



# First United Methodist Challenge

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

August 5, 2020

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

## From the Pastor . . .

The sermon on the mount begins with the Beatitudes and Jesus' call to be happy or blessed no matter the circumstances. That is one of the major themes that moves through his entire sermon (Matthew 5-7), and this week takes us to a deeper understanding of how we find that happiness. It may surprise you that it doesn't necessarily come from attending church!



Many of you who grew up in the faith remember how many thought being a Christian meant you were at the church "every time the doors opened." However, there is a real danger in thinking that showing up at church will help you find an inner peace. Attending church (even online) can be very helpful, but Matthew 6:1-18 challenges us to be careful to attend church for the right reasons.

Join us online or on the radio this Sunday as we learn the way that Jesus taught us to care for our soul in a deeply personal way.

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.

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

Thank you to everyone that came out for Pastor Mark's Drive By Birthday Parade!



### 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 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 27<sup>th</sup> - Aug 1<sup>st</sup> ..... 46  
 Sunday Online Worship Service..... 243  
 Weekly Update - 7-29 ..... 101

## Our Gifts

### Received in August

Received through  
 08/02/2020  
 Cash & Checks..... \$8,690.00  
 Online Giving..... \$1,385.28  
 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

Aug 9 Allison Garrett  
 Barbara Wagoner  
 Aug 11 Phil Brissey  
 Aug 12 Rhianna Crouch  
 Dot Hohle  
 Aug 14 Emma Barker  
 Aug 15 Beverly Fountain  
 Sara Moore  
 Tommie Pearce  
 Rebecca Richman  
 Daniel Tripp

\*\*\*\*\*

Aug 9 Richard & Marieta Frasier  
 Aug 12 Roger & Abby Barker  
 Marcus & Glenda Bowers  
 Keith & Shelly Terhune

## MEMORIALS

### MARY JEANETTE WOOD

Butch & Cora Sue Jackson  
 Harry & Becky Crossett  
 Sonja Massey-Turner  
 Boris & Pamela Dover  
 Jon & Martha McGinnis Healey  
 James & Katy Smythe

*Daily Devotionals  
 to  
 start your Day!*

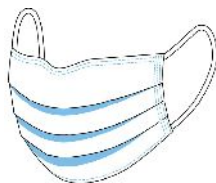
Monday through Saturday 9 AM

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

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

## 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!

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

Phyllis Terhune.....member

## Share Your Joys and Concerns!

We are taking our prayers in a new direction!

We are asking you to submit your prayers (joys and concerns) with the following guidelines:

- Prayers can be submitted by call the church office (793-3803), 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.

### Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

#### UAMS - Little Rock

Traci Phillips .....daughter of George & Pat Collins

#### WRMC

George Bentz, Sr.....member

### ✠ Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn ✠

Our sympathy goes out to *Stanley Wood and family* on the death of his wife, **Mary Jeanette "MJ" Wood**, who passed away Wednesday, July 27, 2020.

Graveside service was Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at Oaklawn Cemetery in Batesville.

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 Wood..... member

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

Mildred Arnold ..... member

Bobbie Sue Graves..... mother of Diana Waldrip

Troy Kuchler..... stepdad of member

Lucille Maris ..... member

Virgina 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

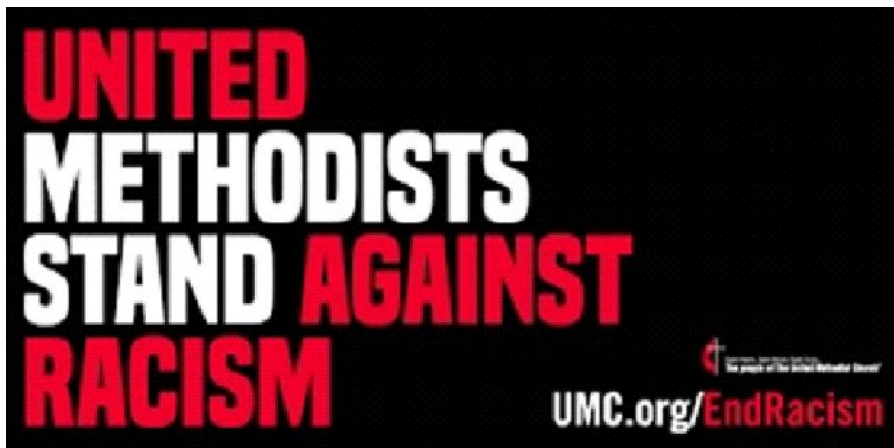
Capt. John Tice .....nephew of Verona Bebow

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



## **RACISM is evil.**

To everything there is a season,  
 A time for every purpose under heaven:  
 A time to keep silence,  
 And a time to speak Ecclesiastes 3:1&7b

This is not a time to be silent.  
 But rather  
 A time to listen  
 A time to hear people's pain,  
 even when covered with anger  
 A time to be in conversation  
 A time to be open, to learn  
 A time to face our own racism and complicity  
 A time to stand up  
 A time to stand with  
 A time to speak out  
 against racism and oppression  
 for justice, truth and mercy.

A lot to ask of ourselves but let us remember that Jesus taught us to pray, "Thy Kingdom come and Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." We put feet to our prayer when we work for God's kingdom of peace with justice here and now.

So, over the next few weeks, I will be sending out Resources to help equip us to resist evil, injustice and oppression as it shows its ugly head in the form of racism. **Please send me resources that you have found to be included in the newsletter.**

When we are baptized in the United Methodist Church, and again each time we witness a baptism, we are asked to renounce sin and profess our faith. One of the promises we make is to "accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves".



## **Let us pray,**

Lord, send your Spirit upon us. Help us to listen. Help us to hear each other. Help us to stand together for truth, justice and mercy. Help us to offer loving kindness to one another just as you offer to each one of us.

In the name of Jesus who taught and lived out the commandment to love God and neighbor.

AMEN

Email or text me at [mckinney.kathy9@gmail.com](mailto:mckinney.kathy9@gmail.com) if you have comments or resources that I might review and share. THANKS!



First United Methodist Church  
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 Batesville, AR 72503-2014

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**Inside This Issue!**

- From Our Pastor - page 1
- Birthday Parade - page 2
- Stewardship - page 3
- United Methodists Stand Against Racism - insert

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 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](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

**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://YouTube.com/c/FUMCBatesville.AR)

**Next Newsletter Deadline**

Articles for the August 12<sup>th</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).