



# First United Methodist Challenge

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

March 3, 2021

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

## From the Pastor . . .

Jesus turned the world upside down, and we still don't get that.

He showed his power by helping the powerless. He chose to be homeless so we could understand what true home is. He asked questions so we could discover the answers. And he died so we could see what life is truly about.



This week, we return to Paul's letter to church at Corinth to (I Cor. 1:18-25) to discover that most of what we value most isn't necessarily what God values. He reminds us -- in no uncertain terms -- that to find God's greatest rewards, we may have to let go of most of what we think is important to truly discover how important God's love is.

Join us this Sunday for online worship at 9:00 (modern) and 11:00 am (traditional), and let us know if you are ready to join a small group so we can help you engage your faith with others!

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Mark

PS. Don't forget that we are planning to return to in-person worship on EASTER SUNDAY (April 4)! More details will follow within two weeks, including how to make your reservations for a specific service so we are able to maintain safe distances as we return!

## March 7<sup>th</sup> Drive Through Communion

This Sunday, we invite you to receive communion from our pastors this Sunday from 4:00 - 5:00 pm! Simply drive through the covered drop off entrance at FUMC (between the buildings, just off the Main St. entrance) anytime during that hour. We will have single serving communion elements and a home liturgy you can use, and our pastors will bless the elements and pray with you as you stop to receive them in your vehicle.

This will be in place of our normal online communion every first Sunday. If you cannot come through during this time, please don't hesitate to contact us so we can deliver the elements to you.

## Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary



We are taking memorials and honorariums to purchase Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday (April 4, 2021).

We will use them in the sanctuary for worship that day and deliver them to homes afterwards. Hopefully, we will all be able to gather in the sanctuary that day!

The cost is \$22.00 per plant. If you would like to place a plant in the sanctuary in honor of or in memory of a friend or a family member, please use this form and return it to the church office by noon, Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Use a separate form for each honoree. Remember to enclose your payment.*

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Paid by:  check  cash



**Let's Resurrect In-Person Worship  
This Easter!  
See Page 2 for Details**

## Let's Resurrect In-Person Worship This Easter!

We are excited about the opportunity to come back into our sanctuary on Sunday, April 4 with Easter worship at 9:30 and 11:00 am! Our Launch Team and Trustees are working on the details, and they will be provided in the newsletter beginning next week. Watch for more, but here are some highlights of how we will resume worship that day:

- ◆ You must make reservations for the service of your choice. We will have this available online, and if you can't do it online, you can call the church office to sign up beginning Monday, March 22. If those services fill up, we will have additional services as needed.
- ◆ We will have entrances at the main covered drop-off entrance and the Sixth St. entrance; you will be welcomed at the door and asked to sign in (in case contact tracing is needed).
- ◆ You must wear a mask at all times.
- ◆ You must move directly to the sanctuary for seating. You may not congregate and visit in the hallways. You will be allowed to use the restrooms, but again, you may not visit with each other in the hallways.
- ◆ You MAY visit outside the church – before, during, and after each service!

We will have a lot more details starting next week, as well as information about our worship and Sunday School beginning April 11. Stay tuned for more!

## Collect those lids!

Hi everyone!

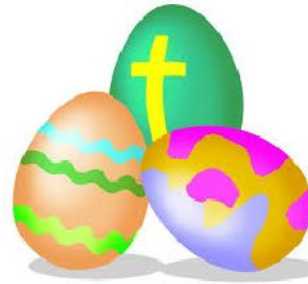
The Kids Department IS still collecting lids! You all have done a great job saving items for our Maker Space classroom and I appreciate it! You can leave your donations in the plastic storage bin under the breezeway. As a reminder, we are only collecting plastic items that can be easily disinfected (no cardboard).

Thank you and keep collecting!

Ms. Katie



## Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Our annual Easter egg hunt will look a little different this year. While we are still finalizing the most COVID safe plans, we know for sure we will need eggs and candy! This year, we are purchasing pre-filled peanut-free eggs from Sunny Bunny eggs. Sunny Bunny Eggs is located in Springfield, MO and provides meaningful employment to people with disabilities.

If you would like to make a donation to help with the purchase of our Sunny Bunny eggs, please write Egg Hunt on the memo line of your check. This will be easier and will require less contact than individuals purchasing the supplies and bringing them to the church.

Thank you for supporting our First Kids ministry!

### Covenant Prayer

*From John Wesley's Covenant Service, 1780*

I am no longer my own, but thine.  
 Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.  
 Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
 Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,  
 exalted for thee or brought low for thee.  
 Let me be full, let me be empty.  
 Let me have all things, let me have nothing.  
 I freely and heartily yield all things  
 to thy pleasure and disposal.  
 And now, O glorious and blessed God,  
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
 thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.  
 And the covenant which I have made on earth,  
 let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.



**Send in your  
 Pictures and Videos!**

Many have been sharing pictures and videos of life during our separation, and we have included them as a slideshow during one of our songs in worship each week.

Please keep sending pictures! We hope to have more people each week!

Send to  
 fumcbatesville@gmail.com

## 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 Holifield

### Trustees Chair

Alex Roofe

### Finance Chair

Tommy Newton

## Our Presence

### Worship

February 21<sup>st</sup> ..... 63

### Weekly Update

February 24<sup>th</sup> ..... 75

Daily devotional average

2/22 - 2/26 ..... 32

## 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

Received through ..... 02/15/2021

Cash & Checks ..... \$2,035.00

Online Giving ..... \$775.00

Received through ..... 02/22/2021

Cash & Checks ..... \$6,797.00

Online Giving ..... \$715.00

Received through ..... 02/28/2021

Cash & Checks ..... \$3,775.00

Online Giving ..... \$2,176.10

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

When we return to our usual activities, please consider how you can be in ministry.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

March 7 Alan Adcox  
Jordan Austin  
Carmen McDonald  
March 9 Jill Hilton  
Grace Metcalf  
March 10 Mark Faith  
Christopher Tucker  
March 11 Tracy King McClurg  
Kathy McSpadden  
Vicki Reed  
Aaron Wynn  
March 12 Megan Griffin  
Mia Johnson  
Sara Johnson  
March 13 Anna Grace Fraiser  
Brenda Sandage  
Jim Wann

\*\*\*\*\*

March 11 Larry & Martha Bentley

## MEMORIALS

### JEAN VARNELL

Sonja Massey Turner

### JOHN TAYLOR, JR.

Timmy & Joan McKinney

### JIM SMYTHE

Jerry & Michelle Reesor

### DELLA MAE DORTCH

Danny & Lucy Yeager

### JIM SMYTHE & DELLA MAE DORTCH

Marva Hipp

### JOHN TAYLOR, SR. & JOHN TAYLOR, JR.

JIM SMYTHE, DELLA MAE DORTCH,

### URBA JEAN REED

Julia Nail

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



## First Kid Parents!

Two important things are happening over on our FUMC Kids Facebook page:

\*\*\*weekly Prayer Room page with Ms. Kathy

\*\*\*daily Lenten calendar for kids ~ click on a door to reveal the lesson or activity for your child. This can be done on any device and is a great faith formation tool to use at home!

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

Doris Casper.....member  
Pat Collins.....member  
Bruce Hankins.....husband of Sherry Hankins  
Mona Neaville.....member  
Terri Presley.....member  
Racheal Roofe.....Member  
Troy Smythe.....son of Katy Smythe  
Phyllis & Jim Terhune.....members

### Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

#### White River Medical Center

Mac McClure.....father of Chad McClure

#### Arkansas Heart Hospital - Little Rock

George Collins

### 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  
Virgina 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

***Daily Devotionals to  
start your Day!***

Monday through Friday 9 AM

[www.facebook.com/fumcbatesville](http://www.facebook.com/fumcbatesville)

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

#### **If you need pastoral assistance contact:**

Pastor Mark McDonald - 501-650-0046

Associate Pastor Carl Hudson - 870-251-6227



First United Methodist Church  
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 Batesville, AR 72503-2014

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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 March 10<sup>th</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).