

MESSENGER FEBRUARY 19,2021

Lenten Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By the time you read this it will be no earlier than the third day of the 40-day season of Lent, but it is certainly not too late to observe Lent in a number of ways. First of all, I hope that many of you have been able to either download the Discipleship Band app or pick up a copy of the book "Listen to Him" that we are using for our Lenten study. A few copies of the book are still available at the church. Please let me know if you need one.

Additionally, if you have been thinking about something to either give up or take on during Lent, but you haven't decided, below is a list of 40 suggestions that our Lay Leader Jessica Blackburn sent to me. Whatever we might decide upon, I pray that Lent will be a time for each of us to grow closer to the Lord and to a greater realization of God's love for each of us.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor David

40 Suggestions for Lent

- 1) Give up television and internet for one day
- 2) Genuinely compliment someone who isn't expecting it
- 3) Donate a bag of food to Share The Table
- 4) Pray for good things for someone who has been unkind to you
- 5) Visit an elderly friend or relative who doesn't get many visitors
- 6) Make homemade pretzels, a traditional Lenten food
- 7) Make an almsgiving box and collect change throughout Lent to donate at the end Lent
- 8) Plan a simple meal and talk as a family about how to help the hungry
- 9) Do a craft, piece of art, or creative project that glorifies the Lord
- 10) Ask for forgiveness from someone you have wronged
- 11) Light a candle at church and pray for someone in your life
- 12) Volunteer some of your time to help at church, school, or home
- 13) Clean up a mess that somebody else made (without complaining)
- 14) Memorize a prayer that you don't already know by heart
- 15) Surprise someone by doing a task or chore that they normally do

- 16) Donate a bag of things that are still nice, but that you don't use anymore
- 17) Thank someone who has been a good influence in your life
- 18) Read a Christian book individually or as a family
- 19) Listen to Christian music while doing a task you have been putting off
- 20) Pray for world political and religious leaders
- 21) Do something healthy to take care of the body God gave you
- 22) Clear your mind of other things and sit quietly with God
- 23) Do something to help the Earth
- 24) Watch a religious movie together as a family
- 25) Give up sweets and other snacks for a day
- 26) Read one book of the Bible
- 27) Do a foot washing with your family members
- 28) Surprise someone with a handmade gift
- 29) Do something to make this Lenten season better for someone who needs it
- 30) Pray for peace in your community and in the world
- 31) Eat a vegetarian or vegan diet for one day (or longer)
- 32) Give up complaining for a whole day (or longer)
- 33) Write down 20 things that you are thankful for
- 34) Do something to help someone who is ill
- 35) Encourage someone who is struggling or someone who has been working on a difficult task
- 36) Take a walk and spend time observing the beauty and miracles of God's creation
- 37) Attend an activity or Bible study at church during the week
- 38) Clear 40 things out of your home that you no longer need
- 39) Spend a week reading one of the Gospels in the New Testament
- 40) Spend a day trying to think only of others and doing things that will make their lives better

Week of 02-22-21 Scripture card

Centering Prayer: *Lord, help me to be a believer with integrity.*

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 41

M 2 Corinthians 8:21

T 1 Peter 3:13-17

W Hebrews 13:18

T Proverbs 11:3

F Philippians 4:8

S Isaiah 26:7

Key Scripture: *Proverbs 11:3a: The integrity of the upright guides them.*



Dear Faith Harbor Family

Buddy and I would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your Prayers, Uplifting Phone Calls, Texts and Delicious Meals prepared and delivered to us in Christian Love during Buddy's battle with Covid Pneumonia.

In sickness everyday may not be Good but there is some Good in every day. We know Friends are a gift and we so love all of you and so blessed to be a part of our Faith Harbor Family.

We both look forward to giving back and obey what Jesus said "Love Your Neighbor" and we are all Neighbors when we are willing to cross the road for one another no matter where we may live.

Thank you so much and reach out to someone today and tell them you love them.

In Christian Love,

Suzanne and Buddy Fussell



Members of Faith Harbor,

I am writing to thank all the members of Faith Harbor for your thoughts and prayers during my recent illness. Even though I do not attend your church or know any of you, yet you prayed for me. What a true example of God's love! Faith Harbor UMC is such a blessing to me and my brother, Tom Bradford. It gives me such peace and comfort to know he has such a caring church family. I am continuing to heal and gain strength every day. Now that I'm better, I will be praying for Faith Harbor to continue to be a blessing to others.

Much Love,

Vicki Burge

January 2021 Finance Report and Year to Date Totals

January Contributions	\$ 37203.52	(5 Sundays)
Year to date Contributions	\$37203.52	
Year to Date Budget	\$35176.68	

A FOCUS FOR 2021...PRAYER

The best way to remember people is in prayer.

*Keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere.
Ephesians 6:18*

Prayer is a conversation with God.

The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him sincerely and in truth. Psalm 145:18

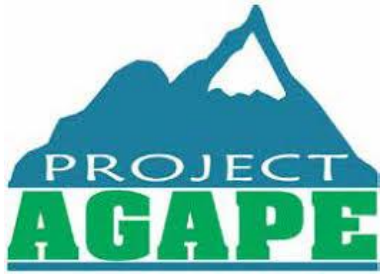


Luisi, Neal McHenry, Martha Marlow-surgery went well, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizzell, Anita Phillips, JoAnn Rivenbark, Nancy Smith, Dave Strohpaal, Kelly Wills,

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, Kathy Clapp, David, Bill Dirk and Teresa, Tobey Ferry, Jan Foster, Suzanne Fussell's mother, Jensen Gandy, J.W. Gibson, Kelly and Amy Glass, Lisa Godwin, Hugh and Melinda Harrison -covid, Judy Hoopes, Roy and Tony Horne, Janine and Rudy, Donna Johnson, Lea Jones, 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 Schwirtz, **Teachers,** Terry, Theresa, Christopher Thomas, and Bill Zell.

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



For 26 years, our Conference has supported vulnerable persons in **Armenia**.

After the most recent military conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Project Agape was forced to shut down its operations. Many of the families we have helped over the years were forced to abandon their property.

Project Agape is now turning our 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.

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 are very much appreciated)
- 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



Collection days will be **Saturdays from 12-3** and **Wednesdays from 7-9** in the Harbor warehouse at the church starting **February 27th - March 13th**.

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.

THRIFT STORE WAREHOUSE APPEAL (ARMENIA AGAPE PROJECT)

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 See next page for monetary donations for AGAPE.

*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.



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 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



We are glad to welcome some new members to our Faith Harbor Family.

Doug and Brenda Munjas who have been attending Faith Harbor for several years have transferred their membership from Aldergate UMC in Shelby, NC.

Gerry, Lisa and Bridget Coleman have joined by transfer from North Carroll Cooperative Parish UMC in Hampstead, MD. They live in Sneads Ferry, NC.

Information on these families is in our Life Touch Mobile Directory.

YOUTH NEWS

Hello all bAsiC youth parents~

Hope this message finds you and yours doing well lately. Happy February! 😊 Please see below for information on Youth meetings for the month of February:

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

*Older HS Group

*Older MS Group

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

*Younger HS Group

*Younger MS Group

***Important Local Missions Opportunity~**

In the month of January as a Youth group through our lessons, we have been talking about how individually and as a group we can look at this new year of 2021 more intentionally. With that in mind, we've decided that for each month we would focus on a different spiritual endeavor (for ourselves and for other's in our community or who God may put in our paths). For example, for the month of February we will focus on "Spreading Love & Compassion" and ways we can do this. The youth have had some awesome and creative ideas about the focus for each month and ways we can live out our faith in action. They are quite open to the Spirit of God in our midst, they inspire me! Stay tuned for future news about some of their ideas in the months to come.

For starters, through brainstorming and sharing as a group, we've come up with a local Mission project which our youth have named "**The Gallon Project**" that we will be spearheading for the next several months. As a group, we will purchase and assemble gallon size baggies full of "essential care items" for the homeless. The group came up with a list of useful items to fill the bags up with. I know you may be thinking- how will we distribute these bags? That's where us adults come in. Once we have the bags assembled and ready, any adult/parent that wants to take a few bags to put in their car to hand out to the homeless or needy- please let us know. I don't know about you, but in my local travels to Wilmington, Jacksonville, Hampstead and in the surrounding areas- I see quite a few homeless people needing or asking for help. Having these bags ready and available in our vehicles can allow us to be prepared to help those individuals on the spot. We decided we would start out by making 20 Bags up and go

from there. We will have them available after Youth Group on Feb. 14th and ready for pickup for any parent/adult who is interested in participating in handing these out. *Also, if there are any other church members who would like to be a part of this, please feel free to contact me directly. The scripture that comes to mind is~

Matthew 25:40 NIV "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' ♡ The youth, leaders and I are very excited about this new opportunity to show love and compassion to some of the "least of these" in our local areas of reach! Thank you in advance for your support.

A few ongoing reminders about Youth Group Meetings for parents/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.

In His Service~
Jewels Swain
FHUMC Youth Coordinator
910-232-9844

FEBRUARY



20	Grace Holmes
22	Tom Fisher Suzanne Fussell Lucy Horrell
24	Lisa Colman
26	Jamie Jernigan
27	Avery Joy Harrison
28	John Cain

MARCH BIRTHDAYS WILL BE IN THE MESSENGER NEXT FRIDAY.