

### News & Events

**Communion Sunday.** Today is Communion Sunday. Loose bills left on the communion rail go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. As always, we thank you for your generosity.

**Ecumenical Lenten Worship Services.** The first Ecumenical Lenten Service is tonight at 5:00 p.m. in the First Methodist – Arkadelphia Sanctuary. Father Mark Wood of St. Mary's Catholic Church will be preaching. As the host church, FUMC-A provides the potluck supper that follows the service. Please join us.

**United Women in Faith.** UWinF meets Tuesday, March 7th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Upper Room Classroom. Jewelie Mills, Director of FUMC Children & Youth Programs, will give an update.

**Daylight Saving Time.** Just a quick reminder that Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, so we spring forward one hour.

**Ruth Circle.** The next meeting of Ruth Circle is Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, at the home of Wanda O'Quinn (2508 Yorkshire Drive). Brenda Forrest will be talking about NOMADS, a group that provides volunteer labor for Methodist organizations.

**Henderson State University Choir Concert.** The HSU Choirs are performing Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> (not March 7<sup>th</sup> as I stated in the newsletter), at 7:30 p.m. in the FUMC Sanctuary. This is open and free to the public.

**Pastor's Bible Study.** You can now take part in the Pastor's Bible Study in-person and via Zoom at both the noon and 6:30 p.m. meetings. The Zoom links will be in the e-mail sent on Mondays.

### Weekly Participation Opportunities

**Sunday Night Youth.** Meets from 6-8:00 p.m. in the Sturgis Children & Youth Center. Contact Jewelie for more information.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study.** Meets at 9:30 a.m. in the church library. Led by Claire Gehrki.

**Pastor's Bible Study.** Wednesdays at noon and 6:30 p.m. (in person/Zoom) in the Fellowship Hall. Led by Zeke Allen.

**G.R.O.W. Kids.** Children aged 5 through 5th grade, Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:15 in the Sturgis building. Bible story, craft, and game time. Contact Jewelie to sign up or volunteer.

**Chancel Choir Practice.** Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. in the choir room. Contact Bill Higgins for more information.

### Mission Opportunities

**Blood Drive.** There is a blood drive Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1-6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Visit [obi.org](http://obi.org) to schedule an appointment.

**Get Up & Give.** We are collecting for Methodist Family Health Get Up & Give program. A box is in the Narthex for donations.

**Food Pantry.** During the month of February your help and support fed 280 families, 728 people. This count is most likely a few households short due to several families who came after we closed. **Requested donation items: Peanut butter and cereal.**

### Please Remember:

- A. You may put your offering in the plate, use Tithely by scanning the QR code under Ways to Give, go directly to Tithely at <https://tithely.com/give?c=368022>, or drop it off at the church office.
- B. You can live stream services on Facebook or YouTube at [facebook.com/fumcark](https://www.facebook.com/fumcark) or [youtube.com/user/fumcark](https://www.youtube.com/user/fumcark). Watch previous services at [fumcark.org/sermons](http://fumcark.org/sermons).

### **Arkadelphia First United Methodist Church**

107 N. 9<sup>th</sup> St, Arkadelphia AR 71923 | 870.246.2493 | [fumcark.org](http://fumcark.org)

**Senior Minister** Rev. Zeke Allen | [zeke.allen@arumc.org](mailto:zeke.allen@arumc.org)

**Children/Youth Ministry** Jewelie Mills | [jeweliemillsfumc@gmail.com](mailto:jeweliemillsfumc@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant** Sabrina Mecum | [fumcark@gmail.com](mailto:fumcark@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** Rose Phillips | [raphillips94@yahoo.com](mailto:raphillips94@yahoo.com)

**Technical Director** Michael Wyatt | [fumcarknewsong@icloud.com](mailto:fumcarknewsong@icloud.com)

**Organist** Dr. Kay McAfee

**Choir Director** Dr. Bill Higgins

**Liturgist** Rita Nickels

**Acolytes** Ben Hill and Savannah Garrett

**Ushers** Norm Coppernoll, Bob Shehane, Eddie Graham,

Daniel Maxey, Jim Blanton, Robert McCallum

**Tech** Todd Corley, Kurt Hill, Isabela Maxey, Sasha Maxey, Cindy Phillips

**Flowers** Mary Ellen Taylor

**Nursery Workers** Jewelie Mills and Erin Mecum

**Custodian** Sharon Murphy

This is a Sanctuary, a place of peace. With the exception of municipal, county, state or federal law enforcement, carrying a gun on First United Methodist Church property is prohibited. Thank you for respecting this covenant of trust.

*Adopted by First United Methodist Church Council, October 10, 2017.*



QUESTIONS,  
SNAKES, AND  
LOVE

JOHN 3:1-17



# Worship for the Lord's Day

March 5, 2023  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

Traditional Worship Service  
Arkadelphia, AR

Welcome Rita Nickels

Opening Voluntary Kay McAfee  
*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*  
-by Ron Schmoltze

## \*Call to Worship

Lord of Life, we come before you as people lost, in need of a Savior, sinful, in need of forgiveness, condemned, in need of mercy

**Cover us with your grace and permeate us with your Divine love.**

Let us not forget the sacrificial love Christ embodied for the world

## Ground us in the unconditional love of Christ

Remind us that love is neither simple or easy. Give us the courage to love like Jesus loved.

**Unite us in the love of Christ. And use us as a powerful loving church in the world.**

\*Hymn of Praise *Lift High the Cross* UMH No. 159

\*Apostles' Creed UMH No. 881

\*The Gloria Patri UMH No. 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Zeke Allen

Reading of the Psalter UMH No. 844  
*Psalms 121, Response 1*

Offertory Prayer Rev. Zeke Allen  
Offering

The Offertory Chancel Choir  
Jamie Lipton, euphonium  
*Amazing Grace*  
-arr. Bruce Stevenson

## \*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*Reading God's Word *John 3:1-17* Rita Nickels

Sermon *Questions, Snakes, and Love* Rev. Zeke Allen

A Service of Word and Table II UMH P. 12

The Great Thanksgiving UMH P. 17  
*Musical Setting A*

The Lord's Prayer Congregation

\*Hymn of Response *Freely, Freely* UMH No. 389

\*Benediction/Blessing Rev. Zeke Allen

Closing Voluntary *To God Be the Glory* Kay McAfee  
-by James Pethel

*\*Please stand if able*

## Prayer Concerns

Please keep the following in your prayers: Eddie Graham, Dee Jensen, Barbara Rhodes, Jane Rice, Nancy Huerkamp, Jerry Mann, and Austin Wingfield.

### ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY TEXT

*Amazing Grace*  
-arr. Bruce Stevenson

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.

T'was grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil:  
A life of joy and peace.

### Ways to give to First United Methodist Church



In Person  
Offering plate



By Mail  
107 N. 9th Street



Online  
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