



Coming Again this Fall!

You are invited to the table...

Four Seasons Supper Clubs

Our church is growing and we want to give our new—and old—friends every opportunity to enjoy the rich experience of what a church community is meant to be. *Four Seasons Supper Clubs* were created to cultivate community in the way Jesus demonstrated, having a meal with friends around a table.

In the busy-ness of our day-to-day lives, *Supper Clubs* are a simple attempt to slow down and experience God's gift of friendship. Over the course of a year—*four seasons*—you can learn a lot about each other and begin to establish meaningful connections.

More information and registration is available through the church website or in brochures located around campus.



If you have any questions not covered on the website, please contact Rev. Laura Parker, laura.parker@fairhopeumc.org or 251-928-1148.



Fairhope United Methodist Permanent Endowment Fund
A Lasting Act of love and a Stewardship Commitment

Your church fully supports an Endowment Ministry. Donors who contribute to the endowment show their love for Fairhope UMC and understand that their gifts positively impact Church ministry and mission programs in perpetuity. For more information, scan the QR Code or contact one of our Endowment Committee members.



Stewardship: YTD through June 2023 - \$1,004,894

We planned for 47% of the budget through June.

We have received 44% of the budget through June.

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

Jeff White, Business Administration

Fairhope United Methodist Church

Dr. Darren M. McClellan, Senior Pastor

Rev. Laura Parker, Associate Pastor | Rev. Tom East, Minister of Evangelism

155 South Section Street, Fairhope, AL 36532 ~ 251-928-1148 ~ www.fairhopeumc.org

Dr. Debora Bishop, District Superintendent

Bishop David Graves, Alabama-West Florida Conference



A Stephen Ministry Church ~ Christ Caring for People Through People



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 30, 2023 ~ 8:30AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

(arr. Ron Boud)

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Please sign the registration pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,
whose love has conquered death.

Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,
who leads us into life.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

If God is for us, who can be against us? Let us confess our sins to the One who searches us and knows us.

We confess that we have turned away from you and have not lived with upright hearts. Forgive us for failing to follow you. Guide our feet to walk in your ways and serve your world to the glory of your name. Amen.

Your sins are forgiven; be at peace, for all things work together for good for those who love God.

LET US PRAY

God, you have given us a dream of your world made whole, a heavenly realm that is near in heart and close at hand, and it is ours to choose each day. May our smallest acts of courtesy, when transformed by your love, grow abundantly into a realm of flourishing for all. Amen.

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠HYMN OF PRAISE #103

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

8:30 BAPTISM

Lilly Grace Sirmon

Daughter of Sarah and Michael Sirmon

✠THE APOSTLES' CREED

✠GLORIA PATRI

OFFERING

✠DOXOLOGY

CHILDREN'S TIME (11:00)

Children 4 years old and up can meet at the side doors for Children's Church.

They are to be picked up immediately following the service in the Pier Room upstairs in the Education Building.

Nursery is also available for children 4 years and younger in the Education Building.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Enlightening God, the unfolding of your Word gives light
and provides wisdom to all who seek your truth.

Open our minds and hearts by the presence of your Holy Spirit,
that the mystery of your heavenly realm is made evident here on earth. **Amen.**

PSALTER #828

Psalm 105

HYMN OF PREPARATION #405

Seek Ye First

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

SERMON

8:30 ~ "The Undeniable Kingdom"

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

11:00 ~ "Kudzu Corruption and the Kingdom of God"

Rev. Cathi Parish

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION *UMH#13*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD / GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

CLOSING HYMN

To What Can the Kingdom of God Be Compared (Tune *To God Be the Glory*)

To what can the kingdom of God be compared?

A mustard seed falls where a field's been prepared, And there, where predictable plantings should be,
There grows up a wild bush — as big as a tree!

God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:

Loving deeds ... signs of birth ... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.

Your reign is amazing, your ways still astound, Just like that new life springing forth from the ground.

A small bit of leaven will change the whole bread:

A poor woman sees that her neighbors are fed, A church reaches out to the youth in the town, A man
shares his faith and God's blessings abound.

God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:

Loving deeds ... signs of birth ... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.

Your reign is among us, creation is blessed, When even a few faithful lives change the rest.

While some look for treasure or one priceless pearl, God's reign is the gift wise ones seek in this world.

A girl sells possessions to help those in need; A boy chooses faithfulness rather than greed.

God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:

Loving deeds ... signs of birth ... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.

Your reign is a treasure that wise ones pursue; May we seek your kingdom in all that we do.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

The Church's One Foundation

(arr. Ron Boud)

✠ Stand as able

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Lois Alspach by Natalie and Mark Woodrow.*

Assisting in Worship Today:

Dr. Darren M. McClellan, Rev. Cathi Parish; Liturgist, Gene Lammers

Acolytes: (8:30) Cate Richardson (11:00) Evan Jones

Communion Servers: (8:30) Robin and James Buchholz, Erin Jones, Gene Lammers
(11:00) Jan and Homer Bell, Cheri and Jerry Forte

Music: Tom Hood, John Richardson, Chancel Choir

Media and Sound: Colin Richardson, Wright Tapscott

Visiting With Us Today?

We want to know! Scan this QR Code:

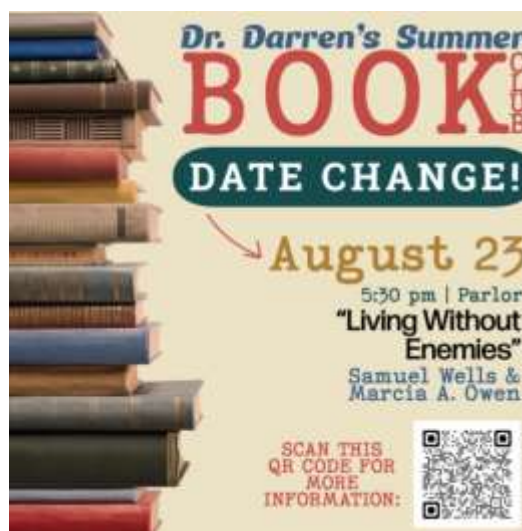


Prayers for the People...

Medical personnel and first responders

Military Service Men and Women

Hospitalized this week: Brenda Thompson



Invitation to Join the Church ~ Present this to the pastor during the last song.

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Joining by Transfer of Church Membership

Transferring from: _____

_____ Joining by Profession of Faith (have not previously been baptized or a member of a church).

_____ Joining by Reaffirmation of Faith (have been baptized but not sure last church where membership was held).

If you are not yet ready to join but would like more information about church membership, contact one of our pastors or attend **Coffee with the Pastors, August 13th, Conference Room, adjacent to the sanctuary**. Enter through the door under the bell tower or by the steps behind the sanctuary facing the parking lot. Look for directional signs on Sunday morning.



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FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
The Gathering: July 30, 2023 ~ 11:00AM

OPENING SONG

Build Your Kingdom Here

Shea White, Praise Team

WELCOME~CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

Please sign the registration pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,
whose love has conquered death.

Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,
who leads us into life.

LET US PRAY

God, you have given us a dream of your world made whole, a heavenly realm that is near in heart and close at hand, and it is ours to choose each day. May our smallest acts of courtesy, when transformed by your love, grow abundantly into a realm of flourishing for all. Amen.

SINGING OUR PRAISES

This is Amazing Grace

God of Wonders

Heaven Help Me

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Enlightening God, the unfolding of your Word gives light
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GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

SERMON

"The Undeniable Kingdom"

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE~THE LORD'S PRAYER

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

If God is for us, who can be against us? Let us confess our sins to the One who searches us and knows us.

We confess that we have turned away from you and have not lived with upright hearts. Forgive us for failing to follow you. Guide our feet to walk in your ways and serve your world to the glory of your name. Amen.

Your sins are forgiven; be at peace, for all things work together for good for those who love God.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

As you come before God to receive this Holy Meal,
You are invited to bring all of who you are as an offering
to the one who has given all of who he is for us.

****Baskets are available to present your offering
as you come forward to receive the bread and cup.*

INVITATION TO PRAYER AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING SONG

Assisting in Worship Today:

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

Communion Servers: Barry and Nadine Baskin, Jane and Don Dolan,
Mary and Noah Funderburg, Carol Willis

Music: Shea White and Praise Band

Media and Sound: Jamie Waldhour, Nellie Myers, Karl Langley

Visiting With Us Today?

We want to know! Scan this QR Code:

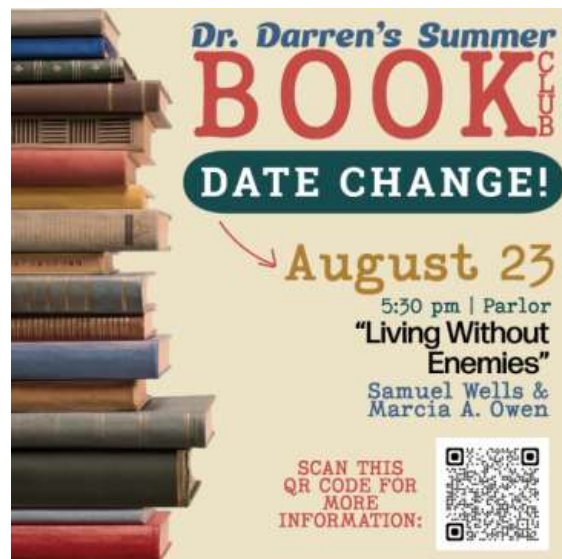


Prayers for the People...

Medical personnel and first responders

Military Service Men and Women

Hospitalized this week: Brenda Thompson



Please make plans to attend the last session of summer book clubs in August. Rev. Laura will be facilitating “The Book of Lost Names” on Aug 15th and Dr. Darren will be discussing “Living Without Enemies” on August 23, both sessions are at 5:30 in the parlor. And just as a reminder on what a great resource our church library is-with over 1600 volumes added the past year to the church's new WikiLibrary system.

Feel free to peruse the shelves filled with classics and note the “New Books” case outside Tom's office on the 2nd floor of the Education building. You'll find the “Jesus Revolution” DVD-with scenes filmed in our own sanctuary, Harris Faulkner's latest “Faith Still Moves Mountains” and Dr. Darren's first summer book, “A Letter to My Anxious Christian Friend.” All of Rev. Laura's books from this summer will be added shortly.

To check out any item for 3 weeks, put your name and email on the library card and leave it in the basket on the top shelf of the cart outside the choir room. One of our library volunteers will check the item out to you in the new system. Please return borrowed items and leave any items you'd like to donate on the 2nd shelf of the cart.

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