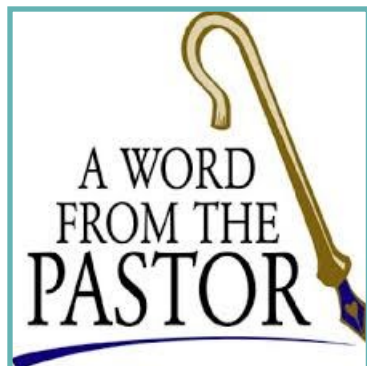
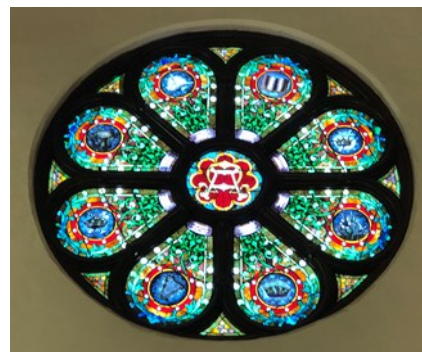


CHURCH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE LINK

Volume MMXXI, Issue 3 - March 24, 2021



In Jonah 3:4-6 we read: *“⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.⁶ When the news reached the king of Nine-*

veh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.” This is a powerful piece of scripture for a few reasons.

Jonah (after his attempt to run from God and being swallowed by a big fish) finally gets to Nineveh. He cries out his message from God and the people believe him! Not only do they believe him, but everyone takes action...and I mean everyone. The king himself takes off his robe, puts on sackcloth and sits in ashes.

Ashes have long been a sign of mourning. Even the oldest book in the bible (Job) has reference to Job sitting in ashes (Job 2:8).

Why am I talking about ashes? Because this is March, which puts us squarely in the season of Lent. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. During this season, it is customary to give up something that would be considered a luxury (for example: caffeine, sugar, chocolate, etc.). We say “no” to a good thing so we can “yes” to a better thing.

Use this season of lent to draw closer to God. Deny yourself a good thing, that you might say “yes” to the best thing. Jesus is calling. Use Lent as time to listen.

Grace and Peace,
Lance

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Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Friday
8:30 am to 2:30 pm



Music Ministry Notes From Gordon

It is wonderful having some of our faithful Chancel Choir members once again in the choir loft on Sunday! These folks are greatly assisting the leading of worship through hymn singing and it's just great having a "presence" in the loft!

The Music Ministry is delighted to return to Wednesday choir rehearsals, of course using all safety protocols for each rehearsal.

The choir will present choral anthems on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. How wonderful!!! I know we will all be blessed as we come together to celebrate these two high and holy days!

I cannot thank our "quarantine soloist" during this past year enough! They have used their talents to present quality music for worship and we have truly been blessed!

Our Sunday School children will sing and ring for worship on Mother's Day, May 9th. I know you will be blessed by seeing and hearing them.

As we approach Easter Day, may these words by Charles Wesley remind us of the great love our Father has for his children.

*"And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood!
Died he for me? Who caused no pain!
For me? Who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?"*

*Blessings,
Gordon*



Children's Ministry – Happy Easter Season



Church

There are many reasons to celebrate and worship together at Church Street UMC during the month of April. Did you know that “Easter for Christians is not just one day but a 50-day period?” The Eastertide season begins at sunset on Easter Eve and ends on Pentecost. During these 50 days Christians intently consider Jesus’s life and “rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. . . . [W]e celebrate and ponder the birth of the Church and gifts of the spirit, and how we are to live as faithful disciples of Christ.” (UMC) If you have not joined us in person in recent months, we look forward to seeing you soon!

We celebrate our High School Seniors on Sunday, April 25th during our morning worship service. Church Street UMC has been blessed by these outstanding young people, and it has been a joy and privilege for our Church to participate in their Christian growth. We pray for each graduate and that his/her faith continues to grow:

Robert Cobb Beers

Evan Hardy Eskridge

Leon Jones Free

Mary Alan Ousley

George Edward Turner

William Holt Utsey

As we celebrate and honor our CSUMC graduates and as they embark on new adventures, here are a few thoughts for them and for us: Jeremiah 29:11 states, “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” Max Lucado said, “God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile.” Ralph Waldo Emerson once offered, “All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.”

Happy Easter,

Frances

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
PRAYERS**

Current: Suzanne Ingram, Lynnie Kopp, Dennis Sweeney, Brandon McHugh

Ongoing: Randy Smith, Scott Sherrer, Sherry Taylor, Brandie Friday, Anita Waldrop, John Stringer, Caroline Thomas, Jeanette Faile Hardin, Daniel Jordan, Jeff Cogle, Jim Kennedy, Amy & Jim Sims, Keith Stephan, Blake Flanagan, Gary West, Tommy Eiland, Kathryn Hardy, Russ Jackson, Bill Livingston, Clark Schatz, Shannon Miller Cook, Cassandra Steele

Homebound: Eloise Trammel, Jean Walker, Helen Rogers, Ann Pegues, Edna Wiechers, Barry Blanton, Camille Salter, Lucille Sellier Jordan

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
PRESENCE**

Average attendance YTD as of March

Sunday School: 46 Worship Service: 89

**We hope to see each of you each week for
Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., and
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.**

**If you miss a service, be sure to catch the
service on the Church Street Web page or the
Facebook page or listen to the prior week's
sermon on Sundays, at 9:00 am on Dixie
Country - WDXX 100.1**



**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
GIFTS**

Memorials

John Sherrer

By: Pairs & Spares
By: Earl & Helen Edwards
By: Leonard & Suzanne
Ingram

Jim Wheeler

By: Leonard & Suzanne
Ingram
By: Myrna Hollis

Bob Culpepper

By: Myrna Hollis

Nell Woodward

By: Myrna Hollis
By: Larry & Jan Justice
By: Charlotte Speed
By: Eleanor Reynolds
By: Claude & Caroline
Anderson
By: Gail Hawkins
By: Randy & Cora Smith
By: Joe & Lori Newton
By: Larry Edie Jones
By: Allen Williams

Memorials to Leika's Playground

Marsha Powe

By: Bill & Donna Porter
By: Joe & Em Moore

Sandra Roberts

By: Catherine Revel Circle

Joanie Looney

By: Joe & Em Moore

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

Remember that charitable contributions,
in memory or in honor of someone special,
are a great way not only to honor them,
but to contribute to the work of the Church as
well.

April 4th Communion Offering

*The Communion Offering on Sunday, April
4th, will be given to Jesus Day.*

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
SERVICE**

Teams Serving in April

Ushers: Wayne Vardaman, Ed Livingston, John Nettles, Joe Newton, Scoop Rivers, Lee Calame, Larry Jones

Security: William Free, Jamie Thomas, Wood Spivey, Steve Todd, Em Moore

Worship Steward:
Gale Bedgood & Fran Pearce

Collection Counters:
Julie Drinkard & Myrna Hollis

If you are unable to be present, please find a replacement and contact your captain.

April Meetings

Trustees

Tuesday, April 1, at 5:00 pm, in Windham Hall

Finance

Thursday, April 22, at 5:00 pm, in the Grist Library

Church Council

Thursday, April 22, at 5:45, in the Grist Library

Please contact your chairperson or the Church Office if you will not be able to attend.



HOLY WEEK

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

will be held at the downtown churches at noon beginning

Monday, March 29th:

Monday: First Baptist Church will serve lunch

Tuesday: Cornerstone Presbyterian Church,

Wednesday: Church Street United Methodist Church

will serve a sack lunch following the service.

Friday: St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Good Friday Service at Church Street UMC will be at 6:30 pm.

Easter Sunday Services, April 4th.

Bring flowers to decorate the cross on Dallas Avenue and Church Street.

We will have two services to accommodate social distancing.

8:00 am Worship Service

9:15 am Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service

Breakfast will be served in Windham Hall following the 8:00 am Worship Service

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
WITNESS**



**Mark your calendar for Senior
Recognition Sunday
April 25th**

Our Seniors are:
Robert Cobb Beers
Evan Hardy Eskridge
Leon Jones Free
Mary Alan Ousley
George Edward Turner
William Holt Utsey

**The Church will host a luncheon for the
Seniors and their families following the
worship service.**

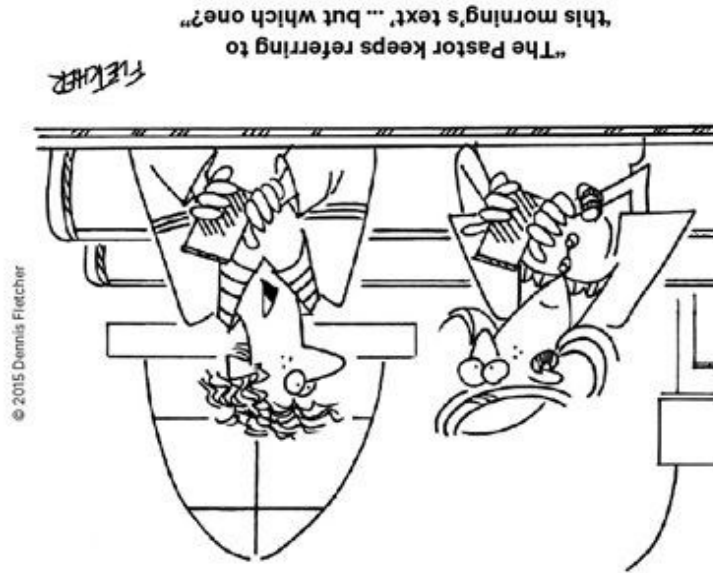
Circle Meetings

Catherine Revel Circle
 will meet Monday, April 5th ,
 at 3:00 pm, in Windham Hall

Roberta Sample Circle
 will meet on Monday, April 12th at
 6:00 pm at Carolyn Dunaway's Home.



Remember to bring flowers
 Easter Sunday
 to decorate the cross
 on the corner of
 Dallas and Church Street.



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Church Street United Methodist Church, Selma

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