



Jarrett's Jottings



Dear Friends,

Tell me...what comes to mind when you hear the word “supernatural”? My guess is it is something that belongs within the genre of horror or science-fiction. We generally associate the supernatural as something that is “out of the ordinary” or beyond the scope of what we can see with our eyes. Perhaps we shrug off the supernatural as implausible or figments of our imagination. I tend to gravitate toward seeing the supernatural as something that is out of the ordinary or completely unexpected.

Perhaps my next question is...what does “ordinary” mean? For many, ordinary has a comfortable meaning and quality about it. Ordinary means things are drifting along peacefully, and as we would expect. Ordinary is, in many ways, what we would like life to be: predictable, comfortable, (hopefully) peaceful. Maybe another way of saying ordinary is “status quo” — things being how we would expect them to be, with little change except those expected changes. For some, all this could sound rather...boring, and life-less. Yet, for many, we long for the status quo and ordinary. As comfortable as ordinary might be, though, it does present us with a bit of a challenge. Ordinary can lead us to become and stay complacent, with little energy or motivation to do or be any different than what feels comfortable.

Over the last few months, I have seen and heard a growing longing for a return to what was “ordinary” for us pre-Covid 19. We long for a return to the days when “guidelines”, “protocols”, and “social distancing” were not a part of everyday vocabulary. We long for a return to the days when face coverings were not expected or insisted. Speaking for myself, I do not believe those days will return for a long time, if ever. But if that were a good thing? Hear me out!!! My observation has been that pre-Covid, the church, speaking broadly, had become quite complacent. We simply did what we did because it was “tradition”, it felt comfortable, routine, and didn’t really challenge us all that much. Now that we have been challenged...what do we do? What if I told you there was more to life and to faith than status quo and ordinary? Would that excite you? Intrigue you? Cause you to retreat? Speaking for myself again, I find that prospect exciting and a bit scary all at the same time. I LIKE being comfortable and not being challenged too much. I like predictability. I find myself rather enjoying floating through life as if I was on a lazy river at the waterpark. I want my relationship with Jesus to be like

this as well. I want Jesus to forgive me, comfort me, and bless me; but I bristle a bit when Jesus pushes my buttons or challenges me or stretches me. How is it with you?

Here’s the thing about “ordinary” faith, though. It can, and often does lead to dissatisfaction and growing spiritual hunger. “Ordinary faith” can leave us feeling hollow and unfulfilled, with a hunger for something more. If this sounds familiar, I’ve got good news. Our focus throughout September and October is going to be challenging “ordinary faith” and unlocking and embracing the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit that God yearns to pour into our life, and into the church and the world. We will be using Luke 9 as our foundational text and, from there, looking at what God’s supernatural ministry looks like in our life. We will explore the work of the Holy Spirit *in our own life*, and why it seems so...supernatural. Friends, we are not called to an ordinary or conventional or predictable faith. Instead, Jesus invites us on a journey of exploring and experiencing the mysteries of God that can become realities in our life! What I have learned is that the Spirit moves and empowers where it will, and there is absolutely nothing that is predictable with the Spirit! In fact, the work of the Spirit is anything but ordinary! Can you tell I am excited for this? In case you can’t, let me say that I am BRIMMING with excitement over what God might do in my life, in your life, in the life of the church, and in Beardstown!

A couple of caveats before we begin our journey. What we are about to embark upon could be a game-changer. It could radically alter your life. It could shake you up. It will no doubt challenge you. It might even step on your toes just a bit. BUT....it just might be a fresh wind in your spirit. It just might lead to a spiritual awakening, where you suddenly see things like never before. You might witness the Kingdom of God break in all around you. Ultimately, though, the outcome is partially up to us. Here’s the BIG question...are we willing to embrace something out of the ordinary? Are we willing to leave the shallow end and dive into the depths? I know I am; I pray you are as well. The journey begins in worship September 6th.

Grace and Peace,
 Pastor Jarrett

The Mustard Seed

September

Ministry Team:

Pastor ~ Jarrett Wells

Office Manager ~

Maria Hymes

Pianist/Organist ~

Jill Roegge

Choral Director ~

Tim Bartholomew

Financial Secretary ~

Lynne O'Hara

Treasurer ~

Susan Treadway

Youth Director ~

Andrea Wells

Custodian ~

Tonya White

Sunday Services:

Worship Service ~

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School ~

10:30 a.m.

Phone ~ 217-323-1257

E-mail ~

beardsumc@sbcglobal.net

Website ~

beardstownfumc.com

"Like" us on Facebook ~

Beardstown First UMC

Birthdays

- 1 Wanda Walker
Jeanne Tyson
Dane McGuire
- 2 Mike Bonansinga
- 3 Barb Braner
Brenda Vermillion
- 4 Tyler Starkey
- 6 Gary Jeffers
Gus Vermillion
Clint Theivagt
- 7 Conner Alexander Ellis
- 8 Linda Humphrey
- 11 William Corbin Robertson
David Miller
- 12 Judy Stailey
- 14 Clay Starkey
Ross Robeson
Paige Sommers
- 15 Erin Meyer Logsdon
Nicole Sager Potts
- 16 Julie Looker
- 17 Wendy McClenning
Addi McClenning
- 18 Lew Barker, Jr.
- 19 Jarrett Wells
Cynthia Hack
Nancie Walters
Suzanne McClure
Jennifer Vermillion
- 20 Danny Vermillion
- 22 Joe McClenning
- 23 Sally Lael
Lainie Sommerville
Joseph Logsdon
Tanya Logan
- 24 Penny Mulconrey
- 25 Ellie White
Wyatt Sager
Mary Kight
- 26 Jerry Rohn
Linda Mullen
Duane Hendricker
- 27 Cal O'Hara
Brady O'Hara
- 28 Toni Durham
- 29 Barbara Black
Madelyn Joy Logsdon
- 30 Kenny O'Hara, Jr.
John Osmer
Richard Lamb



Anniversaries

- 1 Leigh & Vicky Lamb
John & Susan Spaulding
- 7 Jeff & Cheryl Baer
- 15 Rob & Michele Quigley
- 18 John & Ronda Large
- 21 Courtney & Michelle Ellis
Frank "Sniggs" & Judy Stailey



Christian Love In Action

Currently C.L.I.A. is in need of: **Canned Beef Stew, Canned Chicken-n-Dumplings & Canned Soup.** You can bring your donated items to the church again. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. CLIA hours are: Tuesdays from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Thank you for donations. If you would like to contribute but don't have time / remember to shop, you can give money to Lynne O'Hara and she will pick up the items.

Cass County Food Pantry

The Cass County Food Pantry is another place that helps Cass County residents in need of food. To help with their mission, they are asking churches for donations for the month of **SEPTEMBER: Flour, Sugar, Brown Sugar, Powdered Sugar, Canned Yams.**

They are always in need of: **Peanut Butter, Jelly, Macaroni & Cheese, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Cereal, or Non-Perishable Food Items.** They have a walk in cooler or freezer to hold perishable items, and are able to take fresh produce items.

Nuts Galore!

Well if 2020 hasn't made us nuts already, it's about to get nuttier! Even in the midst of all this that's going on around us, it is about that time where the UMW is selling Terry Lynn Nuts again. I will have the order forms ready by September 6th. If you have any questions or would like to sell nuts for the UMW please see Maria. This is a huge money-maker for the UMW, so appreciate all the help we can get with selling and buying. Thank you in advance.



United
Methodist
Women

Fall Study

As a companion to our sermon series and emphasis for the fall, we will be offering an 8 week study using the book "Supernatural". We will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.. The study will start with an introductory session on Wednesday, September 9th. The cost for the book is \$17.00; it is available in both print and digital format. To order a book or for more information, contact Pastor Jarrett.

Change in Hours

As some of you may have heard or read I have taken a new job as a teacher's aide in Virginia. I will be working there all day so I will not be in the church office during the day. I want to let everyone know though, that I am NOT resigning as church secretary, I am just adjusting my hours. I am still available by phone, so leave a voice mail or text message, and I will get back to you as soon as I can, and take care of it. As of now I am planning on working in the church office on Tuesdays and Thursdays for a few hours starting at 4:00 p.m. If you need to call the church, Pastor Jarrett will be in Monday through Thursday in the mornings, or you can leave a message. I have enjoyed being your secretary and will continue to do so.

Thank You,
Maria

Sunday School Resumes

As of this writing, our plan is to resume Sunday School on September 13th. If you have not been involved in a Sunday School class previously, I invite you to consider joining one. We have two adult classes that meet immediately following worship: one class meets in Wesley Hall and is led by Sally Lael, and the other meets in the parlor and is led by John Chambers. You're invited to contact either one of them for information concerning their respective classes.

A Night with New Room

We will be hosting a simulcast of the 2020 New Room Conference on Friday, September 25th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. The New Room Conference is an annual event that brings together Christians who are longing for a great awakening and fresh wind of the Holy Spirit in their life and in the church. Like many events, this year's event has gone digital and will be live-streamed. The evening will be a time of worship and inspiration, with the keynote from Jim Cymbala (author of *The Prayer of Jabez*). After the broadcast, we will have a time of prayer together over one another, our church, and our community. The evening ends when the last person leaves!

The building will be open at 5:30 p.m. that evening. Feel free to bring your dinner, a snack, or something to drink, but please also come prepared to meet with the Lord. More information will be shared in worship, on Facebook, and other communication as the time draws near.

*If you are not yet comfortable be a part of a group, but are interested in the event, contact Pastor Jarrett.





Back to School



X G O W P Z D R A M A F K Y R A R B I L
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alphabet

Art

backpack

books

classroom

crayons

desk

Drama

elementary

English

friends

Geography

grades

Health

History

homework

Language Arts

learn

library

Math

Music

numbers

pencil

Physical Education

reading

recess

school

scissors

Science

Social Studies

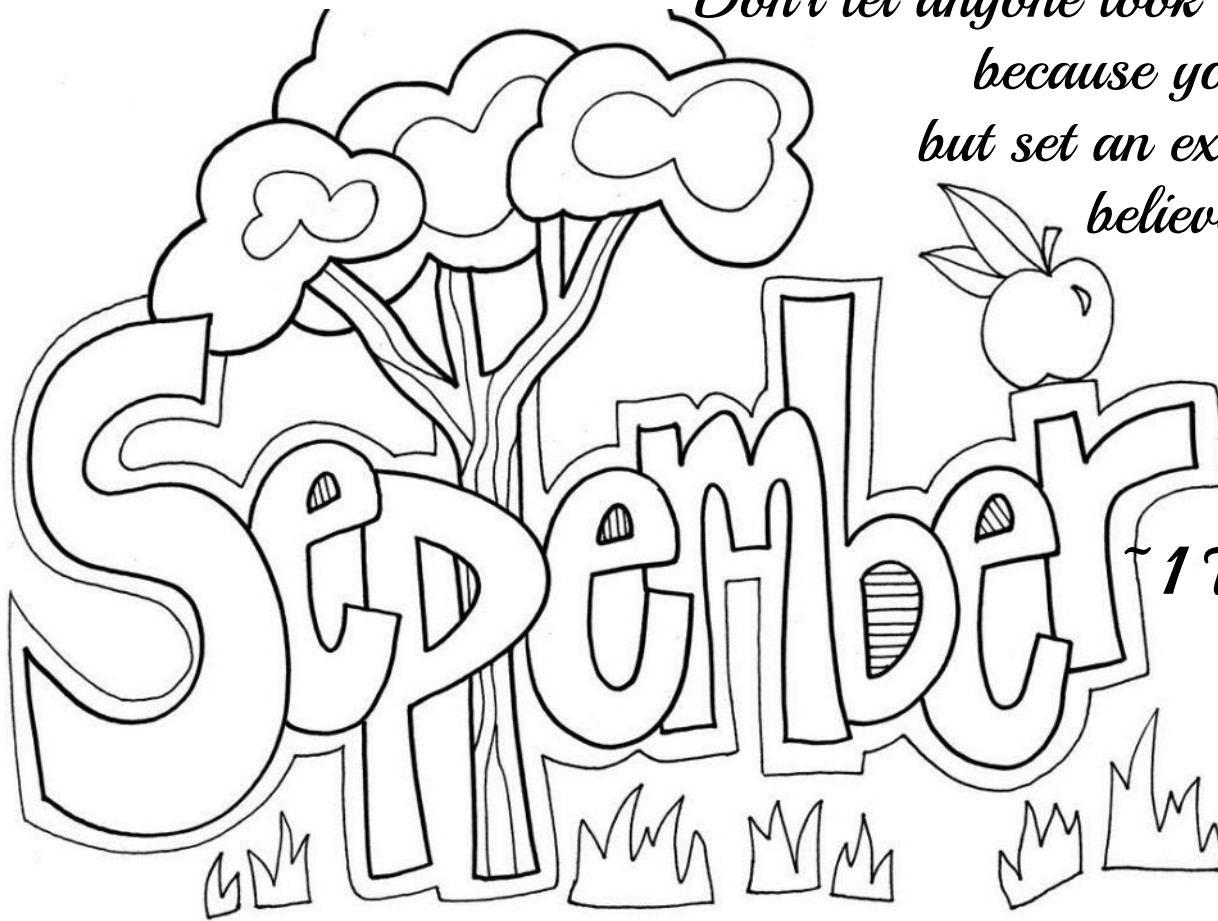
Spelling

students

subjects

teacher

writing



*Don't let anyone look down on you
because you are young,
but set an example for the
believers in speech,
in conduct,
in love,
in faith and
in purity.
1 Timothy 4:12*

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