

GreenbrierFUMC *focus*

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GREENBRIER FIRST UNITED METHODIST
MAY 15 – JUNE 4

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Senior Celebration, Sunday, May 15th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Greenbrier First United Methodist Class of 2016

Gabe Bray
Colby Crosby
Wyatt Daniel
Caroline Harrod
Sara Hoopchuk
Logan Johnston
Hayden McCormick

Come celebrate these seven seniors at a reception to honor them and this important milestone in their lives!

This great group of young adults has a wide variety of interests that includes: tennis, track, golf, soccer, wrestling, band, music, art.... It also includes youth that went to the prestigious Governor School and a National Merit Scholar Finalist. These are young adults with a great future and wonderful personalities ... each very unique and very gifted. To our **SUPER SEVEN**, know that God has a tremendous plan for your life. Be assured that your church will be praying for you as you continue to seek His purpose for your life.

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11*

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

May 29th
11:00

We will have **ONE COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE** on Sunday, May 29th at 11:00 a.m. We will have Communion at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and then the one service at 11:00 a.m. On this Memorial Day weekend, we will take time to give thanks for those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom Jeff Bounds will be leading us in worship. It's another great opportunity for our 9:00 and 11:00 worship families to come together to worship. It will be a great day to celebrate God's grace. Don't miss it!

Church Events

- May 15th -Senior Celebration at 6:00 p.m.
- May 18th – Wednesday Night Studies at 6:30 p.m.
- May 21st – Men's Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.
- May 23rd – Mary/Martha Circle at 1:00 p.m.
- May 25th – Wednesday Night Studies at 6:30 p.m.
- May 26th – Bethlehem House Meal at 6:00 p.m.
- May 29th – One Combined Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.
- June 1st – Wednesday Night Studies at 6:30 p.m.

TRUSTEES

The work continues on the parking lot. A French drain was installed the length of the parking lot and along the north side. This will allow the underground water to drain away from the parking lot and prolong the life of the asphalt. New lighting for the lot will be placed in the near future.

We are still planning to replace the heating and cooling unit in the fellowship hall as soon as funding for that project is secured. We are also continuing to put together bids for the possible renovation of the front lobby and front bathrooms.

The Trustees have also been made aware of a gift of \$7000 that was left to Greenbrier FUMC from the estate of Freda Lou Wilson Mobley. It was designated to be placed in the building fund and a portion will be used to cover the expenses of the parking lot and placement of the French drain. That money should be distributed to the church this summer. We are thankful for this family remembering our church in their will.


If you see other needs in regards to property maintenance or equipment please feel free to talk to one of our Trustees. (John Welch, Jon Eubank, Casey Garrett)

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The delay in getting the parking lot paved has slowed down the pantry usage a bit. However we expect the lot to be paved soon and the usage to increase. We still have needs of 1 lb hamburger meat rolls, hamburger and tuna helpers, cereals, hot dogs, juice and peanut butter. We are thankful for Centerville UMC that brought us boxes of food last week.

Thanks to all who filled up their M&M tubes with quarters for our special Mother's day M&M offering. You raised over \$1000 dollars for our food bank which will go a long way this summer to helping to feed families in Faulkner County.

So far we have helped 143 families and are on our way to feeding over 300 families for the 4th year in a row. Your support of this outreach program helps give people enough food to get them through a week and is a valuable witness for Christ. This summer, Arkansas children, for whom school lunch and breakfast may be the only meals they can depend on, are at even more risk. Lets make sure we do our part to help our Arkansas kids this summer.!



*Now therefore, our God, we thank
You and praise Your glorious name.*

YOUTH NEWS

Of course our next event is our Senior Celebration on Sunday, May 15 at 6 PM. There will be a short presentation and then a reception to follow for our Seniors this year. We have 7 graduating seniors this year. Come and help us celebrate this milestone for them. It's an exciting and scary time for most of them, they need all the support they can get

The float trip on May 21-22 is coming up soon. This event is for 7-12 grade. We will be heading up to Hardy, AR to float the Spring River. We will be leaving around 6 AM that Saturday and plan to be in Hardy to meet up with St. Paul UMC by 9, we will float from 10-4ish and then we will be staying the night in the newly renovated Wayland Springs Camp just south of Imboden. We will get up early Sunday morning, have breakfast and worship and we will be back by noon. The cost is only \$30 and that includes the canoe rental, lodging and food for the trip. Be sure and bring a sack lunch for Saturday but the rest of the food will be covered. Of course you may want some money for a souvenir or snack or you can bring your own snacks for the trip.

We had a great time at the Central District Youth Rally. The District Youth Council did a great job planning and putting it on. I posted some pics on our Facebook page so be sure to check them out. Also that day, they held screenings for the Conference Council on Youth Ministries. I am very pleased to tell you all that **John Mark Mathis** will be helping to plan and put on Veritas next year and **Riley Harlan** will be working with the media team at EVERY event next year. This will be an exciting year for these guys as they learn how all of those events happen.

We will begin screening for leadership positions in the next week or two with elections to take place on the last Wednesday night this month, May 25. If you would like to be considered for a position please fill out an application for leadership this year. The current youth council thought it would be a good idea just to make sure everyone who gets on leadership is really serious about it. They have done a great job making our council more "official" this year, we approved a constitution at our last meeting and now we are ready for next year!! If you get on the leadership team, you will be required to go to the leadership retreat August 27-28 of this year.

Financial News

Numerous ways for you to give as you are away this summer.

Summertime can often mean a slump in giving to the church as people are away or on vacation. Please continue to support your church in prayer and giving during the summer months. You can give via the GreenbrierFUMC church app or online at www.greenbrierfumc.org or through the old fashioned way of mailing the church a check.

Here is where we stand after the second week of May:

OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2016	\$193,796.00
NEEDED TO DATE	\$70,810.08
GIVING AS OF MAY 8, 2016	\$70,471.58
DEFICIT TO DATE	- \$338.50

From Our Vacation Bible School Director

When Brother Kevin called me and asked me to run VBS this year, (June 12-16) ... I thought is this man crazy?? We haven't even had time to go to church much less run a VBS...but then he told me to pray about it and get back with him. Well of course I eventually said yes so here we are a little over a month away to pull off an awesome VBS for these kiddos, but you know what I KNOW our church can do it no problem!!

Okay now I have said I will do all the planning and getting things prepared, BUT I need you guys to help fill in the spots needed. Be sure to reply first to get the best spots ;) Please help make this a wonderful VBS!!! It has a super fun theme "Surf Shack" so I cannot wait to see all the fun that these kids will have.

We will need spots for:

Snacks/Missions
MC- (Crossing fingers I have Jim for this spot :))
Music Leader
Bible Story
Recreation
Registration
Science
Someone to be with the 6th/7th graders
Shepherds (Hopefully youth can do this with a few adults here and there)
Someone to run music, videos, etc.
Crafts

I am sure I am forgetting something, but for now these are the needs. Please let me know ASAP if you will be able to help out and make our VBS great!!

Thanks,
Jaime Hamerlinck



Master Chicken Griller
Jon Eubanks



Master Chicken Marketer
Carl Tisdal

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED AND ALL WHO ATE!

After-School Tutoring 2016-17

A few years back we offered an after-school tutoring program for the community which was well received and has been missed by some folks I've talked with. Students would ride a designated bus & be dropped at the church. A snack would be provided & then work would begin. Although I was not involved, I have heard exceptional comments about it and how it helped many struggling kids. I have been approached about starting this for the **next school year** BUT dedicated volunteers will be needed and, be aware that majority of the kids **WILL NOT** bring books because they are not allowed to be taken from school, which could be detrimental to teachers who need to refer back to a lesson. It was mentioned we have it on Wednesday's, which would allow non-members to stay for Discovery Club and/or Youth and then parents pick them up afterwards, but we are open to suggestions. If you believe this is an area which the Lord is calling you, please get in touch with me, Theresa Lucas (tlucas778@yahoo) or Brother Kevin (lyonk@aol.com)

New Small Group Study

Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say

The Mary/Martha Circle which meets every third Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. invites you to join them for Adam Hamilton's book on Half Truths...simple phrases that sound Christian yet are not found in the Scripture. The study will take one phrase each month and compare the common saying with the wisdom from the Scripture. Phrases like: Everything Happens For A Reason; God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle; Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin; and God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It. The study will begin on Monday, June 20th.

If you'd like more information talk to Norma Jo Humphrey or Carolyn Baker.

Please note: This month the Mary/Martha Circle will meet on Monday, May 23rd at 1:00 p.m. instead of May 16th.

Miscellaneous Announcements

- The **United Methodist Church's General Conference** is meeting May 10-20 in Portland, Oregon. This is the top policy making body of our denomination which meets every four years. The conference can revise church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs. There are a lot of important issues coming before General Conference this year that may change the future course of the United Methodist Church. Pray for God to guide the General Conference's decisions and for Christ to lead us into the future. You can follow the news or watch all the live streaming sessions of the 2106 General Conference at www.GC2016.UMC.org
- **Continue praying for the Red Bird Mission Team** as we prepare for the mission trip to Beverly, Kentucky on June 4-10. The team has received our job projects which includes some renovation work on the interior and exterior of a home. Be praying that the Red Bird team can be a vibrant witness of the love of Christ as we minister to the people around Beverly.
- **The Men's Chicken Dinner** raised over \$600 on May 7th. Thanks to Jerry Baker and Jon Eubank for grilling up 240+ leg quarters. We had lots of people come in to eat and even more that got the meal to go. The proceeds of the fund raiser will be split between facility needs and mission projects. Thanks for your support of our Methodist Men's group.
- The new mulch, the weeding of the beds, and fresh flowers around the entry are all courtesy of our Master Gardener, **Peggy Prout**. Peggy works hard to keep all the beds around the entry way fresh and clean as well as in the front of the church. Thanks so much Peggy!

- **Blessing bags are available** on the table outside the sanctuary. You can pick one up and keep in your car this summer and look for the opportunity to bless some one in need. Or feel free to build your own blessing bag and include whatever you think would be helpful during these hot summer months. Thanks to **Cassidy Broadaway** for keeping this ministry in front of us and to Cassidy and **Patsy Herndon** for helping to pack up the latest batch of bags. You can also bring any items up that you think would be helpful in putting bags together and place the items in the well.
- Our **Discovery Club Wednesday night program** for our elementary age kids is done for the year. We will kick it back off the first week in September. Huge thanks to **Dianna and Ed Prout** for overseeing the program this school year. Also big thanks to **Stephanie Green** for helping out and **Claire Welch** for continuing to put the program material together each week. You did a fantastic job this year and we appreciate your ministry to our kids.
- **Methodism 101 continues on Wednesday Nights** at 6:30 p.m. The next three Wednesday nights will cover:
 - May 18 Theology and beliefs of United Methodists
 - May 25 Organization and Structure
 - June 1 Concerns and Future of our Denomination

Each Wednesday we will also have some time for questions. With the General Conference meeting in Oregon, we will have an opportunity to dialogue about what we hear from decisions there and how those decisions effect our local church.

- For up to date **news about GreenbrierFUMC** be sure and visit our website: www.greenbrierfumc.org, which is updated each Monday. The calendar of events is the best place to go to get meeting days and times. If you have a change in date for a meeting or need something added to the online calendar be sure and email me with the information at lyonk@aol.com.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, June 12-16 – Vacation Bible School

Grab your surfboard and head to the beach to Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love at Surf Shack 2016 VBS! Kids get 'amped' to learn God Creates, Helps, Loves, Calms, and Sends. On this ride, kids Remember that the Lord is great and awesome! (Nehemiah 4:14) Bring your kids and invite friends, neighbors and everyone you see to join us for this exciting week!

Sunday, July 31 – Fifth Sunday Potluck

We haven't had a fifth Sunday Potluck in a while...so we are giving you plenty of notice. We will have Sunday School at 10:00am ... One Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. and then a huge POTLUCK at noon. This is a great way for both services to get together and get to know each other better. So put the date on your calendar and start thinking about what you want to bring.

Coming in August 24 Hour Prayer Vigil

Vacation Bible School



JUNE 12-16