



Matthew 20.1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard."

The Lord is getting laborers for the vineyard. And this gathering of laborers will involve work – there is no way around it. If you are following Jesus – he will put you to work. He doesn't offer a retirement plan – for we all have work to do. We are being anchored in Christ – and as we are anchored, we are learning things from Jesus and seeking to follow the Holy Spirit. This year is a time of pedagogy and

it will involve prayer, working, and eating. What an honor it is that God finds us useful for Kingdom work – just like the laborers that are hired in the vineyard (Matthew 20.1-16). God has given us each other to labor with, and to find our identity in the one who has called us and equipped us for this work.

This Saturday at 9am we are gathering as a church to do work. We will be working in God's vineyard, so as to create and maintain spaces where people will grow in their faith, pray together, read scripture, serve on mission, and eat good food. You are invited to come and help on this church wide workday. There will be work for everyone – in other words – all ages – in other words, that includes you. We will be taking apart the swing set, cooking lunch, straightening up our construction project, picking up sticks, building a purple martin house, fixing floors, running drain lines, building gutters, and cutting bushes. If you have tools that would be useful for these things above, please bring them. There is always a need for more workers (reference Matthew 20.6).

The Lord is gathering us up to be laborers in God's vineyard, and part of that gathering is for us to be trained in the school for the Lord's service. If you would like to learn more about this time of pedagogy – feel free to reach out to me. We can get coffee and discern together what the Holy Spirit is up to here in Surf City. 910.524.5676 ~Philip Chryst

### **Sunday Scriptures**

2/12/23 Isaiah 62:1-5 2/19/23 Isaiah 65:17-25 2/22/23 Ash Wednesday

## A Letter from your Lay Leader...



Well, what can I say... I did it again. I am so glad I am a part of a forgiving church family. Last Thursday morning I had a procedure. Once I was ready to go home after the procedure, I was informed by the nursing staff NOT to sign any important papers, among a list of other things I shouldn't do. I should just go home and rest.

Well, I got home but instead of resting I decided to type up my letter so I could get it in the messenger. I typed the letter, I proofread it a few times, I was then satisfied with it and sent it

off. I then took a well needed nap. By the time I woke up the messenger email was out, so I pulled it up to read all the wonderful things going on at Faith Harbor. I got to the "Letter from your Lay Leader" and to my astonishment I saw a word out of place, and not just once but 3 times! Oh my... when will I learn?

I am sure you all know what I meant, that I abstain from food during a fast, not sustain from food.

You know what is even better than being forgiven by those you love? Is being forgiven by our heavenly Father. He knows all about our shortcomings, from using an incorrect word in a letter, to worshiping other gods. There is nothing you can hide from the Lord. But He still loves you and wants to forgive you.

You can see it in His love for the Israelites throughout the Old Testament. Time and time again they fall away from God. And time and time again the LORD would forgive them when they called upon His name. He does the same for us now. When we turn from our sin He forgives us and loves us. I love how God tells Jerusalem through Isaiah in our Scripture passage for Sunday "You shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give you." 62:2b and then goes on to say. "You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight is in Her. And your land Married for the LORD delights in you." Isaiah 62:3-4 ESV

The LORD delights in His people. At the end of verse 5 "your God rejoice over you." Scripture has not changed. God delights in His people, He rejoices over you. This in itself should give you strength to endure and know, no matter how big or how little your sin, if you would just call on the Lord He would forgive you. He will never stop loving you.

Loving you Always, Your sister in Christ

Jessica Blackburn, lay leader

Please join us in the Sanctuary for open prayer every Monday, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

All are welcome!



WELCOME TABLE:

February 12th: Debbie Sasser & Sandy Wise

From the Finance Team:

January Giving-

General Funds \$9525.93 Children's Ministry \$250 Youth Ministry \$560 Mercy Abounds \$25 Share the Table \$25 Methodist Home for the Children \$50

The Quilting Mission is growing! We will now be meeting on Monday and Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. Please join us...no experience necessary. All are welcome! Any questions, feel free to call Alma at (540) 588-0738.

## Save the Date!

Faith Harbor Men's Group will be serving breakfast this Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Please join us...bring a friend!



We are going to have a church workday on Saturday, February 11th at 9am.

"Many hands make light work."

Attention: The Lent zoom series "Connections & Reflections… Faith & Hope & Love" has been canceled.



# Save the Date! You won't want to miss out.

Please join us Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. for Children's Story Time!



## **UWF NEWS & UPDATES**



The "Keep Me Dry" diaper program is a mission of the Harbor Thrift Store and supported by United Methodist Women. It is housed at Share the Table where clients can pick up a package of 20 diapers per week to supplement their babies' diaper needs. Studies have shown that 1 out of 3 families experience diaper shortages and our area is no exception. As you are able, please consider donating diapers or a monetary gift. There is a play pen for collection next to the front door as you enter our church. **We are especially in need of size 5 and 6.** 

Thank you for your continued support and God's blessings as we care for the smallest ones in our community.

Reminder: Donations for the thrift store should always come through the Harbor Warehouse. When dropping off, please call ahead. *Thank you for your support!* 

Jean Hawley: (910) 330-0760 Beth Walker: (252) 213-2240 Gloria Richardson: (704) 804-4909 Sylvia Bowman: (910) 284-3131



#### \*Sun., Feb. 12th~

This will be our <u>Youth Sunday of the month</u> where youth serve at the 9:30am Service. \*Please let me know if your youth can assist in any of these ways, Greeters, Doorman, Ushers, Readers, Children's classroom helpers. Thank you!
 Confirmation Candidates & Sponsors meet at 12 for a meet and greet time of fellowship
 It's back- <u>Youth Superbowl Party! Time is from 6pm- 8:30pm (about half time).</u> This event is in lieu of our regular youth meetings. The Holmes family will host this at their home. Address is: 116 Roughleaf Trail in Dogwood Lakes Subdivision. Please plan to bring an Appetizer or Finger food to share & let Jewels know if you plan to attend, thanks!

#### \*Sun., Feb. 19th~

Regular Youth group meetings for MS & HS in the Reef and Library from 5-6:30pm

#### \*Tues., Feb. 21st~

<u>Annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper youth fundraiser at 6pm!!</u> Parents- we need most of the <u>youth here by 5pm</u> to help set up and start cooking up some pancakes! If they can't come by 5pm because of a schedule conflict, then some can come at 6pm and eat & be on the clean-up crew. This is a favorite supper enjoyed by everyone. We will serve pancakes, bacon, sausage, and fruit. \*Parents- if you can help, please let me know- I will need 1 or 2 parent helpers for this event.

#### \*Wed., Feb. 22nd~

Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm. Hope everyone can plan to attend this special service.

#### \*Sun., Feb. 26th~

Missional activities for MS & HS youth. Time/Location tba. Will get back with everyone on specifics. Confirmation Class to begin during regular youth group time of 5-6:30pm in Classroom #1.

\*\*Important News/Other Info.~ Spring Spiritual Retreat is set for Fri., Mar. 17th- Sun. Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> at Camp Don Lee in Arapahoe, NC. This will be a time to grow in our knowledge of Jesus Christ and enjoy this beautiful camp together! This retreat is open to ALL bAsiC youth members 6th-12<sup>th</sup> graders. Confirmands will also be on this retreat, but the break out sessions will be different for those youth. Everyone will get some free time to Kayak, Sail, Hike and explore the camp over the weekend, Camp staff will assist with certain activities. <u>\*Cost is only \$50 per youth (due by Feb. 15th)</u>, the rest is covered by the church. If you wish to attend, please contact Jewels asap for more information. We are looking forward to this new event!

As always, we thank you for your continued prayers and support as we seek to assist your youth on their spiritual journey. Feel free to contact me should you need further information about anything listed here.

Peace be with you, Jewels Swain Youth Coordinator 910-232-9844

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS...**



Please join us every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for Children's Story Time! Tell a friend, bring a friend!

Jr. Basic is in need of parent volunteers to help with preparing and cleaning up for lunch time. Please check let me know if you can help with one of the dates listed below. All food will be provided. Volunteers will be asked to heat up and prepare simple food items (Chicken nuggets, fresh fruit...) and cleanup after. Thank you!

#### February

Feb 12th: Jr. Basic, pick up 12:30 – Valentine's Day Celebration Feb 21<sup>st</sup>: Annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper Youth Fundraiser – 6:00 pm Feb 26th: Jr. Basic, pick up 12:30 possible outing to Woodbury

#### March

March 12th: Jr. Basic, pick up 12:30 March 26th: Jr. Basic, pick up 12:30

#### A look ahead:

Vacation Bible School June 26th-29th. 5:30 - 8:30pm. Dinner will be served!

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

There is always something new to learn in the life of faith.

God guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. ~Psalm 25:9 (NIV)



**Members**: Joyce Arnette, Nancy Buckman, Harriet Byrd; *Connie* & Frank Carroll; Doris & Mike Davis; Patti Feige; Diane Geary; Stephanie Hardin; *Tom Jackson; Janice Long;* Martha Marlow; Kim McCloskey and family; *Tony Merlino*; Larry & Becki Modlin; Judy Pratt; Dave & Jill Strohpaul

**Military:** Joe Fraley, Alex Harris, Andy Harrison, Ryan Hermance; Greg Holmes; Sgt. Joey Horne; John Modlin, Branden Mooney, Tyler Ray, David Ritz, Michael Roberson.

**Family and Friends**: Jim and Barbara Armstrong: Donna Carter and family; Judy Grubbs Cordts; Jerry Douglas; John Durnil; Stan Druzeck; Barbara Drye and family; Eileen Eifert (John Pratt's sister); Parker Fox; the Gore family; Susan Grice; Lori Herring; the family of Paul Holland; *Meghan Jordan and family;* Nathaniel Lewis: Barbara Mills; Virginia (and Jimmy Platts); Johnny Paliotti and his mother Donna; Reverend Sheverlon Powell and family (Bescye Burnett's sister); *Ray Rummel*; Marilyn (Sandy Sly's Sister)

Website Prayer Requests: Lorraine Chavez; Betty Parrish, Mylinda Paschal & Tetsuo Nakatsu

And all unnamed persons needing God's peace, comfort, and healing. Heavenly Father, I am praying for complete healing and good health. Please take away my worries & grant me inner peace and strength. AMEN

#### SCRIPTURE CARD- Week of February 13th

Centering Prayer: I will praise you with an upright heart. Psalm 119 M Genesis 4.1-25, Mark 8.11-13 Tu Genesis 6.5-8, Mark 8.22-26 W Genesis 8.6-22, Mark 8.22-26 Th Genesis 9.1-13, Mark 8.27-33 F Genesis 11.1-9, Mark 8.34-9.1 Sa Genesis 11.10-26, Mark 9.2-13 Su Leviticus 19.1-18, I Corinthians 3.16-23, Matthew 5.38-48 Key scripture: I Corinthians 3.18: "Do not deceive yourselves. If you think that you are wise in this age, you should become fools so that you may become wise."



# **FEBRUARY**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	James Dixon
4 <sup>th</sup>	Payton Rice
5 <sup>th</sup>	Judy Miller
8 <sup>th</sup>	Jameela Kerr
9 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Graziano
10 <sup>th</sup>	Sophie Albertson; Anita Phillips; Cecilia Watson
12 <sup>th</sup>	Samuel Kerr
17 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Hopper; Laura Frazier; Dawn Ellis
<b>20</b> <sup>th</sup>	Grace Holmes
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucille Horrell; Suzanne Fussell; Tom Fisher
24 <sup>th</sup>	Lisa Colman
<b>27</b> <sup>th</sup>	Avery Harrison

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC

#### Sunday, 2/12- Youth Sunday

8:00 Communion Service
9:30 Worship Service
10:30 JR Basic Valentine Celebration
10:30 Adult Bible Study, Rm. 6
6 – 8:30p.m. Youth Superbowl Party

#### Monday, 2/13

7:30 Open Prayer 9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6 3:00 Bible Study, Rm. 6 6:30 Cub Scouts

#### Tuesday, 2/14

9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6 10:00 Story Time 6:00p.m. MDT

#### Wednesday, 2/15

9:30 Communion6:30p.m. GS Troop #42427:00p.m. Easter Music/7:30 Choir7:00p.m. Boy Scouts/Reef

**Thursday, 2/16** 12:00 AA Group 6:00p.m. GS Troop #2424

Friday, 2/17 8:30 Women's Breakfast Group, Rm. 6

Saturday, 2/18 9:00 – 2:00p.m. Scouts Pinewood Derby

Sunday, 2/19 8:00 Communion Service 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Adult Bible Study, Rm. 6 5:00p.m. MS/HS Youth Group