



The Good News

APRIL 2020

Dear First Family,

May the peace of Christ be with you!

➤ First, I'm sure if you normally receive this via email, you're wondering why you're getting a physical mailing. Well, we, your staff, decided that if you are connected digitally, you may be overwhelmed with all the things at this point, and good ol' mail might be a good change of pace. We also wanted to include some resources you can use as a family guide for Holy Week.

➤ Second, I miss seeing and worshipping with each and every one of you. This pandemic has changed our entire world - how we shop, how we socialize, how we eat, and even how we worship. And we have varying responses to all of this and how it is affecting us. I want to share with you that amidst all of these changes, one thing remains very constant: God's love for you. You may feel lonely, but you are not alone! God is with you - with us. And we will one day get to gather again and loudly proclaim, "Jesus has risen! Alleluia!"

➤ Third, we have been asked to suspend in-person activities until May 1 at this time. This comes from Bishop Gary Mueller, our bishop, and Governor Asa Hutchinson. This means that Holy Week, Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Sunday, and many other special events are now changing formats, being postponed, or canceled altogether.

Inside the newsletter, you will find a guide to worshipping at home during Holy Week. We will still livestream Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday at 9:30 AM, Holy Thursday at 6:30 PM, and Good Friday at noon and 6:30 PM. We have been given special permission to have people use their own bread and juice for Holy Communion at home as we bless the elements on livestream. This could be a saltine cracker, roll, loaf of bread, grape juice or a variant of grape juice, or something else to substitute any of these items. Many churches are offering drive thru communion or handing out pre-blessed elements. We have been advised that this is not safe at this time. So be prepared for Holy Communion on Holy Thursday at home. If you cannot join us online, I invite you to use the at-home guide and include Holy Communion in your prayers.

➤ Fourth, we will livestream an Easter Sunday service, but we will have a huge Resurrection Reunion Celebration the first Sunday we are permitted to gather again! On this Sunday, I want to invite you to bring your own flowers or plants (you will also take them home) to decorate our worship spaces and signify growth and hope. We will celebrate Holy Communion on this Sunday as well.

➤ Fifth, even though Pastor Brenda and I are no longer allowed in hospitals or assisted care facilities to make visits, we want to know if you or a loved one are in the hospital, having surgery, have tested positive for Covid-19, are ill in other ways, or if you just simply need a pastor to pray with you! You have several ways to contact us: call the church office and leave a voicemail (these come directly to us), email us at brenda@fumcbellavista.com or jeanne@fumcbellavista.com, fill out the pastoral care form on fumcbellavista.com, or message us on facebook through the church page or our personal pages.

➤ Finally, you may be wondering how you can still make your financial contribution to the church during this time of social distancing. We have included a self-addressed, metered envelope in the newsletter to make it super easy for you to mail us your gifts. You may also go online to fumcbellavista.com/give in order to utilize a one-time gift through PayPal or to send in a form for automated contribution for an on-going gift.

By the time you read this, it is our goal that someone from the church has contacted you - a staff member, a pastor, a congregational care minister, or a Shepherd Group or small group leader. It is our intention to make these calls continuously while we are not able to gather. If you have not heard from someone, please call the church office and let us know how you are doing and if you need anything.

I want to leave you with these words from our bishop, "The most powerful force in the universe, even greater than COVID-19, is the reality that God is still God, Jesus is still Lord and the Holy Spirit is still at work. And this God, this Jesus and this Holy Spirit already are active in your life, your congregation and our world."

You are constantly in my prayers. May we all rely on the strength of God in this time.

Blessings,

Rev. Jeanne Williams, Senior Pastor



Glimpses of Grace

Rev. Jeanne Williams, Senior Pastor

COVID-19 Information ~ Health Tips/Best Practices & Assistance

Please be mindful of the guidance from the [Center for Disease Control](#) and the [World Health Organization](#), including:

- Stay home when you are sick or immunocompromised
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds (the length of singing “Happy Birthday” twice or The Lord’s Prayer once), especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after you blow your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- While asymptomatic travelers from China are not mandated to observe a 14-day quarantine, we urge you to consider refraining from attending church events, classes and services until the 14-day time frame has been observed.

How can we help?

As a church family, we are all concerned for the health and well-being of all of our worshiping community.

- **Auto Angels & Illness Reporting**

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. Beginning immediately, the Auto Angel ministry team is prepared to provide assistance with critical needs to members who are unable to drive or are unable to leave their homes, including those who should remain in isolation during the current pandemic. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, such things as doctor’s appointments, rides to church, the need for medicines and/or groceries, and the need for welfare safety checks. Non-critical requests are at the discretion of the Auto Angel driver.

Those who need this type of assistance are to call Marilyn Hertel, the Auto Angel Team Leader. Her phone number is located in the church directory. If you do not have one, please call the church office (855-1158) and leave a message asking for it. Someone will return your call shortly. To facilitate finding a driver to help, we request that all calls be made as far in advance as possible, but certainly at least 24-hours in advance of the need. The ability to find a driver is severely hindered when calls occur at the last minute.

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 know as well. 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.

Resources Available For You

As you are at home, know there are resources in the area to help meet your needs without you having to leave your home.

- **Pharmacy Delivery**

[Cornerstone Pharmacy](#) will deliver medications Monday-Friday free of charge. To arrange to have your medications sent to Cornerstone Pharmacy and dropped off at your doorstep, contact your doctor.

[CVS](#) is offering free delivery of medications and other essentials.

[Walgreens](#) is offering free delivery of medications and other essentials. You may also go to their drive thru window and “order” from an essentials list. They will fill your order and bring it back to you at the window. This includes prescribed and over-the-counter medications.

- **Grocery Delivery**

[Walmart Grocery](#) will deliver food to your doorstep! First, you log onto [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.

[Harp’s 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.

For pastoral emergencies, please call and leave a message at the office (855-1158). These are forwarded to the pastors.

Blessings, *Rev. Jeanne*



JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER

Rev. Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor

The Breath of Life

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed.
Genesis 2:4-8 NRSV

How is it that taking a deep breath helps bring calm to our anxious bodies and souls? We can look to how we were formed for the answer to that. Scripture tells us that when we were created, God put God's breath within us. We return to our Creator when we breathe deeply the breath of Life. As we first entered the isolation that has become associated with our current health crisis, I demonstrated a series of breath prayers and posted a video where we shared the peace that comes as we practiced those together. If you have not seen that posted on our Facebook site or if you would like to experience it again, I encourage you to go to the posting at <https://www.facebook.com/fumcbv/videos/1092500654447739/>. These specific breath prayers are:

Breathe out doubt; breathe in assurance
 Breathe out worry; breathe in peace of mind
 Breathe out hatred; breathe in love
 Breathe out war; breathe in peace
 Breathe out turmoil; breathe in harmony
 Breathe out insecurity; breathe in God's presence
 Breathe out emptiness; breathe in fulfillment
 Breathe out selfishness; breathe in generosity
 Breathe out darkness; breathe in God's everlasting Light.

As you breathe out the things that bring worry and breathe in the things that bring peace, this becomes a life-giving way to become centered and focused and calm. To be able to survive the turmoil of these anxious times, we must center and receive peace as only our Lord can give. Jesus said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

May this practice to center yourself in Christ become a daily habit as we join in the journey of life together.

Blessings, *Pastor Brenda*

EMERGENCY VITAL INFORMATION FORMS are available in the office. There have been several instances where it was necessary for the church to contact family members and we had no contact information. **PLEASE** fill out one of these forms and return it to the office. You will also find a form included with this newsletter which can be mailed back. The information will be kept on file for the use of the pastors only. If we already have your information but it has not been updated lately, please fill out a new form to make sure what we have is current. Thank you for taking the time to do



OUR FAMILY

Each month this space is used to tell about the people who are part of our church family. If you know of a graduation, community recognition, someone moving away or moving in, whatever the rest of the church might like to know to keep up with folks, let me know so I can include the information in these pages. Please send your information to Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at 855-1158 or brenda@fumcbellavista.com

NEW MEMBERS



Marilyn Adams— became a part of our church family on March 1, at the 8:00 Service. She had visited with us for a number of weeks and decided to make us her church home. She grew up and moved to Bella Vista from Missouri, but had lived in California and Utah as well. She has worked as a secretary and in traffic management. She loves to read and to travel. Please be sure to connect with Marilyn by giving her a call or sending her a card in this time of isolation. 15 Kirkdouglass Lane, BV 72715, 855-1572.

Beth Bishop and Caitlyn Rowland -

Beth and Caitlyn have been a part of our Contemporary Worship Praise Team since last Fall and officially became a part of our church family by Profession of Faith on March 15. They are mother and daughter. Beth works at Panera Bread in Bentonville and Caitlyn is a student at the Arkansas Arts Academy High School in Rogers. We look forward to having them back with us in the Praise Team as soon as we can all gather together again.



BIRTHS

Kathryn Lamping – gave birth to **Hank**, after a high-risk pregnancy. Although he was in the NICU for a little while, both mother and son are now home and doing well. Kathryn is the niece of Roger and Allison Totten. We give thanks for the joy of this new life.

Theodore ‘Teddy’ Humphrey Sinclair – grandson of Sandy Fitch, was born on March 26 at 3:25pm in Denver, CO. He weighed in at 8 lbs, 9 oz. His parents are John Humphrey and Rachel Sinclair, son and daughter-in-law of Sandy. Both Mom and baby are doing fine. Praise and thanksgiving for this new life! All there say thanks so much for the prayers.

MILESTONES

Frank Kostal—was honored at a 90th birthday celebration on Saturday, March 7 in our Parlor. Marilyn and his family from all over the country hosted a wonderful afternoon with many friends from FUMC and Bella Vista. Congratulations, Frank- we wish you many, more.



RELOCATIONS



Diane Cox – who has been a member with us since 2002 has relocated to Oklahoma to be closer to family. Keep Diane in your prayers during this transition. If you wish to send her a card, her new address is 1546 Grace Way #85, Moore, OK 73170.

Sandra Mathieu – for health reasons, Sandra is now staying with her daughter in Arizona. Cards can be sent to c/o Debbie Francois, 1181 S. Pico St., Gilbert, AZ 85296. Please keep Sandra in your prayers.

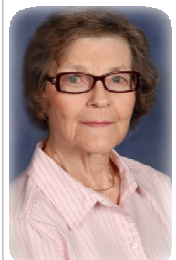


Lillian Timmons – a former member, who moved away in 2017, is now living at Brookfield at 3 Highland Crossing Dr. #107. BV 72715. She welcomes visitors and cards now that she is back close to us.



OUR FAMILY

IN MEMORIAM



Paula Walker - passed away in November of last year. Her memorial service had been scheduled for Friday, March 20 in our sanctuary. With the health crisis, this gathering had to be postponed. However, the family was able to gather for the interment

at National Cemetery in Fayetteville that day. Paula and her husband, Vernon (who passed away in 2014) had been long-time faithful members of FUMCBV since 1978.

Bill Narrell – older brother of Sue Nebrig and grandfather of Chloe Barker, Sue’s niece who was in a serious auto accident and on our prayer list, passed away Thursday, March 19. Bill had been in a nursing home for a number of years. The memorial service is postponed due to the current health crisis. Please keep Sue and Bill’s family in your prayers as they grieve this loss, especially in light of not being able to gather together in loving support of each other at this time.

Jim Green - older brother of Maryann Johnson, passed away in Show Low, AZ on Friday, March 27. Jim had been bed-ridden for several months and Maryann had a nice visit with him just before Christmas. Please be in prayer for Maryann and Jim’s family during this difficult time.

Carol Ann Boatright – passed away after a long battle with cancer. Carol Ann is a long-time close friend of the Tottens. Please pray for her family and friends as they mourn her passing.



MEDIA MUSINGS

Kacy Spears,
Director of Communications

Let’s Stay Connected

These are...different times to say the least. We’re social distancing and quarantining inside our homes. We’re told not to go pick out groceries from the store shelves but rather have them loaded into our cars by employees. We’re told not to shake our neighbor’s hand but wave at them from across the street. Some of us feel stuck at home with children that want to run and play, and miss their friends. Heck, we miss our friends, too.

Friends, I miss you. I miss you walking into the office to say hello. I miss sharing meals with all of you and catching up on your lives. It’s different.

However, creativity thrives on limitations. Right now, there are buzz words circulating in church spheres – one of which is “creatively communicating,” which means finding ways to stay in touch with one another without our normal routines of leaning on the office doors to chat or sharing a meal. If you follow the church Facebook page, you’ve probably noticed daily videos being posted by staff and church members as a way to see each other’s faces, check in, and share some time together. Kenneth and Ashdon have shared a few yoga routines; Pastor Brenda has shared a breath prayer (see page 3) and teaches us how to do them; Rev. Jeanne has shared a devotional she wrote; and I’ve even shared how I choose to ease my anxiety. These times are different, but let’s not make them hard.

Church family, I love you all so much, and I cannot wait to share a pew or table with you when we return! It will be joyous!

If you find yourself facing hard times, missing church friends, or needing something you’re not able to get, PLEASE reach out and let us know. All voicemails from the church office are being forwarded to pastors. If you’d rather type it out, visit fumcbellavista.com/tellapastor and leave a message to the pastors there!

Ways to Connect

Sign up for our weekly email at fumcbellavista.com/newsletter or by calling the church office (479-855-1158).

Open the church directory and start calling folks you miss.

Hearing their voice over the phone eases a lot of anxiety.

Follow the church on Facebook for daily videos – facebook.com/fumcbv

Write a letter to a friend you haven’t talked to recently

We’re all in this together. May God’s peace overwhelm us when we ourselves feel overwhelmed. *Kacy*

New Website!

Have you seen our new website?

www.fumcbellavista.com



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Bella Vista



LAY LEADER'S MESSAGE

Lou Kaufmann

We are currently living in a very cautious and different time in our lives. Never in all my years, going back to World War II, have I seen such draconian measures taken in our country. I remember blackouts, curfews, rationing, but nothing like today.

Judy's and my five week summer trip has been canceled. Our investment that we made two days after the stock market fell 2,000 points, has gone to pot as it kept falling. We have been told to stay in our home and there are no restaurants to visit for a nice dinner out.

The good news....We are in good health. Our entire family throughout the country is in good health. Our friends and neighbors are okay. We know all is being done to resolve this Virus problem. This, too, will pass. We will get to take another trip. Our investment will come back in time. We pray for the world to be cured, and it will be.

Keep positive. Plan for the future. Follow instructions. PRAY!

Lou



Amy's Anecdotes

Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator



Midweek Manna Updates

As I am sure you have all figured out by now, Midweek Manna has been cancelled for the rest of this session. Fortunately, most of the studies had finished, and if they had not, I hope you were able to connect with your group to complete it. Jean Meadows began a video series and she will present it in the fall from the beginning, so if you were attending it, please keep an eye on the schedule for it this fall. This cancellation is just one of the many casualties of this pandemic caused by COVID-19, so while we are disappointed, we are keeping our social distance and doing our best to keep everyone well.

Thank you! *Amy*



Book Hook



FICTION:

MARKER by Robin Cook

The master of the medical thriller returns!

THE BEMA by Tim Stevenson

A story about the judgment seat of Christ.

NON-FICTION:

THE WOUNDED HEART by Dr. Dan B.

Allender (616.8) Hope for adult victims of childhood sexual abuse.

DVD/VID:

1. *SCOOBY DOO'S MINE YOUR OWN BUSINESS*
2. *DECOY FOR A DOGNAPPER*

There are many new books and audio books for your reading pleasure in our extensive Library. Check it out – as soon as we are back!!



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



- 6 John & Sharon Lindsey
- 12 Allan & Maxine Ward
- 13 Verle & Suzanne Shoemaker
- 14 Brandt & Nita May
- 20 James & Vicki Forrest
- 20 Keith & Lynn Prueitt
- 20 Joe & Diane Verville
- 21 Jeremy & Verla Shafman
- 26 Gary & Carol Tomlinson

APRIL BIRTHDAYS (CONT'D)

- 15 Susan Smith
- 16 Emmery Antoine
- 16 John Zurn
- 17 Marilyn Adams
- 18 Lynn Prueitt
- 19 Sonnie Andersen
- 19 Marci Moussa
- 20 Keiley Hickman
- 23 Melanie Bowers
- 24 Zach Lehmann
- 26 Joanne Hubbert
- 26 Harriet Williams
- 27 Reid Horle
- 27 Rev. Jim Verkest
- 27 Walt Wenger
- 28 Kelly Kelley
- 28 Dorothy Schuster
- 29 Janice Abbott
- 30 Delores Grosnickle



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Sue Prather
- 3 Jim Bilyeu
- 3 Dave Weber
- 4 Kobus Sparlin
- 10 Marilyn Hertel
- 11 Deanna Ballinger
- 11 Ken Swanson
- 12 Jan Boblenz
- 12 Janice Lang



April 2020 Newsletter ~ February 2020 Financial Data

		2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Month of February	Income	\$38,665.92	\$37,084.84
Month of February	Expenses	\$45,971.22	\$47,130.83
	Difference	-\$7,305.30	-\$10,045.99
Year to Date (as of 2/29/20)	Income	\$71,889.20	\$74,169.68
Year to Date (as of 2/29/20)	Expenses	\$88,208.39	\$94,245.00
	Difference	-\$16,319.19	-\$20,075.32

Income does not include Missions or Endowment Interest
Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator



From the Organ Console
 Broc Hite, Organist/Pianist



I almost killed a squirrel while driving near the Bentonville Square. It likely wasn't the Curious Squirrel, who inspired the name for my recital series. The weird thing about this encounter was that the squirrel had crossed well out of harm's way into the other lane, but then headed right back under my car. At that point, all I could do was to let off the gas and hope for the best. I think he made it.

Just to satisfy my own curiosity, I learned that a squirrel is hard-wired to avoid the many birds, reptiles, and mammals which prey on it. In other words, the squirrel zig-zag technique works better when the predator doesn't have four-wheels! It reminded me of the expression "out of the frying pan and into the fire." How many times do we self-sabotage by turning a good situation into a bad one? It might be eating too much after exercise, or squandering time that was freed up by an unexpected cancellation.

The Curious Squirrel Recital Series will return in May, or perhaps later, with an organ recital celebrating Leo Sowerby's 125th birth anniversary.

The postlude I've selected for Palm Sunday is very powerful. It's a fantasy piece by Louis Vierne with the secular title *Sur le Rhin*, On the Rhine. There is no evidence as to what the Rhine River meant to either the composer or to the dedicatee; neither lived anywhere near Alsace, on the border with Germany. The piece conveys great sadness, with just a little relief in the middle. At the end, several fortissimo major chords pierce the dark mood, but it would be an overstatement to say that it ends happily. Despite the nebulous title, *Sur le Rhin* makes a great Palm Sunday postlude in my eyes.

For those of you looking for the Toccata from Widor's Fifth Symphony on Easter Sunday, you'll have to wait a bit longer. It will be programmed for the first Sunday we are back together in person.

Be curious, but stay safe. Please join me online!
 On the Web: <https://brochite.com>
 On Facebook and Instagram: @BrocKeysPedals
Broc

UMW NEWS
 2020 Bazaar!



The 2020 Bazaar will be held on Saturday, October 3rd. That will be here before we know it! First let me say, I pray everyone is well and staying safe for health purposes. I know how hard it is for each of you and your family members not to be able to socialize with friends. Please stay in touch with them by phone, text, or an "I'm thinking of you" card—often!

To help pass the time, UMW ladies have prepared some kits, as in the past, to be worked on at home. Most need embroidery work, such as the felt Money Holder Ornaments, tea towels, etc. With the church being closed until further notice, a few of us ladies are willing to drop-off kits to anyone who would like to help make items for the Bazaar. Also, if you are able to make scrubbies, we can drop-off netting, as we can always use scrubbies. Also, if you are working on projects at home and need materials, please contact us to get them.

With it being the start of Spring and you have a green thumb that is itching to get in the dirt... start your plantings now for plants to donate to the Bazaar. They would all be greatly appreciated

From all the ladies of the UMW, please know that we are praying for all our church family members.

Should you need materials, kits, etc, please contact – Darleen O'Brien @ 281-781-3838 or Judy Bilyeu @ 497-721-9460, via call or text.

Blessings to all, *Darleen*

Tell a Pastor

Need to tell a pastor something?
 Joys, concerns, health updates?
fumbellavista.com/tellapastor



I really should title this message “Ask and you will receive”

Artie Lawless, UMM President

As I sit here at my desk in the early morning hours I ask: “Why do epiphanies always seem to come to me at three and four o’clock in the morning”. I’ll explain that statement shortly.

Let me start out by admitting (if you’ve ever been to a Methodist Men’s monthly meeting) that one of my God-given talents just might not be motivational or inspirational speaking. As hard as that may be to believe, I will share with you all, this message from “The One” who is the greatest orator of all.

Last February I took a class, taught by Reverend Jim, on Parables. The first class Jim announced: “By the end of this 4 week class we would all be expected to write our own parable”. Ok, my reaction...OMG...why did I sign up for this one and would I be the first drop out of a parable class. Time Went on...

The night before the “last class” my parable sheet had the following words: “My Parable”. Yup, that was it. Creativity had come to a standstill. So, I went to my last resort (which I now know should have been my first choice). I asked God to give me a Parable.

And God delivered (at 3 O’clock in the morning). I woke up with the parable spinning thru my head like an EF5 tornado. Well, I got up, went to the computer and typed it out just as fast as my “finger” would go.

I told Rev. Jim and the class, the story behind the writing and read it to them. Yup, I passed the class. Thank you, Lord.

Now, fast forward to this past Sunday. I get Janet Walton’s e-mail asking for Group Leaders to submit an article for the Monthly Newsletter. Okay, Blank city here I come . . . We haven’t had any meetings. Most upcoming events may have to be cancelled. We’re all in kind of a mess.

So, just before going to bed I asked God again to help me write something “inspirational”. And God delivered again (this time at 4 o’clock in the morning). I thanked him for the extra hour of sleep, got up, made a cup of coffee, gave my typing finger a short workout, and here we go:

The epiphany was: “Remember the Parable”. It wasn’t given to me for the class . . . It was given to me for “Now”. I ask you to read it. Really think about our current world situation and how we can be a blessing to each other during challenging times.

As I said at the beginning of this piece, this message is not from me, but it is from the greatest inspirational speaker of all. Amen.

The Parable of the Tire Changer

A Mother and Child stranded on the edge of a snowy Highway.

A man toils at changing their flat tire. He hands her his phone so she may tell family she is safe.

He offers them warmth in his vehicle and finishes the task.

He bids them safe travels; they thank him and offer a stipend. He refuses.

Clutching her child, she says “Bless you”.

He answers, “I have already been rewarded”.

Scripture: Mathew 5-16: *Let your light shine before men. That they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in heaven.*

Artie



The Bella Vista Recycling Center is open for business daily (except Sundays). Patrons are encouraged to practice social distancing and to sort items carefully to minimize the amount of resorting staff members will have to do. Thank you for your continued support.

John Justice, BV Recycle Board member



In the Belly of the Well

Kenneth Wilson

The Well Contemporary Worship Leader
& NextGen Director



Hey, Y'all,

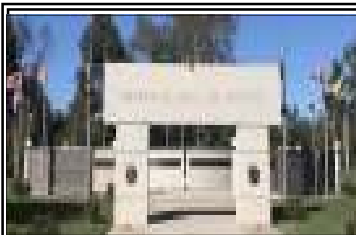
2 things for this interesting time:

1) Active Listening. I won't bore you with the scientific details of active listening (Google it?), but basically we have 2 ways of listening to music. Inactive listening is when we are not really in the moment and "feeling" the music. Active listening is when we are not driving, cooking, or whatever... our primary focus is the music. I encourage you to find your favorite songs and ACTIVELY LISTEN to them ... it's good for you.

2) Go listen to "The Times They Are A-Changin'" by Bob Dylan. This song is AWESOME, and it reminded me that times do change... and I can't help but wonder what is going to be different after all of this is over. How did the world change after: Jesus, The Fall of The Roman Empire, The Renaissance, Electricity, World Wars 1 and 2, The Beatles, Vietnam, The Fall of The Berlin Wall, 9/11, etc. I don't have the answer, but I want to start a conversation about perspective across generations. So tell me, how has the world changed (from YOUR perspective and YOUR life) after certain world events that YOU have lived through.

Peace and Love, *Kenneth*

PS: God loves you, and wash ya hands!



VETERANS WALL of HONOR

The Veterans Council of NWA, who maintains and upgrades the Veterans Wall of Honor in Bella

Vista, is now expanding space in order to accommodate additional memorializing and the recording of veteran names. If you have not yet visited the wall, please make a point to do so in the near future. It is a tribute to all veterans (either living or deceased) who have given so much for the freedoms we enjoy today.

GET YOUR RID OF STUFF!

Begin Now To Set
Aside Your Usable
Discards For the

UMW

RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, AUGUST 1st

If you don't have room to store
your donations, we do have
some limited space available—
call Verna Bottjen 876-1392

No Clothes, TVs or
Furniture ~ please have it
clean and in working order.

THANKS !



Stewardship Corner

Finding Contentment

Richard Ezell

Historian Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., observes that our society is marked by “inextinguishable discontent.” Our quest is for better and what is next. We are never satisfied, never content, and envious of those who have what we have not attained or accumulated.

What is needed is contentment. I’ve wrestled with being content my whole life. I’ve always wanting more and better. Through the years, I’ve come to the realization that the contented life is the secret of inward peace. Here’s what I’ve learned about contentment.

1. Contentment is learned. It isn’t natural. We’re not born with it. It is not a gift.

2. Contentment isn’t denying one’s feelings about wanting and desiring what they can’t have, but instead it exhibits a freedom from being controlled by those feelings.

3. Contentment isn’t pretending things are right when they are not, but instead it displays the peace that comes from knowing that God is bigger than any problems and that he works them all out for our good.

4. Contentment isn’t a feeling of well-being contingent on keeping circumstances under control, but instead it promotes a joy in spite of circumstances, looking to God who never varies.

5. Contentment is not based on external circumstances, but rather on an internal source.

6. Contentment is always an inside job. It has everything to do with what is going on inside you, not what is going on outside. It has only one source. That source is found in a soul satisfying relationship with our Heavenly Father that cares for us and promises to meet us where we are.

7. Contentment is a matter of accepting from God’s hand what he sends because we know that he is a good God and wants to give good gifts to his children. We accept, therefore, from God’s hand that which he gives. All that is needful he will supply. Even pain and suffering that seemingly cannot be corrected, he can redeem.

8. Contentment has learned the lesson that Jesus is enough. If you know Jesus, you have a God who hears you, the power of love behind you, the Holy Spirit within you, and all of heaven ahead of you. If you have Jesus, you have grace for every sin, direction for every turn, a candle for every corner, and an anchor for every storm. You have everything you need.

APRIL 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

This page is normally reserved for the Calendar of the Month. However, because the powers-that-be have mandated no gatherings through the month of April, our church will abide by this and hold no meetings or gathering until at least May. At this writing, there is much uncertainty as to when the world will return to a normalcy. Our hearts and prayers go out to the many thousands of people for whom COVID-19 has changed lives. The world we knew six months ago will never be the same. Please remember, the staff of FUMCBV is here for you. Please don’t hesitate to contact us with any concerns or needs you may have. *Janet Walton*

THANK YOU S

Please accept my appreciation for all the prayers and cards following my voyage to the hospital. Your caring thoughts made recovery so much easier and shorter. *Keith Prueitt*

I want to thank the many friends that I have at FUMCBV, who were kind enough to send a card when my oldest son and Tim's brother, Tony, passed away. It was a very difficult time for our family, though he had multiple medical issues for the past two years. We were not prepared for this to happen now. Your words of comfort and prayers helped so much. I do not know how people handle something like this without faith, family, church family, and friends. God bless, *Janice Smith*

There is Joy in the midst of isolation!! Thank you Rev Jeanne and all my friends and their families and dogs from our staff for the 'Birthday Carole' you drove all the way to Fayetteville to sing to me. What fun that was!! Thank you to our church family for all the cards, the emails, the texts, the Facebook posts, and the well wishes and prayers for this day. I have had a truly wonderful day. You are all the best church family one could ever have!

Love and Blessings, *Pastor Brenda*



First United Methodist Church
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We're Here to Serve You

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Associate Pastor - Rev. Brenda Wideman

Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore

Church Secretary - Janet Walton

Communications Director - Kacy Spears

NextGen Youth - Kenneth Wilson

NextGen Children - Ashdon Wilson

Children's Staff - Anne Miner

Music Ministries Director - Dr. Lawrence Zehring

Handbell Director - Dawn Thompson

Organist/Pianist - Broc Hite

Contemporary Worship Leader - Kenneth Wilson

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Newsletter Deadline: 20th of the month

To the Home of ...



STAY CALM
&
REMEMBER to
WASH YOUR HANDS
several times a day,
drink plenty of fluids,
and disinfect
frequently-used surfaces.

STAY HOME
if at all possible.

STAY IN TOUCH
with family and friends,
and others who may be alone,
with a quick phone call,
text, e-mail, or send a card.

STAY SAFE!
Remember, You are loved!