



The Good News

AUGUST 2020



Please come greet your church staff and friends at a Drive-thru Saturday, August 1st from 10am-11am in our church parking lot .

Let's have a time of fellowship drive-thru style! Your church staff will be standing outside under tents in the church parking lot socially distant (except for family groups) and wearing their masks to greet you, chat, and see how you're doing!

Please enter at the first entrance off of Boyce Drive, just past the church sign. You will drive through the "employee" parking lot to the portico where the pastors will be, then follow the building around towards the Becker Hall entrance where you will see more staff members; keep following the parking lot around (more staff!) and find communion elements at the last tent. We will also have a gluten-free option.

You may exit down the back driveway, through the 2nd level parking lot, or you may socially-distance gather in the uppermost parking lot!

For your safety and for the safety of church staff, we ask that you also wear a mask inside your vehicle during the drive-thru.

**We've missed you,
and we hope to see you then!**

OUR August MISSIONS



See Article & list of needs on page 7



Please see the article on page 13 about this vital mission ministry in our area. There are many ways to become involved.





Glimpses of Grace

Rev. Jeanne Williams, Senior Pastor

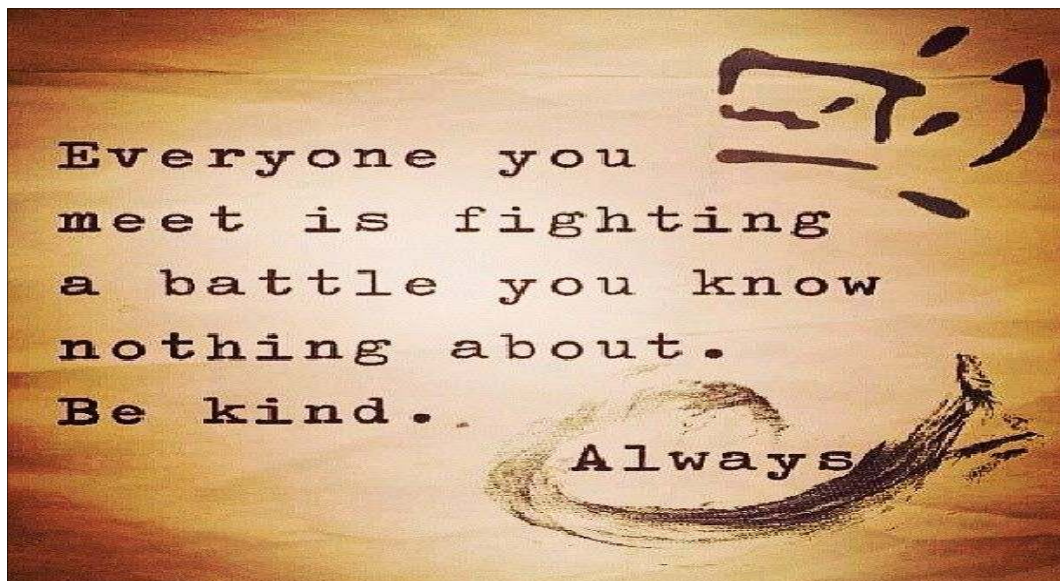
Empathy: the ability to understand and share the feelings of others.
 Compassion: sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.
 Luke 6:31: *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.*

A few days ago, we learned that Eli could climb the step-stool ladder to get onto our big, backyard trampoline. Marcus has always been able to climb it, so we usually fold it and put it away when we aren't right there with them. However, we were playing in the yard and it was out. I happened to go to the other side of the yard and turned when I heard Eli crying. He had climbed up it, and was now sitting on the edge of the trampoline about 6 feet from the ladder. He had crawled around the outside of the trampoline trying to find the ladder to get down. Marcus had already climbed down and run to me. I yelled at Eli to "SIT and STAY STILL!" Marcus took off running, climbed the ladder, crawled the edge, and sat down next to Eli and grabbed his hand. All while I was running to Eli, too. When I got there, Eli wasn't crying, and Marcus was telling him, "It okay, Eli. I here." My heart stopped about 3 different times in that 30 seconds for 3 different reasons. The last time, though, was when I saw the empathy Marcus had for his brother. The same brother that minutes before he was wrestling mercilessly!

How often do we approach someone else's situation with empathy or even compassion? How often do we hear the words of Jesus telling us, "Be kind. You may need their kindness someday,?" I think one of the things I've learned this year is to slow down and truly hear people and their story. It may not be a story I can empathize with, but I certainly can show compassion and kindness to them. Even if I don't think their story is all that true, or I don't agree with their viewpoint, I can still show kindness.

I think the world could use a little more empathy, compassion, and kindness these days, don't you?

Blessings, *Rev. Jeanne*





JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER

Rev. Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor

Our God Makes a Way out of No Way

*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose. Romans 8:28*

There have been many truths of God that have become clearer to me as we have had to endure our months of isolation. One of them is how when things seem the bleakest, somehow God makes a way for God's goodness to shine. The classic Bible story of Joseph and his brothers, his brothers being jealous of him, sold him into slavery. Then years later, as Pharaoh's right-hand man, Joseph is reunited with his brothers in a time of famine and Joseph saves them from starvation. In their reconciliation, Joseph tells his brothers, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Genesis 50:21

Certainly we see this in the pandemic, the devastating coronavirus is defeated by the healthcare workers on the front-lines. There are stories of those who through the hands of healthcare workers are healed and able to go home after being on ventilators; and there are stories of those who are able to be with their loved-ones in their final hours because of healthcare workers using technology to bring the family together at this crucial time. God makes a way when we heed the call to God's purpose.

I have seen it in the workings of our church, too. Everything seemed to come to a screeching halt after being shut down back in mid-March. The number of cases continue to rise, and yet as time has gone on, small groups have found a way to meet, staying distanced and with masks, yet being together in fellowship (see the photo in the 'Our Family' section of this newsletter). Those who love God have faithfully continued to send their financial offerings. The finance team recently met and disclosed we are still paying our bills. Each week we broadcast worship. At first each worship leader broadcast from home, but now all worship leaders are back together in the sanctuary. Our spirits go out over the airwaves so that we can join with your spirits in thanksgiving to the goodness of our God. God makes a way!

As time goes on, God's goodness shines brighter. This first week in August, we held our first ever Drive-Thru Fellowship in our ample parking lot. You came and joined together, wearing masks and socially distancing in cars and lawn chairs. What a delight to see the faces and hear the voices of church family!! God makes a way! And even in our nation, the terrible murder of George Floyd has sparked the beginning of a new understanding between the races. In God's time a reconciliation between God's children will make us stronger and allow God's light to shine even brighter in our world. God makes a way!

We are living through a time where we can see, hear, and experience, "*that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose.*" As we join in this journey together, may you also see the hand of God at work in your life, in the life of our church, and in the life of our world.

God's Blessings on each of you, *Pastor Brenda*

Until we can meet again, Please join us for worship every Sunday right in your own home!

We will be Live - Broadcasting from the church every Sunday.

9:30am on our website at fumcbellavista.com or facebook.com/fumcbv or fumcbellavista.com/livestream or ustream.tv **OR ... 11:00am** on Sunday & Wednesday mornings you can catch a re-broadcast of the service on ATT U-Verse and Cox channel 222.



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. Send your information to Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at brenda@fumcbellavista.com or 479-855-1158.

JOYS

Joy in Music! - Our Hymn Sing was fun for all!



Joy in Friendships!—the Wednesday Evening Small Group continues to meet in spite of the challenges of masks and social distancing!

Joy in Giving! - Our donations to Methodist Family Health are loaded and ready to be delivered!



Joy in Learning! - Kacy Spears is excited about beginning study for a master's degree in Library Science. She will be enrolled in a hybrid online and in-person program offered by Emporia State University. Kacy is our Communications Director and will continue to serve full time with us. Go, Kacy!



RELOCATIONS

Helen McBride – has relocated to Brookfield here in Bella Vista. Her new address is: 3 Highlands Crossing Dr., #106, BV 72715, for you to send cards of encouragement and visit.



Peggy Gamble – has relocated to Concordia Catered Living. Her new address is: 11 Professional Drive, #103, BV 72715 for you to visit and send cards in her transition.

IN MEMORIUM



Charlie Danielson – passed away at Legacy Village Wednesday, June 24. He and his wife, Connie, have been members of FUMCBV since 1995. A service at the National Cemetery in Fayetteville is planned for later in the summer. Please keep Connie and their family in your prayers. Cards may be sent to Connie at 46 Pimlico Dr. BV 72715.

Pat Pershing - passed away on Thursday, July 2nd at Circle of Life Hospice in Bentonville. Pat had been a member with us since 2003 and was active in the United Methodist Women and its ministries. She was in the Hope Circle. She had been unable to worship with us in recent years due to failing health. A memorial service to celebrate Pat's life was held on Wednesday, July 8. Cards can be sent to: Family of Pat Pershing, c/o Sandra Duden, 3511 SE 'J' St., #9 Unit 137, Bentonville, AR, 72712.



Sandra Mathieu – passed away on Wednesday, July 8, in Gilbert, AZ. She had moved to Arizona to be close to family. She had been a faithful member with us since May of 1996. Sandra was a greeter at the 8:00am Traditional Service for many years and was almost always the first greeter in the doors on Sunday morning. No memorial service is planned. Please keep her daughters, Debbie and Vicki, and her granddaughter, Toni, in your prayers as they grieve her loss. Cards may be sent to: Family of Sandra Mathieu, c/o Debbie Francois, 1181 S. Pico St., Gilbert, AZ 85296.



OUR FAMILY



Eunice Truman – passed away on Monday, July 13 at Jamestown Health and Rehab in Rogers. Eunice was our oldest member, having celebrated her 101st birthday this past May 13th. A small private graveside service was held Tuesday, July 21 at Bella Vista Cemetery. Cards may be sent to: Family of Eunice Truman, c/o Marilyn Malenchini, 4988 Waldamere Ave. Willoughby, OH 44094.

Orval Davidson – we have only recently been notified of his death in Shreveport, LA, in May of 2019. Orval and his wife Jan were members with us from 2000 to 2014, when they moved to Shreveport. Please keep Jan and her family in prayers.



Bob Reynolds – husband of Betty Reynolds, passed away in Joplin on July 4th. The Reynolds had been members here since 2014 until they moved to Joplin to be closer to family in 2017. A memorial service was held Saturday, July 18 at Ozark Memorial Park in Joplin. Cards may be sent to Betty and family at: 2018 Rolla St., Joplin, MO 64801. Please be in prayer for Betty and the family during this difficult time.

Lyman Smith – oldest and last surviving brother of Diane Verville, passed away on Friday, June 26th, from complications after heart surgery. Please pray for strength and comfort for Diane and all of Lyman's family. Cards can be sent to Diane at: 1 Wiltshire Drive, BV 72714.

Tom Nabholz – father of Marisa Nabholz, passed away in Conway on Monday, July 13th. His memorial service was held on Friday, July 17th in Conway. Please keep Marisa and her mother, Barbara Jean, and their extended family in your prayers in this loss. Cards can be sent to Marisa at 22 Norwood D., BV 72714.



Young Whippersnappers

Kenneth Wilson, NextGen Youth Director

Hey Y'all,

Like the rest of the country, we've been meeting virtually quite a bit in youth group. Every Wednesday evening we meet on Zoom and have a little prayer meeting and catch up on how we've been; on Sundays we meet in person, with proper guidelines provided by the ARUMC and the Arkansas Department of Health, and the CDC. So, we've come up with some creative games to play while social distancing, we have a discussion about a certain bible lesson, and we draw with chalk! It is very different, yet it is still quite enjoyable and fun.

With Peace and Love,

Kenneth





Amy's Anecdotes

Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator



It is HOT. And even though it is still hot and humid outside and officially summer, fall is on the way. In my house we are getting ready for back to school (in whatever form it will be) and normally I would be excited to let you know what is in the line-up for Midweek Manna. But as we all know, this year is certainly not normal. However, we are going to have opportunities for you to participate in fall programming. Beginning August 12 Pastor Brenda and Rev. Jeanne will both be leading a 6 week study on the book "White Fragility". *From Cokesbury "The New York Times best selling book explores the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged and how these reactions maintain racial inequality."* This book had been called "vital, necessary, and beautiful." Pastor Brenda will lead this class Wednesday mornings at 10:00 and Rev Jeanne will lead it Wednesday evenings at 7:15. You need to purchase the book and it is available through Amazon.

Cathy Luck will also be leading a class (see her article) "Growing Your Spirit." This class is scheduled to begin on August 30 at 7:00 pm, however this is a flexible schedule depending on the class participants. This will be a 10-12 week study. Part of this study will include "The Way to Forgiveness." We have this book for you to purchase, or you may get a copy on your own.

A sign-up for both of these classes will be going out and both will start out on Zoom and may evolve into in-person, or be a hybrid of both. We will have more classes coming, so please keep reading your emails, newsletters, etc. for information. As always, if you have a study you are interested in or want to facilitate one, please let me know.

Stay safe and well!

Amy G

Speaking Out . . .

Rev. Catherine Luck



"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus told us these 19 words summarize the whole of our faith-life. Most Christians know that "love" is our commandment and make ourselves busy doing "love" in every way we can. But is that all there is to "loving God and neighbor" with every fiber of our being? Do you ever feel like there must be more? Are you ready to find out?

First: By late August/early September, a pilot group of 6 to 12 will begin exploring deeper dimensions of "love" on the path of spiritual formation. We will learn what spiritual formation is, examine our own spiritual paths, identify obstacles and next steps. The examination and identification will be done on your own with my guidance and support for your individual reflection. You will have my pledge to follow-up with one-to-one "spiritual companionship" throughout the year if desired.

Second: In mid-September, the spiritual formation group using "The Way of Forgiveness" resource will be offered. You are encouraged but not required to follow-up by being in this group. Forgiveness as a way of being in relationship is a critical aspect of loving God, self and neighbor. We will learn how to practice forgiveness in many dimensions of life.

The exact dates and times of these offerings are still to be determined according to the availability of interested participants. Most likely they will incorporate both internet zooming and in-person opportunities (depending on virus restrictions). If you do not have a computer/zooming capability, we can arrange for your participation through facilities at the church.

Your participation in these offerings will constitute the setting for a "Practicum in Spiritual Formation" through the *Institute for Discipleship at Southwestern University* in Kansas, a United Methodist institution. Thank you, in advance, for your support in updating a 1970's seminary education with 2020's "Certification in Spiritual Formation". Please call me at 479-619-6063 or email caluck88@gmail.com

Blessings, **Cathy**



UMW News

Ladies, August has arrived and we are still in limbo about what is around the corner! It is difficult to wait! I heard a devotion yesterday comparing our wait with Covid-19 to Noah's wait for the water to reside. It felt like a good comparison, but thankfully, we are not housing all of those animals! Let me fill you in on the small information I can share.

Thank you to the many of you who have responded generously to our No-Bake Bake Sale letters. Your donations which can continue to be mailed in, will allow us to support some of our local charities no matter what happens with the rummage sale and bazaar.

The Board met outside in June and Circles also met safely outside. Our groups will meet again outside in September so as to be safe and avoid extra sanitizing. We are continuing as much as possible with our programming, although a unit meeting inside in September may not be possible. During this time of being away from the church, we are not able to do everything as usual. However, if you participate in the **reading program**, please see Diane Verville's article about reporting your books. If you need a couple more, I can send you an email from the lending library with 2 books from the children's section! And the book the Mendoza family read on UMW Sunday will also count! So, you can easily have 3!

What about the **RUMMAGE SALE**? At the June board meeting, we decided to postpone the rummage sale indefinitely until it is safe to have it in some form. We can do a rummage sale at any time during the year, so please continue to keep items for that. If you cannot store your items, let Verna Bottjen know. We do have room to store some things, just not everything!

A decision on the **BAZAAR** will be made at the September Board meeting. Thank you, ladies, for your continued crafting and sewing. Please call Darleen O'Brien or Judy Bilyeu if you would like some fabric, floss, or a pattern. If it is not safe to hold the bazaar at the church in October, we might rent space at the POA sale at Reardon. Another idea that has been floated is to do a virtual sale on Facebook or in another form. As a last resort, we would have a good start on a 2021 bazaar!

During this continued time of safe distancing, please keep calling each other, meeting outside for a visit or lunch, and supporting each other in prayer. Stay well! We have faith that just as God put the rainbow in the sky, He will help develop a vaccine for Covid-19!

Yours in Christ, *Judy Bilyeu*



Your Help is Needed!

Cooper Elementary School here in Bella Vista is needing help with school supplies for their students when school starts this year!

We are asking our church members if you could donate supplies from the list below. Please put your supplies in a bag and leave in the clear plastic bin outside the doors at the front of the church. The supplies will be collected from the bin each day Monday through Friday.

This will be a safe way of social distancing to deliver your donations without meeting with another person. It will also give you a destination road trip to get out of the house a moment to drop the supplies at church. And most importantly, this will be an opportunity for us to start coming together again as a congregation to work on a local mission!

With the sales starting on school supplies, this will be an ideal time to collect them.

This will be an ongoing project until school starts, so perhaps you can collect a few supplies each time you do your weekly groceries shopping.

If you would prefer to mail a check to the church for school supplies instead of purchasing them, please note in the memo section this donation is for school supplies - the supplies will be purchased for you.

Supplies needed for school:

- 3 ring binders (1 inch)
- Pocket folders with brads
- Composition notebooks
- Glue bottles & glue sticks
- Scissors
- Color pencils
- Dry erase markers
- Pencil pouches (zippered)
- Pencil boxes
- Color markers (washable)
- Erasers (pink)
- Erasers (cap)
- Pencils

• Please, **no crayons**—they will be purchased separately to protect them from melting in the heat.

Also, please see the plea on page 13 requesting cloth face masks for the students at Cooper School.



Thank you for your support of this church mission project!

Roger & Allison Totten



STILL CHECKING TO SEE



IF Y'ALL DOING ALRIGHT

**LAY LEADER'S MESSAGE**

Lou Kaufmann, Lay Leader

MY FRIEND BILL

About a year ago I wrote about my friend Bill who was then in the Circle of Life Hospice and was given about a week to live. Bill was not ready and on August 29, he went home, and attended a baseball game with us at Arvest Park. Bill and I then began setting dates that he was going to live till. First it was Thanksgiving, then Christmas, then Valentine's Day, then June 6, and then September 28. In between those dates he had to go back to Circle of Life, given days to live but wasn't ready. On July 11, last Saturday morning, Bill called me and said he wasn't going to make September 28. He said he had twenty four hours. Judy and I went over and said our farewells, hugged and cried. They came and took bill back to Hospice and the doctors gave him a couple of days. Thirteen days later, Bill is still with us. They have him sleeping all the time now but his determination is strong, his faith is strong and he has always been one of the most positive men I have known in our 52 years of friendship.

(After I had written this, sadly,
Bill passed away on Saturday, July 25).

The greatest power that God has given us is our Power of Choice. You choose your attitude and it can be negative or positive like Bill. Your attitude is influenced by your input and there are so many factors out there today such as TV, newspapers, riots, politics that affect how we think. It is said that "You are what think about all day". "You are the sum total of all your thoughts", and "As a man thinketh in his heart (brain) so is he". So how do you think? We are living in difficult times right now but if you do the right thing, you will feel the right thing. Your attitude determines your altitude and your attitude determines how long you will live, like my friend Bill. So if we change our attitude we can change our life.

Blessings, *Lou*



Artie Lawless,
UMM President

Are you a time Traveler?

Got your attention? I think so.

I was wolfing down a piece of Dove (Mint Chocolate) candy a little while ago. Let's not tell Marian, ok? And under the wrapper was one of those "Words of Wisdom" phrases. To give full credit, it was written by a gal named Rachel O. Washington.

The Phrase read "Keep life moving forward, looking backward is only for time travelers". So, inspiration struck, and I started thinking about what it's going to be like in the "Post Covid" years a comin'. AH, 2022 PC what a Year!

It was a wonderful experience. Looking at a world where people shook hands that weren't doused in Nuclear grade sanitizer. Dared to stand within 2 feet of each other and not turn blue from holding their breath. Actually, imagined going into a bank with my wife and not looking like Bonnie & Clyde.

I browsed the latest Dillard's on-line catalog and skipped the "Hazmat" section and yes, risked touching the Charmin without gloves. But then, Reality pushed all the fun aside and serious thoughts came forward.

It will be wonderful again to go to a restaurant, a movie, a friend's house for cards, or a bowling alley and the ultimate normalcy... gathering again with our church family. I miss that and I know you do too. It's written all over your mask, J.

No, I'm not a time traveler, Rachel. The past is gone, and I look forward to a future with God, Family and Friends joyfully gathering together to celebrate life once again.

Have faith, Preach hope, Care for each other, Love God...

Many Blessings, *Artie*

Tell a Pastor

Need to tell a pastor something?

Joys, concerns, health updates?

fumcbellavista.com/tellapastor

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Dick & Sonnie Andersen
- 3 Ed & Lorraine Swanson
- 4 Weldon & Linda Hyde
- 6 Chet & Cheryl Campbell
- 6 Earl & Mary Ann Kennedy
- 7 Tim & Susan Smith
- 10 Doug & Marilyn Adamson
- 14 Chris & Elaine Klein
- 23 Jim & Judy Bilyeu
- 24 J.R. & Layne Anderson
- 26 Stan & Phyllis Robinson



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS (CONT'D)

- 3 Peggy Gamble
- 6 Barbara Jenner
- 6 Kacy Spears
- 8 Carolyn Roach
- 9 Jean Greenlee
- 10 Karen McMillen
- 11 Lois McMahon
- 11 Kolby Williams
- 13 Hope Markley
- 15 Alec Gilmore
- 18 Marisa Nabholz
- 20 Florence Hill
- 24 Alan Packard
- 26 Julia Forst



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Jud Brown
- 2 David Duncan
- 2 Artie Lawless
- 2 Marcus Williams



AUGUST 2020 Newsletter ~ June 2020 Financial Data

		2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Month of June	*Income	\$ 42,079.84	\$ 36,709.84
Month of June	Expenses	\$ 41,754.80	\$ 47,130.83
	Difference	\$ 325.04	\$ (10,420.99)
Year to Date (as of 6/30/20)	Income	\$ 233,951.69	\$ 220,259.04
Year to Date (as of 6/30/20)	Expenses	\$ 257,223.79	\$ 282,735.00
	Difference	\$ (23,272.10)	\$ (62,475.96)
Year to Date Income including PPP loan		\$ 300,051.69	
Year to Date Expenses		\$ 257,223.79	
Difference		\$ 42,827.90	

* Income does not include Missions or Endowment Interest or PPP Loan

Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator



A Time To Start Something New – No, I'm Not Leaving The Church

I've been reflecting recently on the beginning verses of Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, CSB

*There is occasion for everything. And a time for every activity under heaven.
A time to give birth and a time to die; A time to plant and a time to uproot;
A time to kill and a time to heal; A time to tear down and a time to build;
A time to weep and a time to laugh; A time to mourn and a time to dance;
A time to mourn and a time to dance; A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones;
A time to embrace and a time to avoid embracing; A time to search and a time to count as lost;
A time to keep and a time to throw away; A time to tear and a time to sew;
A time to be silent and a time to speak; A time to love and a time to hate; A time for war and a time for peace.*

If I had been advising Solomon/the author of Ecclesiastes, I would have advised him to include “A time to mope and a time to pick yourself up by your boots / A time to rest and a time to begin something new.”

For a while, I've been sitting on my hands, wondering and praying what I should do next as far as continuing my education. No one in my family has ever gone to graduate school (except my husband). Should I go? Can I handle graduate school and a full-time job? What if I don't like it? What if I'm the class idiot? What if everyone is so super prepared and composed and I'm a hot mess?

This pandemic has made me realize that my internal monologue runs on fear and comparison. The only way to silence that voice is to prove to myself that I can do it. It's in this time of social distancing and isolation that I've had time to reflect on what kind of person God has called me to be, and God has always called me to be a person that loves and serves other people. I've known that since I was in kindergarten and wanted to be a teacher and when I was in middle school and wanted to be a pediatrician and when I was in high school and wanted to be run a non-profit theatre for youth. God knows those desires of my heart!

That is why I've decided to enroll in graduate school for this fall semester. If I want to continue loving and serving, I need to be open to changing how I love and serve.

I've enrolled in Emporia State University's Masters of Library Science program in hopes of one day becoming a librarian!

Some Frequently-Asked Questions:

Q: Is your graduate schooling online?

A: Yes, somewhat. It's a hybrid program that requires two in-person weekend intensives twice a semester in Conway, and the rest of the schoolwork is online.

Fun fact: This is the only Masters of Library Science program that meets in Arkansas, and I stumbled across it on accident (or a Holy Spirit moment)!

Q: What does this mean for your job at the church?!

A: **I will still serve First UMC Bella Vista as your Communications Director as long as you will have me!** You can't get rid of me that easily! I enjoy the work I do, and I look forward to the opportunity to learn more in a slightly different field simultaneously.

Q: Why library science?

A: Great question! My husband is a children's librarian, and I'll occasionally tag along with him to work. Watching him serve the public, represent his library, and coordinate events for the library feels like the puzzle pieces of my career so far coming together to form one cohesive and beautiful puzzle! Small town libraries often struggle to get the word out about new book clubs and upcoming events. My marketing and communications background would shine there! Libraries require knowledge of how to organize information and create the best possible method of sharing that database of information to those that need it. I've been doing that level of database design since high school. Librarians should build and maintain relationships with patrons, and I love people! Libraries are safe havens for some, a vault of knowledge for others, and always a cozy place to foster learning and a love of reading. Being an enneagram 2 (the helper), I know my purpose is to serve others however I can and being a librarian would mean getting to help the public every day I step into work. Libraries are a mission field of their own by nature.

Q: When will you graduate?

A: August 2022

Q: How are you going to balance being the Communications Director and grad school?

A: Faith, trust, and prayer. Oh, and lots of communication!

Church, I ask for your blessing as I add more to my plate for the next 2 years. Thank you for always loving and supporting me! If you have any more questions, feel free to reach out to me at kacy@fumcbellavista.com.

Kacy

MEDIA MUSINGS

Kacy Spears,
Director of Communications





From the Organ Console

Broc Hite, Organist/Pianist

I always enjoy August. It's when we start getting back to normal after taking a couple of weeks off for vacation, and choir rehearsals resume. Oh, wait, that's not exactly what this summer has been about! We did go back to live worship in July, but not much else has changed since mid-March when the church doors were closed.

I had a vacation scheduled for late May to visit my mom in upstate NY and to go to NYC, but at that time, both places were pretty inhospitable to travelers. Now that NY has reopened, I can't go there without getting caught in a 14-day quarantine thanks to our state's collective bad job at containing Coronavirus. Things could be worse, like having Covid-19 itself, which I've been spared!

For August, I've switched to a different set of short preludes, by 20th-century Flemish composer Flor Peeters. Peters studied with Dupré, whose Inventions I played in July. Peeters was not only a famous organist in Belgium but also served as a messenger between the churches he served in northern Belgium and the Netherlands during WWII. He had his passport confiscated by the Germans for refusing to concertize for them but was allowed to pass between the two countries for work.

Piano Postludes return during the month of August, featuring the five Chopin Waltzes that were published by Chopin's sister Ludwika and Julian Fontana after Chopin's death. You have already heard the eight waltzes that were approved for publication by Chopin during his lifetime.

If you're looking for some additional music to enjoy, I release a new Weekly Acorn program each Friday at 7 pm. The programs are typically 5 to 10 minutes long and are archived on Facebook for listening whenever you want. You can like my professional Facebook page or find the performances listed on my Website.

Starting in late July, I added a new feature called Music Monday Mishmosh. It includes short collaborative performances, blog postings, conversations about music, and who knows what else?! I'll release these on my professional Facebook and Instagram channels each Monday at 8 am.

Broc

Please join me online!

On the Web: <https://brochite.com>

On Facebook and Instagram: @BrocKeysPedals



In the Belly of the Well

Kenneth Wilson
The Well Contemporary Worship Leader



Hey Y'all,

In this time, I can't help but hear Bob Dylan singing "the times they are a-changing" in my head. One thing that has changed, is worship. We've been trying a lot of different things to keep y'all involved, included, and engaged, and you may have noticed we have some new faces joining us in contemporary worship. I'd like to say thank you to Andrew Smith for taking time to play music with us, and also a big thanks to Broc Hite for going above and beyond to bring piano back into contemporary worship....now you don't have to listen to just my guitar, haha! But really, I am extremely grateful for this team. I have a lot of friends who do my job at other churches across the world, and after speaking with them about their challenges during this time... we are blessed to have such talent and commitment within our community! Also Beth Bishop and her daughter Caitlyn Rowland have rejoined us recently. We have high hopes and big plans for contemporary worship moving forward; I hope you will walk with us on this unprecedented, yet blessed, journey.

With Peace and Love,

Kenneth



Stewardship Corner

Four Principles of Biblical Stewards

By Hugh Whelchel

Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service, you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

In a recent blog on stewardship, we asked the question, "What does stewardship look like in our lives today?" Unfortunately, many Christians today only associate the idea of stewardship with sermons they have heard about church budgets and building programs.

But for us at the Institute for Faith, Work & Economics, the idea of biblical stewardship is about something much more expansive. We believe it is where the concepts of faith, work, and economics intersect.

Bill Peel over at The High Calling recently wrote an excellent essay entitled *Leadership is Stewardship*. His essay can help us build a framework to begin unpacking this biblical idea of stewardship.

Peel suggests that there are four important principles about biblical stewardship we must understand:

The principle of ownership.

The psalmist begins the 24th Psalm with, *The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.*

In the beginning of Genesis, God creates everything and puts Adam in the Garden to work it and to take care of it. It is clear that man was created to work and that *work is the stewardship of all of the creation that God has given him.*

This is the fundamental principle of biblical stewardship. God owns everything; we are simply managers or administrators acting on his behalf.

Therefore, stewardship expresses our obedience regarding the administration of everything God has placed under our control, which is all-encompassing. Stewardship is the commitment of one's self and possessions to God's service, recognizing that we do not have the right to control our property or ourselves.

Echoing Deuteronomy 8:17, we might say: "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me."

But Deuteronomy 8:18 counsels us to think otherwise:

Remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

The principle of responsibility.

In explaining responsibility, Peel writes,

Although God gives us "all things richly to enjoy," nothing is ours. Nothing really belongs to us. God owns everything; we're responsible for how we treat it and what we do with it. While we complain about our rights here on earth, the Bible constantly asks, What about your responsibilities? Owners have rights; stewards have responsibilities.

We are called as God's stewards to manage that which belongs to God. While God has graciously entrusted us with the care, development, and enjoyment of everything he owns as his stewards, we are responsible to manage his holdings well and according to his desires and purposes.

The principle of accountability.

A steward is one who manages the possessions of another. We are all stewards of the resources, abilities, and opportunities that God has entrusted to our care, and one day each one of us will be called to give an account for how we have managed what the Master has given us.

This is the maxim taught by the Parable of the Talents. God has entrusted authority over the creation to us, and we are not allowed to rule over it as we see fit. We are called to exercise our dominion under the watchful eye of the Creator, managing his creation in accord with the principles he has established.

Like the servants in the Parable of the Talents, we will be called to give an account of how we have administered everything we have been given, including our time, money, abilities, information, wisdom, relationships, and authority.

We will all give account to the rightful owner as to how well we managed the things he has entrusted to us.

The principle of reward.

In Colossians 3:23 -24, Paul writes: *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

The Bible shows us in the parables of the Kingdom that faithful stewards who do the Master's will with the Master's resources can expect to be rewarded incompletely in this life, but fully in the next.

We all should long to hear the Master say what he exclaims in Matthew 25:21 : *Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness!*

As Christians in the 21st century, we need to embrace this larger biblical view of stewardship, which goes beyond church budgets or building projects, though important; it connects everything we do with what God is doing in the world.

We need to be faithful stewards of all God has given us within the opportunities presented through his providence to glorify him, serve the common good, and further his Kingdom.



MISSIONS



July & August
Mission Emphasis

**Habitat for
Humanity
of Benton County**

HABITAT for HUMANITY is a nonprofit organization that helps families build and improve places to call home. They believe affordable housing plays a critical role in strong and stable communities.

Habitat for Humanity of Benton County is fundraising to build homes from foundation to roof, and they need our help! See the poster to the right for more information. →→→→→→→→→

To donate, write "Missions" or "Habitat for Humanity" in the memo line of your checks. Thank you for your generosity in helping to building our community!



SUPPORT THE MISSION

BUILDING HOMES, BUILDING HOPE

Everyone can make a difference at Habitat for Humanity of Benton County. Read below to see how you can help build a home in partnership with a single mom and her two children. There is something for everyone to do to help change the lives of families in Northwest Arkansas.



In-Kind Donations

Donate new and gently used building materials, construction supplies, furnishings, housewares and more, to be sold in the ReStore. All profits go right back into the organization.



Volunteer

Volunteer in the ReStore Monday through Saturday, 9:00am to 5:00pm or in the admin offices Monday through Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm. Choose your day and time frame!



Financial Donations

Every donation makes a huge difference, no matter the amount. Your donation brings the family one step closer to a safe and affordable home. Just \$5 purchases one 2x4 board.

Join us!

Ready to get involved or have questions? Contact us.

(479) 335-5970 / katie@habitatbentoncountyar.org / habitatbentoncountyar.org

1212 N. Walton Blvd., Bentonville, AR 72712



SHOEBOX MINISTRY

...has not been as active as usual the past few months. However, if you have empty shoeboxes just sitting around in your closet, please bring them to the church. More deliveries will need to be made soon.

Thank you,

Your Shoebox Team

Masks for Cooper students needed!

Thank you to our church family for being so generous to donate school supplies to Cooper Elementary School!

But, Cooper Elementary is also needing help in providing fabric face masks for students kindergarten through 4th grade.

Anyone who would like to sew masks for the students, please place your completed masks in a bag and place in the clear bin in front of the church along with the school supplies.

If anyone needs fabric or elastic, please contact Judy Bilyeu at 479-721-9460.





BELLA VISTA PRE-SCHOOL

Spots Still Available!!!

School Age Class BVPS is now enrolling students for a part-time play-based program for K-2 students

If you're uncertain about sending your kiddo to the large public school environment and are choosing virtual learning or home-school to start the upcoming school year but want a place for them to learn through the valuable work of play and practice the life skills of relationships then you will be interested in our program! In keeping with the vision of BVPS this program will provide students with a safe, affordable, developmentally appropriate, play-based educational foundation. Our focus will be on social and emotional skills, as well as hands on learning.

Want to know more about our program? Send us a PM or an email (bvpreschool@gmail.com) and we'll be happy to answer any questions you have.



The Bella Vista Recycling Center at 400 Pinion Bluff Drive (just north of T.H. Rogers) 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

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. If you need a new form, please call the office any day in the morning, and a form will be mailed to you. 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 to those who have taken the time to do this and have sent them in.

For pastoral emergencies, please call and leave a message at the office (479-855-1158). The messages are checked often during the day and are forwarded to the pastors.



Book Nook



ATTENTION UMW READING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Please have your information to me no later than August 10. Under these unusual circumstances, I just need to have the number (I, II, III, or IV) of the plan you completed.

You can email me at jdvdellavista@yahoo.com or call me 479-876-1676 before the deadline. Thanks.

Diane Verville

HOPE CIRCLE is planning on a meeting for Thursday, September 10th at 1:00 pm under the back deck. We will do the Ingathering and collect Best Choice labels. Anyone coming will wear a mask and bring a folding lawn chair. Extras will be available. The meeting will be canceled if the weather becomes a problem.

Barbara Brooks



THANK YOU

A special "Thank You" from the Board of Trustees to all those who are keeping our grounds presentable. The mowing, trimming, weed-killing and watering is quite a task for as large a yard as we have. Keith Sterwald even bought a new riding mower so he could spend hours in the sun bouncing over our hilly terrain. Other mowers have included, Weldon Hyde, Bob Vermette, and Artie Lawless. Bob Kennedy has continued his never-ending attack on the weeds. Bill & Connie Wilson, Marian Lawless, Linda Hyde and Hope keep the flowers weeded and watered. Also, a huge shout-out goes to Weldon for almost single-handedly chain-sawing our huge fallen oak tree into fireplace sized logs. Artie, Bob V., Bill, and John Justice helped in the final clean-up. If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me—just know that we are grateful for any help we can get!

Barbara Brooks, Chair, Board of Trustees

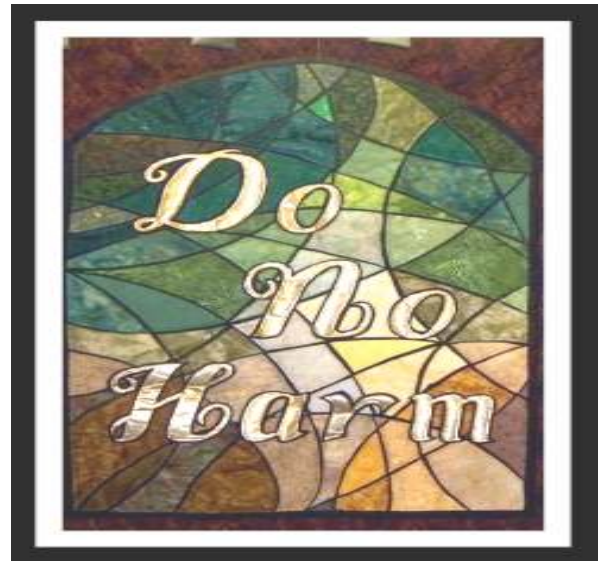


Thank you for continuing to make your pledges via Paypal, USPS, on-line banking, in between the doors, or however else . . . they do matter.

And thank you for all of your notes and cards that you have been sending with your contributions. They make me smile and feel that little bit of connection with each of you. Stay safe and stay well. **Amy**



Thank you to my friends in Bella Vista for remembering me with your cards and calls after Bob's passing. I miss the people at FUMCBV very much. **Betty Reynolds**





First United Methodist Church
20 Boyce Drive,
Bella Vista, AR 72715

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We're Here to Serve You

Senior Pastor - Rev. Jeanne Williams
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Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore
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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

Phone: (479) 855-1158
www.fumcbellavista.com
facebook.com/fumcbv

Newsletter Deadline: 20th of the month

Return Service requested

To the Home of ...

**THIS IS MORE THAN
A GENTLE REMINDER!!**

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.

**PLEASE DON'T BECOME COMPLACENT
or WANT TO HURRY THINGS!!
WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER!**

STAY SAFE!
Remember, You are loved!