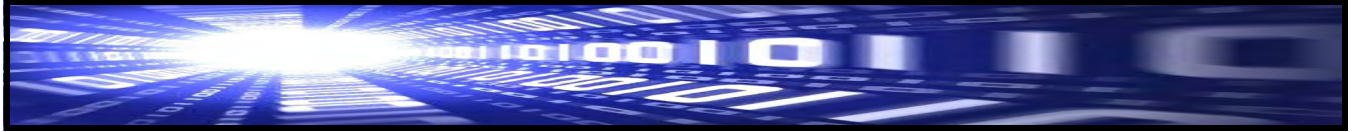


The Ram's Horn

February 2012

First United Methodist Church

Fairbanks, Alaska



DAVE'S DATA

Those of you who were in worship on January 15th heard my "State of the Church" address. I shared that the Church Council has voted to make 2012 a year for "Growing the Church!" We, as a church, will focus on ways to fulfill our Scriptural mandate of going out and making disciples of others. This means that we will learn together how to best take seriously our call to Christian discipleship and evangelism. This works hand-in-hand with the Church Council fulfilling their promise of evaluating the change in the Sunday schedule that went into effect last August.

I would like to thank those that have taken the time to fill out the survey that has been in the bulletin on Sunday morning's. If you have not been to worship recently there is a copy of the survey in this issue of the Ram's Horn. Please fill it out and send it to the church office. (Please make sure to sign it also.)

We want to hear from everyone! The more input we get, the better decision we will be able to make. We will never totally please everyone, but we sincerely do want to meet the needs of the majority of people at FUMC. We need your input to do that. We will also have a meeting or two where we will discuss this and you will have an opportunity to voice your opinion as we work on this together.

On a different note, I would like to run part of my "Dave's Data" from last September: If you would like a visit, please let me know. If you are sick or going to the hospital, please let me know. If you would like prayers for some reason, please let me know. If you have a concern or would just like to talk, please let me know. DO NOT feel like you don't want to "bother" me. It is my job and my privilege as your pastor---it is not a "bother"! The church office phone number is 452-2956. Our home phone is 374-6624 (If I am not there you can leave a message with Amie or on the machine.) My church email is: rev.davehorning@gmail.com. Our home email is: amdrhorn@aol.com.

Besides Sunday I am at the office on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday mornings and some afternoons (as well as for evening meetings). Some afternoons I am visiting, getting to know community leaders, or working at my office at home. Thursdays I usually work on my sermon at my home office. I am ALWAYS willing to meet at a time that is mutually convenient for both you and me. If you would like a visit or like to come by the office for a visit don't be afraid to call or email me for an appointment. If there is not an emergency or funeral, Friday is my day off and we look at that time as our Sabbath, our day of rest, as much as possible.

I guess what I am trying to say is that I am here to be your pastor. I am here to be your friend.

Shalom,
Rev. Dave

Staff Contact

Rev. Dave Horning, Pastor
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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**8:30 Traditional Service
Fellowship Time**

**9:45 Adult, Youth & Children's
Sunday School**

**11:00 Contemporary Service
Fellowship Time**

OUR COMPUTERS WERE RESCUED FROM THE DUMPSTER

REALLY! Several of our computers were rescued many years ago, and desperately need to be replaced. Our microphones don't work very well, and we dream of having a portable projector and laptop. So, let's eat some spaghetti and see what we can purchase!



Join us in Vesper Hall on

Sunday, Feb. 19th, immediately following the 11:00 service. Your donations will be used to purchase one or more of these items. See you there!



Ruth Circle will meet on February 2 at Suzanne's house. We will start at ten. The book this month is "Clara and Mr. Tiffany" A great historical novel. Our book leader is Rachel. If you have any questions please call Suzanne at 458-9272. Hope to see you there.



IS FUMC YOUR CHURCH HOME?

Would you like to become a member? We would love to have you officially join this group of close-knit folks who find this church to be the place to work on their faith journey. Rev. Dave would like to invite you to join him and others who are interested in joining, for an informal get-together in his office on Sunday, February 5th during the Sunday School hour (9:45 a.m.). It will be a time of getting better acquainted and an opportunity to ask questions you might have about United Methodism or about this particular church. And bring a friend if you would like!



IS THE NURSERY FOR YOU?

Leola and Brietta are more than just two folks who watch our young children during Sunday School and Worship. They are two amazing people with a wonderful relationship with God which they share with those who get to spend time with them on Sunday mornings. They tell Bible stories on the felt board, they sing songs about God, and they read books. They laugh, they hug, they draw, they play with play-dough. They are there for your children through the age of 4. And if you have a 5 year old who just needs to get the wiggles out in the middle of church, that would probably be fine, too. If you want your child to be with you for all of worship, that's great. If you need a place for them to get to play and be with other children, they are welcome to go to the nursery at any time during the morning. Godly Play is offered at 9:45 for our preschool aged children, taught by Wendy Anderson and Katie Baird, and is a wonderful opportunity for them to learn the stories of our faith. When Sunday School is over at 10:45, they can go to the nursery or enjoy part or all of worship with you. Questions? Please call Clarice in the church office.

PLAY GROUP

FUMC mom's play group can come to play at Gymnastics Inc. From 10:15-12:00. It will be on February 27th and March 19th. There is a limit of 20 children under 5. There is no charge. If you have any questions please call Loretta at 456-2263 or 378-5327.



One Option For Inviting New People to Church

There are many people in our community who need the emotional and spiritual healing that I believe only God can provide. But there are times when it seems awkward for me to invite them to church, because although I can see the indirect benefits for them, of being introduced to Jesus Christ in a loving fellowship, it's harder to see the direct and immediate benefit. I'm betting if we think about it, we all have friends or relatives that are facing real crises, who need some direct help. Physical help is easy to provide; making a meal, paying a bill, putting some gas in someone's tank, watching over their children for a time, delivering a load of firewood, budget counseling, or visiting shut-ins, are all pretty obvious ways to share Christ's love in practical and physical ways. But what about those people who need the spiritual help, who struggle with feelings of inadequacy, who suffer from depression, from chronic anger and mistrust because of hurts inflicted on them long ago, who suffer in damaged or destructive relationships, or who hide from their pain through over eating, over working, over drinking, or any of those other overs?

When your friend or loved one is experiencing these things, if they ever say anything like "I don't want to live like this any more." it's a wonderful time to invite them to Celebrate Recovery. It may be easier for them to accept this opportunity if you offer to come with them the first time. Bring them to dinner, enjoy the large group meeting, send them off to the appropriate sharing group, and go home and pray for them. At Celebrate Recovery we offer hope. We offer evidence of the healing power of Jesus Christ working in the lives of those who participate. If they don't say those magic words, invite them anyway. They may be closer to being ready to hear the good news than you know. We offer unconditional love and acceptance, we offer forgiveness and grace, we offer privacy and discretion except when harm is threatened, we offer a step by step practical approach to finding a closer walk with God, a walk that brings wholeness, peace, and joy. And by the way, while they are at Celebrate Recovery, we WILL invite them to church as well! At Celebrate Recovery, as part of the ministries of First United Methodist Church, we invite them to participate in opportunities like Sunday worship, the Small Group Ministry, Messy Church, and other church events.

Although most people come to us because of nagging emotional and spiritual pain, everyone can benefit from this journey; our spiritual journeys are never over in this life. All are welcome. Please invite your friends and family members who are hurting. This is one way to fulfill our mission statement; **"sharing the life-changing power of Jesus Christ so all can experience God's love."**

If you or your friend or family member is interested in Celebrate Recovery, but you still feel uncomfortable admitting it to anyone, you could start by offering to help in the kitchen on any Saturday, and furtively check it out, to see if you want to dip a toe in this holy water! You don't have to share your motivations, just have fun pitching in to help with a dinner party! Child care is provided during the large group and small group meetings, and children are welcome at dinner.

If you have questions about this ministry, please contact Liz or Dave Gerdes, or Patti Gallagher, or email us at fumcelebraterecovery@gmail.com.



RAINBOW TOWN IS COMING!

Here we go! Our youth group, Sprouts, and God have something ELSE amazing coming your way. Rainbow Town is an orphanage in Liberia, with an amazing story. You will get to meet some of the children, as well as adults who are hard at work making a difference. Mark your calendar now:

Saturday, March 24th, 6pm – Screening of Rainbow Town at the Pioneer Park Theatre
Sunday, March 25th – our Sprouts will educate you and give you an opportunity to make a donation that will help send the children of Rainbow Town to college in Liberia.

Learn more at www.rainbowtown.org.

FUMC QUESTIONNAIRE/SURVEY

Please mark any or all categories that best apply to the needs of your family and/or yourself:

- I prefer the new schedule of worship and Sunday School.
- I would prefer to go back to the schedule we had before change in August.
- I would like to see 3 services again, but keep Sunday School at only the 9:45 hour.
- I like worshipping as a family with our kids in worship for the entire service.
- I would prefer worshipping while my kids are in Sunday School.
- I would prefer an even different schedule. Please specify:

- I/we prefer the Traditional service.
- I/we prefer the Contemporary Service.
- I/we would come to church more often if the Traditional Service was later.
- I/we would come to church more often if the Contemporary Service was earlier.

I would like to offer the following comments and/or suggestions for consideration: _____

Name _____
Email Address _____
Phone Number _____

WORSHIP/EDUCATION SCHEDULE UNDER REVIEW


It has been six months since our new pastor arrived and we began our new worship schedule of two services: 8:30 Traditional and 11:00 Contemporary and one Sunday School hour at 9:45. As promised, the Church Council has begun our review of the schedule. To assist us in making an informed decision, we need your help. There will be a short survey in the bulletins on Sunday that will help in this endeavor. Also, there will be a couple of meetings/discussions scheduled between now and the Church Council Meeting on February 21st. We will use the survey information as well as the data of our participation in church services, data for participation in a single school hour, along with our mission statement, and prayer to help lead our decision-making process. So please, fill out the survey; share your thoughts; come to the discussions; and keep this important decision in your prayers. We would like input from everyone so that we can make the best decision and meet the needs of our congregation.

I won't leave the burrow.
See the weather forecast
on my Facebook page.



FEBRUARY 2012



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 4:00-SPROUTS!! 5:30-Choir Rehearsal 6:00-Crazy Love	2 Happy Marmot Day!! 10:00-Ruth Circle	3 Memorial Service for Bob Burud 2p.m.	4 10:00-Praise Band Rehearsal 11:45-Drama Team 6:30 Celebrate Recovery
5 "SOUPER" BOWL !! 12:00-Youth Choir 2:00-IMAGE	6 9:00-Craft Group 4:00-Study of Paul's Letters 6:00-DISCIPLE Bible Study 7:00-Methodist Roots 7:00-Study of Exodus	7 6:30-Missions Team 7:00-Tamar Circle at The Bakery	8 4:00-Sprouts 5:30-Choir Rehearsal 6:00-Crazy Love	9 7:00-Men's Breakfast at The Bakery	10 6:00p.m.-Parent's Night Out	11 10:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 11:45-Drama Team 6:30 Celebrate Recovery
12 12:00Youth Choir 2:00- IMAGE 6:00-Youth Group	13 9:00-Craft Group 4:00-Study of Paul's Letters 6:00-DISCIPLE Bible Study 7:00-Methodist Roots 7:00-Study of Exodus	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 6:30-Building Committee	15 4:00-Sprouts 5:30-Choir Rehearsal 6:00-Crazy Love 7:00-Evening UMW	16 1:00-UMW	17 3:00p.m.-UFO'S	18 10:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 11:00-Messy Church 11:45-Drama Team 6:30 Celebrate Recovery
19 Blood Pressure Sunday 12:00-SPAGHETTI LUNCH 12:00-Youth Choir 2:00- IMAGE 6:00-Young @ Heart	20 9:00-Craft Group 4:00-Study of Paul's Letters 6:00-DISCIPLE Bible Study 7:00-Methodist Roots 7:00-Study of Exodus	21 4:30-Finance Meeting 7:00-Church Council	22 4:00-Sprouts 5:30- Choir Rehearsal 6:00-Crazy Love	23	24	25 10:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 11:45-Drama Team 6:30 Celebrate Recovery
26 2:00-IMAGE 6:00-Youth Group	27 9:00-Craft Group 4:00-Study of Paul's Letters 6:00-DISCIPLE Bible Study 7:00-Methodist Roots 7:00-Study of Exodus	28 5:30-Bell Choir 6:00-Trustee Meeting 6:30-Human Resource	29 4:00-Sprouts 5:30- Choir Rehearsal 6:00-Crazy Love			

Movie Premiere right here at FUMC!!!!

For anyone with small children, Best Beginnings of Alaska is premiering a new movie across the state all about young children and how they learn. FUMC is hosting one of these movie premieres right here in the church lounge on Thursday, March 1. Join us for a light meal at 5:30 if you can and watch the short film with us at 6pm. We'll do an activity together to help your little one learn the most in his or her earliest years and find out what parents, family and loved ones can do to best help Alaska's children thrive and grow.

The first 15 families with children under the age of 2 to RSVP for the event will take home a copy of the movie as well as two free Baby Board books, "Our Alaska Family" and "Let's Talk Alaska!" All families with young children or even older children are welcome to join us. For more information and to RSVP, call Candace Crews at 374-0504. If you don't manage to RSVP, join us anyway the night of the event for all the fun.



United
Methodist
Women

United Methodist Women

will be meeting February 16 in the Lounge at 1:00 pm. Please join us for a surprise speaker and lively discussion. Remember to bring your blue boxes with your World Thank Offering. Everyone is welcome. If you have questions, call Carol Moore 374-1697.

Tamar Circle

is meeting on Tuesday the 7th of February at 7 pm at The Bakery. February's book is *Breakfast at Sally's* by Richard Le Mieux.

Cheers,
Darlene



SPROUTS STARTS NOW!!!

If you are a 4th, 5th, or 6th grader, Sprouts is for you.

We'll begin this Wednesday at 4:00pm right here at church. We'll have a snack together, talk about Acts of Kindness, Worship, and

Devotion, play some games, and begin our work on Rainbow Town. What IS Rainbow Town... come and see! Sprouts is a group that requires your weekly commitment. Questions? Call Clarice in the church office! March 28th will be our final meeting. See you Wednesday!

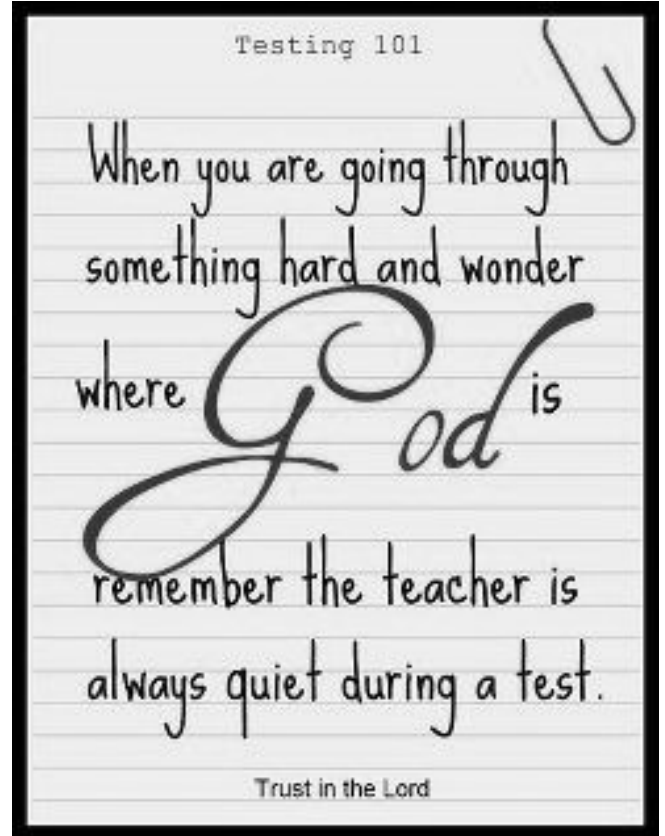


Jacob was a cheater, Peter had a temper,
David had an affair, Noah got drunk, Jonah
ran from God, Paul was a murderer, Gideon
was insecure, Miriam was a gossiper, Martha
was a worrier, Thomas was a doubter, Sarah
was impatient, Elijah was depressed, Moses
stuttered, Zaccheus was short, Abraham was
old, and Lazarus was dead... .

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies
the CALLED!

Happy Birthdays in January

Lara Bonnell	2
Laurie Hynson	2
Kristina Baldwin Rush	2
Opal Baldwin	3
Carter Henry	3
Ken Krieg	6
Austin Herrington	7
Ian Herrington	7
Brian Swift	7
Shauna Gloria	8
Brit Garrett	9
Joshua Job	10
Chris Keyes	10
Rachel Adkins	12
Ida Burud	14
Nita Fisher	14
Samantha Kincheloe	14
Bonnie Bruhn	15
Lara Johnson	15
Claudia Fisher	16
Della Tyler	16
Jay Ilgenfritz	19
Tamsen Coursey	20
Sandi Chase	21
Diane Coursey	21
Paul Fisher	21
Jim Gower	21
Barbara Krieg	21
Millie Peek	23
Sophie Henry	24
Carly Pilon	24
Ben Prax	24
Miranda Reynolds	24
Roscoe Beadles	26
Nilda Holyfield	26
Francis McLaughlin	26
Charlotte Prax	26
Francis Lupton	27
Claire Murphy	



“COME & SEE!” ~ IT WORKS!!!!

Last Saturday's Messy Church event was the best attended Messy Church we have ever had! There were 94 people who came for many types of crafts---all infused with the message of God's creation; worship; and lunch. THIS IS ABOUT DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN TO OTHER MESSY CHURCH EVENTS! The reason for that???? It is because so many people have taken Rev. Dave's challenge to spread the word about our church and its' ministries through actively inviting others to "COME & SEE" what is going on in the name of the Lord! It works!

Keep up the good work, and invite others to come to worship and other events. We can surely grow this church for the glory of the Lord!



For more great pictures, of Messy Church, check out the website!!

Check out Rev. Dave's page and the Calendar!!

The Ram's Horn is a monthly newsletter published for the members and friends of First United Methodist Church. Send correspondence and address changes to 915 2nd Ave, Fairbanks, AK 99701; call 907-452-2956 or email to office@fairbanksfirst.org

The Ram's Horn

First United Methodist Church

"Sharing the life changing power of Jesus Christ so all can experience God's love."

915 Second Ave
Fairbanks, AK. 99701

YOUTH 2012

Sunday, Feb 5 – If you are part of the Rainbow Town Planning Team, we'll meet today at noon in the Lounge. We need to plan a few items for next weeks event! We'll be done about 1:00pm. NO YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT, enjoy the Super Bowl commercials!

Sunday, Feb 12 – We've invited several members to join us tonight for a pre-screening of Rainbow Town, 6-7:30pm in the Sanctuary. Some of us will watch it with them, some of us will play with any children that will be here. Come ready to share your excitement about this project!

Saturday, Feb 18 – Messy Church is today, 11:00-1pm. We'd love to have your help, just let Clarice know!

Sunday, Feb 19 – As many of you know, we need a few pieces of equipment like working microphones, new computers, a portable projector, etc. So today there will be a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to purchase a few of these items. As a youth group we are spectacular in the kitchen, so we'll use our talents today to help with this event. Check your youth calendar for specifics! NO YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT.

Sunday, Feb 26 – All youth who have not been confirmed and are interested in joining the church are invited to bring their parents and join Rev Dave for pizza and fun and explanations in Vesper Hall tonight, 6-7:30pm.