



First United Methodist Challenge

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

December 9, 2020

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

From the Pastor . . .

This Sunday, we celebrate the third Sunday of Advent and focus on Joy with John 1:6-9 and 19-28. We have focused on Joy in worship in many ways in the past, but primarily focus on how joy is not dependent on our circumstances (happiness is). This week, our scripture challenges us to look beyond the darkness to a light that will never be extinguished, a light that we know as Christ the Lord.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Mark



Small Group Hosts Needed!

We continue to have multiple small groups that meet in person with clear safety precautions: approx. 10 people or less, wearing masks, with sign in for contact tracing. That has worked wonderfully, and we are actually seeing some new faces!

We are asking you to consider hosting a small group that meets online, outdoors, or indoors with these restrictions. The format and contact is up to you, and staff will help you with materials if you need them. We currently have nine groups meeting at the church, and you can reserve a safe space by contacting the church office.

If you are the leader of a Sunday School class or small group, please consider planning a small gathering with the "Three W's" – WEAR a mask, WASH your hands, and WATCH your distance. You can also start a new group – men's group, women's group, families, couples, singles – whatever you want!

This is absolutely the best way to stay connected with your church, and we are looking for new hosts and groups. All on-campus groups are by reservations only, but we are anxious to work with you to make it happen! Contact Pastor Mark or the church office to learn more.

Ways to Give During the COVID-19 Crisis

- Give through our website at 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

Give to the Blessing Box

The blessing box is in need of non perishable items, especially:

- Pastas (ramen noodles, spaghetti, etc)
- Peanut butter
- Cereals
- Kid-friendly foods (snacks or easy to fix items)
- Canned proteins



Community Breakfast
Free
8:30 Every Saturday
FUMC Fellowship Hall

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



It is time to reveal yourself to your secret pal. Thank you to those who were a secret pal this past year. I know all the recipients enjoyed so much that they were not forgotten, and they appreciate everything from their secret pal.

God Bless all who volunteered to be a secret pal.

The **Batesville Unity Group (BUG)** is hosting a holiday meal and Zoom holiday gathering on Saturday, Dec. 19th for anyone in the community who finds themselves without others to share the Christmas season. The holidays can be an extremely lonely time which is especially true this year due to COVID-19 precautions. The meals will be provided as take out on Saturday afternoon (timeframe TBD). Later that day, a Zoom holiday gathering will be presented with music, games, and socialization for anyone who would like to participate. Details will be provided soon with the link.

In the meantime, BUG is collecting donations to pay for the meal. You can make a contribution by sending a check to the church (P.O. Box 2014, Batesville, AR 72503) or online by visiting the FUMC website (www.fumcbatesville.org) and click the "GIVE ONLINE" button on the right hand side of that page or give through the church's app. Please put **BUG Holiday Meal** on the memo line when making your contribution. You can email any questions or your willingness to volunteer on the 19th to miacmom2006@gmail.com

BUG 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 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.

Our faith is shaped and encouraged by the hymns we sing.

This one speaks volumes.

“God Has Work For Us To Do”

'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled;
'til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled:

God has work for us to do,
'til God's will is done, and all things are made new,
God has work for us to do!

'Til age and race and gender no longer separate;
'til pulpit, press, and politics are free of greed and hate:

By praying through our doing, and singing though we fear,
by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near:

God has work for us to do,
'til God's will is done, and all things are made new,
God has work for us to do!

by Carl Daw, Mark A. Miller



Giving Tree Information Form (copy and paste)

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfs5CEkm3LWYGge_zQLcJ-J50u5GBTPCKtdUd8v8rDjdtZ_vg/viewform

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

Lay Leader

Mike Wilson

Lay Servants/Ministers

Cyndi House
Kathy McKinney
Sandy West
Asa Whitaker

Church Council Chair

Barrett Moore

Staff/Parish Chair

Paul Holfield

Trustees Chair

Alex Roofe

Finance Chair

Tommy Newton

Our Presence

Daily Devotional Average.....35/day
Sunday Online Worship Service.....228
Weekly Update – Dec 1st 27 views

Our Gifts

Received in December

Received through
12/06/2020
Cash & Checks..... \$7,550.00
Online Giving.....\$553.44
Amount needed weekly \$11,427.00

MEMORIALS

URBA REED
GEORGE BENTZ, SR.
DITEBBETTS
LOWELLTEBBETTS
John Ellis



EMAIL US!!!

Email us at fumcbatesville@gmail.com to add your email to our newsletter list, in case we are not able to mail it for a brief time because of safety concerns.



Mid-Week Update



w/ Pastor Mark

WEDNESDAYS @NOON ON FACEBOOK

Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

December 13 Ameen Simmons Gould
Sakarin Koonopakarn
Sterling Dias-Koonopakarn
Martha Lewallen
Sarah Lynn Reynolds
December 14 Judy Altom
Max Neaville
December 15 Stacy Wagoner
December 17 Jill Blankenship
Carol Barnett Robertson
Andrea Slaughter
December 18 Ginger Davis
Amy Pinkston
Julie Terhune
December 19 Rob Kibbe

December 18 Hank & Tommie Pearce

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

Pray for our church

for our pastors & staff
for our leaders
for those who are homebound or hospitalized
for every household
for our small groups and relationships

Pray for our community

for those who are hungry
for those who are struggling in life or faith
for those who are abused and oppressed
for those who do not yet know the love of Christ

Pray for our world

for the church universal
for our nation's leaders
for all the nations
for the unity of all God's children
for the care of God's creation
for peace with justice

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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

Della Mae Dortch Member
Terri Presley.....member
Troy Smythe.....son of Katy Smythe
Phyllis & Jim Terhune.....members
Carolyn Wilsonmember

Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

Wakemed Raleigh Hospital in Raleigh, NC

Dianne Taylor.....member

Send cards to Dianne Taylor to:

Diane Taylor Room # 3B
Clare Bridge at Brookdale
7870 Chapel Hill Rd.
Cary, NC 27513

Daily Devotionals to start your Day!

Monday through Saturday 9 AM

www.facebook.com/fumcbatesville

✠ Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn ✠

Our sympathy goes out to *Katy Smythe and family*, in the death of her husband, **Jim Smythe**, who passed away Monday, December 7, 2020. Funeral arrangements are pending at this time.

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

Clare Bridge at Brookdale

Dianne Taylor..... member

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
Lucille Maris member
Virgina Swetnam mother of Lorrie McClure

Woodcrest Assisted Living

Marilyn Coffman..... member
Judy Murrah..... 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
Lt. Col. 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

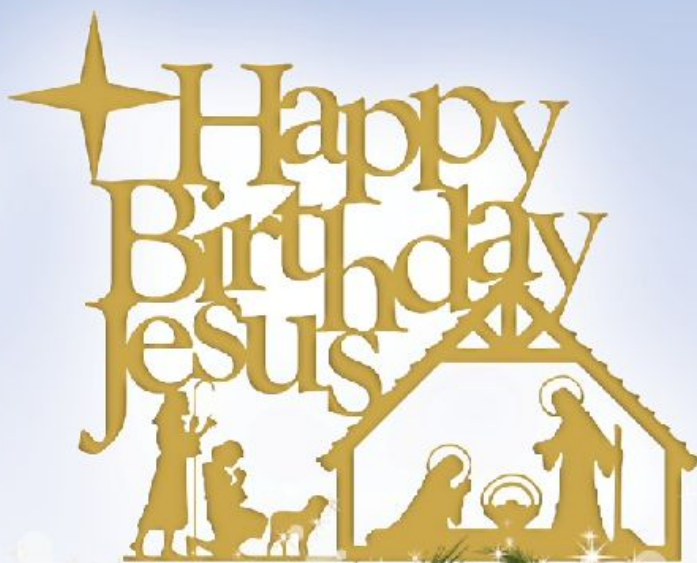
If you need pastoral assistance contact:

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

DRIVE-THROUGH CHRISTMAS EVENT FOR FIRST KIDS!

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020
5:30-6:30PM • FUMC BREEZEWAY**

Bring your kids to see Santa and receive a take home Bag of materials to help you celebrate Christmas at home with your family. Supplies will be included for a Birthday Party for Jesus!





First United Methodist Church
 615 East Main St.
 P.O. Box 2014
 Batesville, AR 72503-2014

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 Batesville, AR
 72501-4694
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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

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FACEBOOK CONNECTIONS

facebook.com/fumcbatesville

"Mid-week Update" with the pastor Mark each Wednesday at noon 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

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/FUMCBatesvilleAR

Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the December 16th newsletter must be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday, December 14th to the church office or by email to Lyndal at lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net.