

## MESSENGER MARCH 30, 2020

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I pray that everyone in our Faith Harbor family is staying safe and healthy and well-connected to one another in these challenging times. We are taking several steps to improve our communications and help us stay connected even as we are kept apart physically. One of those steps is that Judy is now sending out the weekly Messenger twice weekly, on Mondays and Fridays. Please let Judy know of any information you want to include in the Messenger, and please check our website and your email inbox for the latest edition.

Speaking of our website, we are grateful to Glen Pierce for redesigning and upgrading our website: [faithharborumc.org](http://faithharborumc.org). We have added new features including online giving and access to our online worship services. I hope you will take time to browse through our website, and that you will habitually check it often for the latest news and information concerning our Faith Harbor family.

We are also sending out more emails than in the past in order to keep everyone informed of the latest church-related news. We are aware that some of you have not been receiving emails from me or the church, and we want very much to get that corrected. We do not want anyone to be excluded from receiving information from the church such as prayer concerns and other matters of importance to all of us. If you or someone you know is not receiving our emails, please let Judy know so that we can add your email address to our subscriber list. E-mail her at [secretary@faithharborumc.org](mailto:secretary@faithharborumc.org)

Another step we are taking is to intentionally and regularly make phone calls to all who are connected to our church. You should be hearing from someone in our church family soon! I know many of you are placing calls and sending texts yourself and otherwise reaching out to one another to express your love and support. Thank you for sharing God's love and being a beacon of hope in our broken world.

Please especially remain in prayer for one another, for our nation and for our world. Special prayers are requested today for Lois and Sam Snyder, and for all who mourn and grieve. May we all watch for ways that the Lord is working in the midst of this present crisis, and find ways to join Him in that work. In this time of social distancing, may we grow spiritually deeper as we place all of our faith and trust in the Lord.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor David

See our prayer concerns on the next page and an update/praise from Jessica Blackburn.

If you need to add someone be sure to send it to me or to Judy so it can be added to our prayer concerns.

**SYMPATHY** is extended to *Lois and Sam Snyder and their family* in the death of Ms. Margaret on 3/29. Sympathy as well to all of Ms. Margaret's friends at Faith Harbor. May God grant peace as only he can grant in this time of loss for a dear member of Faith Harbor UMC.

There are so many wonderful memories we have of Margaret. If you wish to share any for the Messenger on Friday just sent them to [secretary@faithharborumc.org](mailto:secretary@faithharborumc.org).

**PRAYER CONCERNS Members** Jim Ace, Jonathan Adams, Scott Adams, Joyce Arnette, Clayann Binning, Jessica Blackburn, Nancy Buckman, Connie Carroll, Lois and Sam Snyder, Ed Drudge, Cal and Diane Geary, Stephanie Hardin, Janet Hughes, Gail Kaufmann, Janice Long, Neal McHenry and family of Jackolyn, Martha Marlow, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizzell, Larry Modlin, Judy Pratt, Nathan Redd, Duke Smith, Nancy Smith, and Kelly Wills.

**Military:** Joe Fraley, Sg. Joey Horne, John Modlin, Branden Mooney, Anthony Ripley, David Ritz.

**Friends:** Willie Ray Arnett, Paul Arnett, Al Avant, Jesse Bailey, Rudolph Batts, George Brodgen, Johnnie Byrd Family, Candie, Kathy Carlston, Kathy Clapp, Jack Cooper, Family of Wanda Davis, **Debbie and her sister**, Tobey Ferry, , Kevin Fisher and family. Jan Foster, Pastor Gary Gandy, Jensen Gandy, J.W. Gibson, Gene Harris, Tom Holgan, Roy Horne, Donna Johnson, Major Jones, Dr. Jack Kim, Kody, Craig Jenkins, Bill Kirpatrick, Brenda Leonard, Liza, A.J. Long, Doreen Luisi, Nancy McAloney, Douglas Mathis, Ernie Mazzei, Michelle, Monica, Sarah Moyer, Sherri Nelson, Becky and Phil Osborne, Jeb Paarfus, Dot Phillips, Jimmy Platts, Penny Roberts, Rosie, Tania Roth, Betty Saunders, Nancy Serriano, Billy Sewell, Lori Shelton, Jonathan Sloan, the family of Joanne Smith, Maria Sutton, Sue Sutton, Terry, Theresa, Christopher Thomas, Jennifer Tower, Andrea Wright, and Bill Zell.

### **To My Church Family,**

I praise my Almighty God, for His gift of healing, though my body is still in the healing process, I believe that Gods mighty hand is at work and I will be back to my running self within the next month. My CT Scan showed no underlining concerns so the pain is my body still healing. I'm not as young as I used to be, this body is not bouncing back as quick as I would like. I am going to take this as the Lord telling me to slow down. Its been hard but I am obeying. I have one more procedure on 4/13 that will relieve some of the pain, and at that time my Doctor will let me know if I can get back to my running, and other physical outdoor activities I enjoy doing.

I again want to thank each and everyone of you for your prayers, letters, text's, emails, calls, visits, meals and support through this ordeal. The Lord has opened my eyes to a lot of things I was taking for granted.

I pray that the Lord blesses each and everyone of you with His amazing peace which surpasses all understanding and guards you hearts and yours minds in Christ Jesus.

Loving you always,  
Your Sister in Christ,

*Jessica Blackburn*



## **MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

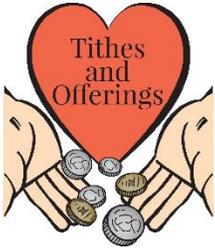
- 27 Mariane Sliwa
- 28 Nancy Merlino
- 29 Maris Jordan  
Sherry Mewborn
- 30 Evangeline Schleinkofer

## **Some APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Leo Geovanni Audet  
Megan Barnes  
Ellis Hiatt
- 4 Ed Drudge (Friday's Messenger will have more as will April 6<sup>th</sup> Messenger)

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- **The Website Calendar:** When you go to the [website](#) and click on the calendar you will see it is virtually empty of events for the entire month of April. Social Distancing continues, at this point, until April 30<sup>th</sup> per the guidelines by the experts in the spread of this virus. May calendar shows all the normal events but they too may need to be adjusted in the future.
  - **From Sandy Sly:** [THE NEW BEGININGS GROUP](#) that met in early March for the first time has been suspended until further notice when our practice of social distancing is no longer in place. Continue to stay connected during this time and know that any in this new group can contact Sandy or anyone in the group for support during this difficult time of staying at home and being out of physical contact with family members.
  - **On Friday, in the Messenger,** we will once again provide the Greeting, Opening Prayer and Prayer of Confession for you to follow as you watch or listen to the April 5<sup>th</sup> service online. The scripture and sermon title will also be provided.
  - **Thank you to Pastor David.....** and all those who participated in the March 29<sup>th</sup> service of worship. It was so encouraging for all who tuned in for the service. If you missed it go to the website ([faithharborumc.org](http://faithharborumc.org)) and click on worship tab then online service.
  - **A good source of encouragement** during this pandemic is [guidepost.org](http://guidepost.org) It is a bright online space where people can connect with Guidepost and with each other through the power of story telling, prayer and community. Guidepost helps people nurture their faith by assuring them that God is at work in everyday life. Check it out, it has a lot to offer daily.

- **Holding God's love in my heart can bring peace to my day. (from the Upper Room Devotional).**
  - **If you have a quote or story to share that can help others at this time of isolation send it to [secretary@faithharborumc.org](mailto:secretary@faithharborumc.org) and it will go in a Messenger to help others.**
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**MESSAGE FROM DALE OSBORN, CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE TEAM AND SETH SWAIN, FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**Online Giving**

With us not having services on Sundays for a while there is a quick and easy way to keep up with your Tithing from home.

Online Giving is now available directly from Faith Harbor's Web site.

Please visit [https:// faithharborumc.org](https://faithharborumc.org) and click the **ONLINE GIVING** tab at top of front page. From here a new window will pop up and you will be able to enter your contribution and payment method directly.

This is a quick and easy process for keeping up with your Tithing from home. Thanks to Seth Swain and Glen Pierce for setting it up. If you have any questions please contact Seth or Dale Osborn for help.

**Weekly Offering can also be mailed** to Faith Harbor UMC at P.O. Box 2713, Surf City, NC 28445. Deposits are being made weekly to keep money in the general fund so we can continue to pay the expenses for the church.

Thank you for your continued support of Faith Harbor through your tithes and offerings.

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**Scripture Card March 29, 2020**

Centering Prayer: *Lord, help me to wait for you with hope, faith and patience.*

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 130

M Lamentations 3:21:26

T Psalm 27:13-14

W Isaiah 40:27-31

T Romans 12:12

F Isaiah 30:18

S Micah 7:7

**Key Scripture: Psalm 130:5: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.**

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## **REPORTS FROM THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

### **Trustees Report** Faye Decatur and Marion Shade, Co-chairpersons

Projects continued to be completed around Faith Harbor during the months of January and February. Two new changing stations for our families with little ones were installed in both men's and women's bathrooms. Both of our front doors have been repainted. Pastor David has a new door to his office. Steve Cooney is scheduled to attend a safety seminar in Lumberton. Steve will be serving as our security officer. Jones Onslow EMC replaced outside lighting to make our area brighter. Reflectors on both the driveway and mailbox were added to help guide traffic on the main road.

### **SPRC Report** from Debbie Sasser, Chairperson

SPRC last met on Monday, February 3. At that time, we confirmed the hiring of 2 positions for the nursery workers. Jensen Gandy as our regular nursery worker, with Jessica Matthews as a substitute. Ironically, Jessica has been filling the position because Jensen had an appendectomy the same week, she was to begin at FHUMC.

We discussed the departure of Neal McHenry and the fact that all the staff, not just David, will need to take on the responsibility of completing Neal's administrative duties.

Staff (non-contract) had not received a raise since 2017. After much discussion, we chose to give Melissa, Jewels, Judy and Shade a one-time pay raise. David King and Debbie Sasser then met with Dale Osborn and Barbara Poole on February 10 to present this recommendation to Finance and Leadership. Again, after much discussion, these raises received unanimous approval.

Our meeting for March 16 was cancelled due to concern about the Coronavirus. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2020.

### **Finance Report** from Dale Osborn, Chairperson

For January and February we were close to our goals as far as weekly contributions which was a hopeful sign for the year. This month we are beginning to comprehend the effect of the Covid 19 pandemic on the finances of the church. We are receiving less than half of what is needed for the church to pay its bills. Last Week was even less. A message is being discussed to let the congregation know.

Seth is in the final phase of having an online giving option that would allow use of debit cards, etc. to donate. **(It has now been established on our Website.)** We hope that this will give an alternative to church members and help spur giving.

**See Treasurer Report on the next page.**



## Treasurer's Report March 24, 2020

Some of this information is a duplicate since it is posted in the 2nd Monday of the Month Messenger. Checking account balance is an estimate, even though I have tried to anticipate checks that have not yet cleared the bank.

January contributions           \$30,548.00

February contributions         \$30,153.34

Weekly budget requirements are \$8306.42, so that leaves a deficit of \$5750.34 for January and February.

Unfortunately we only had two Sundays for March with actual attendance at church. Since then checks have been coming in the mail and directly from banks and we are making a weekly deposit.

March contributions so far     \$ 21,781.56

We are obviously faced with a larger deficit for March. There will be one more deposit this month. I have approximated a budget including salaries, insurance, utilities, and other must pay bills and came up with about \$6800.00 that is absolutely necessary to maintain the building, pay staff, etc. Keep in mind this is a rough estimate as long as our programs and ministries are suspended.

The approximate checking account balance is \$38,600. The Money Market account balance is \$99,393.82. Our designated or restricted account balances total approximately \$82,805. The largest portion of that is \$39,000 in the capital reserve. The children and youth have funds that are on hold for designated missions that may not occur and might be refunded to the parents. There is \$21,500 for a new van. When these items are taken into account, our cash flow does not look as good as it should. Fortunately God is in control. Faith Harbor has had financial issues in the past and we have survived and even thrived.