



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Epiphany of the Lord **The Gathering: January 3, 2021**

OPENING SONGS

How Can I Keep From Singing
Our God

Shea White, Praise Team

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine; for your light has come.
Behold the glory of the Lord. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of light and peace,
whose glory, shining in the child of Bethlehem,
still draws the nations to yourself:
dispel the darkness that shrouds our path,
that we may come to kneel before Christ in true worship,
offer him our hearts and souls,
and return from his presence to live as he has taught. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

OFFERING

He Has Come For Us

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, nations shall come to your light
and rulers to the brightness of your dawn.
By the compelling radiance of your Spirit,
draw us near, reveal your truth,
and teach us faithful obedience to your holy Word. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

"Lessons From the Magi"

Rev. Laura Parker

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING SONG

Thank You

Assisting in Worship Today: Rev. Laura Parker

Music: Shea White and Praise Band

Media and Sound: Robert Hammon, Jamie Waldhour, Amelia Koser

***In-Person Worship Reservations
for Sunday, January 10, are open today at 4pm!***

We are asking those wishing to join us to use the reservation system we have in place to ensure that we keep the attendance to a size that enables a 6 foot physical distance between families. For anyone not able to attend the worship service we will continue to share online through Facebook, YouTube & our website.

WORSHIP TIMES:

8:30am & 11:00am Traditional (Sanctuary)

11:00am *The Gathering* (CLC GYM)

Make your reservations at <https://www.fairhopeumc.org/worshipreservations/>

Prayers for the People

Medical personnel and first responders

Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:

Offering Received December 27 - \$64,087
(Online - \$25,932 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$38,155)

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



**Fairhope United Methodist Church
Epiphany Sunday
January 3, 2021**

PRELUDE

Von Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her

Pachelbel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing praise to God, who gathers us here;
from the ends of the earth we come.
With a word of promise, a spring of water,
a loaf of bread, and a cup of wine,
**God turns our mourning into dancing,
our sorrow into joy.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Light of life, you came in flesh,
born into human pain and joy,
and gave us power to be your children.
Grant us faith, O Christ, to see your presence among us,
so that all of creation may sing new songs of gladness
and walk in the way of peace. Amen.

HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;

O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, All glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to thee be glory given. Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

GLORIA PATRI

OFFERING *Von Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her* Zachau

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Shine upon us, God of glory,
and by your Spirit reveal to us
the grace and truth of Jesus Christ,
your Word made flesh. **Amen.**

GOSPEL LESSON John 1:1-18

SERMON *Back to the Beginning* Rev. Ontonio Christie

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so,

With your people on earth

And all the company of heaven

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And so,

In remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD / GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

CLOSING HYMN

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."

Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Von Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her

Walther

Assisting in Worship Today: Rev. Ontonio Christie, Steve Pearson

Music: Tom Hood, John Richardson Acolyte: Sims Peters (11:00)

Media and Sound: Ann Lyles Tapscott, Peyton Phillips

*The flowers on the altar in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Henry Harris for his birthday by Bobbie, Scott and Shawn.*

FLOWER CALENDAR... The flower calendar for 2021 is in the hallway across from the main office. If you would like to sign up to place flowers on the altar in the sanctuary, please come by or give us a call (251-928-1148) to check available dates.



A note from Rev. Laura:

We will continue our devotionals every Monday morning at 9:30 in the new year until we are able to return to more normal gathering routines in the life of our church. This time together lasts about 15-20 minutes and provides an opportunity to see familiar faces and pray together as we begin our week!

We will RESUME "Zoom" tomorrow morning.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98533273696>

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ~ 9:45-10:40 AM ON SUNDAYS

NOTE: In-Person Sunday School will not be offered for adults, youth or children on January 3rd.

Foundations & Basics ~ Fellowship Hall

Parents of children and youth, young couples parenting young children and newly married. These classes will be meeting together through the end of the year. Dr. Darren McClellan is facilitating a discussion of an Advent study by Walter Brueggemann, *Names for the Messiah*. Zoom link is available.

Pathfinders ~ B210

Multi-generational class with in-depth Bible study. Facilitated by Linda Smith. Studying the book of Jonah.

New Beginnings ~ B209

Adults in their 40s, 50s, 60s. Some retired, some with children in school or college, some with grandchildren. Teaching rotation with a variety of topics. Phil Webb is leading an Advent Study by Andy Stanley, *Who Needs Christmas*.

Grace and Peace ~ B217

Adults of varying ages and stages will find open, honest, thoughtful conversation in a place of radical hospitality. Shared leadership facilitating and Advent study by Walter Brueggemann, *Names for the Messiah*. Zoom link available.

Contact the church for more information about these classes meeting through Zoom:

Koinonia

Adults of varying ages, facilitated by Tony Caminiti; in depth Bible study and other topical studies.

Friends in Faith

Retired adults, individuals and couples. Teaching rotation with in depth Bible study.

Homecoming Class

Adults 50+, teaching rotation with primary emphasis on Bible study. Current study is on Zechariah. Participants may join from home by Zoom. Contact Brenda Robinson for more information: bgodbold@hiwaay.net

Living Word:

Ages span several decades and singles and couples faithfully participate. In-depth Bible study facilitated by Doug Garner.

Not meeting this week:

Discovery Class

Look for updates! This is a welcoming group of senior adults, mostly retired, facilitated by Cecil Christenberry.



ADULT BIBLE STUDIES COMING IN JANUARY...

Disciple IV Under the Tree of Life Facilitated by Dr. Darren McClellan (via Zoom)

Disciple IV is the final study in the four-phase DISCIPLE program and concentrates on Old Testament Writings, the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, Jude, and finally, Revelation. This is the original version – not Fast Track.

***Prerequisite: Participants must have taken Disciple I (original or Fast Track). Disciple Bible Studies do not need to be taken in order.*

When: Friday afternoons, beginning January 22nd from 2-4pm. **ZOOM ONLY**. The Old Testament component (16-weeks) will be taught through the Spring, concluding May 14th. Plans now are to teach the New Testament component in the Fall of 2021. We will determine at that time whether or not the NT will be taught by Zoom or in-person.

Cost: \$45

Invitation to John: A Short-Term Disciple Study

Facilitated by Barbara Stewart (in-person)

The invitation from Christ is: "Come and see, Follow me." Experience the magnificent passages in John including the I am statements (I am the truth, the life and the way, I am the living water and more). Revisit stories only told in John's gospel including Nicodemus, Mary Magdalene and the raising of Lazarus.

During the weekly video segments, travel into the Scripture as you hear the Word, experience the grand artwork connected with each story and interview the scholar. Each week wraps up with a small group discussion on video to spark your own conversation.

**There is no prerequisite for this class.

When: Wednesday mornings, beginning January 13th at 10:00am.

Will be taught in-person in Wesley Hall with social distancing and masks requested. Twelve weeks concluding March 31st. Cost: \$13

Registration for either class: Please email bobbi.hobbs@fairhopeumc.org or call the church office to register.

Caring Ministries...

Moving into 2021, we look forward to walking with you in the days ahead. Contact your Pastoral staff, Stephen Ministers or Ann Pearson at the church office 251-928-1148 if you would like us to pray with you or be that Christian sounding board.

Caregiver's Support Group will be meeting by zoom on Tuesday, Jan. 5 at 9:30 am. Contact Ann Pearson ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org to get your invitation to the virtual zoom meeting

Children's Ministries...

SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN ...

All children 3 years old-6th grade are invited to **Sunday School** from 9:45-10:40am (3 year old birthday must be before 9/1/20). Masks will be worn by teachers and students in our K-6th grade classes. Need to find a classroom? Go to www.fairhopeumc.org under children's ministries or see a greeter on Sunday mornings.

Note:

Children's Sunday School will not meet today. We will resume next Sunday, January 10th.

Children ages 3 months-PreK4 can stay in the **Nursery** during our 3 worship services and Sunday School.

Children's Church is not available at this time. Children are seated with their families for the whole service. Take-home **Worship Bags** are available for preschool-2nd grade. Activity bulletins are available for children 3rd-6th grade.

COMING SOON...

Book Study for 3rd & 4th Graders on Sunday afternoons beginning January 17th! An email will be sent soon to parents with details, including registration! Children's Ministries will order and pay for the books.

One-Day Winter Retreat / Saturday, February 6th / Blue Lake Camp

We will charter a bus, leave around 7:00am and return around 9:30pm. Plans for the retreat are still being finalized but for now, save the date! Registration information will be sent as soon as it is available! Winter Retreat is for 3rd – 6th graders. This will be an outdoor event.

Student Ministries...



DNOW OUTDOOR RETREAT

Jan 9-10, 2021

***Registration form, *NEW easy online payment and more parent information can be found on the youth page of our church website today!**

- **Where: Camp Beckwith**
- **What: Tent/ Sleeping Bag**
- **When: January 9th (begins 2:30 pm) thru 10th (ends 1:30 pm)**
- **Registration Deadline: January 2nd**
- **How much: \$75 (Scholarships Available)**
- **Who: 7th -12th**

We cannot wait to come together as a community for our outdoor worship, small groups and free time for the 2021 DNOW at Camp Beckwith! Our speaker will be Deon Cossio and our worship band, Yeah, Probably. This reimagined DNOW Retreat is January 9-10 and we will take all necessary precautions to make this a safe event for all students and adults. You will find these details along with participation options for each student in the detailed email you received this past week. When you register your student online, you will get to choose for them to remain on-campus overnight at Camp Beckwith for a camp-out or you may pick-up your student at 9:00 pm and return them by 8:30 am. Please we now have a NEW and easy online payment process for student ministry retreats! For more information, contact rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org.



Scholarship Application

Scholarship Applications are due January 15, 2021.

Fairhope UMC is privileged to administer scholarships to help prepare leaders for the church, community, and world. These scholarships are awarded to church members whose character and accomplishments make them worthy representatives of FUMC and the

individuals whom these grants honor. Scholarships are awarded to students who are actively involved with Fairhope United Methodist Church.

Some scholarships are awarded to an applicant who is preparing for ordained ministry, attending a Methodist college, or pursuing a church related vocation; need based; or other criteria. Numbers and amounts of scholarships will depend on annual availability of funds. This is the time to apply for these scholarships for the 2021-22 academic year. *The deadline for applications is January 15, 2021.* The scholarships are awarded in February. This will position the scholarship winner to apply for matching funds offered through the Methodist conference and by many colleges.

Click the link above for the new online application that can be found on our church website.

ARE YOU 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

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

Send a quick note to michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org to be added to our email list or to Groupme for C-Group reminders!

Missions Ministries...



Save the Date! Sunday, January 17th
More details to come!!