

MESSENGER DECEMBER 9, 2021

Advent Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I want to begin by expressing my deepest appreciation for the outpouring of love and support that we have received in the form of prayers, cards, calls, emails, texts, flowers and food following the death of my father, Gordon King last Sunday. While it has been a difficult time for my family, we have been uplifted and sustained by the kindness, love and generosity of our church family. The Lord has certainly used you to minister to us, and we are grateful.

We will be making plans in the next few days for a memorial service for my dad, likely just after Christmas. One of the main reasons for the delay is my positive test for COVID. I was contacted yesterday by the Onslow County Board of Health and informed that I will need to be quarantined until next Monday, the 13th. That means of course that I will have to miss yet another Sunday of worshiping in person with you, but I am grateful that Dr. Alan Sasser will be filling in to preach and Pastor Neal McHenry will help to facilitate both services this Sunday.

I will look forward to being back with you on Sunday the 19th when the choir will bless us by presenting the Christmas cantata. There will be only one service that day, at 10 AM, followed by a covered dish luncheon hosted by our hospitality team. To be able to properly prepare, the hospitality team needs to know how many to expect. During both services of worship this coming Sunday, sign-up sheets will be distributed that will allow you to indicate your plans to attend and a food dish that you might plan to bring. If you are not able to sign up this Sunday but plan to attend, please contact Kim MacDougall in the church office by Wednesday the 15th.

We will be implementing special precautions for this meal in order to try to keep everyone as safe as possible while allowing the opportunity to celebrate the season and enjoy a meaningful time of fellowship together. Next week's Messenger will provide the details of the safety practices we will put into place.

I hope to see you all soon, and I thank God for the privilege of being your pastor.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor David

Scripture Card- Week of December 13th

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."*

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS - The 2021 Advent Devotionals will be available in the narthex. **ONE PER FAMILY PLEASE**



The Hospitality Team will be hosting the Cantata Reception Sunday, December 19th. If you are planning to attend, a Sign-up Sheet will be circulated during Sunday's 9:20 service. There is also a sign-up sheet posted outside the kitchen or you can let Kim MacDougall know if you plan to attend. Please sign-up before December 15th, so that accommodations can be made prior to the event.



SAVE THE DATE!!!

Sunday, December 12th: 9:20 a.m.- Children Sing

Sunday, December 19th: 10:00 –One Service/**CHRISTMAS CANTATA** (Reception to follow)

Sunday, December 26th: 10:00 a.m.- One Service “Lessons and Carols”



The Worship Planning Team has ordered 35 poinsettias.

They will be in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 19th through Christmas Eve. If you would like to pay for one of these plants to honor or remember a loved one at Christmas, the cost 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). You may pick your plant up after the Christmas Eve service. They are on a “**first come, first serve**” bases. **Please call the office (910-328-4422) Monday – Thursday or email the information for whom you are honoring or remembering to Kim at secretary@faithharborumc.org.** The information will be put in the Messenger on December 17th and December 24th. **The deadline to provide this information is: Monday, December 13th**

MABS Update: The Monday afternoon Bible Study group will resume January 10, 2022 (2:00 – 3pm). The focus will be the Book of Revelation. Study guide/book is titled: “Revelation for Everyone” by N.T. Wright



United Methodist Women have a busy season coming up and we hope you will share with us as we work to help the Methodist Home for Children.

On December 10th and 11th, the Rainbow Circle will have a sale of craft items that they have produced this year during the time that we have been able to be together. Each item is handmade and unique! Each would make a lovely gift for Christmas or for decorating your home. We will be in the Portico area if weather permits from 10:00 - 2:30 pm each day (Inclement weather in the Narthex). This is the same time that the Harbor Thrift Store will be holding their Christmas and Toy sale in the warehouse behind church. Please come and bring a friend to look over our offerings.

On December 11 and 12th, the entire United Methodist Women group will hold a bake sale and frozen entrée sale. We will need lots of food items. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex near the kitchen window. Your delicious contributions will help make this sale a success! The women of the UMW are very grateful for the dutiful bakers who have helped with this year's bake sales. We are also grateful for the ones who have supported us by purchasing our goodies. So that our bakers get a little break, we have decided to wait until the third Thursday in January (January 20, 2022) to have our next bake sale at the Thrift Store. *Thank you for your continued support!*

HARBOR THRIFT STORE NEEDS AND NEWS

The Harbor Thrift Store continues to thrive primarily with furniture sales by Beth Walker on Market Place and brisk shopping at the store. We are blessed with generous donors, loyal customers and our volunteer staff. Our **mission contributions** to date are over **\$14,000.00** to various International, Regional, and local programs serving the needy. The primary focus of our mission contributions this year has been local: Back Pack Kid's School Supplies; Back Pack Kid's Food; Share The Table, Mercy Abounds, Keep Me Dry Diaper Program; FH Youth Ministry, Roots of Recovery, and FH Graduating Senior Scholarships.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...Harbor Thrift Store Annual Christmas Shop will be held in the Harbor Warehouse on December 10 and 11th 10:00AM - 3:00PM (CASH ONLY) We have holiday greenery, trees, wreaths, trims, etc. Plus, lots of good toys!

In Appreciation to all,
Jean Hawley
Store Manager

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS...😊

***Thursday, Dec. 9th~** We are happy to announce the return of the "Cookies, Cocoa & Caroling" event at 5:30pm. This fun outing is open to All youth, children & anyone in the congregation! We will meet at the church, munch on some goodies & head out to sing Christmas Carols. Be sure to wear your most festive attire and be ready to share the Joy of the Season!

***Sunday, Dec. 12th~** This will be our Youth Sunday for the month of Dec. at the 9:20am service. Please let me know if your youth can volunteer to help with any of the following: Scripture Reader- need 1, Greeter- need 2 or 3, Ushers- need 2 to 4, Assist in Children's classrooms- need 2.

That evening- Regular youth group meeting for HIGH SCHOOL Sub groups (10th Graders & all Other HS youth) from 5-6:30pm in The Reef. Christmas Party & activities!

***Sunday, Dec. 19th~** Possible Youth Christmas outing (depending on interest and participation- TBD)

***Sunday, Dec. 26th** and Sunday, Jan. 2nd, 2022~ No regular youth group meetings due to Christmas Holiday school break.

Regular Youth group meetings to resume for the New Year on Sunday, Jan. 9th, 2022.

Peace & Grace,
Jewels Swain
FHUMC Youth Coordinator, (910)232-9844



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS....

Due to Covid protocols, we are asking that children ages 4 and older wear masks when in the children's classrooms.

Important Dates:

December 9th: Cocoa, Cookies and Caroling – 5:30pm

December 12th: Children's music performance

Children read and light Advent candle.

Dec. 12th: Jr. BASIC Christmas party after church.

Dec. 19th: Christmas Cantata. Church starts at 10am.

There will be no children's church for 1st-5th grade.

Dec. 24th- Christmas Eve Services 5pm & 7pm.

From the Finance Team:

Nov. Giving: \$ 29,208.44

YTD giving: \$ 371,197.95

YTD budget: \$ 386,947.00

Thank you for your continued support

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

God's peace is available in ordinary moments.

May the Lord answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

~Psalm 20:1 (NIV)



Members: Pastor David and family; Joyce Arnette, Judy Beck, Nancy Buckman, Doris Davis, Lanae Fowler, Suzanne Fussell; Diane Geary, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizell, Bob Patterson, Diane Secary, Paula Smith, Jill Strohpaull, Linda Wells, Gail Widholm, and John Wilson.

Military: Joe Fraley, Andy Harrison, Sgt. Joey Horne, John Modlin, Branden Mooney, Tyler Ray, Anthony Ripley, David Ritz, Alex Harris.

Family and Friends: Paul Edward Arnette; Curtis Campbell; Johnny Carter; *Tommy Clemmons*; Mike Commee; Grayson Cooney; Eli Hardin; Margaux and Emma; *Sarah Kilpatrick*; RoyThomas Horne; Shirley Paul; Teresa Sanderson; Bob Starr and family; Nancy Serrano; *Mark Wansley*; Leo Wolfe

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

With the dawning of each new day, we need courage to take each new step in our walk of faith.

Dear Lord, help us to quiet the chaos in our minds so that we can take the time to hear your voice, accept it, and put into practice what you tell us. Amen.



December

BIRTHDAYS

1 - Kelly Byrd
Wilson Jones

3 - Marion Shade

4 - Hayden Arnold
Leslie Jones
Neal McHenry

5 - Liam Lozano

6 - Sherry Sliwa

7 - Sam Snyder

8 - Jo Ann Rivenbark
Savanah Paliotti

9 – Bill Widholm

10 – Melanie Greene
Carl Ward

13 – Britney Lozano
Donald Mizelle

14 – Sandi Lowry
Doug Mewborn

15 – Harriet Rice

16 – Judy Paliotti
Kenny Burgess

17 – David Henry

21 – Robert Barnes
Sonya Burgess

25 – Alex Harris

26 – Alexis Medlin Passingham

29 – Jill Strohpaal

31 – Gerard Colman
Perry Chase Smith

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC

Sunday 12/12 Third Sunday of Advent

UMW Bake Sale/Frozen Entrée Sale

8:00 Communion Service in Sanctuary

9:20 Worship Sanctuary– Children Christmas Concert

11:15 Jr. Basic Christmas Party

5:00 Youth Group “B” (HS) Christmas Party in Reef

Monday 12/13

No Classes

Tuesday 12/14

No Classes

7:00 Women’s AA Group in Reef

Friday 12/17

8:30 Women’s Breakfast

Wednesday 12/15

7:00 Cantata Practice

7:45 Choir Practice

Sunday 12/19 Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 Christmas Cantata

11:30 Cantata Reception

Thursday: 12/16

12:00 AA Meeting, Rm. 6

5:00 GS Troop 2424