



# The Messenger

May 28, 2020

## Note From Jon

Stages. I think of the people of Israel as they began their journey with God from the familiar land of Egypt toward the unknown promised land. Theirs was not a continuous journey but happened in stages. At the end of Exodus, there is this statement made about how Israel knew when it was time to travel and when it was time to stop. God provided a sign of His presence in the form of a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night "Whenever the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, the Israelites would set out on each stage of their journey; but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, before the eyes of all the house of Israel at each stage of their journey." Exodus 40:36-38. All the people kept their eyes on God.

Right now, we are on a journey of stages together. As we move into the

right now, we are on a journey of stages together. As we move into the first stage of our journey in this Covid-19 crisis, I am committed to helping us all keep our eyes on the presence of God. We are listening to God and we are listening to each other, and to the best guidelines we have available to navigate this journey.

Our Bishop has marked June 7<sup>th</sup> as a beginning of transition to the next stage of life together as long as conditions are suitable in our communities for doing so. I want to give you an idea of what this first stage will look like. Worship will continue online into the foreseeable future. There are initial plans for an outdoor gathering for worship on the weekend of June 14<sup>th</sup> with safety guidelines in place. Details and timing are still being discussed and we will inform you when fully developed.

Drive Through Communion will be offered on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> between 11:00 and 1:00 PM on our church campus. We purchased a supply of sealed, prepackaged communion elements with which you will be served in your vehicles.

Discipleship groups are meeting online and will continue. In this newsletter, you will see the groups that are meeting and open for you to be part of their online group.

The Church office will continue to be open during the hours of 8 AM till 12 PM by appointment only.

I want to leave you with these thoughts. We are doing our best as pastors, leaders, and staff to serve God and lead you in this stage of the journey we are travelling. Flexibility in our planning is necessary. Trying new things is necessary. Some may fail others will not. Either is ok. Our primary goal is the safety by following the guidelines set before us. I ask for your prayers for these leaders and pray for one another. The best of all, God is with us.  
Love in Christ, Jon

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*We received this from our District Office this week and wanted to make it available to you to help you make decisions about your readiness for public gatherings of any sort. This is meant to inform you about the risk factors of your health and Covid-19.*

### **COVID Safety Scale**

If you score '4' points or greater, you should consider avoiding large, in-person, gatherings such as church until the advent of an effective vaccine. If you score **less than 4**, it is reasonable to attend large, in-person, gatherings such as church with appropriate precautions, including face masks and some degree of social distancing.

1 point for age 60 or older, 1 point for African American ethnicity, 1 point for COPD **or** excessive smoking **or** vaping, 1 point for hypertension/heart disease, 1 point for active treatment for cancer/autoimmune disease, 1 point

disease, 1 point for active treatment for cancer/autoimmune disease, 1 point for obesity (BMI greater than 30), 1 point for diabetes.

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Just because we have to stay home doesn't mean we can't have Vacation Bible School! Join us for a fun, online VBS experience for your whole family. We'll provide videos and supplies for this to be the best VBS ever! Register online at <http://thewelllongbeach.org/vbs2020/>. Contact Lori Cripple at (228) 324-3622 for more information.

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### **Small Groups and Sunday School Classes Meeting on Zoom**

If you would like to participate in one of these classes on Zoom, please contact the following people: Sonshiners - Glenda Hull @ [tgkhull@me.com](mailto:tgkhull@me.com), New Horizons - Karen Merkle @ [jkmerkle@cableone.net](mailto:jkmerkle@cableone.net), Aldersgate - David Roots @ [davidwroots@verizon.net](mailto:davidwroots@verizon.net), Jon Kaufman Smallgroup @ [jklongbeach@gmail.com](mailto:jklongbeach@gmail.com). If you have a group that is interested in meeting on Zoom, please contact the church office.

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### **First United Methodist Church of Long Beach Blood Drive**

**Thursday June 11, 2020 12 PM - 6 PM**

***Please come out to donate the gift of life and help us maintain a healthy blood supply! All blood types are needed at this time!*** For an appointment, please visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Use sponsor code: **FUMCLB** (you can click on the sponsor code for a direct link to the appointment site) or call 1-800-RED

CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

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## Pastoral Care Needed

If you would like to talk to a pastor, please contact the church office from 8:00 a.m. until noon at (228)863-9619 or email us at [prayer@fumclb.org](mailto:prayer@fumclb.org).

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The office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to noon. We are no longer letting anyone in and we ask that you call the church at 228-863-9619 if you have a need, no matter how big or small, please let us know. Also, pay attention to your neighbors needs as an exercise in loving our neighbors.

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### Online Giving

Just a reminder, you can go to our website at [fumclb.org](http://fumclb.org) and click on the Online Giving tab to make giving quick and easy.

[Online Giving](#)

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## Weekly Updates and Events



PC Havens, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Chrissy Edwards, Lois Jones, Connie Durham, Janis Slade, Pat Newcomb, Shayla Hosey, Shorty Haulk, Dawn Rhoades, Jo Holyfield, Cathy Yates, Marie Ward, Ricky Bullock, John French, Chuck Cruthirds, Hank Viehmann, Charlie Gibson, Sherry Alley, Andrew Beets, Alice Krass, Jack Bullock, Conrad Johnson, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Ron Durham,

Verona Murphy, Charlie and Ann Munter, Spencer Humphrey, Tammy Clinkscales, Lane Tucker, Sam McCauley, Bill Denmark, William Hall, Martha Hart, Pam Upton, Sally Poarch, and Judy Kovac

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



Donations were given in memory of Lewis Alexander by Betsy Bullard, Bruce & Peggy Bleil, Mickey & Carolyn Graham, Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Laney, Joe McClammy, Sandy & Martha Simon, Mr. & Mrs. John Sneed, Gordon & Leslie Stanfield, Joyce Whitfield, Samuel Whitfield, Mr. & Mrs. Doug Medley, Bob & Muzette Chatham, & Wayne Roberts Family.



We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to the Alexander family at the death of their mother, Dixie Alexander.

We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to Robert Hinton and family at the death of his Mother, Alibe Hinton on April 18, 2020.



We would like to welcome Lowell and Cynthia Bland into our family of faith here at FUMCLB.

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**Sunday Worship**

## FUMCLB & THE WELL STREAMING SCHEDULE **UPDATED**

- **9:00 a.m.** Sundays - Sanctuary Worship Live on Facebook @FUMCLB
- **10:00 a.m.** Sundays - The well Live on Facebook @TheWellLB
- 5:00 p.m. Sundays - Youth Live on Zoom hosted by Mary
- 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays - Jon Live on Facebook @FUMCLB
- 6:30 p.m. Thursday - Ben Live on Facebook @TheWellLB

**9:00 a.m. Service** live on First United Methodist Church Long Beach facebook page and Youtube  
[youtube.com/channel/UCLsZywuTbpyvAucvdZONDhQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLsZywuTbpyvAucvdZONDhQ)

**10:00 a.m. service** live on The Well facebook page and Youtube  
[youtube.com/user/TheWellLongBeach](https://www.youtube.com/user/TheWellLongBeach)

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

Church Website  
[www.fumclb.org](http://www.fumclb.org)

The Well Website  
[www.thewelllongbeach.org](http://www.thewelllongbeach.org)

Rev. Jon Kaufman, Senior Pastor  
662-279-4993  
Email address: [jon.kaufman@fumclb.org](mailto:jon.kaufman@fumclb.org)

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