



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BELLA VISTA

The Good News

MARCH 2024



MISSIONS TEAM MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 5,
AT 2:00PM IN THE PARLOR

Whether you expressed an interest in the Missions Team or not, everyone is welcome to attend this meeting. It's time we get to work on Mission efforts. Come be a part of the team!



“A Few Thoughts on Approaches to Our Faith— and the Scriptures”

Rev. Ron Hayes

Ugh, it's tax time. As part of preparing for taxes each year, it is suggested we do a thorough review of our overall financial health as well. I have been skimming a few articles along the 'investment' subject line and rereading the guidance provided by one of the best, the Oracle of Omaha, Warren Buffet. I see some interesting threads to compare our approaches to faith.

Buffet's track record of a calm and steady review of the marketplace and how to better understand, adjust, and invest across the markets to improve his holdings each year is wildly successful. When questioned on some of the common 'mistakes,' he shrugs his shoulders and simply says, "most investors are trying hard and are smart people but often have minor misunderstandings on why their strategies don't work out as well." He cautions that we need to be aware of biases. Over the years, psychologists have identified a number of cognitive biases that impact investors. **Anchoring bias**, for instance, makes it easy to misjudge the true value of an asset simply because you're fixated on past performance. **Confirmation bias** occurs when you seek out information but focus on that which cements what you already believe. **Activity bias** makes you feel unproductive when you're not trading frequently. And finally, **Risk aversion** is probably one of the most powerful biases investors deal with. The fear of losing money can outweigh the pleasure of gaining it, so decisions are rooted in fear.

If you want a deeper discussion on each of these four financial biases, stop by my office or invite me out for a cup of coffee and we can spend an inordinate amount of time on the financial implications for each one. Oh, the joy! But for the purposes of this newsletter article, we are moving to the possible faith applications of each or at least I'm going to give it a whirl.

Anchoring bias brings us to our faith as we are often taught in our early years, or as absorbed through culture such as in story books or in movies based on the Bible. Most pastors and Sunday School teachers worked hard, had great hearts and intent, but very few were Bible Scholars fluent in Greek and Hebrew. They also probably weren't armed with the latest discoveries (e.g. the Dead Sea Scrolls were found between 1946 and 1956 at the Qumran

Caves—considered very recent in terms of Biblical history). We all agree you can't get our faith facts from the movies or Facebook or TikTok.

Confirmation bias occurs when you seek out information but focus on that which cements what you already believe. Yes, that's an exact quote from the financial part of the article, but it applies to our faith too. If we only read, listen, and study those we agree with, our faith is not stretched and strengthened. Reading and hearing different points of view is not necessarily meant to change us but to challenge us to better understand what and why we believe as we do. There is much to learn. And we just might change—see Risk aversion below.

Activity bias takes a different turn as it may be seen when someone changes too quickly to the latest "cultural" belief system. Have we thoroughly and completely studied various aspects of both sides and then decided or easily jumped in with the 'leading edge' group? I think it is best to also follow Outler's Wesleyan Quadrilateral: Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience (see my July 2023 article).

Risk aversion is in play too. What is the balance of trusting God versus trusting one's own skills and reason? This is a really, really, hard one. If you need an example, try answering a call to share the Message one Sunday or to lead a Bible Study. Suddenly the description, strong faith, goes out the window. But a strong faith doesn't mean saying yes to every opportunity either. As Buffet puts it, awareness of your Risk aversion is the key in trying to find the balance. Remember that it is not good works that bring about blessings. God gives us grace and we are changed and want to do good works.

The last day of March will be Easter Sunday. Hallelujah! May we seek to better understand ourselves to also strengthen and empower our faith to share the Gospel. The world needs you and me and the faith we share—the love of Jesus.

Peace and blessings,



What's the (Hi)Story?

Jill Hale, FUMC Historian



The year is 2000. Remember all of that concern over Y2K? We do seem to worry about things sometimes, don't we? At least I do. I need to remember that the Lord is in charge and trust Him, but I digress. Back to church history.

First, here are some tidbits regarding the church building: (1) The Board of Trustees determined that the Becker Hall deck would need to be repaired or restructured, so use of the deck was restricted until that could be accomplished. (2) The Board also approved that the carpet in the Chancel would be removed and replaced with tile when the Sanctuary was renovated. Rev. Mel Ireland advised that this would improve the acoustics for musical programs. The Board went to work seeking funding for the needed Sanctuary improvements, such as pews, choir chairs, carpeting, and painting. It was decided that the new Sanctuary carpet would be green because it would be complementary with all Holy season colors. (3) Dr. Larry Zehring requested that blinds be installed on the Becker Hall windows so that the room could be darkened to show movies.

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee was charged with determining what additional staff could be hired to cover responsibilities like keeping Endowment records, Thursday Night Alive reservations, coordinating meetings, and answering the phone. It was decided that a part-time assistant secretary would be hired to work up to 30 hours a week, that an additional telephone would be purchased, and that office space would be provided for this person. Kandi Mount was moved into the inner office next to Rev. Williams' office. The newly-hired Ann Cass, assistant secretary, could then work in the outer office three days a week.

After a lot of discussion and a number of meetings, including a church conference chaired by Rev. Max Whitfield and the District Superintendent, it was decided that the parsonage would be sold and that the senior pastor would be provided with a housing allowance in its place.

There were some pastoral events in 2000. Sadly, on January 4, Rev. Paul Johnson passed away. He had served the church since 1994 and had been a strong supporter of every activity. In March, it was announced that Dr. Larry Dodgen would be the new minister to replace Rev. Wendell Dorman upon his retirement. Sunday, May 21, was

designated "Wendell Dorman Day." Shortly thereafter, Rev. Dodgen petitioned the Conference Cabinet to accept his own retirement. Because of this, Rev. Larry R. Williams from the FUMC in Crossett in the Little Rock Conference was immediately announced as the pastor to succeed Rev. Dorman. In June, Rev. Dorman retired, and a welcoming reception was held between services on June 18 for Pastor Larry Williams and his wife, Marilyn. Associate Pastor, Rev. Thomas Stone, retired in September. Rev. Wayne Bartruff replaced Rev. Stone in November. Are you confused yet with all of those many changes in one year?

Back in those days, we had something called the "Dessert Theater." The theme in 2000 was "From Blues to Jazz," which showcased music from ragtime to swing. It ran for five consecutive performances, Monday through Friday. The stages were built by church members and other volunteers, and the desserts were prepared by Chef Bruce Main. Sounds deliciously fun!

Missions work was strong and included the Shoebox Ministry, Pak-a-Sak, and the sponsoring of Habitat Houses in Africa and India. A Volunteers in Mission Team traveled to Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte, in the Philippines for two weeks to help paint an almost-finished high school building and do other light construction jobs. You can see that ongoing mission work has been deeply embedded in our congregation for a long time.

Next month, we will take a look at 2001. Until then, please do remember that we would welcome your church stories. Just let me know by phone at 479-344-6074 or 928-710-3612 or by email to rjhale68@cox.net.

Jill Hale,
Historian



Order Your Tulips or Easter Lilies!

Through March 17th in honor or memory of a loved one.

\$15.00 each

Place orders in the Church Office. If paying by check, make check out to FUMCBV and put "Easter Lily" on the Memo line.



Easter Breakfast

Sunday, 3/31, right after Sunrise Service in Becker Hall

Bring a breakfast bread/pastry to share.



OR WATCH ONLINE: fumcbellavista.com

Worship & Fellowship with us this Holy Week:

- 6:30pm Maundy Thursday
- 6:30pm Good Friday Service
- 7:30am Easter Sunrise Service (Easter Breakfast to follow)
- 9:00am Easter Classic Service
- 11:00am Easter Casual Service



Book Nook: New in the Church Library



BOOKS IN SERIES:

EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Book 9. BEAUTY'S SURRENDER (Sarah's Story) by Mesu Andrews

FICTION:

OTHER BIRDS by Sarah Addison Allen

An enchanting tale of lost souls, lonely strangers, secrets that shape us, and how the right flock can guide us home.

HELP NEEDED!!!

We are in the process of reorganizing our church library. If you have a spare hour or two, please give me a call and we will work out the details together. No experience necessary. Many hands make light work.

Thank you,
Diane Verville
479-876-1676.



New Pictorial Directory Coming Soon

Re:MEMBER Church Directories will be here April 25-27 to take portraits of our members for a new directory. For having your picture taken, you will receive a FREE directory and FREE 8x10" photo. You will be able to purchase photo packages at your sitting. We will have sign-up sheets for appointments out in the narthex every Sunday beginning March 10. If you want to provide your own photo instead of having your photo taken, you may do so, but the directory will cost \$20. Please sign up early to secure your spot.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3</p> <p>9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School - LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp-Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Mission Team Meeting - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - Quilt/BH/LL/Rm6/Parlor 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Sanctuary 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Room</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 9:30 UWF Board Meeting 11:00 Caring Friends Dry Run - BH 2:00 Grief Support Group - Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop-Qlt Rm 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 12:30 Caregivers' Support Grp-Parlor 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Office Closed 11:30 BVPS Board Meeting - Rm 28</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 Finance Meeting - Parlor</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 DAR - Parlor 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 1:30 Sarah Circle - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - Quilt/BH/LL/Rm6/Parlor 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Sanctuary 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Room</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 10:00 Caring Friends Respite Care-BH 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop-Qlt Rm 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:00 Evening Circle - Youth Room</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:00 Classic Service 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH 1:30 CCM Meeting - Parlor</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 Martha Circle-Quilt Rm 10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 1:00 Frances H Bridge Grp-Parlor 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:00 HealingStrong- Room 6 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 11:00 Highland Park Villas HOA - BH 1:30 Naomi Circle - Parlor 6:00 Scouts - Quilt/BH/LL/Rm6/Parlor 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Sanctuary 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Room</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 9:30 Chapter CX PEO Meeting-Parlor 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary 5:30 UMM Meeting/Meal - BH</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop-Qlt Rm 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Office Closed 10:00 CBCO Blood Drive - BH</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28</p>
<p>24</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY 9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH 12:15 Trustees Meeting - Parlor</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:30 Staff Mtg - Rm 6 12:30 Women's Chorus - MR 5:00 Potluck/Games - Parlor 6:30 By the Book AA - Rm 28</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 6:00 Scouts - Quilt/BH/LL/Rm6/Parlor 6:30 Scouts (Girls) - Sanctuary 6:30 Men's Chorus - Music Room</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 BV Quilters - Quilt Rm 11:00 UWF Unit Lunch- BH 3:00 Chancel Bells - Music Rm 4:00 Chancel Choir - Sanctuary</p>	<p>28</p> <p>MAUNDY THURSDAY 9:00 UWF Bazaar Workshop-Qlt Rm 9:30 Yoga - Becker Hall 1:30 Friends of Christ - Parlor 2:00 Praise Team Practice - BH 5:00 Rotary Club Meeting - Parlor 6:30 Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p>29</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY Office Closed 6:30 Good Friday Service-Sanctuary</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 Amp Big Book AA - Rm 28</p>
<p>31</p> <p>EASTER SUNDAY 7:30 Sunrise Service - Deck (Easter Breakfast follows) 9:00 Classic Service - Sanctuary 10:00 Fellowship Time - Parlor 10:00 Children's Sunday School-LL 11:00 Casual Service - BH</p>						



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



3/10 Steve & Sandy Larsen

3/16 Ted & Julie Lasher

3/13 Don & Lois McMahon

3/29 Camren & Dorothy Phillips

3/14 Leroy & Joann Handel



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



3/01 Gloria Atha

3/07 Wanda Williams

3/23 Ricky Echols

3/02 Linda Davis

3/08 Dylan Antoine

3/23 Carmen Heck

3/02 James Gilmore

3/10 Linda Hyde

3/26 Naomi Hagan

3/02 Trent Humphrey

3/13 Sheryl Fitzpatrick

3/26 Frances Temple

3/03 India Hight

3/16 Lora Burch

3/28 Judy Knadle

3/03 Layton Magee

3/17 John Lindsey

3/28 Gail Storm

3/03 Preston Magee

3/17 Ralph Wallace

3/29 Kim Davenport

3/06 Emeree Hight

3/20 Terry Davis

3/07 Frank Kostal

3/22 Dylan Lehmann

March 2024 Newsletter Financial Data information as of January 31, 2024

	2024 Actual	2024 Budget
Month of January Contributions (Income*)	\$ 31,688.95	\$ 32,586.17
Month of January Expenses	\$ 34,391.41	\$ 35,345.01
Difference	\$ (2,702.46)	\$ (2,758.84)
Year to Date Income Contributions Only	\$ 264,005.00	\$ 228,103.19
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 237,054.91	\$ 249,044.24
Difference	\$ 26,950.09	\$ (20,941.05)

*Income does not include Missions or Endowment Interest (Fiscal Year started July 1.)



Friends of Christ meet this month on Thursday, 3/28, at 1:30pm in the Parlor. Come explore and discuss different media about Jesus Christ with friends.

Did you know?



Potluck & Games Night is every **Monday evening at 5:00pm** in the Parlor. Join us for cards, board games, dominoes, etc. We will find a game for you or teach you a new one. Bring a dish to share & your table service. For questions, call Mabel Ashline: (563)505-6975.



Did You Know We Have a Medical Supply Closet with Items for Loan in It?

Well, we do. In fact, we have several wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, raised toilet seats, canes, crutches, and other miscellaneous items to lend. So if you're having surgery or are just in need of a medical device, let the office know and we can loan something out to you.

Natural Healing Education and Support Groups

Empowered by:



Are you ready to seek wisdom and gain understanding about your health?

Are you healing from cancer or any other disease?

Do you need encouragement and hope?

This group provides life-giving information on natural, non-toxic strategies to heal strong and stay strong.

We focus on food, detoxification, supplements, affirmations and prayers based on God's promises in His Word.

WHEN: Monday, March 18

LOCATION: FUMCBV Room 6

TIME: 6:00PM-7:00PM

This is an education and connection group of like-minded people desiring to heal strong and stay strong!

Absolutely no goods or services are sold at these meetings.

We are an independent group of volunteers empowered by HealingStrong curriculum and resources. Our mission is to educate, connect, and encourage those seeking comprehensive natural strategies to heal strong and stay strong. Please consult your healthcare provider for diagnosis, medical advice, or treatment.

Questions? Please contact:
Lorre Faszholz - 682-234-1645

www.healingstrong.org



MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS



STEVE & AMY TERRY:

Steve and Amy Terry joined the FUMCBV family on Sunday, January 28. They began visiting our church because of friends that were attending here. Steve and Amy are Bella Vista residents and are both retired. They have 3 children and 12 grandchildren. Steve has an interest in missions and is already involved in the United Methodist Men here. Amy enjoys cooking and hiking. They list their interests as golf, fishing, working out, growing plants, Jeep-ing in the Ozarks, and classic trucks. Steve and Amy keep busy with family, friends, church, and fun. You can usually find them in the Casual Service. We are excited they've chosen to call FUMCBV home and to get to know them better! If you haven't welcomed them already, what are you waiting for? :)

IN GRATITUDE

Thank you!

Thanks to Pastor Ron for all the visits to Suzanne and myself in the hospital, at Circle of Life, and at our home. Also, thanks for the beautiful eulogy at my wife's Celebration of Life service.

Thanks to the Naomi Circle for putting together great food at the reception following the service.

Thanks to all the staff members for helping with the service. God bless each one of you.

~ Verle Shoemaker

Thank You

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE CARDS AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES AT MY PARTY. IT WAS SUCH A SURPRISE FOR ME! MY DAUGHTERS WERE IMPRESSED BY ALL THE LOVE AND SUPPORT IN OUR CHURCH.

Mabel Ashline



United Women in Faith

GREETINGS FROM UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH!

The women of UWF are all looking forward to spring and the Celebration of Easter this month. We will also be having our first Unit Luncheon of 2024 on March 27th in Becker Hall at 11:30am.

Beginning March 7th, our weekly Bazaar Workshops will be held every Thursday from 9:00am--2:00pm in the Quilt room downstairs. Everyone is welcome and there are jobs for everyone, from pressing material, cutting out items, stuffing pillows and other items, sewing items from pot holders, aprons, to placemats. It is a GREAT way to visit and have MANY laughs while making items for our Bazaar that benefits the Women, Children, and Youth in Benton County. Come when you can, stay as long as you wish, bring a sandwich and have lunch with the group.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR WORKSHOP:

Large-mouth Pint and Quart jars

The UWF continue to collect Best Choice Bar Codes (like the one at right). We receive \$60 for every 1000 codes we collect. Just drop your bar codes in the box in the Library.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 6th Executive Board Meeting 9:30am in the Parlor

March 7th Bazaar Workshop from 9:00am-2:00pm every Thursday in the Quilt Room starting today

March 27th UWF Unit Meeting & Quarterly Luncheon 11:30am Becker Hall

Call President, Barbara Brooks at 876-5353 for questions or comments. You, too, can become a member and make a difference someone's life.

YOU CAN BECOME A MEMBER & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN MANY LIVES! ALL ARE WELCOME!



UWF UNIT MEETING & QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

The UWF Unit Meeting & Quarterly Luncheon will be **Wednesday, March 27, at 11:30 am in Becker Hall**. LaDonna Humphrey, Executive Director of Oasis NWA, will be here to share about the Share the Love program. Lunch is ham, party potatoes, roll, and lemon cake for \$7.50. **Please RSVP by Sunday, Mar. 24th**, in your Circle or the Church Office.





March UWF Circle Meetings



Sarah
Tuesday, 3/12,
at 1:00pm
in the Parlor
Call to Prayer &
Self-Denial

Evening
Thursday, 3/14,
at 6:00pm
in the Youth Room
Call to Prayer &
Self-Denial

Martha
Monday, 3/18,
at 9:30am
in the Quilt Room
Call to Prayer &
Self-Denial

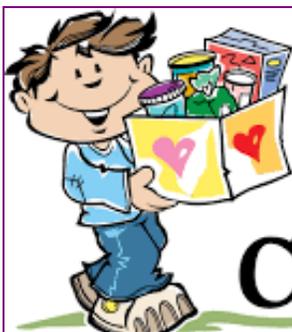
Naomi
Tuesday, 3/19,
at 1:30pm
in the Parlor
Program
TBD



The next **UMM** meeting is on **Wednesday, 3/20**. Dinner is at **5:30pm** in **Becker Hall**. The meeting will follow at **6:00pm**.

CARING 
friends
Together We Can
Make a Difference!

Our Respite Care Ministry team is doing a social engagement dry-run Wednesday, 3/6, at 11:00am in Becker Hall. On the following Wednesday, 3/13, the first official social engagement will be in Becker Hall from 10:00am-2:00pm. If you would like to volunteer to help out with this fantastic ministry, see Pastor Ron or Noreen Poor. Applications are available in the office.



**Blessing
Box
Food
Collection**

We again need protein: **CANNED MEATS** (chicken, tuna, etc.) & **PEANUT BUTTER**. We can always use **CEREAL & SHELF-STABLE MILK** (Parmalat). **WE DO NOT NEED ANYMORE CANNED VEGETABLES OR BOXED MACARONI**. Be sure to get the medium-sized jars of peanut butter and boxes of cereal so they fit in the Blessing

Box. Please drop off your donations to the church office or in Room 5, the Blessing Box Room. As always, **please NO EXPIRED, DENTED, OPENED, or UNLABELED CANS**.



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

We're Here to Serve You

Lead Pastor - Rev. Ron Hayes
 ron.hayes@arumc.org (479) 366-9725
 Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore
 Church Secretary - Andrea Fobes
 Music Ministries Director - Dr. Lawrence Zehring
 Organist/Accompanist - Lamar Puckett
 Praise Band Leaders - Rick & Gloria Atha

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

Office Hours:
 Monday-Thursday
 9:00am-4:00pm

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 18th



A FEW WAYS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER:



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP (GSG)
Grief isn't a journey you have to make alone.
 This month, GSG meets
Wednesday, 3/06,
at 2:00pm in the Parlor.
 Facilitated by Pastor Ron.



CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 7, AT 12:30 PM IN THE PARLOR
***RESPIRE CARE PROVIDED**

The Agape Shepherd Group meets **Saturday, March 9,** at **10:00am** at **Rosita's** in Jane, MO.



PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

As a church family, we lift each other up in prayer for both our joys and our concerns. **Send your Praises and Prayer requests to Pastor Ron** at his email: ron.hayes@arumc.org or call him: **(479) 366-9725**. You can also call the church office **(479) 855-1158**, email our secretary, Andrea, at: andrea@fumcbellavista.com or stop by **20 Boyce Dr.** You may also complete a **Prayer Request Card** in the Narthex or Becker Hall and drop them in the Prayer Boxes there. They are checked during office hours.