



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Bella Vista*

Dear First UMC Bella Vista friends,

COVID-19 Coronavirus has been deemed a global pandemic with several presumed cases and one confirmed case in our state, and similar to our Lenten message, it feels like we are navigating the wilderness. This is a journey none of us wishes to take, yet here we are. With consultation from the bishop and our district superintendent, **First United Methodist Church Bella Vista is suspending this Sunday's worship services and all activities until further notice** (Midweek Manna, classes and all activities held within the church). The church office will also be closed. The church staff will be working remotely from home. Unfortunately, we do not know when we will open again. We will reassess the need weekly and send you letters and update news outlets as we receive more information.

**As a worshipping community, we will still gather in an online setting. Revered Jeanne will be live-streaming Sunday morning worship at 9:30am** on Facebook Live and on the church's website (fumcbellavista.com). Recordings of worship will show on the Bella Vista Community Television (Cox channel 222 and AT&T U-Verse channel 99) on Wednesdays at 11am. If you have a Facebook account, join us on our Facebook page for daily connections through prayer, stories, and digital togetherness.

How to give financially during Covid-19? If you are already set up for automatic bank withdrawal, you're all set! If you wish to set this up, please contact Amy Gilmore at amy@fumcbellavista.com. You may also mail in your contribution to the office. It will be received.

If you need to speak with a pastor, you can reach them by calling the church office and leaving a message. The voicemail is checked regularly.

As a church family, we are all concerned for the health and well-being of all of our worshipping community. In light of the potential need for assistance for critical life matters during the current health crisis, we have expanded the Auto Angel ministry to assist in their usual manner, but also for medicine and grocery pick up and delivery. Please contact Marilyn Hertel to receive this help. If you do not have a church directory, please call the church office at 479-855-1158 to get Marilyn's contact information.

Here are the options available in our area for pharmacy and grocery pick up and delivery:

***Come... Grow ... Go ...***

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20 Boyce Drive ♦ Bella Vista, Arkansas 72715  
Telephone 479 / 855-1158 ♦ [www.fumcbellavista.com](http://www.fumcbellavista.com)

### **Pharmacy Delivery**

- Cornerstone Pharmacy in Bella Vista will deliver medications Monday-Friday and has currently waived the delivery fee. To arrange to have your medications sent to Cornerstone Pharmacy and dropped off at your doorstep, contact your doctor or reach Cornerstone Pharmacy directly at 479-976-6200.
- Walgreens Pharmacy in Bella Vista will deliver medications free of charge if you use their Express RX service.

### **Grocery Delivery**

- Walmart Grocery will deliver food to your doorstep! First, you log onto [grocery.walmart.com](https://grocery.walmart.com), select which groceries you need, and check out. If you do not already have a Walmart online account, you will need to create one to check out. Note that there is a \$35 minimum order for Grocery Delivery. At checkout, select Delivery and enter your address. There will be a \$6-\$10 service fee, depending on how far away you live.
- Harps and Instacart\_– Instacart is an app and website for food delivery. You enter your zip code and preferred grocery store, and an Instacart employee will pick up your groceries and delivery them to your doorstep for a small fee. You must create an account first.

**Those of you who live alone, please note that if you begin to exhibit symptoms of severe flu or the Covid-19 virus and/or your doctor has diagnosed you having this, please let Marilyn Hertel know at 620-290-1245.** This is so that a volunteer may stay connected with you during your illness and call for additional medical assistance when needed. We pray for the health and well-being of all of you, and encourage you to please call Marilyn should you have any of these critical needs.

The uncertainty of this outbreak is creating anxiety in our workplaces, school, and day-to-day activities. Yet we remain certain of God's steadfast presence. As you pray please include those who are affected by this illness, as well as their caregivers and those who are working around the clock to minimize the impact of this virus.

In Psalm 46, we are reminded that it is God who is our refuge and strength, and our ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, let us not fear, but with confidence use this opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus through our prayers and our care for others. After all, the CHURCH is more than a building and the Body of Christ will continue to exist – we're just going to be connecting creatively for now!

In Christ's love and service,

Rev. Jeanne Williams