



Psalm 19.14: “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.”

During this time of year, we pause and we reflect. And during this pause and reflection, I pray that all of us have words and thoughts that come from our hearts of thankfulness. That as we pause and reflect, we think about the goodness of the Lord and how the Lord has given us such good gifts. For the Lord is truly our rock and our redeemer – the Lord has provided us solid ground to stand upon and has provided a way when there seemed to be no way.

Here in Psalm 19 – the psalmist is inviting us to reflect with him on all that the Lord has provided. And in that reflection the psalmist is then inviting us to share from our mouths words that are acceptable to God. These words are timeless, while at the same time very personal and authentic. For they are words that come from the depths of our being and remind us that we are creation and God is our creator.

One of the first words that come from my lips are words of thankfulness. Specifically, those words are ones that involve thank you to all of you at Faith Harbor. You all are truly a blessing. Thank you for sharing your life with me and my family and thank you for the kindness and generosity you share in your everyday lives. What a blessing you all are to the entire city. For you all are known for being people of kindness and generosity.

I also want to say thank you to all of you that came to the presentation DeAnne and I had on “The Stranger, the Monastery, the Camino”. What an amazing turnout and we appreciate your support. I know that some of you were not able to come for various reasons – and so we video taped the session. You can go to the Faith Harbor YouTube channel and see the presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/@faithharborumc7020>

As you pause and reflect this time of year – I pray that your heart breaks forth into words of thanksgiving and gratefulness. For the Lord is good and his mercy endures forever.

News & *Announcements*

WELCOME TABLE:

November 26th: Bonnie Hunter & Tom Bradford

SCRIPTURE CARD beginning Monday, November 27th

Centering Prayer: Know that the Lord is God. Psalm 100

M Daniel 1.1-20, Luke 21.1-4

Tu Daniel 2.31-45, Luke 21.5-11

W Daniel 5.1-28, Luke 21.12-19

Th Daniel 6.10-18, Luke 21.20-28

F Daniel 7.2-14, Luke 21.29-33

Sa Daniel 7.15-27, Luke 21.34-36

Su Isaiah 64.1-9, I Corinthians 1.3-9, Mark 13.24-37

Key scripture: Daniel 7.14: "To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him."



The tree is here!!! Please join us this Saturday, November 25th at 9:00a.m. for our annual Christmas tree decorating...all are welcome!



Do you have a heart for worship? Join us at 5:30pm in the sanctuary~ **Saturday, November 25th** for a contemporary Worship service!

Bring your friends and come with an open heart.



Our new Preschool is off to a great start, and we already need to hire another staff member! We are now looking for candidates to be an Assistant Teacher. This person will collaborate with the preschool director and teachers to implement an engaging and developmentally appropriate curriculum for our students. If you are interested, please check out the position description, available at the church office or you may contact Mike Hopper, 703-801-2851, for further information.

To apply, submit your resume with qualifications along with a short letter sharing why you would like to work with our students. **The deadline to apply for this position is Monday, Nov 27th.**

SAVE THE DATE!

The Craft Fair is Saturday December 2nd from 9 -2pm, Share the news!

The United Women in Faith will offer crafts, baked goods, and frozen entrees for sale during Faith Harbor's Craft Fair on Saturday, December 2, 9am to 2pm. We need your donations of baked items and frozen entrees. Your entrees should be in a pan suitable for warming up in the oven. Please identify your item, how many it will serve, and provide warmup instructions. Call or text Bonnie Hunter at 540 621 3645 so that I can list and price the available items. Entrees can be stored in the church freezer (behind the kitchen door) or brought to the church by 9am, Saturday, 12/2.

Thank you for your support towards programs benefitting women, children, and families.

Harbor Thrift Store News

The Annual Christmas Shop is coming!

When: December 1st and 2nd

Time: 10:00- 3:00pm

Where: Harbor Warehouse (2nd Building behind church)

*All sales CASH ONLY!





CHAP (Community Holiday Assistance Program) will be collecting toys and gift cards for children of families in need. Bring toys or gift cards (for teens: Ulta, Target, GameStop, Walmart, etc.) to Faith Harbor. **Toy drop-off and set up will be December 14 & 15 at Blakes Chapel with distribution on Saturday, December 16.** Families with children are paired with volunteers and invited to “shop” for new toys/gifts for their children in a special Christmas shop where everything is offered free of charge including wrapping materials. Each individual/family also receives a Christmas card, along with a list of all participating organizations in the area.

Volunteers are needed. For information, please contact Faye Strickland. Thank you!

We are blessed to be a blessing to others!

Faye Strickland

fayestr46@gmail.com

910-264-6151

Faith Harbor Pilots

A ministry for men, by men, for the good of all.

The Faith Harbor United Methodist Men invite all men to be a part of something special. The men of the Church are being called to serve as “*A beacon of hope, anchored in Christ, sharing God’s love through joyful service.*”

The meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of each month unless otherwise designated. We meet at 8am for breakfast and fellowship. Please join us as we begin our planning for the future. All men are eligible to join. The only requirement is the desire to become a disciple of Christ.

We hope to see you at our next monthly meeting on Saturday December 16, 2023 at 8am.

Monday Morning Men’s Group

Come as you can, if you can - This weekly men’s group will meet at Sears Landing every Monday beginning around 8:30am and waiting until 9:00am to order for those wishing to eat. This will be an informal gathering for all men who are interested in food and fellowship. If you have any questions, contact Roger Morton at rramorton@gmail.com.

The **Nursing Home Ministry** will join members of the Gathering Church of Surf City on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am in the Memory Care Unit at the Woodbury Wellness Center located at 2778 Country Club Dr, Hampstead. **You are welcome to join us every second Sunday for worship and visit with the residents.**
“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” –John 3:16

Contact: Bescye P Burnett (678) 882-6721 or bescyep@gmail.com

“Love...Loves...Loved”

“Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced”. —James Baldwin (1924–1987)

The Mercy Abounds Program has received a \$5,000.00 challenge donation from a very generous and caring family. The purpose of the challenge is to raise an equal amount of money to support the mission work of Mercy Abounds within a specified period of time. **The challenge must be matched by December 15th.** Mercy Abounds has processed 46 family cases from January through August for a total of \$22,145.24 in assistance to families in need. Given that there are four more months to account for, Mercy Abounds estimates \$8,000.00 in family assistance needs to close out the year. Mercy Abounds asks that you consider your gifts to this worthy program so we can meet the \$5,000.00 challenge by the date.

Grateful, Generous, and Giving

Blessings for all,

Case Advocates: *Jean Hawley, Sandy Taylor, and Sherri Davila*



SAVE THE DATE!!!

OUR CHRISTMAS CANTATA~ “One Incredible Moment” by Mac Lucado and Tom Fettke

Date: **Sunday, December 17th**

Time: **10:00a.m.**

*This cantata has musical styles for everyone...be sure to invite your friends, family, and neighbors to enjoy the beautiful music!!!

Please join us for our 13-week Grief Share Group held by the Stephen Ministry group here at Faith Harbor. We will meet every Monday from 10am-12:00pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome! Feel free to contact Gail Robinson with any questions~ gail.robinson0694@gmail.com





WOMEN'S GROUP! "Nourishing Joy" meets every Monday at 7:00pm in the Reef. We want to create a place of joy, hope, and connection for women of our church and community. Our goal is to support each other as we go through life's challenges applying Christian principles. All women welcome, bring a friend! Please contact Annie Voli, avolibeach@gmail.com, 804-338-4784 or Natalie Lindsey, namick12@gmail.com, 864-423-6763 with any questions.

Women Rooted in Christ, Anchored in Love, Building each other up.

Connections matter...connections with God and with each other. Come and see how God creates a place for women to be encouraged & strengthened, as we learn about Jesus's love for us and how to share it with others. Regardless of what stage of life you are in, you have gifts and insights that others need, and we want you to be a part of building up God's Kingdom. If you have any questions, please call Stacie Holmes at 910-270-9465 or email: stacieaholmes@gmail.com.

When? Wednesdays from 11:30-12:30



Perhaps you have noticed that the new tax law has reduced your ability to deduct your contribution to charitable entities, including Faith Harbor. For the past couple of years, you were able to deduct at least \$600 per couple. However, that amount has now gone away. In fact, unless you can itemize your deductions for more than \$27,700 for a couple (\$13,800 for a single), you can't deduct any contribution that you make to a charity.

Those of you who have paid off your home mortgage usually have a tough time getting past that. **BUT THERE IS A SOLUTION.** A Qualified Charitable Contribution can be made from your IRA, 401K, or any brokerage account directly to the charity on your behalf, and it is not included in your income (eliminating the tax you would have paid on it) and the charity gets the benefit of your donation. And if you are over the age of 73, you may need to do an RMD (Required Minimum Distribution). This is a great way to take the distribution and avoid paying income tax on those tax-free dollars and profits that you put away years ago. As we get close to the end of the year, you may want to consider taking advantage of this. For more information, see Gail Widholm, Finance Chairperson, or your tax advisor.



Are you missing anything? Please check out our lost and found box over by the mailboxes (across from Room 6). We have several umbrellas, water bottles, glasses, and many other items.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS...



November

26th: No Jr. Basic Happy Thanksgiving!

December

3rd: Cookies, cocoa and caroling. Meet at Faith Harbor at 4pm for Caroling to those who need their Spirits lifted.

10th: Jr. Basic to Woodbury to sing Christmas songs and hand out cards.

17th: Jr. Basic Christmas Party at 3:30pm! We will have a visit from Santa and

Mrs. Claus. Families are welcome to come to Lake Linda after to enjoy the Christmas light display.

A look ahead:

January

Jan 14th: Jr. Basic. Pick up at 12:30pm

Jan. 21st: Safe Sanctuary Training after church. This is required for anyone working with our children or youth. This presentation will take no longer than 30 minutes.

Jan. 28th: Jr. Basic. Pick up at 12:30pm.

Jan 28th: Children's Counsel meeting after church in classroom 1.

Blessings,

Melissa Schleinkofer, Children's Ministry Director

mxcook8@yahoo.com or <http://www.faithharborumc.org>



***Sun., Nov. 26th~** No regular youth group due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Enjoy some family time!

***Mon., Nov. 27th~** Youth Council Meeting at 5pm in the Library. All parents and youth are welcome to attend. Thank you and hope to see you there!

***Other Info./Missions~** Our youth will participate in a Coat Drive with CWS (Church World Services) for refugees coming into the local area during the Winter months. They are in need of New or Gently Used Coats of all sizes (Children, Women & Men). A marked bin is in the Narthex.

Peace of Christ be with you,

Jewels Swain, Fhumc Youth Coordinator

(910)232-9844/julietswain@hotmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Today I will trust God and give without reservation.

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.

~Luke 6:38 (NRSVUE)



Members: Joyce Arnette; Ray Blackburn; Nancy Buckman, Doris & Mike Davis; David & Faye Decatur; Patty Feige; Judy & Ken Hoopes; Janet Hughes; Janice Long; Martha Marlow; *Pastor Neal McHenry*; Tony Merlino; Larry & Becki Modlin; Judy Pratt; *Rachel Shade*; Steve Wells; Jim Wygant

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

Family and Friends: David Abernethy (Jewels Dad); Johnsie's great niece Rebekah and family; Kelly Bonnell's Husband; *MK Clewis's daughter, Harper, and family*; Eileen Eifert (John Pratt's sister); Parker Fox; Sue Heavner (Jewels Grandmother); Rick Hughes; Elizabeth Lilly (Gail's granddaughter); Tommy Mears; Jenny Merritt; the family of Rachael Meyer; Todd Rice (Colin's brother); Barbara & Neil Schilling; *Jullie Scott (Hank & Jan Maser)*; Sue Thomas (Janet Hughes Sister); Brenda (Harriet Rice's friend)

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



NOVEMBER

22nd: Stacy Papke
23rd: Rebecca Drudge
24th: Charles Burnett
26th: Harley Taylor; James Wygant
27th: Faye Graziano; Janet Hughes
28th: Melanie Duddy; Steve Wells
29th: Judy Pratt
30th: Isla Butler

December

1st: Kelly Byrd
3rd: Marion Shade
4th: Leslie Jones; Hayden Arnold; Katherine Alexander; Neal McHenry
6th: Sherry Sliwa
8th: JoAnn Rivenbark
9th: Bill Widholm
10th: Laura Alexander; Melanie Greene
11th: Danielle Shepard; Reagan Shepard
13th: Don Mizelle
14th: Doug Mewborn; Sandi Lowry
15th: Harriet Rice
16th: Kenny Burgess; Judy Paliotti
17th: David Henry
21st: Robert Barnes; Sonya Burgess
22nd: Marlaine Hopper
25th: Alex Harris
26th: Ann Cassler; Alexis Medlin Passingham
29th: Jill Strohpaal
31st: Perry Chase Smith; Stephen Cosner; Gerry Colman

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC

Sunday, 11/26

8:00 Last Beach Service
9:30 Worship Service
10:30 Disciple Bible Study

Monday, 11/27

7:30 Open Prayer
8:30 Sears Landing Men's Breakfast Group
9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6
10-12p Griefshare Group, Sanctuary
1:00 Monday Bible Study, Rm. 6
5:00p Youth Council Meeting, Rm. 6
6:30pm Cub Scouts
7:00pm Women's Group- Nourishing Joy/Reef

Tuesday, 11/28

7:30 Open Prayer
9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6
6:00pm Praise Band practice
6- 7:45pm MDT
6:30p.m. Disciple Bible Study, Rm. 6
7:00p.m. Women's AA/Reef

Wednesday, 11/29

9:30 Communion
10:30 Staff Meeting, Rm. 6
11:30 Women's Group, Sanctuary
7:00p.m. Boy Scouts/Reef
7:00pm Cantata Practice/ 7:45p Choir

Thursday, 11/30

7:30 Open Prayer
12:00p AA Group, Rm. 6
6:00p *The Church Session*
6:30p.m. GS Troop #2424

Friday, 12/1

8:30 Women's Breakfast Group
10 – 3p Harbor Thrift Store Christmas Shop

Saturday, 12/2

9 –12p Faith Harbor Craft Fair
10 –3p Harbor Thrift Store Christmas Shop

Sunday, 12/3

8:00 Communion Service
9:30 Communion Service
10:30 Disciple Bible Study
4:00p *Cookies, Caroling & Cocoa*