

The Common Line



Vacation Bible School Goes Virtual

The year 2020 is challenging. It pushed FUMC teachers to think outside the box for Vacation Bible School. FUMC Director of Education Ainsley Kuhn came up with an excellent solution to safely connect with our children and community through virtual VBS, all done on Facebook.



VBS attendee Emmaline Steenrod displays her completed prayer journal

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POTH Team Ready for Noodle Event September 18

The FUMC Parade of the Hills team gathered recently and made noodles for the annual, although delayed, fundraising event. COVID-19 couldn't deter the dedicated group that worked in August storing 29 bags of noodles in the freezer. Although there was no Parade of the Hills this year, FUMC event coordinators received permission from church leaders to gather safely and prepare food.

The FUMC "Parade of Home Cooking" event will be Friday, September 18 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the church. Food will be served for take-out only. Weather permitting, guests are welcome to bring a blanket or lawn chair and picnic on the lawn. Masks and social distancing are required for those who are volunteering and for guests. The menu includes the usual favorites of chicken noodles, baked steak sandwiches, shredded chicken sandwiches, macaroni and cheese, hot dogs, sweet and sour beans, green beans, cole slaw and desserts. Listed below the ways you can help. Get ready for a mouth-watering treat and thanks for your help.

Help Needed—

- Make homemade pies, cakes and other desserts.
- Donate bottled water and soft drinks.
- Give a monetary donation.
- Deliver donated items to church 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17 or 8-11 a.m. Friday Sept. 18.
- Volunteer to work at the event for several hours or more between 9 a.m. set up through 8 p.m. clean up. Bring your own mask.
- Contact Karen Campbell at 740-753-2020 or 740-590-9345 if you have questions and to let her know you are available to volunteer so she can plan a full schedule of helpers.
- Invite friends, neighbors and family.



FOR THE TRUTH
FOR THE WORLD
FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

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When the time is right
I, the Lord, will
make it happen.

Isaiah 60:22

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DAVE

Something We All Can Do

Acts 3:1-10

Most likely he had been there daily for many years. The Temple Gate was a busy place with lots of people passing by. And so it was the perfect place to be ... to ask for monetary gifts. You see, this man couldn't work. From his birth he had been unable to walk. That meant that he had to rely on the generosity of others to live. The harsh term for it was that he was a beggar.

We can only imagine how humbling and humiliating that must have been. People would look down on him ... literally and figuratively. Others would just pretend like they didn't see him. Some would probably even hurl insults at him. It must have been a horrible life!

One day a couple of Jesus' disciples came through that Temple Gate ... and something absolutely amazing happened! And it all began when they took the time to actually see him and stop to talk with him. They didn't turn the other way. They didn't pretend they were too busy to stop. They actually looked at him, considered his plight, and felt something for him.

You see friends, I believe that God calls each of us as a Christian to a life of compassion. We're called to see others with God's eyes and feel for others with God's heart. Jesus once said that the greatest of all the commandments is to love God and love others as we love ourselves. A cold, hard heart simply isn't compatible with the Christian life.

I know. I know life is busy. I know it's easy to get taken advantage of. I know it's hard to know exactly how best to help. There are a million reasons to not reach out to someone in need. But there's one over-arching reason to do so: When we were in need ... God reached out to us. Yes, it's messy, costly, inconvenient and perhaps even a bit risky. But I believe it's what God is calling each of us to do. And the great thing is, it's something we all can do.

You see, it's interesting that the disciples didn't offer the man what he was asking for. Instead, they simply offered him what they had. They spoke to him a word of hope and encouragement. They responded to him with kindness and compassion. They reached out to him in the Name of Jesus.

And friends, that's something we all can do. Regardless of who we are, we too can respond to others with kindness and compassion. We can offer them a word of hope and encouragement. We may not have lots of physical resources, but if we have Jesus, we do have kindness and compassion and hope and encouragement that we can offer.

And if we're willing to do that ... who knows ... something absolutely amazing might just happen through us as well!! And the best part is, it's something we all can do!! So let me challenge you to go and be the hands, feet and mouth piece of Jesus to our broken and hurting world! After all, you just might be exactly what that person needs to make a real difference in their life!

In Loving Service,
Pastor Dave

Boy Scouts Hold Court of Honor

On August 12 our Boy Scout Troop held its Court of Honor after being delayed by COVID-19. Approximately 40 Scouts, parents and family members gathered in the sanctuary, following the mask and distance guidelines used in worship. Another nearly 1000 people checked out some part of the program carried on Facebook. Scout leaders Dave Loge and Jeremy Boggs led parts of the program along with Scouts Logan Osborn, Leighton Loge, Eli Herzog, Grady Carlson, Logan Meek and Trevor Boggs who also shared master of ceremonies honoring accomplishments of young men journeying through the ranks of Scouting. Some highlights of the event included:



Django Sow bridges from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts with his parents Kayla and Beidy Sow

- Scouts received a record number of merit badges. Forty-five badges in all were awarded for canoeing, kayaking, finger printing, metal work, mining, oceanography, citizenship, Indian lore, mammals, pioneering, programming, public health, reading, robotics, Scouting heritage, sustainability, swimming and wood carving.
- Arrow of Light ceremony recognized those who earned the highest award in Cub Scouting and crossed over into Boy Scouts - Braden O'Rourke, Django Sow, Jacob Varner, Chandus Hatcher and Trevor Boggs.
- Scouts earning the Tenderfoot rank included Grady Carlson, Eli Herzog, Logan Meek, Noah Loge and Landon Osborn.
- Reaching the rank of Second Class were Eli Herzog, Logan Meek, Landon Osborn.
- Achieving the rank of First Class was Logan Osborn
- Honored for Life Scout Award was Leighton Loge, the last rank on the way to Eagle Scout.
- Pastor David Roach praised the Scouts, parents, leaders and the church for doing that which is described in Proverbs Chapter 22, "Train up a child in the way that he should go and as he gets older, he will not depart from it."
- A call was issued for volunteers to serve as treasurer and advance chairman and for financial donations to cover an immediate need for \$200 for troop expenses.

The Troop thanks Wayne Dicken for coordinating the technology to carry the program on Facebook and Micah Covert for creating PowerPoint slides to communicate the program. The Scout Court of Honor may be viewed on our Facebook Page.

Our Boy Scout Troop serves a total of 14 Scouts and is a significant program within the 2020 Breakthrough Goals of FUMC in the area of groups convened for *Intentional Faith Development*. The congregation is invited to support this work through donations, volunteering skills and time and recruiting youth and families to participate.

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Leighton Loge received Life Scout award, the highest honor of the evening



Trevor Boggs lights candles in the Arrow of Light Ceremony.

Blood Drive Surpasses Goal



Emily McCulloch staffs registration at the August Red Cross blood drive at FUMC, organized by Emily and her mother Amy, where 29 people donated blood, passing our goal of 20 people



Challie Abraham, one of several repeat donors, amid signs placed on the church lawn and around town. The drive provided enough blood to serve 87 patients.

Our Sympathy To --

The family of Scot Smathers who passed away August 16. Services presided over by Pastor David Roach, were held August 26 at Whitmore Cemetery.

The family of Ann Hartman who passed away August 14. Services were held August 19 at Greenlawn Cemetery.

(VBS Continued From p.1)

The train-themed program was “Jesus Power Pulls Us Through.” With Ainsley’s planning, plus the help of Trisha Dean and other volunteers, VBS take-home bags were created, providing activities for a three-night program. A drive-by pickup of bags was held at church. In addition to our own congregation, 60 bags were sent to Dottie Fromal, director of Integrated Service’s “The Hive” project in Nelsonville, for the youth and families with whom she interacts. Each bag contained train and Bible-based materials including a bandana, bracelet, snacks and crafts so that children could follow each night’s teaching. A total of 111 bags were distributed.

Starting Monday, August 17, children heard the story from Pastor Dave about Ananias helping Saul. Trisha taught the song, *Follow Jesus*, while also showing it on the big screen for the Facebook audience. The craft activity was coloring a Rubik’s cube during which Ainsley reminded children of the night’s message, **Jesus helps us do hard things**, when you think something in life is hard to do, like a Rubik’s cube, instead of saying “I can’t do this”, say “I can’t do this, yet.”

Tuesday’s story about Paul encouraging others during a storm and shipwreck conveyed the night’s message, **Jesus’ power gives us hope**, and was accompanied by the song *Love the Lord with All your Heart*. For craft time children made a prayer journal and were encouraged to write their concerns, pray about them and be assured that God hears the prayers.

The final night, Pastor’s Bible story told about Peter and John helping a blind man and teaching about Jesus in the face of adversity and authorities who forbid it. The story demonstrated the message, **Jesus’ power helps us be bold**. The craft included creating a train on a track that was “engineered by God and driven by faith.” The session ended with the team -- Pastor Dave, Ainsley and Trisha -- leading dancing and singing to an upbeat *Jesus Loves Me* while children danced and sang at home.

It may not be the traditional VBS that our church loves and enjoys, but positive feedback and pictures sent by parents showing their children participating prove the program was a success. Teachers and volunteers hope to see children in person next year at VBS. All involved were thankful to find a way to come into homes with God’s word. It is amazing to see what we can all accomplish together when God is involved.

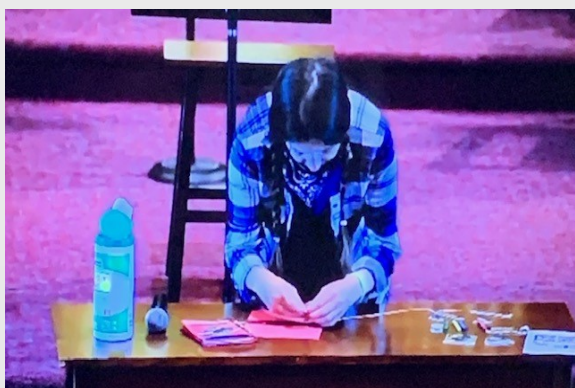


Bag pick-up time for VBS attendees.
Hope and Faith Joyce.



VBS bags were filled by an assembly line of Volunteers some of whom are pictured, from left Steve Cox, Linda Roach, Ainsley Kuhn, Pastor Dave Roach, Becky Joyce, Micah Covert and Scott McNutt

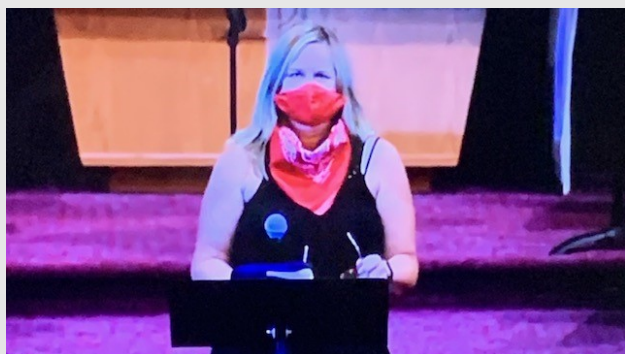
(VBS Continued from p. 5)



Ainsley Kuhn shows children how to make a prayer journal.



Pastor Dave acts out pulling up the anchor of the boat in the storm.



Trisha Dean taught a song each night and modeled mask wearing for children, encouraging them to understand the new norm at school and in public.



Trisha and Ainsley reprise Jesus Loves Me with motions and dance for Sunday worshippers.

Some comments and feedback received --

- “They are excited!”
- “That’s so awesome!”
- “What a great idea!”
- “Kennedi loved it!”
- “We really enjoyed it!”
- “Emmaline says Hi and she is having so much fun watching.”
- Some kits went to families in neighboring towns. One family sent pictures of their three girls making crafts and said “Thank you for thinking of them and they loved it.”

Planners extend a huge thank you to Wayne and Becky Dicken for technical skills and posting to Facebook each night and to the congregation for donating materials and funds for the program. The program resides on Facebook. Additional bags are available for more children who would enjoy the experience. Contact the church office to obtain a bag.

Pastoral Care

This is indeed a difficult time for the church! With social distancing and the call to voluntary isolation, it has become a real challenge to build and nurture relationships within the church family. And this is especially true for me coming in as your new pastor. So let me offer some thoughts.

If you have or know of a need for pastoral care, or even if you'd just like a chance for us to get to know each other, please let me know. We can certainly talk on the phone or chat on face time or correspond through texts or email ... whatever you would be the most comfortable with. And while we are still enjoying the warm weather, if you would like a front porch visit using masks and social distancing, I would also be more than willing to do that as well.

The key for any of this to happen, though, is for you to reach out to let me know of your desire for a visit, however that may work best for you. Below you will find my personal phone number as well as my email address. Or you can call or email the church office and Linda, our secretary, will pass that information on to me and we can set up an appointment to make that happen.

During this time, it is so important for us to stay connected. As your pastor, I want to help make that happen in any way that I can. So please let me know how I can help.

Pastor Dave

740-988-4648

droach4@me.com

Roof Construction

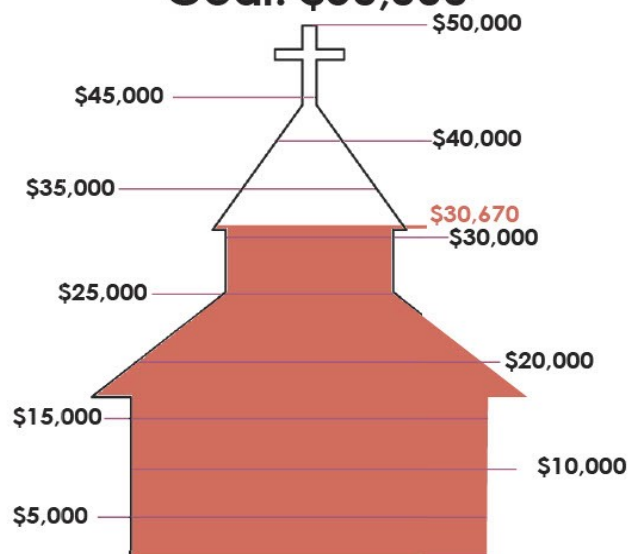
The church's roof contractor offered advice, "If you make the roof the same color it has always been, people will notice the project the two weeks while we are here, but if you change the color, the difference will be noticed for a long time."

After looking at color samples and inviting input from a variety of people, the trustees selected a roof shingle with flecks of blue called Harbor Blue along with gutters and downspouts of English Wedgwood, thinking that these colors are a good blend with the bricks and the blue in our window. This will be a new look for our church while FUMC grows and changes with the times and the opportunities before us.

Have you donated to the roof fund? Now is the time as we make the first payment for construction.

Raise the Roof for the Next Generation

Goal: \$50,000



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Other Events and Announcements

Please Note: In-person events are currently on hold with the exception of Sunday morning worship, Adult Sunday School, Alcoholics Anonymous and Parade of Home Cooking, September 18, 2020

Sunday School every Sunday at 9:00 AM

Worship Services every Sunday at 10:00 AM
And Live on Facebook

Adult Sunday School on the lawn 8:30 AM

Anchored Youth Group every Sunday at 5:00 PM

Alcoholics Anonymous every Monday
and Thursday at 8:00 PM

Leadership Team Meeting—TBA

Cub Scouts Schedule

Wolf: Sundays at 4:00 PM; Dee Dee Loge (740) 707-5318

Bear: Mondays at 6:00 PM; Ryan Harris (937) 902-9609

Webelos 1: Every other Tuesday at 6:00 PM; Jeremy Boggs
(740) 856-2795

Webelos 2: Sundays at 6:00 PM; Ryan Harris (937) 902-9609

**If you have any questions about Cub Scouts, you can contact Dee Dee or Dave Loge (740) 707-7035*

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