



**First United Methodist Church**

*Downtown Bentonville*

July 22, 2020

Dear Church Family,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ! It has been a joy to meet many of you in porch visits throughout the month of July. Thank you for sharing your hopes and dreams for our church as we move into the next year.

Thank you for joining us online for weekly worship! Rev. Andreaá and I have enjoyed preaching, leading, and bringing communion to you. We appreciate the ways you are engaging our sermons through the “chat” feature and for the wonderful feedback you have given us about our online worship presence. Keep sharing with your Facebook friends and family as we have folks joining us from many places throughout the US!

**Beginning in August, we are grateful to offer two worship services online each week through Facebook Live. At 9:00am, we will offer Children First or The Gathering with 11:00am focusing on traditional worship.** We hope that you will connect with Sunday School classes and small groups during the 10am hour. And, we will continue to offer communion at both online services each week. If you would like to receive communion kits for the month of August, please call the church office and we can bring them out to your car.

**We are also thrilled to announce that folks who do not have access to a computer or Facebook for our online worship services can now “phone in” each Sunday morning to join us for worship.** Information about how to use that service is being sent to church members this week so they can join us at 9:45am on Sunday, July 26 as Rev. Andreaá preaches on “The Church with the Spiritual Heartbeat.”

**Your Relaunch Team chaired by Mike Lewis is hard at work in preparing for in person worship.** We are closely monitoring the number of covid cases in our community and in conversation with our Board of Trustees as we think about the safety of our church and the best time to gather. We will heed Bishop Mueller’s advice to “go slow” and gather when it is safe to do so.

**Meanwhile, please check in with us through our social media pages, email, text, or by calling the church office.** We are here for you and we continue to be the church in offering worship opportunities, ways to gather, serve, and study virtually. Stay tuned as we share how you can be a part of the wonderful ministries of our church as your Pastors and Staff make plans for this fall.

Peace be with you,  
Rev. J.J.