



## THE CHRONICLE, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

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### 1. PASTOR'S WORD

Dear Friends,

Thank you!

Last week we completed our *Enough* worship series, shared in Holy Communion, experienced some powerful music as we committed ourselves to our church in 2019 through the sharing of our financial pledges. Thank you to all who have made this commitment to the works of Cornerstone this year! Pledge cards are still available in the back of the sanctuary, and you can place them in the offering plates this Sunday or bring them by the church office if you wish to make a commitment for this year.

I get so excited about commitment Sunday after hearing stories like Debbie DeRossitte shared in her testimony video last week, about how generosity leads to joy. I am also excited because the gifts that you have pledged make possible incredible life-changing ministries through Cornerstone UMC.

Just this week, our church welcomed two new members into our church family, fed families at the Helping Neighbors food pantry and students at the ASU Newport-Jonesboro Campus and the Jonesboro Kindergarten Center, ministered in the Craighead County Jail to 52 inmates and 2 guards, and built a wheelchair ramp for a disabled veteran in partnership with the local DAV chapter. This is in addition to the ongoing ministries of care and support within our church's small groups, bible studies, and fellowship.

On the back wall of our sanctuary is our vision statement, to be "a church where all people can worship, serve, and share God's grace." That's a powerful statement that we are seeking to live into as God's people, particularly in our increasingly polarized world and denomination. As the United Methodist Church approaches the special called session of General Conference later this month, there is a lot of discussion and posting in the media that would make us believe the vision we have for our church is impossible, that God's grace cannot be shared when we as United Methodists, as Christians, as Americans, as humans are so divided, that hurting and angering one another is simply a part of our narrative. In the world in which we find ourselves, our ministries of grace and our mindset of welcome and compassion at Cornerstone are more important than ever.

This Sunday we will be led in worship by The Arkansas State Wesley Foundation, and Pastor Sam is preaching on “Interrupting Silence,” integrating material from the study she is leading during this Wednesday Night Live series based on the book *Interrupting Silence* by Walter Brueggemann.

Brueggemann says that “Compassion constitutes a radical form of criticism, for it announces that the hurt is to be taken seriously, that the hurt is not to be accepted as normal and natural but is an abnormal and unacceptable condition for humanness.”

I am so thankful for you, our congregation, for your commitment to live into our vision statement, to enact ministries of compassion that offer a powerful contrast to the world of animosity in which we find ourselves. I look forward to seeing you all Sunday as the Wesley Foundation leads us in worship and we celebrate God’s grace together!

In Christ,

Pastor Kathleen

## **2. NEW BIBLE STUDY**

A Covenant Bible Study will be offered at Cornerstone beginning February 21. Russ Shain will lead the class. It will meet 9:30-11 on Thursdays and will last for eight weeks, ending April 11. Please let Russ (870-243-4512) or the church office know if you are interested in participating in the class or have questions.

The Covenant Bible Study is described by its publishers in this way:

*THE BIBLICAL CONCEPT OF COVENANT speaks to an enduring commitment between God and God’s fruitful people. It’s a promise—to live in a loving relationship with and for each other. So the purpose of COVENANT BIBLE STUDY is to engage participants in conversations about this unique and special relationship—as well as our relationships with each other and the world around us—as we study the Bible together.*

This spring study is entitled Creating the Covenant. Other studies in the series cover Living the Covenant and Trusting the Covenant.

*Creating the Covenant examines how the covenant community is created and established, by focusing on several books of the Bible. It discusses the story of our origins in Genesis, the Exodus narrative, the teachings of Moses, the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, as well as other books from each Testament that focus on the foundation of Christian faith. In doing so, it lays out the framework for a life lived in concert with God and others.*

## **3. WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDIES**

For February 13, our meal of baked potato soup and desserts will begin at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$3 per person with a cap of \$15 per family. We will have bible studies for all ages beginning at 6:00 p.m.

## **4. ASU WESLEY BREAD OF LIFE**

ASU Wesley’s Ministry, the mobile Bread of Life Food Pantry, is also experiencing a time of great need. Due to the government shut-down, the local food bank, where they usually obtain their groceries, does not have any food available for them to purchase. They are currently purchasing food at local grocery stores. Anyone who would like to make a donation for them to purchase food can

designate “Bread of Life” on their offering, and we will send a check from the church to help support their ministry. Below is a list of food items that we typically give to students:

- Dry Pasta
- Cereal
- Canned Soup
- Protein (peanut butter, tuna, Vienna sausages)
- Canned Vegetables

If you would like to help with the next grocery giveaway at the ASU Newport – Jonesboro Campus, it will be on Wednesday, February 13, from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

## 5. CORNERSTONE T-SHIRTS

The Youth are still selling long-sleeve t-shirts in sizes Youth Small to Adult 2X. T-shirts are \$20. Please see Christi to order. We have in stock adult shirts in sizes: Coral – Small, XL, 2 XL. Green S, XL and 2 XL. In stock youth sizes are: Coral – S, L; Green – S, M, L and Red M. We can order any size you need!!

## 6. ASU FAMILY DAY – MEN’S BASKETBALL



A-State Men's Hoops  
**FAMILY DAY**

**A-STATE vs. UT ARLINGTON**  
SATURDAY | FEB. 16 | 4 P.M.

**DISCOUNT TICKETS FOR FAMILIES**  
\$6 UPPER LEVEL SEATS (NORMALLY \$12)  
PROMO CODE: FAMILY

ARKANSAS STATE  
5

The graphic features a basketball player in a red Arkansas State jersey with the number 5, holding a basketball. The background is red with white and black text and graphics, including the A-State logo and the UT Arlington logo.

## 7. CALENDAR: February 10 - 16

### Sunday

- 9:00 am Contemporary Service
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Traditional Service
- 3:00 pm Girl Scouts (Windmeyer Troop)
- 4:00 pm Girl Scouts (Young Troop)

### Tuesday

- 10:00 am Helping Neighbors Food Pantry
- 6:30 pm AA Meeting (Friendship/Fellowship)

## **Wednesday**

6:30 am Prayer Breakfast (Front Page Café)  
9:30 am Bread of Life Mobile Food Pantry (ASUN – Jonesboro)  
10:00 am District Pastor’s Meeting (Friendship/Fellowship Room)  
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Live Meal  
6:00 pm Wednesday Night Bible Studies  
6:15 pm Choir Practice  
7:30 pm Praise Team Practice

## **Thursday**

5:00 pm Weight Watchers  
5:15 pm Handbell Practice  
6:30 pm AA Meeting (Friendship/Fellowship Room)

## **Saturday**

6:00 am Proverbs Men’s Group

## **8. THOSE SERVING THIS MONTH**

### **USHERS:**

**February 9:00 am** Susan Miller, Joel Miller, Ron Clines  
**11:00 am** Rebecca Rasberry, Bob Guelle, Carol Keith, Betsy Barrett

### **LITURGIST:**

**February 10 11:00** ASU Wesley Students  
**February 17 11:00** Mark May

### **NURSERY:**

**February 10** Andrea Newsom  
**February 17** Andrea Newsom

### **FOOD PANTRY:**

**February 12 10:00 – 12:00** Sandy & Jim Clardy, Lynn & Larry Featherston  
**12:00 – 2:00** Barbara Blanchard, Randy Garrison, David Midkiff,  
Mary Montgomery  
**February 14 12:00 – 2:00** Barbara Blanchard, Janet Sugg

### **COUNTING:**

**February** Bill Rogers, Russ Shain

## 9. BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK (February 10 - 16)

### *Birthdays*

2/11 Connie Thomas

2/12 Andrea Hicks  
Gary Rudder

2/13 Theron Johnson (12)  
Priscilla Smith

### *Anniversaries*

02/12 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Featherston

## 10. COMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 10 – ASU Wesley Students leading Worship

February 23 – 26 – General Conference

March 6 – Ash Wednesday/Last Wednesday Night Meal

June 2 – 5 – Vacation Bible School (6 pm – 8:30 pm)