



First United Methodist Challenge

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

July 29, 2020

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

From the Pastor . . .

This Sunday, we continue the series, "Fan or Follower" as we look at the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5: 17-20 (also looking briefly at the examples that follow in that chapter). Chapter 5 has been a powerhouse already, with the Beatitudes (counterintuitive Christianity), Salt & Light (bring out the best and be REAL), and now the purpose of the Law.



Have you ever heard the expression, "above the law?" What does that make you think? Perhaps it is someone who thinks they can do whatever they want, so they break the law when it is to their advantage. Jesus shows us how his followers can be identified by how they live "above the law."

Join us at 9:00 am online, 11:00 am on 103.3 FM, or wherever you can on our website, Facebook page, or YouTube channel!

In Christ's love,
Pastor Mark



Outdoor Worship in August!

While the COVID numbers have risen, we are making plans for some exciting outdoor worship times this month! Each service will be from 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm on Wednesdays:

August 5 in the 7th Street parking area: **VBS worship**, complete with VBS kits for First Kids to take home to work on

August 12 at Pavilion 5 (Kennedy Park, just across the river): **CONFIRMATION worship**

August 19 in the 7th Street parking area: **SCHOOL BLESSING** worship (no matter what school may look like) with special school blessing gifts for students and teachers

August 26 at the Riverside Amphitheater: community worship time and possible Ice Cream Social Distance (depending on the COVID count)



Pastor Mark is hosting the third annual round of cottage meetings starting this week, and we will do this through our new Shepherd Groups!

Every active member at FUMC has been assigned to one of our 19 Shepherd Groups, so you should have been contacted by the leader/host of your group by now. IF NOT, we likely do not have your most up-to-date contact information. **PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE NOT HEARD FROM YOUR SHEPHERD GROUP**, and we will update your information and get you connected!

Shepherd Groups are not Bible study or small groups (although each group is welcome to determine what they do together once they get started!). They are simply groups to help us keep connected with each other, helping us love each other as Christ loves us!

Make sure you are connected with your Shepherd Group and ready to join Pastor Mark. He will be asking you what you like the most, what you'd like to see our church do next, and of course, to answer any questions you may have.

Communion This Week

Facebook at 10:00am

YouTube at noon



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

Share Your Joys and Concerns!

We are taking our prayers in a new direction!

Beginning this week, we are asking you to submit your prayers (joys and concerns) with the following guidelines:

- Prayers can be submitted by call the church office (983-3803), emailing the church (fumcbatesville@gmail.com), or through our prayer concern form at fumcbatesville.org.

- You **MUST** have permission of the person named to share their name publically.

- Each submission will be included in the newsletter and worship for two weeks, then it will be removed from the list. You can resubmit the prayers to continue them for additional time.

Shepherd Groups



One of the most exciting new ministries is **HERE!**

Our ministry coordinators have been working to randomly assign active households to groups so we can better keep up with each other. This is in response to our time of separation, but it is a throw-back to days past when neighborhood groups helped us get to know new people in our church family!

The purpose of the Shepherd Groups is simple: to get to know each other and care for each other. With a church our size, it's difficult to keep up with everyone even when we are meeting face-to-face on a regular basis. With the COVID separation, that is even more challenging.

Our Shepherd Groups have a "coordinator" or "facilitator" who will contact each household. Each group has about 10 households, and each group will decide how and when to meet. We will share a monthly topic if you want to talk about it, but remember that our main goal is social and spiritual: to love one another as Christ loves us (John 13:34).

I am inviting each group to meet separately with him in the next several weeks for one of our fall "cottage meetings," so be sure to respond to your facilitator to get to join in on that conversation!

–Pastor Mark

Daily Devotionals to start your Day!

Monday through Saturday 9 AM

www.facebook.com/fumcbatesville

FAN OR FOLLOWER

Are You a Fan or a Follower?

New worship series based on the Sermon on the Mount

July 26 - 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?"

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)

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

Average Daily Devotional views
July 20th - July 25th 50
Sunday Online Worship Service..... 186
Weekly Update - 7-22 135

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
Received through
07/19/2020
Cash & Checks..... \$8,754.41
Online Giving..... \$490.93
Received through
07/26/2020
Cash & Checks..... \$8,365.00
Online Giving..... \$3,092.35
Amount needed weekly \$11,427.00

Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

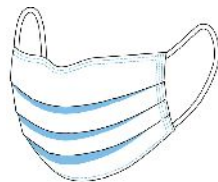
Aug 2 Robin Brock
Joel Rogers
Aug 3 Megan Holifield
Larry Weaver
Aug 4 Mark Davis
Chaney Taylor, Jr
Julie Taylor
Madison Grace Taylor
Aug 5 Hank Pearce
Aug 6 Mack Boyce
Kenny Bowren
Aug 7 Raymond Simmons
Sandy Taylor

Aug 2 Lyndal & Shirley Waits
Aug 5 Stephen & Rikki Painter
Jerry & Charlotte Rose
Aug 8 Paul & Karen Holifield

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

What do Masks and Cookies Have in Common?

We are looking for volunteers to make both to package and give away as gifts from our church! The ministry coordinators are working on ways that we can help people in our community, especially those who put themselves at risk or need help with facemasks. We are looking for volunteers to make cookies that can be packaged and delivered to front line workers, and we are also looking for volunteers to make or purchase masks that we can give away to help our neighbors abide by the governors new mandate.



We hope to package all of these with an invitation to our church (online or for any other events that are appropriate). Please let the church office know if you're able to help us with either or both!

Are you Ready to be Baptised?

Pastor Mark is working on a date for a river baptism! If you have been thinking and praying about taking this step, please contact his ASAP or call the church office and let us know. We will be careful with social distancing and regulations, and our hope is to schedule this early to mid-August.



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.....
George Bentz, Srmember
Gerri Bentzmember
Vernon Blockfather of Gina Garrett
Marcus & Glenda Bowersmembers
Roger Burns.....father of Stacy Pretty
Winnell Calhounmember
Doris Caspermember
Nancy Duncanfriend of Amanda Pickett.
Annebelle Fletcher.....friend of David Smith
Bella Floyd.....friend of members
Verlie Garrettgrandmother of Lane Garrett
Randy & Linda Guthrierelatives of Glenda Bowers
Alvetta Hatfieldmother of Karen Holifield
Linda Hixfriend of John Ellis
Mona Hobbsfriend of Diane Tebbetts
Kerry Jenningssister of member
Mary Johnsonmother in law of Clifton Burrell
Sharon Looney.....friend of Jon Healey
Ruth Meyersaunt of member
Janice Murphy.....cousin of Sharan Pittser
Judy Nallfriend of members
Maria Paningua.....friend of member
Angela Panneckfriend of member
Traci Phillipsdaughter of George & Pat Collins
Terri Presley.....member
Judy Pridgenfriend of Glenda Martin
Pat & Rodney Rice.....family members of Rice Family
Sam Rigsbeerelative of member
Raye Rogersmember
Charlotte Rosemember
Tom Sellershusband of Jane Jameson
Bob Spencerfather of member
Gladys Smithmother of David Smith
Shirley Stuckey.....member
Jim Westmember
Carolyn Wilsonmember

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

Janine Kimmer..... member
Polly Livingston 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 Austinson of Robin Austin Gay
Colonel Mark Bowersson of Marcus & Glenda Bowers
Lt. Col. Chris Carpenterson of R.L. & Susan Carpenter
Lt. Col. Marc Jonesnephew of Mildred Arnold
SPC Lane Lively.....grandson of Glen & LaDonna Busby
Capt. Ian MacDonaldnephew of Starr & Johnny Kent
Trent McDonald.....cousin of member
Capt. Shannon McLoughlin....daughter of Cecilia Vinson
Major Adam Mooreson-in-law of Ken & Ginger Davis
Staff Sgt. Jonathan Reed.....son of Dan & Vicki Reed
TSgt. Karl Sagerson 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 Tebbettsson of Diane & Terrell Tebbetts
Capt. John Ticenephew 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

JOIN US FOR PARKING LOT VBS!

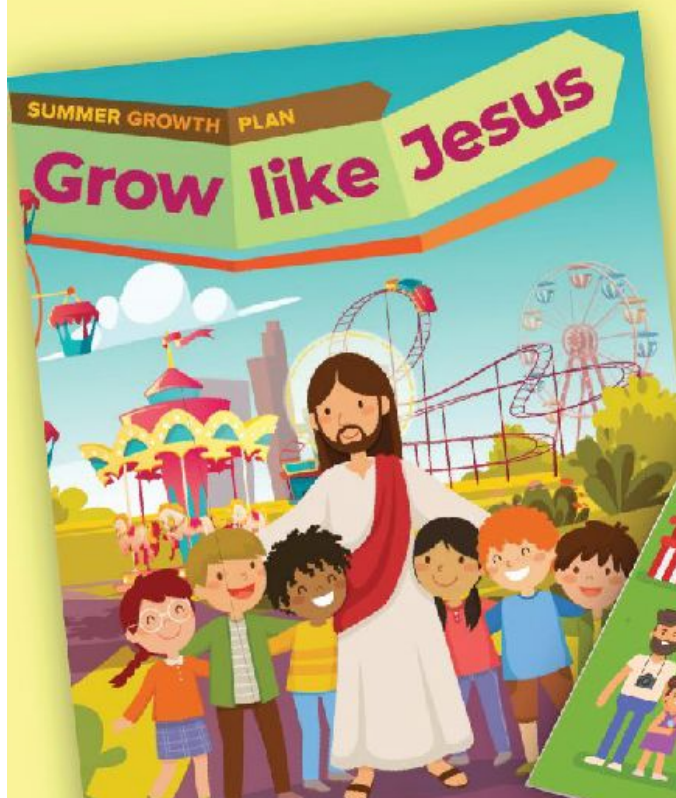
FUMC - 615 E. MAIN STREET

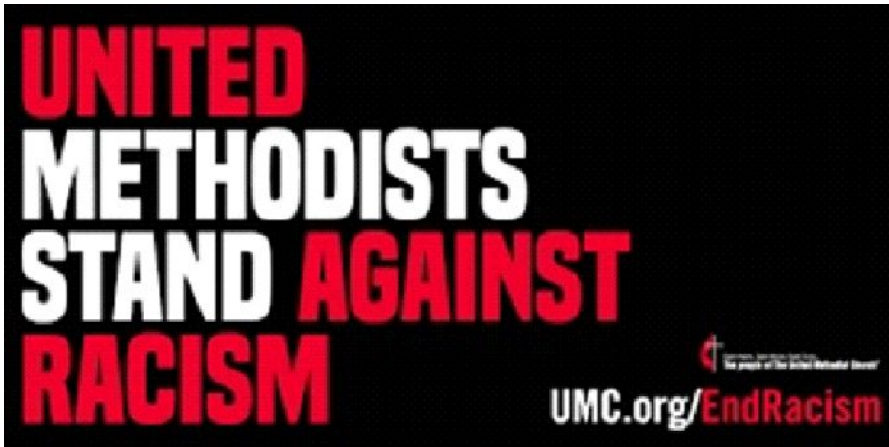
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5 • 6:00 PM

GROW LIKE JESUS!

FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!

FAMILIES WILL STAY IN THEIR CARS AND TUNE THEIR RADIO TO A FUN, KID-FRIENDLY VBS SERVICE LED BY PASTOR MARK. THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM WILL COME AROUND TO EACH CAR AND MAKE A SPECIAL CRAFT WITH EACH CHILD, HAND OUT INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED SNACKS & DISTRIBUTE A SPECIAL BOX OF VBS ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS TO DO AT HOME!





Excerpts from Social
Principles, 2016,
Para. 162a

Racism is the combination of the power to dominate by one race over other races and a value system that assumes that the dominant race is innately superior to the others. Institutional racism is the established social pattern that supports implicitly or explicitly the racist value system. Racism plagues and cripples our growth in Christ, inasmuch as it is antithetical to the gospel itself.

We define racial discrimination as the disparate treatment and lack of full access to resources and opportunities in the church and in society based on race or ethnicity. Therefore, we recognize racism as sin and affirm the ultimate and temporal worth of all persons. We rejoice in the gifts that particular ethnic histories and cultures bring to our total life. We commend and encourage the self-awareness of all racial and ethnic groups and oppressed people that leads them to demand their just and equal rights as members of society.

We commit as the Church to move beyond symbolic expressions and representative models that do not challenge unjust systems of power and access.

Let us pray

God of Heaven and Earth,

you created the one human family
and gave each of us great dignity.

Help us to overcome the sin of racism.

Grant us your grace in eliminating this blight
from our hearts, our communities,
our social and civil institutions.

Thank You for the example of Representative John Lewis,
for his faith, humility, and untiring commitment to justice.

As he has died, we pray that you receive his spirit
and comfort all who mourn for our loss.

Fill our hearts with love for you and our neighbor
so that we may work with you
in healing our land from racial injustice.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN**



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email us at fumcbatesville@gmail.com
 Check out newsletters online!
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://www.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

Listen to the Worship Service at 11:00 am on KWOZ FM 103.3 or on the internet 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

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



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

Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the August 5th newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, August 3rd to the church office or by email to Lyndal at lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net.