

MESSENGER

DECEMBER 11, 2020

Advent Greetings in the name of Christ our Lord!

As I am writing this it is exactly two weeks until Christmas Day. I don't know how it is for you, but for me it seems that every year, even though I have known it was coming for a whole year, Christmas still has a way of catching me off guard by its imminent arrival.

This Sunday will be the third Sunday of Advent, the season of waiting and preparing for the arrival of Christmas. This week our focus in worship will be the Light of Christ who came into the world to dispel our darkness. For those of us living in the northern hemisphere, the day of the year with the most hours of darkness occurs in the same week we celebrate Christmas. That means of course that beginning with the week of Christmas, the daylight hours begin to increase. It seems especially fitting to me that darkness begins to lose its grip on our world with the corresponding arrival of the Everlasting Light.

We will celebrate the birth of Christ, the Light of the world, with two Christmas Eve candlelight services, one at 5:00 PM and one at 7:00 PM. We know that Christmas Eve is a time when we customarily have many visitors. In order to try and ensure that we have room for visitors while maintaining safe social distancing, we are asking the members of our congregation to make reservations for these services. We will limit the number of reservations for each service, leaving ample room for visitors. You will find instructions elsewhere in this Messenger for making reservations with Judy. If you make reservations that you later realize you will not be able to keep, we ask that you notify Judy as early as possible out of consideration for others who wish to attend worship. We will be live streaming at least one of the services (watch for further details).

We will require more ushers on Christmas Eve than we normally need. Please contact Frank Tarbell or Marion Shade if you are able to serve as an usher at either service. No experience is required!

As always, the order of service for our in-person 9:20 AM worship this Sunday will be posted on our website: faithharborumc.org. You can also find the live-stream of the service on our website.

May our Lord fill you with His peace as you await the coming of the Everlasting Light.

Grace and peace,

Pastor David



Dear Faith Harbor Family:

It is with a grateful heart that I thank each and every one for the many prayers offered on my behalf during my recent hospitalization. The lovely cards, phone and text messages encouraged me each day during my recovery.

The amazing message in my health episode was nothing short of "DIVINE INTERVENTION" as I had no symptoms whatsoever of Cholesterol issues.

My primary Doctor had ordered an X-ray of my right shoulder due to severe nerve pain. However, the X-ray Technician not only identified nerve pain issue but notified my primary Doctor that there was a large shadow involving the right carotid artery which needed to be investigated further with an Ultrasound.

The Ultrasound and CAT Scan showed the artery was totally blocked, yet I experienced none of the obvious symptoms. Needless to say, surgery was my only alternative as the Surgeon, Dr. David Weatherford informed me and my oldest son that the artery being totally blocked might preclude successful surgery. WE prayed and Pastor David prayed with me.

The LORD must have had other plans for me for He guided this skilled Surgeon and his care team throughout the procedure and my week-long struggle with blood pressure issues that kept me hospitalized. WE prayed, YOU prayed and Pastor David prayed with me.

It is with heartfelt thanks to all, I am doing well and have been profoundly moved by this experience and my walk with God.

In Christian Love,
Jean Hawley

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!!

Name	_____
Address	_____
Phone	_____
No. of Reservations	_____

FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

On Christmas Eve we will have a 5:00pm service and a 7:00pm service. Both will be candlelight services.

Again, because of the pandemic plans are changed for our worship services. We are limited to the number that can attend the services. Our worship limit will be 100 so we are taking **RESERVATIONS** from church members for 70 seats, each service, of the 100 which leaves 30 for visitors from the community for each service.

To **RESERVE** your seats send an e-mail to Judy at secretary@faithharborumc.org

with your name, phone number, the service you wish to attend and how many seats you wish to reserve. She will confirm your reservation with a reply e-mail.

The Sanctuary is currently set up for the required social distancing but families can sit together. Mask will be required. Thank you for getting your reservation in as soon as possible.



The Worship Planning Team has ordered 36 poinsettias.

They will be in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 13th which is a little more than a week away. So far only 6 have been paid for to honor or remember a loved one. **THE DEADLINE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER IS DECEMBER 14th** so the information can go in the Messenger on the and 18th. They are on a **"first come-first serve"**

basis this year. You may get your plant after the Christmas Eve service.

If you would like to pay for one of these plants to honor or remember a loved one at Christmas the cost this year is \$10.

You may put your check/cash in the offering plate, just mark it for poinsettias or pay online, just be sure to indicate for poinsettia.

Send the information for whom you are honoring or remembering to Judy at secretary@faithharborumc.org.

She will confirm your order by e-mail reply.



Harbor Thrift Store has a **Christmas Shop.**

NOW OPEN.....thru December 23rd.

The shop will be located by the Harbor Thrift Store at Coral Ridge Station. The shop will have the same hours as Harbor Thrift with purchases paid for at Harbor Thrift. Hours are Wednesday - Friday 10 to 4 and Saturday 10 - 2.

Come shop with us at the Thrift Store and the Christmas Shop.



Dear Faith Harbor Church Family,

It is the time of year when we think about thanking our Pastor and Staff for all that they have done over the past year. Certainly, 2020 has been a difficult year, and our church staff has worked hard to meet the challenges of offering meaningful worship and church ministries throughout these times.

Our annual **LOVE OFFERING** to our staff is our gift of appreciation for all their efforts in serving us throughout the year. Please be in prayerful contemplation about your gift. Love Offerings are being collected now until the end of the year. You may:

- Mail a check to the church office, marked LOVE OFFERING
- Give on-line and designate LOVE OFFERING
- Place an envelope (marked LOVE OFFERING) in the offering plate

Thank you for your loving generosity,

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS REMINDER: Please remember that if you are planning to make a charitable contribution to FHUMC, the last day to place 2020 contributions in the offering plate is December 27. If you are mailing your contribution and want your gift to appear on your 2020 giving statement, the envelope **MUST** be postmarked by December 31 (IRS regulation) as well as an online contribution.

If you wish to donate through direct contribution from your IRA or a gift of stock, please ensure that your bank/broker completes the transaction so that the funds are in FHUMC'S account by December 31. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Dale Osborn, Finance Team Chairman or Martha Vaughn, Treasurer.

Finance Report for November 2020 and year to Date Totals

November contributions:	\$40,897.89	(5 Sundays this month)
Year to Date Contributions:	\$342,056.46	
Year to Date Budget	\$395,939.50	

Week of 12-14-2020 Scripture card

Centering Prayer: *Lord, dispel our darkness with your Everlasting Light.*

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 36

M John 1:1-7

T Psalm 139:7-12

W John 8:12

T Luke 11:33-36

F John 12:35-36

S 1 Peter 2:9

Key Scripture: *Matthew 4:16 - "The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light; and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."*



IN OUR

Thoughts and Prayers



her father, Gail and Mike Kaufmann, Janice Long Terri Luisi, Neal McHenry, Martha Marlow, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizzell, Becki Modlin, Larry Modlin, Teri Ragan O'Driscoll, Judy Paliotitti and Jency, Nancy Smith, Dave Strohpaal, Kelly Wills, **John Wilson**.

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

Friends: April, Barbara Rummel's mom and Martha Marlow's mom, Christine, Willie Arnette, Kim Audet, George Brodgen, Del Brouwer, Colin Campbell, Candie, Collin, Kathy Carlston, Cheryl, Chris Carroll, Carole and Blaine, **Children,** Chimer Clark, Kathy Clapp, Bill Dirk and Teresa, Tobey Ferry, Jan Foster, Jensen Gandy, J.W. Gibson, Kelly and Amy Glass, Judy Hoopes, Roy and Tony Horne, Donna Johnson, **Lea Jones,** Kelly, Kevin Kesterson, Kody, Craig Jenkins, Brenda Leonard, Lisa, A.J. Long, Logan, Loren and Martha, Doreen Luisi, Sandy McVickers, Andrea (Ann) Maready, Ernie Mazzei, Ed Minnich, Michelle, Monica, Chuck Osburn, Becky and Phil Osborne, **Parents, Pastor Stephanie,** Dot Phillips, Penny, Susan Penny, Jimmy Platts, **Virginia Platts,** Judy Pratt, Todd Rice, Stanley and Ruby, Tania Roth, Nancy Serriano, Bear Shenemen, Jonathan Sloan, Katrina Seferyn, Maria Sutton, Don Sweeney, Sister Monique Schwartz, **Teachers,** Terry, Theresa, Christopher Thomas, Andrea Wright, and Bill Zell.

YOUTH NEWS

*Sunday, Dec. 13th~

Group B (Younger High Schoolers & also Younger Middle Schoolers-that includes 6th graders and Confirmation group) meet from 5-6:30pm for Christmas lesson & Party!

*No youth meetings over Christmas/Holiday break.

***Regular Youth group meetings resume again on January 10th, 2021 with Group B.

If you should have any questions about any of our Youth Programs, please contact Jewels Swain, FHUMC Youth Coordinator at 910-232-9844.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Peace be with you, Jewels



- 1 Kelly Byrd
Will Jones
Thelma Smith
- 3 Marion Shade
Gary Walker
- 4 Hayden Arnold
Leslie Jones
Neal McHenry
- 5 Liam Lozano
- 6 Sherry Sliwa
- 7 Sam Snyder
- 8 JoAnn Rivenbark
Savannah Paliotti
- 9 Bill Widholm
- 10 Mel Greene
Carl Ward
- 13 Britney Lozano
- 14 Sandi Lowry
Doug Mewborn
- 15 Humphrey Gardner
Harriet Rice
Chuck Strickland
- 16 Kenny Burgess
Judy Paliotti
- 17 David Henry
- 21 Robert Barnes
Sonya Burgess
- 24 Duke Lackey
- 25 Alex Harris
- 26 Alexis Passingham
- 29 Jill Strophaul
- 31 Elizabeth Perry Chase Smith