

ATU Wesley Foundation



The Dardanelle Methodist Women served the ATU Wesley students at the Lunch-In on Tuesday, February 6. Pictured above are Sharon Balloun, Genice Applegate, Shawn Duncan, Brenda Woody, Karen Yarbrough, and Kelli Balloun.

Ash Wednesday Service, February 14, 6:00 p.m.

Please join us for a brief service of Imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday. Yes, it is the same date as Valentines Day this year! We will meet in the Sanctuary for a shortened service to help us begin the Lenten Season journey of 40 days (not including Sundays) as we prepare for Easter. This is a special service to help us remember our great need for a Savior, and the great love of God who provided Jesus as a sacrifice for our sins.

Staff-Parish News

The Staff-Parish Committee from Dardanelle, Liberty Hall & Chickalah met with our new Presiding Elder, Clark Atkins in a luncheon meeting Tuesday, February 6. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a Dardanelle Charge profile. This includes vital information about the ministry of our churches and the needs the churches see in a prospective pastor.

Rev. Atkins took time to describe the Global Methodist Church's pastoral appointive method, which is different from the United Methodist system's appointive cabinet approach. We were all glad to hear that the process involves the input and agreement of the SPR committee in a much more comprehensive manner. Prospective candidates will be proposed in a future Zoom meeting and video material will be provided in the process before the church will meet and interview a new pastor.

The good news is that we won't have to wait until Annual Conference to discover who our next pastor will be, and the process leading to the selection will be one of openness and input.

Rio Bravo Mission Trip 2024

Bro. Jim would like to invite you to be a part of our mission trip this summer to Mexico. The date has been set for June 2 – 8 for our trip to Rio Bravo, Mexico. I hope that you might consider going with us, as this has been a blessing for so many over the years that we have served, and for those who have come with us to serve.

We will be forming teams for medical, construction, VBS, sewing, evangelism and book distributions to elementary schools. You do not have to be a member of one of our churches to go on mission with us. What we do expect is Christian behavior, and a can-do attitude because we represent our Lord as we serve our neighbors in Mexico. All ages are welcome to come with us and can find something useful to help with. Adults who cannot load themselves in and out of 10 passenger vans should pass on this trip as it is the most basic physical requirement for safety. Children and youth under 18 may go with us with these requirements: All children and youth must be accompanied by at least one parent and have both parents signatures on a notarized authorization for their participation. We can accommodate up to 30 people on this trip.

Our travel will be to meet on Sunday, June 2 and travel across the border to the mission site. The accommodations and food are more than adequate. We will begin our work Monday through Thursday. Friday will be a tour day with opportunities for a visit to an orphanage, some shopping, and a tour of work sites around the city. We will depart at 5:30 a.m., Saturday, June 8 for a return to the McAllen, TX airport. If you drive to south Texas, you can park at the airport for a reasonable rate.

Cost of mission per participant will be \$750 payable to Dardanelle Methodist Church, P.O. Box 188, Dardanelle, AR 72834. This excludes your own travel arrangements to meet us at the McAllen, TX airport lobby by 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 2. Some may want to share rides as plans develop to save costs.

Mission money and forms (forthcoming as you contact me) will be due no later than May 1, 2024. Our mission expenses will cover all van rentals to take us into and back from Mexico, individual medical & emergency insurance, food and stay at the Manos Juntas mission, and goods expended on mission.

Each mission member must have a valid US Passport with an expiration date no earlier than December 31, 2024. I am always excited to see what God will do as we go and place ourselves in our Lord's service. As you have questions, please don't hesitate to email me or give me a call at 479-699-4683.

This also means that we will be holding our annual **Rummage Sale on May 3 & 4** to raise additional funds for mission. If you cannot go with to Mexico, consider helping us at the Rummage Sale or perhaps, make a donation to help sponsor one of the youth group to come along with us.

Office Help Scheduled

As many of you already know, our secretary, Cyndia Callan will be having extensive back surgery on February 15 & 16. I ask that you be praying for successful surgery for her during this time. Nevertheless, that also means that I will be needing someone to answer the telephone and greet visitors at our office on weekdays for at least two weeks afterwards. We have a sign-up sheet at the office that currently is filled with the names of those who have volunteered to help. We may still have a few scheduling conflicts or people who may have to cancel, so please let us know if you can fill in for us if needed. I would love for you to come in and be the friendly voice and face that meets the public for us. Just give our office a call and let us know when you might be able to help. Thank you!

Lenten Bible Study Begins

It's still not too late to join us for our Lenten Bible Study. We will be meeting in the Family Life Center for study each Wednesday during Lent for our luncheon study. This will be a brown bag luncheon, so pack a bag, bring your Bible, and come join us.

Our study is *Around the Lenten Circle*, and you will be provided with a copy so that you can be reading ahead each week as we take a new look at different scriptures and what they have to tell us about our Savior, and his call upon our lives. We will have you out in time to return to home or work before the hour is out.

Don't forget about the **Pastor's Bible Study** each Wednesday evening in the Education Building at 6 p.m. We are studying the book of Genesis, where much insight into our human nature and God's call upon our lives is contemplated.