



# First United Methodist Challenge

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

February 14, 2024

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

## From the Pastor . . .

Dear Church Family,

This Sunday we are beginning a new worship series called Signs and Wonders about the miracles of Jesus. In the Gospel according to John he refers to the miracles of Jesus as either "signs" or "signs and wonders." These signs point us to a greater truth about Jesus. Throughout Lent we will be reading through the miracles of Jesus and discussing what these signs and wonders tell us about Jesus. We will begin this Sunday with Mark 1:40-45.

During Lent there are extra worship and discipleship opportunities. On Wednesdays there will be Lenten Devotions at noon at rotating churches. The host church will provide a simple soup lunch and area clergy will provide a short devotional. If you are available over the lunch hour, I hope you will attend. A schedule is included in the newsletter.

Many people will give something up or take on an extra spiritual practice during Lent. This season is a time to dive deeper into our faith lives and walk with Christ towards the cross and ultimately the joyful celebration of resurrection.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Katie



## Supporters and Friends of the Warming Center:

You are invited to join us for dinner on Saturday,  
**February 24, 2024**

Beginning at 5pm at First United Methodist Church's Fellowship hall. We want to thank you for your support, answer questions for persons who might want to volunteer again, and offer a walk through of our facility to our friends and supporters. If you can join us, please RSVP to fumcbatesville@gmail.com or by calling 870-793-3803 so we can provide sufficient food.

## Ash Wednesday Worship

**February 14 at 6:30 PM**  
**FUMC Batesville**  
**615 E Main St**  
**All are welcome**



## SILVER BELLES & BEAUS

Silver Bells and Beaus meet Tuesday, Feb 20<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have not been asked to bring soup, you may bring anything else to go with soup.

## Lenten Luncheons



2024 Lenten Lunch Schedule  
Wednesday's at noon.

See the insert for the speakers.

February 21—St. Mary's Catholic Church

February 28—St. Paul's Episcopal Church

March 6—Lyon College

March 13—First United Methodist Church

March 20—First Presbyterian Church

*"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

Bill Beller..... member  
Glenda Bowers..... member  
Marcus Bowers ..... member  
Ginger Davis ..... member  
Bill Hess..... father of April Rice  
Starr Kent..... member  
Linda Hicks..... friend of John Ellis  
Louise Hughes ..... member  
Jerry Millspaugh ..... Elaine Vinson's uncle  
Heather Pool..... niece of Jim & Kay Pool  
Billy Prickett..... member  
Kathleen Reynolds..... member  
Alannette Rushing ..... member  
Banks Shaw..... Barbara & Ron Cheatham's  
Great Grandson  
Michale Swaim..... father of Brent Swaim

## Our Prayers for Those in Hospitals

## ✝ Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn ✝

Our sympathy goes out to *family and friends of Jose-*  
**phine Raye Rogers**, who passed away on Wednesday,  
February 7<sup>th</sup>.

A Celebration of Life was held at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, in Little Rock at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Nursery Available 11:00am Service**

Kids Sunday School is every week from 10:00am—11:45am.

There is a nursery available for young children during this worship service.

We encourage older kids to stay in worship  
and it's fine if they make noise!

There are busy bags and coloring sheets located in the hallway behind the Sanctuary.

We are glad you and your kids are Here!

**Nursery & Sunday School 9:00am Service**

Kids are invited to go to the nursery after children's sermon.

Sunday School for kids is every week from 10:00am–10:45am.

## Our Prayers for Those in Health Care Centers and Retirement Homes

## Eagle Mountain Assisted Living

Ruth Chesnutt..... mother of Gayle Ross  
 Connie Crafton ..... sister of Joel Wagoner  
 Asa Whitaker ..... member

## The Springs Batesville

Judy Murrah..... member  
Jack Presley..... member

## Wildwood Independent Living

Nelda Hackworth ..... member

## Wood-Lawn Heights

Sally Allen..... mother of Vicki Reed  
Benodlyn Kramer..... aunt of Sonya Massey

## 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 Lively .....grandson of Glen & LaDonna Busby  
Trent McDonald.....cousin of member  
Lt. Col. Shannon McLoughlin..daughter of Cecilia Vinson  
Capt. Chris Milum .....husband of Kaylea Milum  
Petty Officer Zane Smart .....member  
Lt. Cmdr. Greg Tebbetts .....son of Diane & Terrell Tebbetts  
Ltc. Colonel John Tice .....nephew of Verona Bebow  
Major Joe Warren .....  
Lance Cpl. James Brantley Wheeler .....cousin of member

## Blessing Box

If you would like to help stock our Blessing Box, here's a list of items:

Pull tops please on can goods.

Canned meat, tuna, chicken, Vienna sausages

Thank you for being a blessing those less fortunate!

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

**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 February 4<sup>th</sup>

11:00 Service (YT 19 + FB 76) ..... 95

9:00 Service(FB) .....

### In-Person Attendance

February 11<sup>th</sup> ..... 116

## Our Gifts

### Received in February

Received through ..... 02-04-2024

Total Giving ..... \$34,397.00

Received through ..... 02-11-2024

Total Giving ..... \$8,092.58

## Scripture for Sunday's Sermon

Mark 1:40-45

## Our Service

### for February 18<sup>th</sup>

**ALTAR FLOWERS** given to the honor and glory of God  
(need altar flowers this Sunday)

**ALTAR GUILD:** Karen Holifield  
Diana Waldrip  
Joyce Prickett

### GREETERS:

9:00 Susan Tripp & Maggie Beshears  
11:00 David & Pam Smith

### CHILDREN'S SERMON:

Rikki Painter

**LITURGIST:** John Roberts

**USHERS:** Need Ushers

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

February 23 Samuel Cooke

February 24 Jennifer Faith

Nicholas Guyette

## MEMORIALS

### DIANNETAYLOR

Alice & Raymond Simmons  
William and Penny Dickason

### JOSEPHINE RAYE ROGERS

Alice & Raymond Simmons  
Eleanor Royer  
Diane & Terrell Tebbetts

### CAROL B. ROBERTSON

Eleanor Royer

## 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.



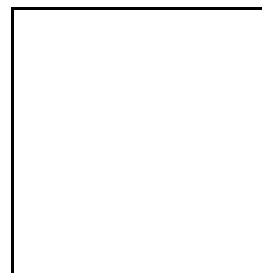
## Flower Calendar 2024

2024 is open!

Come pick your special Sunday to do the altarflowers!



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

**Check out newsletters online!**

**[www.fumcbatesville.org/](http://www.fumcbatesville.org/)**

### **The FUMC Challenge**

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Join the **Monday Night Men's Bible Study Group** for food and fellowship on **February 19<sup>th</sup>, 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**

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> Chancel Choir Practice  
BFUMC Kids - 5:30pm  
BFUMC Youth - 6:30pm  
Feb 14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday Service - 6:30pm  
Feb 17<sup>th</sup> Community Breakfast - 8:30am - Fellowship Hall  
Feb 19<sup>th</sup> Men's Bible Study - 6:00pm  
Feb 20<sup>th</sup> Silver Bells and Beaus - Fellowship Hall - noon



### **Community Breakfast**

**Free**  
**8:30 Every Saturday**  
**FUMC Fellowship Hall**

### **Next Newsletter Deadline**

Articles for the February 21<sup>st</sup> newsletter must be submitted by 10:00 am Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, to the church office or by email to Lyndal at [lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lyndalwaits@sbcglobal.net).

# Lenten Lunches

## Soup Lunch and Devotional

**Wednesdays during Lent at Noon**

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**February**

**21**

***St. Mary's Catholic  
Church***

Devotional by Rev. Elizabeth  
Brinegar of First Presbyterian  
Church

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**February**

**28**

***St. Paul's Episcopal  
Church***

Devotional by Rev. Jesse James  
of Central Ave. United Methodist  
Church.

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**March**

**6**

***Lyon College***

Devotional by Rev. Katie Pearce  
of First United Methodist Church

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**March**

**13**

***First United  
Methodist Church***

Devotional by Chaplain Maggie  
Alsup of Lyon College.

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**March**

**20**

***First Presbyterian  
Church***

Devotional by Father Jon Miskin  
of St. Mary's Catholic Church





# Lent

February 14 - March 31, 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			February 14 Attend an Ash Wednesday service.	15 Make a copy - print or digital - of this calendar, and share with a friend!	16 Fast from social media.	17 Visit a shut-in and deliver a meal or special treat.
18 1st Sunday in Lent Read Mark 1:9-15	19 Pray for the children in your neighborhood.	20 Say "thank you" to a store clerk, server, and/or delivery person.	21 Repent of your sins. Ask God for forgiveness.	22 Be humble.	23 Share an online post from your church with friends and family.	24 Commit to a new, healthy habit.
25 2nd Sunday in Lent Read Mark 8:31-38	26 Pray for people affected by war and conflict around the globe.	27 Send an encouraging letter or email to someone.	28 Skip a meal and give your savings to a favorite charity in your community.	29 Today is Leap Day! Do something fun. Play!	March 1 Read the words of Charles Wesley's hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"	2 Make a list of the blessings you have received in life.
3 3rd Sunday in Lent Read John 2:13-22	4 Pray for God's blessing on The United Methodist Church	5 Pray for God's blessing on those affiliated with other denominations.	6 Reach out to someone who is difficult to get to know.	7 Seek to be led by God.	8 Open your heart to someone you disagree with.	9 Ask God to reveal your spiritual gifts to you and use them.
10 4 th Sunday in Lent Read John 3:14-21	11 Pray for your immediate family members.	12 Be a witness for Christ.	13 Forgive those who have wronged you.	14 Remember and give thanks for those who have guided your faith and disciplined you.	15 Support a local business.	16 Go on a walk and listen to the sounds of nature.
17 4th Sunday in Lent Read John 12:20-33	18 Pray for someone in your extended family.	19 Fast from electronics.	20 Ask God to help you reconcile a broken relationship.	21 Text someone you haven't heard from recently and ask how they're doing.	22 Invite someone to join you for next week's Easter service.	23 Plant flowers or garden seeds. (Start seedlings inside if needed.)
24 Palm Sunday Read Mark 14:1 - 15:47	25 Holy Week Read John 12:1-11	26 Holy Week Read John 12:20-36	27 Holy Week Read John 13:21-32	28 Maundy Thursday Read John 13:1-17, 31b-35	29 Good Friday Read John 18:1 - 19:42	30 Holy Saturday Read John 19:38-42

**31 EASTER**  
Christ the Lord  
is risen today!  
Hallelujah!  
Read John 20:1-18



UMHEF.ORG | 800-811-8110

Consider a gift to UMHEF as part of your 2024 Lenten commitment.  
Visit [umhf.org/give](http://umhf.org/give), use the enclosed envelope, or call 1-800-811-8110.

# It's almost Lent.

Lent is an important time in the Christian calendar to prepare our hearts and minds for Jesus. The 40 days\* of Lent 2024 begin on February 14, Ash Wednesday, and end on March 30, the Saturday before Easter. This time represents the forty days Jesus suffered in the wilderness, enduring temptations and remaining close to God through fasting and prayer. This unimaginable time of trials and suffering is what prepared Jesus to carry out His ministry.

Through prayer, introspection, and service, you can also set aside the days of Lent to deepen your spiritual life and discern what God asks of you. On the other side of this page, you will find a special Lenten calendar, a gift from the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation. We invite you to use the daily prompts to help you pause, focus on God, and find renewal in Christ.

*Prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct, for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."*

1 Peter 1: 13-16, NRSV



The grand vision of the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation is that it be economically possible for any qualified United Methodist student to be educated at a United Methodist-related institution of higher education.

UMHEF supports United Methodist students attending one of the 119 UM-related schools, colleges, universities, and seminaries. Our partnerships with local UM churches, schools, annual conference foundations, and donors allow over 1,000 students to receive more than \$2 million in vital scholarship support every year.

\*The 40 days of Lent do not include Sundays.

Visit [UMHEF.ORG/GIVE](https://umhef.org/give) If you would like to support the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation as part of your Lenten commitment. You can also donate by mail by using the enclosed envelope or by phone by calling 1-800-811-8110.

"Lent is a favorable time for letting Christ serve us so that we in turn may become more like him."

POPE FRANCIS

