



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 913-682-5374

Educational Bldg.: 913-675-7495

E-mail: office@fumclvks.org

Office Hours—M-Th 9a-3p, Friday—9a-noon



Or visit us at FUMCLVKS.ORG

Sunday services stream at either site.

December 2023

26 8:30 & 11am 9:45 am Sunday School 4pm Bells	27 1pm AIR Ministries	28 10am Women's Bible Study	29 1:30 pm H & S 3:45pm WW 5:00 pm Grief Share 6:30pm Choir	30 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Women's Study	1 5:00 pm Art Gala	2 
3 8:30 & 11am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 1:30 pm Bells 6 pm Youth	4 1pm AIR Ministries	5 10am Women's Bible Study	6 9:00 am Prayer 11 am Blood Drive 1:30 pm H & S 3:45pm WW 6:30pm Choir	7 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	8	9 8:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:00 pm Music Academy Recital
10 8:30 & 11am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 4pm Bells 6pm Youth	11 1pm AIR Ministries	12 10 am Women's Bible Study 12 pm Let's Do Lunch @ Tampico	13 8:30 am MMO 9:00 am Prayer 1:30 pm H & S 3:45pm WW 5:00 pm Grief Share 6:30pm Choir	14 8:30am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	15 6:30 pm Cody Choraliers & Riversong Concert	16 2 pm Community Christmas Concert
17 8:30 & 11am Christmas Music Celebration 9:45 am Sunday School 4 pm Bells 6pm Youth	18 1pm AIR ministry	19 10 am Women's Bible Study 2pm Grief Share	20 9:00 am Prayer 1:30 pm H & S 6:30pm Choir	21 8:30am Staff 1 pm 1st Responder Cookie bags	22	23 
24 10 am One Service 5:30 Christmas Eve 7:00 Christmas Eve	25  Church Office closed	26 Youth Mission Trip	27 Youth Mission Trip	28 Youth Mission Trip	29 Youth Mission Trip	30





Think
on these
things...



December is the beginning of our new Church year. Advent is the season when we anticipate the coming of the Lord. It's done through remembering his first coming at Christmas and expecting his second coming. Our theme this year is "Carry the Light." Since our Vacation Bible School theme was light, we thought that was a wonderful idea to keep it going into Advent. Two questions to consider: How can I carry the Light of Jesus Christ into the world as I am sent out? As a church, how can we carry the Light of Jesus Christ as we work together?

Giving generously is always a way to show love to others, especially those who are most needy. Food donations, angel tree gifts, our designated Christmas offerings, blood drive, are all in house ways to give. So many worthy organizations in our society focus on Christmas giving too. The goal is to be generous in your character, then act accordingly. Service is another way to carry the Light. In *Matthew 5:14-16*, **Jesus said**, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." When you do good deeds, acts of service, and offer compassion and care, you are glorifying the Father and being the Light. Perhaps this is a year to serve in the community and do charity work. Maybe you will continue to give your time and energy to a group where you are a long-time member. Even a small act of kindness to a child or individual is one of the best ways to love others in Jesus' name. This season is a good time to invite someone to attend worship services.

A few worship notes for you: On December 10, I'll be preaching at Trinity UMC at 11am. Rev. Orlando Gallardo will be preaching here for the second service as we have a pulpit swap. Saturday, December 16 @ 2pm will be our children's program and concert with groups in our community + our choir and Wesley Ringers. Sunday, December 17 will be an All-Music Sunday with both services, so you won't want to miss a minute of it. The way the calendar falls this year, Christmas Eve day and New Year's Eve day are both on Sundays. So, we will have one morning service on those mornings at 10am. The response we got from this summer's combined services was positive. Christmas Eve services will be at 5:30 and 7pm with the same format and worship style. Choose the time that works best for your family.

The Advent/Christmas season is one where we interact with many people or communicate with our family and friends. Carry the Light of Love to them and everyone you meet. It is a witness of your love for God and God's love for them! *Pastor Dave*


Share the Light
Community Christmas Concert
December 16, 2:00 pm


Carry the Light
CHRISTMAS MUSIC CELEBRATION
DECEMBER 17
8:30 AM AND 11:00 AM



December BIRTHDAYS



1st	Karah Bryant	11th	Doug Hall		Emma Zeck
	Lindsay McKinley		Brian Wepking	22nd	Bob Seymour
2nd	Olivia Hansen	12th	Samantha Martin	22nd	Steve Wieggers
3rd	Matthew Weilbacher	13th	Clay Holyfield		Jim Yates
	Michael Weilbacher	14th	Gary Rader	23rd	Ellie McNeill
5th	Isaac Ruble	16th	Daniel Watson	24th	Carol Russell
7th	Marti Crow	17th	Benjamin Coats	25th	Aurora Gray
	Forrest Holdeman	18th	Jonathan Coats		Aniston Rolf
8th	Colton Lauber		Eleanor Embree	27th	Verity Varnal
	Laura Seigel	19th	Stacey Cole		Merry Weeks
9th	Carl Nelson	20th	Rita Wood	29th	Nina McNeill
	Landon Stuhlsatz	21st	Karen Hooser	31st	Tylor McNeill
11th	Bob Atwell		Austin Wiley		



December ANNIVERSARIES

7th	Lynn & Joyce Goss	26 years
14th	Rodney & Adriana Yates	20 years
21st	Mike & Martha Nielsen	37 years
27th	Rick & Robin Sanders	35 years
28th	Clay & Alisha Holyfield	26 years
30th	Cape & Laurie Rust	28 years
	Jim & Judy Wolfe	42 years



December SPECIAL EVENTS

Cody Choraliers presents their
Holiday Dinner and Show
December 15 at 6:30
Leavenworth Heritage Center
Special Guest
St. Joseph Riversong Chorus
Tickets \$25
Call 913-682-2122 for info



TUES, DEC. 12, 12:00 PM
TAMPICOS RESTAURANT

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Please help us update our records. Send an email with your current address, phone number and birthdays to swood@fumclvks.org.



Christmas is a time for peace, hope and love. But how can you make it meaningful when someone close to you has died? One way is to memorialize your loved one and build memories with something meaningful to you and your family. Here are some activities that GriefShare counselors have suggested, taken from Surviving the Holidays.

1. Buy a small, live tree to place in the yard after Christmas. The tree will be there for years to come and may be decorated with lights each year.

2. **Candles help bring warmth into a home at Christmastime. The light is a symbol of Jesus' birth.** Luminaries in the yard bring a sense of peace, particularly on Christmas Eve. Children can help prepare and set them out.

3. It helps at Christmastime to find something simple to place in your home to remember your loved one. Perhaps a small vase with a single rose or an electric candle placed in your window. Often a poinsettia plant or a Christmas cactus provide memories if you replant them later.

4. Children need to have something to help provide them with a memory of that special person they lost. Whether it is the loss of a sibling, parent, grandparent, friend, etc., allow the children to help pick out something so the whole family will remember their loved one. Buying a special ornament for the tree is a memory builder for upcoming Christmases. The children may even wish to make an ornament for the tree. You can be sure that whatever is done to remember the loved one will be treasured and remembered for many years.

5. Be sure to keep some of your family traditions, especially if you have children at home. They need to have warm, familiar feelings at Christmas. Pick two or three traditions that will not overwork you. If a friend or relative can help put up the tree and decorate, this is helpful. If possible, have a friend or relative take the children to a Christmas pageant, a concert, a night out looking at Christmas lights or a good Christmas movie. If you feel comfortable, then take them yourself.

6. **If you decide to hang stockings as you usually do, include the missing family member's stocking.** Perhaps you or the children will want to put a little gift or note in the stocking.

7. With children, particularly young ones, try to schedule only activities that will help them celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Because adults find it difficult to face the upcoming holiday, they will try to keep busy and thus schedule too much. This is the time when parents and children get very tired. Lots of rest is important at these times, particularly for the parents. It is important to make major decisions early in the day. At evening time, when everyone is fatigued, minor decisions can become major hassles.

8. A visit to the cemetery before Christmas is good, even for the children. If they have been involved in the death and grieving, then include them when you decorate the grave with flowers or a small tree. Take time to talk about the loved one while you are there.

Please take time to visit a GriefShare grief recovery support group. At GriefShare you will have the opportunity to connect with people who better understand the emotions, fears and stresses you are facing this holiday season. You will also learn how to move forward on your grief journey in a way that is healthy. Our GriefShare open group welcomes anyone from the community who is grieving. They will meet on Dec. 13 at 5 pm. We also have a group for grieving spouses only. It will meet on Dec. 19 at 2 pm. If you would like more information, please contact Marsha at marshagaffin@gmail.com. **Marsha Gaffin**



CONGREGATIONAL Care



During the holiday season, we fill our days with fun and traditions. We hang lights, watch our favorite holiday movies, give gifts, and celebrate Advent at church. Different people have different definitions of what makes the holidays magic, but for some who are unable to get out and participate in the festivities, the holiday season can be extremely isolating. There are a variety of reasons people may not be able to get out, but some include being homebound or in a nursing home, being a 24/7 caregiver for someone, being a single parent with young kids, being immunocompromised, and/or having chronic health issues. For these people, something others may take for granted like getting out to see Christmas lights or going to a party become extremely difficult or impossible. So, as people who are trying to show Christ to everyone we encounter (or perhaps don't encounter), one of the ways we can share God's love is to remember those who frequently get forgotten. Here are some tips to do that:

1. Coordinate around their circumstances. How could you include people who may not be able to get out? For some people to be included, small things need to change that may be huge things to the person who gets to participate. For someone homebound or in a nursing home, can you go to them? For people who don't drive at night, could you schedule things during the day or go pick them up? Where could you host a gathering that would allow someone who uses a wheelchair to get in and out and have access to a restroom? For those who are immunocompromised, perhaps some Covid-style precautions could help such as offering to wear masks, meeting outside (if we manage to get a particularly warm day), or going online.

2. Acknowledge them and show them love. It might be helpful to create a list of people you know who may be more likely to be overlooked. Seek out opportunities to connect with these people over the month of December. Recognizing how difficult their situation may feel and giving them the space to talk about it makes you a safe place for them to land.

3. Offer to lend a hand. If you know someone who is a caregiver either of adults who need extra support or small children, offer to care for their loved one while they get out and participate in some Christmas festivities. A few hours out could be an oxygen mask for an otherwise exhausted 24/7 caretaker and it allows them to enjoy the season. Your willingness to do it for no cost frees up some money for them to buy Christmas gifts or just a very needed cup of coffee.

4. **Drop off gifts or a note.** If you're baking Christmas cookies, make an extra batch and drop them off at your homebound neighbor's house. Write letters telling people how much you love them. Go out of your way to show you care. This doesn't have to cost money, either. Consider what their love language is (words of affirmation, acts of service, gifts, quality time, physical touch) and gift accordingly.

5. **Team up.** Taking care of others is easier when it's not just one person doing it. Tag-team with other friends, family members, or church members of the people who are often forgotten and work together to make sure they feel loved. Love is one of those "the more the merrier" things.

AIR DEMENTIA MINISTRY

December Schedule



December 4 - St. Nicholas Day

December 11 - Christmas Party

December 18 - Field Trip Christmas Caroling

December 25 - NO AIR - Christmas break





May the grace and love of our Father bless and keep each and every one of you. Fiscally our church is doing very well. Each of you have responded to the call for individual giving that with your 2024 pledges we are back on track to meet our financial mission forecast. Through your loving obedience we will be able to build His Kingdom another fruitful year in 2024.

Thank you all for your faithful special giving at Thanksgiving. We were able to bless Trinity House Food Pantry, Stronghold Food Pantry and Council of Aging with your very loving contributions. Through your collective donations we have provided tens of thousands of dollars and thousands of man hours in service to our community this year.

Iron sharpens iron as one person sharpens another (Proverbs 27), so eloquently articulates how we are to collectively grow and spiritually mature together. We are truly better together living and loving like Christ. On Nov.18, **two members of our congregation began living this out with the FUMC Men's Breakfast. Dave Landis and Mike Mix** have long desired to find a collective way to bring the men of this church together for prayer, devotion, fellowship and food. After a series of telephonic invitations to the men of our congregations, the duo of Landis and Mix anticipated 12-15 men in attendance for this initial event. Thankfully, 26 faithful followers of Christ arrived, validating the **assumption that a men's ministry was wanted and needed in our body of believers. Thank you Lord! No surprise** was how wonderful the biscuits and gravy with sausage and pancakes tasted. These guys know how to cook! A special thank you to the kitchen staff of Cathy Landis, Kathi LaMoe and Claudia McAllaster who brought grace and dignity to the breakfast. The next breakfast is December 9, at 8 am in Fellowship Hall. Please join us!

In Christ, Ed



Monica Bassett
Stronghold Food
Pantry,
Ft. Leavenworth



Marie DeVito
Trinity House Food Pantry
Leavenworth



Last Month in Children's Ministry

It's hard to believe it's December already! I'm pretty sure that it was just last week that we were Shining the Light of Jesus at "Stellar" VBS! The days are getting shorter and colder and everyone is busy with preparations for the holiday. We had an amazing November here at FUMCL. In Sunday school and Kids First Worship we just finished our focus on the Old Testament prophets with Daniel, Jonah, and Isaiah. We read the familiar stories of the Fiery Furnace and Daniel and the Lion's Den. We were shocked by the size of Nebuchadnezzar's statue of himself – 90 feet high! That's like our church stacked up on top of our church! We even tried to build a block tower 90 blocks high with limited success. (see pictures of block towers at Kids First Worship below)

Wonderful Wednesday finished Paul's First Missionary Journey, and focused on what Paul had to say in his letters about being thankful. He was definitely thankful for a lot of people. It was surprising though, when he said he could be "content" no matter what his circumstances. We made some crafts to help us remember to "Give Thanks".

At Fusion 56, we finally got to go on our long-awaited pictorial Scavenger Hunt out at the Legends! Our enthusiasm wasn't dampened by the light snow and cold. On October 29, Fusion 56 took the church van to the Legends. We ate at 5 Guys and learned that one large fry will feed three people!!

After eating we headed out for a Pictorial Scavenger Hunt. We were looking for pictures that would portray Isaiah 6:1-8, one of the scriptures for worship that morning. (See the photos below)

"the whole earth was
filled with his glory"



"then one of the winged
creatures flew to me"





Kids First Worship meets during the 11:00 service each Sunday on the lower floor of the Sanctuary building. Throughout this fall we have been learning about prophets of the Old Testament. This month we will focus on the One so many of the prophecies foretold: Jesus, the Son of God.

December 3 – Hope

December 10 – Peace

December 17 – Joy

December 24 – Love * There is one worship service at 10:00a.m.

Wonderful Wednesday is a fantastic way to remind children that God is not just for Sundays, he is for EVERY day. Our theme this year is The Journey. We meet in the Education Building from 3:45 – 5:30. Friends are always welcome! In December, we will learn what Paul has to say in his letters about HOPE, PEACE, LOVE, and JOY. We will also be putting the finishing touches on our Christmas music for December 16. To register, go to: FUMCLVKS.ORG/WW



Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45 – 10:40. We have two classes, one for non-readers and one for readers. With the Bible as our foundation, we will be using science, art and activity to not just tell God's story, but learn what it means for us. Our lessons will be a deeper dive into Advent. We will not have Sunday school on December 24.

Fusion 56 meets on Sunday afternoons from 12:00 – 1:30. Designed especially for 5th and 6th graders to meet them where they are and support them as they grow.

This month we will parallel Pastor Dave's sermons.

December 3 – Arise, Shine For Your Light Has Come

December 10 – Light Shines in the Darkness

December 17 – Communion

December 24 – Fusion 56 will NOT MEET – Christmas Break



Our theme for December is Christmas! Each month, on the second Wednesday, we will be providing care for children ages birth through school age. There will be three groups: Nursery, Toddlers and Preschool. Space is limited, so register now by going to: FUMCLVKS.ORG/MMO.

We always need volunteers, so if you can help, contact Nancy at nshade@fumclvks.org.

The children have been rehearsing and they will be performing this year's Christmas musical, "Carriers of the Light" as part of the Community Christmas Celebration, December 16 at 2 pm. You don't want to miss it.



Dear FUMC,
Thank you again for hosting lunch for the Nettie Hartnett staff. We are thankful for you and all you do!
Lisa Cross
Principal

Thank you!

Dear Itchin' to Stitch,
Thank you so much for my veteran's quilt. It is beautiful and will be treasured by myself and my family. Thank you for using your talents to give back to the community.
Blessings,
Brian Wood

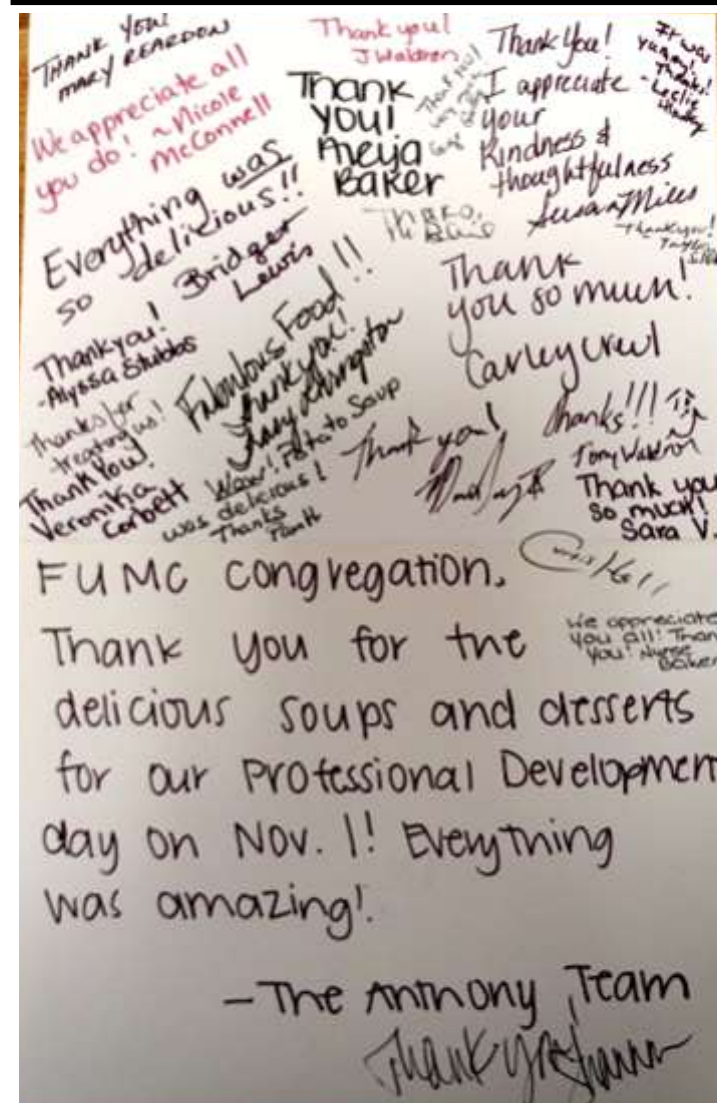
Thank You!

Dear Ladies of Itchin' to Stitch,

Thank you so very much for the beautiful quilt to commemorate my 26 years of military service in the Army. I am humbled that you used your time, effort and skills to honor me in this way. Thank you again! God bless!

Tom Pawlowski

Col (Ret) US Army



Dear FUMC,
I want to thank you, all of the volunteers and your entire congregation for providing free meals to the community. So many people benefit from this service. Sometimes poverty is easy to hid. So many people are well dressed and well groomed, but still suffer with the burden of food insecurity. It is an anxiety that saps the spirit and a feeling of shame that weighs heavy on the heart. The free meals provided by your church are a comfort to so many people. It is more than just a meal. It is an offering of hope that brings peace to anxious hearts.

I work at the Leavenworth Public Library. The volunteers who provide the Saturday free lunches at your church have often brought lunches to the staff who work Saturday shifts. I want you to know how much I appreciate this. It has been such a help to me and my coworkers.

Thank you to everyone at First United Methodist Church for all that you do to improve our community. I wish you a happy Thanksgiving.
Janice DuBuisson





Itchin' to Stitch

Sunday, Nov. 12, we honored our Veterans listed below. Patriotic Quilts of Honor have been made by our Itchin' To Stitch ladies sewing group especially for these Veterans who have and are currently serving our country. Join us in thanking them for their service.

Ed Garven	US Army	10 Years
David Gaumer	US Army	23 Years
SFC Jeff Hastings	US Army	2005-Present
Keith Hubbert	US Army	20 Years
Bob Mott	US Army	30 Years
Mike Nielsen	US Army	24 Years
Tom Palowski	US Army	26 Years
Wade Schmierer	US Army	23 Years
LTC Daniel Stupinski	US Air Force	2000 -Present
Doug Wakely	US Army	20 Years
Brian Wood	US Navy	4 Years
Charles Ebbe	US Navy	6 Years



Scouts Helping Others

By the end of November, the leaders are tired; not so sure about the Scouts. For about 10 years the Scouts have participated in One Homeless Night to gain awareness of the youth in the greater Kansas City area who are homeless. **The evening started with a soup kitchen meal of shepherd's pie in the basement of the education building.** Following a somber meal, Sister Vickie Perkins talked and captivated the Scouts. Her bottom-line message that regardless of why a young person is in the situation of being homeless, it is never their fault. It was a blessing to have Sister Vickie share her wisdom and insights.

After speaking, the Scouts went outside to the green space to find a place to sleep for the night... no tents just sleeping outside in makeshift lean-to's or in most cases, using a tarp and making a human burrito wrap... (Just so you know, there is a difference between the burrito wrap and the taco.) The leaders mostly stayed awake in shifts to guard the fire and to keep watch for safety. It was perfect weather to camp out this year.

Breakfast was scrambled eggs and pancakes. Cleanup was completed by 9 am and then the Scouts helped to **serve the community meal with Samaritan's Buffet.** We thank Mr. Wolf and Mr. Mix for including us in the preparation and serving. By 1 pm, EVERYONE was dragging. If you or members of your family have not taken the opportunity to help serve the less fortunate, then you can find a worthwhile and humbling experience at Samaritan's Buffet. The Cub Scouts are finishing up requirements and (don't tell them) will be getting their Pinewood Derby Cars for Christmas. The scouts also marched in the Veterans Day parade.

The Webelos will sponsor "Visit a Troop Night" on Dec. 4. Wreaths Across America Day will take place on December 16. On that day, more than 2 million Veterans' Wreaths will be placed across the US. The Scouts will be at the Leavenworth VA Cemetery. As always, you may join us there. This is an excellent event for youth of all ages.

Bill Kibler



Love Your Neighbor

For 17 years, Maryann McAfee has organized the Community Center Blood Drive at our church. Maryann knows the importance of having a safe and full blood supply. She was a flight nurse for the Air Force Reserves for 27 years and she worked at the VA hospital for 37 years. She helped open the coronary care unit of the ICU at the VA in the 1970s and she facilitated the nurses who were going into cardiac intensive care. She has logged 3,000 flight hours, mostly from training exercises and the 3 years of active duty when she flew patients who had been wounded in Vietnam from the hospital in Japan to home.

Maryann knows that the Community Blood Center needs to collect 580 pints of blood every day and over 200,000 pints of blood annually to serve our local hospitals. In the Kansas City Metro area, someone needs a blood transfusion every 4 minutes. Red blood cells only last 42 days and platelets must be used within 5 days, so the need for blood donors never stops. The holidays are especially important for blood drives because people get busy and don't give. But it is also a time when there are more car accidents and trauma patients can use up to 50 pints of blood.

Maryann took over leadership of the blood drive from Donna Ramsey who started the blood drive in 2002. Both Donna and Maryann see the blood drive, not only as important for the physical health of our community, but also as a way to show hospitality and Christian love.

The church opens up the Fellowship Hall to the Community Blood Center who brings in specialized medical personnel to do all the screening and collecting. Our church has 4 teams of 3 volunteers that work an hour and a half. They greet donors and provide snacks for people after they give blood and help the blood center team as needed.

If you had been restricted from giving blood in the past because you lived in Germany in the 80s and 90s, you are now eligible to donate. People restricted because they lived in the UK are still restricted. If you have any questions about your eligibility, you can call 1-800-688-0900.

The goal for the blood drive is 50 units. It is usually busiest from 11 am to 12:30 pm. You can walk in, but they prefer appointments. You can make an appointment at savealifenow.org/group and enter the code BD. If you have questions, you can reach Maryann at (913) 683-0208 or mbmcafee@outlook.com. **Won't you consider giving the gift of life this Christmas by donating blood?**



Each Christmas Eve, we deliver bags of cookies to those faithful first responders that spend the holidays working for the community instead of celebrating with their families. This year as you bake your favorite holiday treat, make a couple dozen extra and bring them **to the church office. We'll compile all the goodies into** bags on Dec. 21 at 1pm. They will be available for church members to drop off at police stations, fire stations, and hospitals on your way home from the Christmas Eve service. It is a simple and delicious way to share love at Christmas.



Shawn and Sydney Berry met at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. They were introduced by a mutual friend. They spent the day together playing jacks. They spent the rest of the week together and started dating. They got married two years later at the little church they had been attending in Boone and have been married 11 years now.

Shawn and Sydney first lived in her parents' house in North Carolina while they were waiting for Shawn to leave for training. They both worked as substitute teachers and that was a lot of fun for both of them. They moved to Georgia for Shawn's training and lived there for 1 year. They learned that you can't let your dog go swimming in the river because there are alligators. Their first duty station was in Watertown, NY, close to the Canada border. They moved there in February and got to experience -20 degree weather and huge amounts of snow. They learned about lake effect snow, deployments, and the best apple cider they have ever tasted. Next they moved to Fort Huachuca, AZ, a city south of Tucson and about 30 miles from Mexico. They loved living in the desert. It is about 20 degrees cooler than Phoenix on any given day due to the elevation. They learned that the Sonoran Desert is beautiful. They also learned about monsoons, some interesting wildlife, and a large variety of cacti. One year later they moved to Fort Bragg, which is now called Fort Liberty, in North Carolina. They are from NC so it was like going home. They learned about hurricanes, how to buy a house, and just how great it is to live near your family. They also learned about home-schooling. Then they moved back to Fort Huachuca, AZ. They were happy to go back to such a beautiful place. They learned about sunsets in the mountains, coyotes that sound like hyenas laughing, and that javelinas love to eat jack-o-lanterns. They loved being able to go on hikes in the mountains every day and they got to see big, beautiful sycamore trees in a place with mostly scrubby trees.

After Arizona, they came Leavenworth, KS. They love it here. Their favorite thing about living here is all of the opportunities to do things. This is the closest they have ever lived to a big city and there is so much to do. Sydney does not currently work outside of the home. She homeschools her four kids and she is taking a class to be certified as a Kingdom Motherhood consultant. Shawn is a military intelligence officer. Their kids are Samson, 9, Varick, 7, Leona, 5, and Arlen, 3. Samson is a fun boy. He loves to tell jokes and is completely amazed by magic tricks. He is interested in robots, and ninjas. He is great at math, drawing conclusions, and caring for younger children. Varick is also very funny. He is thoughtful and helpful. Varick also likes ninjas and wants to be a police officer or a photographer when he grows up. He is great at reading and anything artistic. Leona knows how to be a princess and how to hang with the boys. She loves anything sparkly, unicorns, rainbows, and hearts. She is good at learning her letters and drawing. She wants to be a pilot when she grows up. Arlen loves cars and trucks. He is persistent and knows the names of many of his feelings. He loves his dog Razzle. They have two dogs. Rex is a hound dog mix and Razzle is a shepherd mix. The family likes to go on long hikes together whenever they get a chance. They like to go camping in their RV. Mostly, we just like being together.

FUMC is the favorite church that we have been to. They have been welcomed in and treated like part of the family from day one. They believe that a great church family is one of the most important things to find when moving to a new place. Sydney especially loves the way her children are treated and respected. They are always welcome to participate in anything the church has going on and treated as a valued member of the team.



LIFE @ FUMC



Sunday School is a great way to build your relationship with God and with other people. Pictured here are the Cornerstone class. Above the New Life Seekers are enjoying wrapping gifts for senior citizens through the Council on Aging.



Below is the Cornerstone led by Mary Lou Anderson and above is the the Koinonia class led by Raun Watson.



The teachers at Anthony Elementary and Nettie Hartnett school loved with soup, bread and desert lunch on Nov. 1. Thank you to everyone who provided food.



The Men's Prayer Breakfast was a great success! The next Men's Prayer Breakfast is Dec. 9 at 8 am. They would love for you to join them.



The choir is preparing for our Christmas Music Celebration on Dec. 17. Both services will feature great Christmas music.

Wonderful Wednesday kids preparing for Advent and rehearsing their music for "Carriers of the Light". They will perform their pageant Dec. 16 at 2 pm

