who defeats a giant! Our meeting will include the lesson, activity and eating ice cream sundaes. Bring a friend!



February 21st: God Squad meeting at 5pm

All 3rd-5th graders are invited! Join us in the basement from 5-6:45pm for supper, fellowship, games and devotion. Our lesson is entitled "Running the Race: Keep on keep-ing on!" Bring a friend!

Mark your calendars!

"Rise Up with Jesus" event and Easter Egg Hunt: 3/12

"Surf Shack" Vacation Bible School: 6/12-6/16



Monty's Mystery Dinner
Saturday, February 27th, 6:00 pm

Master Montgomery Fitzgerald cordially invites you to an evening of mystery, intrigue and fine dining. Monty has a big announcement to make concerning his treasure hunting career.

Menu:
Lemony Chicken
Beef Pinwheels
Roasted Mediterranean Vegetables
Steamed Asparagus
Baklava

Tickets are \$25 each. Childcare is included.

Seating is limited, get your tickets before February 22nd.



Birthdays

2/2	Courtney Denning	2/20	Mark Beauchamp
2/2	Jennifer Haire	2/21	Melvin Arnold
2/5	Fran Senter Baggs	2/22	Grace Grant
2/5	Al Reams	2/23	Dean Fasolt
2/8	Sharon Best	2/23	Tom Gilbert
2/12	Teresa Currin	2/26	William Vaughn
2/13	Robert Haire	2/27	Steve Campbell
2/13	James Summey	2/27	Linda Vance
2/14	Don Warren		
2/14	Mary Willis		
2/15	Lavon Faucett		
2/17	Sue Tripp		
2/17	Debra Warren		
2/17	Hannah Allen		
2/18	Emma Rese Vaughn		

Anniversaries

2/10	Mickey & Wanda Denning
2/16	Charlie & Connie Barnes
2/17	John & Nancy Hartley
2/18	Garlon & Annette Stuart
2/19	Bill & Sharon Best
2/22	Melvin & Frances Arnold
2/27	Charles & Miriam McLaughlin

