

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# *The Messenger*

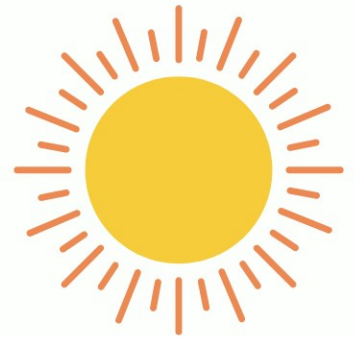
MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

## *May*

*May is the month  
of sunshine and flowers,  
birds in their nests,  
and one or two showers.*

*Games to play and kites to fly  
or just looking at the sky.*

*We could spend a year this way  
if the year were made of May.*



# The Pastor's Pen

May Newsletter  
FUMC 2024

Happy May to my friends of First United Methodist Church of El Dorado. It's a busy time, but even amongst the busyness, we see God at work. Beyond the work here locally, as many know, over the past two weeks, over 800 delegates and representatives from around the world have been meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, for the 2020 postponed General Conference. I will share briefly about this in a moment, but right now, I want to focus on what's going on THIS week here in El Dorado.

As many know and have heard for some time, Rev. Dr. Michael Adam Beck will be with us on May 4th and 5th for a time of learning, worship, and sharing. I hope every person who is able will make an effort to attend this event. There will be a time of learning on Saturday, and then, on Sunday, we will gather for worship, hear a word of inspiration from Michael, and then gather around the table for lunch. Sunday evening, we will gather at 5:30 pm to hear more about Michael, his life and faith journey, and how they have inspired him to be the person he is today.

I know there are many things going on in town this weekend, but I do hope you will make time to join us and invite your friends. As I said this past Sunday, this event is just one of the keys for us as we seek to reach new people, in new ways, for Christ in our community. So, I hope you will make every effort to attend at least part, if not all, of this weekend's events.

In other UMC events, as I said, the General Conference is well underway right now in Charlotte, North Carolina. Much work has been done, but much still has not been completed. Not all of the work will be completed even after their time is finished. One of the significant petitions that is in process is in regards to a proposal to move towards regionalization. This is a very complex and complicated matter that will require further work due to its nature of being a change to our constitution. Anytime the General Conference recommends a change to our constitution, it must be passed by a 2/3rds majority of ALL annual conferences. This item will not be voted upon until 2025 due to timing.

Once General Conference concludes, I will take some time to digest all the information and share it with you. I deeply appreciate your patience and understanding during this process. I also want to express my gratitude for your continued prayers for the General Conference and our upcoming event this weekend. Your support is invaluable to us.

Blessings for the Journey

Rev. Allen Crum



Join us  
 Tuesday, May 14 for  
*Acoustic Café*  
 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall  
 Bring a friend and enjoy music,  
 fellowship, and snacks!



Start your Wednesday mornings off right by joining Pastor Allen for *Coffee with the Pastor* at PJ's. From 8 a.m. - 9 a.m., you can sip on your favorite brew while engaging in meaningful conversations and connecting with others.



United  
 Women  
 in Faith

Join United Women in Faith  
 Sunday, May 12 at 2:00 p.m.  
 in the Fellowship Hall.  
 All women are welcome!



The 10:50 a.m.  
 Sanctuary worship  
 service is broadcast  
 on KAGL 93.3 FM  
 and live-streamed  
 on Facebook!

# May 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 2024

## The Bob & Candi Nolan Speaking Series with Michael Beck

Can churches in the 21st century stop, reverse, or prevent decline - and even become healthy, thriving congregations? Leading scholar and practitioner of congregational renewal, Michael Adam Beck, says they can. But the old cookie cutter ways of doing church won't cut it in today's world. If churches are going to stop the shocking rates of pastoral burnout and exodus from the pews, they must learn to be the church with new people, in new places, and in new ways.

Rev. Dr. Michael currently serves as the co-pastor of Wildwood United Methodist Church (UMC), St. Mark's UMC, and Compassion UMC with his wife, Jill, where they direct addiction recovery programs, a jail ministry, a food pantry, an interracial unity movement, and house a faith-based inpatient treatment center. Wildwood and St. Mark's are traditional congregations AND a network of thirteen fresh expressions that gather in tattoo parlors, dog parks, salons, running tracks, community centers, burrito joints, and digital spaces.



As an active ministry practitioner, he has started and developed business and planted missional communities most of his life. Michael has done this for over a decade while pastoring in the local church. His coaching and consulting work are not theoretical only, but experiential. He believes in maintaining a practitioner's ethos: "I eat my own cooking and share experimental recipes."

Rev. Beck will be the guest speaker for The Bob & Candi Nolan Speaking Series at El Dorado First United Methodist Church on May 4 and 5. He will present a workshop on "Five Congregational Types: An Ancient Pathway for Congregational Renewal in the 21st Century" on Saturday, May 4, from 10 AM to 4 PM in the Hanna Building (304 S. Jackson Ave.) Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to the church office at (870) 862-1341 if you would like to attend. All denominations are invited for this important presentation.

Sunday, May 5, Rev. Beck will preach at the 10:50 AM sanctuary service and will share his testimony at 5:30 PM that evening, also in the sanctuary (201 S. Hill Ave.) Call the church office for more information or view the church Facebook page.

- ◆ May 4 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Hanna Building
- ◆ May 5 | 10:50 a.m.  
Sanctuary Service  
5:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary

# Classes of 2024!

## LOCAL GRADUATION DATES & TIMES

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST KINDERGARTEN

3K: TUES. MAY 14TH | 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

4K: THURS. MAY 16TH | 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM



### EL DORADO HIGH SCHOOL

MON. MAY 20 | 8 PM

### JUNCTION CITY HIGH SCHOOL

TUES. MAY 14 | 7 PM

### LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY IN RUSTON, LA\*

SAT. MAY 25 | 9:30 AM & 2:30 PM



### PARKERS CHAPEL HIGH SCHOOL

TUES. MAY 14 | 7 PM

### SMACKOVER-NORPHLET HIGH SCHOOL

MON. MAY 20 | 8 PM



### SOUTH ARKANSAS COLLEGE

THURS. MAY 16 | 6:30 PM

### SOUTH ARKANSAS UNIVERSITY IN MAGNOLIA, AR\*

FRI. MAY 10 | 10 AM, 1 PM, & 3 PM

& SAT. MAY 11 | 9 AM & 11 AM

### STRONG-HUTTIG HIGH SCHOOL

FRI. MAY 17 | 7 PM



### WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SUN. MAY 19 | 5 PM

\*DETAILED SCHEDULE FOUND ON SCHOOL WEBSITE



MAY 19, 2024

10:50 a.m.  
Sanctuary Service

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Your weekly recharge

- 5:00 p.m. Cherub Choir (Education Bldg. Room 308)
- 5:30 p.m. Church Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Education Bldg. Room 207)
- Children's Classes (Education Bldg. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)
- Youth Small Groups
- Confirmation Class
- Carillon Handbell Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Motet Choir Practice

**Last WNL is May 22!**

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024

## GRADUATING SENIOR LUNCHEON

immediately following the  
10:50 a.m. Service  
Fellowship Hall

## Confirmation Class Party

5:00 p.m.  
Home of Rina & Floyd Thomas  
237 Meadow View Dr.

# Seniors

## BROOKS MICHAEL BURSON



Brooks Michael Burson, son of Bobby & Jean Burson, grandson to Ann & Mike Hayes, will graduate from El Dorado High School. He was a member of Student Council for four (4) years (Parliamentarian Junior Year,) National Honors Society, Beta Club, AR Boys State Representative, AR Scholar, AP Scholar, and Academic Letterman. His favorite subject in school was History. Brooks plans to study Finance & Business Economics at the University of Arkansas Fayetteville. After earning his degree, he plans to attend Law School.

## RASHELL LATRICE JOHNSON



(Rashell) Latrice Johnson, daughter of Alvinita & Winston Steward, will graduate from El Dorado High School where she worked in the Cafeteria, was a member of DECA (Accounting Series Competitor), NHS, Singer and Vice President of Oratorio Singers, and Leadership President of South Ark Upward Bound Scholars. Latrice's favorite subjects are Accounting and Oratorio with Greg Oden.

Latrice plans to finalize her education at the University of Louisiana Monroe and then come back home to work and help her community after graduating.

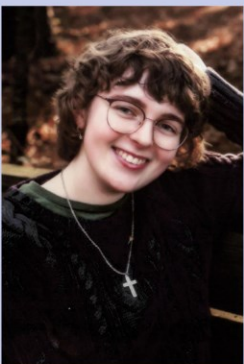
## SAARA MOHANDAS



Saara Mohandas, daughter of Sarika & Aditya Mohandas, will graduate from El Dorado High school. She's a member of Student Council, Beta Club, Steering Committee, FBLA, and also the Vice President of National Honors Society. Additionally, she is a member of the Varsity Swim Team and Manager of the Varsity Softball Team. Her favorite subject was Biology with Mrs. Parker leading her to Major in Biology with focus in Dentistry at University of Central Arkansas next fall.

Saara plans to graduate from UCA and begin practicing in the field of Dentistry as either a Dental Hygienist or a Dentist. Her long term plans are to open her own dental practice and specialize further in Endodontistry.

## JILL JUSTISS STONE



Jill Justiss Stone, daughter of Jennifer & Paul Stone, will graduate from El Dorado High School. She's a member of National Honor Society, EHS Band, Creative Writing Club, Book Club, Camp Fire, and was 1st Chair Flute. Jill's favorite subject in school was art and she plans to Major in English at the University of Arkansas Fayetteville.



**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
OF EL DORADO

# memorials & gifts

## IN MEMORY OF:

### **Mary Virginia Guthrie**

Billie Cameron

Ann & Mike Hayes

Nancy & Randall Whitmore

### **Eric Richardson**

Susan Burge

### **Bill Turnage**

Susan Burge

### **Beulah Thomas**

Glenda & Gary Heronema & Greg White

# MAV birthdays

Michael Young	May 2
Sylvia Thompson	May 5
Anne Evers	May 5
Matt Johnson	May 7
Andrea Brooks	May 9
Aaron Huckaby	May 11
Gary Hall	May 16
Gabriel Pinkerton	May 17
James Thomas	May 20
Lauren White	May 21
Virginia Louise Young	May 21
Anne James	May 22
Tanner Black	May 22
Rob Robinson IV	May 25
David Ainsworth	May 25
Greg Oden	May 31

## Easter at the Kindergarten!



## First United Methodist Kindergarten Graduations!

3K: Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>  
4K: Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>



# May 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			<b>1</b> 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:30p Church Meal 6:00p Bible Study WNL Handbells Confirmation Class 7:00p Motet Choir	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00a - 4:00 p The Bob & Candi Nolan Speaking Series with Michael Beck in Hanna Building
<b>5</b> 10:00a Sun. Sch. 10:50a Combined Sanc. Ser. with Rev. Beck. Lunch to follow 5:30p Rev. Beck in Sanc.	<b>6</b> 10:00a Women's Exercise 1:00p Prayer Min. 3:45p Staff Mtg.	<b>7</b> 6:30a Men's Frat 8:30a Men's Frat	<b>8</b> 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:30p Church Meal 6:00p Bible Study WNL Handbells Confirmation Class 7:00p Motet Choir	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  <a href="#">SAU Undergrad Graduation</a>	<b>11</b>  <a href="#">SAU Graduate Graduation</a>
<b>12</b> <i>Mother's Day</i> 10:00a Sun. Sch. 10:50a Sanc. Ser 2:00p Women in Faith	<b>13</b> 10:00a Women's Exercise 1:00p Prayer Min. 3:45p Staff Mtg.	<b>14</b> 6:30a Men's Frat 8:30a Men's Frat 7:00p Acoustic Café  <a href="#">FUMK 3K Graduation</a> <a href="#">PCHS Graduation</a> <a href="#">JCHS Graduation</a>	<b>15</b> 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:30p Church Meal 6:00p Bible Study WNL Handbells Confirmation Class 7:00p Motet Choir	<b>16</b>  <a href="#">FUMK 4K Graduation</a> <a href="#">SouthArk College Graduation</a>	<b>17</b>  <a href="#">Strong-Huttig Graduation</a>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <i>Graduation &amp; Confirmation Sunday</i> 10:00a Sun. Sch. 10:50a Sanc. Ser. Noon Graduating Sr. Luncheon 5:00p Confirmation Class Party  <a href="#">WSCS Graduation</a>	<b>20</b> 10:00a Women's Exercise 1:00p Prayer Min. 3:45p Staff Mtg.  <a href="#">EHS Graduation</a> <a href="#">SHS Graduation</a>	<b>21</b> 6:30a Men's Frat 8:30a Men's Frat 11:15a Fellowship of the Sent	<b>22</b> 5:00p Cherub Choir 5:30p Church Meal 6:00p Bible Study WNL Party Handbells 7:00p Motet Choir	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  <a href="#">LA Tech Graduation</a>
<b>26</b> 10:00a Sun. Sch. 10:50a Sanc. Ser.	<b>27</b> <i>Memorial Day</i> Church Office Closed	<b>28</b> 6:30a Men's Frat 8:30a Men's Frat	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	



**FIRST UNITED  
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OF EL DORADO  
201 South Hill Ave.  
El Dorado, AR 71730

[www.eldoradofirstchurch.com](http://www.eldoradofirstchurch.com)

(870) 862-1342

**CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Allen Crum	Senior Pastor	<a href="mailto:allen.crum@arumc.org">allen.crum@arumc.org</a>
Greg Oden	Director of Music	<a href="mailto:greg.oden@esd-15.org">greg.oden@esd-15.org</a>
Kevin Keele	Organist	
Andrea Hale	Church Administrator	<a href="mailto:fumcedfs@suddenlinkmail.com">fumcedfs@suddenlinkmail.com</a>
Emilia Gathright	Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:fumcedcs@suddenlinkmail.com">fumcedcs@suddenlinkmail.com</a>
Lisa Oden	Director of Children's Ministries	<a href="mailto:lisa.oden@gmail.com">lisa.oden@gmail.com</a>
Thomas Brewster	Sound Technician	<a href="mailto:tbrewster1979@gmail.com">tbrewster1979@gmail.com</a>
Hunter Bates	Video Technician	<a href="mailto:HunterBates08@outlook.com">HunterBates08@outlook.com</a>
Ashley Nash	Director of Kindergarten	<a href="mailto:ashleynash01@gmail.com">ashleynash01@gmail.com</a>