



A Monthly Publication of Fairhope United Methodist Church

FAIRHOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Link

We exist to **LOVE BOLDLY**, casting the **LIGHT** of **JESUS** into the world.

LENT & EASTER

MARCH 2020 - VOLUME 3

at Fairhope UMC



HOLY WEEK

- 4/5 PALM SUNDAY
- 4/6-4/8 LENTEN DEVOTIONS
- 4/9 MAUNDY THURSDAY
- 4/10 GOOD FRIDAY
- 4/12 EASTER

for more, go to back cover

SERIES DESCRIPTION

This year, your pastors are heeding the words of Paul in his correspondence with the church at Corinth: "God was (and is!) reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us (2 Corinthians 5: 19)"

for more, go to page 2

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

The Prayer Ministry Team would like to offer churchwide prayer. If you are interested in receiving prayer requests, contact the church office, 928-1148.

AT HOME:

Elsie Butgereit	Pat Grubbs	Vann Smith
Frankie Butgereit	Frances Grace Hirs	Keith Svendby
Dorothy & Leon Chambers	George Kirchoff	Grace Webb
Judy Ellis	Barbara Proffitt	
Millie Flynn	Jean Smith	

Fairhope Health & Rehab: Linda Brannan, Hilda Camp, Elinor Simmons (Gayle Simmons' mother)

Huntingdon at Homestead Village: Alice Griffin (Ruth Sully's sister), Corrie Rambo (Gerry Rambo's mother), June Enfinger

Homestead Village: Mercia Coulter, Joan Roberts, Yvonne Cox, Doris Billingsley, Bobby & Mary Lucie Brock (Davis Brock's parents), Claudia & Jerry Fortis, Juanita Kendrick, Ann Wolfe (Michelle Huguley's mom), Gene Moody (Deb Slone's mother), Lois Alspach, Daisy Gilbert, Shirley Lunsford, Ruth Conley

Brennity of Fairhope: Joyce Liukko, Joseph Lammers, Arline Schuster, Erika & Karl Pellinat, Thelma Chavers

Brennity of Daphne: Jean Haney, Dot Mattox (Mitzi Childs' mother)

Westminster Village: Billie Garrison, Ann Kimbrough

Oakland Place: Jim Jones, Zera Roussel

Country Place Senior Living: Rita Higbee

Southern Oaks Nursing Home: Cindy Radtke

Arbors of Gulf Breeze: Sylvia Rhea (Dena White's mother)

William F. Green: Russ Turberville

The Blake at Malbis: Vicki Culver

Eastern Shore Rehab: Dora Robinson

OUR TROOPS

Jeremy Parish, Britton Rapier, Eric Watton, Mitchell Brown, Deron Frailie, Neil Quinn, Bryan Quinn, John P. Lammers, David Fickle, Chris Berg, Jarrett Laird, Tyler Martenstein, Lauren O'Connor, John Sealy, London Bicker, Alex Wade, Codi Adams, Immanuel Taylor, David Ferguson, Dalton Meyer, Peyton Smith, Kenneth Stein, Josh Tyler, Tom Tyler, Ryan Kramer, Dylan Thomas, Ethan Robinson

SYMPATHIES

Sheron & Al Johnson in the loss of his mother, Alma Johnson. Jeff Lovingood's stepfather passed.

Alicia & Stephen Searcy in the loss of his father, Bill Searcy.

Rachel & Jeff Lovingood in the loss of his stepfather, William (Bill) McGlaufflin.

Susan & Bill Munson in the loss of her father, Billy Lee Lowe.

CELEBRATIONS

Amanda & Trey Canida on the birth of a daughter, Mattie Gabel Canida. Proud grandparents are **Debbie & Lang Floyd**.



FAIRHOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FINANCIALS

The Finance Team happily reports that the contributions and income for 2019 exceeded the budget for 2019. We're also very excited about 2020 with a robust increase in the budget for this year.

ATTENDANCE

	Traditional	The Gathering	Sunday School
2/2	335	369	259
2/9	175	454 (combined)	244
2/16	294	262	234
2/23	454	174	265

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

The following memorials have been received:

Joan Hayes by
Virginia and Frank Stabler
Janie Mullins (Caring Ministry/Stephen Ministry)
Hoyle and Jan Hayes
Robert and Leslie Anne Tarabella (Caring Ministry)

Zurlean Allegri by
Rita Higbee, Linda & Bobby Smith (Imagine Campaign)
Pat & George Hawthorne (Imagine Campaign)
Jeff and Alysia Lucas

The following honorariums have been received:

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Grogan by
Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Community Café)

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Herides by
Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Community Café)

Sally Oeding by
Fellowship Sunday School Class
Deborah Dilbeck
Elizabeth Eisenmann



DR. DARREN MCCLELLAN
 Senior Pastor
darren.mcclellan@fairhopeumc.org

“ **Be reconciled to God.** ”

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is upon us once again, and this year I am feeling an increased sense of urgency to ‘get it right.’ What that means, exactly, or how it is done is not always plain to us. What we do recognize, however, is that each year, Lent presents a new challenge—a certain call in the interest of new creation.

This year, your pastors are heeding the words of Paul in his correspondence with the church at Corinth: in Christ, God was (and is!) reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us (2 Cor. 5:19).

This is a sacred honor...and a tremendous responsibility! Clearly, God was willing to do whatever it takes to reconcile with creation. He sent his only Son (Jn. 3:16)...and for our sake made him to be sin who knew no sin so *that* in him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Cor. 5:21).

If God is willing to do whatever it takes to reconcile with us, then what are we willing to do in response? Where do we start?

Each Sunday of Lent presents us with a special insight into the stages of the expedition that is the spiritual life.

March 1--In the Scripture for the first Sunday of Lent, we hear again the story of Jesus’ temptation in the desert (Matt. 4). It reminds us not to be surprised at our own struggle with the will to have power, the desire for things, or the strange appeal of the morally injurious—all of which threaten to derail our giving ourselves to the things that really count in life. As Jesus triumphed over the seductions of the world and the limitations of being human, so must we.

March 8--The second Sunday, Jesus talks to Nicodemus about being born again. Without such an experience, he simply cannot see the kingdom of God (John 3:3). The new birth of water and the Spirit—life more abundant—is waiting to be lived.

March 15--The third Sunday, we see Jesus commission a Samaritan woman as an evangelist. *Where do you get that living water?* she asks (John 4:11). Like this woman at the well, we have some witnessing, some cleansing, and some extra work to do of our own in this life if we are to fulfill the gospel ourselves.

March 22--The fourth Sunday, Jesus heals a man born blind. Jesus invites us to open our eyes, too, to be willing to begin again, to forget the past—however bad it has been for us—and come back to God knowing that mercy is already ours. What would it take for your eyes to be opened (John 9:10)?

March 29--On the fifth Sunday of Lent, Jesus raises Lazarus. *Can he who opened the eyes of the blind man keep this man from dying* (John 11: 37)? The Word is clear: to follow Jesus is to live, no matter how many deaths we face in life.

Soon thereafter, the final stages in Jesus’ journey will be a short distance away. But for now, you and I are not ready. We have some spiritual work to do before we can even consider the last leg of that journey. If Ash Wednesday is about opening our hearts in the hopes that it might be cleansed (Ps. 51), these Sundays are designed to serve as God’s scrub brush and disinfectant.

Whatever it takes, Friends. Let’s get it right. Be reconciled to God.

GRACE TO YOU,
 DARREN





REV. ANTONIO CHRISTIE

Minister of Outreach

antonio.christie@fairhopeumc.org



REV. LAURA PARKER

Minister of Discipleship

laura.parker@fairhopeumc.org

Dear Friends,

I was driving through downtown Fairhope Tuesday night before Ash Wednesday and felt a shift in the air. The festivities of Mardi Gras was over, and the streets were extra quiet. The journey through the wilderness begins today. Lent is here!

The forty days of our Lenten observance are often spoken of as an imitation, of sorts, of Jesus' forty-day wilderness experience after his baptism. In the isolating terror of the Palestinian desert, Jesus prepared himself spiritually for what he must endure when he arrives in Jerusalem. These temptations of Jesus invite us to move more deeply into the isolation and solitude of our own experience.

Jesus showed us that the key to resisting temptation is by finding our identity in our relationship with God. As we remember that in Baptism, God confers upon us our essential identity as beloved children, we may be less likely to succumb to the various pressures that seek to tempt and mislead us.

At the same time, it is also important to recognize that temptation is not a once and done. Jesus rejected the tempter here, but he had other moments of doubt, particularly at Gethsemane and the cross. Similarly, our life as Christians does not eliminate doubt, needs, or a sense of incompleteness.

All of us struggle with the powers of this world. All of us know, as Jesus knows, that it is often easier to choose power, violence, and domination instead of the reconciling ways of God. All of us know, as Jesus knows, that it is easier to pick up lifeless stones and hurl them toward one another instead of passing the bread that sustains life.

Friends, as you journey the next forty days through the wilderness, towards the crucifixion, you will be tempted. I encourage you to walk gently and with your heart wide open.

Whatever it takes...Be reconciled to God.

**BLESSINGS,
ANTONIO**



- image by Mads Schmidt Rasmussen

Fairhope Friends:

At our Ash Wednesday service, these words of invitation were shared as part of our liturgy:

*Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:
the early Christians observed with great devotion
the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became
the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there
should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation...
I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church,
to observe a holy Lent:
by self-examination and repentance;
by prayer, fasting, and self-denial.*

We are now in that time of preparation leading up to Easter. We have invited you this year to participate in a small group study or community experience. Some of those have not yet begun and will extend into the Easter season, culminating later in April or May. Full information about each class and registration is available through our website.

In addition, we are inviting all small groups (short-term studies, Sunday school classes, Disciple Bible Studies) to participate as a group in a mission or outreach project together. Here are some suggestions for projects that may be meaningful...both for those who "give" and those who receive:

- Donate items for Military Care Packages
- Donate items for the Lord's Pantry
- Donate items for Tough Dogs Chemo Care Bags
- Work together to prepare a meal for Community Café
- Work together to prepare a meal for Manna on Wheels
- Plan afterschool snacks for the Rotary Youth Club
- Collect empty medicine bottles to give to Alabama Free Clinic in Robertsdale to be used for their patients. (Drug Companies provide the medicine but the medicine containers have to be bought. Empty medicine bottles can be brought to the church office.)
- Knit and Crochet Ministry provides many handmade items to our church ministries as well as our community and are in need of donations of yarn.
- Volunteer together at Prodissee Pantry
- Throw an appreciation party for our Preschool teachers
- Any other outreach project of your group's choosing!!

More complete descriptions of these projects and the contact information you will need can be found on our website.

This prayer was prayed over the ashes you received:

*Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.
Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and
penitence, so that we may remember that only by your
gracious gift are we given everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.***

As God has lavished more love upon us than we can possibly deserve or imagine, so may we reach out with gracious gifts of love to those around us!

**BLESSINGS TO ALL,
LAURA**

WEEKLY CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday

7:55am Worship Choir Rehearsal
 8:30am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
 9:45am Sunday School
 10:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
 The Gathering Worship (CLC)
 6:00pm - 8:00pm Sunday Night Youth Worship

Monday

10:00am Knit or Crochet for a Purpose (B114)
 10:30am Digging Deeper (B215)
 10:30am *Discernment* (begins March 2)
 1:00pm Drop-in Book Study (Library)
 4:00pm Walking by Faith (Parlor)

Tuesday

10:00am - 11:00am Men of the Bible (Women's Study) (B215)
 4:00pm Walking by Faith (Parlor)
 6:00pm Chancel Bells (Bell Room)
 6:00pm *Gifted2Serve* (March 10 & 17)

Wednesday

4:00pm Walking by Faith (Parlor)
 4:15pm - 5:00pm Children's Choirs
 5:00pm - 6:00pm Wednesday Night Suppers
 6:00pm - 7:15pm PIER & PIER34
 6:00pm - 7:30pm SWIFT
 6:00pm Embracing the Chaos (CLC Parlor)
 6:00pm Gospel of Luke (Fellowship Hall)
 6:00pm *Living Into The Answers* (begins March 4)
 6:00pm *Creative Word* (begins March 4)
 6:00pm *Creation Care* (begins March 11)
 6:00pm Fast Track Disciple I (B210)
 6:00pm Fast Track Disciple III (B212)
 6:30pm - 8:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday

9:00am - 11:30pm Disciple III (B207)
 10:00am *Focus on Prayer* (begins March 12)

Friday

9:00am - 1:00pm Reservation Nursery
 11:00am - 1:00pm Community Café (CLC)
 1:00pm *On the Road with St. Augustine*
 5:30pm Al-Anon (CLC)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER MENU

3/4 - Frito chili cheese bowl, salad bar, dessert
 3/11 - Meatloaf, seasoned potatoes, broccoli, fruit, dessert
 3/18 - Baked honey ham, green bean casserole, fruit, dessert
 3/25 - Chicken fingers, mac & cheese, baked beans, dessert

Wednesday night suppers are served from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. Please let us know you are coming by calling the church office, 251-928-1148 by noon on Monday.

Adults/Youth: \$5, Children: \$4, Family max: \$20

CARING MINISTRY MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

3/1 - 8:30am Ann's Prayer Partners (Conference Room)
 3/2 - 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Supervision (B114)
 3/3 - 9:30am Caregiver's Support Group (Library)
 3/9 - 6:30pm Survivors of Suicide (B207)
 3/10 - 9:00am Note Ministry (Workroom)
 3/10 - 11:45am Merry Methodist (Fellowship Hall)
 3/10 - 12:30pm Tough Dogs Support Group (Library)
 3/10 - 1:30pm Tough Dogs Chemo Care Bag Assembly (WH)
 3/11 - 10:30am Manna On Wheels (Café Area CLC)
 3/16 - 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Supervision (B114)
 3/17 - 9:30am Caregiver's Support Group (Library)
 3/23 - 6:30pm Survivors of Suicide (B207)
 3/24 - 12:30pm Tough Dogs Support Group (Library)
 3/25 - 10:30am Manna On Wheels (Café Area CLC)

FAIRHOPE UMC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3/10 - 6:00pm Trustees Meeting (Conference Room)
 3/17 - 6:00pm Communications Team Meeting (CLC Parlor)
 3/18 - 6:30am fm³ Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
 3/24 - 5:30pm Finance Meeting (Conference Room)

COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS

3/8 - 9:45am Coffee with the Pastors (CLC Parlor)
 Visitors and regular attendees are invited to join us in the parlor and find out more about Fairhope UMC's ministries & the next steps for membership.

TANZANIA MISSIONARY SPEAKING @ FAIRHOPE UMC

3/16 - 6:00pm Presentation & Dinner (FH)
 3/25 - 6:00pm Guest Speaker @ Dr. Darren's Bible Study (FH)

Join us as we welcome Rev. Eric Soard, Global Ministries Missionary in Tanzania! For more info, contact missions@fairhopeumc.org

Eric, with his wife, Elizabeth Soard, serve as the Leadership Development Coordinator in Mwanza, Tanzania. Eric and Liz Soard have been working full time in Tanzania since 2010 and were commissioned as missionaries by Global Ministries in 2012. They worked for several years as church planters and planted 15 churches between 2011 and 2016, training leaders, helping with evangelism, and helping to build up the capacity of the local churches. They serve in Tanzania with three beautiful boys, Derrick, Kaleb, and Micah.

You can find more about Eric's work at his blog:

www.ourjourneyingodslife.com

You can find more about Wesley College at:

www.wesleycollegetzfoundation.com



Rev. Eric Soard,
Global Ministries
Missionary in Tanzania



Images from
Dr. Darren & Kristi McClellan's
visit to Tanzania.

RECREATION MINISTRY

jamie.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org



CLC STEWARD SUBSTITUTES NEEDED - WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO BE ON A "CALL LIST"?

If you are looking for an area to serve, we are in need of people who are willing to be a substitute for our regularly scheduled volunteers at the CLC Welcome Desk. You would be on the "call list" if needed when a Steward is absent. Stewards assist in check-in and check-out of participants, checkout equipment, and provide hospitality and assistance to our members and guests. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Michael Spicer at 928-1148 (ext. 241).

NURSERY MINISTRY

tina.wettermark@fairhopeumc.org

CRADLE CARE MINISTRY LAUNCH! MARCH 2020

Fairhope United Methodist Church Nursery Ministry will launch a new program called "Cradle Care Ministry". The purpose is to create a team of mentors who will offer praise, prayers, support, and assistance to parents of nursery age children, especially those who do not have the benefit of parents or grandparents nearby.

Would you like to volunteer to be a mentor and share your valuable experience with a young family?

- Offer assistance to expecting parents
- Welcome a newborn home from the hospital
- Greet a family at Baby Recognition Ceremony
- Provide prayer, support and assistance

*** Detailed guidelines will be offered to interested mentors.***

Contact **Tina Wettermark**, Nursery Director

tina.wettermark@fairhopeumc.org

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER OPERATING HOURS:

Mon. & Tues. 7am-8pm • Wed. 7am-5pm • Thurs. 7am-7pm • Fri. 7am-6pm

CHAIR YOGA CLASSES AT THE CLC

Wednesdays - \$5.00 Chair Yoga
10:30 and 1:30 CLC Loft

Enjoy the benefits of Yoga without getting on the floor. In Gentle Chair Yoga, we will move through seated and standing yoga poses designed to increase flexibility, balance, and range of motion. We will breathe deeply and become aware of the mind, body and spirit connection, helping to reduce stress and improve mental clarity.

The class is designed for men and women of all skill levels. For more information, contact: Sara Howard RYT200, certified Chair Yoga Teacher at 251-610-9056. Silver Sneakers members may use their benefits to attend class for free. Please bring your 16 digit membership number.

GIRLS BASKETBALL CLINICS - CLC Gym

Dribble 'til you Drop - **DTYD** is a basketball skills clinic for GIRL players entering 3 - 8 grades in 20-21 school year. Beginners & experienced players are welcome!

Each **DTYD** participant will:

- learn or improve the basketball skills needed to become an awesome player!
- have fun and enjoy learning the game of basketball.
- become friends with others that enjoy basketball as you do.

DYTD sessions will be offered from 5:45-8:15pm on Tuesday, beginning March 17 for five weeks. *Players may attend as many sessions as they want. Space is limited. Players are accepted on a first come basis.

For more information or to register, contact coach Ali Calloway, dribbletilyoudrop@gmail.com OR (251)278-7464.

Join our FB page for updated information: **Dribble 'til You Drop**

RESERVATION NURSERY

Fridays: 9:00am-1:00pm
\$20 per child | Ages 6 months-3 years

The spaces are by reservation, so there are always openings! Extra spots available this month in the baby room, ages 6 months to 18 months. Reservations accepted by email starting on the 10th of each month.

For availability, contact Tina: tina.wettermark@fairhopeumc.org

PLEASE NOTE: Reservation Nursery will NOT meet on March 20 due to Arts & Crafts Weekend.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Rocky Railway –

Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through

Monday - Friday, June 1 - 5

8:45am - 12:15pm

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS SUNDAY, APRIL 19!

Youth and Adults: We need you on our volunteer team! There are so many ways to serve and we are looking for early commitments. Contact Michelle or Kristin to find the right fit for you. Can't be with us the week of VBS? No problem! There are things you can do to help us prepare – even from the comfort of your own home!

Elementary Program: Rising 1st - 6th grade (6th graders participate in daily mission projects)

Preschool Program: 3 & 4 year olds of on-site volunteers and rising K

Nursery Program: for on-site volunteers only (must have an older child in preschool or elementary program)

BLUE LAKE ELEMENTARY SUMMER CAMP – ENERGIZE

Monday - Friday, June 15 - 19

For those who complete 3rd, 4th and 5th grade this year!



ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

www.bluelakecamp.com / **DEADLINE MAY 15**

Early rate \$320 (if registered and paid in full by April 15)

Late rate \$340 (if registered after April 15)

Additional \$50 for charter bus transportation and snacks on bus (due by June 5)

**** Tuesday, May 19** - camp meeting for registered campers and a parent at 6:00pm in room 215 (Ed Bldg)

Scholarships available / Adults needed to chaperone – contact Michelle Graham for both.

MAKING THE CHOICE TO BE KIND

(An article from Group Publishing's Parenting Christian Kids)

The "Choose Kind" campaign is an outgrowth of the popular middle-grades novel *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. The book addresses the tough topic of bullying, but the main message centers around the life-changing (and community-changing) power of kindness. Treating other people with courtesy, care, and respect isn't always our first instinct. But as followers of Jesus, we can look to him as an example of how to interact with other people - individuals created and loved by God.

Anti-bullying initiatives in schools are making some inroads at boosting kindness, yet most kids will deal with teasing and taunting at some point. Older children may be shunned from a group, known as relational bullying. Or they may face rude or even abusive behavior online, known as cyberbullying. By emphasizing kindness from an early age, parents raise children who know how to treat people well, tell right from wrong, and enlist help if problems arise. And by explaining the biblical basis for kindness, you let kids know the true reason - and source - behind such behavior.

Kindness is key, but it's just a start. *Galatians 5:22-23* lists eight other spiritual fruits that go hand-in-hand with kindness: love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Ask Jesus to lead you in how your family can sow, reap, and bear the fruit of kindness!

ASK JESUS:

1. to help you be an example of kindness in all your interactions.
2. to remind your children to choose kindness in their thoughts, words, and deeds.
3. to help your family members put a stop to any bullying they may encounter.

MARCH & APRIL CALENDAR

- 3/22** VBS supply needs posted in Education Building & CLC
- 4/3** Glow-in-the-Dark Egg Hunt for 3rd-6th graders 6:00-8:00pm / CLC (pizza & dessert served)
- 4/5** Palm Sunday (all worship services) – children who would like to take part in waving palm branches should come with an adult to the front door of the sanctuary or entrance to the gym at least 10 minutes before the service begins.
- 4/8** Pier, Pier34 & SWIFT will not meet. (Baldwin County Spring Break)
- 4/11** Easter Egg Hunt / 2nd grade and younger / 10:00am (begin in Sanctuary)
- 4/12** Easter

MOPS

If you are the mother of a child, who is newborn - kindergarten, join us

Monday, March 9 & 23

9:30am - 11:30am

Christian Life Center / 2nd Floor Loft

MOPS meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays during the school year for fellowship, encouragement and fun. For more information, follow Fairhope MOPS on Facebook and contact fairhopemops@yahoo.com



MISSIONS & OUTREACH

missions@fairhopeumc.org

COSTA RICA SHRIMP BOIL ARTS & CRAFTS

March 20th-22nd

11:00am-2:00pm

BOILED SHRIMP, CORN, POTATOES, DESSERT & DRINK



\$12 ADULTS & \$6 KIDS

Where: Fairhope United Methodist Church Wesley Hall

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT

All Proceeds benefit Costa Rica Missions

*See any team member for tickets or
email missions@fairhopeumc.org

MUSIC MINISTRIES

tom.hood@fairhopeumc.org

What a fun and worshipful year it has been so far in our music ministries!

This past Sunday we just finished our annual Jazz Sunday which was so much fun for all involved, including the congregation. I have heard so many wonderful positive comments about the service including some who have asked us to have music like that more often during the year. I love to bring something a little different to our church whenever we can. Some different themes we have thrown around include a possible bluegrass or gospel Sunday. Now that we are heading towards Holy Week and Easter there are many opportunities offered from our music program. As always, I am seeking instrumentalists, choir singers, and bell ringers. Easter is the perfect time to join one of our choirs or come and ring a bell! No experience is necessary - - just a willing heart to serve. This summer our choirs will be performing our Second Annual Revue Concert. This year we will be singing a variety of Disney tunes and practices will begin late spring. I am also excited to announce our choir scholarship program. This program will be offered to local college students willing to come and sing with us on a regular basis during the school year. Please contact me for details.

Our children's choirs gave a rousing rendition of the old favorite *Dry Bones* recently and are now deep in rehearsals for the spring musical, *Are We There Yet?* The main roles have been cast; however, your child can still join us for the show. There is always room for a few more Hebrews and Egyptians! Finally we are developing plans for a Musical Summer Camp in June. Our first time out we will be producing and performing *Disney's Aristocats Kids*. So please stay tuned for details soon on that! Jenna, Oliver, and I are so excited to be a part of this ministry and the possibilities it holds and cannot wait to see where this next year takes us!

"There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind." - C.S Lewis

**BLESSINGS,
TOM**

NEW MEMBERS & BAPTISMS



Brooke & Steven Butler
Mary Thomas, Abigail
19138 Fairfield Drive
Fairhope, AL 36532
Joined February 2, 2020



John and Megan Forrester
John Brennan, Grace & Reid
334 Majestic Beauty Avenue
Fairhope, AL 36532
Joined February 2, 2020



Lois Alspach
100 Homestead Village, Apt. 72
Fairhope, AL 36532
Joined February 23, 2020



Baptism of
Rex Allen Harrison
Son of Megan & Rob Harrison
Baptized February 2, 2020



Baptism of Ava Hedge
Daughter of
Jamie & Matthew Ganey
Baptized February 2, 2020



Baptism of
Alexander Lee Wright
Son of Kathy & Bill Wright
Baptized February 2, 2020

NOT PICTURED:

Christy Guepet
Joined January 19, 2020

Ginger Ready
Joined January 19, 2020

Carolyn & Jim Kidd
Joined February 23, 2020

YOUTH MINISTRY

rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

March 29 @ 6:00 pm (Sanctuary)

Our Confirmation Class will be confirmed in worship on Sunday evening March 29. All of our church family is invited to come and support this group and their accomplishment.

SENIOR SUNDAY

April 26

Breakfast @ 9:00am (CLC Fellowship Hall)

Service @ 11:00am (Sanctuary)

To RSVP for Senior Breakfast contact

michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org

HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

(Rising 10th-College Freshmen)

Paradise, CA

CAMPFIRE RECOVERY

June 27-July 3

Cost \$750

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

(Rising 7th-9th)

MYSTERY MISSION TRIP

July 14-19

Cost \$450

All students are encouraged to join us for a week of service this summer. Mark your calendars and join us for the fundraisers that are on-going for these trips. You can find fundraiser sign-ups, details and online registration on the Youth Ministry page of our church website.

For more information, contact:

rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org

CARING MINISTRIES

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org



Handmade items
for sale!

During **Arts & Crafts Weekend (March 20-22)**, the **Knit/Crochet Ministry** will have beautifully designed handmade items available for purchase by donation. We invite you to join this effort to raise funds for supplies for the Knit/Crochet Ministry to help us reach our goals for 2020. Some of our outreach projects are the Costa Rica Outreach Mission, Senior Christmas Angel blankets & wraps, blankets, wraps, and hats for FUMC's Tough Pups & Tough Dogs, washcloths for Lord's Pantry boxes, washcloths & trivets for Manna on Wheels and Community Café deliveries as well as prayer blankets and shawls for those in need. Items will be available on Friday, March 20, Saturday, March 21 and Sunday, March 22, after each church service.

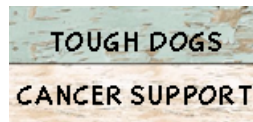
MERRY METHODIST LUNCHEON

MARCH 10
11:45 AM
CLC FELLOWSHIP HALL

RSVP TO MARTHA:
MARTHA.MONCKTON@FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG
251-928-1148

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

If you are interested in serving in these Caring Ministry areas, contact the church office, 251-928-1148



Our **Knit and Crochet Ministry** began as a pilot program in the summer of 2018 and has continued. This team of volunteers spends every Monday morning from 10:00am - 12:00pm creating handmade items for our church ministries and for our community needs. The first project was making lap robes to be used in our morning worship services and has expanded to making lap robes for wheelchair persons at area assisted living facilities. Other projects include: prayer shawls; baby blankets; booties and caps for our nursery; chemo caps and blankets for adult and children cancer patients; fiddle mitts for dementia patients; wash cloths and pot holders for Community Café, Lord's Pantry, and MOW recipients; and prayer squares for our confirmands and graduating seniors. This team has also provided over 100 caps that were sent to those recovering from Hurricane Michael; 25 premie sets of blankets, hats, and booties were given to Sacred Heart Neonatal Unit in Pensacola, pot holders and dish towels were made for the Blue Lake kitchen volunteers, hats were made for Costa Rica; and lap robes for the adult Ecumenical Ministry Christmas angels were also made. We invite you to join us each Monday or donate yarn to help facilitate our many projects.

Carol Wilson, *Team Leader*

Our **Tough Dogs Cancer Ministry** began in 2006 as a support group for persons or family members who are in a cancer journey. From this group there was a desire to offer more support thus the Chemo Care Bag Ministry evolved. These bags offer comfort and support to new cancer patients at Southern Cancer in Daphne and Foley, Mitchell Cancer in Fairhope and Mobile, and Infirmary Health in Fairhope. The bags are funded through donations, and a list of items needed are on the Fairhope UMC website. Gas cards are provided to the treatment facilities on an as needed basis for the clients. Recently the ministry has expanded to include Tough Pups bags for children ages 5-12. Bags are delivered each month to the Mitchell Cancer Center in Mobile.

Mary Hodgkins, *Team Leader*

The **Durable Medical Loan Closet** began in 2011 to assist persons in loaning medical equipment at no cost. Equipment is donated, cleaned and given out as needs arise. This 3 person team is on call daily to fulfill the requests from local Home Health Care agencies. Wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs and benches, knee scooters, rollators, bedside commodes, canes, crutches, raised toilet seats, pads, liners, and many more items are given out locally to individuals and the Hope Center, Council on Aging, Coastal Alabama School of Nursing, and around the world on mission trips to Honduras. If you have or need any of these items that can be donated please call the church office and we will be happy to pick up or deliver.

Team Leaders:

Paula Higgins, Hazel Odom, Lucy Sowell



The Lord's Pantry is a ministry that provides boxes of food to persons in an emergency situation. A list of non-perishable items are listed on the church's website and can be donated at any time.

Team Leaders: Tamra Cowan and Sandy Frailie

march birthdays

- 3/01 Tucker Rambo, Deejee Mitchell, Emmie Crocker, Wade Bishop, Jack Justis, Chad Kirtland, Annie Taul
3/02 Peyton Smith, Dena White, Lizzy Hayes Odem, Meagan Baker, Jim Kidd
3/03 Nicholas Alexander, Janie Mullins, Joedd Price, Olivia Estes, Mary Stella Henderson, Jackson Roberds, CeCe Cauthen, Zahara Christie
3/04 Jodie Fidler, Beatty Pearson, Judy Ellis, Griffin Farrow, Bunky Bishop, Blain Koenig
3/05 Betty Lewis, Tammy Jernigan, Haden Giddings, Lorelai McKelroy
3/06 Claudia Shoemaker; Carter Jones; Bruce Graham, Jr.; Matthew Walker
3/07 Richard Taylor, Debbie Hirs, Cate Richardson, Matthew Downs, Carol Pierce
3/08 Wil Dotson, Sadie Huddleston, George Wilkins, Brenda Callicutt, Linda Gulledege
3/09 Ruth Sully, Paul Perfect, Kate Dean, Jessie Phillips, Gil Fickle, Emily Rush, Clay Baker
3/10 Kimberly McKeough, Tilden Tippit, Allison Cockrell, Guy Higgins
3/11 Perry Studstill, Gracen Gaddy, Verna Thwaits, Cindy Phillips, Savannah Ryan, Roy Trueblood
3/12 Michelle Wilson, Britton Rivenbark, Brandi Fulford, Anne Frost Kennedy, Joseph Turner
3/13 Abby Sealy, Angel Farrow, Nicholas Dyas, Jana Rae Ryan, Bennett Harrison
3/14 Trent Scott, Chris Bondurant, Major Thompson
3/15 Amy Sherrin, Bill Sloan, Megan Smith, Lee Tapscott, Steve Delamore, Allison Hunter, Savannah Grace Jones
3/16 Jenna Boothe, Carly McFall, Miles Spain, Benjamin Shaw
3/17 Jo Ann Riggs, Mary Beth Gibson, Carolyn Newcomer, Martha Stronach
3/18 Richard Jones, Geoff Kennedy, Virginia Green, Kim Burmeister, Bethany Graham, Karen Burch, Dalton Singleton, Huff Friedman
3/19 Jim Frederick, Ben Studstill, Grayson Hill, Libbo Bush
3/20 Chris Barton, Margaret Sorenson, Patti Burrell, Bob Moore, Christa Pindzig, Jere Beasley, John Ellenburg
3/21 Jane Dolan, Carol Long, Keller Scott, Thomas McLendon
3/22 Rick Miller, Andy Gregorius, Pauline Bensman, Watson Smith, Miller Epperson, Jeff Leftwich
3/23 Julia Yow, Addy Gay, Rachel Lovingood, Morgan James, Molly Dorman, Trish Tyler, Hunter Vitello
3/24 Roy Haywood, Rita Higbee, Barry Pennington, Jean Kelley, Lucas Wright, Anne Dorman, Phyllis Helms, Lisa Jones
3/25 Leo Palumbo
3/26 Weston Brock, Brad Agerton
3/27 Sarah Kennedy, Katharine Rice, Greer Robinson, David Stringfellow, Dody Rhodes
3/28 Sandy Noel, Patricia Cooper, Julia Ashurst
3/29 Michelle Huguley, Kristi Hagood, Alice Baker, Hunter Ikerman, Henry Allgood
3/30 Ashley Jones, Anne Coker, Kenneth Dinges, Katie Hagood, John Forrester
3/31 Leon Chambers, Will Middleton, Franco Pirello

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Robert & Mary Gibson Memorial Scholarship:

Sara Beth Hill

Frances & Margaret Wilson Memorial Scholarship:

Collin Cortinas, Savannah Ryan, Bailey Wilson

Robert & Nancy Carr Memorial Scholarship:

Collin Cortinas, Bailey Wilson

David Duchene Memorial Scholarship:

Christopher Drayton, Claire Hesse, Sara Evelyn Hesse

Martha Northcutt Memorial Scholarship:

Cole Gregorius, Mitchell Koser

Lester I. Boone Memorial Scholarship:

Parker Grace Farrow, Kaleigh Phillips

fm³ United Methodist Men's Scholarship:

Collin Cortinas

Vernon & Jeannie Colbert Scholarship:

Samuel Koser, Ella Tapscott

Butgereit Missions Scholarship:

Bethany Graham

Andrews Memorial Scholarship:

Elizabeth Coleman, Collin Cortinas, Courtney French, Tristan French, Sara Beth Hill, Carly Huguley, Kathryn Jordan, Natalie Melton, Joe Smith, Bailey Wilson

UMW Edith Lawson Scholarship:

Kathryn Jordan

UMW Deborah Circle Scholarship:

Elizabeth Coleman

Homecoming SS Class Scholarship:

Michelle Wilson

Living Word SS Class Memorial Scholarship:

Kaiser Olds

Discovery SS Class Scholarship:

Margaret Nobles

Johnson Memorial Scholarship:

Olivia Estes

Arthur & Pat Carlton Scholarship:

Ellie Brown



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.fairhopeumc.org

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FAIRHOPE, ALABAMA 36532
251-928-1148

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

We exist to **LOVE BOLDLY**, casting the **LIGHT** of **JESUS** into the world.



LENT & EASTER 2020

PREACHING SCHEDULE

- MARCH 1**
SANCTUARY 8:30AM & 11:00AM | REV. ANTONIO CHRISTIE
THE GATHERING 11:00AM | DR. DARREN M. MCCLELLAN
- MARCH 8**
SANCTUARY 8:30AM & 11:00AM | DR. DARREN M. MCCLELLAN
THE GATHERING 11:00AM | REV. LAURA PARKER
- MARCH 15**
SANCTUARY 8:30AM & 11:00AM | DR. DARREN M. MCCLELLAN
THE GATHERING 11:00AM | REV. ANTONIO CHRISTIE
- MARCH 22**
SANCTUARY 8:30AM & 11:00AM | REV. LAURA PARKER
THE GATHERING 11:00AM | DR. DARREN M. MCCLELLAN
- MARCH 29**
SANCTUARY 8:30AM & 11:00AM | REV. ANTONIO CHRISTIE
THE GATHERING 11:00AM | REV. LAURA PARKER
- APRIL 5**
SANCTUARY 8:30AM & 11:00AM | DR. DARREN M. MCCLELLAN
THE GATHERING 11:00AM | REV. LAURA PARKER/REV. ANTONIO CHRISTIE

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- APRIL 5**
PALM SUNDAY
**Children who would like to take part in waving palm branches at the beginning of the 11:00 services should come with a parent to the front door of the sanctuary or entrance to the gym at least 10 minutes prior to the start of the services.*
- APRIL 6 -8**
HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONALS
SANCTUARY 12PM
- APRIL 9**
MAUNDY THURSDAY
- APRIL 10**
GOOD FRIDAY
- APRIL 11**
EASTER EGG HUNT
10:00AM (MEET IN SANCTUARY) | 2ND GRADE & YOUNGER

EASTER SUNDAY | APRIL 12

***8:15AM - 9:30AM - 11:00AM (SANCTUARY)**
11:00AM | THE GATHERING (CLC)

**please note special time changes*

*Children's Church will be held during the 11:00 services only.
Nursery available for all services.*