



First United Methodist Church

BROWNSVILLE

Welcoming... Worshiping... Witnessing...



God Cares for You

“Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7

Have you ever experienced a moment where anxiety was just eating at you and it turned into panic? It can paralyze you, and the fear can be overwhelming. I recall a time our family journeyed to Annual Conference in Corpus Christi a few years back where I had that experience. As we came to the close of our time at Conference, we had to make sure we were all packed and out of our condo before we left for the final meeting. We found ourselves having to rush with enough time to make it on time, packing the truck and taking care of kids was causing some anxiety. Pretty soon we knew we would be late to the meeting, so my anxiety increased. Not everything fit in the back of the truck, causing me to reshuffle our packing strategy, which took even more time! Finally, we were ready to go, and it is time to get the kids in the car. However, we quickly realize that we only had 2 of our 3 boys with us. Our youngest, Aaron, is nowhere to be found. We had the door open the whole time and he must have walked out without us seeing! As we searched the parking lot and surrounding area yelling out his name, our son did not respond, and we could not see any evidence of his whereabouts. And just like that, anxiety turned into a full-on panic!

I have no doubt that Jesus' disciples could have had these feelings every day in proclaiming Christ's lordship and risking their lives to do so. However, it is Peter which reassures us that **God does not want us to be captive to panic or anxiety**, but to “Cast your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.” This is what allowed the disciples and early church leaders to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ without fear. They knew their true king cared and had a spot waiting for them in His kingdom regardless of what happened in this world!

After looking everywhere on the ground floor and not finding our son, my wife found Aaron standing at the top of the flight of the condo stairs with a big smile on his face. I was so glad to see that smile, the last thing I wanted to see was him being scared. As I buckled him into the car, I noticed that all of my anxiety was gone. God had taken it away and I was able to breath. Yes, I was late to Annual Conference that morning, but what I really cared about was my son's safety. Just like I didn't want to see Aaron afraid, our God wants to take away our anxiety, panic, and fear because He knows when we have faith in Jesus, we have nothing to fear! Many of us are feeling anxiety as we continue to navigate through this pandemic together. Remember your God is with you, cares for you, and will never leave your side.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Phillip Hoeflinger

FUMC On-line Summer Study Groups

Daily Prayer with Pastor Phillip

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. on YouTube

Join Pastor Phillip live from his home and begin your day with around 15 -20 minutes of prayer using the Field Guide for Daily Prayer as a guide.

New Life Sunday School

Sunday's, 9:30 a.m. on Zoom

We are studying 1 & 2 Peter by Max Lucado . If you are interested in joining contact Mary Reser at (956)203-6706 or email her at mreser0120@gmail.com.

Men's Bible Study, 1 Corinthians

Monday's, Noon on Zoom

Starting June 15th all men are welcome to join a journey through 1 Corinthians. We read a chapter, have discussion, and close with prayer for one another. You can jump into this informal study at any time.

If you are interested in joining call or text Pastor Phillip at (830)255-6073

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday's, 5:30 p.m. by conference call.

We are starting "For His Glory" by Mariah Jordan Ellis. This is a study of Ephesians. We meet on the phone to discuss the lesson .

If you are interested in joining contact Mary Reser at (956)203-6706

Cornerstone Class

Thursday's, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Zoom

Weekly study which goes deeper into the meaning, study, and memorization of God's Word in and for your heart!

If you are interested in joining contact David Charles (956)518-1171

Youth Fellowship & Bible Study

Sunday's and Wednesday's, 6:30 - 8:00 on Zoom

Weekly Wednesday bible study and Sunday night fellowship and games for grades 6-12.

Any youth interested in joining call or text Rocio Hoeflinger at (830) 255-607

July Birthdays



7/1	Judy Brewer	7/16	Stephen McCleary
7/2	Dianne McCleary	7/19	Laura Gilmore
7/5	Richard Houston	7/25	Aurora Armour
	Willie Teo Ong		Rina Erwin
	Charles Bergman		Irma Rivas
7/9	Colleen Ferguson	7/28	Jenica Kigore
7/11	Merriwood Ferguson		
7/12	Manuel Andrew Russell Jr.		
7/15	Samuel Hoeflinger		