



# First United Methodist Challenge

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

September 9, 2020

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

## From the Pastor . . .

For the next few weeks, we will return to the lectionary, which is a common scripture guide for many denominations. This week, we will look at Romans 14:1-12 as we consider this word for today's divided world. While we are used to hearing the call to be uncompromising in our beliefs, Paul challenges us to let our guard down and seek unity in spite of our differences.



Clearly, that can apply to a host of our challenges today: the pandemic, civil rights, the coming election, and more. But this word is for you and me in a more personal way! The challenge is not for others to act nicer, but for us to be the leader Christ is calling us to be, to how the world how each person can make a difference.

Join us in worship this Sunday at 9:00 am on Facebook and YouTube, or on 103.3 FM at 11:00 am!

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Mark

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 22 at 6 PM

Dear Church Family,

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, September 22 at 6 PM. This meeting will be virtual. You should receive an email with the link to the meeting if you wish to attend. Otherwise, please call the church office and one of our great staff will share that information with you.

In addition to approving our normal yearly business, the church will discuss in passing the current state of affairs about reopening our campus. We have previously voted to await a 14-day continuous decline in the State of Arkansas before considering reopening our church campus. It seems like that benchmark is nowhere in sight. But we will talk about these issues and welcome your comments.

Peace and love,  
Barrett S. Moore  
Chair, Church Council

## Coming Soon!

We are excited to share that we are launching a second online worship service that begins October 4, 2020. The new service will feature traditional hymn and readings, and will premier at 11:00 am each Sunday. It will feature the same theme, sermon, and children's time, and will allow us to provide two different styles of worship. Watch for more details in the next few weeks!

## 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.



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

# FIRST KIDS CARD MINISTRY

## Hey kids! We need your help!

Ms. Kathy & Ms. Katie would like to send a card to each resident at Eagle Mtn. Assisted Living center  
**By September 15** and we want the cards to be designed by you!



### 4 EASY STEPS TO HELP:

1. Make a card with Crayons or markers & any kind of paper
2. Include a greeting such as "Praying for you" "Have a Great Day" "God loves you!"
3. You can sign your name or put FUMC
4. Place the card in our new, white mailbox under the Church's Breezeway!



Of course, you are welcome to make more than one card.  
 We are trying to collect 48 cards total!

**PARENTS:** Thank you for helping your child  
 Be the 🖐️🖐️ and 🦶🦶 of God!



## 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  
Aug 30<sup>th</sup>- Sept 5<sup>th</sup> ..... 58  
Sunday Online Worship Service..... 308  
Weekly Update - Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... 86

## Our Gifts

### Received in September

Received through  
09/08/2020  
Cash & Checks..... \$12,770.00  
Online Giving..... \$1,191.03  
Amount needed weekly ..... \$11,427.00

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

**Daily Devotionals  
to  
start your Day!**

Monday through Saturday 9 AM

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

**Mid-Week  
Update  
with Pastor  
Mark**

Wednesdays @5:30 on facebook

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

Sept 13 Jim Davis  
Deann Castleberry  
Starr Kent  
Morgan Painter  
Sept 14 Kate Taylor  
Sept 15 Cody Cox  
James Matinchek  
Sept 16 Becky Brewer  
Bradley Slaughter  
Sept 17 Jonathon Carter  
Thomas Carter  
Scott Kallsnick  
Charles Kibbe  
Sept 18 Macy Ann Bryant  
Rikki Painter  
Sept 19 Mia Roberts  
Steve Taylor  
Jane Vinson

\*\*\*\*\*

Sept 15 Bill & Brenda Bobrosky  
Ron & Barbara Cheatham  
Sept 17 Bradley & Andrea Slaughter

## MEMORIALS

MARY ANN MARSHALL

CHARLES ARNOLD

IRVIN KIMMER

KATHERINE TRIPP

ROYCE KNOWLES

Greg & Mona Neaville

MARY JEANETTE WOOD

Julia Truemper

Roger & Abby Barker

JACKIE GOHEEN

George & Pat Collins

FLOY MAE CROSSETT

Larry & Hilda Malpica

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 Curl .....member  
 Terri Presley.....member  
 Phyllis Terhune.....member  
 Jacob Terrell .....son of Terri Presley  
 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 (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 *Harry Crossett and family* in the death of his mother, **Floy Mae Crossett**, who passed away Wednesday, August 26, 2020.

A private family service will be held with interment in Monticello, AR.

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  
 Bobbye 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



On August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Reconciling Ministries Network recognized First United Methodist Church of Batesville's own Reconciling Ministries Group. The local organization is called Batesville Unity Group (BUG) and is made up of several church and community members. As part of the Reconciling Ministries Network, BUG members are called to seek justice for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. The Reconciling Ministries Network envisions a renewed and vibrant Wesleyan movement that is biblically and theologically centered.

#### Batesville Unity Group MISSION STATEMENT:

Christ came not to condemn the world, but to save it. Jesus calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves. In response to that call, the Batesville Unity Group of First United Methodist Church of Batesville, Arkansas, welcomes, affirms, and celebrates all persons of every age, gender identity, racial and ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital status, socioeconomic status, nationality, physical and mental ability who are called to worship, discipleship, marriage, or ordained ministry in our local church and the United Methodist Church worldwide.

Join the movement TODAY! BUG meets on Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:00 p.m. via Zoom. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month, BUG members volunteer at Batesville Help & Hope from 6-7 p.m. to prep food boxes for pick up the next day. We'll volunteer this Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures will be taken and gloves provided. We will practice social distancing protocol and MASKS MUST BE WORN.

For information on how you can become a part of BUG or volunteering with us,

contact Amanda Roberts at [miacmom2006@gmail.com](mailto:miacmom2006@gmail.com).

To learn more about Reconciling Ministries, visit:

<https://rmnetwork.org>



## Overt and Covert Racism

Hope you have begun using your Anti-Racism September calendar. Just this first week, I have found myself praying about injustice and what my role might be, looking at my own experiences, awareness and lack of awareness, watching intercultural videos, having conversations about fears and dreams of a racially just society and looking for ways I have and might support diverse leadership in the church and government.

### OVERT RACISM

Generally socially unacceptable

Hate crimes •  
 Lynching •  
 Anti-immigrant violence •  
 Blackface/Brownface •  
 Painting swastikas • Burning crosses • Racial slurs • The Ku Klux Klan • Public harassment of POCs speaking other than English

### COVERT RACISM

Socially acceptable/practiced

White silence • Racial profiling • Denying institutional racism • Police brutality against People of Color (POC)/'Law and order' • Tone policing • "There's only one human race" • Invalidating or disbelieving POC experiences with racism • Touting respectability politics • Fear of People of Color • Denying white privilege • 'Bootstrap theory' • Microaggressions • Rewriting history • Eurocentric school curricula • 'All Lives Matter' • Using POC culture as Halloween costumes • "You don't have an accent!" • "But they have Black colleges!" • Prioritizing white people as experts on everything • Denial of racism • Tokenism • Cultural appropriation • Treating children of color as adults • 'You're so articulate' • White self-segregating neighborhoods, churches, schools • "Where are you REALLY from?" • Weaponizing whiteness • Coded racist language and actions • "My intention was not racist!" • Racist sports mascots • Mass incarceration • Colorism • School-to-prison pipeline • English-only • Fetishizing POC • Meritocracy myths • "We need qualified people" • Eurocentric beauty standards • 'White savior' complex • Claiming 'reverse racism' • Colorblindness • 'Playing the race card' • Excusing/ 'white-splaining' racism • Mission trips

As I continue to explore resources provide by the General Commission on Religion and Race of the UMC, the graphic and material on Overt and Covert Racism keeps drawing me back to learn more.

For more information about **30 Days of Anti-Racism** and a good explanation of each of the phrases listed in the graphic as **Covert Racism**, visit [gcorr.org](http://gcorr.org)

I'd like to hear from any of you who have experiences or thoughts to share as you have used the Anti-Racism calendar or read about Overt and Covert Racism.

In God's peace,  
 Kathy McKinney  
[mckinney.kathy9@gmail.com](mailto:mckinney.kathy9@gmail.com)  
 870-251-3665



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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**

**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 & 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/](http://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](https://YouTube.com/c/FUMCBatesville.AR)

**Next Newsletter Deadline**

Articles for the September 16<sup>th</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).