

MESSENGER DECEMBER 18, 2020

Advent Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I am glad to be able to begin with some encouraging updates regarding persons in our church family for whom we have been praying.

John Wilson came through his procedure yesterday so well that he was out walking this morning for the first time in many days. John attributes his great results to the many intercessory prayers that were prayed for him.

Tommy Clemmons had successful eye surgery on Wednesday, and other than having a black eye, he is doing very well. I know Judy and Tommy are also grateful for our prayers.

Earlier this week, Buddy Fussell was able to come home from the hospital where he was being treated for pneumonia and COVID. In the meantime, Suzanne also tested positive for COVID. Buddy and Suzanne will be isolating at home for the next ten days or so. Please pray for their protection and for a full recovery.

We are aware of many other prayer concerns in our church family and beyond to a world that has grown quite weary of the pandemic and seemingly endless strife and turmoil. Indeed, the needs feel overwhelming, and the darkness feels pervasive, but as we enter the last week before Christmas, we have the sure and certain hope that these dark times will not last.

In an exceedingly appropriate astronomical coincidence, the hours of daylight will begin to increase for us next week just in time to correspond with the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. I am reminded of the words of the beloved carol, "O Holy Night:"

*A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.*

My prayer in these final days of Advent is that each of us will find cause to rejoice in our spirits with the thrill of hope. Darkness will soon be overcome by the Light. A new and glorious morn is right around the corner.

Thanks be to God.

Peace and blessings,
Pastor David

Thank you to the many families that ordered a poinsettia for the Sanctuary. They are beautiful.

Tomorrow morning Judy will send out an e-mail with the insert for who is being remembered or honored and by whom. **Watch for it tomorrow.** If you still want to order one just send a check for \$10 to the church and send an e-mail to Judy at secretary@faithharborumc.org for whom you wish to honor or remember and she can get it in the insert. You will need to do this by 10:00pm tonight.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES RESERVATIONS

The 5:00pm service is full. If you have a reservation and can't keep it be sure to let Judy know at secretary@faithharborumc.org so your name can be removed and there will be room for others to attend.

The 7:00pm service has reservations for 59 and we can take 70 reservations so if you plan to attend and have not make your reservation contact Judy at the above e-mail address. She will confirm by e-mail receipt of your reservations. We need them by Dec. 23rd so the final count and names can be given to the greeters for the service.



Thank You

Dear Faith Harbor family. Thank you for your donations to the "keep me dry" diaper program.

Your monetary donations and packages of diapers mean so much to so many in our community. The parents of the little ones are so appreciative of your generosity and have been touched in so many ways by our caring, loving church.

Gods blessings to all of you.

MERCY ABOUNDS MINISTRY OF FAITH HARBOR

This ministry is funded primarily by the donations received on Christmas Eve. We have been doing this for a number of years. This year we do not have the challenge for matching donations that we have had the past couple of years so the Christmas Eve services offerings this year will be a big help to funding the ministry into 2021 for basic assistance needs for families in our local community.

As the vaccine becomes more available to reduce the spread of COVID there will be less restrictive measures in our local services and businesses. Once the church is fully operational, there will be more folks able to make contact to ask for assistance

The Thrift Store is giving \$1,000.00 and hopefully our generous giving congregation will be generous this year to help fund this ministry in 2021.

Your gifts and generosity in past years has been appreciated by the Mercy Abounds Team and has certainly been appreciated by the families that have received assistance through this program.



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

OPEN A FEW MORE DAYS—UNTIL 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

A thought to ponder as seen on facebook.....

Each of us is an **Inkeeper** who decides if there is room for Jesus.

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 12-21-2020 Scripture card

Centering Prayer: *O God, thrill this weary world with the hope of a new and glorious morn.*

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 91

M Isaiah 7:10-17
T Matthew 1:18-25
W Isaiah 40:9-11, 28-31
T Ezekiel 34:11-16
F Isaiah 9:1-7
S Philippians 4:4-9

Key Scripture: *Matthew 1:21 "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."*



IN OUR

Thoughts and Prayers



Members Jim Ace, Jonathan Adams, Scott Adams, Joyce Arnette, Harriet Byrd, Nancy Buckman, Connie Carroll, Frank Carroll, Rebecca Drudge, **Dawn Ellis**, Carol Franklin, **Buddy and Suzanne Fussell**, Diane Geary, Jim and Faye Graziano, Stephanie Hardin,

Leslie Jones, Courtney Kane, Beth Kane and 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 Paliotti and Jency, **JoAnn Rivenbark**, 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, **Johnnie M. Powell**, Judy Pratt, Todd Rice, Stanley and Ruby, Tania Roth, Nancy Serriano, Bear Shenemen, Jonathan Sloan, Katrina Seferyn, Maria Sutton, Don Sweeney, Sister Monique Schwirtz, **Teachers**, Terry, Theresa, Christopher Thomas, Andrea Wright, and Bill Zell.

YOUTH NEWS

***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