



The Messenger

August 19, 2021

First United Methodist Church
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Update from our Church Council

Our church council has begun meeting to make decisions about our practices around worship and group gatherings. We value meeting in person and to help make this safer, we have decided to practice safe distancing and highly recommend wearing masks. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available.

Note from Jon

Rest. Recently, I wrote about fatigue that I and others are experiencing lately. In a world where any and all information is at our fingertips and where 24 hours of news is available on our TV, radio, phone, and computer, we are suffering from what I am going to call TMI (Too Much Information) syndrome. Don't get me wrong, I like to be informed about what's happening in our community and world, but TMI can wear a person down and load us with the burdens of the world.

Also, we are pulled by the politics of our day to be outraged by everything. Being outraged all the time is fatiguing. Even daily decisions about which places are ok for us to visit, or what's the best decision for my kids are other sources of weariness. Under those stresses and burdens work to undermine our ability to find rest for our souls. The last time I checked, we are not Jesus, who does bear the weight of the world on his shoulders on the cross. How can we find rest from the fatigue?

I think about what Jesus said to us, *“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* Matthew 11:28-30

God, who gave us the sabbath to find rest, is going to be the source of rest for our souls. By being “yoked” with Jesus means that the weight of the world does not have to be born by you alone. Jesus invites us to be restored in our soul by being with Him. In this world, do you find yourself getting closer to He who is gentle and humble of heart, or are you being pulled away by the chaos of outrage of the day?

Last Sunday, at the Church Campus worship services, Mary Woodruff shared a simple plan for finding clarity and rest.

1. Pause to take a break from the crowd.
2. Ponder to think it through.
3. Pray with Jesus about the changes needed in your heart.

I invite you to find REST for your Souls in Jesus.

Love in Christ, Jon

Upcoming Events



Shine On... Monica Dardeau and Emily Barlow for giving of their time to serve.



Blessing Bags for Our School Teachers and Staff

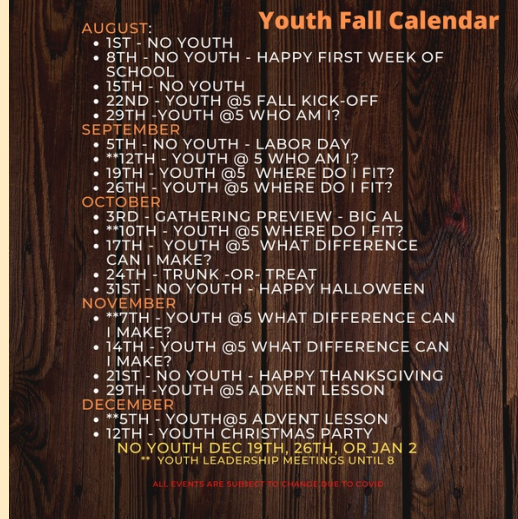
We had a great response from you by being able to bless the hospitals in our area with blessing bags of snacks and thank you cards. We want to ENCOURAGE and BLESS our community School Teachers and Staff as well. Please bring, candy, snack bars, trail mix, etc. to worship on August 22nd or 29th or to the church office the week of the 22nd from 8 - 2 pm. For those who can help, we will pack on Monday, August 30th at 10:30 and deliver that day.



Prayer Service for our Community and World

We will have a Prayer Service for our Community and World on Wednesday, September 1st at 6 PM. Our prayer team recognizes the pain and uncertainty in our world and as a response has planned a time for our church to gather together to pray on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the Worship Sanctuary at our Church Campus. These Prayer Services are a time to gather to pray for the needs of our community, for the world, and our own needs for prayer. Through a service of music, scripture, and prayer, we are creating space for a deeper communion with God to experience healing and wholeness for ourselves and our world. Join us in this time of Prayer.





New Directories

We will begin printing updated directories. If you would like to update your photo or information, you can go to our online directory (CTRN) and make needed changes. If you need assistance in updating your information, please contact the church office at 228-863-9619.



Kiwaniis Pancake Breakfast

The Long Beach Kiwanis will be hosting a pancake breakfast on September 18th at Grace Lutheran Church located at 19221 Pineville Rd in Long Beach. The hours will be from 8 am - 12 noon. It is \$5.00 All U Can Eat. All are invited to come!

Upcoming Sermons

August 22nd

Main Campus Worship “On the Mount: Worry”
Matthew 6:25-34

The Well Worship “Evil Haman!”
Book of Esther

August 27th

Main Campus Worship “On the Mount: What About Judging Others”
Matthew 7:1-12

The Well Worship “Rest”
Matthew 11:28-30



The Amazon Smile logo features the word "amazon" in black and "smile" in orange, with a curved orange arrow underneath "amazon" pointing to "smile". Below the logo is the tagline "You shop. Amazon gives." in black text.

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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PC Havens, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Lois Jones, Connie Durham, Janis Slade, Shorty Haulk, Jo Holyfield, Marie Ward, John French, Chuck Cruthirds, Hank Viehmann, Charlie & Betty Gibson, Sherry Alley, Andrew Beets, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Ann Munter, Spencer Humphrey, Pam Upton, Lil Jobe, Lorrie Schiro, Louise Travis, Candy Claeys, Virginia Barnes, Dawn McGinn, Cindy Gates, John Bull, Jake DeHut, Farra Wicks, Joyce St. John, William Hall, Harry Brax, Pete Seyfarth, Jimmy Sample, Steve Wood, Charles & Lisa Oliver, David Berry, Imogene Hoffman, Pam Buell, Johnny Kersnac, Linda Robison, Ricky Bullock, Bill Boshears, and McLellan baby

*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.



We would like to express our Christian love and sympathy to Kim Myers and family at the death of her brother, Richard Spencer.



We would like to welcome Charles and Martha Thweatt into our church family of faith here at FUMCLB.

Calendar

Sunday, August 22nd

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM Fleming Auditorium & Online
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Fall Kick-Off

Monday, August 23rd

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Lay Leadership Meeting in the CLC

Tuesday, August 24th

- 6:00 p.m. Recovery Group Moore Hall

Wednesday, August 25th

- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry in the Good News Room
- 6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, August 26th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Sunday, August 29th

- 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary & Online Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:00 a.m. The Well Worship at USM Fleming Auditorium & Online
- 5:00 p.m. Youth

Monday, August 30th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

Tuesday, August 31st

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Recovery Group Moore Hall

Wednesday, September 1st

- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry in the Good News Room
- 6:00 p.m. Well Band Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, September 2nd

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes in the CLC

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Rev. Ben Barlow

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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.