



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2020

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The God of our ancestors calls us to worship.

Praise the Lord!

Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

God of mystery and might,

whose wonderful works are to be remembered,

move in our lives, change our minds, soften our hearts,

direct our feet, that we may follow you more faithfully.

Yes, Lord, we seek to follow Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN #64

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

GLORIA PATRI

HYMN #577

God of Grace and God of Glory

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Then Sings My Soul (Hine/McDonald)

Tom Hood

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, who spoke to Moses from the burning bush,

speak to us now in the reading and proclaiming of your word. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ Exodus 3:1-15

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus Christ overcame evil with good so that all people might be saved from sin. Let us then confess our need for grace, confident of God's forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that, like the disciples, we set our minds not on divine things but on human things. Doubting your loving care, we grab for more than we need. Doubting your loving purposes, we shrink from living as your followers. Doubting your loving plan, we become stumbling blocks in your creation. Forgive us that we may gain new life in you, for it is in Jesus 'forgiving name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus took up his cross for our salvation. In return for our old life of sin, he promises a new life of grace. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**THE LORD'S PRAYER****SENDING FORTH**

Assisting in Worship Today:

Dr. Darren McClellan, Rev. Ontonio Christie

Music: Tom & Jenna Hood, John Richardson, Shea White

Media and Sound: Jamie & Rachael Waldhour, Robert Hammon

Ushers: 8:30 (CLC) Tommy & Wanda Harris

9:45 (Sanctuary) Mark Woodrow, George Roberds

11:00 (CLC) Linda Smaith, Greg Tapscott

12:15 (Sanctuary) George Roberds

Prayers for the People**Sympathy:**

Susie and Tony Caminiti in the death of her cousin, Tom Treese.

Medical personnel and other first responders



Dear Friends,

Today is a significant day in the life of Fairhope United Methodist Church. After nearly six months of congregational exile, we are now taking definitive steps toward the restoration of corporate worship.

Thanks be to God!

The church has never been closed, mind you, but we know that this season of “online only” on Sunday mornings has been a real disruption to the sacred rhythm of our lives. So for those who will enter our

doors today, we say, *welcome back!* And to those who will be joining us remotely, rest assured that you are still every bit part of the body of Christ here at Fairhope UMC.

From now to the end of October, our worship services will be digging in to the call of Moses and the challenges of navigating what was known literally and figuratively as the wilderness of Sin (Ex. 17:1). With all of the obstacles that we see presently before us—for our families, our church, our community, our nation, and in the world—I can think of no better image to inform and inspire us than the memory of that story which began with a burning bush.

Do you suppose that flame is still going? How does God keep it, or us, from burning on without burning out?

In this series, we will be remembering the God who hears the cries of His children and works with them to deliver them up and out from the oppressive conditions of Egypt. We will glean certain insight from the scriptures on how to make decisions in the midst of an otherwise divisive culture, and how to handle the perpetual grumbles and groans that so often come with community. We will also reimagine our calling as Christ’s followers here at Fairhope UMC and dare to renew the pursuit of our own mission for the transformation of the world.

I am excited about what God may reveal to us during this time. God knows we could all use a fresh Word of hope. There is nothing about our experience of 2020 that would suggest to us that this 3rd quarter of the year will be easy. Even so, I believe that the Lord has collectively equipped us for this season (whether we know it or not) and will continue to prepare us for whatever it is that the Spirit would have us to do and to be. As he promised Moses...*Here I am!* So I believe that “I AM” is with us...on purpose...ready to deliver!

But friends, make no mistake about it: the way out of Egypt is *hard*. This is also true for the realities of pandemic, prejudice, brutality, bias, addiction, aggravation, greed, gluttony and whole list of other forms of oppression. These stories of Moses cover it all, and set the stage for the cross of Jesus Christ. This way is the witness of scripture. Therefore, as we approach the richness of the biblical tradition, our confession is pretty simple. When our plans fall short and our patience worn thin, we need help. We need understanding. We need each other. We need God.

I am glad that you have chosen to worship with us. Let us hear the good news together.

Come What May—Here I Am!

Darren

Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:

Offering Received August 23 – \$41,609

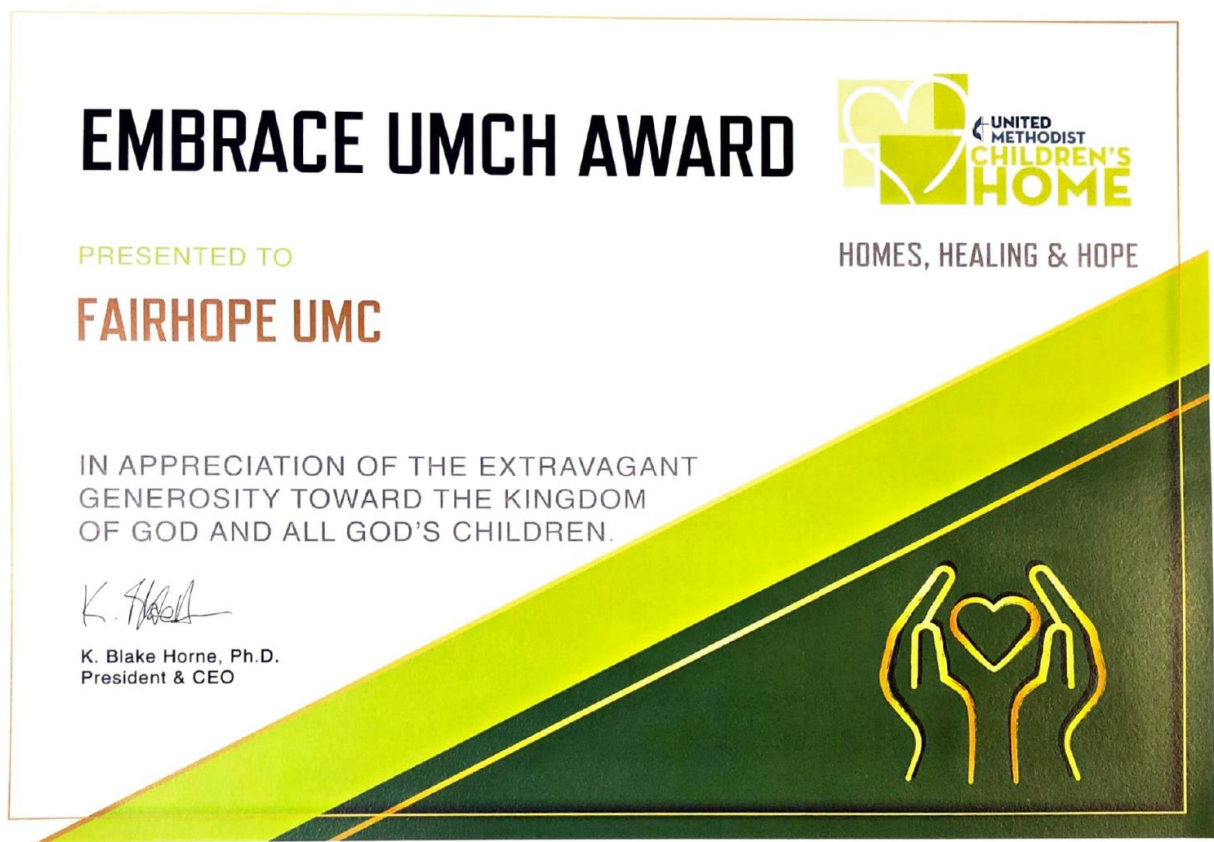
(Online - \$13,075 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$28,534)

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

**This award has been presented to Fairhope UMC from the
United Methodist Children's Home.**



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



An Invitation from Pastor Laura:

Begin your week with an online devotional through Zoom on Monday mornings at 9:30am until we return to more normal gathering routines in the life of our church. This time together is brief, 15-20 minutes. Hear a short devotional and then share prayer concerns with each other.

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. Following is information you may find of interest as you seek to remain connected with brothers and sisters in Christ:

Foundations Class

Will not meet Sunday, August 30th or Sunday, September 6th.

Will resume Sunday, September 13th.

Grace and Peace

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

It is a very discussion oriented class led by different people in the class. Everyone is welcome!

Zoom meeting ID: 9092162907

New Beginnings Will not meet during August.

Koinonia

Facilitated by: Tony Caminiti

Meets: Sundays at 9:30am.

This week's lesson: "What Do You Want?"

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86502589359?pwd=M2lmZFNVeGxKMjhoVDg2NU5VVXY5UT09>

Meeting ID: 865 0258 9359

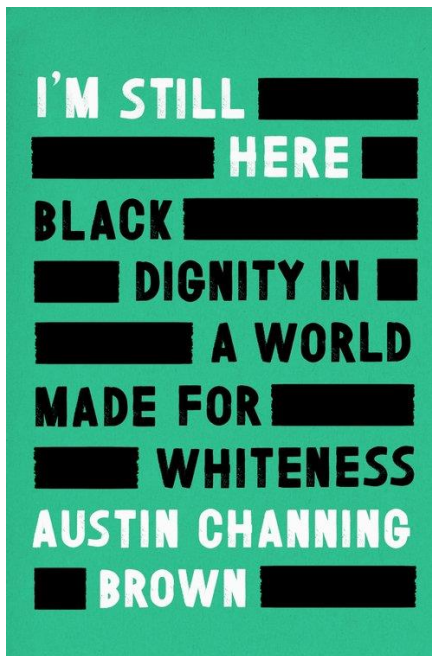
Passcode: 549582

Homecoming Class

Will not meet this Sunday.

If you would like information about when this class will resume, please contact Brenda Robinson: (205-294-1705) or bgodbold@hiwaay.net.

New Women's Book Study Group Starts Tuesday, September 1



Please join Kristi McClellan for a book study on one of Reese Witherspoon's Book Club's recent selections, "I'm Still Here" by Austin Channing Brown. Discussing this book will provide a place for us to have honest conversations from varying perspectives to talk about important issues in the church, community and our lives. The book is written in the narrative style and the reading for each week will not be too lengthy, about 30 (small) pages per week.

We'll meet for six consecutive weeks on Tuesday nights at 6pm starting 9/1. The current plan is to BYOC (bring your own chair) and we'll gather outside, maintaining physical distance, in the gravel parking lot at FUMC. Depending on the reopening of the church buildings, we'll hopefully move inside at some point.

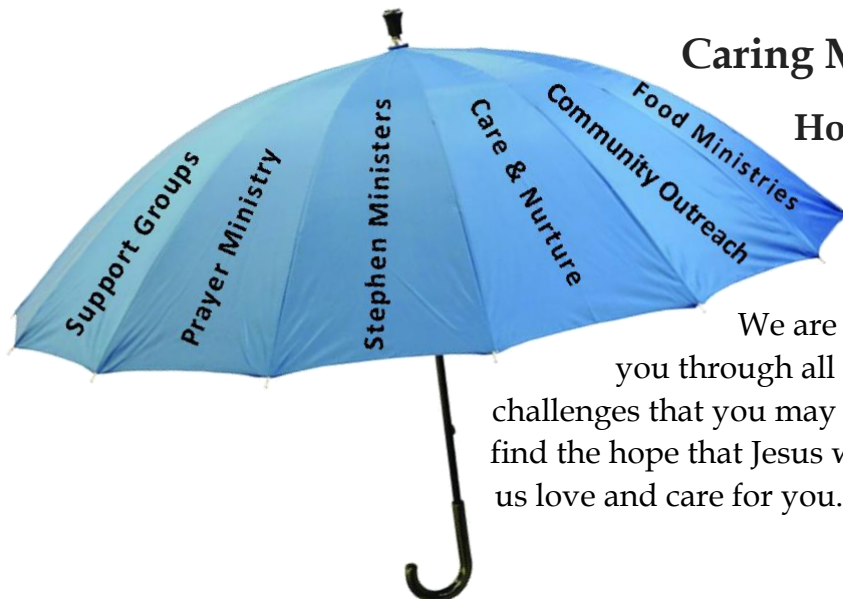
The number of participants will be limited so please RSVP by emailing Kristi at kkmcclellan@hotmail.com. Please purchase the book and we'll discuss Chapters 1 and 2 during our first meeting on 9/1.

Caring Ministries

How can we support you?

Caring Ministries, Stephen Ministers and your Pastoral staff are here to care for you.

We are available to come along side you through all the things blessings and challenges that you may be facing. Together we can find the hope that Jesus wants us to experience. Let us love and care for you.



Caregivers Support Group

This group is meeting on Tuesday, September 1 at 9:30am virtually on Zoom. If you would like to join in this meeting, contact Ann Pearson, ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org and she will send you an invite.

Caring Ministries continues to care and encourage our church members...

This week our membership should have received a gift from Caring Ministries through the mail. We continue to connect with you to let each of you know you are not forgotten. Our joy is to share God's love with each of you. We love you.



Children's Ministries...



Worship Activity Bags are available for each service.

Please take advantage of the worship bags we have prepared for the children to use during the church service. The bags are grouped into **Preschool - 2nd grade** and **3rd grade - 6th grade**. In each bag are activities that coincide with the sermon topic and the bags should be taken home with you.

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

Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:30pm

Parents will receive an email with the Zoom link on Monday. If your child would like to participate but you do not receive the email, contact Michelle Graham at michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org. This group has so much fun together each week!

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Registration information for the 2020-2021 year is available at www.fairhopeumc.org under preschool/MOPS. There is a drive -thru registration at the nursery entrance on Monday, August 31st from 4-6pm.

If you are the mother of a child (newborn-kindergarten), you can find fellowship, encouragement and fun in MOPS. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays during the school year in our Christian Life Center.

Note: The start date of September 14th is hopeful but subject to change depending on the reopening phase we are in at that time.

Student Ministry...

FALL STUDENT MINISTRY COMMUNITY GROUPS

Wednesday & Sunday

We welcome our students, 7th-12th graders, back this fall for our Community Groups that will begin Wednesday, August 26 & Sunday, August 30. The schedule, time and location for every small group are listed below. We look forward to seeing our students again and being able to reconnect in our small groups.

This semester our students will be required to register on a weekly basis. For your safety and the safety of our leaders, every student and adult leader will be required to wear a face covering, practice social-distancing and hand sanitizing stations will be easily accessible. For the time being, no food or drink is allowed during C-groups. Parents, please plan to pick-up your students at the time listed below as we will not have the facility open for recreational play prior to or following our meetings. We will need drivers to remain in your vehicle and students will come to you once they are finished with their group meeting. Thank you in advance for keeping our student ministry family safe and healthy by paying close attention to the first sign of illness and not participating in C-Groups if you have any symptoms of sickness!

We will begin a "**Virtual Small Group**" on Sunday, August 30 at 8:00 pm for students and families that wish to take extra precautions but would still like to participate in student ministry activities!

SUNDAY NIGHTS

- 1) Juniors (Gym) 6:30-7:45 pm
- 2) Seniors (Fellowship Hall) 6:30-7:45 pm
- 3) Virtual Small Groups (Grades 7-12 welcome! ~ Zoom Meeting 8:00-8:45 pm)

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

- 1) 7th Grade 5:30-6:30 pm (Gym)
- 2) 8th Grade 5:30-6:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)
- 3) 9th Grade 6:45-7:45 pm (Gym)
- 4) 10th Grade 6:45-7:45 pm (Fellowship Hall)

NEW TO STUDENT MINISTRY?

All rising 7th grade (student & parent) and new church families with 7th-12th graders are encouraged to connect with us through social media, text messaging reminders, GROUPME for every grade and through our email reminders!

Want to get plugged in??? Follow SALTSTUDENTS:

Instagram: @fairhopeumc.youth

Facebook: @fhsaltstudents

Email: Michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org to get on our email announcements or to be added to the Groupme for C-Group reminders!

Text Message Reminders: Text the word "Saltstudents" to the number "43506"

Missions...

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 200 TOTAL EACH FRIDAY.



SOLES 4 SOULS
WE ARE SUPPORTING OUR FRIENDS AT DAPHNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BY BEING A COLLECTION POINT FOR NEW OR GENTLY USED SHOES! ALL SIZES ACCEPTED!



DISASTER RESPONSE HURRICANE LAURA RESPONSE

WE ARE PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY HURRICANE LAURA. WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH OUR CONFERENCE DISASTER COORDINATOR AND LOCAL VOAD.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN SERVE NOW:

P R A Y

PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY THE STORM.

G I V E

WE HAVE BEEN ASKED BY OUR LOCAL VOAD TO COLLECT GAS CARDS FOR EVACUEES THAT LANDED IN OUR COUNTY. THEY NEED GAS CARDS IN ORDER TO TRAVEL TO RED CROSS SHELTERS IN MS.

S E R V E

WE WILL BE COLLECTING ITEMS & ASSEMBLING CLEANING BUCKETS WITH THE FAIRHOPE POLICE DEPARTMENT ON SEPTEMBER 8TH.

WE ARE CURRENTLY WAITING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW FAIRHOPE UMC WILL HELP RESPOND TO OUR FRIENDS IN LOUISIANA. MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

SAVE THE DATE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

FAIRHOPE UMC,
FAIRHOPE POLICE
DEPARTMENT & BALDWIN
COUNTY EMA
WILL BE ASSEMBLING
CLEANING BUCKETS FOR
HURRICANE SEASON!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
9:30 AM & 1:00PM
CLC FELLOWSHIP



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT JENNIFER MYRICK
MISSIONS@FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG

