



The Messenger

November 12, 2020

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

Worship Schedule/Registration

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship In-Person in the Sanctuary & on Facebook.

11:00 a.m. The Well service In-Person in the Christian Life Center & on Facebook.

Please register for worship by noon on Friday before each Sunday's worship service by calling the church office at 228-863-9619 or by going to the links below that can be found on our website at fumclb.org.

8:30 a.m. Service <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-United-methodist-church-long-beach-830-am-sanctuary-service-tickets-111240118188>

11:00 a.m. Service

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-well-service-at-1100-am-tickets-111240523400>

We have resumed children's church, Well Jr., and the nursery. Please use the above registration links to reserve your child's spot.

Note from Jon

Surrounded. I don't know why but Psalm 22 came to mind recently. You know, God does this all the time – speaks to us and gives us a word when we need it. Psalm 22 begins with “My God, My God why have you forsaken me?” Within the 22nd Psalm is verse 12 and 13 that says, “Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.”

It might seem that 2020 has got us surrounded, doesn't it? With all that has happened, we might be tempted to believe that the “bulls of Bashan,” have got us trapped in darkness, hopelessness, futility, and defeat. (By, the way, Bashan was a region in Israel and the bulls from that region had a reputation for strength and

fierceness.) I invite you to read Psalm 22 for within it you will find the reason Jesus quoted from it on the cross and you will see parallels between King David, the author of the psalm, and the events surrounding the cross of Jesus. The Psalms, after all, are sometimes honest and raw in the emotions expressed toward God.

The good news is being surrounded by the “Bulls of Bashan” is not hopeless. As I write this on this Veterans Day, I am reminded of the quote heard by a medic in the 101st Airborne division that had been surrounded by the German army during the Battle of Bulge in Bastogne. Speaking about the Germans it was said “The Poor [guys]. They got us surrounded.” Their unit had learned that being surrounded by the enemy was not hopeless and with hope they resisted and prevailed.

Psalm 22 may begin with the cry of “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me,” but it ends with hope in the LORD, faith in God’s strength, and joy in being rescued and confidence that God hears our voices when we cry out to Him. Psalm 22 ends with confidence in deliverance and that future generations will know and serve God because of all that God has done.

Today, I invite all of us who may feel surrounded by so much to trust God and to have confidence that God hears you when you cry out to Him – that God loves you and cares for you and will never leave you abandoned and surrounded.

Today, we have a choice that will define our story for years to come and that will inspire those who come behind us. Our story that we can share in future days can be known as people who trusted, who placed our hope in God and praised God, or we can choose to be bitter. Who would you rather be? As for myself, I would rather have a story of faith and hope.

Love in Christ, Jon

Upcoming Events



Recovery from Hurricane Zeta Damage at church campus

In the aftermath of Zeta, the church campus, like many of you, sustained some damage. The roof to three buildings as well as the Parsonage on Church Street had damage to the roof. Our church trustees are in process with our insurance company and like most are facing 3% deductibles for damage. We will be updating you on damage and progress of recovery as we are able.

Response to our Community

We have also been gathering needs for help in our church and community and have already deployed teams to help clear debris. Our plan is to go out after Sunday worship services to help others. If you are able you are invited to meet at the church

campus in the west parking lot following the 8:30 or 11 am worship services to go as a family or a team to help in the clean-up. We will do this on the 15th and 22nd of November and will announce future dates soon. If your Sunday school class, family, group of friends want to help someone, the church has a list of needs we would be glad to share.

We also have a supply of tarps and cleaning supplies for those who wish to have them.

We have also made our facilities available to host work teams from other areas.



Christmas Eve Luncheon

11 Years!! Yes! We are hosting a modified Community Christmas Even Luncheon this year. We hope to be as normal as possible while still following CDC guidelines. All meals will be pre-packaged and we will distribute outside of the CLC parking lot, drive-thru style. We will have volunteer opportunities leading up to the lunch and on the day of the event. It is because of our loving, generous, and prayerful congregation that this ministry has been able to thrive and serve so many people in our local community. Thank you! For more details on volunteering opportunities, please email Amanda Wood at aeswood@gmail.com.

Poinsettia

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary in memory or honor of a loved one for the Advent season, please call the church office at 863-9619 or email Alice at fumclb@cableone.net. The cost is \$10.00 per plant.



Angel Tree

Our Angel Tree Ministry will look a little different this year, but we will still have the opportunity to help some of our local families provide Christmas for their children. Rather than choosing a tag off of one of the trees, you will be able to sign up for a child's tag through our Eventbrite system. The link is: <https://www.eventbrite.com/preview?eid=128765740797/>

Once you reserve a tag, Lori Cripple will contact you with a child's information. If you have trouble reserving a tag online, you can also contact her directly by phone (228)324-3622 or email lcripple@hotmail.com. Unwrapped gifts will be due back to the church by Sunday, December 6th.



Save the Date

Save the date for our Jingle Jam! Plan to join us on Sunday, December 6th, at 5:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center for a fun family experience during the Advent season. More information coming soon!



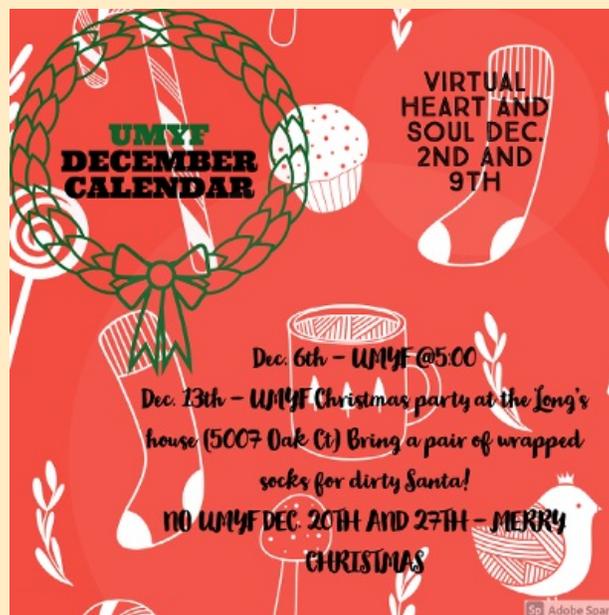
Christmas Hymn of the Day

Jane Cockrell will be providing us with a Christmas Hymn of the Day. It will begin the first Sunday of Advent (November 29th) and go through Epiphany (January 6th). If you are interested, please send your name and email to Jane at: nuffkids5@cableone.net or you can send her a text with your name and email address at (228) 806-1865.



Advent Wreath Kits

We will be celebrating the Advent season together by creating Advent wreaths for our homes. Supplies for wreaths and Advent reading guides will be available at the morning services on Sunday, November 22nd. If you would like to reserve an Advent wreath kit in advance, you can do so by calling the church office at (228)863-9619.



Sermon Titles and Scriptures

November 15th

Sanctuary Worship "Contentment: Give Thanks to the Lord: Gratitude's Power"
1 Chronicles 16:34 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

The Well Worship "In Christ You Are Made to be Family"
Romans 8:12-17 Galatians 3:28

November 22nd

Sanctuary Worship "Contentment: Where Joy is Found"
Psalm 4:7 Proverbs 21:15 John 15:11-13 Matthew 25:23

The Well Worship "In Christ You Are Empowered"
John 14:12-14 Romans 8:11

Calendar

Sunday, November 15th

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
8:30 a.m. Online Worship Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. The Well Worship in the CLC
11:00 a.m. Online Worship The Well
3:30 p.m. Creative Ministry in Moore Hall
5:00 p.m. UMYF Thanksgiving at the Chancey's

Monday, November 16th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the parking lot

Wednesday, November 18th

5:00 p.m. Heart & Soul on Zoom
6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in the CLC

Thursday, November 19th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the parking lot

Sunday, November 22nd

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
8:30 a.m. Online Worship Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. The Well Worship in the CLC
11:00 a.m. Online Worship The Well
3:30 p.m. Creative Ministry in Moore Hall

Monday, November 23rd

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the parking lot

Tuesday, November 24th

12:00 p.m. Middle School Cheerleader Blood Drive in the CLC

Wednesday, November 25th

Office Closed

6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in the CLC

Thursday and Friday November 26th & 27th

Office Closed

The 2021 Flower Calendar is in the lobby. You can sign up by calling the office or signing up in the lobby.



PC Havens, Kayne Troutman, Debbie & John 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, Sharon Pierce, Charlie Gibson, Sherry Alley, Andrew Beets, Alice Krass, Jack Bullock, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Ron Durham, Vernona Murphy, Charlie and Ann Munter, Spencer Humphrey, Bill Denmark, Sally Poarch, Sam McCauley, Lane Tucker, Pam Upton, Lil Jobe, Merle Burman, Rena Krol, Jo Holyfield, Lorrie Schiro, Kathy Hogan, Cynthia Wilson, Louise Travis, and Candy Claeys, Jim & Louise Alexander, John Armstrong, Virginia Barnes, Dawn McGinn, Cindy Gates, Bubba Murray. and Adam Wood

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 863-9619 or by email to prayer@fumclb.org.



Donations were given in memory of Martha Hart by Joyce Hood, Melissa Francis, and the Aldersgate Sunday school class.
A donation was given in memory of Sam McCauley by Betsy Bullard.



We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of Samuel McCauley.



Shine On...

The Trustees for their help during Hurricane Zeta.

Rev. Jon Kaufman
662-279-4993

Email address: jon.kaufman@fumclb.org

Rev. Ben Barlow
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.