

Reflections

July 2019

317 S. Main Street
Monticello, AR 71655



OUT OF CONTROL?

"I don't do the good I want, but the evil I don't want – this I do. But if I do what I don't want, it's no longer I doing it, but the sin dwelling in me. A wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Grace in God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" – Romans 7:19-20, 24-25

One October back when Michelle and I were dating, we went to the State Fair. Neither one of us had been for years, and we did it all: we played the games, ate the fair food, and rode the rides. It was a lot of fun, well, until...

We had just finished a big ol' ball of cotton candy when we saw this ride. They had one at Magic Springs back in the day, and I loved it. I don't remember what they called it at the fair, but at Magic Springs they called it the Spider. It was one of those deals with the eight arms, with a two person car at the end of each arm. The arms start turning. The cars start turning. Then the whole thing rises up into the air dipping, wobbling, and spinning. It's awesome!

So we get on this thing at the fair, and it's just like I remembered. Michelle and I get in the car and they lock us in. With a jerk, the arms start circling, slowly at first, then faster and faster. The car starts to spin. The arms rise. Faster...faster... The arms rise at an angle. Michelle was sitting toward the center of the ride, and I was on the outside. The centrifugal force pushed her closer to me. I'm thinking, "That's nice." The same force started pushing me into the side of the car. I'm thinking, this is perfect...just fast enough.

It kept getting faster. Michelle put her head on my shoulder. It wasn't a sign of affection. Her neck muscles just couldn't stand it. The thing keeps on getting faster. I start thinking, "Did the operator die?" That's when (and I promise you this is true) I actually felt my brain move inside my skull. Faster...faster... Michelle yells, "This isn't fun anymore!" I'm thinking, "You ain't kiddin'...you're about to crush me to death, woman!" I'm thinking that cotton candy wasn't such a great idea. Faster...

At that moment, I realized I had totally lost control. Either the operator was going to stop the ride or my girlfriend was going to crush me or the car was going to come off it's hinges and we were going to land somewhere up in the Ozarks. I just gave in. I didn't scream. I didn't cry. I just let go. I didn't care how fast the ride got. I wasn't in control.

Life gets like that sometimes. Bad habits, busy-ness, improper relationships...all of them seem fun at first, but quickly wreak havoc. The good news is that God is there, beckoning us, calling us to a better way of living. All we have to do is let go.

Grace & Peace!





FUMY News

July 2019



FUMY had a super busy and SUPER OUTSTANDING June. We began the month with our annual Rummage Sale. Our group made \$3931.12 for our mission trip and mission projects. **Thank you** to our church family & friends for all of the fantastic rummage!



Our second and third weeks of June had us busy getting ready for mission trip plus having some game nights & hang time with our youth group. During the 3rd week of June, 20 of us rode to Maumelle to lead youth group for the Methodist Children's Behavioral Home youth & children. We led over 50 children ages 5-18 in crafts, recreation, lesson about prayer and snacks. After leading the groups, we enjoyed seeing a movie & shopping a little in Little Rock. Special thanks to Maggie, Kristi Meeks & Haley Greer for chaperoning with me. And speaking of Maggie...she is our summer intern and she leading a weekly junior high girls small group. June 22 dawned early and with it came our annual FUMY Mission Trip!

This year we headed to Lexington, South Carolina for a week of mission work with Next Step Ministries. An extra special **THANK YOU** to Maggie, Audrea Stephens & Scotty Beer for mentoring the youth with me this year on our trip. 21 of us traveled together on our mission trip. Our word of the week was **"Rise"** and our scripture for the week was *"Rise up and shine, for your light has come. The shining-greatness of the Lord has risen upon you. For see, darkness will cover the earth. Much darkness will cover the people. But the Lord will rise upon you, and His shining-greatness will be seen upon you."* Isaiah 60:1 Each night, a different group of our youth would lead our "devo" time and use a different letter from the word "Rise." During our week, our group was split into 2 crews, "Team Sugar Rush" and "Team Betty." One team lead a group of children all week and the other crew replaced floors in the home of a local family. What an amazing experience for all of us! We were blessed to get to know the people we served and we blessed those that we served. We are filled with God's spirit and we have come ready to serve in more ways here in Monticello.

We are now gearing up for July! Our schedule is not nearly as busy as June but we are excited about celebrating Independence Day plus helping with VBS here at FUMC and doing some fun stuff together. We are having a wonderful summer. We are seeking to "go beyond" and to understand more of what it means to be the hands & feet of Jesus.

We are excited to welcome 4 new FUMY members in June...Mallory, Lilli, James & Jason. Please let me know if I need to mail a "new youth packet" to a friend or if there is another 7th grader we need to invite.

May the Lord bless you and keep you...and may you seek to be the hands & feet of Jesus.

Christ above all, Lori





Saturday, August 3, FUMC will be placing shoes on 500 children in Drew County just in time for a new school year. This will be a church-wide event and we need our congregation's help! So many have already helped through donations needed to purchase these shoes, but now it's time to make it happen! So how can you help? We will need close to 100 volunteers. And there are so many jobs to do...

We need volunteers to:

- *Work the registration table*
- *Escort the children to the proper locations*
- *Wash the feet of the children*
- *Be a "runner" for shoes*
- *Work the shoe room*
- *Replenish the foot-washing water*
- *Help exit the families*
- *Be greeters on the parking lot*
- *Cook hot dogs*
- *Prepare hot dogs*
- *Provide breakfast foods for all of the volunteers*
- *Help with the outside activities that will be provided for children*

There is something for *everyone!* This is a **church-wide mission** and it will take our church members to make it happen.

To register to volunteer, please go to the following website: <https://samaritansfeet.volunterhub.com/event/index/9387854>

Volunteers will be asked to be at the church at 7:30 a.m. and work until 1:00 p.m.

We are blessed to be a blessing?

**DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN.
BY ALL THE MEANS YOU CAN.
IN ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN.
IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN.
AT ALL THE TIMES YOU CAN.
TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN.
AS LONG AS EVER YOU CAN.**

John Wesley

CHURCH Events

- July 4 Independence Day — Church Office closed
- July 15-17 VBS 8:00 AM to Noon
- July 15-19 Senior High Camp/Tanako
- July 22 Administrative/Finance Bd. Meeting 6 PM



Weekly Events

Sundays

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Service
- 9:50 AM Sunday School
- 10:50 AM Worship
- 5:00 PM Jr. High FUMY
- 6:00 PM Snack Supper FUMY
- 6:30 PM Sr. High FUMY
- 6:30 PM Small Group

Mondays:

- 6:00 PM Boy Scouts

Tuesdays:

- 7:00 PM Summer Movie Night

Wednesdays:

- 3:15 PM FUMY Hang Time
- 6:00 Chancel Choir
- 6:00 PM Small Group Meeting
- 6:30 PM Small Group Meeting
- 7:00 PM Praise Band Practice

Thursdays

- 4:00 PM Feed Our Neighbors
- 6:30 PM Small Group

GREETERS

| | 9:00 AM | 10:50 AM |
|---------|---|---------------------------------|
| July 7 | Peggy Doss Michael James Auddy Doss | Renee Johnson |
| July 14 | Kim Fletcher Margo Stevens Tony Fletcher | Bill Wisener |
| July 21 | Renee Treadwell Margo Stevens Tony Fletcher | Sheila Maxwell Margo Stevens |
| July 28 | Dalene Stephenson | Dalene Stephenson |

LITURGIST

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| July 7 | Paul Griffin |
| July 14 | Rev. Lori Fallon |
| July 21 | |
| July 28 | Rev. Lori Fallon |

ACOLYTES

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| July 7 | Ryker Harvey |
| July 14 | Eli Coburn & Pierson Harper |
| July 21 | Abby Huskey & Addy Beth Maxwell |
| July 28 | Presley Wagner |

Summer Break

Children's choir and handbells will be on summer break until August 21. Have a great summer!!

Preschool will be on summer break until Wednesday, August 21, 2019 when our four-year old class begins a new year. The three-year old class will begin Tuesday, September 3, 2019

The TOTS class will be on summer break and will resume in September.

Community Events

Market in the Park farmers' market is every

Saturday morning from 8:00 to 11:00 A.M. in the mini park on South Main Street. Contact the chamber office at 870-367-6741 or go to monticellochamber@sbcglobal.net to obtain your free vendor application form.

Children's Ministry News

Parents who have children who have completed grades 4 and 5 will be receiving a letter about the **Wonderfully Made Series** (previously Created by God) that is to be offered in July.

Ozark Mission Project

(OMP 101) will be July 29—31 from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. This is for students that have completed 4th and 5th grades. Please let Brenda Wright know if your child is interested or with any questions regarding transportation or cost of program.

Dear Church Family and hostesses (Julie, Kathy B., Kathy L., Lori W., Lori F., Krissi, Beth, Stephanie, Mary and Dalene);

Thank you so much for the shower you hosted for Nathan and I! We love all the gifts and can't wait to use them in our home! FUMC has been such a part of me, I can't imagine life without my church family. You are all invited to join us on August 11th for our special day.

All our love,

Hannah James and Nathan Musso

Dear Church Family,

Jo and I want to thank you all for your love and support throughout the early birth of our precious Kai Allen.

We felt your many prayers during my emergency delivery and through Kai's three week stay in the NICU at Baptist Medical. Kai is doing great, and we've completed our move to Austin, AR. Thank you for your love, prayers, and gifts. FUMC Monticello will forever be our home church. We love all of you.

Sincerely,

Jo, Peyton and Kai James

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

Roland Anderson by: J.D. & Sandra West

Camille Berryman by: Mike & Dalene Stephenson, J.D. & Sandra West

Betty Carr by: Barry & Stacey Davis

Kelley Grubbs by: J.D. & Sandra West

Betty Hibbard by: J.D. & Sandra West

Opal Wright by: J.D. & Sandra West

Dear FUMC Family,

Thank you so much for the wedding shower you hosted for us. We appreciate so much your love and generosity. A special thank you to our sweet hostesses, Lori Fallon, Kathy Johnston, Ruth Langley, Kim Lee, Julie Smith, Lisa Tolin, and Brenda Wright. Join us for our wedding celebration, if you can. It will be Saturday, July 27, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church in Ft. Smith, AR.

Sincerely, Rex Fletcher & Meghann LaBorn

TUESDAY IS FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT THIS SUMMER

This summer in worship we'll be looking at issues of faith in film. We'll show each film the Tuesday before at 7:00 P.M. in the FLC. Here's what's coming up!

Tuesday, July 2: Independence Day Weekend — Lincoln: *Then, thenceforward, and forever free*. The kids will watch *An American Tail* in the Fellowship Hall while the youth and adults watch *Lincoln* in the FLC.

Tuesday, July 9: The Lion King: *The question is who...are you?*

Tuesday, July 16: Dumbo: *You can fly! Honest you can!*

Tuesday, July 23: Wonder Woman: *Bonds of love never make the wearer weaker*. The kids will watch *Brave* in the Fellowship Hall while the youth and adults watch *Wonder Woman* in the FLC.

Tuesday, July 30: Rudy: *I've been ready for this my whole life*.

Tuesday, August 6: Toy Story 3: *He'll be there for you no matter what*.

To My Church Family, I just want to say thank you for the beautiful Bible you gave to me as my Senior gift. Thank you for the kindness and support you have always given to me. I also want to personally thank you for supporting the Scouting programs at this church. Through this church I have grown so much through all the opportunities you give to young people.

Joseph C. Holland

Traditional Worship – Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir welcomes the soloist for the *Summer Special Music Series* to the Traditional Worship Service in July. Soloist are as follows:

- July 7 - Alex Borchardt, vocal solo
- July 14 - Rebecca Nichols, vocal solo
- July 21 - Ralph Hunter, violin solo
- July 28 - Jennifer Fryer, vocal solo

We hope that your schedule will permit you to join us for worship in July and enjoy these outstanding Musicians as they share Christ's message in song.

Extra Special **THANK YOU** to the following supporters of our *2019 FUMY Mission Work & Trip*

Ember & John Davis
Hammett Evans & Michelle Pounds
Helen & Joe Guenter
Jon Elliott Hood
Abby Huskey
Kaye & Don Koen
Gail & Clayton Stephens

...We raised \$5,580.00 for FUMY Mission Fund for our annual summer mission trip AND for the monthly mission projects we do all year long. *Thank you so much for your incredible generosity!*



Baptisms

Congratulations and God's blessings on Grace Anne Davis on her baptism into God's family.



Monticello Troop 67 participated in Boy Scout Summer Camp Week of June 16 - 21. We had 13 Scouts and 3 adult leaders attend the week of activities at Camp DeSoto in El Dorado, AR. We also had two Eagles Scouts from Troop 67 work as staff for the month of June during all Scout camps at De Soto.



Monticello Cub Scout Pack 69 had four Webelos/ Arrow of Light Scouts attend a three day camp at Camp De Soto in El Dorado June 13-15. These Scouts participated in various rank advancements including Scouting Adventure, Outdoor Adventurer, Castaway, Handicrafts, Aquanauts and other camp activities such as climbing, shooting sports, canoeing, and swimming. These boys will be part of the Arrow of Light ranking Scouts who will crossover to Boy Scouts in February 2020.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY
ARTS & CRAFTS BAZAAR

Items for All Seasons

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2019
9:00 A. M. – 2:00 P. M.



No Admission Charge

**Fellowship Hall
 First United Methodist Church
 111 West Church
 Warren, AR 71671**

Sponsored by United Methodist Women to Benefit Missions



**Administrative
 Board/Finance
 Committee meeting will be
 July 22 at 6:00 P.M.**