



MISSION
 "MAKING DISCIPLES OF
 JESUS CHRIST
 FOR THE
 TRANSFORMATION OF
 THE WORLD"

VISION
 "A BRIGHT BEACON OF
 GOD'S LOVE TO IRVING
 AND BEYOND"

First United Methodist Church
 211 West Third Street
 Irving TX 75060
www.fumcirving.org

Connexion 15 Issue 5



CONNEXION

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Waiting in *Chronos* Time for God's *Kairos* Time
*Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
 they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*
 Isaiah 40:31

Waiting is not something we are generally good at. As a kid, I couldn't wait for Christmas. As a young adult I couldn't wait to finish college or even to get married (after I met Jana, of course!). I don't like waiting in line, being put on hold, or waiting at the doctor's office. Yet, waiting is considered by God to be an opportunity for growth.

In the Isaiah passage we are to "wait for the Lord." Waiting is meant to be God-time. There are two major words for "time" in Greek. *Chronos* means clock time, the ever-continuous passing of the minutes and hours of our days. *Kairos* means an appointed time for the fulfilment of something God is doing. Over 2,000 years ago there was *Chronos* time ticking by in the lives of every person on the planet. At a particular moment, however, was God's *Kairos* time with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We can get impatient in the *Chronos* hours of our lives. But if we wait on the Lord and look for God's *Kairos* moment to show up in our lives, then waiting becomes an opportunity for us to grow in our trust, faith, and hope in the Lord.

We may be getting impatient in our *Chronos* time of waiting for the Covid-19 pandemic to end. However, we can also be actively waiting for God's *Kairos* time: for God to speak into our lives, for God to direct us to reach out to the right person at the right time, for God to heal us emotionally or physically, or even for us to once again meet together in worship. We may not be exactly sure of when these *Kairos* times will show up. However, in our *Chronos* time, let's be faithful in our prayers, Scripture reading, and on-line worship while we "wait for the Lord."

*In His time, in His time, He makes all things beautiful In His time.
 Lord please show me ev'ry day, As You're teaching me Your way,
 That You do just what You say, In Your time.*

(Lyrics for "In His Time" by Diane Ball)

If you have prayer concerns, have other needs, or just want to let me know how you are doing, email me (doug@fumcirving.org) or call me (972-253-3531).

Blessings!

Jeff Baker Memorial New Testament Bible Reading Challenge

Week	Reading
May 31 - Jun 6	John 13 - 17
Jun 7 - 13	John 18 - Acts 1
Jun 14 - 20	Acts 2 - 5

Week	Reading
Jun 21 - 27	Acts 6 - 9
Jun 28 - July 4	Acts 10 - 13
July 5 - 11	Act 14 - 17

ONLINE GIVING



<http://www.fumcirving.org>

Covid-19 Update from Pastor Doug

Although things may change in the month of June, the staff and leadership of the church are working towards having our first live worship in the Sanctuary on July 5! We will continue to provide a quality on-line worship experience from now on so that we can provide multiple ways to participate on Sunday mornings. Again, assuming that there is no dramatic change regarding Covid-19, you can participate on worship starting on July 5 through our Facebook live worship, our YouTube live worship, or by coming to the Sanctuary in a safe, social-distancing manner. To prepare for this time, teams will be trained to provide a safe environment following the Texas Department of Health and Human Services guidelines as well as guidelines from the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. More information will be provided before July 5, but for now be in prayer for our church as we go through this process of preparation. In the meantime, if you want to consider attending worship in the Sanctuary, make sure you do not have any signs of ill-health, have a face mask you can wear, are willing to sit where ushers direct you, and maintain social distancing guidelines. Family members will be able to sit together as will two non-related church attendees. Other details will be forthcoming. To access worship via Facebook, search for "First United Methodist Church Irving" and find our live worship on the page. If you "like" or "follow" us, this will help you in the future. To access worship via Youtube.com, search for "fumcirving". In June, we will most likely begin to allow in-person meetings in the church for up to ten people following social distancing guidelines. Please check with Jimmy Bellow or Doug Fox prior to starting your first in-person meeting. All in-person meetings should provide a zoom option for those who wish to stay home. There are lots of details regarding all of this, but I wanted to give a brief update on our planning. If you have questions about this, it would be best to email them to me at doug@fumcirving.org. Blessings to you all!

Words from our SPRC Chair

Dear Church Family,

As you might know the North Texas Annual Conference has been postponed until September. However, the Bishop and Cabinet have made the appointments effective July 1, 2020. I am happy to announce that the Rev. Dr. Doug Fox has been reappointed to FUMC Irving as our senior pastor. Rev. Kyle Powell continues as our associate pastor.

Our staff continues to do an amazing job in keeping us all connected. They are working harder than ever to see to us through this period. I am personally blessed to see how this church has continued to minister outside the walls. Our doors may be closed, but the love of FUMC-Irving continues to be a beacon of light to Irving and beyond. I know that many of us are staying connected by phone calls and Zoom, but our time of face-to-face worship is deeply missed. We are continually evaluating information from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services and our Bishop, however we are looking towards and planning for opening the church for worship as early as July 5! Of course, this can always change, but this gives us a working plan. Remember to do all you can do to help by social distancing, wearing masks, and washing hands.

In His Service,

Mickey Wheeler

Chairman of Staff Pastor/Parish Relations Committee

Refuge Youth

Our summer programming is about to kick off and will look much different than it has in previous years. We will be doing a lot of things in small groups and outdoors, but our goal is to keep all of our students safe and make sure they are still able to gather as the body of Christ. Be in prayer for our youth as they continue to grow in their faith and pursue relationships with each other and that we all continue to stay safe and healthy during this uncertain time.

Congratulations to all our graduating seniors. It has been such a joy to walk through these last few years with you. I pray God pour out God's riches blessing on you and keep you safe and close in all of your next endeavors.

p.s. Thank you to everyone who wrote our wonderful Seniors letters. It was such a welcomed surprise for them!

Rev. Kyle Powell

Associate Minister and Director of Youth Ministries

First United Methodist Church Irving

214-404-7984

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

MAY 2020

In Honor:

Thanks to Kyle Powell- great job- to General Budget from Richard & Jennifer Cox

In Memory of Joan Attaway

to Myrtle Beard Scholarship Fund from Dick & Jeanell Bischofhausen
to Choir/ Music Fund from Mary Husa Good
to General Budget from Dr. Francis Gilbert
to General Budget from Jack & Pat Carnell

In Memory of:

Walter B. Smith to Choir/ Music Fund from Jimmy & Christine Burkett
Matilda Hernandez, mother of Jesse Hernandez, to Myrtle Beard Scholarship Fund



Parent's Day Out



Well - obviously we have not been physically at PDO for 11 weeks now. We have stayed in touch with the help of technology with our students and families. Teachers have sent them songs, work sheets, made FACETIME visits, etc. But - there is nothing like the real thing. During this Covid-19 stay-at-home mandate, there have been some insights and realizations that bring us all back to bare basics. Basics such as getting to see the kids and share with them, seeing our co-workers, watching the children grow in experience and knowledge etc. Those things have become even more important and dear to us when we don't see them as usual. Time has slowed down enough to remind us of what is important and precious in all phases of our lives.

Here is a prayer written by author - Ruth Harms Calkin-

"Thank you God for children with merry eyes and trusting smiles and giggles that never stop. Remind us often that Parenthood is more than an endless task - it is a sacred trust from You."

PDO takes this sacred trust and the trust of our parents along with the never-ending giggles as a precious blessing.

We are so excited to be opening back up to our kids and families for the summer, soon. God is Good!

Parents Day Out
Sandi Parker (& wonderful staff)
Director



Hello to everyone!

This is not just for parents who want to hear about the children. We are Zooming for Sunday School and choir practice. Get ready to be wowed by this year's children's play. They have worked extremely hard for you. Besides Zoom, I am trying to teach through coloring sheets and puzzles. Be sure and check out our Children's Facebook (FUMC Irving Children's Ministry). Especially as we prepared for worship on Pentecost Sunday, I have noticed a lot of devotions on Community. We have a great worship community and I hope we do not lose that spirit of unity after we are allowed back into the building to worship.

The Community is changing and Bret Lamsma's devotion helped me.

1 Corinthians 9:22 "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some." This has taken on new meaning during Covid 19 procedures.

"It helps if I look at this message in light of community and everything it can be. What I need from community today is different from what I needed 10 or 20 years ago. When I was in high school dealing with the death of my dad, I needed my community to listen to me rage against God and love me anyway. When my children were younger, my wife and I needed people to watch them for us and to listen to us when we wondered how to parent them. Today our needs are different still. The same could be said of everyone who has shared their story here this month. A year from now or even a month from now, they might describe community differently. [Community Is . . . Ever-Changing](#)"

Rejoice in the Lord in all things! Enjoy some art from JW, more to come.

Bless you all,
Juanell Montoya
Children's Director

Music Notes

Most beloved Members of FUMC Irving Congregation,

I am David Lee, Director of Music and Worship at FUMC Irving. I am writing this letter for one simple reason; I miss you all, and I miss saying this to you, "I am Sooooo glad to see you here today" face to face. But I feel these times of despair cannot separate us from the love of Christ and the love of fellowship among us. Romans 8:34-39 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake, we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

I am very thankful to be part of the family here at FUMC Irving. I want you to know that I am thinking of you and praying that God will protect you and provide what you need through these difficult times. Music has been provided during the 10:30 service by dedicated musicians even in these difficult circumstances. I would especially like to thank Yeonok, Matt, Jana, Emma, Nathan, Dennis, who are doing a great job in working hard to prepare for the live Facebook stream for the Sunday service music. The Music Ministry still exists to serve and enhance the worship life of FUMC Irving Church during this time. The staff of the Music Ministry works cooperatively to serve and help each member of the congregation to worship God more deeply at their home. I believe that you can take this time to draw closer to the Lord, surrounding yourself with the things that will speak peace and healing to your heart, such as worship music that will inspire you to trust God even during difficult circumstances. I know that any circumstances will never stop me, and us, from worshiping and praising Him. I hold each one of you, in my prayer and May the Grace and Love of God be with you all in these days.

I look forward to seeing you again soon to worship and fellowship with you in the sanctuary.

Psalm 34:1-4 "I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together."

June Taylor's Happy 85th Birthday

Chancel Choir retired member, June Taylor had a Surprised Birthday Parade on June 1, at 10 am at her house. David Mayhew, June's son in law, has prepared this event for her. We, Chancel Choir members and church members were glad to participate this surprise event for her. Thank you all who came out to celebrate one of our legend Chancel Choir member, June Taylor. June! Happy 85th birthday, many more!



Christmas in June! ^^

On May, I have visited some people's houses to sing from outside of their house bless them with a song that God has put into my heart. Of course, in social distancing! I decided to call this as "Summer Caroling!" but NOT Christmas songs^^. I would like to keep doing this on June also. So, if you would like me to stop by your house to sing for you, please let me know, but only by appointment. You can email me at music@fumcirving.org or call me at 609-439-2655. I hope to see you in person in June.

David Lee
Director of Music & Worship
609-439-2655