

Christ United Methodist Church P.O. Box 710 Levelland, TX 79336

THE BELL RINGER June 2023



COMING IN JUNE

- Tuesdays, June 6 & 20 Grief Support Group with Ann Akin in the fellowship hall at 1:30 p.m.
- Thursday & Friday, June 1 & 2 Annual Conference FUMC Lubbock, TX
- Sunday, June 4 Trinity Sunday/Peace with Justice Sunday/Imagine No Malaria Sunday
- Wednesday, June 7 S/PPRC Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, June 11 Second Sunday After Pentecost/ Shared Ministries Sunday Church Council Meeting at 12:30 p.m.
- Sunday, June 18 Third Sunday After Pentecost/Father's Day
- Monday, June 19 Juneteenth Observed Office Closed
- Sunday, June 25 Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June Birthdays - Bunk Lawson - June 23, Nancy Joplin - June 23, Nancy Keeling - June 27

June Anniversaries – Bunk & Carol Lawson – June 5, K.W. & Shyrle Hill – June 6, Jon & Willa Dale Johnson – June 6, Bruce & Nancy Keeling – June 6 Shared Ministries Sunday Shared Ministries Lunch at noon June 11, 2023

Church Council Meeting

Church Council meeting will be held following Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall on June 11th.

S/PPRC Meeting Wednesday, June 7 5:30 p.m.

Annual Conference June 1-2 First UMC - Lubbock

Juneteenth Observed Monday, June 19 Office Closed

A Special Father's Day Service June 18

We will honor all fathers and men who have played a father role in our lives.

A Word from the Pastor

Dear Support Saints,

Each year on the first Sunday of June, the National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation celebrates

National Cancer Survivors Day. This is a worldwide event on which, according to the organization, "it is a celebration for those who have survived, an inspiration for those recently diagnosed, a gathering of support for families, and an outreach to the community and most importantly to celebrate life." The organization encourages everyone to connect with one another. According to the foundation, there are more than 18 million cancer survivors. Important aspects of the foundation's work include drawing attention to the challenges of surviving cancer, promotion of resources, research and legislation to improve cancer survivorship. One thing churches can do is to promote opportunities for those within the community to reach out to one another for mutual support.

As we read in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, "So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal." These words are meant to be comforting to those who read them. Sometimes, however, cancer survivors, particularly those who are not in remission, may not find solace in words of scripture. That is where their Christian brothers and sisters come in. We are called to reach out to one another and put into action the words we find in scripture readings like 2 Corinthians.

Organizations like the National Cancer Survivors Foundation are beneficial in calling attention to the needs of those going through the cancer journey as well as their families, friends, and coworkers. I would suggest that so too is the church. As those walking in the Way, we are called to love one another. This command is a call to action, not simply words and prayers. We are to be prepared to walk with those going through tough times. One way to do this is to join together and formulate plans of action. It is usually easier to act when we act in concert with others.

I would encourage each of you to consider the needs of those who have survived and are surviving cancer, especially on Sunday June 4th. One possibility for our church would be to sponsor a support group for those going through the cancer journey. Perhaps such an effort would enable us to help others to not lose heart.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Dennis