



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Easter Sunday
April 12, 2020

PRELUDE

Come Christians, Join to Sing

(arr. by Raney)

Pianist: Jenna Hood ~ Organist: John Richardson

Brass Quartet: Mark Hoffman, Robyn Koser, Chris McCrary, Blake Norre

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Laura Parker

Morning has broken, but this morning is different.

The birds are singing tunes of joy in the trees surrounding the graves.
The flower buds are bursting in colors vibrant around each stone.

We go to visit the grave of a friend, but "he is not here."

The Sun is rising in the East; the shadowed grays turn bright!
The Son is risen in our Hearts; darkness and death end in defeat.

Now we understand what Christ said, what God did.

Now we can proclaim, CHRIST IS RISEN! HALLELUJAH!

HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

UMH #302

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Antonio Christie

HYMN

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

UMH #304

THE APOSTLES' CREED

GLORIA PATRI

OFFERTORY

Because He Lives
Jeff and Dena White, Shea White

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Jeremiah 31:1-6

PSALM 118

UMH #839

Prayers for the People

We offer prayers and comfort for these families:

Britton and Helen Rivenbark in the loss of his father, Lee Rivenbark.

Lewey and Sharon Stephens in the loss of her sister and to Helen Rivenbark in the loss of her aunt, Diane Bryan Park.

Kathy and Harvey McCulloch in the loss of her mother and to Mary Catherine and Randy Crocker in the loss of her grandmother, Marie Kirk Wilson.

Congratulations on these births:

Freda and Gerry Rambo have a new grandson, Steiner Marshal Rambo, born March 4. Proud parents are Tucker and Mallory Rambo.

Agnes and Harry Smith have a new grandson, Samuel Hildebrando Smith Douaihi, born April 4. Proud parents are Laura and Gustavo Douaihi.

Caring Ministries ~ Update

- Prayer Ministry Teams are praying daily at 3:00pm for the protection of our medical staff, all hospital personnel and God's healing of all persons with diseases.
- Two banners have been donated to Thomas Hospital to offer encouragement for staff entering and leaving the hospital.
- Caring Ministries partnered with Thomas Hospital in providing a "Bell Ringing Chime" system to be played 4 times a day to let the staff know they are being lifted and prayed for at that moment.
- Sewing Relief Ministry for medical personnel continues to provide hundreds of masks, gowns and shoe covers for the hospital, area doctor's offices, hospice companies, long term care facilities and police department staff. This is a community mission that is making a difference in saving lives. A fund has been set up to help with the cost of materials. If you would like to donate, you can go to our website and click online giving or drop a check in the mail designating it for COVID-19 Sewing Relief Fund.

If you are interested in participating with any of these opportunities and need more information, you can email Ann Pearson at ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org.

Children's Ministries

Our SWIFT ministry for 5th & 6th graders made notes of encouragement to go with the meals delivered last Friday from our Community Café. We also held our first SWIFT Zoom meeting. It went so well that they decided to have one each Wednesday at 6:00pm. SWIFT parents check your email for this week's invite!

We will be mailing packets this week with the remaining Sunday School lessons for April. **If you want your child/children to receive them, you need to let me know no later than this Monday, April 13. Email me at michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org.**

Student Ministry

Student Ministry looks quite differently these days but we've not missed a beat in connecting with our 7-12 graders weekly. Thanks to all of our *Adult Small Group leaders* and their help in communication with our students so we were able to adapt quickly and move our C-Groups to a virtual experience for every student who would like to participate. We realize life has changed drastically and schedules are free now. If you have a student in 7-12 grades that has not previously participated in C-Groups, please contact rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org as soon as possible. **It is never too late to join! We will continue our C-groups indefinitely.**

How to Connect with Student Ministry:

-Daily themes on social media including: devotions, reminders of upcoming ministry, Senior Saturday's @ more! Follow us on our Student Ministry snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, text messaging & Tic-Tok.

-Friday Night (LIVE) Game Night @ 8:00 pm (ZOOM)

-Sunday Night VIDEO MESSAGE (VIMEO LINK) @ 7:00pm

-Sunday Night Virtual C-Groups @ 7:30 (ZOOM)

-Senior Saturday Celebrations (All Platforms for Social Media)

Senior Saturday Celebrations are a way for us to celebrate our Class of 2020 right now! While we do not know what the future holds, we know we want to celebrate our students and this important milestone in their lives right now! Each Saturday in April and May, you can view these posts about our seniors on Facebook and Instagram. You can enjoy the photos of our graduates, comment on every one so they can see read it and express your heartfelt messages. This group of students has had a HUGE impact on our student ministry program through the years in so many ways. We have been blessed by their leadership, participation in church and youth programs, love for others, and through serving on both local missions and beyond our community. We are forever grateful to the Fairhope UMC Senior Class of 2020 that has experienced more than their share of disappointing hurdles to graduate high school and we want to them to know just how special they are to us all!

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 delivering over 60 meals each week between Fairhope, Daphne & Silverhill.
- **BALDWIN COUNTY EMA LUNCH**-Fairhope UMC is organizing meals to feed Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency. We have partnered with local churches & businesses to provide lunch during this difficult time as EMA is hard at work serving our community.
- **BALDWIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT LUNCH**-Fairhope UMC is organizing meals to feed Baldwin County Health Department on Tuesdays & Thursdays, as they are providing drive thru COVID-19 tests.
- **SNACK PACKS**- We are in the process of collecting/ assembling snack packs. Many of our community friends have children at home and are in need of snacks. We will also be sending snack packs to the local hospitals. If you would like to donate individually wrapped snacks, please let us know!
- **LOCAL OUTREACH**- We are working with Baldwin County DHR & Baldwin County Care House to meet the needs of local families. We have also provided shelter to a few of our homeless friends during this time.



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

Lord, hear our prayers!

30 FAMILY DAY PRAYER CHALLENGE



A Family Prayer Challenge

From Laura Parker, Rachael Waldhour & Michelle Graham

These are unusual days for what it means to be the church together! The three of us are endeavoring to find creative ways for the church to continue to support your spiritual journey – Laura for adults, Michelle for children and Rachael for youth. We recognize as never before that “home” and “family” are still the places where the very best spiritual support and nurture can happen. We love to hear how you are encouraging each other in your spiritual journey on the home front and were so pleased to hear the Dowden family share with us how they had come up with a COVID 19 prayer calendar for the month of April, highlighting a different need for prayer each day that they would include in their nightly prayer around the dinner table.

[Download Calendar Here](#)

We thought you might use the calendar they created as a starting place for your family to pray together during this current health crisis, by either praying for these specific needs or using this as a guide to come up with your own family prayer list. This can be a way to think a little bit more specifically about who has been impacted by this global pandemic and make it personal for your family by lifting these specific groups in prayer as you pray before your evening meal each night, or include it in your bedtime prayers if that is part of your family's daily ritual. If your family has not established prayer rituals together, this could be a good time and a good way to start.

Every crisis has within it the opportunity to grow and change and stretch in every way. May this time of "social distancing" be an opportunity for your family to grow TOGETHER in new ways. What better way to grow than to learn what it means to pray very specifically together for the needs of our community and world?

Blessings to you in these days and please let us know any ways we can continue to support you in your spiritual journey!

Laura, Rachael and Michelle



Book Club Info:

A Shout Out to All Readers from Rev. Laura Parker

As many of you know, I host a summer book club every year where we read several secular books together and then meet periodically to discuss our reading. Some of you may have a little extra time during "social distancing" to pick up a book and let it take you to another world, another place another time. I believe all reading stretches us and challenges us – and also entertains and distracts us! Sometimes that can be a good thing.

You will find the picks for this year in the graphic. The theme this year has to do with "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?

All of the books are readily available on Kindle, so no need to leave your house if you are an e-reader. *This Tender Land* and *The Dutch House* are both available through Amazon with Prime delivery. *American Dirt* is backordered on Amazon until late April. Page and Palette has a

couple copies each of *The Dutch House* and *American Dirt* for purchase and pick-up curbside and they can order all three.

I haven't chosen dates or the order in which we will read these books, but will do so whenever we see our way forward to start putting things on the calendar again!

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

Happy reading!!

Laura

Whatever It Takes Challenge

Instructions for Week of April 12th

This week you are challenged to write/draw notes of encouragement for those who receive meals and snack packs from our church.

With social distancing, our Friday Community Café has taken on a different look. Jennifer Myrick, our Director of Missions, and a small team gather at the CLC on Friday mornings to prepare a meal for our homebound and community friends. Another small team arrives a little later to deliver the meals. Over 60 people in Fairhope, Daphne and Silverhill are being fed through this ministry. In addition, we are partnering with other churches and businesses to host meals for workers at the Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency and delivering snack packs to local hospitals and identified families who are in need of snacks for their children.

Along with a wonderful, hot meal and snacks, we want to offer some encouragement to those we are serving. Follow these easy steps to complete this week's challenge ...

Step 1: On regular notebook paper or copy paper, draw a colorful, happy picture; write a favorite scripture passage; write an encouraging message or even a prayer. Make one or as many as you like. Scan the note then email it to whateverittakes@fairhopeumc.org OR take a picture of the note with a smartphone then email it to the same address. As the notes come in, we'll make copies!



Step 2: Take a picture of the notes you've created – be sure to include yourself and family in the picture! Then post it on Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter and include **#fairhopeumcwhateverittakes**. For Instagram users, also tag **@fairhopeumc** in your post!

If you're not on social media, email your picture to whateverittakes@fairhopeumc.org and we'll post it for you on the church's social media accounts.



The Kemper Family – Davis, Annabel and Josie

Have questions about the Whatever It Takes Challenges?

Email michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org.

Each week's Whatever It Takes Challenge will be announced during the 11am online worship service and included in the worship bulletin (www.fairhopeumc.org under Live Events). After the service, it will be posted on the church website and our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts. On Wednesdays, it will be included in the email blast (not signed up to receive these, do so at www.fairhopeumc.org under Email List).



New phone number, email, address?
Update your family members photos!

Send me your new info at:
martha.monckton@fairhopeumc.org

I am updating our database so you can be up to date on what is happening with our church services & ministries.