



Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020

Salt Student Praise Team

Psalm 23

Salt Student Praise Team

Dr. Darren McClellan

Above All

Rev. Laura Parker

Dr. Darren McClellan

Jenna Hood

Rev. Ontonio Christie

Tom & Jenna Hood

Rev. Laura Parker

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

Rev. Ontonio Christie

Music today led by Tom Hood, Jenna Hood, and Shea White, and the "Salt Students Worship Team". Playing with us this week: Wilson Gaberino, Mitch Johnston, Caroline Hill, Sara Beth Hill, Rachael Waldhour, Darren McClellan

Thank you to all those who contribute behind the scenes to making our worship services happen each week: Jamie and Rachael Waldhour, Video; Robert Hammon, Sound.



Whatever it Takes...

for the Sake of His Glory!

A Sermon Series for the 50 Days of Easter

The days between Easter and Pentecost are for us as Christians a time when we contemplate our response to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. What do we do now? What is the nature of our consideration? Where will this walk with Jesus take us from here?

Romans 8:18-21 will anchor us as we move through these seven Sundays, culminating with Pentecost on May 31st.

Romans 8:18-21 (NRSV)

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

The desire for this season of preaching and teaching is to gain fresh understanding on not only the event itself, but the *power* of resurrection in our daily lives. Are we willing to submit all our experiences to the work that God wants to do in and through us? Do we believe that our present "sufferings" may be the very ground from which something new is being created and revealed in us? How shall we profess this living hope together?

Join us for worship (virtually, for now) as we offer our thanks and praise to God and allow the Word to speak into our lives. More than just digital transactions, we believe that these 'gatherings' still hold the power for divine transformation. So again, we say, *Easter people, raise your voices! Whatever it takes!*

Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:

Offering Received on April 26 - \$26,925

(Online - \$8,624 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$18,301)

Thank you so much for your continued support to Fairhope United Methodist Church.

Jeff White, Business Administrator

Live Streaming Update!

We feel your pain with regards to the audio & visual syncing issues while watching online worship and Bible studies. We have been just as frustrated! So, starting today, Fairhope UMC is using a different service to stream to our three viewing platforms. The issue we were facing previously was the inability of our current streaming system to handle all three platforms at once. We have hopefully resolved this issue with the adjustments made. Thank you for your patience and grace as we navigate staying connected to the congregation through technology. Whatever It Takes for HIS Glory!

Prayers for the People

Sympathy and comfort for these families:

Doug and Emily Garner in the death of his step-mother, Celeste Waller.

Mike and Lynn White in the death of their cousins, Jean Brooks, Natalie Campbell, and Joe Diffie.

Ari and Gay Ojanpera in the death of his brother, Timo Ojanpera.

Other:

During this season of Covid 19 the awareness of our medical personnel is more heightened than ever. We want to thank you for making a difference and know that you are prayed for daily. If we have missed adding your name to those who are working on the frontlines during this current crisis, please contact Dr. Ann Pearson, ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org.

Bill and Lucy Bingham
Ross Bishop
Mike Brantley
Amy Brasher
Jennie Breslin
Frank Bunch
Chris and Marti Burgess
Lisa Calhoun
Mary Catherine Crocker
Mitzi Childs
Jason Determann
Craig Dowden
Paula Drummond
Shannon Fountain
Matt Goldman
Catherine Knight Gradle
Emily Gregorius
Christy Guepet
Lanier Hagood
Albert Haas
Roy and Karen Haywood
Brett Henderson

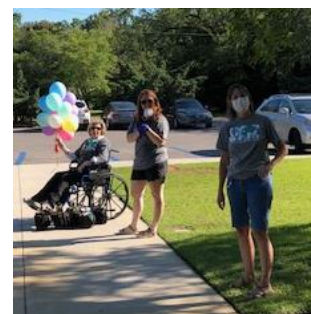
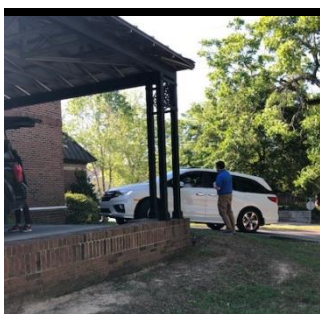
J.C. Jacobs
Robi Jones
Julia Jordan
Megan Kappel
Kristan Knight
Mary Frances Krause
Gene Lammers
Martin Lester
Andy Luedecke
Parag Mahakatar
Ashley Marass
Mike McBrearty
Sean McBrearty
Jessica Calhoun McCarthy
Harvey McCulloch
John McDuff
Casey McIntosh
Rebekah McIntosh
Rob Meichner
Scott and Elizabeth Minto
Meg Moore
Harper Morrison

Stephanie Morrison
Lyda Murray
Emily Norris
Suzanne Parish
Jim Parker
Josh Rachel
Greer Pearson
Lynne Pearson
Abby Phillips
John Richardson
Meredith Roach
Rebekah Roe

Robbie Rux
Ben Schrubbe
Marshall Shoemaker
Keith Spain
Roger Tart
Claire Jones Thomas
Rachel Breslin Townsley
Allison Turnbull
Keith and Shelley Turnbull
Adrianne Thrash
Adam Watterson
Jeremy White

Caring Ministries

- If you would like to be a driver to drop off a gift at the homes of our medical personnel with no contact, please email ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org.
- Zoom meetings are keeping us connected in our support groups.
- Parents of our Sunday school Children were given a special treat this week which was included in the May Sunday school materials for children. The card read, "Just Poppin' in to say you are a Cracker Jack Parent" which was attached to a bag of popcorn and a box of Cracker Jacks.
- The Needs Continue: The sewing team is continuing to sew gowns, masks and shoe covers for the community needs. If you know of anyone who needs a masks or would like to participate in our efforts please contact ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org or fmjlsj@yahoo.com.
- Many thanks to the members who participated in the "Raid your Pantry" this week. Lord's Pantry was one of the recipients of your generosity and love. Thank you Church family!





Something New Coming Monday, May 4, 2020: “Monday Mornings in Fairhope”

A note from Rev. Laura: Beginning Monday, May 4th, at 9:30 am, I will be hosting online devotionals through Zoom every Monday morning until we return to more normal gathering routines in the life of our church. You may access these gatherings through a Zoom link that is provided. I will offer a few thoughts for our first “gathering” on the 4th, and after that will be inviting other staff and lay

members of our church to share a devotional time with you. You may join through a computer that has camera and audio capability, through the Zoom app on your phone or tablet or you may call in through a number that is provided. We will hear prayer concerns after the devotional is shared and then depart for whatever our day of social distancing has in store. This time together will only last about 15-20 minutes and is merely one more opportunity to be together as God’s people – somehow – even though we find ourselves apart and distanced in these days of CV19! Please plan to join us on Mondays until further notice.

Join us by Zoom at this link: <https://zoom.us/j/99089887119>

For information on how to get started on Zoom, [click here](#).

Children’s Ministries Update ...



Sunday School Packets Delivered ~ We were busy last week getting Sunday School packets ready with our May lessons. We had 23 wonderful teachers deliver the packets to 73 families that had requested them. Since we’re still social distancing, they delivered them “Ding Dong Ditch” style (complete with a Hostess Ding Dong snack). The packets were placed at the front door, teachers rang the doorbell and headed back to their

cars! Waving and pictures were done from a distance.

Betty Stejskal took this one of Angela and Radley Shaw.





Summer Camp – ENERGIZE

June 15-19 for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders

Fee - \$340 plus additional \$50 due to the church in June for bus transportation. Register at www.bluelakecamp.com. Scholarships available – contact Michelle at 251/377-2325.

NOTE ... Should our camp need to be cancelled due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, Blue Lake will make the official announcement on May 15th. If this happens, everyone registered will receive a FULL refund.

SWIFT Zoom Get Together (5th & 6th graders)

We had a virtual talent show last week and the kids were fabulous! We had jokes, glow-in-the-dark performances, singing, a science experiment, card trick, cup stacking, getting a dog to sing, Kangoo jump routine and more! It was so much fun!

Next Zoom Get Together

Wednesday, May 6th at 6:30pm

Look for the meeting link in an email from Michelle.

Student Ministry Update...

- No Game Night at all this week!
- Senior Sunday Breakfast Celebration
Sunday, July 19 (Tentative), 9:30am
Graduates and their immediate family are invited to join us on Sunday, July 19 @ 9:30am for a breakfast to celebrate your journey ahead! Due to the current limitations on groups gathering, our celebration date/time is tentative. However, we wanted to make sure you had it on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you all in July!

Missions Ministry

Here is what is going on ...

RAID YOUR PANTRY

FOR A PURPOSE

OVER 142 CARS JOINED US!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

DONATIONS ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED!

MISSIONS @ FAIRHOPE UMC.ORG

WE WERE SO HAPPY TO SEE EVERYONE!

ITEMS:

- CANNED VEGETABLES
- CANNED FRUIT
- SOUP
- MAC & CHEESE
- PASTA & SAUCE
- PEANUT BUTTER
- JELLY
- RICE
- DRIED BEANS
- CANNED BEANS
- OATMEAL
- GRITS
- CEREAL
- PANCAKE MIX
- INDIVIDUAL SNACKS

BENEFITING:

- FAIRHOPE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB
- FAIRHOPE HIGH SCHOOL
- FUMC LORD'S PANTRY



How are we SERVING?

COMMUNITY CAFE - ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT HOSTING OUR NORMAL FRIDAY LUNCH, WE CONTINUE TO SERVE OUR HOMEBOUND & COMMUNITY FRIENDS. WE ARE NOW PROVIDING OVER 140 MEALS EACH WEEK BETWEEN FAIRHOPE, DAPHNE & SILVERHILL. WE ARE NOW PROVIDING MEALS TO SHEPHERD'S PLACE AND FAIRHOPE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB. WE ARE ALSO PARTNERING WITH OUR FRIENDS AT DAPHNE UMC.



FRIDAY, MAY 1ST WE PARTNERED WITH UPS & FAIRHOPE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB. UPS PROVIDED THE HAMBURGERS, HOTDOGS & CHIPS FOR OUR MEAL. TOGETHER WITH THE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB WE PROVIDED OVER 500 HAMBURGER PLATES & OVER 200 SACK HOTDOG LUNCHES. WE FED STUDENTS, ELDERLY, BALDWIN COUNTY EMA, FAIRHOPE & DAPHNE POLICE DEPARTMENT & DELIVERED MEALS TO LOCAL HOMEBOUND.



BALDWIN COUNTY EMA & BALDWIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPT - WE CONTINUE TO HELP ORGANIZE & FEED OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE WORKING SO HARD TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF OUR COUNTY. THANK YOU TO OUR DRIVERS WHO DELIVERED MEALS THIS PAST WEEK.

SNACK PACKS - WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF COLLECTING/ ASSEMBLING SNACK PACKS. MANY OF OUR COMMUNITY FRIENDS HAVE CHILDREN AT HOME & ARE IN NEED OF SNACKS. WE WILL BE PREPARING SNACK PACKS FOR FAIRHOPE HIGH SCHOOL & ROTARY YOUTH CLUB.



Emergency Food Distribution			
Food	Produce	Produce	Produce
3/24	72	2,148	965
3/24	648	1,888	959
3/24	814	2,530	1,126
3/24	851	2,562	1,147
3/24	604	1,903	947
3/24	649	2,073	1,022
Total	4,248	13,093	5,916

PRODISEE PANTRY

PRODISEE PANTRY - THIS PAST TUESDAY, APRIL 28TH OUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION TO BALDWIN COUNTY FAMILIES. 1022 FAMILIES WERE SERVED ON TUESDAY. WE ALSO PROVIDED MEALS FOR PRODUCE VOLUNTEERS.



RAID YOUR PANTRY WEEKLY CHALLENGE - THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID YOUR PANTRY OUTREACH. OVER 142 CARS PARTICIPATED IN THE DROP-OFF. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ACCEPT DONATIONS OF FOOD & DIAPERS FOR PRODISEE. FOOD ITEMS WILL BENEFIT FAIRHOPE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB, THE LORD'S PANTRY & FAIRHOPE HIGH SCHOOL.

DHR/BALDWIN COUNTY CAREHOUSE CARE PACKAGES - WE ARE MAKING PLANS TO PROVIDE CARE PACKAGES FOR BALDWIN COUNTY CHILDREN WHO ARE IN THE CARE OF DHR AND THE BALDWIN COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER CAREHOUSE (CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY OR SEXUALLY ABUSED). PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP BY PROVIDING ITEMS OR WILLING TO DELIVER TO DHR & CAREHOUSE.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS ASSISTANCE DURING THIS TIME, PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN HELP.

PLEASE EMAIL MISSIONS@FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.
MUCH LOVE TO ALL, JENNIFER MYRICK, DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

Whatever It Takes Challenge

Instructions for Week of May 3rd

For several weeks, our church family challenges have called upon us to extend our witness of hope, natural beauty, and encouragement out into the world. In various and crafty ways, you've revealed your hearts, waved your palm branches, and shined your lights in the dark corners of our community. Each of these activities have served well as reminders of God's love for us all. More than just a healthy distraction for our children and families, these offerings have been a means of grace – simple tools to keep us engaged in our love of God and neighbor – and tangible signs of a new creation that is still underway.

While our previous challenges have been in the interest of public outreach, this week's invitation is for the purpose of feeding our own souls in this collective journey.

The task is simple – **read your Bible!**

In today's Gospel lesson, Jesus declares that the sheep are more prone to obey the shepherd when they are at least familiar with the sound of the shepherd's voice (Jn. 10:4). In light of this analogy, how familiar are we, really, with the voice and Word of God?

Many of you are engaged in some form of daily Bible reading. Others of us wish that we did, or perhaps believe that we should. Guess what? *You have time!* For those that do, how were you able to establish this discipline and what is it worth to you? What are your best practices, and how might you share them with those closest to you?

Thus, the challenge is this – read the Bible with someone else every day this week, whether it is at the dinner table or over the phone. If you're looking for resources on what or how to read scripture for devotional purposes, here are a few of my personal favorites:

- The Daily Office from *The Book of Common Prayer*
- *This Day: A Wesleyan Way of Prayer*
- *Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals*

In each of these selections, there are scripture lessons designated for each day that include readings from both the Old and New Testaments which correspond to the seasons of the Christian year. Consider what it would take to divide these readings up among the members of your household (or other friends and neighbors) and patiently exploring where the discussion might go from there. God knows that after weeks of staying at home together, we at the McClellan house are running out of other topics of conversation! Not only that, but since the Church loved our boys enough to supply

Bibles for them at certain points in their lives, we might as well open them up now and again, right?

So the challenge is to create space for the Word of God to speak into our lives, and to trust that the Holy Spirit will assist us with the interpretation (this reliance of the Spirit should also prevent any 'resident experts' from dominating the conversation). This sounds simple enough, but it will take some discipline to be consistent each day, together. If we do give this a try for a solid week, however, I am excited to imagine where the Good Shepherd might lead us in the process. I expect to learn much from my family in this exchange. I pray God will help me to listen; to recognize His voice through them.

Lastly, I would add that if the conversation gets *really* good, or if there is a question that arises around your table that is just too enticing to ignore, let one of your pastors or other staff know. Maybe we can pop in and join the discussion!

Whatever It Takes...

Lord, let your glory be revealed!

Darren