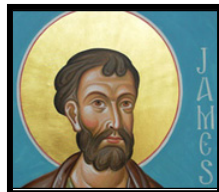


**Ann Orr Bible Study Group**



Join us for a short-term study on the book of James.

Sundays, June 21—July 26  
4:00 p.m. Sunday in Room 14

Contact Carol Bailey at 269-0192  
Everyone is invited!

**Summer Programs for Kids...**

Summer is upon us and we have exciting programs for our kids!



Are you interested in a short-term, summer volunteer commitment in Preschool or Children's Ministries? Do you want to make a difference in the spiritual lives of our children? We need YOU to volunteer to teach this summer, downtown, while we give our teachers some well-deserved time off. If interested, please contact Karen Olive, 219-1534, or Kathryn Mullins, 576-9132. **Super Summer Sunday School** starts June 14, downtown. Three, four and five year olds will meet in rooms 201-203. K-5th grade will meet in rooms 208-209. Please sign your kids "in" and "out" of Sunday School each week.

Summer **KidsWorship** starts June 7, downtown. Three, four and five year olds will dismiss from the service to room 104. K-2nd grade will dismiss from the service to room 206. We look forward to spending time with you and your children this summer!

**BLOOD DRIVE!**  
MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
Sunday, July 26.

**God's Table... Feeding the Homeless**

Please join us for our next God's Table on Tuesday, June 16, at 6 p.m. Come early (between 5:15 and 5:30 p.m.) and bring a dish to share. As our busy summer months are upon us, please remember that many of us are on vacation, having babies, etc., so if you can come, please do!

Call Kelly Svec, 277-6437 or kabone30@yahoo.com or call 221-9560 if you arrive late to church and the doors are locked.

**Important Request:**

Currently, we have four people getting our fried chicken to church. This job entails ordering, picking up, paying (you will be reimbursed) and delivering the chicken in a timely manner. If you would like to help God's Table in this way, please let me (Kelly) know. The more there are of us, the fewer times we have to do it each year!

**The Methodist Home for Children and Youth ANNUAL DAY, Saturday, September 12**

Donate items by mid-August for silent and live auctions! Ideas are: themed baskets, sports equipment, furniture, quilts and afghans, etc.

Call Beth Fritz, 233-0089 for details. Thank you.

**Visit us on the Web!**



Most of our ministry and mission information is now on our web site at [www.1stumc.org](http://www.1stumc.org).

Make us your "home page" so the First Church web site opens each time you log on to the Internet!



**Sunday, June 14**  
11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary  
**Sunday, June 21**  
11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary



**Sunday, June 14**  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary  
Sermon: Supper and Supplications, Acts 2:42-47  
11:00 a.m., Offerings Worship Service  
**Sunday, June 21**  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Worship Service, Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m., Offerings Worship Service

**Two Locations. One Firm Foundation.**

**First United Methodist Church**  
200 West High Street  
Lexington, KY 40507

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

[www.1stumc.org](http://www.1stumc.org)

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**Volume 39      Number 80      June 10, 2009**

**Follow!  
Worship!  
Live through Him!**



As you are reading this edition of the Circuit Rider, we will have just completed our 2009 Vacation Bible School, which began on Sunday evening, June 7, and concluded on June 11.

Nearly 140 children ages three through fifth grade and 90 volunteers joined together in a sea of sunshine yellow and olive green shirts to share meals, learn from Bible stories, play hard, create masterpiece crafts, and worship the Lord each night with singing! They learned that no matter where they go or what they do in life--*it all comes back to Jesus!*

Did you know that every 15 seconds, a child dies because of unsafe drinking water and poor sanitation and hygiene? . . . that 80% of all sickness in the world is attributable to unsafe water and sanitation? This week's Mission focus and project for our Vacation Bible School children was to provide safe drinking water for a poverty-ridden orphanage in Kenya (130 children.) This newly discovered "filtration" system will convert 55 gallons of pure water per minute from an extremely polluted pond running on a car battery and salt. This system, which will also supply clean and nourishing drinking water to the entire village of 10,000 costs only \$1000. The children have been energetic and have contributed money for this project. If you would like to help us, bring your contribution on Sunday and we will announce our results!

Join us this Sunday, June 14, as our children share through song the message of God's love for all of us.

*"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him." 1 John 4:9 NIV*

## PAUL'S PERSPECTIVE...

by Rev. J. Paul Brunstetter, Senior Pastor

First United Methodist was well represented at our Annual Conference held this past week in Northern Kentucky. Our own Bishop Lindsey Davis conducted the sessions systematically, fairly, but most importantly, in a Spirit-filled way. Both his leadership and experience were evident and deeply appreciated. I, for one, most assuredly was challenged frequently and came away with a renewed appreciation for how God is at work in our midst.

The ordination service on Wednesday evening was a highlight. I was moved by the number of our congregation in attendance for Todd's ordination. You as a church have a wonderful way of showing support for your pastors, and Todd and I both are deeply grateful. May I parenthetically say you have in Todd Nelson one of the finest and strongest ministers in the conference with a wonderful future in ministry before him. Several have asked exactly what does Todd's Ordination as Elder in full connection mean? One father was trying to explain to his son who asked, "Does this mean Todd gets to preach as long as Paul does?" (Don't you just love kids?!). Let me give you my brief discourse for your understanding, as I myself was moved to remember this covenant to which I am committed...

As Christians, we are all called into ministry and gifted by the Holy Spirit for service in the kingdom. The ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, called to be a servant leader and chief administrator of the local

church, is to give evidence of preaching, teaching, and service. The ordained elder enters into a special covenant with the church and annual conference. The elder commits to a life of unquestionable moral character and genuine piety, to grow sound in the fundamental doctrines of the Church, and be willing to "go where sent". (All clergy members of the annual conference are accountable to these disciplines throughout their entire ministry.) The Conference guarantees a lifetime appointment to serve. With this premise, one can see why United Methodists take seriously this ordination process. After a very intensive period of provisional (probationary) candidacy (including a formal, 3-year post-college Master of Divinity degree and a minimum of two years in full-time service with thorough evaluation on the local, district, and conference levels), elders are authorized to preach and teach the Word of God, to provide pastoral care and counsel, to administer the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion, and to order the life of the Church for service in mission and ministry.

In answering my calling, I remember struggling with the question of "who am I to stand before people and point them to God?" It seemed to be so pompous of me to think I was so qualified to be a mediator between people and God . . . until I realized it wasn't about me, but about the One to whom I was pointing. I, too, am in need of God's grace. My calling is simply to be faithful and point to Him!!

### Adult Sunday School Classes, Downtown

Bart Peak Class.....Slaton Chapel  
BLT.....room 2  
Contemporary Issues.....323 S. Upper  
Cornerstone.....room 107  
Fellowship of Believers. ....room 110  
Forum.....room 13  
Grand Sweep.....Old Parsonage  
Murphy's Bible Study.....Old Parsonage  
Open Door/Prospects Unlimited...W Chapel  
Prospects Unlimited. ....West Chapel  
Rays of Light. ....room 11  
Seekers .....room 1  
Young Adults/College.....Old Parsonage  
Friendship. ....Andover  
Sentinels. ....Andover  
Unplugged .....Andover

For more information about Sunday School classes, visit [www.1stumc.org](http://www.1stumc.org), and click on Sunday School

### Open Door and Prospects Unlimited Sunday School Classes

are studying the Psalms together. Join us! 9:50 a.m., downtown, in West Chapel  
Led by Bill Arnold  
and Ben Witherington

### Forum Sunday School Class

We would like to invite you to join us for a new study, "misGuiding Lights?," edited by Stephen Miller. This book is a compassionate, revealing look at cults and major world religions.

The study begins Sunday, June 7, at 9:50 a.m. in room 13, downtown. Books will be provided.

### Grand Sweep Sunday School Class

"Speaking in the Name of the Lord"

Daniel through Malachi: A Summer Study of the Prophets  
June 14 - September 6

Led by: Marsha Berry  
Old Parsonage, Second Floor, Downtown

Bring your Bible and join us!

### Mission Opportunities

Pick up a booklet in the gathering hall, downtown, and at the welcoming table in the sanctuary at Andover., about our mission partners and explore serving opportunities or visit [www.1stumc.org](http://www.1stumc.org) and click on Missions.

Other questions about First Church in mission? Contact Teddy Ray, 233-0545.

Compassion Weekend 2009

Saturday, July 18!

Last spring, we had our first Compassion Weekend and sent over 300 volunteers into our community, working at nearly every local missions partner of the church. We hope to send out at least as many this year.

This weekend is a great opportunity for you to have a first experience with many of our local partners and for our congregation to have a significant one-day impact across the city.

Please mark your calendars and plan to participate on July 18.

Sign-ups will be available at both church campuses and online beginning June 28.

### Thank You Church Family,

I want to thank my church family for the wonderful reception on the 24th of May. A special thanks to Judy Calvert, Cindy Dominick, Jackie Bondurant, Joyce McKinney, and as always, Dorothea Oatts for the lovely flowers.

The many emails, calls, and cards were wonderful and I will enjoy rereading them.

Warm Blessings to you all,  
Linda Svec

### Note of Gratitude,

On behalf of the Green family, we would like to extend our gratitude to all our fellow church members in their expressions of sympathy following the death of my father.

In the few times, Dad visited First Church, he would come away saying what a special church he thought it was. We can now say he was absolutely right.

Whether it was prayers during my dad's illness, sympathy cards after his passing, memorial contributions, or a few spoken words of encouragement, we have been strengthened by your outpouring of Christian love.

We especially wish to thank Marsha Berry and Reverend Brunstetter for their comforting words and prayers immediately after my father's death.

Our First Church family has always been and will continue to be a blessing in the difficult days ahead.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation, Michael, Sheila, and the family of Wilbur Green

First Church is a  
**STEPHEN MINISTRY**  
  
Congregation.

### Endowment Corner...

To date, the Endowment Foundation has distributed over \$280,426 to the church.



### Sympathy to...

Steve and Angie O'Malley and family on the death of his mother, Mary O'Malley, on Saturday, June 6, 2009.

### In Memory of...

Asa "Nick" Thompson by

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Asbury  
Dr. & Mrs. W.L. Boswell  
David Bratcher  
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Case  
Hildreth Connell  
Daniel & Judy Farmer  
Earl & Doris Ford  
Dr. & Mrs. James C. Mack  
Mr. & Mrs. Don Maxwell  
Mr. & Mrs. David Muse  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Nally  
John & Nancy Pratt  
Calvert Roszell  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Syers  
Rev. John Howard Williams

### Dear Church Family,

We don't have words that are adequate to thank all of you for the support, concern, and love that you have shown us during Nick's hospitalizations and death.

We are grateful for your prayers, cards, visits, flowers, food and contributions to the church and the Methodist Home. Nick loved his First Church family and we have certainly felt that same love coming back to us by your words of admiration for him and expressions of peace and comfort for us.

Love,  
Ginny Thompson and family