

MESSENGER NOVEMBER 24, 2021

Psalm 100: A Psalm for Giving Thanks.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Grace, peace, and Happy Thanksgiving to each of you!

At the risk of appearing eager to skip right over Thanksgiving and on to Christmas, I want to remind you that our Hanging of the Greens service is this Sunday at 9:20. The church will be decorated for Advent and Christmas, and maybe we will experience at least a hint of that mysterious something we call “getting into the Christmas spirit!”

It occurs to me that we speak often about getting into the Christmas spirit, but rarely do we speak about getting into the Thanksgiving spirit. Getting into the Thanksgiving spirit can also be thought of as developing an attitude of gratitude, and it is about much more than preparing ourselves for a holiday; it is about growing and maturing in our faith. But how do we develop an attitude of gratitude, or a spirit of thanksgiving?

The apostle Paul wrote often about the importance of giving thanks and being joyful in all things. In spite of numerous hardships and sufferings and imprisonments, Paul wrote joyfully from a prison cell in Phil. 4:11, *I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.* Paul learned to be content, and that resulted in an attitude of gratitude and a spirit of thanksgiving. He was able to rejoice and give thanks to God whatever his situation.

We have all probably known people who have an attitude of gratitude, who are always thankful for what they have, even though what they have might seem to us to be very little in comparison with what others have. And that, I think, is an extremely important point. People with a spirit of thanksgiving do not allow themselves to get caught up in comparing what they have with what others have. When we allow ourselves to begin comparing what we have with what others have, we are likely to lose our attitude of gratitude.

So, having a spirit of Thanksgiving and an attitude of gratitude begins with those two closely related things: 1) learning to be content with what we have (rather than focusing on what we don't have); and 2) not comparing what we have with what others have.

Brothers and sisters, I encourage you this Thanksgiving to devote some time reflecting on everything for which you are thankful to God. Maybe you could write down some things for which you are grateful and spend intentional time in prayer giving thanks for God's abundant blessings. Work on developing your spirit of thanksgiving by focusing on all the good things God has provided, instead of being preoccupied with what others have or what you don't have.

I included a psalm for giving thanks at the beginning of this letter, and I will close with words from a more recent song of thanksgiving. These words remind us of the most important reason for giving thanks:

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks, **because He's given Jesus Christ, his Son.***

May you all have a very happy Thanksgiving, happily give thanks with a grateful heart for the gift of Jesus.

Peace and blessings,
Pastor David

Dear Faith Harbor Church Family,

It is the time of year when we think about thanking our Pastor and Staff for all that they have done over the past year. Our church staff has worked hard to “restart” our ministries as we continue to move through the Covid pandemic.

Our annual **LOVE OFFERING** to our staff is our gift of appreciation for all their efforts in serving us throughout the year. Please be in prayerful contemplation about your gift. Love Offerings will be collected November 14, 2021 through Sunday, December 12.

You may:

- Mail a check to the church office, marked LOVE OFFERING
- Give on-line and designate LOVE OFFERING
- Place an envelope (marked LOVE OFFERING) in the offering plate

Thank you for your loving generosity,

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

Scripture Card- Week of November 29th

Centering Prayer: *Help us, O Jesus, to honor you as King of kings and Lord of lords.*

Psalm of the Week: Psalm 2

M Isaiah 9:6-7

T Matthew 2:1-2

W John 12:12-15

T John 18:33-37

F 1 Timothy 6:13-16

S Revelation 17:14

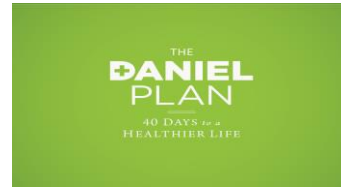
Key Scripture: *Revelation 19:16 On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.*

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS - The 2021 Advent Devotionals will be available in the narthex.

ONE PER FAMILY PLEASE



The Daniel Plan will be offered during a second class on Friday mornings, 9:30 a.m. Feel free to join us in Room 6. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Gail Widholm.



SAVE THE DATE!!!

Sunday, November 28th: 9:20 a.m.-Hanging of the Greens

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. **Send the information for whom you are honoring or remembering to Kim at secretary@faithharborumc.org.** The information will be gathered and put in the Messenger on December 17th and December 24th. **The deadline to provide this information is: Monday, December 13th**



CHAPS Christmas Toy Drive

Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy or gift card for ages 0-18. Drop off box will be in the Narthex. **All toys/gift cards due by: December 5th**

Thank you to those who donated toward the CHAPS Thanksgiving Meal...we collected \$900 and will be able to feed many families!

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 3, 10, 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 4th, every woman in Faith Harbor is invited to our small Christmas celebration. We have a light potluck luncheon, we will bring unwrapped toys to present to the CHAPS program and we will install our new officers for 2022. We would love for you to join us in this special event!

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 3 and 4; December 10 and 11th 10:00AM - 3:00PM (CASH ONLY) We have holiday greenery, trees, wreaths, trims, etc. Plus, lots of good toys!

NEEDS:

While our Holiday stock is sizable, we are very low in children's clothing. The majority of the winter things we had on hand have sold, our shelves are bare. Please help by donating gently used children's wear either during store hours (Wednesday-Friday 10:00am-4:00pm) or to the warehouse (by appointment) by calling Jean Hawley (910) 330-0760; Gloria Richardson (704) 804 4904; Beth Walker (252) 213-2240 or Sylvia Bowman (910) 284-3131

Volunteer clerks are needed for the Harbor Thrift Store and the upcoming Christmas Shop. No experience needed- We will train you. For further information call one of the Management Staff members listed above.

In Appreciation to all,
Jean Hawley
Store Manager



ALTAR FLOWER CHART is available to sign-up for flowers for the Sanctuary. By the date you select, give your name and who you wish to remember or honor for the bulletin information. The sign-up list is on the credenza outside the church office, across from the restrooms.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS... 😊

Hello bAsiC (brothers & sisters in Christ) youth parents~

Happy November to each of you! I pray everyone is doing well and enjoying the change of season. The Holidays are soon upon us, so please see the November dates/happenings for youth group and mark your calendars accordingly:

***Sunday, Nov. 28th~** No Regular Youth group meetings that evening due to the Thanksgiving break.

***Monday, Nov. 29th~** Youth Council Meeting at 5:30pm (either In person or via Zoom-TBD)

***Sunday, Dec. 5th ~**

Youth Service Sunday – During the 9:20 service, youth who attended Pilgrimage will share their experience & Power point pictures with the Congregation.

**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:

November 28th: Concert Practice after church

December 8th: Cocoa, Cookies and Caroling – 5:30pm

December 12th: Kid's Concert during church

Jr Basic Christmas Party – 11:15 am

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

My positive attitude can share the light of Christ with others.

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

-Matthew 5:16 (NRSV)



Members: Joyce Arnette, Judy Beck, Nancy Buckman, Doris Davis, Lanae Fowler, Diane Geary, Delores Miner, Jenny Mizell, Bob Patterson, Diane Secary, Paula Smith, Jill Strohpaal, 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: Curtis Campbell; Johnny Carter; Mike Commee; Grayson Cooney; Eli Hardin; *Margaux and Emma*; RoyThomas Horne; Shirley Paul; Teresa Sanderson; Bob Starr and family; Leo Wolfe; Joy Zalaiskalns and family

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.



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| 3 Harriet Byrd | 12 Baylor Osborn
Seth Swain | 23 Rebecca Drudge |
| 5 Fisher Taylor | 13 Brenda Munjas | 24 Charles Burnett
Karen Martin |
| 7 Garrett Burgess
Sandy Taylor | 14 Hillary Horne | 25 Aly Waldrop |
| | 15 Fiona Duddy | 26 Harley Taylor |
| | 17 Tyler Jernigan | 27 Steve Cooney
Faye Graziano
Janet Hughes |
| | 19 Jennifer Mizelle | |
| | 20 Wayne Jeno
Eunice Lytton | 28 Melanie Duddy
Steve Wells |
| 8 Dale Osborn
John Phillips | Paige Swain | |
| 9 Will Hornthal | Kevin Taylor | 29 Judy Pratt |
| 11 Cindy Arnold | 21 Doug Lowrey | 30 Isla Butler |
| | 22 Diane Secary | |

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC

Sunday 11/28 First Sunday of Advent

United Methodist Student Day

8:00 Communion Service in Sanctuary
9:20 Worship Sanctuary – Hanging of the Greens
10:45 Children’s Christmas Concert Practice
12:15 Handbell Quartet



Monday 11/29

2:00 MABS Rm. 6
5:30 Youth Council Meeting
6:30 “Messy Grace” Bible Study

Tuesday 11/30

6:00 COMPANIONS IN CHRIST Rm. 6
7:00 Women’s AA Group in Reef

Wednesday 12/01

10:00 Reading Circle, Rm 6
7:00 Cantata Practice
7:45 Choir Practice

Thursday: 12/02

12:00 AA Meeting, Rm. 6
5:00 GS Troop 2424
6:30 The Daniel Plan in Sanctuary

Friday 12/03

8:30 Women’s Breakfast
10:00– 2:30 Rainbow Circle Craft Sale
10:00-3:00 Harbor Thrift Store Annual Christmas Shop

Saturday 12/04

UMW Pot Luck Luncheon
10:00 – 3:00 Harbor Thrift Store Annual Christmas Shop

Sunday 12/05

8:00 Communion Service in Sanctuary
9:20 Worship Sanctuary– Pilgrimage Presentation
10:30 Companions in Christ, Rm. 6
12:15 Handbells Quartet
5:00 Youth Group “A” (MS)