



The Messenger

March 19, 2020

Strength in the Word

In my online sermon last Sunday, I shared a scripture from Matthew 14:22-33 that means a lot to me and that helps me stay grounded in God. I invited you during the sermon to share scriptures that helped you to find comfort and strength in times of uncertainty and you responded big-time. I really enjoyed reading each of these and wanted to pass them on to you so that together we can experience the peace of Christ.

John 3:16, Joshua 1:9, Zephaniah 3:17, Philippians 4:13, 2 Timothy 1:7, 2 Timothy 4:17, Psalm 91, Psalm 130:5, Jeremiah 29:11-13, Philippians 4:8-9, Proverbs 3:5-6, Psalm 121, Philippians 4:12, Philippians 4:6-7, Psalm 27, Isaiah 40:31, Psalm 91, Isaiah 41:10, Luke 6:38

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experience as [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), with the added benefit that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to FUMCLB.

AMAZON SMILE DIRECTIONS

1. Your first step, is to select FUMCLB as your charity. Simply go to the following link and logon to your Amazon account: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/64-0334099>
 2. At that point, verify that you are choosing FUMCLB as your charity. Then click the button to start shopping as usual.
 3. In future shopping trips to Amazon, ALWAYS go to the link <http://smile.amazon.com> to ensure that your shopping produces donations for our church. If you shop at the regular Amazon link, you will NOT produce donations.
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The Good news is that God is with us - we are not alone. You are not alone. In a time of dramatic change, we are committed to continue to live in light of our calling to be the church. We are learning new ways to serve, be in community, and to worship God in a time when we are encouraged to practice social distancing so that we can do our part to #flattenthecurve. We believe that the most loving thing we can do in these days is to follow the guidelines we are given by our health officials.

Because this is uncharted territory, we have gathered a group in the church of lay and clergy leaders, medical professionals, school staff, state government staff, and a few others to help guide the church through these days. We met March 18th and developed practices we will follow through this time.

- We are suspending public worship services and all weekly scheduled activities for the current time. We will continue to worship online with Sunday worship @ the Main Campus at 9:30 am (on Facebook at FUMCLB) and the Well worship at 11:00 am (on Facebook at thewelllb or www.thewelllongbeach.online.church). In addition, we are also publishing daily devotions and will begin live updates and devotions through the week through Facebook and email.
- We are making sure that we have updated contact information for everyone. If you have dropped a land line, or changed your email, address, or cellphone, in the last year, please email those changes to fumclb@cablone.net
- We are asking community groups and Sunday school classes to be in touch with each other to encourage each other and pray for each other. If needed, we will help groups establish means of communication within their group. Contact the church office to let us know.
- If you have a need, no matter how big or small, please let us know at the church office because there are people who are ready to help. Also, pay attention to your neighbors

needs as an exercise in loving our neighbors.

- Give. As an act of faith that God will meet our needs in these days and for the long-term health of the church we encourage you to continue to give. Thank you to those who have already made a first time gift through our website at www.fumclb.org and who have mailed in their gifts.
- We are altering our office hours and procedures. We will have the office open Monday - Friday from 8 am - noon. We ask for the time being that you make an appointment by calling the office at 228-863-9619.
- And of course, pray. Pray for each other, our government and health care workers, for our church and our community as we walk through this time together.

God assures us that in these days, we are not alone. The store shelves may be empty of some things but our hearts are not empty. We are still the church and committed to be living reminders of the light and love of Jesus Christ in the world.
Love in Christ, Jon and Ben

***Contributions received for the week of March 14th are \$3,342.55.**

Online Giving

Just a reminder, you can go to our website at fumclb.org and click on the Online Giving tab to make giving quick and easy.

[Online Giving](#)

Weekly Updates and Events



PC Havens, Wanda Lee Corley, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Chrissy Edwards, Lois Jones, Ron Durham, Connie Durham, Janis Slade, Pat Newcomb, Shayla Hosey, Shorty Haulk, Dawn Rhoades, Jo Holyfield, Cathy Yates, Marie Ward, Ricky Bullock, John French, Chuck Cruthirds, Patricia Badeaux, Hank Viehmann, Sharon Pierce, Dave Blazick, Charlie Gibson, Sherry Alley, Peggy Rowell, Andrew Beets, Alice Krass, Jack Bullock, Conrad Johnson, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Spencer Humphrey, Betty O'Brien, Vernona Murphy, Pam Upton, Sally Wilson, Lane Tucker, Judy Kovac, and Charlie & Ann Munter

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office.



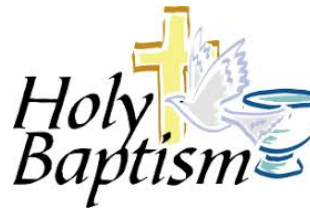
A donation was given in memory of Otis Reagan by Betsy Bullard.

Donations were given in memory of Jim Miller by Betsy Bullard and Patsy Oakes.

A donation was given in memory of Wanda Stevens by Bob & Carolyn Rhoades.



We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to Kelly Baker and family at the death of his mother, Wanda Stevens.



Ethan Hall was baptized on March 8th. His parents are Kim and Shenenna Hall and siblings Matthew and Allison Hall.



We would like to welcome William Hall, into our family of faith here at FUMCLB.

We would like to welcome Kim, Shenenna, Matthew and Hall into our family of faith here at FUMCLB.

Sunday Worship

Main Campus Sanctuary
Rev. Jon Kaufman - Preacher

Streaming Live at 9:30 a.m.

The Well USM Fleming Auditorium
Rev. Ben Barlow - Preacher

Streaming Live at 11:00 a.m.

First United Methodist Church
208 Pine Street
Corner of Church Ave. and Pine Street
(228) 863-9619
Church email: fumclb@cableone.net

Church Website
www.fumclb.org

The Well Website
www.thewelllongbeach.org

Rev. Jon Kaufman, Senior Pastor
662-279-4993
Email address: jon.kaufman@fumclb.org

Rev. Ben Barlow, Associate Pastor
228-806-2787
email address: ben@thewelllongbeach.org

Our Mission

Make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

To be a church that makes disciples that Live Like Jesus, Love Like Jesus, and Serve Like Jesus.