

# Reflections

June 2024

317 S. Main Street  
Monticello, AR 71655



Dear Church Family,

Several years ago, I purchased a new desk for my home study. When I tell you that this desk was heavy, that is an understatement. When I finally got it into the house, with the help of others of course, I excitedly tore open the box to view my newly purchased treasure. Like most items that you buy, "some" assembly was required. The list of tools that were needed to put this desk together was as follows:

1. Rubber Mallet
2. Screwdriver
3. Friend

This seemed like a strange array of tools, but that is what the instructions called for; so I phoned a friend. All throughout the instructions a friend was called upon to help do certain things. The most important was to help flip the desk over after it was completely assembled. This is where the friend came in handy, because one person would have never been able to do this on his or her own.

This is much like life. You cannot expect to get through it by yourself. You need a friend to help you flip your life right side up when it has been rocked by turmoil and trouble. The friend that we all need is Jesus. He is a friend that will come to our aid every time that we need him. He will never be too busy, nor too tired to help us through the struggles. Do you know him? If not give him a call today, and your life will never be the same.

Blessings,  
Bryan R. Diffie



# FUMY

## June 2024

Hip! Hip! Hooray! FUMY had an amazing May! We did lots of 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 \$5,931 for all of their mission projects & mission work & mission trip.** In fact, we sent \$600 to John Mpandi & the children in his Iganda Community School in Uganda. On May 1, we helped pack the final 400 bags of the school year for “Feed the Kids” mission. On Sunday, May 5, we celebrated our graduating seniors with our annual FUMY Roast! *We are so proud of Becca Davis, Pryor Harper, Jemarius Robinson & Caroline Wilson! We wish them God’s blessings as they begin the “next chapter” of their lives.* We talked about what our purpose is in life and that God has mighty plans for us and through us. We must remember to listen for God’s voice to lead us. We did a new mission this month with “The Call.” On May 15, our group helped “The Call” sort through and get organized in their new space just off of the square in downtown Monticello. **Thank you** to Jaime Hunter for going with us! It was a great experience and we plan to help them again! In true FUMY fashion, **of course** we played games & hung out together while eating & laughing. Other fun things we did in May included going fishing at Tucker & Beckett Johnston’s pond behind their home. **THANK YOU** to Emily & Gavin for hosting us. Our month ended with school being out on the 22nd (Woodlawn), 23rd (Drew Central) and 24th (Monticello) AND an EPIC Bowling Night for our youth group! It was so much fun!

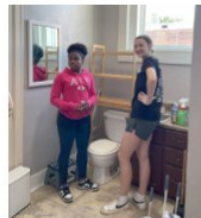
And FINALLY! June is here and we are READY for all of the fun things that come with summer! We are kicking off summer by welcoming the newest 7th graders to join us in FUMY on June 2nd! **Andrew, Jack, Camryn, EJ & KJ were recently confirmed & welcomed into membership at FUMC!** *We celebrate with them and their public commitment of their love of Jesus and pledge to follow Him all their life!* FUMY will be helping with VBS June 3 - 7 and we are excited about that! We are also planning to have some fun game nights, a scavenger hunt, movie night AND a fun trip to Little Rock! PLUS...on Saturday, June 22 we will leave for our week-long summer mission trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with Next Step Ministries! We are so excited and ready to see what God has for us in Wisconsin and all summer long. Finally, on Sunday, June 30, we plan to share a bit about our mission trip in worship at 11 am. 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, *Loni*



### REMINDERS:

- June 2:** 5 pm Parent mtg, 6-8 pm All FUMY & “Welcome 7th Graders”
- June 3-7:** FUMY helps with VBS (9 am - noon)
- June 11** FUMY to Little Rock
- June 22-29:** FUMY Mission Trip to Milwaukee, WI



# FUMY Rummage Sale...

Our youth group welcomes **all rummage donations** beginning after 9 am worship on **Sunday, JULY 7 until Wednesday, JULY 10 to our Family Life Center** *plus we welcome the Church Family (only) to shop while we set up (just give us a donation.)*

**If something is too heavy, please call Lori @ 723-4968 & we will arrange a pick up.**

Proceeds will go toward monthly FUMY Mission work & Mission Projects.

**Public Sale date:** July 12 & **Free Day:** July 13

An Extra Special **THANK YOU** to the following supporters of **FUMY's Annual Envelopes of Support for Monthly Mission Work & 2024 Mission Trip to Milwaukee, WI** Through their generosity, FUMY raised **\$5,931.**

Anonymous  
Natalie & Justin Atkins  
Diantha Beer  
Jill & Anthony Brown  
Stephanie & Blair Brown  
Carolyn & John Bulloch  
LeAnne Burch  
Belinda & David Carpenter  
Jessie Chappell  
Gretchen & Bryan Diffe  
Felts Family  
Joe Fletcher  
Kim & Tony Fletcher  
Sandy & David Funderburg  
Judy & George Harris  
Bennie & Buck Henderson  
Nikki & AJ Hood  
Jaime & Ken Hunter  
Beth & Walker Jarrett

Emily & Gavin Johnston  
Mary Kinaga  
Kay & Don Koen  
Tommy Maxwell  
Evelyn McKeown  
Judy Murphy  
Nickie & Jimmy Owens  
Loyd Oxner  
Gail Pittman  
Halley & Johnathan Powell  
Monica & Chris Sims  
Julie & Tommy Smith  
Louisa & Paul Smith  
Renee Treadwell  
Kathy & James Tumilson  
Brenda Wright  
Singles & Doubles Sunday School Class





## The FON Ministry Team

THANK YOU for the many prayers that you have offered for Our Neighbors and their families and for our FON Team.

Three pictures are accompanying this article: One is a picture of Susan Musick and Melissa Benefield who come at 9:00 to begin opening the boxes of food and then setting it out for the next team to bag up. The second picture is of Christine Felts, who delivers to some of our Neighbors. The third picture is of Mike Stephenson, who also delivers to some of our Neighbors.

Please look for more pictures each month as I am trying to highlight everyone who is part of this Ministry Team.

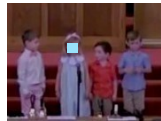
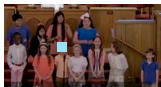
In Christian love,  
FON Ministry Team

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



## Children's Choir

The Children's Choirs performed on Mother's Day to a very receptive congregation. The preschool choir sang, "Jesus Loves The Little Ones Like Me," and the children's choir sang, "This Is The Day" and "Shout To The Lord".



On the last day of choir, we went to "The Woods" rehab/nursing facility and sang for the residents there!!

I have had so many compliments on how great they sounded and how well behaved they were!



Lastly, we will be taking a break until August; so I hope everyone has a great Summer.

Mrs. Kathy



Join us at 7:15am for a Morning Prayer Service. The service will take place in the church Sanctuary and live on Facebook. This service will take place Monday-Friday until June 18.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** begins MONDAY, June 3, 2024!

Please pray each day (June 3-7) for the children, youth, and adults who will be attending.

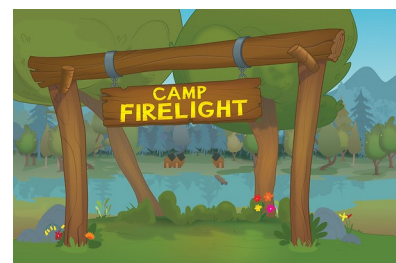
Please pray for our children and their families in your daily prayers.

Kim and Brenda

"Let the children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14



QR Code to register you children



## 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  
5:00 PM Jr. High FUMY  
5:30 PM Small Groups  
6:15 PM Supper  
6:45 PM Sr. High FUMY

### Mondays:

1:00 PM Disciple II Bible Study  
6:30 PM Boy Scouts FH/weekly

### Tuesdays:

10:00 AM Prayer Team/weekly  
12:00 PM Hopeful Hearts 6/4  
1:30 PM Wilma Hankins-Wesley Rm 6/11  
6:00 PM Executive Board 6/4  
6:30 PM Small Group FLC Foyer—weekly

### Wednesdays: Weekly

Times vary FUMY Mid-week  
see youth calendar  
8:00 PM Small Group/Conf. Room

### Thursdays:

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

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

### Patsy Higgins:

Gail & Randy Cockrell  
Judy & George Harris  
Bennie & Buck Henderson  
Diane & Mark Pennington  
Susan & Tom White

### Paul Lawson:

Sue & David Anderson  
Gail & Randy Cockrell  
Bennie & Buck Henderson  
Susan Musick  
Patty Ross  
Brenda Wright

thank you!

FUMC / Eleanor Music Committee

Thank you for awarding me  
with the Eleanor Music  
Scholarship. It will be  
really helpfull with college  
purchases. I am greatfull  
for the churches faith in  
my potential and I cant  
Thank you enough.

Pryor H.



**Hopeful Hearts will meet on  
June 4 @ noon in the  
Family Life Center.**



**Communion in June will be  
on June 2 during both  
services.**

Dear Church Family,  
I would like to thank everyone for all the love,  
prayers, and concerns during my husband's illness  
and passing.

I am so grateful to each and every one of you.  
I would also like to thank the church ladies for  
helping and preparing the meals for the funeral  
luncheon.

I am so blessed to have my church family sup-  
porting me during this time of grief.

Sincerely, Tammy Lawson

Becca Davis  
I wanted to express how thankful  
and honored I am to receive  
the Wilma Hankins Scholarship  
Award. I love my new bible.  
I appreciate everyone that  
helped make our Senior Sunday  
so special.  
Love, Becca Davis



Cub Scouts finished their year with a PACK 69 Ice Cream party, games, and awards. Our Cub Scout requirements will change June 24, 2024; so we have worked on a list of various things they can do from home this summer to earn new elective belt loops. Cub Scout Day Camp for the De Soto area will be June 24-28 at Camp De Soto. We are looking at other activities to do this summer for recruitment in the fall. Stay tuned!



Boy Scouts have been working on their Citizenship of the Community Merit Badge with Ms. Claire. Our annual service project with the Monticello Kiwanis was completed by putting flags around the square and County Courthouse. We had a few of our Scouts attend OA Conclave at Kerr Scout Ranch in Oklahoma this month. They participated in several competitions and brought home an award for Tomahawk Throwing.



We are preparing for Summer Camp starting June 16 with discussions of merit badge classes offered. We will also have a First Year Camper event at Camp De Soto the weekend of June 7. We have our newest Eagle Scout Candidate working on his project starting June 1. Our June calendar is getting full, but we are looking forward to many things.



# EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOTES

## Class of 2024

Michael James, Lay Leader/SPPRC Leader  
Maggie Brown, Trustees  
Stephanie Brown, Finance Leader  
Bryan Diffie, Senior Pastor  
Lori Fallon, Associate Pastor

## Class of 2025

Walker Jarrett, SPPRC  
Logan Hancock, Trustees  
Dalene Stephenson, Treasurer

## Class of 2026

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

May 7, 2024 Executive Meeting brought to order at 6:02 PM by Michael James  
Opening prayer by Bro. Bryan Diffie

**Motion:** to accept the April 2024 minutes as presented made by Dalene Stephenson and seconded Stephanie Brown. All in favor. None opposed.

**Financial Report** – Dalene Stephenson gave report on Special Accounts, and Lynne Russell gave report on February financials.

**Motion** to accept financial reports as presented made by Stephanie Brown and seconded by Maggie Brown. All in favor. None opposed.

## Old Business

- Balance in the Pavilion Fund is \$21,500. Julie to get drawings scanned in and send to Michael so that they can be shown to the congregation. Fundraising will begin to raise the balance and begin the process to build. Look into options to donate via Vanco and website, direct donations, and fundraising.
- Build the Pavilion as we go. No debt. Finance Team to come up with suggestions to fundraise. Continuing discussion on turning the Preschool room into a sensory/storage area. Get quote to put up a wall that is not permanent. Julie Smith to ask Tommy if he can look at also.
- Continuing discussion on baby changing station to be installed in unisex bathroom in Family Life Center. The cost of the changing station is \$142.66 plus the cost to install. Get quote from Mr. Escamilla to install.

**Motion** to approve a baby-changing station in the unisex bathroom in the Family Life Center made by Logan Hancock and seconded by Walker Jarrett. All in favor. None opposed.

- Boy Scouts Charter – Continuing discussion on helping the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts to pay \$2808.86 in fees owed.

**Motion** to allocate the amount of \$1667 (same amount that FUMC budgeted previously) to help pay fees owed. All in favor. None opposed.

## New Business

- Bro. Bryan spoke to the significant changes made to the Book of Discipline regarding human sexuality. Individual churches leaders will decide to allow or not allow same sex marriages to be performed in the church and if whether to have LGBTQ+ pastors in the pulpit. At this time, nothing is changing at Monticello First United Methodist. A congregational town hall meeting will be called if/when one is needed, and the FUMC Executive Board has the power to make decisions to set policy.

## Trustees Report

No report given

## Pastor Report

- Children will sing and ring on May 12, 2024, in 11:00 AM Service.
- May 19, 2024 is Confirmation, Heritage, and Pentecost Sunday. We will celebrate five confirmands in both services, and bring them into church during the 11:00 AM Service.
- On May 15, 2024, there will be a Witness meeting to discuss ways to enhance our presence in the community.
- United Methodist Men will hold a fish fry @ John McClendon's camp on May 9, 2024. James Loy from Renewal Ranch is scheduled to speak on addiction and recovery.

## Assoc. Pastor Report

- The enneagram class is finishing up. One more class is scheduled for the fall.
- FUMY's Annual Envelopes of Support for Mission Work raised \$5631. FUMY sent \$563.00 to John Mpandi in Uganda to support his mission.
- Rev. Lori Fallon will attend Spiritual Direction training from May 20 through May 24, 2024.
- FUMY will do local mission work at The Call this month.
- Vacation Bible School will be June 3 through June 7 from 9:00 AM to noon for children 4 years to 6th grade.
- FUMY will take two buses to Youth Mission trip from June 22 through June 29.
- FUMY will hold their annual rummage sale on July 12 and July 13. Saturday, July 13 will be the "free" day.




Meeting adjourned 7:35 P.M.

Next meeting Tuesday, June 4, 2024 @ 6:00 PM Closing prayer Rev. Lori Fallon



# June 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Communion FUMY Mission Trip Parent Meeting 5 p ALL FUMY 6-8 p	3 VBS WEEK Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a	4 VBS WEEK Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a Hopeful Hearts Noon Prayer Team 2:30 p Executive Board 6 p Small Group 6:30 p	5 VBS WEEK Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a ALL FUMY Noon-3p	6 VBS WEEK Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a Executive Board 6 p	7 VBS WEEK Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a	8 EHC workday FH 9 a
9 ALL FUMY 6-8 p	10 Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a Disciple Bible Study 1p	11 Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a Prayer Team 10 a ALL FUMY 1-8 p Wilma Hankins 1:30p Circle 3 @ 6 p	12 Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a	13 Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a FON I I a	14 Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a 	15
16 NO FUMY	17 Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a Disciple Bible Study 1p ALL FUMY 6-8 p 	18 Prayer Service Sanctuary 7:15 a Prayer Team 10 a Small Group 6:30 p	19 	20 FON I I a	21	22 FUMY leaves for Mission Trip
23	24	25 Prayer Team 10 a Small Group 6:30 p	26	27 FON I I a	28	29
FUMY Mission Trip	FUMY Mission Trip	FUMY Mission Trip	FUMY Mission Trip	FUMY Mission Trip	FUMY Mission Trip	FUMY Home from Mission Trip
30 NO FUMY						

**First United Methodist Church**  
**317 S. Main St.**  
**Monticello, AR 71655**