



February 2026 Newsletter

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First United Methodist Church

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CHURCH STAFF

Bishop

Rev. Laura Merrill

South District Superintendent

Rev. Davida "DeeDee" Autry

Pastor

Rev. Pam Estes

Church/Financial Secretary

Jean Ryan

Director of Music, Organist, Pianist, Handbell Director

Jaree Hall

Custodian

Edward Ryan



Pastor Pam's Ponderings . . . We survived the storms of icy sleet and snow. Please remember to pray for all those affected by the destruction including our farmers.

We know that God helps us in all circumstances. That help does not guarantee that every situation will be "good" all the time but we claim the truth that "God is good all the time. All the time God is good." We as the Body of Christ in the world are the actors of God's goodness. For example, February 10, we shall once again welcome our neighbors to receive fresh fruits and vegetables through the Well Fed grant. We do more than hand out food; we continue to build relationships with our neighbors and with one another.

Liz and Joe Green procured shelving for the new Food Pantry (a repurposed Sunday School room) so now we can store canned goods, household supplies, diapers, feminine hygiene items, school supplies, etc. for distribution. Lori Harrison has stepped up to be the organizer for Blessing Box supplying. More on that to come.

We are the Body of Christ when we welcome others to use our ample space. The PEO sisterhood meets in the fellowship hall on Tuesdays (mostly twice a month). This group represents Christians of various stripes.

We are the Body of Christ when we broadcast our worship services so that others may participate in celebrating the goodness and grace of God.

We are the Body of Christ when we welcome all for services other than Sunday morning. For example, Ash Wednesday services, February 18 at noon and 5 p.m. are open to all.



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

I strongly encourage us to participate in this service for the beginning of Lent. Some of us did grow up with this tradition and may not be familiar with it. The imposition of ashes (putting ashes on the forehead) reminds us of our mortality. This is a sign of our confident hope in the Resurrection and eternal life. As a tradition, this service

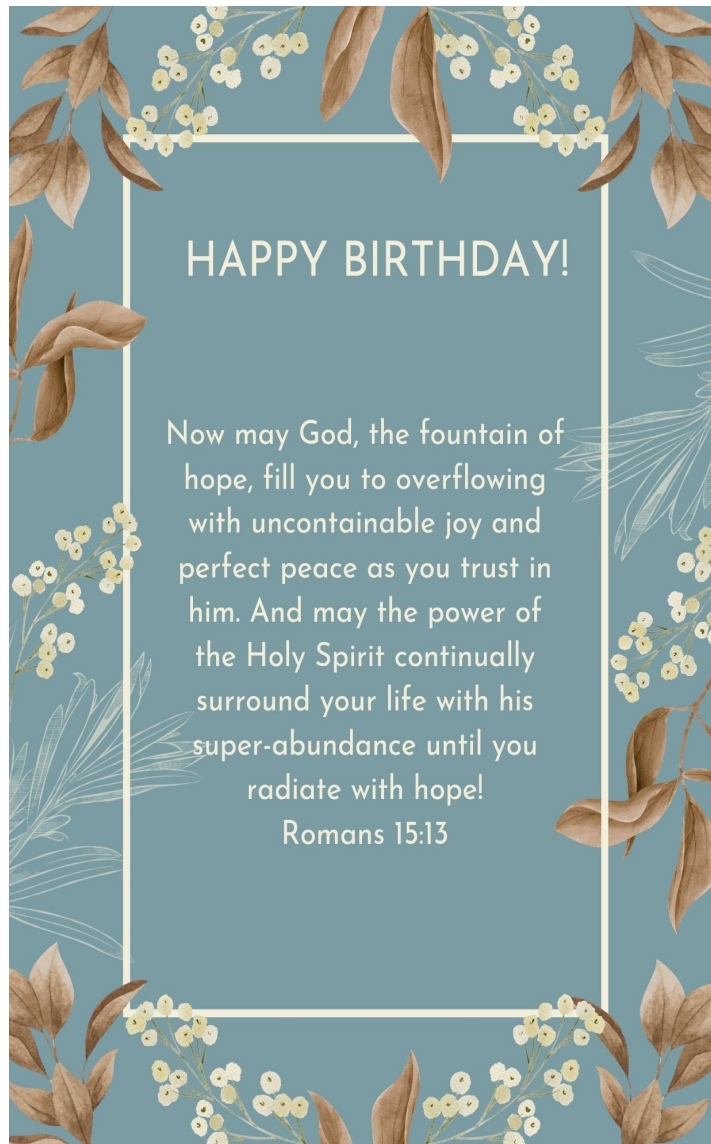
connects us with all Christians and helps form us as a people aware of the ongoing journey of faith. The forty days of Lent call us to ask, **What do we need to follow Jesus faithfully?** Lent invites us to examine the call of Jesus to us as the Body of Christ. God invites us to walk with one another, to pray more deeply, to read the Scriptures with more questions, and to act with more generosity and boldness. As we experience Lent together, we shall see more clearly where God is already working and where God wants us to join in working, i.e., loving.

This Lent let's not be so concerned about giving up things as we are with surrendering with confident hope to the fullness of God's will for us.

Shalom, Pastor Pam



February 2 - Lisa Boozer
 February 3 - Kale Hughes
 February 7 - Daisy Sullivan
 February 8 - Nancy Gail Purnell
 February 11 - Courtney Worthen
 February 12 - Beau Harrison
 February 14 - Judy Cassady
 February 27 - Ed Ryan



Liturgist

Feb. 1.....Mike Myers
 Feb. 8.....Connie Castleberry
 Feb. 15.....Telia Dunn
 Feb. 22.....Marilyn Hockaday

Money Counters

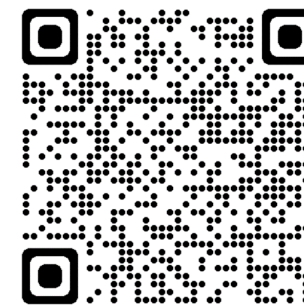
Feb. 1.....Stacy Purnell
 Feb. 8.....Gary Dan Futrell
 Feb. 15.....Telia Dunn
 Feb. 22.....Marilyn Hockaday

**Church Tithes & Offering
 Update For**

**January 2026
 Financial Update**

Our total givings received for the month of January were \$13,791. Our total expenses for the month were \$12,365.

Just a reminder: Church insurance will be due again in March. We need to be putting \$2,084.16 in Insurance Reserve each month.



Zoom Bible Study Meeting
 Every Wednesday at 2:00pm
<https://zoom.us/j/92352958318?pwd=SIBKQW1SYmpvMDcvMDJZaD V4a2thdz09>



United Women in Faith
will start meeting
again in the spring



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

February 12
Ash Wednesday Services
12:00 pm
&
5:00 pm



HARVESTING HOPE

ARKANSAS COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES ASSOCIATION
in partnership with UNIVERSITY OF THE OZARKS

Empowering community-driven solutions that
lead to food equity

The next scheduled date for food distribution is
Tuesday, February 10th
12:00 pm—1:00 pm
at Nashville First United Methodist Church.

2026 Walk Dates

**Noah's of Ark
Emmaus Community**

♥ **WOMEN'S WALK #201**
VALERIE JACKSON
APRIL 23-26, 2026

♥ **FACE 2 FACE**
LIBBY HARKEN
JULY 21ST, 23RD, 28th AND 30th, 2026



Noah's of Ark Walk to Emmaus

Women's Walk #201

Camp Tanako, Hot Springs, AR
April 23-26, 2026
Lay Director: Valerie Jackson
Spiritual Director: Rev. David Fleming




Face to Face Encounter

St. Paul UMC - Malvern, AR
Tuesday/Thursday, July 21st & 23rd
Tuesday/Thursday, July 28th & 30th
Lay Director: Libby Harken
Spiritual Director: Rev. Andrew Orr
[Application](#)

For more information about the Walk to Emmaus,
please contact: noahsofark@gmail.com



February 2026 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	2	2	5	6	7
8	9	10  12:00pm-1:00pm	11 Zoom Bible Study 2:00pm Choir 6:00pm	12	13	14 HAPPY Valentine's DAY
15	16	17	18  Service 12:00 pm & 5:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 2:00pm Choir 6:00pm	19	20	21
22  First SUNDAY IN LENT	23	24	25 Zoom Bible Study 2:00pm Choir 6pm	26	27	28

First United Methodist Church

Photos by John Robert Schirmer

January 4, 2026



Opening Hymn



Advent Wreath



Pastor Pam - Children's Moments



Pastor Pam - Communion

First United Methodist Church

Photos by John Robert Schirmer
January 11, 2026



Pastor Pam - Children's Moments



Connie Castleberry—Liturgist



Donald Sitzes - Solo



Pastor Pam - Talking about Baptism

First United Methodist Church

Photos by John Robert Schirmer

January 18, 2026



Telia Dunn— Liturgist, Pastor Pam at the right



Pastor Pam - Sermon



Mike Myers—soloist