

GreenbrierFUMC

focus

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GREENBRIERFUMC
SEPTEMBER 2016

40/40 CAMPAIGN IN FULL SWING

*Help us make much needed renovations to the lobby area and restrooms,
air-condition our fellowship hall & pay back our endowment in 40 days!*

Our church is in the middle of a 40 day campaign to raise \$40,000 to totally renovate the lobby area of our church. I hope you have taken some time to look at the display on the bulletin board in the lobby area which has information on the proposed upgrades. The work will include a new vinyl wood flooring that will give us the beautiful visual of wood with the easy maintenance and water resistance of vinyl replacing all of the carpet and into the bathrooms, new wood baseboards and a raised nine foot drywall ceiling with new lighting to brighten the entrance and hallways. The project includes new taller doors for the outside and the sanctuary to allow a clearer view of our beautiful stain glass window as you enter the lobby. There will also be a sitting area on the left side by the coffee area to add some additional space for gathering and visiting before the service. The restrooms will also be completely redone with new flooring, toilets, cabinets, sinks and countertops. These improvements will certainly make our church more inviting and comfortable for visitors and members alike.

In addition to these renovations the 40/40 Campaign will also fund \$8,000 for a new heating and cooling unit for the south end of the fellowship hall which is no longer functioning and also repay our Endowment fund which we borrowed against to fund the new parking lot. Those three projects together bring us to our needed \$40,000.

The Finance Committee believes we can raise this \$40,000 in just 40 days and begin the work in October and have it completed before Advent season begins. The Campaign runs from August 21 - September 30th. Initially we were hoping to find 40 families to give \$1000 during this period but we wanted everyone to have an opportunity to give to this campaign at whatever level God was calling them to participate. Be praying about what God wants you to do to make this a reality. Pledge cards are available at the Welcome Center and they can be placed in the offering plate or you can make your gift and simply mark it "40/40 Campaign" so that it can be directed to the campaign. This is a gift over and above what you normally give to the Operating Budget. The 40 day campaign ends on September 30th. **After two Sundays and 14 days we have pledged \$15, 207.00 to the 40/40 Campaign...** That's a great start but we still have a ways to go over the next 25 days to make it a reality! Be praying about how God can challenge you over the next 40 days.

Church Events

- Sept 4th – Revelation Series Continues ! @ 9:00 & 11:00 am
- Sept. 7th – Choir Practice @ 5:30 pm
Discovery Club begins – **ELEVATE !** @ 6:30 pm
Youth @ 6:30 pm
Adult Bible Study @ 6:30 pm
UMW Quarterly Meeting @ 6:30
- Sept. 11th - Revelation Series Continues ! @ 9:00 & 11:00 am
- Sept. 14th – Choir Practice @ 5:30 pm
Discovery Club – **ELEVATE** @ 6:30 pm
Youth @ 6:30 pm
Adult Bible Study @ 6:30 pm
- Sept. 17th – Men's Breakfast @ 7:30 am

Long Range Planning Update

Work to be completed by November!

The Long Range Planning Committee is going to invite each member of the congregation to share at least one Big Hair Audacious Goal with us. Keep that in mind and watch for an announcement of the date and time. We met each Sunday in August and have a solid draft of the document that we will present to the Administrative Council. We will spend September meetings working on timelines, meeting with some individuals in church leadership roles, and refining the document. Our plan is to

submit the five year plan to Administrative Council at their October meeting. We deeply appreciate the ideas that we received from the open meeting held previously and from our conversations with many of you. We continue to invite your ideas about goals; please talk to one of the committee members soon if you have something you want to share. We want to make sure the document reflects our best thinking and what you have shared with us.

Flood Relief

How to Help - Louisiana is currently inundated with teams wanting to help with flood recovery, but needs are still being assessed. Arkansas' own disaster response co-coordinators will participate in that process. For now, though, the best way to help our neighbors to the south is to send money through the United Methodist Committee on Relief, www.umcor.org (choose "U.S. Disaster Response").

Another option is to assemble cleaning buckets to replenish the supply sent to the Baton Rouge area; visit <http://www.umcor.org/umcor/relief-supplies> for assembly instructions.

REVELATION SERIES CONTINUES

September 4 – "Completely Worth It!"

September 11 - "Handling Chaos"

September 18 – "The Wrath & Judgment Texts"

September 25 – "Knowing Your Enemies"

Consider Joining the Choir

If you have ever thought about joining the choir, this is the perfect time. The 9:00 a.m. worship choir is gearing back up for the fall and will begin preparing for the Advent and Christmas services. They practice at 5:30 p.m., on Wednesday evenings. If you love Christmas music then come join the choir this fall. If you have any questions just ask Heather Rose.

John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so that in me you might have peace. In this world you will have trouble, but take heart, I have overcome the world."

Want to be part of our Volunteer Lawn Mowing Team?

The Trustees are looking for some volunteers to maintain our yard. We have a riding lawn mower and will give anyone who would love to be part of our team some instruction on using it. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary. If you can help out, pick a week or two or three to help us get through the fall mowing season. If you have any questions talk to John Welch or the pastor.

Thanks to Bill Yount for his work mowing and maintaining the yard over the past couple years! Bill can also give you an excellent run down on our riding mower.

Financial News

With all the excitement about the proposed renovations and the 40/40 Campaign to raise the necessary funds, please don't forget the Operating Budget and the needs to fund the general ongoing needs and ministry of the church. The 40/40 Campaign is designed to be giving that is over and above what we normally give to the operating budget. As our church continues to grow the expenses of our church grow as well. So we appreciate your faithfulness in giving to a God who has blessed us so richly.

Here is where we stand at the end of August:

OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2016	\$193,796.00
NEEDED TO DATE	\$130,439.62
GIVING AS OF AUGUST 7, 2016	\$122,883.65
DEFICIT TO DATE	-\$7,555.97

We are also getting excitingly close to paying off the new parsonage. As of the first of September we owe \$460 which will be paid the first of October and then we will have the parsonage paid in full! Great work church!

Over \$15,000 of the needed \$40,000 has been pledged the first two Sundays of our 40/40 Campaign. We are excited about the possibilities of making some much needed repairs and renovations to our church facility. Keep the ball rolling!

Youth News

Youth gears back up on Sunday and Wednesday evenings! Come join us!



Our youth finished up the summer strong with a slip and slide kickball game with Vilonia UMC youth on Sunday, August 21st on our front yard and then played a little nine square to dry off. It was a great evening. Thanks to all who helped with the food, fun, and fellowship. Next Wednesday we will start our Wednesday night bible studies, also, we will have the supplies ready for any senior youth that didn't get to make a cross for our cross wall a couple of weeks ago.

We have a couple of Wednesday nights that we need help with the Jr. Youth group, September 21 and October 19, Ashley won't be able to be there so if you can help with this, let me know ASAP. I can get you any information you need. If we don't get anyone to volunteer, we may just not have Jr youth meeting that night. It would be hard for them to join Sr. youth halfway through a study.

Leadership news

We had a very productive retreat last weekend. We will be doing some monthly missions around the church, prayer boxes will be added to both rooms and lots of other ideas that you will hear more about soon. We have a new Instagram page and twitter account that we would love for you to check out. You can follow our group on Instagram and twitter @gfumcyouth412. There isn't a lot out there just yet but there will be soon! We will continue to have our meetings on the same day as the DCYM meetings after youth from 6-7 PM. It makes for a long weekend for the CCYM kids and myself but we get it all done in one weekend. The only Sunday that this won't happen is September 18 as we will be hosting St. Paul UMC Youth for some fellowship and worship.

St. Paul UMC youth is coming to visit!

Jared is bringing his youth group over on September 18, 2016 from 5-7. We will have some fellowship with them and Gary Harlan is going to lead worship for us that evening. We will also be feeding the kids that night. If you can help with that, please let me know and we will start working on a menu and get a sign up list going for food.

Refuge

Refuge is coming in November for all youth 6-9 grade. The price for our youth is \$85 and \$135 for friends who would like to attend. We are going to attend as a group on the second weekend, November 11-13. That way, the youth that are in the band and also of age for Refuge can focus on being the band the first weekend and work out all the kinks so they can enjoy their Refuge the second weekend. I will have the medical forms and SOTO waivers available on the table in the big youth room starting tomorrow. I HAVE to have these returned to me by September 15 with a deposit of \$40 in order for them to be registered. The remaining \$45 balance is due November 1. Don't let money be the reason your 6-9th grader can't go. Please talk to me if you need help with the \$85 by September 15 so I'll be sure to get them registered with the group.

Michelle K



Begins
Wednesday, September 7th

Journey Below the Earth

Calling all our elementary kids to come and join your pastor, Bro. Kevin, as he journeys below the earth for the next 8 weeks. Discovery Club is making a big change on Wednesday nights as we will be using ELEVATE Kids curriculum. The kids will find it engaging, exciting and fast moving. We will be journeying along with Kit Windswept and sidekick, Angus Fetchenpepper, to search for the lost treasure of the pirate Blue Boots. Along the way we will discover how to apply the real treasure, the Bible, to our own life.

Parents....please have your kids here at 6:30 p.m. We will meet in the Yahmas Sunday School Class in the north end of the church. We will also be sending family devotions home each week to help you spend some time reinforcing the truth that we have worked on that evening with your kids. I hope you will take advantage of this valuable time to build a spiritual connection with your kids.

If you haven't had your child as part of our Wednesday night program before, let me encourage you to make a commitment to these next eight weeks. We are serious about growing a strong children's ministry here at GreenbrierFUMC to help equip your kids to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

As always, if you would like to help with kids ministry, contact Dianna Prout, Stephanie Green, or Bro. Kevin. We are always looking for good volunteers who love kids.

And if you are looking for a place to hang out while your kids are in ELEVATE...try the Adult Bible Study led by Mitch Burgess. They are studying the first book of the Bible, Genesis..... a great place to start.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Bro. Kevin. But we hope you will have your kids here on Wednesday nights starting **September 7th** at 6:30 p.m. as we **Journey Below the Earth!**

