First United Methodist Challenge

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

September 2, 2026

Our Vision is to be a Dynamic Community of Believers

From Pastor Jonathon. . .

One of our ministries that I've not gotten to visit is **Belles & Beaus**. From what I gather, this is our bell choir that loves to meet and eat. Now, this sounds like my kind of people! Johnny Kent asked me to come play some music for the group on **September 15 at noon** in the Fellowship Hall.

I hope you'll **join me and them for some good food...** oh yeah, and for the music too! Seriously, I'm excited to get to come and play guitar, sing, and share why I chose my 3 songs. I'd like to briefly share about them so that you may be enticed to join us.

I read a book recently called **Lost In Wonder, Love, And Praise: Hymns & Poems by Justin Wainscott**. He's a Baptist pastor who has written poems that can be sung to the tune of very familiar hymns. Example: "Jesus Is Risen, He's Risen Indeed" can be sung to the tune of "Be Thou My Vision."

All that to say, **I'll be playing a song I wrote called "Jesus We Love You"** that borrows chords from and can mostly be sung to the tune of "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." Let's just say I've added a chorus that zhuzhes up the song, I think.

Another song I'll play is **"Seek Ye First,"** simply because the week Johnny asked me to come is the same week I was preparing to preach a sermon that dealt with the passage of Scripture that inspired the words to that song. I also **zhuzh up** a familiar chord in that song for the transitions.

Lastly, I'll play a more modern song called **"Reckless Love."** It sings of the goodness of God toward us. It also has a line that slays me, saying this of God's love: "Oh it chases me down, fights till I'm found, **leaves the ninety-nine**."

September 7th - Labor Day

Cottage Meetings Dates have Been set.

These casual gatherings are being held in homes of church members. We pray they will be a meaningful way to deepen connections with one another and with our new pastor, as well as an invigorating opportunity to discuss our current ministries, spaces, and opportunities for growth.

Using names from the current church directory, an invitation has been mailed to members and assigned a date and Cottage Meeting location. If you are unable to attend your selected Cottage Meeting, please call the church office at 870-793-3803 and let us know. Cottage Meetings dates are listed below.

Sunday, September 13
Time: 3:00pm

Wednesday, September 16
Time: 6:00pm

Thursday, September 17
Time: 6:00pm

Tuesday, September 29
Time: 6:00pm

Tuesday, October 6
Time: 5:30pm

If you did not receive an invitation call the church office and we will help you find a suitable date.

Contact the church office at 870-793-3803 if you would like to be a part of the Van Ministry.

"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
Brent Bentley.....member
Larry Bentley.....member
Eddie Brock.....member
Winnell Calhoun.....member
Tom Curl.....member
Marva Hipp.....member
Starr Kent.....member
Charles Kibbe.....member
Ron Lewallen.....member
Aline McCracken.....member
Billy Prickett.....member
Florene Renfro.....member
Eleanor Royer.....member
Ken Rueter.....member
Alannette Rushing.....member
Laney Thompson.....member
William Dalzell.....friend of members
Clay Hooper.....grandfather of Mallory Hooper
Tammie Murphree.....daughter of Linda Thompson
Everleen Phillips.....friend of members
Ruston Phillips.....friend of David & Pam Smith
Heather Pool.....niece of Joe & Kay Pool
Andy Rhodes.....friend of members
Kervin Robinson.....father of Michael Robinson
Tony Rushing.....husband of Alannette Rushing
Banks Shaw.....Barbara & Ron Cheatham's Great Grandson
Louise Watson.....wife of Terry Watson
Jordan Wheeler.....friend of member
Charles & Gina Williams.....friends of members

✞ Our Prayers for Those Who Mourn ✞

Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of **John "Rhett" Carter** who passed away August 25th.

Funeral services were Friday, August 28th with burial at Humphries Cemetery in Fulton County.

Blessing Box

Collecting these items this week

Saltine Crackers

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

Cave City Nursing Home
Richard Ashcraft..... member

Eagle Mountain Assisted Living
Ida Sue Luker ..... cousin of Martha Lewallen
Fran Shellenberger ..... member

Wildwood Independent Living
Nelda Hackworth..... member
Joe Don Reynolds..... member
Dorace Williams ..... member

Wood-Lawn Heights
Sally Allen..... mother of Vicki Reed
Patricia Glass..... mother of Teresa Brown
Benolyn Kramer ..... aunt of Sonya Massey

Woodcrest Assisted Living
Ernestine Boyce ..... member
Mary Carol Smith..... friend of members

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
Trent McDonald.....cousin of member
Lt. Col. Shannon McLoughlin..daughter of Cecilia Vinson
Capt. Chris Milum .....husband of Kaylea Milum
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

Our Prayers for Our Community

UACCB Students and Staff

If you need pastoral assistance contact:
Pastor Jonathon Bevil at the church office (870) 793-3803

Church Leadership

Senior Pastor
Reverend Jonathon Bevil
jonathon.bevil@arumc.org

Church Administrator
Teresa Brown

Minister to Children & Family Ministries
Katie McLean

Director of Youth, Young Adults, and Welcome
Lorrie McClure

Director of Traditional Worship
Marc Sexton

Worship Leader
Alicia Williams

Organist
Charlie Stanley

Treasurer
Ruby Curl

Custodian
Joe Johnson

Lay Leader
Dr. Terrell Tebbetts

Lay Servants/Ministers
Sandy West

Church Council Chair
Barrett Moore

Finance Chair
Ron Lewallen

Staff/Parish Chair
Rikki Painter

Trustees Chair
Jim McSpadden

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

In-Person Attendance August 30th

9:00 Service..... 41
11:00 Service 71
Total **112**

Our Presence on Social Media
August 23rd
Online Worship Views

9:00 Service(FB) 57
11:00 Service (YT 42 + FB 48) 90

Scripture for Sunday's Sermon

Shocking Grace Luke 14:15-24

MEMORIALS

RUTH CHESTNUTT
Ron & Barbara Cheatham

Silver Belles & Beaus

We will start back Sept. 15th.

Our Service

for September 6th

ALTAR GUILD: Karen Holifield
Diana Waldrip
Joyce Prickett

ALTAR FLOWERS are placed to the glory of God in memory of Asa & Lynette Whitaker from their family.

COMMUNION STEWARDS:
Ron & Barbara Cheatham

GREETERS:
9:00 Louise Sandefur
11:00 Charles & Sue Kibbe

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Pastor Jonathon

LITURGIST: Sandy West

USHERS: Ron Cheatham
John Ellis
David Smith

Birthdays and Anniversaries

from UMMEN Calendar

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

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Sept 6 Lindsey & Patrick Thompson
Sept 10 Chris & Dawn Tucker
Sept 12 Dallas & Barbara Estes

Our Gifts

August Budget $45,583
August Received $35,133

Received through 8-02-2026
Total Giving $3,701.00

Received through 8-09-2026
Total Giving $8,966.57

Received through 8-15-2026
Total Giving $7,080.31

Received through 8-23-2026
Total Giving $5,870.00

Received through 8-30-2026
Total Giving $9,514.83

Flower Calendar 2026

Please take a moment to pick a Sunday where you can be a part of this wonderful ministry.

Open Dates

September 13, 20, 27

Sign up in the hallway by the office.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A
WEDDING SHOWER
honoring
Reagan Smith
Bride-to-Be of Zach Langston
Please join us as we shower the bride-to-be
with love and best wishes
as she prepares to say "I do."
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
2:00–4:00 PM
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
615 E. Main Street
Batesville, Arkansas
ZACH & REAGAN
The happy couple is registered at
Dillard's • Amazon • Target • The Knot
Home, Holidays & More
We can't wait to celebrate
with you!

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

Join the **Monday Night Men's Bible Study Group** for food and fellowship on **September 7th, 6:00pm,** at the Grammer House. Bring your favorite food.

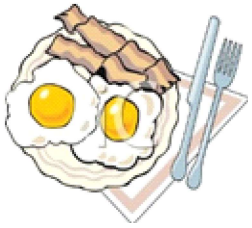
9:00 & 11:00 Worship Services
Livestream on
YouTube and on Facebook

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:00am Contemporary Service—Fellowship Hall
Kids Sunday School—K-4th grade 10:00am
Youth Sunday School 10:00am
Adults Sunday School 10:00am
11:00am Traditional Service—Sanctuary

Announcements

Sept 2nd	BFUMC Kids - 6:00pm
	BFUMC Youth - 6:00pm
	Mark Bible Study 6:00pm in the Barnabas Room
Sept 5th	Community Breakfast - 8:30am - Fellowship Hall
Sept 12th	Wedding Shower - see insert
Sept 14th	United Women of Faith - 5:00pm in the Parlor
Sept 15th	Belles & Beaus - Fellowship Hall - Noon
Sept 15th	Common Ground a College & Career Group - 6:30pm



Community Breakfast

Free
8:30 Every Saturday
FUMC Fellowship Hall

Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the **Sept 9th** newsletter must be submitted by 10:00 am Monday, **Sept 7th,** to the church office or by email to fumcbatesville@gmail.com