

The Bridge to Have a Home
By Todd Vick

Beginning with the spring 2010 semester The Bridge will have a place to call home. That home will be in the form of a United Methodist Student Center at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The church is located on the corner of 47th and Kinkead Ave. in Fort Smith exactly one block west of the UA Fort Smith campus behind the Sebastian Commons apartments. The Bridge is a United Methodist campus ministry to the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith campus and is sponsored by First UMC of Fort Smith.



The student center is made possible by the willingness of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to lease a portion of their facilities and through funding provided by the First UMC Foundation. The FUMC Foundation is providing funding for the first year of operation, and the set up of the student center at \$26,510.00.

The lease from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church includes a dedicated area to serve as a student lounge, as well as dedicated office space for the campus minister and one intern. Additionally, the agreement will allow for use of the sanctuary at the church for worship services of The Bridge, as well as use of the fellowship hall for The Bridge's Monday Meals program which offers a free lunch to the campus on Mondays.



The student center will open doors for ministry on campus that is currently limited or non-existent. The student center will provide a space for students to hang out, accessibility to campus ministry staff so students can talk to someone if they have a personal or spiritual problem, increase awareness of The Bridge on campus. Overall, having a United Methodist student center on the UA Fort Smith campus will positively impact

the Kingdom of God, UA Fort Smith, The United Methodist Church, and The Bridge Campus Ministry.

For more information on The Bridge visit www.thebridgecampusministry.org or call First UMC of Fort Smith at 479-782-5068.