



Faith Harbor
A beacon of hope, anchored in Christ, sharing God's love through joyful service.

From your lay leader...

My Dear Church Family



Thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to be your lay leader for the past few years. It was an honor, and a blessing to serve you all. I have grown so much in my relationship with my Lord and Savior these past few years with all of you. This will be my last letter as your lay leader. This was something placed on my heart to do, not actually a role of lay leaders. I will pop on here every now and then because a new idea has been placed on my heart. I feel memorizing Scripture is what our church could start as a habit for 2024. Scripture does teach us to meditate day and night on God's Word, so let's take one verse or two a month and meditate and memorize them. By the end of the year, you will have at least 12 verses to guide you, encourage you and give you peace through 2024 and the coming years.

January's memory verse is Matthew 5:16 (ESV) but I am giving you the two before it as a bonus:

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Now as I step down, I hand the torch over to our dear Hunt Tayloe. Though a young man, I believe he is more than capable of handling this position. He will not be alone, for I will be his mentor through this process. Age should never be an obstacle for keeping anyone or allowing anyone to serve our Lord and savior by serving our church. If you recall in Luke 2:46-49, Jesus at the young age of twelve, was found among the teachers listening, and asking questions in the temple. When His mother asked Him why He had treated them this way He replied, "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" Also, in everything we see of the disciples they're always pictured as being older, but through many studies it is found that some of these were young men not much older than, and even the same age as Hunt. I find it a complete joy when I see our youth serving in our church. When all of us joined Faith Harbor we made a vow to "Faithfully participate in the life and ministries of our local congregation through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness." Our youth made the same vow when they joined after completing their confirmation classes. My prayer is that you as a church receive Hunt with joy and gladness. Encourage him and pray for him daily as he lives out his role as our lay leader, for we do not know the plans the Lord has for Hunt, but we as the church need to fulfill our vows as a service to Hunt and to our Lord.

This Sunday is Youth Sunday, so you will see several of our youth serving the congregation, as you see them, please thank them, and encourage them to continue with their good works and give glory to our heavenly Father that we have young people willing to serve.

Loving you always, your sister in Christ,
Jessica Blackburn



We have some poinsettias leftover if you would like to pick them up. They have been moved to the Narthex.

Saturday the 13th will be a day for all to serve. We need the Christmas decorations taken down, so all who are willing to serve, we have plenty than needs to be done. I will be at the church starting at 10am hopefully with enough people it will all be done within a couple of hours.

Thank you, Jessica Blackburn



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

The walks are right around the corner. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact me so we can get you or them an application and a sponsor. Don't delay, they fill up fast. Contact: Jessica Blackburn 910-622-1193 or jmb@rayblackburn.com

If you have been qualified to be a sponsor, please get with me so we can get you set up with pilgrims needing one. Thank you. **Men's walk January 25th-28th, Women's walk February 8th-11th.**

News & Announcements

WELCOME TABLE:

January 7th: Sherry Mewborn

Communion Servers:
Youth

SCRIPTURE CARD beginning Monday, January 8th

Centering Prayer: Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Psalm 29

M Isaiah 55.1-11, Mark 1.7-11

Tu I Samuel 1.9-20, Mark 1.21-28

W I Samuel 3.1-10, Mark 1.29-39

Th I Samuel 4.1-11, Mark 1.40-45

F I Samuel 8.4-22, Mark 2.1-12

Sa I Samuel 9.1-19, Mark 2.13-17

Su I Corinthians 6.12-20, John 1.43-51

Key scripture: I Samuel 3.10: "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Dear Faith Harbor Family,

We wish to express our deepest appreciation for the generous love offering you gave to us. We are so humbled by your kindness and generosity. How blessed we are to be serving in ministry with all of you. May God bless you and your loved ones in 2024 and always.

Love,

Philip, Allison, Jewels, Kim, and Melissa

SAVE THE DATE!



Celebrate Recovery will be hosting the next Family Night Supper on Wednesday, January 10th at 6:00p.m. Celebrate Recovery is a local, Christ-based 12-step program with a focus on the 8 Principles Based on the Beatitudes.

Please join us...bring a friend!

Monday afternoon Bible Study will resume Monday, January 8th at 1:00pm





Do you have a heart for worship? Join us at 5:30pm in the sanctuary~ **Saturday, January 13th** for a contemporary Worship service!

Bring your friends and come with an open heart.

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 January 20, 2024 at 8am.

Monday Morning Men’s Group

Come as you can, if you can - This weekly men’s group will be meeting 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: Bescy 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)

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



Nourishing Joy Women's Group will be taking a break in the month of December. We will let everyone know in January when we will begin meeting again. Thank you so much!

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...



Hello Faith Harbor Families,
Please take a minute to look over our schedule below and mark your calendars.
Lots going on in the next two months!

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., January 7th~ This will be our Youth Sunday for the month at the 9:30am Service. Please plan to have your youth here by 9am & sit together in the front Right Section that will be reserved.** *Please let me know

how your Youth would like to serve. Opportunities to volunteer include the following:

Reading the Psalms- need 1

Reading the Opening Prayer- need 1

Ushers- need 4

Greeters- need 2

Communion Stewards- need up to 5

That Evening:

Regular MS Youth Meeting from 4-5pm in The Reef

Fellowship time from 5-5:30pm for all youth

Regular HS Youth Meeting from 5:30-6:30pm in The Reef

***Sun., January 14th~**

Regular MS Youth Meeting from 4-5pm in The Reef

Youth Meal for the Month/Fellowship time from 5-5:30pm for all youth

Regular HS Youth Meeting from 5:30-6:30pm in The Reef

***Sun., January 21st~**

Faith Harbor will be having the Safe Sanctuary Training at 10:30am (right after worship) in the Sanctuary. *Anyone working/volunteering with Children or Youth are required to attend this important 30-minute training session. Thanks!

Youth Council Meeting at 11:15am (right after the Safe Sanctuary Training) in The Reef. All parents and youth are welcome to attend! A simple lunch of Soup will be provided. Hope to see you there!

That Evening:

Regular MS Youth Meeting from 4-5pm in The Reef

Fellowship time from 5-5:30pm for all youth

Regular HS Youth Meeting from 5:30-6:30pm in The Reef

***Fri. January 26th- Sun., January 28th~** High Schoolers will be gone on the Youth Ski Retreat at Lake Junaluska. Leave early a.m. on 1/26 & return early evening on 1/28.

(Sun., Jan. 28th)That Evening:

MS Youth Fun Outing. (More info. with time/location to come out to the parents very soon)

HS Youth will NOT meet that evening, as they will just be returning from their trip

****Looking ahead (Mark your calendars).....***

1. Confirmation Class of Spring 2024- (Jan.-April) Info. coming out soon, youth that are 8th Graders & Older are welcome to participate. Email to parents went out.
2. Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper youth fundraiser will be on Tues., Feb. 13th at 6pm (Save the Date!)

If you need further information or details about any of these events or the Fhumc's bAsiC (brothers And sisters in Christ) youth group, please reach out to me. Thank you for allowing us to serve you and your youth!

Peace of Christ be with you,

Jewels Swain, Fhumc Youth Coordinator

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

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Life is a great adventure when I start each day with God's word.

You guide me with your counsel and afterward you will receive me with honor.

~Psalm 73:24 (NRSVUE)



Members: Joyce Arnette; Ray Blackburn; Nancy Buckman; Doris & Mike Davis; David Decatur; Patty Feige; Judy & Ken Hoopes; Janet Hughes; Janice Long; Doug & Sandi Lowery; Martha Marlow; Tony Merlino; Larry & Becki Modlin; Judy Pratt; Colin Rice and family; Rachel Shade; Ron (Annie) Voli; 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: 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; Linda Holt (Mike Hopper's Sister); Rick Hughes; Catherine McDowell; Tommy Mears; Jenny Merritt; the family of Rachael Meyer; Barbara & Neil Schilling; Julie Scott (Hank & Jan Maser); *Gideon Shakespeare*; Sue Thomas (Janet Hughes Sister); Brenda (Harriet Rice's friend); Betty Ann (friend of Diane Secary)

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



JANUARY

1st: Becki Modlin

2nd: Carole Justice

3rd: Tom Bradford

4th: Kellie Henry

8th: Lyla Passingham

10th: Hana Arnold

13th: Gail Hargett-Lilly

15th: Bradley Bizzell; Alexander Hornthal

17th: Wendy Mooney

18th: Diane Geary

19th: Cam Barnes

22nd: William Brazill; Gail Widholm; Vicki Wygant

23rd: Brittany Audet

25th: Karlie Holmes

26th: Judd Schleinkofer

27th: Jeanette Mason

29th: Bodie Taylor; Ken Hoopes

30th: Jimmy Canady; Porter Olmstead

31st: Stacy Menzies

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC

Sunday, 1/07- Youth Sunday

8:00 & 9:30 Communion Services
4:00pm MS Youth Group
5:00pm Youth Fellowship
5:30pm HS Youth Group

Monday, 1/08

7:30 Open Prayer
8:30 Sear's Landing Breakfast Group
9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6
10:00 GriefShare Group
1:00p Monday Bible Study, Rm. 6
6:30pm Cub Scouts

Tuesday, 1/09

7:30 Open Prayer
9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6
6:00p Praise Band Practice
6:00p MDT
7:00p Women's AA Group/Reef

Wednesday, 1/10

9:30 Communion
10:00 Rainbow Circle, Rm. 6
11:30 Women's Group
6:00p Family Night Supper
7:00p Choir Practice
7:00p Boy Scouts/Reef

Thursday, 1/11

7:30 Open Prayer
12:00 AA Group, Rm. 6
6:30p Girl Scout Troop 4242

Friday, 1/12

8:30 Women's Breakfast Group

Saturday, 1/13

5:30p Praise Service

Sunday, 1/14

8:00 Communion Service
9:30 Worship Service/
*Installation of Leadership Council
10:30 JR Basic
4:00p MS Youth Group
5:00p Youth Fellowship
5:30p HS Youth Group