

MESSENGER AUGUST 20, 2021

Dear Friends,

I am writing to share the news that our beloved church secretary Judy Clemmons plans to retire by October 10th, which will mark the completion of 12 years of faithfully serving here at Faith Harbor. This is sad news for us, yet we are happy and excited for Judy as she prepares to enter this new phase of life.

We will be sure to inform you of opportunities to celebrate Judy's years of service to us and to honor her as she leaves us. In the meantime, our church Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee will be conducting an outside search for Judy's replacement (not that she can be replaced!). Please keep Judy and this search process in your prayers.

Grace and peace,
Pastor David

The following message is for those who may have missed Pastor David's email earlier this week announcing a return to requiring masks for our indoor worship services:

Dear Friends,

I am writing with an important announcement, and I thought I would begin with a few background facts:

1. Like many of you, I very much dislike being required to wear a mask in any setting.
2. Like some of you, I am not at all worried about the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.
3. While extraordinarily rare "breakthroughs" have happened even in our own church family, only 0.1% of COVID-19 cases reported this year in the vast majority of the United States have occurred in persons who have been fully vaccinated (see the excerpt below from an article in Tuesday's Wall Street Journal). In other words, if you get the vaccine, it is extremely unlikely that you will get COVID-19, and if you do get it after having been vaccinated, your symptoms are likely to be comparatively mild.
4. At least in part because 1, 2 and 3 are true, I have chosen like many of you to get fully vaccinated.
5. Like many of you, I believe no one should be compelled or forced to get vaccinated.
6. However, at least in part because 1, 2 and 3 are true, I really wish that everyone who is eligible to get the vaccine would get vaccinated.
7. Although I got vaccinated at least in part so that we could all be done with wearing masks, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recently made the following recommendation for those who have been fully vaccinated: *To reduce the risk of being infected with the Delta variant and possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of [substantial or high transmission](#).*
8. The entire state of North Carolina is considered to be in an area of high transmission.
9. **Most importantly**, I strongly believe we need to do all we can to protect those who are not eligible to receive the vaccine; namely, children under the age of 12.

10. This Sunday, we are inviting the children in our congregation to bring their backpacks forward for a blessing as the new school year begins. Those children and their parents need to know that their safety and protection is of the utmost importance to us, this Sunday and always.

In prayerful consideration of all the above and in consultation with others, I have determined that **beginning with this coming Sunday, August 22nd, it is necessary to return to the mask requirement for all who attend our indoor worship services.** I pray that this requirement will be short-lived. The mask requirement will be optional for those in the chancel (stage) area who have speaking or singing roles. We will re-evaluate this situation soon and often. Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated. Please pray that a vaccine will soon be approved and available for young children, and that God will bring an end to this pandemic soon.

May God bless us and keep us safe.

Pastor David

The [Delta variant](#) of the Covid-19 virus appears to be breaking through the protection vaccines provide at a higher rate than previous strains, a Wall Street Journal analysis found, though infections among the fully inoculated remain a tiny fraction of overall cases, and symptoms tend to be milder. U.S. states counted at least 193,204 so-called [breakthrough cases among vaccinated people](#) between Jan. 1 and early August, according to data that health departments in 44 states and Washington, D.C., provided to the Journal. The figure represents 0.1% of the more than 136 million fully vaccinated people in those states and the capital. (Wall Street Journal, Robbie Whelan and Jared S. Hopkins, August 17, 2021)

Scripture Card August 23, 2021

Centering Prayer: O God, give me strength to withstand evil.

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 121

M Isaiah 41:8-10
T Exodus 15:1-2
W Joshua 1:6-9
T 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3
F Ephesians 6:10-13
S 2 Chronicles 20:17

Key Scripture: *Luke 21:19 Stand firm, and you will win life. (NIV)*

ATTENTION, ATTENTION - The **CPR CLASS** will be **Sept 18 at 9:00 AM.**

The class will be 2 1/2 hours.

It will be taught at Faith Harbor. We will be CPR certified. Anyone interested in taking the class please contact Faye Decatur @ 910 612-5486 or Sandy Sly @910 340 5577. Those who have contacted us already, we have your names.

This is to also learn how to use the Defibrillator.

TEACHERS AT FAITH HARBOR- Our school supply drive was so successful this year thanks to the generosity of our members. We have supplies left over after packing 71 back packs for the kids in our MUNCH program.

TEACHERS we invite you to take some of these extra supplies for your classroom for any child who may need some of the items. They will be on a table in the narthex on Sunday.

SEE PHOTOS AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER THAT REFLECTS THE OVERWHELMING SUCCESS OF THIS SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO MAKE THIS UMW OUTREACH MINISTRY A SUCCESS!



FROZEN ENTRÉE AND BAKE SALE

The United Methodist Women of Faith Harbor, tentatively plan to sell our frozen entrées and bake goods **after the 8:00 and 9:20 service on Sunday, September 12th.**



Please consider supporting us in this mission by both your purchases and your willingness to prepare frozen entrees or bake goods. A SIGN-UP SHEET is posted on the bulletin board beside the serving window of the kitchen. If you are not currently attending services due to covid concerns please e-mail Bonnie Hunter at bennettandbonnie@yahoo.com.

All proceeds from these sales support the UMW Missions, in particular The Methodist Home for Children.

Thank you for your support of the UMW and the Mission Projects we support.

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING will be held after the 9:20 service on **August 29th**. If interested in taking this training please attend on the 29th.

Any questions contact Melissa Schleinkofer, Children's Ministry Director



Our three year commitment to ZOE is over.

Due to Covid we did not meet our goal.

However, those of us who are giving through automatic deposit are still supporting this ministry. Please consider this worthy group.

Any questions contact Dale Osborn at odaledo36@gmail.com

**Courage Empowerment Group,
Malawi Partnered with Faith Harbor UMC, May 2018 – April 2021
GRADUATION REPORT**

Graduation marks an important milestone for a Zoe Empowers group, but it is by no means the end of the project. In addition to the individual accomplishments which will sustain them into the future, Zoe groups have forged such strong bonds during their three years in the program that they remain committed to each other and, in the great majority of cases, continue their regular weekly meetings. These young people have come to see themselves as the agents of change in their own lives and their community and now no longer need Zoe's interventions.

Zoe keeps in contact with many graduated members and has observed that the graduates continue to:

- Protect each other from mistreatment and provide a safety net in times of hardship.
- Reach out to others, teaching what they have learned and helping empower the poor and vulnerable.
- Grow businesses and employ others, with an emphasis on hiring orphans and widows.
- Adopt other children into their families.

Your partnership has been a manifestation of God's love for the children. With your support they transformed their lives, discovered hope, and learned of God's love for them. Now they are not only prepared to take care of themselves and their siblings, they are caring for those around them as a way of sharing the blessings they have received. Your commitment may have been limited to three years for a specific group of children, but its effects will last a lifetime and ripple forward to others in need

The full report is available if you wish to read it. Contact Judy at secretary@faithharborumc.org and she can e-mail a copy to you.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS.. 😊

Hello all parents of 6th Graders! 😊

This school year, if there is enough interest- we will be offering a **Confirmation Class** for youth age 6th grade and on up (if they haven't already been confirmed).

It would run from about mid-September 2021 through mid-March 2022 with a break over the holidays. These are approximate dates. Typically, the class meets 2 Sunday evenings per month.

*****If you are interested in your youth participating, please contact the church office or Pastor David or myself directly as soon as possible.*** Once we know we have enough to hold a class, we will set up a parent/confirmand informational session with more detailed information. We look forward to hearing from you all soon!

Peace friends,
Jewels Swain
Youth Coordinator
910-232-9844
Church Office 910-328-4422

***Save the Date.....**

We are planning to have our **bAsiC Youth Kick-off** event on

Sunday afternoon, August 29th at Sound Side Park in Surf City.

We will have 1 or 2 of the Shelters reserved there for our group. More detailed information will be sent out to the parents next week.

Thank you! 😊
Jewels Swain
Youth Coordinator

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS.....

ALL IMPORTANT.....

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Back to school is approaching remember **on August 22nd** we will have children's church for all ages Elementary school and under.

- We will also be celebrating with a **backpack blessing** and a back to school kick off during that time....**back to school party, yay!**
- Please have your child bring their school backpack this day and place them on the steps in the front of the sanctuary to be blessed.
- We will celebrate our kick off party during church service in children's classrooms.

Children's Church

will resume for all ages on **Sept 12th** and continue with Children's church offered for all elementary school ages and under every Sunday.

Jr. Basic

will also be resuming in September.
Sept 12th and Sept 26th will be Jr. Basic dates for Kindergarten through 5th grades.

Due to a rise in Covid 19 cases in Pender and surrounding counties we are asking that children ages 4 and older wear masks when in children's classrooms. I have extra masks available for children that may need them.

We will have Nursery (infant to 2 years old) and 3 through Kindergarten classrooms open for the remainder of the month of August.

Schedule of dates:

Aug 22nd: Children's church for all ages Elementary and under/Backpack blessing/Back to school party during church service.

Aug 29th: Safe Sanctuary training after church

Sept. 12th: Children's Church resumes every Sunday/Jr. Basic. Pick up at 12:30.

Sept 26th: Jr. Basic. Pick up at 12:30.

A FOCUS FOR 2021...PRAYER

Do not face a day until you have faced God.

O God....early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is Psalm 63



Members: Jonathan Adams, Scott Adams, Joyce Arnette, Nancy Buckman, Harriet Byrd, Lisa Bryd, Connie Carroll, Danny Fisher, Diane Geary, The Glass Family, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizzell, Bill Moore, Bob Patterson-cancer, Jill Strohpaull, and John Wilson.

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

Friends: Paul Arnette, Elizabeth Blair, Danny and Pam Brock-covid, Del Brouwer, Vicky Burge, Marcus Burnett, Candie, **Curtis Campbell - surgery**, Kathy Carlston, Cheryl, **Chris, Sam Snyder's brother-recovering from surgery, and Sam's Missouri Family**, Chris Carroll, Carole and Blaine, **Children**, David, Debra and Jonathan, Wes Dunbar, Mary Pharr Erickson, cancer and husband Jae ,Beverly Foley, Jan Foster, Sybil Gandy, J.W. Gibson, Kelly and Amy Glass, Grayson-Cancer, **Ann Grant-cancer**, Tara Hall, Grandmother Sue Heavner, Jewel's grandmother, Craig **James Ervin Horne**, Jenkins, Janine and Rudy, Donna Johnson, Kathy-LiverCancer, Tammy and Nick Kefallinos-covid, Kelly, Janet Durman Kokran, Butch Knight-covid, Paulette Kisner, Lisa, A.J. Long, Logan, Loren, Tim McCart, Margie-breast cancer, Ed Minnich, Kaleb Mungas, Rick Nauss, Ruth, Brenda Munjas' mother, Ruth Nordquist , Chuck Osburn, **Parents**, Dot Phillips, Penny, Jimmy Platts, Virginia Platts, Judy Pratt, Sharon Ray, Todd Rice, Tessa Rogers, Tania Roth, Katrina Seferyn, Skip and Marcia, , Roxanne Smith, Stanley and Ruby, Maria Sutton, **Teachers**, Terry, Theresa, Christopher Thomas, Dorothy Ward, and Bill Zell.

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



20 Lois Snyder
22 Karter Duddy
26 Cale Horne
Connie Kane
Patsy Mathews
28 Willie Bryan
29 Elethia Osborn
April Shannon
30 Clayann Binning
Sharon Jordan

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS ON NEXT PAGE



- | | | |
|----|----------------------|--|
| 1 | Dana Byrd | <i>If your name should be on here and is not</i> |
| 2 | Mary Sheffield | <i>let me know and I will add it next week.</i> |
| 3 | Ray Blackburn | |
| 6 | Sandy Wise | |
| 8 | Lance Jordan | |
| 10 | Malia Osborn | |
| 14 | Hazel Mae Passingham | |
| 16 | Bill Feige | |
| | Pat Byrd | |
| | Jackson Sliwa | |
| 17 | Palmer Rice | 24 Frances Moore |
| 18 | Jimmy Platts | 26 Will Moore |
| | Mary Lynn Wood | 27 Angie Jernigan |
| 19 | Missy Carswell | Ava Barnes |
| 20 | Arness Krause | 28 Jean Hawley |
| 22 | Jim Black | Michael Kauffman |
| | Frank Carroll | Scott McArthur |

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC.

Sunday 8/22

8:00 Beach Service
 9:20 Worship in Sanctuary

Monday 8/23

NO MABS-will resume 9/13

Tuesday 8/24

7:00 Women's AA Group in Reef

Wednesday 8/25

10:30 Staff Meeting
 7:00 Choir Practice

Thursday: 8/26

12:00 AA Group Rm. 6

Friday 8/27

8:30 Women's Breakfast/Soundside Park

Sunday 8/29

8:00-8:40 BEACH SERVICE
Parking is free before 9:00 am.
 9:20 Worship in Sanctuary
 10:30 Safe Sanctuary Training

PHOTOS OF OUR BACK PACK MINISTRY ARE ON NEXT PAGE



Thanks to this crew the 71 bags were packed in about an hour.

Left over school supplies for teachers to take for their classrooms for children needing some supplies.



The 71 back packs full of supplies for the children in our STT MUNCH Program. They were delivered August 12th.

