

# CONNEXION

Volume 16 Issue 6

June 2021



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

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

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Connexion 16 Issue 6



**"This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!" -- Psalm 118:24**

At the beginning of each of our worship services we declare, "This the day that the Lord has made!" with the response, "Let us rejoice and be glad int it!" This is a glorious way to begin each day! As our Creator and Sustainer, God gives us this day. What is God going to do today? Look for God's hand! Even when we don't feel like it, we exhort ourselves. *"Let us rejoice! Let us be glad!"* We become expectant of God's love, mercy and grace.

Here are just some of the reasons in the life of our church that I rejoice and am glad.

- We are emerging from the pandemic! Our church is slowly resuming our life together. Sunday School, including children, youth, and the Kum Doubles, Pathfinders, and Challenger adult classes have resumed in-person meetings. Other adult classes will be starting up this summer as well. The nursery is open at 9:00 am. The Church Council will be deciding soon how and when to remove some of the worship service restrictions.
- We will continue our on-line worship and our Drive-In worship. Our on-line worship is now a permanent part of our regular worship life. The Drive-In worship is still very popular. Join the outdoor crowd in shorts and t-shirts at 8:00 AM to worship God!
- We have hired Jessica Jones as our Director of Youth Activities and Colin Craft as our Spiritual Director of Youth. What a dynamic duo! Both grew up in this church, both have a love for God, both have a love for our youth, and both have a love for inviting more youth. There are summer activities being planned so stay tuned!!
- We also have a new Young Adult Ministry! Colin Craft is getting this started as the Director. We are starting this without a budget, so if you would like to financially help contact Jimmy Bellew at the church or simply put "Young Adult Ministry" (or YAM) on a donation check. More information about this ministry is found in this Connexion!
- We have a new *Wednesday's Wonders* ministry for our children this summer! Juanell Montoya has put together a team of folks to engage our children with games, crafts, Bible stories, music, and mission projects. Invite elementary aged children to join in on the fun every Wednesday from 9:30 to noon!
- We will be welcoming a new part-time Associate Pastor, Rev. Albano Tayengo! Rev. Tayengo hails from West Angola in Africa, is fluent in Spanish, and is especially effective with Pastoral Care. He and I were in seminary together, so I personally look forward to serving with him. Rev. Tayengo will be joining us in worship in mid-July.

Join us this Sunday for Sunday School and worship. As always, we will proclaim, "This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!" May you begin everyday with this same declaration! Watch and see how God shows up in your life this day!

Blessings!

*Doug*

ONLINE GIVING



<http://www.fumcirving.org>

### 2021 Bible Reading Challenge!

This year we will be reading through key parts of the Bible from the Old Testament through the New Testament. The major themes of Scripture will be encountered as you read God's inspired word. The Sunday message will almost always be taken from the week's readings.

| Week (Theme)                             | Reading                                |
|--|--|
| June 21-27<br>(Faithfulness Rewarded)    | Joshua 14, 23-24<br>Judges 1-2         |
| June 28-July 4<br>(Deborah)              | Judges 3-5<br>Psalm 20<br>Proverbs 1-2 |
| July 5-11<br>(Gideon)                    | Judges 6-8<br>Proverbs 3-4             |
| July 12-18<br>(Samson)                   | Judges 13-16<br>Proverbs 7-8           |
| July 19-25<br>(Story of Ruth)            | Ruth 1-4<br>Psalm 107                  |
| July 26-August 1<br>(Samuel the Prophet) | 1 Samuel 1-7                           |

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### MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

JUNE 2021

#### Honorarium Brick:

For Olivia & Chloe Husa, daughters of Ben & Kim Husa from Mary & Paul Good

#### In Honor of

2021 Graduates to General Budget from Danny & Judy Elms

#### In Memory of:

Dorothy Chandler to General Budget from Allan & Pam Knott

Sawyer June Robinson, daughter of Mitch & Summer Robinson to Music Fund from Mary & Paul Good

## Refuge Youth

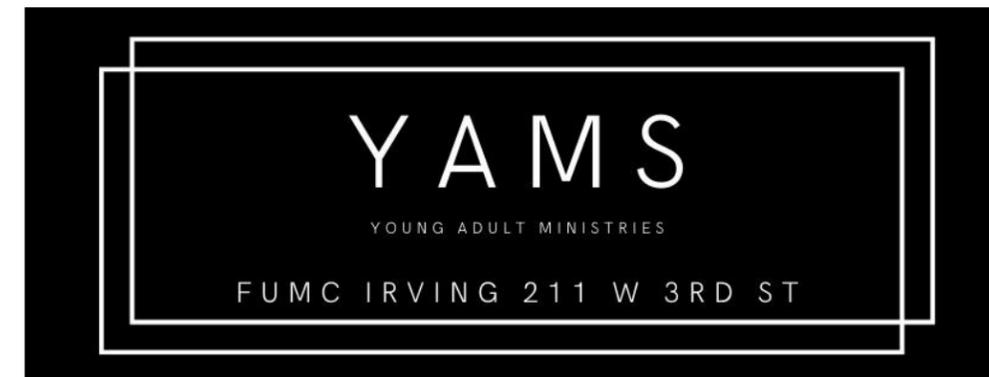
We are very excited about this new adventure that the youth will be going on. I am excited to work with Colin Craft who is the new Spiritual Director of youth. The youth have started Sunday School in person on Sunday mornings at 9:15 on the second floor of the FLC. We have continued to gather together on Wednesday evenings to just be together. We recently had a hang out at one of our youth's pools. We will be going to play Whirlyball in just a few short weeks.

Next week starts 2 weeks of camp at Bridgeport starting with high school. I am so happy for the 9 students that will be attending Middle school and High school camp this year. Please pray for all of them to have an amazing time and to feel the love of Jesus through everyone there. Please pray for the adults as well!

Jessica Jones

Director of Youth Activities

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We are excited to kick off our new and improved Young Adult Ministries or YAMS! YAMS is a space where young adults, college aged people, post graduate aged people, and even young married couples and families can find a community of people who are seeking to build a relationship with Christ. YAMS aims to embody the great commission and be a space that shapes deeply devoted disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world!

The director of YAMS, Colin Craft, is in the process of getting a kick off event planned for mid July as an introduction to the program with a Bible study and other ministry opportunities following soon after.

Colin asks that if you know of any young adults, then to please share their contact information with [youngadults@fumcirving.org](mailto:youngadults@fumcirving.org) so he can send them some more information about what is happening. If you would like to follow YAMS on social media you can find it at [fumc.yams](http://fumc.yams) on all platforms.



Dear Church family,  
Our summer started off with a quest for the King's book and learning how to armor up with God's Armor. As a church we presented the Message of God's love through drama, crafts, recreation, Science, Music and hugs. Yes, hugs we were together again and could comfort and lead each child in the best manner

for what they needed.

We followed up with visitors to our Sunday School. We meet **9:15-10:15 each Sunday on the third floor of the Education Building**. We are enjoying Jana Fox leading us in our opening music before Bible story craft time and prayer.

We have also introduced a new program on Wednesdays which we are calling Wednesday's Wonders. We are using curriculum called "God of Wonders" which teaches about Moses' choices in life and how God can use each of us in His wonderful world. The treasures this world offers are nothing compared to the eternal treasure/wonders God offers. The format of the program is like a weekly VBS with music, crafts, recreation/snacks and Missions. This summer we are preparing the sandwiches for Thursday's daily homeless ministry. The children's eyes have been opened to the needs of our community.

Prayer Concern: Especially with summer vacations it is a challenge to fill each position needed to help our children. So even if you don't have children or grandchildren in the programs pray about being a volunteer. We need greeters, assistants that help just find the right page in the Bible, keep our children engaged on Zoom- if they can't be in person, straighten up after crafts, if you think there is a need step up to fill those shoes. You are welcome to help. Please call me at 972-253-3531 ext 212, if you want to help or just need an answer about one of the programs.

Blessings,

*Juanell Montoya*

Children's Director

"Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power." Ephesians 6:10



## Parent's Day Out



We are in full registration mode at PDO. Remember to pass the word and sing our praises please.

In June we got to have a surprise visit from Miss Jana, Pastor Doug's wife. She played guitar for us and sang fun songs with us and her puppet friends. It was so much fun!! Thank you to Miss Jana!!!

We also had a great End-of- year and Graduation program. We had a wonderful turnout. Thank you to Mr George Adamson and his sweet wife, along with Ms. Julie Schilling for providing our yummy refreshments.

It has been a blessed start of summer!!

Sandi Parker

PDO Director