



# FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Palm Sunday**  
**April 5, 2020**

## ENTRANCE WITH THE PALMS

**PRELUDE**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

(arr. Wagner)

**GATHERING**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM**

**Matthew 21:1-11**

Rev. Ontonio Christie

**THE PEOPLE'S RESPONSE**

Hosanna to the Son of David!  
**Hosanna in the highest!**

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**Hosanna in the highest!**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN #278**

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

**OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Laura Parker

**OFFERING**

*I Stand Amazed in the Presence*

Shea White

**DOXOLOGY**

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Psalm 31:1-17**

Michelle Graham

**SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ Philippians 2:5-11**

Tom Hood

**HYMN #177**

*He is Lord*

## PROCLAMATION OF THE PASSION STORY

Matthew 26:36-50

Rev. Laura Parker

HYMN #290

*Go to Dark Gethsemane (v. 1)*

SERMON

“A Royal Pain and the Donkey”

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Ontonio Christie

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PASSING OF THE PEACE

## SENDING FORTH

CHURCH FAMILY MOMENT

Introduction of our Whatever It Takes Challenges  
(written instructions included in bulletin)

Michelle Graham

HYMN #301

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (vs.1-4)*

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

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Now, perhaps more than ever, God is revealing new ways for us to “love boldly, casting the light of Jesus into the world.”

*We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; we are perplexed, but not driven to despair (2 Cor. 4:8).*

Therefore, as we celebrate the enduring mission and ministry of Fairhope UMC, I thank you for your continued prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. I believe that the power of the Holy Spirit is at work within us! Together, we will rise as the Church of Jesus Christ, even in this valley of deep disorientation. *Easter People, raise your voices!*

Whatever It Takes,

Darren

**Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:**

Offerings received through Feb. 2020 - \$376,420 ~ Expenses through Feb. 2020 - \$372,290

Offering Received on March 29 - \$32,390 (Online - \$11,685 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$20,705)

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

Jeff White  
Business Administrator

**Caring Ministries**

- Stephen Ministers are contacting our membership, over 700 family units, offering love and support.
- Church family has displayed an overwhelming response in partnering with local physicians to make hospital masks and gowns to provide protection for our medical personnel.
- Caring Ministries sent handwritten notes to over 168 of our members who live alone and who do not have internet access.
- Manna on Wheel (MOW) and Community Café are delivering over 50 meals each Friday to persons at their homes.
- Prayer Ministry is praying daily for the needs of our church, community, nation and world.

**Children's Ministries**

Last week, we mailed packets of Sunday School lessons to 266 children (ages 2 years - 6th grade). Since we're not able to be together right now, we wanted to be sure they received the lessons for Holy Week and Easter. We've received so many wonderful comments from parents along with pictures of their happy children. You can check out some of those smiling faces on the church's social media accounts.

In addition, Cokesbury has been gracious during these difficult times to allow us digital access to our Sunday School curriculum videos at no charge. The videos have been emailed to parents of our 3 year olds - 4th graders. These are usually shown during Children's Church. Thank you Cokesbury!

If your child has not received a packet and would like one or you'd like the videos emailed, contact [michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org](mailto: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 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 grader that has not previously participated in C-Groups, please contact [Rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:Rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org) as soon as possible. **It is never too late to join! We will continue our C-groups indefinitely.**

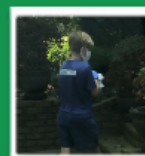
### How to Connect with Student Ministry:

- 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! On Saturday's 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.
- **MASK UMCOR CLEANING BUCKETS**- We are in the process of gathering all of the masks from our cleaning buckets to give to the local hospitals. Thank you for filling these buckets in the past. They have proven to be used for many needs.
- **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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup>

*This week our church family is challenged to display our support and appreciation for the healthcare workers who are on the frontlines of COVID-19.*



Using things you already have at home have each person in your household make a red heart. It can be simple or decorated, big or small. If you can't do a red heart - any color will do! Write the names of people you know and love who work in healthcare then say a prayer thanking God for these heroes and ask Him to protect them and their families and to sustain them during the long hours they are working.

Afterwards, hang your hearts on your front door or a street-facing window.

*Coleman, William and Annie, children of Mary Kate & Gavin O'Connell*

Another option is to place a red ribbon around a tree in your front yard. As you tie your ribbon say a prayer.

When you're done, take a picture of your hearts/red ribbons - be sure to include yourself and family in the picture!

Then ...

- If you are on Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter, post your pictures and include **#fairhopeumcwhateverittakes**. For Instagram users, also tag @fairhopeumc in your post! When you search the above # and @, you will be able to see all posts that have those included in them.



- If you're not on social media, email your pictures to [whateverittakes@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:whateverittakes@fairhopeumc.org) and we'll post them for you to the church's social media accounts.

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](http://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](http://www.fairhopeumc.org) under Email List).

Have questions about the Whatever It Takes Challenges?

Email [michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org).