



# The Messenger

January 21, 2021

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

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## Worship Schedule

**8:30 a.m.** Sanctuary Worship Live on Facebook and YouTube @fumclb

**11:00 a.m.** The Well service Live on Facebook and YouTube @thewelllb

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## Note from Jon

“Press on...” These words came to me this week within the context of the hope we had that the beginning of 2021 would somehow usher in an end to the pandemic and we could get back to “normal.” We now know (I’m sure we always knew), in the new year, that “normal” would not be instantaneous but would take time. The good news is that we are seeing vaccinations increase and more is becoming available so there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

The phrase, “Press on,” speaks to me right now. It comes from Paul’s letter to the Philippians. He describes his desire to become more like Christ, but that, yet, he has not attained that goal. But he says, “but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us then who are mature be

*of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.” Philippians 3:12b-16*

When I think of the challenges we faced in 2020, it was important for us, as a church, to hold on to our values and our mission, but also to press on in finding new ways to worship, new ways to serve, new ways to deepen our faith. Though we paused some of what we were used to doing, we pressed on toward our goal in following our calling as disciples of Christ.

I believe that 2020 has brought into focus the reality that every day and every season is a time for us as a church and as individuals to press on toward the goal of growing into the mature Christ-like nature we are destined to be. It is important that as we continue to encounter the challenges of life, we press on in seeking the mind of Christ in our personal and corporate lives in every matter. It is important that we seek to press on in building a better life, a better community and a better world – always with our heart and our eyes on Christ Jesus our Lord. My prayer for all of us is that together we press on to live, love and serve more like Jesus Christ who has redeemed us and who is daily making us new. God bless you all as we press on.

*Love in Christ, Jon*

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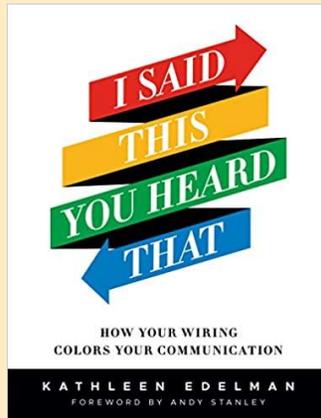
## Upcoming Events

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**Shine On...** Our Sunday school and small group leaders and classes who are using new ways to stay connected.

We are making plans to start confirmation classes in February. If you have an 8th grade student or older that would be interested and would like to sign them up, please call the church office at 863-9619.



## Virtual Women's Study

We will be starting a virtual study for women using the book, *I Said This, You Heard That*. We are all uniquely wired to communicate in different ways. This book will help us learn what our temperament is (our wiring from God) and how we can use that understanding to communicate more effectively with others. This study is based in the scripture of Ephesians 4:29 and gives us practical tools for building up the others in our lives.

We will have groups that meet virtually during lunch and also in the evening. We will plan those times based on people's availability. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lori Cripple by phone at (228)324-3622 or by email at [lcripple@hotmail.com](mailto:lcripple@hotmail.com) and let her know if you would prefer to be in a lunch group or an evening group. We hope you consider joining us!



**Camp Wesley Pines**

Camp Wesley Pines is planning to host summer camps this year. There are a limited number of spots available for each camp session so early registration is important. Our church will be taking kids to both the older elementary camp (kids entering 4th-6th grade) and the junior high camp (kids entering 7th-9th grade) the week of June 14th-18th. If you have a child interested in going to camp this summer, please contact Lori Cripple at (228-324-3622) or [lcripple@hotmail.com](mailto:lcripple@hotmail.com) for more information!



### **Worship DVDs Available**

If you are unable to worship with us online because of internet problems and would like to have a DVD of the service delivered to you to view, please contact us at the church office at 863-9619.



### **New Small Group**

Pastor Jon has started a new small group series on "Following Jesus". It meets on zoom on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. Please call or text Pastor Jon at 662-279-4993 for more information.



## Amazon Smile

**Follow instructions below and give to your church.**

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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### **New Sanctuary Sermon Series**

“Living in the Light”

### **New Well Sermon Series**

“A Lamp Unto My Feet”

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## **Sermon Title and Scripture**

**January 24th**

Sanctuary Worship “Light for All” Mark 1:14-20

The Well Worship “God Is Always With Us” John 14:1-4, 15-21

## January 31st

Sanctuary Worship "Light for the Desperate." Mark 1:21-28  
The Well Worship "The Difference Between Condemnation and Conviction"  
Romans 8:1-2

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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, 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, Lane Tucker, Pam Upton, Lil Jobe, Merle Burman, Rena Krol, Jo Holyfield, Lorrie Schiro, Kathy Hogan, Cynthia Wilson, Louise Travis, Candy Claeys, Jim & Louise Alexander, Virginia Barnes, Dawn McGinn, Cindy Gates, John Bull, Jake DeHut, Betty Gibson, Lee Carver, 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](mailto:prayer@fumclb.org).



Donations were given in memory of Alice Krass by Jim & Becky Collins, Gary & Catherine Whitener, Katherine Going, and Marie Newton.

A donation was given in memory of Michael Morgan by the Aldersgate Sunday school class.

A donation was given in memory of Martha Hart by Gail Donald.

A donation was given in memory of Marda Burton by Jim & Becky Collins.

A donation was given in memory of Horace Sumrall by Jim & Becky Collins.

A donation was given in memory Inez Hammack by Fred & Kaye Rendfrey.



We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to Bill Hammack and family at the death of Bill's mother, Inez Hammack.

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# Calendar

## **Sunday, January 24th**

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship in the CLC & Online
- 3:30 p.m. Creative Ministry in Moore Hall
- 5:00 p.m. High School UMYF

## **Monday, January 25th**

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

## **Wednesday, January 27th**

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

## **Thursday, January 28th**

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

## **Sunday, January 31st**

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship in the CLC & Online
- 3:30 p.m. Creative Ministry in Moore Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Middle School UMYF

## **Monday, February 1st**

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

## **Wednesday, February 3rd**

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

## **Thursday, February 4th**

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

Rev. Jon Kaufman

662-279-4993

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Rev. Ben Barlow

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.