



# First United Methodist Challenge



615 East Main Street  
Batesville, Arkansas 72501  
870-793-3803

March 4, 2020

**Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers**

From the Pastor. . .

Many thanks to Pastor Carl for preaching last Sunday while I was traveling with our youth to Veritas. We had a total of 74 from FUMC as part of the 1200+ youth in Arkansas that attended the three day rally. We had a wonderful trip, and I enjoyed joining you in worship via YouTube.



This Sunday, I'm beginning a series of sermons over the rest of Lent called "Half Truths." Have you ever heard any of these sayings?

"Everything happens for a reason."

"God won't give you more than you can handle. "

"God said it, I believe it, that settles it."

"Love the sinner, hate the sin."

They have some scriptural basis, but they are often misunderstood or misused. Between now and Easter, we will unpack them and consider ways to strength our use of them. This week, we will focus on Romans 8:28 as we consider if everything really does happen for a reason.

Join us at 8:30, 9:45 or 11:00 am, or join us on YouTube for 8:30 or 11:00 (or anytime afterwards!).

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Mark

## Flu Precautions

As we continue to hear news about flu, the corona virus, and other health challenges that we face, we ask you to remember a few simple steps you can take to help our church and community:

- If you are feeling sick, visit with your doctor.
- If you have a temperature or GI issues, please stay home until you have 24 hours without any of those symptoms.
- When you are coughing or sneezing, please cover your mouth and do not shake hands with others. We welcome "fist bumps" and "air fives" at FUMC!
- Use the hand sanitizers provided around the church and wash your hands frequently.
- Feel free to spray the restroom handles/fixtures with disinfectant that is provided near the sink.

Let us know if you're sick and if there is anything we can do to help you!



## We Want Your Photos!

We are looking for church photos -- recent and past -- to include in our publicity and communications. If you have photos, please bring them by the church office so we can scan them (and return the originals) or email any digital copies to:

media@fumcbatesville.org

Feel free to let us know any stories behind the photos by submitting them in writing!

## Upcoming Events

- Mar. 15<sup>th</sup>** - ASU Wesley Foundation will conduct all services
- Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>** - Silver Belles & Beaus



## Community Breakfast

Free

**8:30 Every Saturday  
FUMC Fellowship Hall**

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

## Lenten Bible Study



Lent is a season when Christians are invited to prepare for the observance of the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ by reflecting upon our need to be reconciled with God and each other. To that end, a small group at FUMC – the Batesville Unity Group (BUG) – invites anyone who is interested to join us for a Lenten Study titled “What Does the Bible Really Say about Same Sex Relationships”

We will meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Alpha Classroom, starting this Thursday, Feb. 27. The first topic is “How Do Methodists Approach the Scriptures?”

March 5 we will deal with the Old Testament & Homosexuality; and March 12, 19, and April 2 we will look at the New Testament & Homosexuality.

If you have questions, email Paul Bube (pcbube@gmail.com) or Barrett Moore (barrettsmoore@gmail.com).

We are excited to share two new ways to donate to FUMC that are secure and smart! For those days when you don't have cash or checks, we now have two methods for giving -- even during the offering in worship -- that are convenient and secure:

### GivePlus APP

Beginning immediately, you can give to the church through a simple app that you download to your smartphone and give through your checking account, debit card, or credit card. Once you've set your secure account, you can view all your donations made through the App, change your account information, and set up recurring donations! Type this link to watch a short video about the TextPlus App

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAjqUxK8YRk>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAjqUxK8YRk>

### GivePlus TEXT

A second secure way to give is simply to text the amount you want to give (such as \$100) to 855-726-9179. You will receive a link to allow you to give via text from the account of your choice (without having to create an account). After that, you can simply text the amount you want to give, and you will receive a text back confirming your donation. You can even make it a recurring donation via text! You will receive a text and email receipt, and your gifts made by text appear on your church giving statement (emailed monthly and mailed quarterly). Type this link to watch a short video about GivePlus Text

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nj7AiH6rty0>

Thank you for supporting the ministries that God is moving through at FUMC! Please let us know if you have any needs in your life that we can help with.



## Vacation Bible School

Save the date!

May 31-June 3

5:00-8:00pm

Ages 3-12



## Bible Boot Camp-Midnight Madness!

save the date!

Friday, April 24

6pm-midnight

Grades 4-6

## A Quiet Place

During Lent, we want to remind you that our sanctuary and chapel are available if you would like a place to come and sit in quiet reflection.



## ASU Wesley Foundation Coming to FUMC

The Wesley Foundation is the campus ministry of the United Methodist Church, and we are excited to have the ASU-Jonesboro Wesley Foundation to lead us in worship on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at all three Sunday services.

## 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

**Treasurer**  
Ruby Curl

**Lay Leader**  
Mike Wilson

**Lay Servants/Ministers**  
Kathy McKinney  
Randy Seale  
Joel Wagoner  
Sandy West  
Asa Whitaker  
Joel Williams

**Church Council Chair**  
Barrett Moore

**Staff/Parish Chair**  
Paul Holifield

**Trustees Chair**  
Alex Roofe

**Finance Chair**  
Tommy Newton

## Our Presence

March 1<sup>st</sup>

Sunday Worship Total..... 172  
Sunday School..... 62

## Our Gifts

Received in March

Received 03/01/2020..... \$12,764.00  
Amount needed weekly ..... \$11,427.00

If you are unable to fulfill your ministry service position please find a replacement and contact the church office with the change.

## Our Service

for March 8<sup>th</sup>

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers which adorn the altar are given to the glory of God by (need altar flowers this Sunday)

ALTAR GUILD: Megan Holifield  
Kaley Waldrip

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

8:30 Sandy West

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Pastor Mark

COFFEE and DONUTS:

L.I.F.E. Sunday School Class

LITURGIST: 8:30 Paul Bube  
11:00 Sandy West

8:30 USHERS 11:00 USHERS

J Ellis & D Smith

Need Ushers

## Birthdays and Anniversaries from UMCN Calendar

March 9 Jill Hilton  
Grace Metcalf  
March 10 Mark Faith  
Christopher Tucker  
March 11 Tracy King McClurg  
Kathy McSpadden  
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

### IRVIN KIMMER

David & Sharan Pittser  
Sonja Massey-Turner  
William & Louise Sandefur

## Missed You in Church!

We will have postcards in the worship seating each Sunday. If you notice a "worship buddy" missing, simply write a note to them on the card and place it in the offering plate. Church staff will address it, stamp it, and mail it for you! Worship buddies can be people you sit near or people you always visit with. When you notice they are missing, a card can share that and help us keep up with them!

## The FLOWER CALENDAR for 2020

Please take a moment to stop by the flower calendar and pick a week of two to sign up to do the flowers.

We have a lot of open dates coming up in the new year, here are just a few:

March 8, 22, 29

Our Mailing Address is:

First United  
Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 2014  
Batesville, AR 72503-2014

**Please review the names on the prayer list. Names will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks.  
At the end of 3 weeks to continue the name, please call the church office.**

### Our Prayers for Those at Home

Don Wayne & Patsy Anderson...parents of Wayne Anderson  
 Hannah Baker.....  
 Gerri & George Bentz.....member  
 Vernon Block .....father of Gina Garrett  
 Glenda Bowers .....member  
 Marcus Bowers.....member  
 Clif Burrell, IV .....son of Clifton & Norma Burrell  
 Winnell Calhoun.....member  
 Doris Casper.....member  
 Bryan Dickey .....friend of David Smith  
 Nancy Duncan.....friend of Amanda Pickett.  
 Chad Edwards .....friend of David Smith  
 Annebelle Fletcher.....friend of David Smith  
 Don Gilchrist.....member  
 Randy & Linda Guthrie....relatives of Glenda Bowers  
 Alvetta Hatfield .....mother of Karen Holifield  
 Patty Healey .....mother of Jon Healey  
 Mona Hobbs.....friend of Diane Tebbetts  
 Kerry Jennings.....sister of member  
 Mary Johnson .....mother in law of Clifton Burrell  
 Janine Kimmer .....member  
 Sharon Looney .....friend of Jon Healey  
 Mary Ann Marshall.....member  
 Ruth Meyers.....aunt of member  
 Janice Murphy .....cousin of Sharan Pittser  
 Maria Paningua.....friend of member  
 Angela Panneck.....friend of member  
 Traci Phillips .....daughter of George & Pat Collins  
 Terri Presley .....member  
 Judy Pridgen.....friend of Glenda Martin  
 Pat Rice.....family member of Rice Family  
 Rodney Rice.....family member of Rice Family  
 Sam Rigsbee.....relative of member  
 Raye Rogers .....member  
 Charlotte Rose.....member  
 Gayle Silberhorn.....member  
 Bob Spencer .....father of member  
 Gladys Smith.....mother of David Smith  
 Shirley Stuckey.....member  
 Shirley Waits.....member

### Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

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

#### Eagle Mountain Assisted Living

Polly Livingston ..... member  
 Jackie Martin..... member  
 Carol Robertson..... member  
 Barbara Stevenson ..... member  
 Katherine Tripp ..... member  
 Stanley & Mary Jeanette Wood ..... members

#### Wood-Lawn Heights

Mildred Arnold..... member  
 Bobbye Sue Graves..... mother of Diana Waldrip  
 Troy Kuchler ..... stepdad of member  
 Lucille Maris ..... member  
 Margaret Matthews ..... member  
 Virginia Swetnam ..... mother of Lorrie McClure

#### Woodcrest Assisted Living

Robert (Lit) Craig ..... member  
 Marilyn Coffman ..... member  
 Judy Murrah ..... member  
 Dianne Taylor..... member

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

MSgt. Jason Austin.....son of Robin Austin Gay  
 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  
 Capt. 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 .....  
 Senior Airman 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

## Get Up & Give

Our United Methodist Women are asking you to help us with our annual "Get Up & Give" Lenten collection project. We ask that you contribute necessities to the children and families in Methodist Family Health's care. The project is during the entire 40 days of Lent, and both children and adults can participate by donating items listed below. These clinics help children and families manage psychiatric, emotional, behavioral and spiritual issues. Look for posters around the church to learn more.

Below is a list of items that the United Methodist Women are asking the congregation to help collect for this project:

1. Men and boys boxers and briefs in all sizes
2. Women's panties in sizes 7-14
3. Non-underwire bras in sizes 34-40 in cups B, C, D and DD
4. Socks in all adult sizes

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## FIRST SUNDAY SHARE

Beginning next month, we will begin a new monthly focus on our outreach when we share communion. Each Sunday we share communion in all three services (usually the first Sunday of each month), we will celebrate "First Sunday Share," which will emphasize two special offerings:

- 1 **Food Ministries.** We will also ask you to bring non-perishable food items to help us continue to fill our blessing box, backpacks, and emergency food needs we support. We will provide a list of our most pressing needs during the last week of each month so you can focus on food donations where we need them most! We will present the food during worship, and use it to keep our pantries ready to serve our community's greatest needs.
- 2 **Pastor's Fund.** The money left at the communion rail (or marked "Communion" or "Pastor's Fund") will be shared with our newly forming ministerial alliance. Our church is committing \$1 per member in average attendance, and we will contribute that each month. Those funds will be shared through this new cooperative outreach of over a dozen churches. That group, now named "Churches United," will work closely with all our local assistance agencies to help close the gap in our communities. This year, our focus is on emergency housing (related to homelessness) and transportation (working closely with WRMC). The money you leave at the communion rail will help us support Churches United, and excess will be used for other needs that may arise with our church's outreach to our neighbors in need.



## Dancing in the Graveyard: A Lenten Educational Series

This Lent, join us from 11:30-12:30 each Wednesday for a special series sponsored by several area churches! Each week, we will meet for a free lunch and share ways to help face the uncertainty of death through the certainty of our faith, drawing from practical and spiritual approaches to prepare for end-of-life issues:

### March 4, First Presbyterian Church

Acknowledging our Morality: Sharing stories about experiences with death and dying; building trust and community.

### March 11, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Recording our Wishes: Learning about Advance Care Planning ("Living Wills") and other legal documents that help us and our family through hard times.

### March 18, Central Ave. United Methodist Church

Logistical/Pragmatic Plans: Financial Planning; Planning for potentially needed future care (Home Care, Assisted Living, Hospice, etc.); Community Resources (wills/estates, etc.).

### March 25, St. Mary's Catholic Church

Funeral Planning: Service Planning/Texts/Music/Participants; Funeral pre-planning with panel of pastors and providers

### April 1, First United Methodist Church

Important Conversations: How to talk with loved ones about what you want; how to initiate this conversation with your parents and with your children.

The primary presenter is Rev. Karen Cherwien, a Lutheran pastor and a Board-Certified Chaplain. She has clinical experience working in hospice, palliative care, pediatrics, and trauma. She is originally from small-town southern Minnesota and served congregations in rural Minnesota before becoming a chaplain. She and her family live here in Batesville.

We will also have local pastors, funeral directors, attorneys, and other providers throughout many of the sessions. The presentations will last approximately 20-30 minutes so people can fit this into their lunch hour.



First United Methodist Church  
 615 East Main St.  
 P.O. Box 2014  
 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/)



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**Hospitality Team for Sunday, Mar 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:30 Service**  
 Julia Nail  
**11:00 Service**  
 Paul & Karen Holifield  
**Coffee & Donuts**  
 L.I.F.E. Sunday School Class


**Tuesday Activities**  
**March 10<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary  
 7:30pm Adult Praise Team - Sanctuary

**Wednesday Activities**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>**  
 5:30pm Kids & Youth  
 6:00pm Adult Bible Study-Chaney Class Room  
 6:00pm Praise Team  
 7:15pm Youth Praise Band

**Bible Studies / Small Groups**  
**Mar 6<sup>th</sup>** - 6:00am - Men's Fraternity Meeting  
 At Ameriprise Office on College St.  
**Mar 8<sup>th</sup>** - Wesley Small Groups  
 11:00am Morningside-Shelby Dobbs/Amanda Roberts  
 11:00am Faith Classroom - Cyndi House  
 3:30pm Charity Sewing Group  
 5:00pm Parlor - Sue Kibbe  
 6:00pm Faith Classroom - Barrett & Sara Moore  
**Mar 9<sup>th</sup>** - Men's Bible Study - Grammer House  
**Mar 11<sup>th</sup>** - 3:30pm Loft Classroom - Kathy McKinney  
**Mar 12<sup>th</sup>** - Women's Bible Study - 9:45am  
 Home of Eleanor Royer "The Mission of Jesus"  
 6:00pm Lenten Study Group - Alpha Classroom

**Other Events / Committee Meetings**  
 March 14<sup>th</sup> - Community Breakfast - 8:30am - Fellowship Hall  
 April 6<sup>th</sup> - UMW Meeting - 6:00pm - Church Parlor

Listen to the Worship Service at 11:00 am on  
 KWOZ FM 103.3 or on the internet  
[www.ar1033.com](http://www.ar1033.com) and click Listen Live button  
 paste into your web browser <http://player.tritondigital.com/2341>  
 Get the KWOZ app for your smartphone  
 or add it to your favorites on apps such as TuneIn Radio

 **YouTube**  
 Watch at 8:30a and 11:00a  
 on our YouTube channel  
 (FUMC Batesville, AR)

**Next Newsletter Deadline**

Articles for the March 11<sup>th</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).