



First United Methodist Challenge

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

September 2, 2020

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

From the Pastor . . .

This week, we come to the end of our series, "Fan or Follower," during which we have followed the sermon on the mount from Matthew chapters 5-7. This week, we will focus on Matthew 7:7-12.

Jesus ends his sermon with this Sunday's passage, which we know as "Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you" (verse 7). However, that is not the end of the sermon! As with much of what Jesus says, there is more to the story that we might think at first. The verses that follow begin to cause us to think carefully about what we ask, seek, and knock for!

The sermon title is, "You Can Ask for Anything...But be Careful What You Ask For!" Join us Sunday at we hear the words of Jesus that speak directly to our situation today!

In Christ's love,
Pastor Mark



Saturday Morning Breakfast

Since COVID-19 has closed our church for the time being, we have changed the way we handle our Saturday morning breakfast. We have ten wonderful volunteers that come in each Saturday morning (wearing masks and gloves) to help prepare food for our breakfast. We are serving breakfast via carry outs from 8:30 to 9:30. Families drive thru our breeze way and pick up their meals. Since we have been doing this, we are serving between 60 - 100 meals each Saturday. **WONDERFUL BLESSING!!!**

However, with us still providing a full meal to everyone that comes through, this has also increased our expenses with having to purchase carry out trays for our food and cups for our drinks. As of right now we have enough money to serve breakfast for about (6) weeks.

We would very much appreciate any donations that you may be able to provide to continue feeding "God's Children" during this difficult time for all of us but, especially for those less fortunate.

Communion September 6th

We will share in online communion this Sunday during our online worship service. As we have done in the past, we invite you to gather the elements on your own and have them ready for our time of communion.

This month, however, we will move immediately into communion following our normal worship premier, so it will take place around 9:45 am on Sunday.

COVID Rules for FUMC Groups

The church remains closed and access is limited to essential personnel only. That generally includes persons getting food for the blessing box, staff performing necessary duties, and clearing/maintenance persons only.

Masks are required at all church functions and activities, including outside groups. We do allow you to remove your mask while seated in a small group provided you are at least 6 feet from any other person. If you stand to walk somewhere, you must put your mask back on.

Groups should remain near or below 10 people when meeting outside.



Shop Amazon? Give a portion to FUMC!

If you shop on amazon.com, please consider going to **smile.amazon.com** and registering "**First Methodist Church, Batesville, AR**" as your charity of choice! 1/2% of every dollar you spend will be donated to our church for ministry!

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



Thank you to everyone that helped last Saturday night with trimming, raking and hauling off branches. We have more yard work to do...stay tuned!



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?"

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
 Aug 24th- Aug 29th 29
 Sunday Online Worship Service..... 150
 Weekly Update - Aug 19th..... 166

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

Received through
 08/16/2020
 Cash & Checks..... \$7,870.00
 Online Giving..... \$755.55

Received through
 08/23/2020
 Cash & Checks..... \$3,175.00
 Online Giving..... \$1,442.83

Received through
 08/30/2020
 Cash & Checks..... \$8,925.00
 Online Giving..... \$2,006.07

Amount needed weekly \$11,427.00

Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

Sept 6 Bob Carter
 Sept 7 Mattie Ann Ballard
 Kathy McKinney
 Sept 9 Coleen Jackson
 Sept 10 Carolyn Davis
 Gwenda Dobbs
 Susan Weaver
 Sept 11 Billy Prickett
 Sept 12 Abby Barker
 Edward Driver

Sept 10 Chris & Dawn Tucker
 Sept 12 Dallas & Barbara Estes

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

MEMORIALS

MARY JEANETTE WOOD

Steve & Glenda Bell
 Dianne & Mark Lamberth
 Lyon College

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

Mid-Week Update with Pastor Mark
 Wednesdays @5:30 on facebook

Daily Devotionals to start your Day!
 Monday through Saturday 9 AM
www.facebook.com/fumcbatesville

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

Tom Curlmember
 Terri Presley.....member
 Phyllis Terhune.....member
 Jacob Terrellson of Terri Presley
 Carolyn Wilsonmember

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

✠ Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn ✠

Our sympathy goes out to *Gerri Bentz and family* in the death of her husband, **George Bentz, Sr.**, who passed away Sunday, August 30, 2020.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

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

Woodcrest Assisted Living

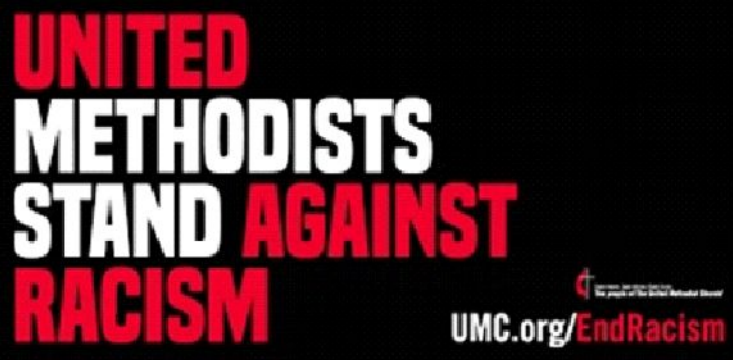
Marilyn Coffman..... member
 Judy Murrah..... member
 Dianne Taylor..... member

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.....
 Sergeant 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



30 Days of Anti-Racism

This week Katie McLean sent me this calendar created by the General Commission on Religion and Race of the UMC.

Thank you, Katie. I plan to look at it daily, looking for ways engage in the suggested action for that day

For more information about **30 Days of Anti-Racism**, visit gcorr.org

30 days of ANTI-RACISM

SEPTEMBER 2020		1 Pray about how God is calling you to act.	2 Draft your racial autobiography.	3 Participate in intercultural conversations.	4 Volunteer or donate in support of National Food Bank	5 Support diverse leadership.
6 Celebrate National Read-a-Book Day by purchasing an anti-racism resource.	7 Pray about how you can speak up about injustice this week.	8 Learn more about your local elections.	9 Engage in the difficult conversation.	10 Learn greetings and phrases in another language.	11 Be willing to be in the minority.	12 Support a local Black-owned business.
13 Listen to a preacher from a different cultural background than your own.	14 Plan to participate in an anti-racism demonstration.	15 Commit to continued learning in celebration of National Online Learning Day.	16 Engage in local community organizing.	17 Recognize racism in your community.	18 Find a mentor who is from a different cultural background than your own.	19 Learn about Hispanic Heritage Month.
20 Send your tithe or offering to a Black church.	21 Engage with and invest in young leaders dedicated to anti-racism work.	22 Celebrate National Voter Registration Day by registering to vote and helping another person to register.	23 Encourage an activist.	24 Support Black artists and musicians.	25 Amplify the voices of People of Color by inviting them as speakers at worship and other events.	26 Watch a documentary film or series about anti-racism.
27 Pray about how God is calling you to be more anti-racist.	28 Support non-profits engaged in the work of anti-racism.	29 Examine your implicit biases.	30 Commit to continuing the work of anti-racism in honor of National Love People Day.	  RELIGION & RACE The United Methodist Church www.gcorr.org		
#30DaysAntiRacism						



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Inside This Issue!

- From Our Pastor - page 1
- Church Yard Work - page 2
- Stewardship - page 3
- 30 Days of Anti-Racism - insert

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

"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

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 whiterivernow.com/ar1033/ and click Listen Live button
 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

Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the September 9th newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, September 7th to the church office or by email to Lyndal at lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net.