



The Messenger

February 4, 2021

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

Worship Schedule

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship In-Person in the Sanctuary. This service will be live streamed on Facebook and You Tube.

11:00 a.m. The Well service In-Person in the Christian Life Center. This service will be live streamed on Facebook and You Tube.

We will be wearing masks and safe distancing. Please register for worship by the Friday before each Sunday's worship service by going to the links below or by calling the church office at 228-863-9619 (Before 2:00 p.m. on Friday).

For the 8:30 sanctuary service, please use this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-united-methodist-church-long-beach-830-am-sanctuary-service-tickets-111240118188>

For the 11:00 Well service, please use this link to register:

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

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Note from Jon

Vaccine . . . it's a word that brings hope. Some have already received the first shot of the Covid vaccine, and some have already received both. Many are waiting for their turn to receive it. I grieve for those close to us who have died because of Covid. I pray for those who are ill and I pray for the vaccine to be available for all. I'm grateful that it is available and there is a promise of more on the way. I'm planning on receiving mine when

I am able.

I have been learning more about vaccines and it is wonderful how they work. They actually teach the body how to defend against a virus such as Covid. The human body is amazing in the complexity of design and it is an incredible gift of God. It seems that with the vaccine, there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

I have been thinking about the vaccine in light of the coming season of Lent, which is a time to be in touch with Jesus' act of sacrificial love on the cross. Lent brings close the cross and the pain and anguish of Jesus that came with it. Lent reminds us that our new life came with a cost. It cost Jesus submission to pain, rejection, and death.

But Jesus was willing to endure all of it because he knew the human condition was infected with the brokenness of sin that kept us apart from God and from one another. Sin destroys relationships and strips away the humanity given by God and the life God has created us for.

Crudely speaking, the Covid vaccine helps our body overcome sickness and even death. The cross of Jesus, the love poured out, the atoning sacrifice of Jesus and faith in that sacrifice defeats the power of sin and death and gives us life instead. Jesus went to the cross to stand between us and the sin that steals life away from us and when we look to Christ in faith, we are saved.

Lent reminds us of the fact that we all stand in need of the cross. The good news is that we all have access to the saving grace of Christ Jesus. We all have access to that amazing love of the one who died for us all. This Lenten season, we all will have an opportunity to be near the cross. I invite you to find in the cross, life that is abundant and free.

Love in Christ, Jon

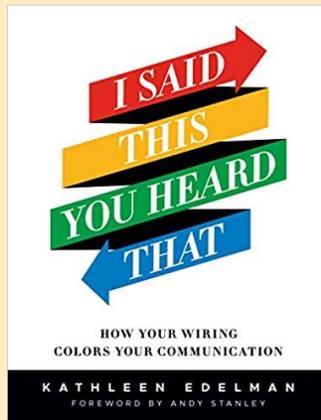
Upcoming Events



to those on our prayer list.



We are starting confirmation classes on February 7th. If you have an 8th grade student or older that would be interested and would like to sign them up, contact Lori Cripple at 324-3622.



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.

We will have groups that meet virtually during lunch starting Tuesday or Wednesday at 12 and also Tuesday at 7 PM starting February 9th. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lori Cripple by phone at (228) 324-3622 or by email at 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 loricripple@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.



Church Wide Study "The Means of Grace"

Join us for a church-wide study beginning Thursday, February 18th at 6:30 PM. This 10 week study offers guidance for growing deeper as a disciple of Jesus Christ and walking in everyday life with Him. Using the core beliefs of

John Wesley, we will connect scripture to the means of grace God provides and helps us to live faithfully in following Jesus. This study will meet on Zoom where we will share a video together and then break out into small groups. To register for this class, email our church office at fumclb@cablone.net or call the church office at 228 863-9619.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9887277566>



Worship Under the Oaks Begins

Sunday, February 21st at 10:00 am

We recognize that many in our congregation are not ready for worshipping inside, so we designed this worship for those who are comfortable being together outside. Worship Under the Oaks will meet for the foreseeable future (as long as it's not raining hard) in front of Moore Hall on the church campus across from the park. This 30 minute service will include familiar songs, prayer, scripture and a message. There is no need to register and we ask that you bring your own chairs. We will have a few available for you if you need one.



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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.



Ash Wednesday Service

Join us for an Ash Wednesday service on February 17th at 6 pm in the Sanctuary to begin the season of Lent which prepares us for the Cross and the Resurrection of our Savior. We will practice social distancing and wearing masks as we all as safe application of the ashes. Join us for this simple yet powerful time of worship. We will also stream the service live on both our Facebook pages and YouTube channels. Ashes for home use will be available in our Lent Activity bag kits starting February 7th.



Lent Resource Bag

Lent is a season of forty days before Easter. It's a time for giving up things that stand in the way of loving God and loving our neighbor. It's also a time for

picking up and taking on new practices to propel us forward in faithfulness. This year we want to walk through the season of Lent together by sharing in a weekly time of devotion to God. To this end we invite you to pick up a Lent resource bag from the church this Sunday or from the office this week. Please call the church office if you need one delivered.

Sermon Title and Scripture

February 7th

Sanctuary Worship "Light for Us All" Mark 1:29-39

The Well Worship "Great Is His Faithfulness" Lamentations 3:19-26

February 14th

Sanctuary Worship "Light for All Time" Mark 9:2-9

The Well Worship "Cling To God" Revelations 21:1-7



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, 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, Kay Milam, Joyce St. John, 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.



A donation was given in memory of Martha Hart by Richard & Grace Gingles.

Donations were given in memory of Rena Krol by Bob & Muzette Chatham, Richard & Grace Gingles, Betsy Bullard, Larry & Beth Lewis, Robert & Mary Anne Simpson, Bob & Carolyn Rhoades, and Gerald & Venessa Saucier.

A donation was given in memory of Marda Burton by Betsy Bullard.

Donations were given in memory Inez Hammack by Betsy Bullard, and Tom & Sue Dye.

A donation was given in memory of Patricia Matalik by the Aldersgate Sunday school class.



We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to Al & Melissa Krol, and Cindy & Ahab Teague and family at the death of their mother, Rena Krol.



To Our Church Family,

We thank you for all your prayers and thoughtfulness during this difficult time.
Sincerely, Trisha Watts & Tara Davis

Calendar

Sunday, February 7th

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Meeting in the Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship in the CLC & Online
- 3:30 p.m. Creative Ministry in Moore Hall

Monday, February 8th

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

Tuesday, February 9th

- 12:00 p.m. Women's Virtual Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Virtual Bible Study

Wednesday, February 10th

- 6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Virtual Bible Study

Thursday, February 11th

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

Sunday, February 14th

- 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

Monday, February 15th

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

Tuesday, February 16th

Office Closed

- 12:00 p.m. Women's Virtual Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Virtual Bible Study

Wednesday, February 17th

- 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
- 6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice in the CLC
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Virtual Bible Study

Thursday, February 18th

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

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.