

## MESSENGER MARCH 5, 2021

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In my message this week I feel it is necessary to write to you about recent developments in our denomination to be sure that you are informed and not surprised when you hear about them elsewhere.

Many of you perhaps already know that the decision was made last week to postpone our denomination's General Conference for the second year in a row, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the safety of mass gatherings and travel. General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church (UMC). The assembly meets at the beginning of each quadrennium to consider revisions to church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs for the next four years.

The major issue that would have come before the Conference delegates this year (and last) was the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation. The Protocol had broad support from many factions and was widely expected to pass, resulting in the formation of a separate traditional denomination, while allowing the post-separation UMC to permit same-sex weddings and the ordination of practicing homosexuals. A key component of the Protocol is that it would have allowed churches who separate from the denomination to keep their property. That has all been put on hold for another year.

In the meantime, some churches have not waited for the Protocol to pass and have already left the denomination. Additionally, the formation of a new progressive denomination, the Liberation Methodist Connexion (LMX), was announced last December. Earlier this week, on the heels of the decision to once again postpone General Conference, the name and logo of the proposed traditional denomination, the Global Methodist Church (GMC), was revealed. It should be noted that while the LMX has already launched their denomination, the GMC is not claiming to be a church just yet, pending passage of the Protocol. It should also be noted that the LMX will be different than the post-separation UMC. Thus it appears that when all is said and done, there will be at least three separate denominations formed from the remnants of the so-called United Methodist Church.

As for Faith Harbor and every other local United Methodist congregation, we will eventually need to decide which denomination we will be aligned with. It appears that any formal and binding decision cannot be made prior to General Conference which has been rescheduled for August 29-Sept. 6, 2022. In the meantime, we will continue to do what have been doing all along, being a beacon of hope, anchored in Christ, sharing God's love through joyful service.

Please pray for our denomination, for Faith Harbor, and for God's will to be done above all else.

Peace and blessings,

*Pastor David*



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**YOU ARE NOT TOO LATE TO PARTICIPATE!!**

**YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO SHOP.** See list below.

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Project Agape is turning attention to helping these internally displaced persons trying to survive in a bitter cold environment. We have been asked to help by sending much needed supplies that are very hard to find in Eastern Armenia.

**Items due at the church Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-3:00 and Wednesday March 10th from 7:00-9:00pm.**

Space is reserved in the **Harbor Warehouse** for the items to be sent to Armenia. The Thrift Store Warehouse has a specific space marked off by two large racks and signage that designates ARMENIA...AGAPE PROJECT ONLY.

This week SOMEONE entered the warehouse and used all the racks for donated items to the Thrift Store which we appreciate but not in the designated AGAPE space. IT is critical that all items for AGAPE be sealed in boxes with a listing on exterior of box as to the contents.

The designated space is to keep other donations for the Thrift Store separate.

PLEASE help us maintain separation of these two entities. The Agape Project ends March 13, 2021.

*Thanks for your help in this regard,*

*Jean Hawley and Beth Walker*

**Following is a list of items we will be collecting: (Dollar General has all these items)**

**(please strictly adhere to the instructions below)**

- Kitchen items (utensils and boxes of cookware.)
- New or nearly new in excellent condition bed linens, pillows, and blankets
- New or like-new children's clothing (up to age 16)
- New shoes, in box or with a tag (old shoes cannot be shipped)
- New socks to go with new shoes



**For questions, call Gail Widholm 910-297-2465.**

**Please wear masks, use hand sanitizer, and keep socially distant in the process of dropping off the donations.**

**\*Monetary donations will be used to buy other supplies in Armenia. Make check out to NC Conference, noting **Advance #S-00276** on the memo line and send to Conference Treasurer-Raleigh Area, PO Box 890202, Charlotte, NC 28289-0202**

**INSTRUCTIONS \*Please pack all items in the smallest box that is appropriate. List contents on the outside of the box. Pack boxes as full and tight as possible.**

## Week of 03-8-21 Scripture card

Centering Prayer: *Lord, thank you for your undeserved favor toward me.*

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 84

M Ephesians 2:4-9

T Romans 6:23

W 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

T John 1:14-17

F Deuteronomy 28:1-14

S Ruth 2:10

Key Scripture: *Romans 3:24 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*

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Again this year we will decorate with lilies and hydrangeas in the Sanctuary at Easter.

To order a lily or hydrangea send an e-mail to Judy at [secretary@faithharborumc.org](mailto:secretary@faithharborumc.org) with the person you wish to honor or



remember.

The cost is Lilly \$10 and Hydrangea \$20.

To pay, please send check, place in offering plate or do an on-line purchase. Be sure to mark your order Easter Flowers so it can be posted by the Financial Secretary to the correct fund.

*Thank you, Worship Planning Team*



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## Faith Harbor

### Spring Clean Up Time!!

We will be having a Spring Clean Up day on March 20<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am. We will be weeding flower beds, trimming trees and spreading mulch, so if you have an hour or two please consider stopping by and lending a hand!!

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#### ***The Monday Afternoon Bible Study Group returns!!!***

Come **JOIN US** on Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm for our new study. It will be "Job and the Mystery of Suffering".

The book is available on Amazon and you have plenty of time to get it ordered and delivered before our first class. Pastor Alan Sasser will lead this study.

***We will follow the safety protocols for the church like mask wearing and social distancing.***

We hope those who were a part of this group before the pandemic will return and we welcome new members to this group. See you April 5<sup>th</sup>.

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***SUNDAY, MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>*** so set those clocks **FORWARD** an hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

I will be nice to have daylight longer each day to get outside and enjoy all God gives us daily.

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## MEETINGS FOR MARCH

*Trustee Meeting March 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at the church.*

*Finance Team Meeting March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm by zoom.*

*Children's Council Meeting is March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 by zoom.*

*Leadership Council Meeting March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm by zoom*

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## JR. BASIC SCHEDULE

Dates to remember:

March 7th: Jr. BASIC Prek through 1st grade from 10:15 to 12.

March 14th: Jr. BASIC 2nd through 5th grade from 10:15 to 12.

March 27th: **Easter Egg Hunt FHUMC at 10am,**  
**more details in the next Messenger**



## A FOCUS FOR 2021...PRAYER

If you can't pray as  
you want to, pray as  
you can. God knows  
what you mean.

"Lord help me!"  
Matthew 15:25 NIV

Life's best outlook is a prayerful UPLOOK.

*Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the  
Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Sympathy** is extended to *Frank Tarbell* in the recent death of his mother who lived in Greensboro, NC. May God continue to grant peace and comfort to Frank and his family.

**Sympathy** is extended to *Judy Miller* in the recent death of her sister, Janet Bigley in PA. May she feel our prayers and gain comfort and peace through them and God's love.

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

**Members** Jim Ace, Jonathan Adams, Scott Adams, Joyce Arnette, **Clayann Binning- Praise her biopsy was negative**, Nancy Buckman, **Dawn Ellis for a quick recovery from her surgery that went well on March 4th**, Buddy and Suzanne Fussell, Diane Geary, Stephanie Hardin, Courtney Kane, Beth Kane and her father, Gail and Mike Kaufmann, Janice Long, Doug Lowry, Terri Luisi, Neal McHenry, Martha Marlow in recovery mode, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizzell, Anita Phillips, JoAnn Rivenbark, Nancy Smith, Dave Strohpaal, Kelly Wills,

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

**Friends:** Christine, Willie Arnette, Kim Audet, Peggy Barton, George Brodgen, Del Brouwer, Vicky Burge, Candie, Kathy Carlston, Cheryl, Chris Carroll, Carole and Blaine, **Children**, Chimer Clark, David, Bill Dirk and Teresa, Tobey Ferry, Jan Foster, Suzanne Fussell's mother, Jensen Gandy, J.W. Gibson, Kelly and Amy Glass, Lisa Godwin, **Grayson-Cancer**, Hugh and Melinda Harrison -covid, Judy Hoopes, Roy and Tony Horne, Janine and Rudy, Donna Johnson, Lea Jones, **Kathy-Liver Cancer**, Kelly, Kevin Kesterson, Kody, Craig Jenkins, Otis Ledford, Barbara Lee, Brenda Leonard, Lisa, A.J. Long, Logan, Loren and Martha, Doreen Luisi, Tim McCart, Sandy McVickers, Andrea (Ann) Maready, Ernie Mazzei, Ed Minnich, Michelle, Monica, Rick Nauss, Chuck Osburn, Becky and Phil Osborne, **Parents**, Pastor Stephanie, Jack Parrmar, Rose and Dick Peters, Dot Phillips, Bobby Phillip's cousin Tommy and family in death of his wife to covid, Penny, Susan Penny, Jimmy Platts, Virginia Platts, Judy Pratt, Todd Rice, Stanley and Ruby, Tania Roth, Nancy Serriano, Bear Shenemen, Katrina Seferyn, Jonathan Sloan, Roxanne Smith, Family of Patricia Sox, Stanley and Ruby, Maria Sutton, Sister Monique Schwartz, **Teachers**, Terry, Theresa, Christopher Thomas, and Bill Zell.

***And all unnamed persons needing God's peace, comfort and healing.***

***IF YOU HAVE REQUESTED PRAYERS FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE NAMED AND THEY ARE HEALED OR RECOVERED AND CAN COME OFF THE LIST PLEASE LET JUDY KNOW.***

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## **YOUTH NEWS .....**

*Hello all bAsiC Youth and Parents~*

**Sun., Mar. 7th~ Group A meets from 5-6:30pm**

\*Older HS Group

\*Older MS Group

**Sun., Mar. 14th~ Group B meets from 5-6:30pm**

\*Younger HS Group

\*Younger MS Group

**Sun., Mar. 21st~ Group A meets from 5-6:30pm**

\*Older HS Group

\*Older MS Group

**Sun., Mar. 28th~ Group B meets from 5-6:30pm**

\*Younger HS Group

\*Younger MS Group

## **Looking ahead in April ~**

\*No Youth Meetings on Sunday evening , April 4th. Enjoy Easter services and celebration with your families. **(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

\*More info. coming regarding Summer plans/events.

A few ongoing reminders about Youth Group Meetings for parents and youth~

Please have youth bring and wear their masks to each meeting.

If your youth doesn't feel well, kindly have them wait until they are better to attend their next scheduled (Group A or B) youth meeting. If you should have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

Wishing you the Peace of Christ~

Jewels Swain

FHUMC Youth Coordinator

910-232-9844



## ***MARCH BIRTHDAYS***

- 1 Alma Osborn
- 3 Alice Williams
- 6 Jake Jernigan
- 9 Kent Smith

10 Sarah Adams

11 Jewels Swain

17 Jency Paliotti

20 Debbie Sasser

21 Mike Davis

Cole Frazier

Bonnie Hunter

27 Marianne Sliwa

28 Nancy Merlino

29 Maris Jordan

Sherry Mewborn

30 Evangeline Schleinkofer