



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 14, 2020

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECLARING GOOD NEWS *Romans 5:1-8*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING SONG *Love the Lord* Shea White and Friends

OPENING PRAYER

God the Father, source of Divinity,
good beyond all that is good,
fair beyond all that is fair,
in you is calmness, peace and unity.
Repair the things that divide us from each other
and restore our unity of love like your divine love.
And as you are above all things,
unite us in goodness and love that we may be spiritually one,
with you and with each other, through your peace which makes all things peaceful
and through the grace, mercy, and tenderness
of your only Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE *You Never Let Go* Shea White and Friends
You Are My All in All

BAPTISM Christopher Hurson Lieb
Son of Chris and Ashley Lieb

APOSTLES' CREED

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC *Lean Back* Hannah Kingry

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of redemption,
summon us to Sarah's joy,
Abraham's wonder,
and Paul's confident hope
through the word and work of the Good Shepherd;
Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 18:1-15

SERMON

"Permission to Laugh"
Dr. Darren M. McClellan

OUR CONFESSION

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A WORD FOR NEXT WEEK

CLOSING SONG

Unstoppable God

Shea White & Friends

BENEDICTION

Assisting in Worship: Rev. Ontonio Christie and Rev. Laura Parker.
Music led by Shea White with Bill Munson, Rick Miller,
Jeff Farrow, Dena White and Hannah Kingry.
Thanks to our technical crew:
Jamie and Rachael Waldhour, and Robert Hammon.

Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:

Offering Received June 7 - \$45,545

(Online - \$20,086 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$25,459)

For those of you who would like to bring your offering to the church, we have a mail slot located in the door across from the glass doors in the breezeway entrance of the education building.

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

Jeff White, Business Administrator



The Unbelievable God

Season after Pentecost 2020

From the beginning of the Christian community's early formation as a peculiar people of God, the call of Jesus to his followers has been "to be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). What does this mean for us today? At Pentecost, the promise of Christ's enduring presence is fulfilled in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon *all* flesh, thereby equipping the Church to *be* more than just another special interest group of like-minded individuals — and to *do* more than it could ever do on its own.

*God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower...*

This prophetic claim still echoes across the church of today; but is it still believe-able? In a world that toils with foreboding sickness and perpetual injustice, the news of redemption through death and resurrection may sound cruel, at worst, and at best, highly unusual. Even more so, the notion of actual reconciliation by way of genuine repentance and forgiveness sounds like a far-fetched dream. Is it wishful thinking? Or is it the gospel Truth?

The psalmist tells us that the Creator God is still at work, and that the Lord will give us what we need in "due season" (104:27). The big idea is that the God who said "let there be light" in the beginning is the same God with a plan for our present darkness as well. Do we still believe that? Is this Word really enough for us in the living of *these* days? Or is it just another delusional, unbelievable fantasy?

In our summer reading of God's Word to us and for us, we also face the absurdity of what God may ask of us along the way. As a church family, we are already living a bit 'out of sorts, but let us consider another family by comparison. If you listen to the voice of mother Sarah in Genesis, the inclination is to laugh out loud. If you ask father

Abraham to share his story, you will likely shudder with fear and frustration. If we consider the plight of Hagar, we might begin to identify with the heart of God for an oppressed people. These witnesses are not so sweet and simple. They too understood that not every tale of summer involves a beach or a pleasure cruise.

Somewhere between the Word and the world we are prone to exclaim:

What kind of a God would put people through all of this? Unbelievable.

In our episodes of pain and uncertainty, there are still moments of subtle glory. Amidst the travail, there are glimpses of transcendence when the will of God is revealed with fresh insight. In this particular season of deep disorientation, we struggle to find words suitable for our witness. Lord only knows what might happen next!

Our response to the unbelievable God will make a difference. When I envision God's preferred future for the community of Fairhope UMC, faith tells me that it will be unbelievable...absolutely...but in the best way possible!

In choosing to "love boldly," we find our voice amidst the clamor of the crowd.

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.*

Grace to You,

Darren

Prayers for the People

Sympathy:

Family and friends of **Shuford Roberts**

Congratulations to:

Rebecca Sowell Tarwater and Andrew Tarwater on the birth of a son, Benjamin Bates Tarwater, born on June 5. The proud grandparents are **Steve and Leah Sowell** and great grandparents are **Ted and Jane Love**.

Kristen and Matt Broussard on the birth of son, Lucas Price Broussard, born on April 22. His big brothers are William and Grant.

Other:

Medical personnel and other first responders

Be sure to scroll all the way down. There are lots of Announcements!

Caring Ministries Update:

- **Two more Random Acts of Kindness** were delivered this week to member's homes by the many Caring Ministry volunteers. The team continues to be serving every week in some way to touch the lives of our members.

On Monday, June 8, 90 gifts were delivered, with the card:



On Tuesday, June 9, 34 gift bags of bread were delivered. Gayle and Marcus Lawrence and Janie Mullins were a part of our delivery team.



- **Caregivers Support Group** will have a virtual meeting on Tuesday, June 16 at 9:30am. Please contact Ann at ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org if you would like to join the meeting and an invite will be sent to you.



A note from Rev. Laura: I am hosting online devotionals through Zoom every Monday morning at 9:30am 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. 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](#).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND SMALL GROUP STUDY:

We have several Sunday school classes currently meeting through Zoom who would like to make their classes open to any who wish to join them. Following is information you may find of interest as you seek to remain connected with brothers and sisters in Christ:

Foundations Class

Meeting: Sunday Mornings at 9:45 AM

Current Study: *Six Ways We Encounter God: A Small Group Experience*, by Tom Berlin

Link to Zoom Meeting Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83786688837?pwd=Uk5MdGNDTHp3TUdBclcwUWRzL20zUT09>

Meeting ID: 837 8668 8837

Password: 684133

Peace and Grace

Meets on Sundays at 9:30 (we try to hold it to an hour)

Topic: *Red Letter Revolution: What if Jesus really meant what he said?* by Shane Claiborne and Tony Campolo. It is a very discussion oriented class led by different people in the class. We welcome everybody.

Zoom meeting ID: 9092162907

New Beginnings

Facilitated by: Rick Miller

Meets: Sundays @ 9:30 am.

Current Study: *Epic of Eden-Jonah*, by Dr. Sandra Richter

When most people think about the book of Jonah, they think about a children's story. Others think about a story they've heard so many times there could not possibly be anything new to learn from it. Well strap in, because this study is designed to prove all those assumptions wrong! In the book of Jonah we find a professional holy man, a lifer in the faith who is about to have the God he thinks he understands challenge him with an assignment that he can hardly get his brain around. In The Epic of Eden: Jonah, Dr. Sandra Richter takes us on a journey through Jonah's life that leads us all to the place where we realize that our God is way bigger than we thought. Not only will we learn everything we ever wanted to know about the brutal Assyrians of Nineveh, ancient seafaring ships, and large aquatic creatures, but we will also be challenged with the same message that confronted Jonah. Are we willing to let God be God, to move us out of our comfort zones, and embrace a calling that might just take us to the edges of the world we know?

<https://zoom.us/j/9897433150>

Homecoming Class

Topic: Ezra

Facilitated by Brenda Robinson

Both in-person and Zoom meetings will be offered throughout June, not to exceed an hour.

Join through Zoom this Sunday, June 14th at 9:30 am through this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83137831573?pwd=djZ3eXFMZVl1ZVJuejdYMUVzM1paZz09>

Meeting ID: 831 3783 1573

Password: 4caWgW

A tentative schedule for the rest of the month is as follows:

June 21: Ezra 7 & 8 (Father's Day): Zoom 9:30

June 22: In person 5:00 pm; date and place TBD by weather.

June 27: Ezra 9 & 10 (note: this is a Saturday Zoom 9:

June 29: In person 5:00 pm; date and place TBD by weather

July 5th - No class - Resume with the study of Haggai in July

Contact Brenda (205-294-1705) or bgodbold@hiwaay.net for more information or to be added to an email list for updates. Request handouts be emailed either through Brenda or Rev. Laura (laura.parker@fairhopeumc.org.)



Summer Book Club Update...

See Zoom Link for this Week!!!!



Join us this Tuesday, June 16th, for our discussion of our first book, This Tender Land, by William Kent Krueger. We will meet through Zoom at 6 pm. Here is your link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96385732114>

Our theme for the summer is “home.” What constitutes home? Is it a country, is it a house, is it the land, is it people? What does it mean to leave your home or to find a new home? What happens when one becomes “untethered” from what he or she considers to be home?

In addition to the discussion scheduled for this week, mark your calendar for these books and dates:

July 14th The Dutch House, Ann Patchett

August 11th American Dirt, Jeanine Cummins

I will update you closer to these dates on how and where we will meet. For now, enjoy your reading! Books have the power to stretch us and challenges us – and can also entertain and distract us! Sometimes that can be a good thing.

All of the books are readily available on Kindle, so no need to leave your house if you are an e-reader. Apparently, reading is a popular pursuit right now and there may be some delays and backorders on print versions of current bestsellers, so please shop early from our local bookstores or online sellers.

Blessings to all of you during this very odd time in the life of our church and community.

Happy reading!!

Laura

Children's Ministries

Blue Lake Camp's Walk by Faith Virtual 5K was a success! Thanks to all who registered! At the time this is being submitted, 141 tickets were sold. I feel confident by the time registration closes that the goal of 150 will be met. With registration fees and sponsors, \$6,600 has been raised so far from this creative fundraiser!!

Checkout the next project we can support ... Camp in a Box!



\$30.00

Pinecone Box Includes:

Blue Lake Summer 2020 Shirt | Flashlight | Geode
Pinecone Birdfeeder Craft Kit** | Sticker
2020 Summer Camp Name Tag



\$35.00

Campfire Box includes:

2020 Blue Lake Summer Camp Shirt | Stuffed Animal of
Your Choice | Blue Lake Bracelet | S'mores Kit | Sticker
Jar of Blue Lake Water | 2020 Summer Camp Name Tag

BLUE LAKE BOXES

To place an order go to www.bluelakecamp.com

Check out these Blue Lake Boxes available for purchase! If you can't be at camp this summer, Blue Lake wants to bring camp home to you! Choose between FOUR different boxes full of fun activities, camp store favorites and a memento of BLC for you to have at home! ALL the boxes include a NEVER BEFORE SEEN Summer 2020 Shirt!



\$40.00

Lake Box Includes:

2020 Blue Lake Summer Shirt | Blue Lake Vintage
Mystery Shirt** | Blue Lake Water Bottle Summer
Camp Keychain Craft Kit
Sticker | Jar of Blue Lake Water
2020 Summer Camp Nametag



\$45.00

Oakwood Box includes:

2020 Blue Lake Summer Shirt | Blue Lake Travel Mug
Blue Lake Ornament | At Home Devotional | Sticker
Blue Lake Pen | Jar of Blue Lake Water

Student Ministry

Community Group ~ OUTDOOR GATHERINGS ~WEDNESDAY's @ 6:30pm

Our C-Groups are coming together with their friends and leaders to meet outside in the backyard of a host home or in another outdoor location. The details for every group meeting & location is different because we are still not meeting inside the buildings on our church campus. **All C-groups will meet this Wednesday evening again @ 6:30 pm. Please check your Groupme accounts for the details for your group and don't miss out! *Meetings are based on leader availability and weather***

Stepping Up Program

WELCOME ALL RISING 7th GRADERS TO SALT STUDENT MINISTRY!!!

June 14, 15, 16 & 17 @ 5:30 pm

We are so excited to announce that our Stepping Up bridge program will meet June 14th-17th, 2020. This program is open to all rising 7th grade students that will be in student ministry at Fairhope UMC this fall. **Stepping Up** is a great way to transition your 7th grader into our middle school ministry. Please note, our groups will only meet in outdoor spaces, social distancing and in a small group. Therefore, we have some creative ideas on how to connect using all of those elements while getting this group connected to our ministry. To get registered and receive all the details, please follow the instructions below!

HOW TO REGISTER FOR STEPPING UP:

1. To register your student, please click this link: <https://fairhopeumc.shelbynextchms.com/external/form/7806956e-67cd-4027-8205-a6943ceac81a>
2. Next, we will send you a form to have your student fill it out and turn in to Rachael Waldhour. This step helps us to pair them with student mentors that have something in common with them.
3. Finally, return the form you can scan and email to Rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org.

HOW DO YOU GET CONNECTED TO STUDENT MINISTRY?

*Text "SALTSTUDENTS" to "43506"

*Follow **fairhopeumc.youth** on Instagram

*Like our page **FHSaltstudents** on Facebook

*For email updates, get on our list by sending your information to
Michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org!



Student Ministry Mini-Mission Sessions:

JULY 26-28: 11th-GRADUATES

JULY 29-31: 9th-11th

AUGUST 2-4: 7th-9th

AUGUST 5-7: 7th-9th

***All grades listed above are for the Fall 2020 school year! Click link below to register on our church website.*

IMPORTANT DETAILS TO KNOW BEFORE SIGNING UP:

Register for 1 session only!

- *Interested in being a chaperone? Please text Rachael for more information.*
- *Transportation to & from Panama City will not be provided by the church. This must be provided by parent or adult. (You may carpool with another team member.)*
- *Cost: \$85 includes housing and meals only*
- *Housing provided by UMCOR, conference protocol for social distancing included in housing plan.*
- *Packing list will be sent by July 5.*
- *Student Ministry Medical Release forms required.*

TO REGISTER: fairhopeumc.org/ministries/youth/youth-events/

SENIOR SEND OFF

The background of the poster is a photograph of a group of graduates silhouetted against a sunset sky. They are all throwing their graduation caps into the air, and the caps are seen floating in the sky above them. The sky transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright orange near the horizon.

SUNDAY, JULY 19

9:00 am | Fairhope UMC
Graduates of the Class of 2020 &
their immediate family are invited!

RSVP TO:
MICHAEL SPICER, MICHAEL.SPICER@FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG

Your 2020 Graduate & the immediate family are invited to join us for our Senior Send-off hosted by the Fairhope United Methodist Church. We are so excited to be able to honor your grad and be able to send them off on their next steps with prayer and get to say goodbye!

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 HOME BOUND MEALS EACH WEEK BETWEEN FAIRHOPE, DAPHNE & SILVERHILL. WE ARE ALSO PROVIDING MEALS TO SHEPHERD'S PLACE AND FAIRHOPE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB. WE ARE SERVING AROUND 350-400 TOTAL EACH FRIDAY.



RAID YOUR PANTRY - THANK YOU TO OUR YOUTH SMALL GROUPS & SWIFT WHO HAVE BEEN SORTING & BAGGING FOOD ITEMS. SWIFT BAGGED OVER 125 BAGS THIS WEEK THAT WERE GIVEN TO ROTARY YOUTH CLUB.



BORDEN MILK - WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE 360 GALLONS OF MILK EACH WEEK TO BE DISTRIBUTED ON FRIDAYS. BORDEN MILK WILL BE DELIVERING MILK TO US THROUGH THE END OF JUNE. WE WILL BE DISTRIBUTING THE MILK THROUGH THE FAIRHOPE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.



FAMILY PROMISE - SAVE THE DATE:
JUNE 20TH- WE ARE SPONSORING "NIGHT WITHOUT A BED" TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT HOMELESSNESS IN BALDWIN COUNTY. YOU CAN SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BY

JOINING FAMILY PROMISE'S FIRST NATIONAL NIGHT WITHOUT A BED SLEEPOUT ON JUNE 20TH. PUT UP A TENT IN YOUR BACK YARD. MAKE A FORT IN YOUR LIVING ROOM. WRAP UP IN BLANKETS ON THE SOFA OR IN A SLEEPING BAG ON THE FLOOR. GIVE UP YOUR COMFORTABLE BED FOR ONE NIGHT AND SHARE THE EXPERIENCE WITH FRIEND AND FAMILY. WE ASK THAT YOU TAKE A PICTURE AND POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA #NIGHTWITHOUTABED & TAG FAMILY PROMISE OF BALDWIN COUNTY & FAIRHOPE UMC.

PRODISSEE PANTRY- WE HAD A GREAT TIME VOLUNTEERING AT PRODISSEE PANTRY THIS PAST TUESDAY. THANK YOU FOR THE DIAPERS THAT WERE DONATED TO PRODISSEE THROUGH OUR RAID YOUR PANTRY OUTREACH! WE LOOK FORWARD TO MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE PRODISSEE.



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