



The Good News

DECEMBER 2020

Keep Christ in Your Christmas as you Safely Gather with family & friends

Dec. 3	7:00pm	Light of the World Book Study—Zoom
Dec. 6	9:30am	Sunday on-line Worship Service
Dec. 9	7:30pm	Wednesday on-line Worship Service
Dec. 13	9:30am	Sunday on-line Worship Service
Dec. 16	7:30pm	Wednesday on-line Worship Service
Dec. 20	9:30am	Sunday on-line Worship Service
Dec. 21	6:30pm	Longest Night on-line Worship Service
Dec. 23		NO Wednesday WORSHIP SERVICE
Dec. 24	12Noon	Christmas Eve Worship Services
	5:00pm	On-Line &TV (Cox 222 & Att U-Verse 99) On-Line only (Contemporary Service)
	7:00pm	On-Line &TV (Cox 222 & Att U-Verse 99)
Dec. 25	12:Noon	TV only—Rebroadcast of 12/24 7pm
Dec. 27	9:30am	Sunday online ~ Bishop Gary Mueller
Dec. 30	6:30pm	Re-airing of Sunday ~ Bishop Mueller

Advent Worship Series

Join us for Christmas from the B-Side! We'll be looking at traditional Advent scriptures, but from a lesser-known character's point of view. The Song List includes hit B-Side titles:

1. "God Only Knows" - Zachariah
2. "We Will Rock You" - Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, & Bathsheba
3. "You Can't Always Get What You Want" – David
4. "Dancing in the Streets" - Simeon & Anna

December 13 we will have a special treat on our annual Advent Music Sunday, including carols from the Choir and a play from our children. I hope you'll join us for Christmas from the B-Side!

Christmas is coming, and for many years, the **ANGEL TREE** organization has provided FUMCBV 45 names of needy children from Care and Share from which to choose to purchase Christmas gifts. As with everything else in 2020, we will do things a little bit differently. We invite you to come to the church during office hours (9:00 - 1:00) and ring the bell at the Narthex entrance under the portico.

Someone will come to the door and go over with you age and gender of a child for you to choose — you will be given the information packet for the child(ren) you are buying for. We will write your name and phone number down on the checkout list and remind you to return your unwrapped gifts in the bag provided no later than NOON Sunday, December 6th.

The return process will be handled the same way - office hours, under the portico, ring the bell, and we will check you in. We have a short turn-around time, so please be diligent in getting the bags back to the church. If you would like to sponsor a child, but are hesitant to go out shopping, we have someone who has volunteered to do a limited amount of shopping for you. Please let us know as soon as possible and arrangements will be made. Thank you for your continued support of this much needed mission project.





Glimpses of Grace

Rev. Jeanne Williams, Senior Pastor

I'm sitting in my office writing this and as I look around, I'm grieving. I'm grieving the loss of the better part of a year in doing ministry the way we're used to doing it, the way we're trained to do it, and how we're equipped to do it. I grieve not having our Thanksgiving Dinner, or Lessons and Carols, or the UMW Christmas Luncheon, and all the other things. My family cancelled our extended family Christmas gathering this last week. We have plans to make it different and fun in other ways, but it's yet another loss. I grieve the fact that our church will be decorated, but only minimally. There won't be a little "happy" around every corner like usual. And after the last 8 months of loss after loss after loss, I'm tired. I'm weary. And I'm worn.

As we approach this Advent season, I find myself thinking about the Israelites. They were tired, weary, and worn, and looking for the promised Savior. A Messiah who would come and save them from the tyranny they were experiencing. I can just imagine watching every descendent of David's and wondering, "is this the one?" And being disappointed when it wasn't. Can you relate to the Israelites, too?

But here's the thing: The Messiah did come. Hope did arrive. And it's coming again. Jesus will be born again this December 25th! Hope in the form of successful vaccine trials is bursting forth now. And soon this whole year will be a distant memory and something to tell our future generations as "the year when nothing was normal." So I also find myself looking for ways to make the ending of this year unique and special in its own way. I also know that just because we flip the calendar page, it won't be over. No, we'll still have this pandemic after December 31st. But, there's hope. There. Is. Hope. And we must not lose sight of our faith and truly proclaiming that we have hope because of our faith!

Remember these words of proclamation from Luke 2:10-14:

¹⁰ The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. ¹¹ Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. ¹² This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

Christmas Blessings, my friends. May God's warmth and hope enfold you!

Rev. Jeanne



Staff Transitions

It is with a sad heart that we are saying goodbye to Ashdon and Kenneth Wilson at the end of this year in their positions of NextGen Children's Director, NextGen Youth Director, and Contemporary Worship Leader. Ashdon is actively pursuing her career as a librarian. And Kenneth has discerned that full-time ministry is not where God is calling him. We're excited that they do plan to remain active members of our congregation, and continue serving in various ways. Please keep them in your prayers in this time of transition and thank them for their service!

We are excited to announce that Renee van Dyke has accepted the position of Next Gen Director and has begun the youth portion of that position already. She previously served as the Next Gen Staff Member with us, so she's not a new face. Renee will oversee the youth and children's ministry, coordinating volunteers, events, and curriculum. We will be hiring a part-time Children's Assistant as well.

We are currently in the interview process for the Contemporary Worship Leader, and look forward to announcing this person soon!



JOINING in the JOURNEY TOGETHER

Rev. Brenda Wideman, Associate Pastor

Are You Weary?

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)

How many times do I hear that word these days! We are **weary**; we are **weary** of the bad news; we are **weary** of the illness and the death; we are **weary** of worrying about germs; we are **weary** of staying in isolation; we are **weary** of doing life alone; we are **weary** of no hugs and no smiles; we are **weary** of having our groceries placed in our trunk and getting home to find they forgot the coffee; we are **weary** of the struggles of life these days! We need to have our many burdens lifted!

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and I will give you rest... You will find rest for your souls." That's what we need, rest for our souls!!! I invite you to join us to find rest for your soul. We have two opportunities for you in the coming months. On December 21st, we will gather to journey together through "**The Longest Night**" of the year. In the experience we will share that evening, we will hear words of hope, of healing, and of comfort. We will do this knowing that the very next day, December 22nd, the nights get shorter, the days get longer, and starting that day, we literally begin the journey to new light and new beginnings.

Then, in January 2021, an opportunity for a new beginning, a fresh start, will be offered. "**When Mourning Dawns: Living your Way through the Seasons of Your Grief**" will begin on Thursday, January 14th. Each Thursday evening, from 5:30-7:00pm, for 9 weeks, we will gather to learn about and walk through our grief together. This is not a 'spill your guts' kind of gathering. Instead we learn what grief does to us, share experiences in ways that are healing, watch videos that offer suggestions of how to heal, and lift our burdens through the love and care of each other.

I invite you to join us for both of these opportunities. Both will be offered on-line, to keep us safe, and both require registration, to help us welcome you properly. Visit our website, fumcbellavista.com to register. We pray you will be with us; that Christ, God with us through the Holy Spirit, may become real to you these Holy-days and into the New Year!

Blessings, *Pastor Brenda*



*When Mourning Dawns – Living your Way
through the Seasons of Your Grief*

Thursdays, beginning January 14th, 5:30-7:00pm ~ 9 weeks
Gathering by Zoom ~ Registration Required





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 479-855-1158 or brenda@fumcbellavista.com

JOYS

Trunk or Treat



We offered a community Trunk or Treat with lots of Trunks, Treats, Masks, Costumes, Fun, and Social Distancing, serving over 200 vehicles.



INGATHERING

On November 14, we shared our gathered non-perishable food items with others via the Arkansas Conference coordination.



Please don't forget about our on-going mission project!
SNACK PACKS for BACK PACKS

for Cooper School, not to let any students go hungry on weekends!

Bring your Quarters !

Write a Check!

Feed a Child !

200,000 REASONS

Thanks to the grant writing skills of Shari Vermett, we received a \$2,000 grant to assist with childhood hunger in our area. The grant will assist us in purchasing food for the Cooper weekend backpack feeding program .

Love Your Neighbor

In this time of divisiveness, we know we are a church family who spreads Christ's love as He has called us to do. Purchase a sign in the office for \$10 and display it in your yard ,and encourage your neighborhood to love each other.



RELOCATIONS

Noah and Pamela Pittman, with Bennett, and Ella



– have a new home in Fayetteville. We are sorry they are farther away, but happy for this exciting move. Since both Noah and Pam are working in Fayetteville, this was a good thing to do for their family. Their new address is: 3461 E. Galaxy Circle, Fayetteville, AR 72701

Bill and Connie Wilson – will be moving in December to 25 Park Place Cir, Palm Coast, Florida 32164. It is a 55+ community just north of Daytona Beach. Although they love Bella Vista and all of us, they are relocating to assist their daughter and her family. She is still suffering from severe health difficulties from COVID-19 after 8 months. Their cell phones will remain the same: Bill 515-208-8413, Connie 515-208-8412. Please keep them and their daughter in your prayers in this transition. And send them a card or call them to wish them well!

Nita McCain – a member with us for over 20 years, is moving to Florida. She will close on her home here in Bella Vista on November 30 and head south shortly afterward. Nita and her late husband, Mac, joined our church in June of 1993. Mac passed away in July of 2013. Nita said she will miss all of us. Her new address will be: 315 Hollywood Blvd, Suite 3, Mary Esther, FL 32569. Please keep Nita in your prayers in this transition.





OUR FAMILY

IN MEMORIUM

All Saints Memorial Service — We celebrated, in an outdoor safe-distanced service, the Saints in our church family who have gone on before us to the Church Triumphant on Sunday, November 1.



*All-Saints Services 9:30 & 2:00 ~
Sunday, November 1, 2020
A TIME of REMEMBRANCE*

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Shirley Ayre</i> | <i>Sandra Mathieu</i> |
| <i>Melba Brown</i> | <i>Pat Pershing</i> |
| <i>Carolyn Butler</i> | <i>*Margaret Phillips</i> |
| <i>Charles Danielson</i> | <i>*Bob Reynolds</i> |
| <i>*Orville Davidson</i> | <i>Deb Saalfeld</i> |
| <i>James Dean</i> | <i>Jan Shaw</i> |
| <i>Barbara Denson</i> | <i>Ed Swanson</i> |
| <i>Bergie Dyson</i> | <i>Eunice Truman</i> |
| <i>*Helen Farris</i> | <i>Paula Walker</i> |
| <i>Vickee Fleming</i> | <i>Ron Walton</i> |
| <i>J.D. Highfill</i> | <i>Shirley Wenger</i> |
| <i>Beverly Johnson</i> | <i>Walt Wenger</i> |

**Past/Non member*

Missy – sister of Molly Harris, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 27 in Fayetteville with Molly and their sister, Julia, by her side. Please keep Molly and her family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Missy.

Karen Roenfeld's family – Karen asks for prayers for family members who have lost loved ones. Her niece, Susan, lost her 40-year-old son, Keith Nelson, on Thursday, 11/5 due to complications following West Nile disease which he contracted a few years ago. Her nephew Randy Roenfeld, lost his wife to cancer on Friday, 11/6. Please keep these folks in your prayers as they mourn these losses.



The holidays are fast approaching and we hope you will seriously consider what you would like to give to the Love Offering for our Pastors and Staff this year. We keep hoping and praying that this covid crisis will soon be over, but I have a feeling it will not happen before 2021. Our beautifully decorated church may have to be seen through the lens of a video camera this December. Please keep in mind that our Pastors and Staff are still working to bring us a meaningful worship experience. Let's show them how much we love and appreciate them. Thank you from the Staff/Parrish Relations Committee. *Lynn Prueitt*, Chair



**Light of the World:
A Beginner's Guide to Advent**
— this study begins on Thursday, December 3 at 7:00pm on Zoom. Sign up by calling the church office at 479-855-1158 or at fumcbellavista.com/discipleship-pathway. There are books available for \$14, or \$15 (large Print).

Christmas Eve

Our Relaunch Team made the decision that we cannot sanitize the Sanctuary between the services in an adequate manner. Therefore, all 3 of our Christmas Eve services will be online only. Even if we are able to hold Sunday and Wednesday in-person worship at that time. We will air the services online at 12:00, 5:00, and 7:00 PM on Christmas Eve (both facebook and through the website). The Bella Vista Television Station will also air the services at 12:00 and 7:00 PM on Christmas Eve, and 12:00 PM on Christmas Day.



FUMCBV HOLIDAY HOURS

December 25 through January 3 ~
Closed all day every day

Please leave a phone message (479-855-1158) for someone to return your call in an emergency. We wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a safe, blessed New Year!



LAY LEADER'S MESSAGE

Lou Kaufmann, Lay Leader

Here it is December, 2020 and the Pandemic goes on. But you know what else it is? It is Christmas.

This is my last Lay Leader's message and life goes on. This really is a wonderful time of the year. Judy and I love Christmas music and we have been listening to it since October. I have already put up the outside lights on our house, getting ready for the holidays. The message these days because of the Virus seems to be downgrade Thanksgiving and Christmas - Less is better. But our belief is more lights than last year will make it a brighter Christmas.

I had read where it was recommended that you could have six people over for dinner and fifty people could attend a funeral. We decided that we would kill the pet turkey and have everyone over for the service, just bring your favorite dessert. Yes, it is a difficult time but if you lose your sense of humor, you are lost. Wear your mask, social distance, be careful but do not forget what time of year this is. As the song goes, "It's the Happiest Time of the Year." Do not get caught up in *Pandemicitus*. I have seen some folks get caught up in it and it is worse than the disease.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Lay Leader for the past two and a half years. Thank you, Janet, for always being there and the wonderful job that you do. Thank you, Amy, for the hard work on the Administrative side. Thank you, Pastor Brenda, for your warm friendship and thank you, Pastor Jeanne, for asking me to serve. In spite of the times, do not catch *Pandemicitus* - have a Merry Christmas and a Fantastic 2021. May God bless you and your families and our wonderful church.

Blessings, *Lou*



Artie Lawless,
UMM President



Friends, Continue to Check on Friends

Keep "Christ" in Christmas

I suppose for all of us, this Christmas will be like no other (Can I get an *Amen*). Your family get-together plans have probably been cancelled. Many of us are concerned about traveling anywhere or even having family come here. Some will question where is Jesus in this time?

This holiday you may be visiting Mom, Dad, your daughter and that no good son-in-law (Just Kidding) your son's family and the Grandkids via Zoom or on a conference call. Ahhh yes, virtual Christmas, think of the gas savings. You'll probably be out there trying to hunt down a pug size ham instead of the Rhino size we've had on past holidays.

On the other hand, there will be no ugly sweater contest or visiting with crazy uncle Leo bobbing in the punchbowl. Then there's the joy of getting up on Christmas morning in your bare feet and stepping on something from another dimension.

Yes, it is going to be different. BUT one thing will be the same as it has been for all time. God's love for us. Just as we love our children, our father loves his children. Truly the best gift we can receive and the most wonderful gift we can give to others. You don't have to shop for it. One size fits all. You don't even have to wrap it up and you can express it in many ways.

So, when you question in your mind "Where is Jesus, where is our God during this test of our faith, especially at this time of year?". The answer is: He's where he needs to be. In your heart. So, tell the Grandkids and the family if you look carefully under the Christmas tree you might just see Jesus there saying "I love you" ...Truly the best gift ever...

May God's Love be with you all, now and forever...

Many Blessings, *Artie*



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 John & Carol Zurn (60)
- 26 Wayne & Joanne Hubbert
- 28 Allen & Phyllis Janssen



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jo Ann Handel
- 1 Joe McGee
- 2 Doug Grant
- 2 Kathy Jones
- 2 Brittany May
- 3 Caitlyn Rowland
- 6 Isabelle Mendoza
- 8 Pat Wolter
- 9 Chris Klein
- 9 Heath Lehmann
- 13 Roger Totten



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS (continued)

- 16 Phyllis Janssen
- 16 Shari Vermett
- 17 Jon Mendoza
- 17 Marilyn Pommerenke
- 21 Emma Kell
- 21 Shirley Newton
- 22 Madison Klein
- 22 Gil Temple
- 26 Diane Cox
- 27 Ruth Ireland
- 28 Connie Wilson
- 28 Kenneth Wilson
- 29 Everly Hickman
- 31 Carly Engle
- 31 Journey Marquez



DECEMBER 2020 Newsletter ~ October 2020 Financial Data

		2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Month of October	*Income	\$ 43,829.97	\$ 36,709.84
Month of October	Expenses	\$ 45,315.64	\$ 47,114.17
	Difference	\$ (1,485.67)	\$ (10,404.33)
Year to Date (as of 10/31/20)	*Income	\$ 398,435.66	\$ 367,098.40
Year to Date (as of 10/31/20)	Expenses	\$ 423,953.04	\$ 471,225.00
	Difference	\$ (25,517.38)	\$ (104,126.60)
Year to Date Income including PPP loan		\$ 464,535.66	
Year to Date Expenses		\$ 423,953.04	
Difference		\$ 40,582.62	

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

Amy Gilmore, Church Administrator



Stewardship Corner

The Stewardship of Advent

In Lent, we are asked to repent of our sins: to evaluate our lifestyles and dismiss those things we do that are self-indulgent, mean-spirited, and fatalistic. In Advent, we are called to repent differently: to reprioritize our lives and make them more “Christ-centered.” In doing so, we find that we spend a great deal of time chasing happiness in money, possessions, and status. When we repent, we find ourselves seeking contentment in the great gifts we’ve already received: “our creation, preservation, and all the blessing of this life.

Christmas is a season of Joy, not just for the Coming of our Lord in the flesh. In Creation, God gave humanity stewardship over many things: fish, birds, livestock, seed-bearing plants, and fruited trees. Most importantly, however, he gave us dominion over our own lives. Theologians call it “Free Will,” and Philosophers call it “Conscience” or “Morality,” but the truth, it is simply stewardship over ourselves. He gave us the power and strength to dictate our priorities, our desires, and our actions. How do you intend to use that power?

Adapted from *The Stewardship of Advent*, by Rev. Canon Aaron Zook.

INGATHERING

WOW! You guys show up for the needs of others! Thank you for your donations! Physical donations were donated to the Alma drop-off location, and monetary donations will be sent to the conference. In total, you donated \$332 and 32 canned goods, 16 cartons of shelf-stable milk, 10 jars of peanut butter, 18 boxes of mac and cheese, 10 bags of rice, and 11 bags of dry beans! You are the best!



MEDIA MUSINGS

Kacy Spears, Director of Communications

Holiday in Handcuffs

This year has been a rollercoaster, and I think that’s less of an opinion and more of a fact at this point. By now, we’re weary, we’re losing hope (if we have any left), and we’re missing our people. If we choose to travel for the holiday, it’ll be masked and sanitized. If we choose to stay home away from family, we feel isolated. We feel trapped, like we’re handcuffed to our decisions.

Friends, I feel you. I see you. I know you. In Exodus, when the Israelites are crying out to God, God responds that He sees them, hears them, and knows them. This is one of my favorite Bible verses in Exodus, and I’ve written about it before. It reminds me that our prayers fall on loving ears. We’ll make it through this together.

In the mean time, here’s a list of ways to feel a little at home during the holidays if you choose to stay home:

Bake/cook a family recipe. Maybe share it with your neighbors if they’re also staying home (doorstep delivery is totally acceptable). Every Christmas, it’s my husband’s grandmother’s pizelle cookies or my mom’s peanut butter balls that remind me of past gatherings and familial laughter. What family recipe reminds you of home?

Some faith traditions would call this communing with your ancestors or your angels. It’s not only good for your stomach, but it’s also good for your spiritual wellbeing!

Call/Facetime/Zoom a family member. I know we’re all Zoomed out. It’s exhausting to see someone’s face and not be able to hug them. We have to remember to be thankful that we have ways to communicate with our families.

Write letters to friends or loved ones.

Make something. The self-efficacy that comes from creating something with your own hands can help stave off seasonal depression. It’s a beautiful and wonderful thing.

I pray I get to see you soon. I pray this Christmas season brings us hope, joy, peace, love, and most importantly, Christ.

Kacy



Mission of the Month for December

Share the Light: Share Your Light of Peace, Stability, and Hope

Your contribution makes it possible for Methodist Family Health to continue our mission of giving the best possible care to children and families by treating the whole person: psychiatrically, behaviorally, emotionally and spiritually.

Methodist Family Health receives no apportionment support from the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church; instead, we rely heavily on donations made through this special offering at Christmas.

Your contribution will be used to support the Arkansas children and families who receive care from Methodist Family Health's programs and services including:

- inpatient psychiatric hospitalization
- outpatient counseling clinics
- grief counseling services
- residential treatment centers
- group homes and more

Your donation helps Methodist Family Health rebuild the lives of children and families in Arkansas by providing necessities like clothes, shoes, personal hygiene items, school supplies, bedding, specialized therapies and other resources.

Please give as you are able. You will be sharing YOUR light with an Arkansas child and family in need.

How to give to Methodist Family Health: Write "missions" or "Methodist Family Health" in the memo line of your check and drop it at the church. Give online at fumcbellavista.com/give and add a note in your giving.



From the Organ Console Broc Hite, Organist/Pianist

I'm really excited to get started with Christmas music. Most of the organ selections that you will hear during Advent are by contemporary composer Michael Burkhardt. He is also a Lutheran church musician and college professor. You will also hear mixed in a new Noël I'll learn from the Galant, the short period that overlaps the end of the Baroque and the beginning of the Classical period.

I ran out of time to finish my Chopin Waltz cycle in the postlude slot, so you will need to hear my last two Chopin Waltzes online. It wasn't until earlier in November that I learned that one of the waltzes that I was about to learn is not considered authentic, whereas another one that used to be doubtful is not only authentic but thought to be his last waltz! It's always amazing to me that we can be centuries removed from a composer, and we're still unraveling mysteries about that composer's life and output!

If you follow the church's Facebook page, you may have seen some Music Mondays posts that contain performances from our church's musicians. It's my goal to feature both performances excerpted from weekly worship services as well as content that you will see just on our Facebook page. If you come across any of these performances, please listen, like, and add some feedback!

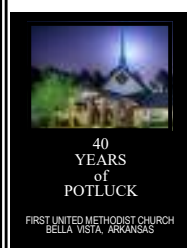
I've decided to make three composers the focus of my 2021 Piano Postludes: Johannes Brahms, Isaac Albeniz, and Enrique Granados. In February, I begin by playing España, a set of six short pieces that evoke Albeniz's homeland.

Broc

Please join me online!

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

On Facebook and Instagram: @BrocKeysPedals



Our Cookbooks will make a wonderful Christmas present!

There are 104 different contributors of about 400 recipes, most of which have been cooked for some event here at the church over the years. Find one that you have already tasted and thought "...mmmm...that was yummy-wish I had the recipe!" Now you can have it—and many more.

The books are \$15 each, and you can purchase them in the office. Christmas is coming—would make a great gift, especially if you bake up an included recipe!!



UMW Bazaar Items Available

We are all dealing with unexpected moments everyday during this pandemic, but one thing is sure, Christmas will be here in just a few weeks. Shopping is definitely different this year and we are trying to think of safe ways to provide our bazaar items to you. With that said, we are ready to take orders, answer questions about what is available and get them to you the safest way possible.

So, here is just a small list of the items we have available, all made with the love of our members and even some friends:

- Beautifully Embroidered Tea Towels (Many Motifs/Designs Available)
- Scrubbies/Hotties/Aprons/TableRunners/Placemats/Pot Holders/Trivets/ Floor Wipes - (Turtles & Owls)/Salad Bags/Over the Handle Kitchen Towels, etc
- Christmas Motif Items: Home and Gifts, Ornaments, etc
- Wooden Items: Rotating Playing Card Holders, Large Card Holder, Trivets, Cookbook Stand, etc.
- Children's Items: Blocks in a Bag, Knit items, Small Purses, etc
- Food Items: Country 6-Bean Soup Mix, Jellies & Jams

Just a friendly reminder...our proceeds go towards many of the needy organizations here locally.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please feel free to contact Darleen O'Brien @ 281-781-3838 or Judy Bilyeu @ 876-8345.

May GOD bless you and your family & friends during this most unusual time of our lives. Remember the Reason of the Season and Pray we can all be together in worship soon. *Darleen*

Martha Circle met at the home of Karen Roenfeld November 16th at 9:30. 6 Members were present. Kathy Ayres brought treats for all to enjoy. Collected items for *Returning Home* will be delivered to the Church later in the week. There will be no December meeting and members will be notified of the January plan.



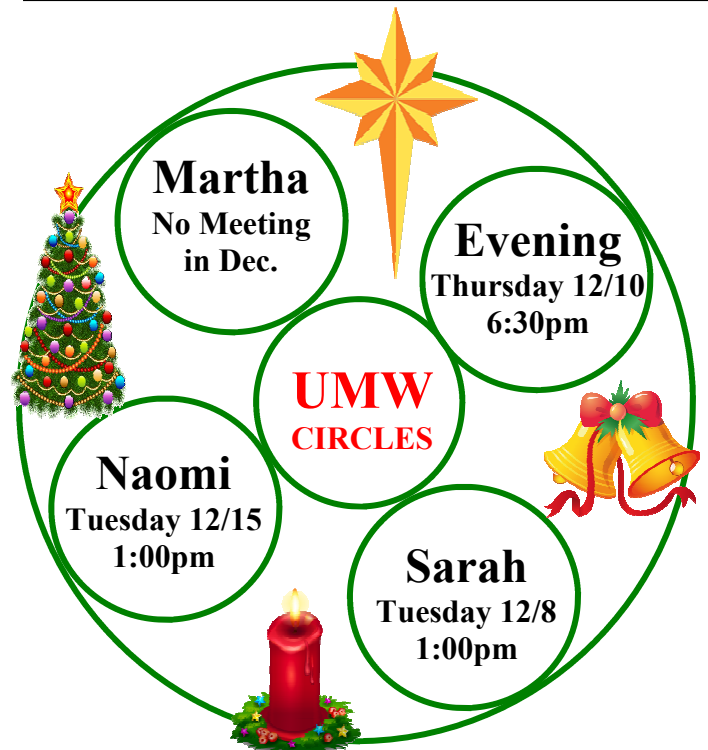
A Note from your UMW President

Greetings and Merry Christmas, everyone! I am sorry that I will not be able to wish you a Merry Christmas at a December unit meeting this year, but after serious consideration, the Board decided a meeting is not possible this December. We hope the Covid numbers will go down and circles will be able to meet. Those meetings may be different this year, too, but it would still be nice to get together. If we do, we will vote to approve our 2021 budget and gifts from our 2020 fundraisers.

As we look forward to a 2021 without Covid or with a vaccine, we can spend the winter months getting a head start on items for the 2021 bazaar. We can still find some room if you have items to share for the next rummage sale, too. It is always better to store them in your own home until the date, but if that won't work, let Verna Bottjen know.

I have enjoyed serving as your president the past 4 years and look forward to working along side Barbara Brooks as she leads the way in 2021! Thanks for your support to UMW and again, Merry Christmas!

Judy Bilyeu





THANK YOU



Your Church Staff. . .

*. . .wishes to express our Thanks to our Church Family!
We all feel very fortunate to serve a Congregation
of those who so graciously give of their time,
their talent, and their support to us.
Thank You, and have a blessed (safe) holiday!*

Blessed are the givers and grateful are the receivers. I really appreciate all the prayers and cards I received during my recuperation. Thanks to all my friends.

Love and blessings, *LeRoy Handel*

Dear Church Family,

FUMC has a long list of prayer requests so you probably did not notice we joyfully removed our granddaughter Sarah Andersen's name (for serious depression). At long last she is freed from dependency on alcohol, knowing it is poisonous to her body. She now has a therapeutic job out of choice, another in her trained field, plus continuing therapy. The biggest blessing of and for all is contact with family, especially for her to retrieve partial custody of her son, Dominic. He is obviously rejoicing to get to be with his mom, even on a part-time basis.

Thank you, from all parts of our hearts, for including Sarah in your prayers. Though we won't be with family for Thanksgiving, this healing, we knew had to be coming, is the most important grace and blessing God could grant us this year.

Sonnie and Dick Andersen

If you have not returned your "Estimate of Giving" card in the postage pre-paid envelope that was sent with it, we would appreciate having those as soon as possible. It is hard to plan a budget for next year if we do not have a ball-park figure of income. Your generosity in these difficult times has been greatly appreciated. We hope to continue with, and build upon, the many different programs, classes, and services we have been able to offer and deliver here at FUMCBV.



Martha Circle members Connie Knauss, Marian Lawless and Karen Roenfeld met in the Shoe Box Room and prepared 50 Sunshine Sacks for Cooper School. Becky Collier picked them up and delivered them to the school. 2 members are scheduled to do the pack in December, so deliveries will continue. Thanks to all who continue to think of & supply items for Shoe Box Ministry. Karen Roenfeld, Cheryl Campbell and Maryann Johnson. *Your Shoebox Team*

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.



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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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 BENTONVILLE, AR 72712

We're Here to Serve You

Senior Pastor - Rev. Jeanne Williams
 Associate Pastor - Rev. Brenda Wideman
 Church Administrator - Amy Gilmore
 Church Secretary - Janet Walton
 Communications Director - Kacy Spears
 NextGen Director - Renee Williams
 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 ...



Place your Poinsettia order today!

Poinsettias are again available for decorating the church this Christmas season for you to order "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one. The cost is \$10. You can stop by the church office or call to place your order. The deadline to order and pay for you plant is Wednesday, December 16th.

Please fill out a separate order form so that we have your correct information. We will print a special recognition booklet for the December 20th worship service with the information you give us and we will mail you a copy of the booklet. After Christmas, you may take your Poinsettia home.

We order our poinsettias through the Bella Vista Kiwanis Club, which purchases their plants from Matkins Nursery in Bentonville. 100% of Kiwanis' profit goes back to the children of Bella Vista.

