



January 2026 Newsletter

Batesville United Methodist Church

Outreach helps Voices for Children, INcompass

In January Outreach donated \$500 to Voices for Children – Southeastern Indiana, which is a member of the National CASA Association and the Indiana CASA network. Southeastern Indiana Voices for Children Inc. is helping to make a difference through the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/Guardian ad Litem (GAL) volunteer program.



These volunteers are trained to advocate for children’s best interests inside and outside the courtroom. They work with attorneys, mental health professionals, and service providers to meet the needs of these children and help them find safe and permanent homes. You can learn more about this organization here. <https://voicesforchildren.net/>

Outreach also donated \$500 to the INcompass healthcare foundation, which is dedicated to advancing the mission of INcompass Healthcare’s promise of “Exceptional Care for Everyone.”

Through support, the foundation is able to provide resources that foster innovation, strengthen care, and create opportunities for healing and hope across Southeastern Indiana.

Read more about this organization here: <https://incompasshc.org/foundation/>

I pray January found you hopeful in a new year. As we know and are reminded daily, we live in an imperfect world. When we help others, we are truly living our faith. Celebrating MLK Jr.’s birthday in January, I find this quote appropriate. “But I know, somehow, that only when it is dark enough can you see the stars.” Martin Luther King, Jr.

As always, I am in awe of your generosity in ALL ways.

Submitted by Sarah Heppner

**106 South Park Avenue
Batesville, Indiana 47006
(812) 934-3137
batesvilleumc@gmail.com**

Sunday Worship

8 a.m. Chapel Service
10 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

Watch us live or check out our library at
www.batesvilleumc.org

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Galatians 6:9

Doing Good

What a strange thing for the Apostle Paul to say to the congregation in Galatia, do not get tired of doing good? Or was it? Paul had been doing ministry for many years. He knew the difficulties, the seasons, the struggles of continuing, answering the call of God each and every day. We understand that don't we? We get tired, frustrated and just feel like we need a break from it all. Especially during this time of year. The snow piled up, the temperatures hovering around zero. It is difficult to get excited, to keep, keeping on.

Perhaps you have heard of the The Myth of Sisyphus? A Greek myth story about the supposed founder of Corinth. He was ruthless, greedy, and very cunning. He was alleged to have tricked Hades himself and escape from the underworld so as to cheat death. Zeus punished him with the task of rolling large boulders up hill, every day, only for them to roll back down by morning. The story is said to point to the futility of life that has no inherent meaning. Sometimes we may feel a bit like Sisyphus.

In the 1940's a philosopher, Albert Camus, wrote about this story and turned it upside down. He claimed that we should understand that Sisyphus was happy in this work, it gave his life meaning even though it was a pointless task.

Before you start thinking PC is losing it, I think there is an important message for us in this. Paul says do not grow tired of doing good, it may seem overwhelming and even pointless at times, but then he clarifies that if we stick with it there will be a harvest. Our work is never pointless, even in the small and mundane things, we are working towards something better, something that will reap a harvest! But we must never forget, unlike Sisyphus who was left to his own power, we are continually being filled with the Holy Spirit. It is the power of God continuously working in and through us.

On Feb. 18, very early this year we will begin the season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday Service. It is here that we come face to face with our own sinfulness and mortality. We admit we are unworthy and confess our need for something greater than ourselves and in doing so we are met with the reality of God's love, grace, mercy, and call.

The tasks before us are never a punishment, but rather an invitation from our Heavenly Father to share the beauty and blessings we have received and to serve and help others know that the same loving God is inviting them as well! Never grow weary of doing good!

Grace and peace

PC



Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday: by appointment with Pastor Chris

Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. to 1p.m.

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

Flower volunteers

Feb. 8 – Doug & Mona Wilson

Feb. 15 – Bob Fitzpatrick

Feb. 22 – Pastor Chris & Angie Renick

Women's Ministry



Sunday, Feb. 22, at 5 p.m.

Women's Ministry will celebrate the Chinese New Year with Sharon Chia. Sharon will teach us how to create paper shapes and figures using the ancient art of origami. We'll share more traditions as we usher in the Year of the Horse. Wear red for good fortune, enjoy Chinese foods, fellowship and fun.

Sunday, March 22, at 5 p.m.

Wilma Flory will share items and information from her Last Supper Collection. We'll experience foods using fruits and ancient grains of the Bible. Don't miss the chance to experience the fun and fellowship.

Matthew 18:20

For where two or more are gathered in my name, there am I with them.

4:18 Food Truck

Free Meal

Chili Dinner, Saturday, Feb. 21,

From 11 a.m. -1 p.m.

We are once again offering delivery or Dine In. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered in this ministry. It is our hope to continue this monthly dinner for the remainder of 2026.

FREE
Chili Dinner
February 21, 2026
Batesville UMC
106 S Park Ave
Batesville
11:00-1:00
Eat with us,
To Go,
or Delivery
812-934-3137
Order by 2/16/26



Celebrate Valentine's Day

BUMC is hosting a special Valentine Party for New Horizon clients on Thursday Feb. 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. We'll celebrate the spirit of Valentine's Day with Valentine crafts, music, and lunch.



If you are willing to help, please contact Kathy Newell at 812-212-5891.

Jacob's Well

Feb. 8 – The Msyer Family
Feb. 15 – Deb & Mel Obermeyer
Feb. 22 – The Reeves Family

Supper Club

Supper Club sign-up is happening now. Hope you will give it a try!

Contact Debbie Obermeyer with questions.

Liturgists

Feb. 8 – Chris Lowery
Feb. 15 – Marc Emral
Feb. 22 – Deb Wright

Greeters and Ushers

Feb. 8 – Linda Straight & Marc Emral
Feb. 15 – Sara Snyder & Sean Fitzgerald
Feb. 22 – John & Tina Snyder

Scriptures

Feb. 1 – Matthew 5:1-12 **Micah 6:1-8**
Feb. 8 – Matthew 5:13-20 **Isaiah 58:1-9**
Feb. 15 – Exodus 24:12-18 **Matthew 17:1-9**
Feb. 22 – Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 **Matthew 4:1-11**

(Bold indicates sermon text)

Calendar

TC4H – Tuesdays at 5:45 p.m.

Chrismons – Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir – Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Bible Study – Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Valentine's lunch with New Horizons, Thursday, Feb. 12, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Administrative Council – Monday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service – Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Free Dinner – Saturday, Feb. 21 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,

Sprouts – Wednesday, Feb. 11 and Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Women's Ministry – Sunday, Feb. 22, at 5 p.m.

Children's Church

Feb. 8 – Sarah Fitzgerald
Feb. 15 – Kendall Messerschmidt
Feb. 22 – Sharon Chia

Prayer List

Bishop Malone
Rev. In Suk Peebles (CS)
Pastor Chris & Family

Baby Hazel
Moya Jones
Steve Reider
Layla Dudley
Les Smith

Lisa Haessig
Christians in China

Chris Lowery

John Roberts
Ralph Hochstetler

Bob & Sheila Smith

George Hillman

Tony Trossman

Joan Moore

Merl Allen

Craig Summers

James Rudde (Shirley Pinkerton brother)

Mark McIntosh

Sesly Marshall

Connie Summers

Mike Hultman

John Lewis

Michael, Emily, Eric



Teachers and Students
Our Children and Youth
Batesville Community
Safe Passage
People in the Armed Forces
People of Ukraine
Israel Palestine Conflict

Family
Church
Community
State
Nation

Long Term Care
Ginny and Ted Hartshorn (Chateau)
Naomi Melia (St. Andrews)
Nancy Dinnen

Audio/Visual Team

Our team has been busy. We've put a lot of the work into our LiveStream service. We continue to make improvements. Our live 10 a.m. Sunday service is now available on the [Batesville United Methodist Church Facebook page](#).

Updates and improvements continue to be made on our new webpage.

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.

Birthdays

- Feb. 5 – Ann Stokes
- Feb. 6 – Matthew Aylor
- Feb. 8 – Jim Moyars
- Feb. 10 – Sandy Dickey
- Feb. 11 – Ted Hartshorn
- Feb. 13 – Marc Emral
- Feb. 17 – Jerilyn Lowery
- Feb. 19 – Bob Fitzpatrick
- Feb. 19 – Ginny Hartshorn
- Feb. 28 – Ralph Craig
- Feb. 28 – Vergie Sharp



Tai Chi For Health, thanks to our teacher Kin Choi. Spiritual and Physical health!

Anniversaries

- Feb. 5 – Judi & Ralph Craig
- Feb. 17 – Kent & Barb Nettnay

Reminder

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

www.batesvilleumc.org

Also on Facebook@Batesville United Methodist Church.

Church Website

Joe continues to improve the church's website. It now has an easy way to give and the services are easily accessible, Live and archived. If you have the chance, please check it out. If you have any ideas or information or pictures please send them to Joe Roberts.

Also, if you have not yet been to the church's Facebook page or Instagram, please check them out as well and click to "FOLLOW" <https://batesvilleumc.org/>

Discipleship Pathway

