

SUNDAYS AT FIRST OZARK UMC

In-person Sunday morning services

8:30 a.m. - Sanctuary (Traditional)

9:00 a.m. - Family Life Center and Facebook & YouTube Live (Contemporary)

11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary and 104.9 FM. (Traditional)

so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:28

In-Person Sunday Morning

Attendance:

05-28-23: 149

06-04-23: 182

In-Person Sunday School

Attendance:

05-28-23: 67

06-04-23: 102

Total Online Worship Reach

05-28-23: 238

06-04-23: 167

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FIRST MESSENGER

OZARK



167 E. Broad St., Ozark, AL 36360-0583

June 9 - June 22, 2023

**Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 59**

Dealing with Grief

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Grief is our response to loss. People grieve over many different kinds of loss, such as divorce, bankruptcy, moving, retirement, strained relationships, death. Grief is a normal and natural response to loss. Jesus grieved over the death of his friend Lazarus. Jesus wept. (John 11:35)

Grief is personal and we all grieve differently over loss. Perhaps you join me in the grief of strained relationships over decisions made by the United Methodist Church and how that has affected us locally as a church family. I know that First Ozark UMC has had a long proud history of serving the Lord in this community and beyond for hundreds of years. I also believe that First Ozark UMC has a promising and bright future ahead, as we continue to live into our mission to be an obedient community of faith, as revealed in Jesus Christ as we respect, encourage, and serve our neighbors. Maybe we need as individuals and as a family of faith to grieve over our loss so that we can intentionally live into the bright future God has in store for this great church.

Elizabeth Kübler-Ross is well known for outlining five stages of grief. Which stage do you find yourself in? The first stage is denial. How can this be? The next stage is bargaining. Where to from here? The next stage is anger. How do you deal with anger? The next stage is depression. How do you deal with feelings of sadness and sorrow? The final stage is acceptance. Are we willing to accept change? Change is difficult but necessary for us as individuals and for us as a community of faith who prayerfully seek to deal with grief.

Often people feel raw as they deal with grief. I am convinced that as we grieve as individuals and as a family of faith, we desperately need to refocus upon knowing Christ and sharing Christ. As we journey together through this season of grief, let us prayerfully live our faith and strive to embody the fruit of the spirit. The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control.

Bishop Graves states, "It is hard, but not too hard." There is hope and love in abundance, as we deal with grief, through faith in Jesus Christ, our crucified and resurrected Lord, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

Grateful to be on this grief journey with you,
Jason

OUR STAFF**Senior Pastor:**

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Communications**Coordinator:**

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Receptionist/Secretary:

Melena Shiver

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Prayer Concerns

Kathryne Harper Lancaster, Jan Fuqua, Rhonda Kale, the Chapman family, Oliver Kingsley, Jack DeLoney, Anne Butler, Betty Gilland, Martha Overstreet, Larry Pittman, Sherryl Baggett, Elaine Potts, Judge Ben McLaughlin, Joe and Dot Adams, Evan Renfro, Lou Hennies, Jennifer Kirkland, David Ethridge, John McGee, Ethan and Jason Gentry, Aaron Andrews, Roger Haburey, Bethene and Earl Childree, Debbie Powell, Joyce Esslinger, Charlotte Lisenby, Jan Foshee, Charles Beverly, Grace and Lewis Mitchell, Charlie Breedlove, Betty Borer, Beverly Raley, Roberta Segers, Carol Heath, Helen Parsons, Martha Dan Thompson, Sam Keys

Nursing Home Residents: Virginia Hess, Carroll Skinner

Assisted Living Residents: Suzy Harris, Jean Beverly

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family of Dick Jordan on the loss of his brother, Billy Jordan.

FLC Closure

Due to the FLC air conditioning being replaced, the FLC will be closed to everybody on Monday, June 12 and Tuesday, June 13. We are anticipating it being reopened on Wednesday, June 14, but please be aware there will be no air conditioning for the whole week, June 12-16.

Upcoming Trustee Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet in Room 231 on June 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming CLC and Finance Meeting

The CLC Board will meet in the Library on June 26 at 5:00 p.m. The Finance Committee will also meet in Room 231 at 6:00 p.m.

Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group will meet at 5:30 p.m. on June 26, to gather together for a meal and to check in with one another.

Baby Bottle Boomerang

The Lois Robinson Circle is sponsoring the "Baby Bottle Boomerang" again this year. Proceeds will go to the Dale County Pregnancy Center, formerly known as "Sav-a-Life." Baby bottles are handed out on Mothers Day and taken up on Fathers Day, Please put your change, folded money, or a check in them when you give them back. We appreciate the generosity of all who participate.

Missing White Tablecloths

If you know the whereabouts or have knowledge or information regarding five white round tablecloths, please call the church office.

Welcome

We would like to welcome our new Buildings and Grounds Keeper, Elviz Cruz. If you see him around, please say hello and welcome him to our First Ozark church family.



Souper Day

We encourage you to bring soups, meats, casseroles, side dishes, and vegetables and place them in the freezer. You may also bring fresh fruit and individually wrapped snacks. Deliverers are needed as well! There is also a need to replenish the freezer and pantry. Packing and delivery take place on the first and third Tuesday. The next Souper Day meeting will be **June 20**. Thank you!

-The Souper Day Team

CLC Brick Fundraiser

First Ozark CLC is launching its second personalized brick fundraiser! All proceeds of this fundraiser to line the walkway will assist in funding our KCLC project! These bricks make great gifts in honor or in memory of a loved one! Each brick is \$100, and the deadline to order is June 23. Payments may be made by check only, payable to the First Ozark CLC. Please contact Britney Johnson with any questions at 334-445-1329.

Church Revival

Bishop Lawson Bryan will be the speaker at the revival that will be held at the church from Sunday, August 6, through Tuesday, August 8. More details will be coming soon!

Vacation Bible School

Supplies needed for VBS (June 26-30). Please bring to the office any large cardboard boxes, safety scissors, construction paper, washable markers, Scotch tape, and painters tape. Also, contact Holly Newman to volunteer! Call 843-676-5595 or email firstkids@firstozarkumc.org

Scholarship Applications

Church scholarship applications are available in the office. You may pick up a physical copy or have a digital version emailed to you. Please fill out and return to the office by **Monday, July 10**. If you have any questions, please contact Melena in the church office.

Coffee & Donuts

During Sunday School: 10:00-10:45 am in the FLC
Please join us for this Congregational Gathering to reflect where we are and where we are going. The church will supply the coffee & donuts, no additional food is required. See you all Sunday!

Memorials and Honorariums

Memorials

Billy Gaither Sunday School Fund in Memory of:

Mac Chapman by Mrs. Marilyn Tamplin

Communion Fund in Memory of:

Billy Jordan by Mr. & Mrs. Carl Hess

General Fund in Memory of:

Harry Potts, Vesta Peek, Chris Harris, Sara Carroll, Trawick Garner, Hazel Sessions and Dr. Charles Smith by Mrs. Marilyn Tamplin

Billy Jordan by Mr. & Mrs. Ed Woodie

Kingsley CLC Building Fund in Memory of:

Lon D. Flurer by Mrs. Mary Flurer

Billy Jordan by Judy Mobley

Billy Jordan by Mr. & Mrs. Jack Jackson

Meditation Garden Fund in Memory of:

Sara Newton Carroll by the Abundant Life Sunday School Class

Memorials (Continued..)

Music Fund in Memory of:

Dr. Charles Smith by the Abundant Life Sunday School Class

Vivian B. Adams Scholarship Fund in Memory of:

Dr. Charles Smith by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hull

Honorariums

Kingsley CLC Building Fund in Honor of:

Jared Crawford by Mrs. Sandra Bittman

Les Perault by Mrs. Becky Robinett

Jim & Pamela Claire Fenn, Ann Estes, Patti Williams, Hilda Skinner, Betty Smith, Holly Newman, Susan Judah, Jenna Strickland, Jared Robinett, Diane Murphy, Petra Prazinko, Caitlyn Cummings, Jamie Smith, Martha Dan Thompson, Ryan Jackson, Susan Jernigan, Nick Hull and Pam Carroll by Mrs. Lynn Carrington

Vivian B. Adams Scholarship Fund in Honor of:

Joe & Carol Adams by Mrs. Marilyn Tamplin



FIRST MESSENGER

— OZARK —

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June 9 - June 22, 2023

Ushers and Greeters (June)

8:30: Estus Walker, Jamie Smith

9:00: Nicole Biretz, Patty Fenn

11:00: Johnny Cox, Margie McGahagin

Annual Conference

Annual Conference will take place from Sunday, June 11, through Wednesday, June 14.

Birthdays

June 9 - June 22

6/9: Pam Carroll

6/10: Ben McLaughlin, III

6/11: Ann Estes, Patti Williams, Olivia Outlaw

6/12: Michael Ziegler

6/15: Hilda Skinner

6/16: Pamela Claire Fenn

6/18: Patrick Murphy

6/19: Betty Smith, Holly Newman

6/21: Reed Bankston, Jeff Hatcher, Susan Judah, Jenna Strickland

6/22: Jared Robinett, David Sigler

Counting Teams

06/11: Team 1

06/18: Team 2

Evening Chapel Schedule

06/11: No Evening Activities (*Annual Conference*)

06/18: No Evening Activities (*Father's Day*)

Ministry Minute: Tuesday and Thursday mornings - around 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Preview: Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

(Can be viewed on our Facebook page and YouTube channel—listed below)



facebook.com/firstozark



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx4L_RyYwXIG_imByqKuW-A/videos

