



First United Methodist Challenge

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

December 6, 2023

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

From the Pastor . . .

Dear Church Family,

This Advent our worship series focuses on the women in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus. I hope you have learned something new through the series and that it is helping you to prepare for the celebration of Christmas.



This week we turn to the story of Ruth. Ruth's story is one that many of us can relate to; her's is a story of rebuilding her life after loss. Her story tells us a lot about the God we serve and the God we welcome in the manger. I look forward to sharing this story with you on Sunday.

This Wednesday is our Children's Christmas Pageant. I love watching children retell the Christmas story because something unplanned and unexpected always happens, no matter how many rehearsals there are. This is a good reminder of how Mary and Joseph must have felt that first Christmas as events unfolded that they never could have predicted. Yet, through those unexpected and unplanned events, God was revealed to us in a new way. Whether or not you have children in the pageant, I hope you will join us on Wednesday at 6:30 in the sanctuary for our children's pageant. I encourage you to read through the newsletter and follow FUMC on Facebook to stay up to date with all our Advent and Christmas activities.

God Bless,
Pastor Katie

Children's Christmas Pageant



Wednesday,
December 6
at 6:30 PM

First United Methodist
Church Sanctuary



Children's sermon by Rikki Painter teaching all of us about the Christmas Tree.

Advent Activities at FUMC:

- Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30 Children's Christmas Pageant
- Saturday, December 9 at 6:00 Christmas Parade and Live Nativity
- Wednesday, December 13 at 6:00 Youth Christmas Party
- Sunday, December 17 at 9:00 and 11:00 Cantata
- Sunday, December 24 at 9:00 AM Breakfast Potluck
- Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 AM 4th Sunday of Advent Worship
- Sunday, December 24 at 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship

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

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

- Glenda Bowers.....member
- Marcus Bowersmember
- Bill Hess.....father of April Rice
- Starr Kent.....member
- Linda Hicks.....friend of John Ellis
- Judy Murrah.....member
- Sharan Pittser.....member
- Billy Prickett.....member
- Banks Shaw.....Barbara & Ron Cheatham's
Great Grandson
- Michale Swaim.....father of Brent Swaim

Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

St. Bernards - Jonesboro

- Jack Presleymember

✠ Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn ✠

Our sympathy goes out to *the Neaville children: Madison, Mason, Grace, Max, and Sophia*, in the death of their father and grandfather, **Dr. Greg Neaville**, who passed away November 28th.

A drop-in celebration of Dr. Greg Neaville's life will be held on Monday December 11th, 3:00-7:00 pm at the Batesville Community Center in Room A.

✠ Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn ✠

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Geraldine "Gerry" Bentz** who passed away Saturday, December 2nd.

Graveside services will begin at 1:00pm Friday, December 8th, at Oaklawn Cemetery under the direction of Roller-Crouch Funeral Home with Skip Rutherford officiating.

Visitation will be held from 5:00-7:00pm Thursday, December 7th, at the funeral home.

Blessing Box

Collecting these items this week

We need more canned meats, peanut butter & crackers, canned pasta, breakfast items, fruit cups.

Bring to church and put in the basket in front of the church office

Our Prayers for Those in Health Care Centers and Retirement Homes

Avendelle at Wyckford - Raleigh, NC

- Dianne Taylor..... member

Eagle Mountain Assisted Living

- Ruth Chesnutt..... mother of Gayle Ross
- Connie Crafton sister of Joel Wagoner

Wildwood Independent Living

- Nelda Hackworth..... member

Wood-Lawn Heights

- Sally Allen..... mother of Vicki Reed
- Bill Beller..... member
- Benodlyn Kramer..... aunt of Sonya Massey
- Jerry Millspaugh Elaine Vinson's uncle
- Asa Whitaker member

Woodcrest Assisted Living

- Ernestine Boyce member

Our Prayers for Those in U.S. Military Service

Those who have listed family in military service, please review and update the status of your service member.

- Staff Sergeant Cole Long.....Great Nephew of Verona Bebow
- Sgt. Lane Livelygrandson of Glen & LaDonna Busby
- Trent McDonald.....cousin of member
- Lt. Col. Shannon McLoughlin..daughter of Cecilia Vinson
- Capt. Chris Milumhusband of Kaylea Milum
- Petty Officer Zane Smartmember
- Lt. Cmdr. Greg Tebbettsson of Diane & Terrell Tebbetts
- Ltc. Colonel John Ticenephew of Verona Bebow
- Major Joe Warren
- Lance Cpl. James Brantley Wheelercousin of member

If you need pastoral assistance contact:

Pastor Katie Pearce at the church office (870) 793-3803

Church Leadership

Senior Pastor

Reverend Katie Pearce
katie.pearce@arumc.org

Church Administrator

Teresa Brown

Minister to Children & Family Ministries

Katie McLean

Director of Youth, Young Adults, and Welcome

Michael Robinson

Director of Traditional Worship

Marc Sexton

Worship Leader

Alicia Williams

Treasurer

Ruby Curl

Custodian

Joe Johnson

Lay Leader

Mike Wilson

Lay Servants/Ministers

Sandy West
Asa Whitaker

Church Council Chair

Barrett Moore

Finance Chair

Robb Roberts

Staff/Parish Chair

Rikki Painter

Trustees Chair

Joyce Prickett

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

Our Presence

Online Worship Views November 26th

11:00 Service (YT 18 + FB 93) 111

9:00 Service(FB) 34

In-Person Attendance

December 3rd 153

Our Gifts

Received in December

Received through 12-03-2023

Total Giving \$7,379.00

Scripture for Sunday's Sermon

Ruth 1:16-22

Our Service

for December 10th

ALTAR FLOWERS given to the honor and glory of God.

ALTAR GUILD: Karen Holifield
Diana Waldrip
Joyce Prickett

GREETERS:

9:00 Louise Sandefur
11:00 Robb and Jennifer Emery

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

Stephanie Wade

LITURGIST: Michelle Szybowicz

USHERS: Need Ushers

Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

December 10 Zeb Erick Anderson
Kathleen Reynolds
December 12 Marti Ruiz
December 13 Ameen Simmons Gould
Sakarín Koonopakarn
Sterling Dias-Koonopakarn
Martha Lewallen
Sarah Lynn Reynolds
December 14 Judy Altom
Max Neaville
December 15 Stacy Wagoner

First United Methodist Church

A church alive in the grace of God,
offering Christ,
transforming lives,
and changing our world
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The FLOWER CALENDAR for 2024 is here!

Please take a moment to stop by the flower calendar and pick a week of two to sign up to provide the altar flowers.

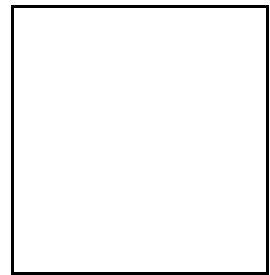
Flower Calendar 2024

We invite you to provide flowers for the altar by signing up on the calendar near the office (or calling the office). **You may donate \$50 or more, contact Signature Gifts to work with them, or create your own arrangement/work with a florist of your choice.**

The flowers are noted in the bulletin, and following Sunday worship, volunteers arrange them into individual vases and take them to members who are ill or homebound. Please take a moment to pick a Sunday where you can be a part of this wonderful ministry.



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



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email us at fumcbatesville@gmail.com
 Check out newsletters online!
www.fumcbatesville.org/



December Activities

- Dec. 6—6:30p—Kids Pageant
- Dec. 9—6:00pm—Christmas Parade
- Dec. 13—6:00pm—Youth Christmas Party
- Dec. 17—9:00am & 11:00am—Cantata
Both services in the Sanctuary.
- Dec. 17—12-2:00pm Parsonage Open House

The FUMC Challenge

Join the **Monday Night Men's Bible Study Group** for food and fellowship on **December 11th, 6:00pm**, at the Grammer House. Bring your favorite food.

11:00 Worship Service
 Livestream on
 YouTube and on Facebook

SUNDAYMORNINGS

9:00am Contemporary Service—Fellowship Hall
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Traditional Service—Sanctuary

Announcements

- Dec 6th** Chancel Choir Practice - 5:30pm
 BFUMC Kids - 5:30pm
 BFUMC Youth - 6:30pm
 Advent Bible Study - 5:30pm - Chaney-Huddleston
- Dec 9th** Community Breakfast - 8:30am - Fellowship Hall
- Dec 11th** Men's Bible Study - 6:00pm



Community Breakfast
 Free
8:30 Every Saturday
FUMC Fellowship Hall

Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the December 13th newsletter must be submitted by 10:00 am Monday, December 11th, to the church office or by email to Lyndal at lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net.