

Spirit Connection

NLRFUMC

◆
7.3.24



A Message from Bebe Walton, lay leader: ARUMC Conference Update

You might ask what is Annual Conference (AC). This is where all the churches in Arkansas come together to conduct the business of the church. The event takes place over three days and much was discussed, decided and voted upon. As the lay leader for our church, I represent our church as a voting delegate to the AC. With two licensed/ordained pastors in this church (Pastor Sara & Pastor Brent [Pastor Jarod and Pastor Kathy's ordinations are with the Mississippi conference]) we had two laity of which David Martin was the second delegate. Jo Roberts was an 'at large' delegate (AC has a one pastor to one laity delegate ratio, since retired pastors also have voting rights but no church, 'at large' laity are needed to equalize the votes for pastor to laity ratio). AC is needed to keep the business of the church current with the times. We passed a budget of \$5,993,979.00 which is a 15% reduction from last year. The funds for the

conference come from the tithes of each church in the conference. We voted on the clergy and laity delegates to Jurisdictional conference. This year it will be held in Rogers, Arkansas. We voted on a "re-affiliation policy." This was developed for those congregations who disaffiliated last year and have expressed a desire to return to the United Methodist denomination. We approved this policy. We heard multiple reports from the various organizations and colleges of the church. It was good to hear that they are doing great work. It was a great honor to represent our church at annual conference. This is a synopsis of the work that was done at this year's annual conference. I am happy to discuss in detail more of the work done at AC with anyone interested in hearing more.

*With gratitude,
Bebe Walton*

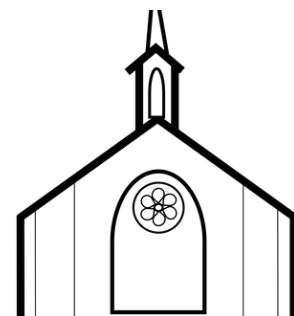
In this newsletter
you can expect:

Church News

Youth & First
Kids

Missions & Music

C.E.C. News





Summer Worship Series: “Psalms of Summer” Continues

“Psalms of Summer” continues this month. Each Sunday we will look at a chapter in the book of Psalms and explore the songs and poems that touch on the vast nature of the human experience in this world. Join us at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. (also on Facebook Live) as we walk through this practice together.

“PSALMS OF SUMMER”		
SUMMER PSALMS READING GUIDE:		
PSALMS TO BE READ MORNING, NOON AND NIGHT		
DATES AND PSALM READINGS:		
JUNE 2: 1, 2, 3	JUNE 21: 58, 59, 60	JULY 10: 115, 116, 117
JUNE 3: 4, 5, 6	JUNE 22: 61, 62, 63	JULY 11: 118, 119, 120
JUNE 4: 7, 8, 9	JUNE 23: 64, 65, 66	JULY 12: 121, 122, 123
JUNE 5: 10, 11, 12	JUNE 24: 67, 68, 69	JULY 13: 124, 125, 126
JUNE 6: 13, 14, 15	JUNE 25: 70, 71, 72	JULY 14: 127, 128, 129
JUNE 7: 16, 17, 18	JUNE 26: 73, 74, 75	JULY 15: 130, 131, 132
JUNE 8: 19, 20, 21	JUNE 27: 76, 77, 78	JULY 16: 133, 134, 135
JUNE 9: 22, 23, 24	JUNE 28: 79, 80, 81	JULY 17: 136, 137, 138
JUNE 10: 25, 26, 27	JUNE 29: 82, 83, 84	JULY 18: 139, 140, 141
JUNE 11: 28, 29, 30	JUNE 30: 85, 86, 87	JULY 19: 142, 143, 144
JUNE 12: 31, 32, 33	JULY 1: 88, 89, 90	JULY 20: 145, 146, 147
JUNE 13: 34, 35, 36	JULY 2: 91, 92, 93	JULY 21: 148, 149, 150
JUNE 14: 37, 38, 39	JULY 3: 94, 95, 96	
JUNE 15: 40, 41, 42	JULY 4: 97, 98, 99	
JUNE 16: 43, 44, 45	JULY 5: 100, 101, 102	
JUNE 17: 46, 47, 48	JULY 6: 103, 104, 105	
JUNE 18: 49, 50, 51	JULY 7: 106, 107, 108	
JUNE 19: 52, 53, 54	JULY 8: 109, 110, 111	
JUNE 20: 55, 56, 57	JULY 9: 112, 113, 114	

As part of this new worship series, Pastor Sara has challenged our congregants to read the **entire book of Psalms by July 21**. In order to do this, you can read three books a day; the first in the morning, the second at midday and the last one in the evening. As always, this is just a guide, and you should read at your own pace.



Columbarium Construction Began!

Watch for construction! Columbarium construction crew showed up Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. to begin the work. The main entrance should always be accessible, **but please watch your step for mud and other hazards that are always near a construction sight.** We are excited for this to reach fruition and will be contacting those who have purchased a niche around the first of September to finalize paperwork and a selection of location. Those who are interested in purchasing a niche, should contact David Martin for details including available options for payment.



Indoor Pickleball: A New NLRFUMC Ministry

Pickleball has been well received & we would love for more to join! We welcome all abilities, including those who have never played before.

The court is open most Sunday afternoons (3-6 p.m.), as well as Tuesday and Thursday evenings (5-7 p.m.) that the fellowship hall is available. Look at the church calendar or sign up to be on a text thread that will go out each Sunday with that week’s schedule. **Contact David Martin to sign up for the text thread.**



Assembly 2024

Held on the campus of Hendrix College, Assembly is a week long youth district event with worship opportunities, small groups, fun & games, and a chance to connect with other youth and deepening connection with God. Assembly is July 22-26th.

Dates to Remember:

July 6: 9 a.m. Flag Take Down

August 2-3: Lockout!

August 11th: Blessing of the Backpack

Sunday and Promotion Sunday



Mission & Fun Days: Each Wednesday this month, the youth will participate in a mission activity (such as working with Neighbor 2 Neighbor) and then in the afternoon have a fun activity! They will meet at the church at 9 a.m. and travel to the location. Parent/Guardian pick up time will be around 4 p.m.

Youth Bible Study: July 7, 14 (VBS Planning) and 28th from 2-4 p.m. We are studying a different hymn each week and getting snacks.



VBS is ALMOST HERE!

Now is the time to get your K-5th grader signed up! Scan the QR Code above to go to the Signup Genius form. And please spread the word! If you see any of our NLRFUMC VBS posts, please like and share!



Items Needed for VBS:

- 16 Colorful Pool Noodles
- Magnetic tape
- A beach umbrella (with stand)
- 100, 2 gallon ziploc bags
- **Final preparation week is July 8-12.**
- **The last VBS Meeting is July 14 at 2 p.m.**
- To help just show up or contact Megan: mhairston@nlrfumc.org

SAVE THE DATES:

July 7: 3-5 p.m.: "First Kids on the 1st" Pool Party @ Hairstons

July 19: 5:30 p.m. VBS After Party Event

August 4: 4-6p.m. Skating at Joyland in Cabot.

Missions & Music:



**Canvas
Community
Meal**


WE ARE SERVING:
Monday, July 15
**Carpool @ 4 p.m. from
NLRFUMC
or meet @ 4:30 p.m. at
Canvas**

North Little Rock
First United Methodist Church

The Missions Team will serve a meal to the unhoused community at 4:30 p.m. on July 15. Please know that you don't have to be part of the Missions Team to serve the Canvas Community. Just show up! They'd love to have you and you'd enjoy the experience.

This month's Missions Team meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m. on July 28 in the parlor. All are welcome to attend.


Save the Date: Sept. 7, 10-2 p.m. at Levy UMC for a Health Clinic. Baptist Health will provide blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol checks. Other health care vendors (TBD) will be present.



NLRFUMC
Adult Mission Trip
Opportunity

**UMCOR:
Sager-Brown**

Spring 2025
If interested contact: Jo Roberts or Rev. Brent Higdem



UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE OF BALDWIN
**UMCOR
SAGER-BROWN**
101 SAGER-BROWN RD.
BALDWIN, LA
DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN

Adult Mission Trip Opportunity:

What: Adult Mission Trip
When: Spring 2025
Where: UMCOR Sager-Brown
Baldwin, Louisiana
Cost: \$400/week, provides meals and lodging. Activities could include building, landscaping, packing health kits, or school kits.

Anyone interested please contact Jo Roberts or Pastor Brent. You can either call the church (501) 835-2201 or email jotut@hotmail.com or bhigdem@nlrfumc.org

"UMCOR Sager Brown is a disaster relief supply depot located in Baldwin, Louisiana. Each year, more than 2,000 volunteers prepare approximately \$4 million in relief supplies for shipment from the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot in response to disasters in the United States. UMCOR Sager Brown Depot reaches out to its local neighbors through food distribution, housing rehabilitation projects, and other community outreach efforts."

-excerpt from
[www.https://umcmmission.org/umcor-supply-depots/](https://umcmmission.org/umcor-supply-depots/)



*A Celebration of Life
& Artistry:
Kurt Kennedy Tribute Concert*



*Friday, Sept. 27, 2024
7 p.m.*

*North Little Rock First United Methodist Church
6701 John F. Kennedy Blvd.
North Little Rock, AR 72116*

KURT & LINDA
KENNEDY



Music Notes: Save the Date for a Special Concert

A special tribute concert will be held in honor and memory of Mr. Kurt Kennedy on Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please put this on your calendar and spread the word. This event will be a beautiful musical experience for all.

Just a reminder that the Chancel Choir is taking a break this July. Therefore, be on the look out for plenty of special music opportunities for this month in our worship services.



C.E.C. News:

What fun these kiddos are having this summer! Our school aged children in the after school care program have a field trip every single day. They go to the library often and get to experience magic shows, AR Game and Fish educational programs, go on Argenta "Adventure Walks" and more!

The smaller kiddos are not left out of the fun either. Each Tuesday is water day at the CEC. Not to mention they all have movie days on Fridays and tons of fun learning activities on campus.

Just a few reminders, we are closed for the Fourth of July and will have our Fourth of July Parade on July 3rd at 10 a.m.



Also, be sure to save the date for the end of the summer program. The program is all about the Ten Commandments. It will be August 14th at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary and we encourage all to attend.

-Melissa Baddar, Director of the C.E.C.

Rev. Sara Bayles Charlton, Senior Pastor: pastorsara@nrlfumc.org
 Rev. Kathy Butler, Youth Pastor & Associate Pastor of Worship Arts & Innovation: kbutler@nrlfumc.org
 Rev. Brent Higdem, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care & Nurture: bhigdem@nrlfumc.org
 Rev. Jarod Saucedo, Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Teaching: jsaucedo@nrlfumc.org
 Megan Hairston, Minister of Children and Families: mhairston@nrlfumc.org
 Laura Turner, Minister of Communications & Connection: lturner@nrlfumc.org
 David Martin, Minister of Operations & Ministry Engagement: dmartin@nrlfumc.org
 Mary Beth Clark, Office Assistant: mbethclark@nrlfumc.org
 Melissa Baddar, Director of CEC: mbaddar@nrlfumc.org
 Linda Kennedy, organist: pianolk@aol.com
 Tim Tucker, Minister of Music and Worship Arts: ttucker@nrlfumc.org
 Aiden Tucker, Audio & Visual Technical Ministry: atucker@nrlfumc.org

NLRFUMC	501-831-2201
www.nrlfumc.org	6701 JFK Blvd. North Little Rock, AR 72116