

MESSENGER

DECEMBER 4, 2020

Advent Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

This Sunday will be the second of four Sundays in the season of expectant waiting called Advent. It seems that we are waiting for a lot of things these days: waiting for a vaccine and an end to this pandemic, waiting for a return to something like normal, waiting to see our loved ones again—in person! And yes, waiting in hopeful anticipation for the celebration of the birth of our Savior ... as well as waiting for him to come again and redeem this fallen and broken world.

Advent is indeed a season of waiting, but it has also been said that “our whole life is an Advent season, that is, a season of waiting for the last Advent, for the time when there will be a new heaven and a new earth.” Those words in quotations were written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer as he was waiting in a German prison for his trial and subsequent execution for his resistance to the Nazi regime of Adolph Hitler. I discovered that quote and more about the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in an Advent devotional written by Kate Bowler, an associate professor of the history of Christianity at Duke Divinity School. I have been enjoying her writing this week and I recommend it to you. You can download the devotional using this link: <https://katebowler.com/advent/>

Speaking of waiting, a long wait is about to be over for seven young people in our church who will be confirmed in our 9:20 worship service this Sunday. They began the process of preparing for Confirmation over a year ago, and they would have been confirmed last spring if not for the pandemic. I hope you will plan to attend worship this Sunday, either in person or virtually through live-streaming, as McKenna Barrett, Emma Minor, Parker Batts, Aiden Moore, Dallas Smith, Karlie Holmes and Hunt Tayloe make their vows of commitment to the church, and we vow to support and nurture them in their Christian journey.

We will also celebrate Holy Communion this Sunday, so it promises to be a very rich and full worship service. We will be posting the complete order of worship on our website, faithharborumc.org. You can access the live-stream of the service there as well.

May God grant you the peace that only He can give as you wait expectantly for His coming.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor David

CONFIRMATION

S U N D A Y

This Sunday December 6th we will confirm the following youth and welcome them into the membership of Faith Harbor UMC.

McKenna Brooke Barrett with Baptism

Parker Clay Batts

Karlie Rose Holmes

Emma Cynthia Hope Minor

Aiden Sawyer Moore

Stevenson Dallas Smith, III

Hunter Norman Tayloe, Jr.

They have successfully completed the confirmation classes and a year-end retreat despite the limitations of the covid pandemic. We welcome them as full members of Faith Harbor United Methodist Church and pledge to nurture them in their Christian journey.

**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.



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOK

There are a few left at the church for those attending Sunday to get 1-per family.

We tried to order some more and found that they are not available at this time.

HOWEVER – **The devotional as an e-book can be purchased at Cokesbury for \$1.29.**

If you want one go to Cokesbury.com and order it. The item number is 9781791001704. It is called Advent: A Calendar of Devotions 2020 by Jenny Smith.

You may also call Cokesbury at 1-800-672-1789 to place your order.

This devotional grounds us with daily reminders of God’s love as we navigate the busy weeks leading to the birth of Jesus, the light of the world. A Bible scripture, a message and closing prayer for each day through Advent will remind us that **“Love is on the way. It’s becoming one of us. Are we ready to receive it?”**

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR
HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE PANDEMIC.**



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.

Week of 12-07-2020 Scripture card

Centering Prayer: *Lord, grant me your peace and patience as I wait for you.*

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 27

M Romans 12:9-12

T 2 Peter 3:8-13

W Isaiah 40:27-31

T Exodus 14:10-14

F Romans 8:18-25

S Isaiah 30:18

Key Scripture: *Psalm 27:14 - "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!"*



IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

Members Jim Ace, Jonathan Adams, Scott Adams, Joyce Arnette, Harriet Byrd, Nancy Buckman, Connie Carroll, Frank Carroll, Rebecca Drudge, Carol Franklin, Diane Geary, Jim and Faye Graziano, Stephanie Hardin, 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, Nancy Smith, Dave Strohpaull, Kelly Wills.

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

Friends: 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, 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.

CALLING ALL CDL DRIVERS (OR ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE ONE!)

Our new church bus requires that the driver has a Commercial Driver's License with a passenger endorsement. If you have a CDL or you would be willing to get one, and you would be willing to be on a team of drivers, please contact Shade, Jewels or Pastor David. The church will reimburse all expenses associated with procuring a CDL for anyone who volunteers to drive the bus for church functions.

YOUTH NEWS

***Sunday, Dec. 6th** at the 9:20am Service~ Confirmation Sunday

Sunday evening, Group A (Older High Schoolers & Older Middle Schoolers) meet from 5-6:30pm for Christmas lesson & Party!

***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

Faith Activity Nutrition (FAN) Spotlight

I had the privilege of working with Melissa Schleinkofer and the children Wednesday evening during Jr. BASIC. Friends, she has embraced the FAN program completely. FAN encourages us as a church to incorporate healthy foods into our meals. The children had vegetable spaghetti (the spaghetti included 25% vegetables) and meatballs, fresh vegetables with ranch dip, applesauce and garlic bread. Their meal was nutritious, delicious and beautiful to the eye! The children also enjoyed a mini cupcake and small cup of ice cream! Great job, Melissa!

Let's all strive to incorporate healthy alternatives to our meals and step up our exercise!

Have a great week, friends!

Kim King



December

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kelly Byrd
Will Jones
Thelma Smith
- 3 Marion Shade
- 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