

As we enter the summer season, I give thanks for the rhythm of life that offers both continuity and change. June brings with it a sense of renewal—children finishing school, families planning time together, and the warmth of creation surrounding us in full bloom. In the life of the church, it is a season of opportunity: to rest, to grow, and to reconnect with God and one another.

This month, we mark the beginning of *Ordinary Time* in the liturgical calendar. Though the name may sound unremarkable, it is anything but. It is a time when the Spirit invites us into the steady, everyday work of discipleship. Without the pageantry of Easter or the anticipation of Advent, we are called to live faithfully in the “in-between”—trusting that God is as present in the ordinary as in the extraordinary.

As Methodists, we believe that grace is active in every season. Whether through a mission trip, Vacation Bible School, a quiet walk, or a moment of prayer, God continues to shape our hearts. I encourage you to remain attentive to the Spirit’s gentle nudges this month. Ask where your gifts might serve the greater good. Seek the face of Christ in those you encounter. And find rest when needed, knowing that Sabbath is a sacred practice, not a luxury.

Please take time to read through this month’s newsletter, where you’ll find updates on summer ministries, opportunities for service, and ways to stay spiritually grounded in these slower months. I am grateful for each of you and the unique ways you help our church embody the love of Christ.

Blessings,

Bro. Bryan

FUMY

June 2025

FUMY had an amazing May! We did mission work, celebrated three amazing seniors, talked about the importance of doing mission work plus had a lot of FUN! A HUGE thank you to everyone that donated to our annual FUMY "envelopes of support!" **The youth group raised total of \$6,221.88 for all of their mission projects & mission work & mission trip.** On May 1, we helped pack the final bags of the school year for "Feed the Kids" mission. On Sunday, May 4, we celebrated our graduating seniors with our annual FUMY Roast! *We are so proud of Mallory Fallon, Lilli Orrell and James Sims! We wish them God's blessings as they begin the "next chapter" of their lives.* In true FUMY fashion, of course we played games, went bowling, watched a movie & hung out together while eating & laughing.



And FINALLY! June is here and now "schools out for summer!" We are READY for all of the fun things that come with summer! We are kicking off summer by welcoming new 7th graders to join us in FUMY on June 4th! *We celebrate that Rosa & Cariah were confirmed & welcomed into membership at FUMC and they both publicly said YES to Jesus!*

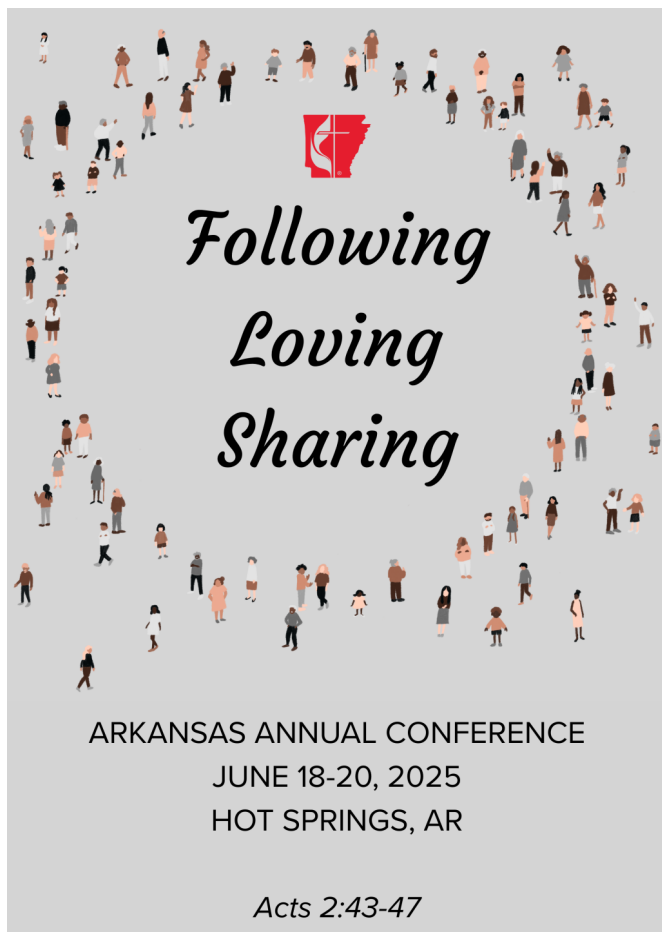
FUMY will be helping with VBS June 9 - 13 and we are excited about that! We are also planning to have a scavenger hunt, swim party AND senior circle this month! PLUS...on Saturday, June 21 we will leave for our week-long summer mission trip to Colorado Springs, CO, with Next Step Ministries! We are so excited and ready to see what God has for us in Colorado plus all summer long. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide you today and all the days of your life. God is good all the time and ...*all the time GOD IS GOOD!*

Christ above all, *Lon*

FUMY Reminders:

- June 1 FUMY "Senior Circle" 5 - 8 pm
- June 4 Welcome New 7th Graders to FUMY plus Scavenger Hunt 5 - 8 pm
- June 8 FUMY Swim Party @ The Hunters' home
- June 9-13 FUMY helps with VBS
- June 11 FUMY "Out to Lunch" plus games and a nap after VBS
- June 15 FUMY 5 - 7 pm
- June 21-28 FUMY Mission Trip to Colorado Springs, CO





Please begin praying for the upcoming session of the Arkansas Annual Conference. This year, in addition to both of our pastors, our lay delegates are Michael Blazier and Maggie Brown. We are also pleased to share that Mallory Fallon and Presley Wagner will represent the South District as lay equalization delegates. Hannah Diffie will be attending as the delegate for the Wesley Foundation at Southern Arkansas University. Julie Smith will represent Camping and Retreat Ministries.



Feeding the Community

The FON Ministry Team



Feeding the Community

Feed Our Neighbors needs help with some food items:

5 oz cans of chicken

15 oz cans of any fruit

15 oz cans of any vegetable

The first two items are costly, so we give them out once every 4 weeks.

Though the canned vegetables are not costly, we give out 80-90 cans every week.

It would help this ministry if you would buy some of these items or give an extra monetary donation.

In Christian love,
FON Ministry Team

"As you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40

An Extra Special **THANK YOU** to the following supporters of
FUMY's Annual Envelopes of Support
 for monthly mission work & their 2025 mission trip to Colorado Springs, CO
Through their generosity, FUMY raised \$6,221.88.

Anonymous
 Sue & David Anderson
 Amanda & Whit Barton
 Linda Beer
 Nelwyn & Hoyt Birch
 Jill & Anthony Brown
 Stephanie & Blair Brown
 Carolyn & John Bullock
 LeAnne Burch
 Belinda & David Carpenter
 Gail & Randy Cockrell
 Allison & Ryan Collins
 Gretchen & Bryan Diffie
 Christine & Jeff Felts
 Joe Fletcher
 Kim & Tony Fletcher
 David Fowler
 Sandy & David Funderburg
 Amanda & Blake Gilbert
 Kami & Paul Griffin
 Judy & George Harris

Bennie & Buck Henderson
 Jaime & Ken Hunter
 Beth & Walker Jarrett
 Kathy & Jere Johnston
 Mary Kinaga
 Kay & Don Koen
 Ruth Langley
 Judy & Jack Lassiter
 Judy Murphy
 Susan Musick
 Nickie & Jimmy Owens
 Diane & Mark Pennington
 Gail Pittman
 Julie & Tommy Smith
 Louisa & Paul Smith
 Dalene & Mike Stephenson
 Renee Treadwell
 Brenda Wright
 Singles & Doubles Sunday School Class
 Fellowship Sunday School Class



We have had a great year, filled with music and fellowship for the Lord. I am wishing a great summer to everyone! Choir will pick up on August 29. VBS starts June 9, I Hope to see y'all then.
 Love, Mrs. Kathy



FUMC Vacation Bible School
 June 9-13, 2025

Save the date: FUMY Rummage Sale...

Our youth group welcomes **all rummage donations** beginning after 9 am worship on
Sunday, JULY 6 to Wednesday, JULY 9
 to our Family Life Center

Public Sale date: July 11 & **Free Day:** July 12



AR Travelers of FUMC

Looking for a great vacation this year? Join the AR Travelers of FUMC on a trip to beautiful Maine! We travel aboard a spacious motorcoach. We will enjoy historic Portland Waterfront, visit Boothbay Railway Village, Explore Kennebunkport, and so much more!

Departing from our church parking lot Friday, September 19 and returning Monday, September 29. The Cost is \$1739 per person and includes hotels, most meals, tours, and tips. Contact Dalene Stephenson at 870-723-0650 for more information.

FUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 9TH-13TH 9AM-12PM

FOLLOW THE QR CODE TO REGISTER:



"DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT IN EVERY SITUATION, BY PRAYER AND PETITION, WITH THANKSGIVING, PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD." PHILIPPIANS 4:6

THIS MONTH WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE AND POWER OF PRAYER IN OUR LIVES! GOD LOVES LISTENING TO ALL THAT WE HAVE TO SAY AS WE DEEPEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM!

WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES WILL RESUME AUGUST 27TH 2025

Have questions or want to learn more about FUMC children's ministries? Text or call us!

Emily Johnston (870) 820-4298
 Mary Beth Gongora (870) 308-5985

Weekly Events

Sundays:

9:00 AM In-person & Online Service
11:00 AM In-person & Online Service
10:00 AM Adult, Youth, and Children's
Sunday School
FUMY — Times Vary, See Calendar

Mondays:

6:30 PM Boy Scouts FH June 2 & 9

Tuesdays:

10:00 AM Prayer Team/weekly
12:00 PM Hopeful Hearts — June 3
1:30 PM Wilma Hankins-Wesley Rm—June 3
6:00 PM Executive Council — June 10
6:30 PM Small Group FLC Foyer/weekly

Wednesdays: Weekly

FUMY Midweek — Times Vary, See Calendar

Thursdays:

11-12 PM Feed Our Neighbors
(Every other Thursday)

*Memorials were given to the glory of
God and in loving memory of:*

Faye Chandler:

Sue & David Anderson
Bennie & Buck Henderson

Von Eubanks:

Cecille & John Green

Thank you

A big thank you to Frank and Cole Hawkins for building the wall to separate the Sensory Room from the Sole Purpose storage room.

Now that the wall is built, we will finish it out and begin to build out the Sensory Room and build storage shelves to get the Sole Purpose room ready for shoes, coats, and books.

Thank you!

Dear FUMC, Thank you so much for the personalized bible. I appreciate the many years of support that I've gotten through worship and youth group.

Thanks again,
James Sims



WELCOME

New confirmands Cariah Miller and
Rosa Martinez.

May Giving General Fund

May 4, 2025 — \$21,481.00

May 11, 2025 — \$4,392.00

May 18, 2025 — \$5,881.00

May 25, 2025 — \$10,916.00

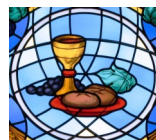
Four-week Total — \$42,670.00

Monthly Amount Needed to Make Budget — \$51,253

Total for 2025 \$214,345.00



Hopeful Hearts will meet on
June 3 @ noon in the
Family Life Center.



Communion in June will be
on June 1 during 9 AM and
11 AM services.



May marked the conclusion of our Cub Scout Pack meetings for the school year, filled with award presentations and merit badge recognitions. Scouts also received important information and preparation for upcoming summer camps.



Our Boy Scout Troop dedicated time to community service by assisting the Monticello Kiwanis Club in placing American flags around the downtown square and county courthouse. Additionally, the Troop proudly participated in the Drew County Memorial Day service alongside the local American Legion and VFW, honoring those who have served our country.



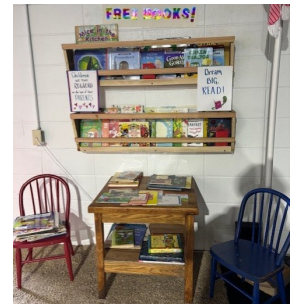
Looking ahead, our area district is excited to offer four unique campout opportunities at Camp De Soto this June. These diverse experiences will provide Scouts with a range of activities designed to build skills, foster camaraderie, and create lasting memories.



Congratulations to our latest Senior Scout from the Math and Science School in Hot Springs, Zeke Babst.



Sole Purpose has collected so many children's books, thanks to Options Thrift Store, that we are giving away books year-round! Books are distributed at local laundromats and Options Thrift Store. We restock books once a week; so if you would like to participate in this literacy effort and take a turn restocking books, call the church office or Kathy Tumblison at (870) 723-4054. We are blessed to be a blessing!



S
O
L
E

P
U
R
P
O
S
E



Sole Purpose Sunday will be on Sunday, October 5, 2025. While that still seems a long



way off, now is the time we start making preparations. Now is the time we start determining what needs to be purchased and how much must be purchased. So now is also the time we look to begin our fundraising.

In the past we have used envelopes to be filled, held cake sales, and a myriad of other ways. This year, though, it was decided that we would make this as easy and as flexible as possible for our church members to make a donation. Each "first" Sunday, as you come to the communion table, we ask that you consider making a donation to this special mission that we are on each year. We will have children there helping us take up collections for the month of June, July, August, and September. This should take us right up to our heaviest purchasing time.

O
C
T
O
B
E
R

5

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOTES

Class of 2025

Walker Jarrett, Lay Leader/SPPRC Leader
Tommy Smith, Trustees
Dalene Stephenson, Finance Leader
Bryan Diffie, Senior Pastor
Lori Fallon, Associate Pastor

Class of 2026

Michael Blazier, SPPRC
John Kidwell, Trustees
Valerie Harvey, Treasurer

Class of 2027

Belinda Carpenter, SPPRC
Loyd Oxner, Trustees
Audrea Stephens, Finance

Meeting brought to order at 6:10 PM by Walker Jarrett
Opening prayer by Bro. Bryan Diffie

Motion: to accept the minutes from the April Executive Council meeting made by Valerie Harvey and seconded by John Kidwell. All in favor. None opposed.

Financial Report – Valerie Harvey gave report on April Special Accounts.

Discussion on Jaci Oxner scholarship and account it sits in. Not to be in the Foundation. It will be awarded on June 1, 2025, during the worship service.

Lynne Russell reported April 2025 Financials. Discussion on individual budgets and not spending where we do not need to spend for now.

Motion: A motion to accept April 2025 financial reports as presented by Michael Blazier and seconded by John Kidwell. All in favor. None opposed.

Old Business

Roof is now repaired and looks great. No leaks as of last storm.

John Kidwell has ordered the tape and mud to finish the sensory room wall. Also, the sensory room wish list has been put out to the congregation.

Lattice on parsonage deck is still on the list of repairs needed.

Insurance: The insurance survey was filled out and sent to the conference. We were initially told that we were not eligible for an insurance grant but have subsequently been informed that we have been awarded \$500 for insurance costs.

New Business

The cost to have gutters installed Family Life Center is \$168.00. The work will begin soon to install gutters.

SPPRC Report

No report given.

Trustees Report

We did not receive an invoice to cover the costs of supplies to build the sensory room wall from Frank Hawkins.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOTES CONT.

Sr. Pastor Report

- Confirmation Sunday falls on Heritage Sunday this year, May 18. We have two confirmands this year – Cariah Miller and Rosa Martinez.
- This Sunday, May 18, 2025, Bro. Bryan will hold a “It’s History” class and discuss his trip to England in April 2024 with the Methodist Foundation and discuss a trip that he will host to England with Education Opportunities in July of 2026.
- I have asked staff to think about definable goals for their ministry for the coming school year and going into the future. What can be changed to make the program better? How can we achieve these goals?
- I will also be meeting with the Outreach and Nurture Committees to come up with a comprehensive and strategic plan to bring people into the church and to keep the people we have.
- Discussion on security and how we can better secure the buildings during services and Sunday school. Some ideas included having eyes in Family Life Center during 9:00 AM service keeping watch and in Narthex during 11:00 AM service, keeping eyes on youth and inviting them to sit with families if they attend alone, and coming up with enforceable rules youth must abide by if they attend alone.

Assoc. Pastor Report

- The new scholarship for anyone pursuing higher education through college or trade school or specialty school is the Jaci Calhoun Oxner Scholarship. \$2000 total gifted to one person. \$1000 for fall semester and \$1000 for spring semester. Scholarship application deadline was extended to May 15 and the scholarship will be awarded on June 1 during worship. We have had several people apply.
- During the month of April, the youth group had their annual “Envelopes of Support” fundraiser. Our gracious congregation donated a total of \$6,076.88. This fundraiser supports all of the youth group’s monthly mission work and will help fund the rest of their summer mission trip to Colorado Springs, CO.
- Summer mission trip is June 21-28, 2025. Sixteen youth plus adults will be going to Colorado Springs, CO, with Next Step Ministries.
- There are new locks on the doors of the youth room. They have already been very effective.
- The amazon wish list for the new sensory room has been published!
- Vacation Bible School registration is in full swing. VBS will be June 9-13, 9 am to noon. Lots of volunteers are needed, please help if you can.
- I will complete my certification as a Spiritual Director next week, May 18-21. Thank you for your support of this endeavor!
- We have two youth that came forward with the desire to be lay delegates to Arkansas Annual Conference. I submitted their names to our South District and they were both approved to go as lay (equalization) delegates from our district. Mallory Fallon is attending as a young adult and Presley Wagner is attending as a youth. They will room with Maggie Brown and me at annual conference next month in Hot Springs.

Motion: to adjourn made by John Kidwell and seconded by Valerie Harvey. All in favor.
None opposed.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:50 P.M.




Next meeting Tuesday, June 10, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

Closing prayer Rev. Bryan Diffie



June 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Mission Trip Parent Meeting 4p All FUMY 5p "Senior Circle" 7p	2 Boy Scouts FH 6:30p	3 Prayer Team 10 a Hopeful Hearts Noon Wilma Hankins Circle 1:30p Small group 6:30p	4 All FUMY 4:30p Praise Band 7p	5 Feed Our Neighbors 11a	6	7
8 FUMY Swim Party 4p	9 Boy Scouts FH 6:30p →	10 Prayer Team 1p Executive Council 6p Small group 6:30p VACATION	11 All FUMY 12:00p Praise Band 7p BIBLE	12 SCHOOL	13 →	14 EHC Work day FH 9a  FLAG DAY
15  All FUMY 5p	16	17 Prayer Team 10 a Small group 6:30p	18 NO FUMY Praise Band 7p	19 Feed Our Neighbors 11a	20	21 First Day of Summer  FUMY leaves for Mission Trip 9a
22 No FUMY	23 FUMY	24 Prayer Team 10 a Small group 6:30p →	25 Praise Band 7p Mission	26 →	27 Trip	28
29 One Service 9a FLC Baptism Fifth Sunday Potluck Brunch 10a NO FUMY	30					