



# First United Methodist Challenge

615 East Main Street • Batesville, Arkansas 72501 • 870-793-3803  
www.fumcbatesville.org

February 10, 2021

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

## From the Pastor . . .

We continue in the new sermon series this week ("Back Where We Started") with 2 Corinthians 5:20(b)-6:10. In a world filled with a "buy now, pay later," we are now facing an entire generation saddled with the greatest debt in our nation's history. Students continue to pay more and more for college education because institutions consider student loans as "financial aid." Just who does it aid?



This week's scripture challenges us to consider whether we live our spiritual lives in the same way. We live like we are in spiritual debt and distress, trying hard to cover up our failings and act our best when people are looking. Paul has a message of incredible hope in a time in which we seem obsessed in pointing out others' faults so no one can see our sins/debts.

Come and see this Sunday!  
In Christ's love,  
Pastor Mark



### We have about 5 people who are needing a secret pal.

Please contact Bennie Burks at 834-8111 if you, your Sunday school class or your small group would like to help by being a Secret Pal to one of these wonderful people.



**Save the Date:**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
**February 17<sup>th</sup>**

Ash Wednesday (*in TWO weeks on Feb. 17*) is the first day of the season of Lent, which represents the 40 days of preparation for the celebration of the resurrection (Easter Sunday). During Lent, Christians around the world consider the sacrifice that was made by Christ prior to his death and resurrection. It culminates with Holy Week, when we remember the walk with Jesus from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem (called Palm or Passion Sunday) to the death on the cross on that Friday.

Ash Wednesday, therefore, is the beginning of a spiritual journey. Lent as a time of preparation is not a biblical requirement, although it is based on the biblical time of preparation (Jesus' 40 days of prayer and fasting, Israel's 40 year of the Exodus, etc.). The tradition of using ashes as a symbol during Lent – especially on Ash Wednesday – began in the church in the 11th century, was originally simply sprinkling ashes or dirt on a person's head as a reminder of the death of Christ (ashes to ashes, dust to dust). Over the years, people began mixing the ashes with oil and making the sign of a cross on our foreheads. That part of our tradition only began in the 20th century in our country.

Because we continue to be cautious with the pandemic, we are following the conference guidelines for our Ash Wednesday services. Here are the details about our two opportunities:

- **At noon**, we will have a brief service on the outside front steps of the sanctuary where we will hear a devotional from Pastor Mark, share in a time of prayer, and share communion like we did on Christmas Eve. Instead of the imposition of ashes, we will share a small item we encourage you to wear throughout Lent to remind you of the way God provides for us in our times of struggle. We will also have instructions on how you can self-impose ashes if you choose to do so.
- **From 5:00 - 6:00 pm**, we will offer a time for families to drive through the covered drop-off to receive a communion cup, an item to wear throughout Lent, and instructions for the self-imposition of the ashes if you want to do that on your own.

If you would like communion elements or an Ash Wednesday packet delivered to you because you aren't able to attend either of those services, please contact the church office and we'll drop it at your home!

"The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Please review the names on the prayer list. Names will remain on the prayer list for 2 weeks.  
At the end of 2 weeks to continue the name, please call the church office.

### Our Prayers for Those at Home

Terri Presley.....member  
Troy Smythe.....son of Katy Smythe  
Phyllis & Jim Terhune.....members  
Pat Collins .....member  
Jim Coleman.....nephew of Marcella Langley  
Marcella Langley .....member  
Dakota West.....grandson of Jim and Debra West  
Bruce Hankins .....husband of Sherry Hankins

### Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

#### White River Medical Center

Mac McClure.....father of Chad McClure

### † Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn †

Our sympathy goes out to *Wayne Anderson and family*, in the death of his mother, **Patsy Jean Douglas Anderson**, who passed away February 4<sup>th</sup>, in Cord, Arkansas.

Funeral Services were held February 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Cord Baptist Church. There was a private burial at Hopewell Cemetery.

Our sympathy goes out to *Marcella Langley and family*, in the death of her sister, **Chris Horvath**, who passed away February 6<sup>th</sup> in Hayward, CA.

Our sympathy goes out to *Sherry Hankins and family*, in the death of her brother, **John Taylor Jr.**, who passed away February 3<sup>rd</sup> in San Diego, California.

Our sympathy goes out to the *family and friends of Marilyn Coffman*, who passed away February 2<sup>nd</sup>. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.

Our sympathy goes out to *Rob Emery and family*, in the death of his sister, **Susan Emery**, who passed away February 3<sup>rd</sup>, in Tulsa, Ok.

Due to privacy laws, First Church cannot access hospital admission records. Please let the church office know when you or a family member are hospitalized. 870-793-3803

### Our Prayers for Those in Health Care Centers and Retirement Homes

#### Brookdale Cary - Cary, NC

Dianne Taylor.....member

#### Eagle Mountain Assisted Living

Janine Kimmer.....member  
Polly Livingston .....member  
Carol Robertson .....member  
Barbara Stevenson .....member  
Stanley Wood.....member

#### Shiloh Nursing Home - Springdale, AR

Kathy Edmisten.....sister of Bennie Burks

#### Wood-Lawn Heights

Mildred Arnold .....member  
Bobbie Sue Graves.....mother of Diana Waldrip  
Lucille Maris .....member  
Virginia Swetnam .....mother of Lorrie McClure

#### Woodcrest Assisted Living

Judy Murrah.....member

### Our Prayers for Those in U.S. Military Service

MSgt. Jason Austin .....son of Robin Austin Gay  
Colonel Mark Bowers .....son of Marcus & Glenda Bowers  
Lt. Col. Chris Carpenter .....son of R.L. & Susan Carpenter  
Lt. Col. Marc Jones .....nephew of Mildred Arnold  
SPC Lane Lively.....grandson of Glen & LaDonna Busby  
Capt. Ian MacDonald .....nephew of Starr & Johnny Kent  
Trent McDonald.....cousin of member  
Lt. Col. Shannon McLoughlin..daughter of Cecilia Vinson  
Major Adam Moore .....son-in-law of Ken & Ginger Davis  
Staff Sgt. Jonathan Reed.....son of Dan & Vicki Reed  
TSgt. Karl Sager .....son of Shirley Stuckey  
Stg. Bradley Skelton.....  
Sergeant Keegan Smart .....member  
Petty Officer Zane Smart .....member  
Capt. Michael Stevenson.....grandson of members  
Lt. Cmdr. Greg Tebbetts .....son of Diane & Terrell Tebbetts  
Capt. John Tice .....nephew of Verona Bebow  
Lance Cpl. James Brantley Wheeler .....cousin of member

### If you need pastoral assistance contact:

Pastor Mark McDonald - 501-650-0046

Associate Pastor Carl Hudson - 870-251-6227

## Church Leadership

### Senior Pastor

Reverend Mark McDonald

### Associate Pastor

Carl Hudson

### Choir Director

Amanda Pickett

### Church Administrator

Teresa Brown

### Minister of Congregational Care

Bennie Burks

### Minister to Children & Family Ministries

Katie McLean

### Minister to Youth

Lorrie McClure

### Worship Leader

Alicia Williams

### Sexton

Joe Johnson

### Lay Leader

Mike Wilson

### Lay Servants/Ministers

Cyndi House  
Kathy McKinney  
Sandy West  
Asa Whitaker

### Church Council Chair

Barrett Moore

### Staff/Parish Chair

Paul Holfield

### Trustees Chair

Alex Roofe

### Finance Chair

Tommy Newton

Our Mailing Address is:  
First United  
Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 2014  
Batesville, AR 72503-2014

## Our Presence

### Worship

January 31<sup>st</sup> ..... 234

### Weekly Update

February 3<sup>rd</sup> ..... 58

Daily devotional average

2/1 - 2/5 ..... 35

## Our Gifts

### Received in February

Received through

02/01/2021

Cash & Checks..... \$10,460.00

Online Giving.....\$603.44

Received through

02/08/2021

Cash & Checks..... \$12,957.00

Online Giving..... \$1,483.98

Amount needed weekly ..... \$11,427.00

## MEMORIALS

### DELLA MAE DORTCH

Blair & Paulette Arnold  
James & Carolyn Buchanan

### JIM SMYTHE

URBA REED  
Joe Don & Kathleen Reynolds

### JIM SMYTHE

Russell W. Hubach

### JOHN TAYLOR, JR.

Suzanne & Robert Evans

### JIM SMYTHE

DELLA MAE DORTCH  
George & Pat Collins

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

February 15 Barbara Cheatham  
Lucille Maris

February 16 Ryan Altom  
Tom Curl  
Brad Davis

February 17 Jason Waits  
Arden Fraiser  
Jayden Garrett  
Logan Thompson  
Benjamin Tucker

February 20 Scott Montgomery

\*\*\*\*\*

February 16 Blair & Paulette Arnold  
J.D. & Cathy Hill



# EMAIL US!!!

Email us at [fumcbatesville@gmail.com](mailto:fumcbatesville@gmail.com) to add your email to our newsletter list, in case we are not able to mail it for a brief time because of safety concerns.

### Pray for our church

for our pastors & staff

for our leaders

for those who are homebound or hospitalized

for every household

for our small groups and relationships

### Pray for our community

for those who are hungry

for those who are struggling in life or faith

for those who are abused and oppressed

for those who do not yet know the love of Christ

### Pray for our world

for the church universal

for our nation's leaders

for all the nations

for the unity of all God's children

for the care of God's creation

for peace with justice

*Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*



First United Methodist Church  
 615 East Main St.  
 P.O. Box 2014  
 Batesville, AR 72503-2014

Non-Profit  
 Org.  
 U. S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Batesville, AR  
 72501-4694  
 Permit No. 398

Address Service Requested  
 Want off the mailing list?  
 Call 870-793-3803

**Inside This Issue!**

- From the Pastor - page 1
- Prayer Page - page 2
- Stewardship - page 3

email us at [fumcbatesville@gmail.com](mailto:fumcbatesville@gmail.com)

Check out newsletters online!

[www.fumcbatesville.org/](http://www.fumcbatesville.org/)



**Community Breakfast**

**Free**

**8:30 Every Saturday**

**FUMC Fellowship Hall**

**No inside dining**

**Take out at side door of the Hall**



**The FUMC Challenge** **Page 4**

**FACEBOOK CONNECTIONS**

[facebook.com/fumcbatesville](https://facebook.com/fumcbatesville)

**"Mid-week Update"** with the pastor Mark each Wednesday at noon on Facebook Live

**"Daily Devotional"** on FaceBook & YouTube each morning Monday - Friday at 9:00 am

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

While we are closing the facilities, we are deeply concerned that we continue to provide care for our church and community. If there is anything, we can do to help you, please leave a message at (870) 793-3803 or call one of these staff members:

- Pastor Mark McDonald: (501) 650-0046
- Pastor Carl Hudson: (870) 251-6227
- Katie McLean (Children & Families): (870) 307-4034
- Lorrie McClure (Youth & Families): (870) 613-6961
- Bennie Burks (Visitation): (870) 834-8111
- Teresa Brown (Administrator): (662) 284-7390

Listen to the Worship Service at 11:00 am on KWOZ FM 103.3 or on the internet [whiterivernow.com/ar1033/](http://whiterivernow.com/ar1033/) and click Listen Live button  
 Get the KWOZ app for your smartphone or add it to your favorites on apps such as TuneIn Radio



Watch our worship service Sunday at 9:00 am on our YouTube channel FUMC Batesville, AR [youtube.com/FUMCBatesvilleAR](https://youtube.com/FUMCBatesvilleAR)

**Next Newsletter Deadline**

Articles for the February 17<sup>th</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).