



# First United Methodist Challenge

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

August 12, 2020

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

## From the Pastor . . .

We had a wonderful time with our first parking lot worship services (a parking lot VBS!), and we are looking forward to another wonderful night together this Wednesday at 6:00 pm for confirmation worship! Join us on the other side of the river – you can park in the parking lot and watch or wear a mask and bring a lawn chair to sit near the pavilion if you'd like!



This Sunday, we will continue with the worship series, "Fan or a Follower?" as we look at Matthew 6: 19-24. This week, as we continue through Jesus' sermon on the mount, Jesus challenges us to a new level of generosity and abundance: Use Stuff, Love People. Do we have that reversed sometimes?

Starting this week, we will be offering our daily devotional Monday through Saturday at 9:00 am on our YouTube channel and Facebook page. Our worship service premieres each Sunday at 9:00 am (and it broadcasts on 103.3 FM at 11:00 am.

Join us for worship everyday!  
In Christ's love,  
Pastor Mark



Pastor Mark is hosting the third annual round of cottage meetings 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.



## 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 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)

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

### 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

### Lucy Ruth Castleberry

Born 8-10-2020 at 2:20 pm

8lbs 7oz

19 inches

### Parents

Deann and Lindsey Castleberry

### Grandparents

Martha and Ron Lewallen

Melissa Castleberry



**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](mailto:fumcbatesville@gmail.com)



### 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 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 Roofoe

### Finance Chair

Tommy Newton

## Our Presence

Average Daily Devotional views  
Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>- Aug 8<sup>th</sup> ..... 52  
Sunday Online Worship Service..... 214  
Weekly Update - Aug 5<sup>th</sup> ..... 48

## Our Gifts

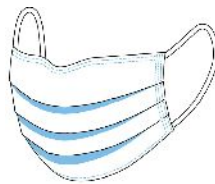
### Received in August

Received through  
08/02/2020  
Cash & Checks..... \$8,690.00  
Online Giving..... \$1,385.28  
Received through  
08/09/2020  
Cash & Checks..... \$9,072.86  
Online Giving..... \$3,812.05  
Amount needed weekly ..... \$11,427.00

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!

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

Aug 16 Matt McDonald  
Aug 17 Emily Tucker  
John Wise  
Aug 18 Marcella Langley  
Aug 21 Austin Carter  
George Dortch  
Johnny Kent

\*\*\*\*\*

Aug 16 Mike & Sandy West  
Aug 19 Paul & Pam Glover  
Bill & Diana Waldrip  
Aug 20 Steve & Rebecca Richman  
Shawn & Lisa Smith

## MEMORIALS

### MARY JEANETTE WOOD

Ron & Martha Lewallen  
Greg & Angie Golden  
Tom Thompson  
Jim & Phyllis Stokes  
Sam & Ruth Anne Stokes  
John & Vernice Stokes  
Carolyn & Jim Buchanan  
Sandra & Bill Hughes  
Martha Faulkner  
Beth & Sam Hightower  
Dottie & Larry Lilly  
Bobby & Connie Davis  
Shelby, Beatrice, & Christopher Moore  
David & Linda Hidy  
Dale & Gayle Cole  
Charles M. McClain, Jr.  
Tripp Supply Inc.  
Betty C. Adams  
Dr. Deborah & Jim Johnson  
Polly Gay Bennett  
Steve & Becky Singleton  
Mike, Karla, & Josh Hopkins  
Shep & Ellen Russell  
First Community Bank  
John Ellis  
Pat & George Collins  
Mary C. Woodsmall  
Billie & Skip Rutherford

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 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  
Regan & Matt Dobbins.....friends of member  
Terri Presley.....member  
Shirley Stuckey.....member  
Phyllis Terhune.....member  
Carolyn Wilson .....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 (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.

### Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

#### NICU - Little Rock

Oliver Dobbins .....friend of member

#### UAMS - Little Rock

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

#### White River Medical Center

Sherry Everett .....member

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  
Virginia Swetnam..... mother of Lorrie McClure

#### Woodcrest Assisted Living

Marilyn Coffman..... member  
Judy Murrah..... member  
Dianne Taylor..... member

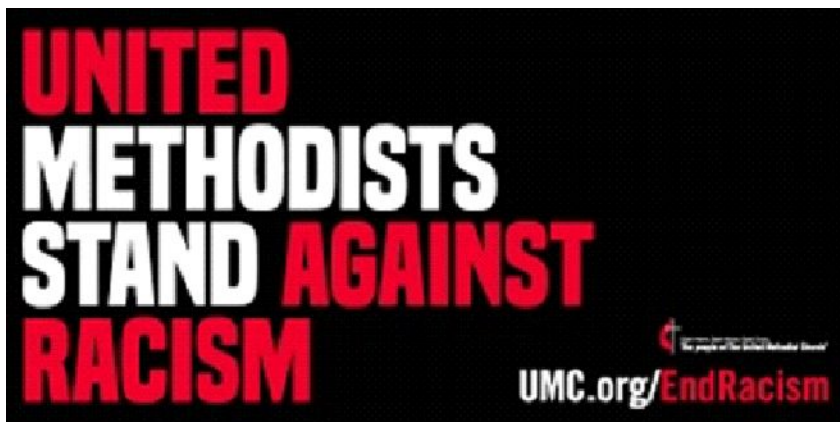
### Our Prayers for Those in U.S. Military Service

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.....  
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

### If you need pastoral assistance contact:

Pastor Mark McDonald - 501-650-0046  
Associate Pastor Carl Hudson - 870-251-6227





Excerpts from: **A Charter for Racial Justice Policies in an Interdependent Global Community**

Found in: The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church -- 2016

We are conscious that “we have sinned as our ancestors did; we have been wicked and evil” (Psalm 106:6 GNT). We call for a renewed commitment to the elimination of institutional racism. We affirm the 1976 General Conference Statement on The United Methodist Church and Race that states unequivocally: “By biblical and theological precept, by the law of the church, by General Conference pronouncement, and by Episcopal expression, the matter is clear. With respect to race, the aim of The United Methodist Church is nothing less than an inclusive church in an inclusive society. The United Methodist Church, therefore, calls upon all its people to perform those faithful deeds of love and justice in both the church and community that will bring this aim into reality.”

Because we believe:

1. That God is the Creator of all people and all are God’s children in one family;
2. That racism is a rejection of the teachings of Jesus Christ;
4. That racism robs all human beings of their wholeness and is used as a justification for social, economic, environmental, and political exploitation;
5. That we must declare before God and before one another that we have sinned against our sisters and brothers of other races in thought, in word, and in deed;
7. That our strength lies in our racial and cultural diversity and that we must work toward a world in which each person’s value is respected and nurtured;
8. That our struggle for justice must be based on new attitudes, new understandings, and new relationships and must be reflected in the laws, policies, structures, and practices of both church and state.

**We commit ourselves as individuals and as a community to follow Jesus Christ in word and in deed and to struggle for the rights and the self-determination of every person and group of persons.**

Therefore, as United Methodists in every place across the land, we will unite our efforts within the Church to take the following actions:

1. Eliminate all forms of institutional racism in the total ministry of the Church, giving special attention to those institutions that we support, beginning with their employment policies, purchasing practices, environmental policies, and availability of services and facilities;
2. Create opportunities in local churches to deal honestly with the existing racist attitudes and social distance between members, deepening the Christian commitment to be the church where all racial groups and economic classes come together;
3. Increase efforts to recruit people of all races into the membership of The United Methodist Church and provide leadership-development opportunities without discrimination;
4. Establish workshops and seminars in local churches to study, understand, and appreciate the historical and cultural contributions of each race to the church and community;
5. Raise local churches’ awareness of the continuing needs for equal education, housing, employment, medical care, and environmental justice for all members of the community and to create opportunities to work for these things across racial lines;
6. Work for the development and implementation of national and international policies to protect the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of all people such as through support for the ratification of United Nations covenants on human rights;
7. Support and participate in the worldwide struggle for liberation in church and community;
8. Facilitate nomination and election processes that include all racial groups by employing a system that prioritizes leadership opportunities of people from communities that are disproportionately impacted by the ongoing legacy of racial injustice. Use measures to align our vision for racial justice with actions that accelerate racial equity.

*continued on back*

ADOPTED 1980

READOPTED 2000, 2008, 2016

The Methodist Church in America has a rocky history of complicity with racism in our treatment of Native Americans and African Americans, as well as other non-European groups. Yet we, as a church, have said the right words for 40 years but it is time to step up our efforts to address the sin of racism. The following resources include a video in which our UM Bishops announce an initiative to Dismantle Racism, the Racial Justice page on the UMC website with ways to stand against racism which offers videos and links to many resources including some for children, and a link to the full text of the Charter for Racial Justice.

Resources

Link to UMC Bishops' Juneteenth Announcement- Dismantling Racism: Press on to Freedom

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=RDCMUCNeWGDkdg\\_ymEYj7ebNS6ZA&v=J7T\\_-x1GAnA&feature=emb\\_rel\\_end](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=RDCMUCNeWGDkdg_ymEYj7ebNS6ZA&v=J7T_-x1GAnA&feature=emb_rel_end)

<https://www.umc.org/en/how-we-serve/advocating-for-justice/racial-justice/>

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/book-of-resolutions-a-charter-for-racial-justice-policies-in-an-interdependent-global-community>

Please contact me with resources that you have found helpful, comments, or if you would like to start a dialog about race and where, we as a church, might go from here to dismantle racism.

In God's peace,

Kathy McKinney

[mckinney.kathy9@gmail.com](mailto:mckinney.kathy9@gmail.com)



First United Methodist Church  
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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 & YouTube each morning at 9:00 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 19<sup>th</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).