



# First United Methodist Challenge

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

July 15, 2020

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

## From the Pastor . . .

It is strange to take a vacation in the midst of a pandemic. Traveling wasn't a wise option as the virus began to accelerate, so a "staycation" has been our best option. I've worked hard to avoid places that weren't enforcing masks, etc., so that limited us even more. I've ended up in a time of retreat, spending a few days fishing (thanks to Chad and Ben for their company), some time in the outdoors (before it got hot at 7:00 am, Ha!), cooking, experimenting with guided meditations, and other socially-distanced activities. I would not have chosen this, but it's certainly been something I needed. I knew the pandemic had caused us to return to some old ways, but I didn't realize how truly helpful some of those old ways really are. I look forward to being back with you as we explore our next steps in these crazy times!



This Sunday, join us online again as we begin a new sermon series entitled, "Fan or Follower." For over a year, I've been waiting for a time to go into a little more depth with a sermon series on Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount" (Matthew 5-7). It begins this Sunday! In many ways, it may be the most challenging and comprehensive look at the life that Jesus calls us to live, and speaks precisely to the challenges that we face today.

This Sunday, we will work from Matthew 5:1-11, and consider how the call to be more than a fan of Jesus – to actually be a follower of Jesus – means that we live in ways that seem counterintuitive to the way things seem to work in the world.

Join us online at 9:00 am ([www.fumcbatesville.org](http://www.fumcbatesville.org), Facebook, or YouTube), on the radio at 11:00 am (103.3 FM), or anytime it's convenient for you to watch on YouTube or Facebook!

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Mark



## Are You a Fan or a Follower?

New worship series based on the Sermon on the Mount

July 19 - September 6

While all it takes to be a "Christian" is to believe, the name "Christian" is a modern description of the church. Jesus never stopped with the call simply to believe; he called for people who believed to follow him (often even before they fully believed!). Church is not a spectator sport, and Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is a call to be more than a fan of Jesus. Are you a "fan" or a "follower?"

July 19: "Following Jesus is Counterintuitive" (Matthew 5:1-11)

July 26: "Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat" (Matthew 5: 13-16)

August 2: "Living Above the Law" (Matthew 5: 17-20)

August 9: "Don't be so Churchy" (Matthew 6: 1-18)

August 16: "Use Stuff, Love People" (Matthew 6:19-24)

August 23: "Don't be Anxious" (Matthew 6: 25-34)

August 30: "What Goes Around Comes Around" (Matthew 7:1-6)

September 6: "You Can Ask for Anything ... But Be Careful What You Ask For" (Matthew 7: 7-12)

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



### Weekly Update Resumes July 22<sup>nd</sup>

Pastor Mark will return to his weekly update on Wednesday, July 22 at 5:30 pm. Each week, he broadcasts live from our church's Facebook page to share some of the insider information about our church! You can hear breaking news, behind-the-scenes reports about our ministries, here how you can help, and ask any question you want by posting on the page during the live broadcast!

## Daily Devotionals to start your Day!

Monday through Saturday 8 AM

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

### Ways to Give During the COVID-19 Crisis

- Give through our website at [www.fumcbatesville.org](http://www.fumcbatesville.org)
- Give through our Giving App (Give Plus Church on App Store or Google Play)
- Text any gift amount to 855-726-9179 and follow the link you will receive
- Mail checks to FUMC, P.O. Box 2014, Batesville, AR 72503



## New Arrival

June 25, 2020

### Nash Griffin Slaughter

6 lbs. 12.5 oz. and 19 inches

### Parents

BJ and Magen Slaughter

### Grandparents

Andrea and Bradley Slaughter

Danny Griffin



Hello FUMC! I have something for you to do during our quarantine!

Can you begin collecting lids (plastic bottle caps, milk carton lids, soda can pop tops, etc.) for our kids' ministry please? We are going to set up a Maker Space classroom soon and we can certainly use your plastic lids and caps for kids to use in their art/Bible stories.

Right before this pandemic, we published a wish list for items we will need. At this time, if you can just collect caps and lids, that will be great. These are small and we can easily disinfect them once we return to church.

Thank you! Happy collecting!

Ms. Katie

We are excited to share a new way to donate to FUMC that is secure and smart! For those days when you don't have cash or checks, we now have a method for giving – even during the offering in worship – that is 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=PAjqUxK8YRkhttps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAjqUxK8YRk>

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

## Our Presence

Average Daily Devotional views  
July 6<sup>th</sup> - July 12<sup>th</sup> ..... 54  
Sunday Online Worship Service..... 248  
Weekly Update Views ..... 113

## Our Gifts

### Received in July

Received through  
07/05/2020  
Cash & Checks..... \$5,265.00  
Online Giving..... \$1,494.15  
Received through  
07/12/2020  
Cash & Checks..... \$15,915.00  
Online Giving..... \$1,706.46  
Amount needed weekly ..... \$11,427.00

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

## Explore Beautiful Mount Eagle

Mount Eagle is booking retreats for families at this time. This would be an awesome opportunity for pastors and church staff to get away with their family or a personal retreat. Use this opportunity to come to Mount Eagle, explore Bear Cave, Sunrise Point as the sun is coming up in the early morning, Turkey Cave, walk the Prayer Trail, or take a short trip to float the Buffalo River and spend the rest of your time relaxing and enjoying God's creation.

They are following CDC cleaning guidelines and allowing 3 days in between groups so they can air the building before cleaning and disinfecting prior to another group arriving. They are also asking groups to hang wet linens to dry as they leave as staff will not be in the building for those days.

info@mounteagle.org  
(501) 723-4580  
935 Beal Rd Clinton, Arkansas

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

July 19 Dave King  
Jim Smythe  
July 20 Mary Caplinger  
Joshua Davis  
Mary Slaughter  
July 21 Doris Casper  
July 24 Martha Bentley  
Paige Bradley  
Becca Brannon  
Bennie Burks  
Verlene House  
Becky Winemiller

## First Kids & First Youth

Our youth and children's ministries are meeting in all new ways during the COVID-19 crisis. Both are utilizing private Facebook pages (for students and parents), Zoom meetings, printable activities, video devotionals, virtual activities and much more! They have found ways to connect and serve while maintaining social distances and other safety!

To connect with our youth during this time, contact Lorrie about youth and Katie about children.

### 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

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 Bentz ..... member  
Vernon Block ..... father of Gina Garrett  
Marcus & Glenda Bowers .... members  
Roger Burns..... father of Stacy Pretty  
Winnell Calhoun ..... member  
Doris Casper ..... member  
Nancy Duncan ..... friend of Amanda Pickett.  
Annebelle Fletcher..... friend of David Smith  
Bella Floyd..... friend of members  
Verlie Garrett ..... grandmother of Lane Garrett  
Randy & Linda Guthrie ..... relatives of Glenda Bowers  
Alvetta Hatfield ..... mother of Karen Holifield  
Linda Hix ..... friend of John Ellis  
Mona Hobbs ..... friend of Diane Tebbetts  
Louise Hughes ..... member  
Kerry Jennings ..... sister of member  
Mary Johnson ..... mother in law of Clifton Burrell  
Sharon Looney ..... friend of Jon Healey  
Tommie McDonald..... member  
Ruth Meyers ..... aunt of member  
Janice Murphy..... cousin of Sharan Pittser  
Judy Nall ..... friend of members  
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 & Rodney Rice..... family members of Rice Family  
Sam Rigsbee ..... relative of member  
Raye Rogers ..... member  
Charlotte Rose ..... member  
Bob Spencer ..... father of member  
Gladys Smith ..... mother of David Smith  
Shirley Stuckey..... member  
Jim West ..... member  
Carolyn Wilson ..... member

### Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

#### White River Medical Center

George Bentz, Sr..... member

#### UAMS - Little Rock

Tom Sellers ..... husband of Jane Jameson

#### Knoxville, Tennessee Hospital

Steve Roberts ..... cousin of Pastor Mark

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

#### **Eagle Mountain Assisted Living**

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

#### **Wood-Lawn Heights**

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

#### **Woodcrest Assisted Living**

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  
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  
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

July 13, 2020



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 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/)




**Community Breakfast**  
**Free**  
 8:30 Every Saturday  
 FUMC Fellowship Hall  
 No inside dining  
 Take out at side door of the Hall

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**FACEBOOK CONNECTIONS**

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

"Mid-week Update" with the pastor Mark each Wednesday at 5:30 pm on Facebook Live

"Daily Devotional" on Facebook each morning at 8:00 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
- Ruby Curl (Finances): (870) 834-5377

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



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

**Next Newsletter Deadline**

Articles for the July 22<sup>nd</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).