

MEADOWVIEW MESSENGER

Meadowview United Methodist Church

Where Christian Caring Comes to Life

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September 2020 Edition

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The Pastor's Pondering:

August Challenges

The other day we were reflecting on the month of August. August has not presented itself this year as it has in years past. Although it has not been without its challenges, it has still presented well.

In years past, August has always been the hottest month of the year with temperatures often rising to and above 90 degrees every day. In past years, many have suffered immeasurable discomfort because of the insufferable heat and humidity. Yet, in 2020 we have been spared the heat. Yes, several days it has risen to 90 and above but generally it has been very pleasant. To what should we attribute the weather change? Some might say because 2020 has been a peculiar year altogether. As I said, there have been challenges. The Coronavirus is foremost in the minds of many. With or without the heat, the virus continues to rage and infect many people. There seems to be no end. So, if we were to reflect on circumstances, we would see that there were indeed challenges in August, but we rode out the storm well.

Also, 2020 and the virus has caused churches challenges in the month of August. In July we worshipped inside because the virus count was low for Washington County. However, the month of August presented us with a different challenge. First, we could not worship at all, then we could worship outside, and perhaps soon back inside as we did in July. It is all very confusing! But we survived.

I think we did so well in August because of the low heat and humidity. True there were those who were ill and some even passed away, but for the whole we survived very well. Let's take our hats off to August. The most dreaded month of the year actually turned out to be absolutely gorgeous and not so bad. And now, we enter Autumn or Fall. One can only wonder what the fall will bring??

I may have spoken too soon. For Hurricane Laura has made land fall and is threatening the south coast of Texas and Louisiana, and may even reach as far as Virginia. Prayers for those involved and who might be impacted by this hurricane.

Scripture for the month: Lamentations 3: 22-26- *"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him."*

According to The New Interpreters Study Bible, "this verse in Lamentations provide an instructive theological assertion aimed at grounding the tentative hope in the abiding nature of God. God is powerful, just and merciful, punishing sins but with a disciplinary and restorative intent." Pg.:1149

How encouraging is it that God pours out His love for us, that His mercies are brand new every day? Every day is a new day in which we can move and have our being in a direction that defines our life in the presence of Jesus Christ. Our contentment is not found in the things of this world, but in God's constant and consistent mercy; His saving grace.

God's grace and mercies gives us great hope in the battles we face today and every day. It is like the radiant light breaking through the darkest of nights. Brand new mercies every day. How great is our God!! Amen.

Peace and grace in Christ Jesus, Pastor (Rev. Dr. Barbara Doyle)

Calendar for September 2020:

08 6:00-7:00 p.m. Food Pantry at MUMC
15 6:00-7:00 p.m. Food Pantry at MUMC
22 6:00-7:00 p.m. Food Pantry at MUMC
29 6:00-7:00 p.m. Food Pantry at MUMC

Normal (repeating) schedule:

Sunday: Worship @ 9:30 a.m. – Facebook live
Sunday: ~~Worship @ 10:30 a.m. (11:15)~~
Sunday School @ 10:45 a.m.
Sunday: Choir practice @ 9:00 a.m.

Prayer Concerns for Our Church Family

Anita Coulthard Joanna Dennstaedt
Skeeter Yeatts Peggy Bolling Dale Carter
Wade Blevins Judy Briscoe Lily Mehl
Linda Martin Wanda Kealey Malcolm Nutter
Susan Rasnick Mack Boyd Christine Puttock
Jeremy Weaver Beulah Stringer Haley Charlton
Lynn Baggett Adeline Littleton Nairn Family
Diane Mash Jones Tony Smith Christina Reynolds
Sandra Warmoth Margaret Carter
William & Doris Quintana Wayne Rector
Hannah Moore Jane Scruggs

Expressions of Sympathy

The family of Nancy Carter, in her passing on July 7.

**If you need to add someone to the prayer list or are ready to have someone taken off, please contact Annette Sumrell at shadygrove_umc@yahoo.com or 276-206-3243 (call or text)*

Sunday Worship services

While some are still abiding by the “safer at home” strategy (due to the COVID-19 coronavirus), Pastor Barbara will be presenting a message on Facebook “live” each Sunday morning at 9:30. For those who decide to venture out, **outside worship services for both churches are currently being held under the shelter at Meadowview UMC at 10:30 a.m.**

Tithes & Offerings:

Don't forget that the church is still dependent on the tithes & offerings of its members during this pandemic. Keep sending those to: Meadowview UMC, P.O. Box 255, Meadowview, VA 24361

Activities Temporarily Suspended:

- Bible Study – Wed. @ SG 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
- Half Century outings
- Older Adult outings

Rules for returning to Sunday Worship in person:

- Temperatures will be taken before entering the building
- Weather permitting, worship will be under the pavilion; otherwise it will be in the Fellowship Hall, using the handicapped access
- Masks will be worn at all times
- Hand sanitizer will be available upon entrance and exit
- Nothing will be passed around; offering plate will be at a table as you enter
- No physical contact with one another, such as hand shaking, hugging, etc.
- Social distancing will be followed; families/couples may sit together
- No children's church or nursery
- No hymnals or Bibles available; bring your own Bible if you want
- No congregation singing; no choir
- Kitchen will be CLOSED; no foods or drinks available. Bring your own drink if you want.

Congratulations to:

Ann Wallace – on the birth of a new grandchild
Jayne Hillman - on the birth of a new grandchild

Contact info for Pastor Barbara:

Email: pastordoyle1209@gmail.com
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