

# March 2021 Newsletter

## **Batesville United Methodist Church**

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Batesville, Indiana 47006

(812) 934-3137

batesvilleumc@gmail.com

Watch us live or check out our library @

[www.batesvilleumc.org](http://www.batesvilleumc.org)

## **Sunday Worship**

10:00 A.M. Sanctuary/Children's Time

Nursery Available

Handicap Lift at the Alley Door #5

Ramp at Door #2 at the corner of

Park Street and South Street



## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021

“And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

Hebrews 10:25



Well hopefully by now everyone has heard that we are returning to in-person worship on March 14<sup>th</sup>. This has been an unprecedented event in the modern history of the church. To our credit we have adapted and continued to be the church, all be it in a limited capacity. I know I did not expect for it to last this long, but I think many of us have learned some important things from this time.

Many have told me they have a new found appreciation for the ability to meet together. They have missed worshipping together, in the sanctuary and the most common thing I have heard that people miss is, singing.

I know that, at least for a time, we will not be able to go fully back to ‘normal’ but we are making progress. I also know that for a time many will still not be comfortable attending in person and that is ok, but what concerns me is beyond the short term. Many have grown to enjoy the ability to worship from home. To watch the service at any time that is most convenient. Unfortunately, almost 10% of the congregation have felt that since they are not attending, financial support is not necessary and did not give last year. We are doing fine financially, what concerns me is the attitude behind such thinking. I know some were in a position they could not give, but for others it is the consumer mentality of, if I’m not there I don’t need to support the church.

This event may change many things, not just short term but perhaps for much, much longer. As the scripture above describes, we must never neglect the joy and responsibility we have in meeting together, encouraging one another as we prepare for Christ return. That means we all have something to bring, to share as we ourselves are helped and supported.

I do not wish for this to sound negative; I simply want us to be aware of the challenges we face. Balancing in-person worship and ministries while continuing to reach out to those who will be joining us through the internet, and not just locally. How will we continue to reach out and include those who remain at home, or those new people who are joining us from other states and even other countries? These are some of the challenges we will face.

Once we are at a place that we can safely socialize together, we will be holding a monthly pitch-in dinner with games and socializing. I know I have missed seeing you and really being able to just talk. I hope you have missed that too and will join in whenever we come together, to share and support one another. It may not come as quickly as we hoped, but it is finally coming! Be well and stay safe!

Grace and peace

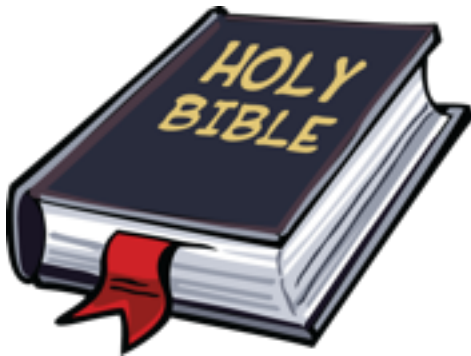
PC



## REMINDER

From our webpage you can watch our Sunday Services live or any time with the archives!

<http://www.batesvilleumc.org>



### Thursday Evening Bible Study

We are currently meeting through ZOOM, studying the Gospel of Matthew. If you are interested in participating contact Pastor Chris and he will send you a link.

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Wednesday: by appointment with Pastor Chris  
Tuesday: 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 m  
Friday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Please Note: Pastor Chris is not in the office on Fridays.

Thank you!

## PRAYERS

Bishop Trimble, Rev. Russ Abel (CS), Pastor Chris & Family, **Laura Apostol, John Ferguson (Barber), Family of Kay Woodrum (Darrin)**, Connie & Smit-ty Rozman, Charlie Greiwe, Nancy Dinnen, Hoagy Wright, Carolyn Giugni, Naomi Melia, Linda Amberger, Ted Hartshorn, Connie Summers, Elaine Wessling, Teachers and Students, **Les Smith**, Darrin and Trish Woodrum, Matt Litton, Ginny Hartshorn, MacKenzie Kramer, Andrew Murphy (Matt Trossman), Lesa Worthington (Dixie Butte), Rev. Charles Flory, Denny Harmeyer, Anthony Pemberton (Naomi Melia), Steve Brinkman (Mary Kay Roberts), Janice Schein, Barb Schwartz, Mary Linger, Karl Hinkle, Owen Lewis, Jackie Schaefer (Wright), Cody Ryan (Hisrich), Dee Dudgeon, Edie & Wilbur Zimmer, Our Children and Youth, Batesville Community, Safe Passage, People in the Armed Forces, Irene Fitzpatrick (Chateau), Susan Wonnell (Chateau), Betty Schaefer (St. Andrews), Patty McFall (Stutler, Otterbein Retirement), Bill Hisrich (The Waters).

We are looking to update our prayer list. If you have any new information, please email the office or if you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out an orange prayer card. You can find the prayer cards in the hymnal holders on the back of the pews. Thank you!



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



March 1st  
March 1st  
March 4th  
March 8th  
March 10th  
March 10th  
March 19th  
March 20th  
March 24th  
March 25th  
March 27th

Mel Obermeyer  
Susie Rowland  
Dale Dickey  
Maxine Gudgeon  
Melissa Kramer  
Mike McIntosh  
Tim Giesting  
Dan Aylor  
Blair Kramer  
Chandler Renick  
Connie Miller



### Audio/Visual Team

Our team has been busy, most likely you have seen a lot of the work that has gone into our LiveStream service. Improvements continue to be made and our Live service is now available on the Batesville United Methodist Church Facebook page.

The new TV's are up! Now available new webpage!

## **SPROUTS**



I know this past year has been a real challenge to us all, including our SPROUTS. I hope that the videos have been fun and informative, but we all know they can not replace being together. In March we are planning a ZOOM BINGO EVENT with a story time. I hope to try and do these on a regular basis until we can meet in person.

We are beginning in-person worship March 14th, but at least for now we will continue to not have the kids go to the SPROUTS room. I will have the sacks with snacks and prizes along with the clipboards with relevant activities to the days message.

It is my plan, once we are able to safely gather, to have a kick-off event and get back on track with the youth ministry.

PC

## **OUTREACH TEAM**

The Outreach committee would like to thank those of you who tuned in for our Faith Promise Mission Sunday! Hopefully the videos from New Life International were inspiring to you as the visit to them several of us made a few years ago. The pledges so far have totaled \$5,645 of the \$10,800 budget. There is so much of a need to spread our Lord's word and help others.

The next Outreach meeting will be March 2 at 5:30. If you would like to attend, just let a committee member know!

Outreach Team

## **March Calendar**

Thursdays - Bible Study - at 6:30 p.m. - The Gospel of Matthew

**\*In-person worship resumes next Sunday, March 14th.**

**\*March 28th Palm Sunday**

## **March Scriptures:**

March 7th - Exodus 20:1-17 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 **Matthew 4:8-10**

March 14th - Numbers 21:4-9 Ephesians 2:1-10 **Matthew 4:12-17**

March 21st - John 12:20-33 Jeremiah 31:31-34 **Hebrews 5:5-10**

March 28th - Isaiah 50:4-9 Philippians 2:5-11 **Mark 11:1-11**



## **March Flower Volunteers**

March 7th - Bob & Carlee Barber

March 14th - Sean & Sarah Fitzgerald

March 21st - Doug & Mona Wilson

March 28th - Joe & Mary Kay Roberts

## LENT

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencen*, meaning “lengthen” and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." This is why you will see the designation "Sunday in Lent" rather than "Sunday of Lent" in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

**2021 LENT SERMON SERIES: The Example of Jesus**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Morris Volunteer Fire Department Breakfast  
Drive-Thru Sunday, March 14th**

Pancakes, whole hog sausage, scrambled eggs,  
biscuit and gravy.  
Freewill Offering









