

<<Full Primary Contact and Spouse>>
<<Street>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Postal Code>>

Follow us on Social Media...



HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, April 10

Worship - 9 & 11 am, Lunch & Egg Hunt - Noon

Maundy Thursday, April 14

Soup Supper - 5 pm, Worship - 6 pm

Good Friday, April 15

Prayer Walk - Come & Go 10 am - 6 pm

Easter Sunday, April 17

Worship - 9 & 11 am

In the **FIRST PLACE**

I've almost forgotten.

I've almost forgotten what Easter Sunday is like. Have you? The past two years, we've celebrated Easter at home and worshipped online.

I've almost forgotten

the smell of lilies filling the room,

children in new outfits with chocolate smudges at the corner of their mouths,

the way my heart beats faster with the intro of Christ the Lord has Risen Today,

seersucker suits and white bucks,

bonnets and white sweaters,

families lining up at the photo booth,

hand stitched banners,

Handel's ancient notes coming to life again,

the electric excitement of people mingling a little longer than usual even if they are late for brunch,

the assurance that nothing can separate us from the love of God, not even death.

I've almost forgotten, but not quite yet. Have you? Just in case, let's remember together next Sunday.
David

Good Friday Prayer Walk

April 15th, 10 am - 6 pm

This self-guided prayer walk through First United Methodist Church of Downtown Little Rock will be a powerful way to remember the last days of Christ this Holy Week. Journey through our church building, ending in the sanctuary, as you walk in the footsteps of Jesus

HOLY WEEK
PRAYER WALK

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 14, 2022

5:00 pm- Soup Supper

6:00 pm - Worship in the Sanctuary



Praying
for YOU!

Months of separation and isolation have left us all feeling disconnected. To overcome that, we’re searching for all kinds of ways to enhance people’s sense of connection to one another and the church as a whole. That process begins with prayer. Each week, we’ll be listing about 20 names in the newsletter for you to pray for during the week. Over the next several months, we’ll be working our way through the church roll (backward alphabetically) so that everyone is lifted in prayer. You may not know these people personally, but that doesn’t matter. Praying for someone by name is a powerful way to experience a connection beyond physical distance. We’ll be connected by the Spirit and the power of praying for one another.

April 4-10: Barbara, Laine, Aaron, Kate, Miles, Eden, Rush, Linda, Bobbie, Mark, Jane, Jennifer, Elizabeth, Betty, Bill, Roger, Hope, Coralie, Everett, Mary, Byron, JoClair

April 11-17: Alice, Aden, Karen, Dean, Lori, Ginny, Julia, Collin, Wilsie, Bob, Ransom, Brynne, Mike, Vickie, Drew, Alison, Elsie, Bari, Nick, Linda, Jim, Loretta, Jeanne, Donna

April 18-24: Geneva, Barbara, George, John, Marjem, David, Arlene, Bob, Lex, Ellen, Leigh Ann, Michael, Harper, Elizabeth, Colin, Anna, Luke, Elthie, Kay, Susan, Jim Gray, Chad, Amy, Cooper, Jerril, Angela, Rachel

April 25 – May 1: David, Katie, Emily, Hannah, Mickey, Amy, Leo, Patsy, Anthony, Bill, Cheryl, Spencer, Nechi, Holly, Stephen, Jill, John, Caroline, Albert, Chotsie, John, Gretchen, Quincy, Erik

Dear First Church,

As they have been since March of 2020, our church Board of Stewards has continually tracked the COVID-19 pandemic, sought advice from health experts, and set our church's best practices for how and when we gather safely. Following the Center for Disease Control's advice has served us well. One of those best practices has been to require people to wear masks in our building at all times. However, the CDC's recommendations are different for each community, and our community is experiencing a period of low risk. Therefore, our Board of Stewards has adopted a new mask policy based on the CDC's recommendations.

Recently, the CDC developed Community Levels to help communities and organizations make more informed decisions. The COVID-19 community level is determined by the new hospital admissions and inpatient beds metrics and the current level of new cases per 100,000 population in the past seven days. Based on these metrics, each county is placed in levels of HIGH (Orange), MEDIUM (Yellow), and LOW (Green). There is an online tool to search for the current community level for each county.

The CDC's levels are updated every Thursday, and we will do our best to communicate to the congregation any changes to our current level before Sunday mornings. Therefore the eNewsletter will be sent on Friday morning with the current community level; and signs will be posted at each entrance on Sunday morning for clarification.

The Board of Stewards' new policy is that when Pulaski County is in the LOW (Green) level, masks will be optional in the church building. When levels are Medium (Yellow) and High (Orange) masks will be mandatory. Pulaski County is now at the Medium (Yellow) level.

As our policies have changed, you have all been so cooperative with our procedures, including wearing masks and being patient. Thank you for making community health an act of faith. I pray this change will be yet another enhancement to our worship experiences and the movement of the Holy Spirit through our community of faith.

Gracefully, David

Get Up & Give with
Methodist
Family Health
Lenten Service
Opportunity

FUMCLR is shaking things up this Lenten season! We are joining the mission of Methodist Family Health to give sacrificially for vulnerable children in our community. They are collecting funds and various items to support our state's children and families who are abandoned, abused, neglected and managing psychiatric, behavioral, emotional and spiritual issues. You can purchase items from their Amazon Wishlist (below), donate monetary funds to FUMCLR for donation, or donate these supplies to the Church for drop-off at MFH: card games, board games, art supplies, crayons, canvas and paints.

For a link to the Amazon Wishlist, visit: <https://www.fumclr.org/getupandgive>



Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson to
lead our Children's Ministry

Recently, SPRC announced that Rev. Brittany will be our new Pastor to Kids and Families. We are so privileged to have her share her deep gifts with us in new ways. Between now and Easter, she will transition away from her work in adult spiritual growth as the Pastor of Neighboring. We are currently working on a plan for continuing the great work Brittany has started in that area and new staff leadership for it. Stay tuned for updates.



Big Changes for Backpacks for Kids

We are preparing to wrap up another year of our ministry Backpacks for Kids that provides weekend food bags to students at our partner schools Booker Arts Magnet and Washington Elementary. Next year will be a BIG change for this ministry. We will spend the summer doing a rebrand and revamp, because things are changing to align with our relational dreams for every ministry. Check out this picture for just ONE teaser. We will be moving the ministry from the Church basement straight to the halls of Washington Elementary. We are excited to be closer and build stronger relationships. Go Wildcats!

Card fronts for Betsy

Betsy Hoffman needs your greeting card fronts for her card making ministry. She has a wonderful way of bringing joy to the lives of others by repurposing cards you have received. Betsy only needs the front of the card, not the back where personal messages have been written. If you have cards, please bring them to the church office. Betsy will gladly and gratefully receive all donations! Thank you.

FAMILY & FRIENDS



Congratulations
& Welcome

We welcomed Jonathan Skyles and Amanda Pope-Skyles into membership on Sunday, March 20th during First Tradition. And a big congratulations to Madison on her baptism! Also pictured is Bailey Pope - we welcome everyone into our family of faith.

Congratulations
on Baptism

Congratulations to Jaimee & Ronald Jenson-McDaniel on the baptism of their daughter Dublin on Sunday, April 3rd during First Tradition.



FUMCLR

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - LITTLE ROCK

Supporting Ukraine

via United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)

\$12,312

Thank you First Church for your remarkable donation to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. We sent our donation to UMCOR.

Congratulations

To Kaye and Harry Brown on the birth of their granddaughter Clara Ann on February 17th, Proud parents are Elisabeth Brown and David Suich.

To Lisa and Larry Spann following the birth of their granddaughter, Lindy Rose Spann on March 8th.

To Patty Barker on the birth of her granddaughter Hazel Barker on March 16th.

To Caitlyn Hendrickson and Noah Ambos following their marriage at First Church on March 12th. May they be blessed with many long years of health and happiness together.

Sympathy

To Nathalie and Nate Coulter following the death of Nathalie’s mother Anne Marie Williston on March 16th.

To Marcia Adams and family following the death of her husband Doyle on March 23rd.

To Jenny Adair and family following the death of her sister, Phyllis Mitchell Johnson, on March 25th.

To Margaret Norton and family following the death of her father, Bill Fountain, on April 4th.

Newsletter Submissions

We want to celebrate God’s work at FUMCLR, and we need your help. This is your newsletter, which means we need news, celebrations, events, and ministries to highlight each week. Our staff needs help promoting the faithful work of First Church. We cannot do it alone. If you are planning a First Church event, want to write about your Sunday School class or small group, or want to celebrate God’s work, write it up and send it to news@fumclr.org.