



Friday, May 22, 2020

The Weekender

Beard for Benevolence

Many of you are familiar with the Benevolence Fund at our church which assists those in need in our community. It is monitored by a team which meets with those seeking aid and provides assistance and care to those who find themselves struggling financially. You may know that we receive contributions for this from members who give above and beyond. Also we collect for this fund on Sundays in which we celebrate communion. However, without the in-person gatherings, we have not had much opportunity to receive for this fund because we have not gathered together.

I want to encourage you to give to this fund, above and beyond, as you are able and I am putting to the congregation a challenge. Many of you have observed that I have let my facial hair grow out over the last few weeks. In what I'm calling "Beard for Benevolence," I'm giving you, the congregation, an opportunity to decide what happens next to my beard. When you donate to the Benevolence Fund, you get to choose one of three options for the beard: 1) Shave it all off, 2) Keep it, or 3) I walk into Sam's Barber Shop and he gets to decide how to cut it for a taping of our worship service. Whichever option raises the most money for the Fund will determine what happens for the taping of our service for the first Sunday of June.

You can give online (make sure to mark which option gets your vote), mail a check, or give at our Drive-Thru at the church office weekdays, 11 a.m. to noon. The last day to receive donations for the Beard for Benevolence Challenge is June 1. Of course you are always able to give past that date or to give without a thought to the Beard for Benevolence Challenge. Thank you for your continued generosity to those in our community. We have always been a church that is more than a building, but it is exciting to see you all in action being the church in action. Even when we cannot be together in body we are together in ministry.

Thomas Martin



Worship Online

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 24, 2020

[Link will be live Sunday morning](#)

Our church is ... Remembering

Ephesians 1:11-23

Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin

CURRENT NEWS

The Drive-Thru at FFUMC will be closed Monday in observance of Memorial Day. We'll see you Tuesday!



Get an overview of where we are with Lay Leader Bill Webb

Lay Leader Bill Webb shared information about our church this week in a [recorded ZOOM meeting. Did you miss it? Catch up now!](#)



Message about Summer Lunch Program

Normally, at this time of year I would be getting organized and recruiting volunteers for our Summer Lunch program for June and July. But as we all know this year is anything but "normal."

Our program will not function as it has in the past but we are exploring other ways we can help our families throughout the summer. Those efforts are being coordinated and I will share the information as it is provided. I do encourage you to continue to support Fayette Samaritans as it is becoming a vital supporter of the many families we would typically serve in the summer. -- Valerie Mallon (left), Summer Lunch Coordinator; vmallon70@gmail.com, with Sally Dunham at last year's Summer Lunch packing event.



Fayette Samaritans NEED list

Thank you for your donations to Fayette Samaritans, our community food bank. Drop a donation at the church during the weekday **Drive-Thru** or take it directly to Fayette Samaritans any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. [Here's the updated May donations list.](#)



Children's Ministry on Sundays and Wednesdays

KiDS can stay connected through new [bi-weekly ZOOM meetings](#) with Rev. Carson and Mrs. Allie. You'll enjoy the challenges and fun. Simply follow the link above to check it out!

Our Children's Ministry continues to keep you covered for Sunday school each week. [Follow this link to access resources and more.](#)



Say “Yes” to July Blood Drive

Donating blood is one thing we CAN do! Save the date to give blood at FFUMC on July 19. COVID precautions will be in place so you can safely give. Save the date now – sign up later.



UMW Unit Meeting ZOOM-Potluck style

The UMW is ready to catch up with each other. Save the date for a ZOOM meeting next Thursday, May 28, at 6 p.m. Come to the online meeting with dinner or a snack and connect with friends. Details on links will be sent by individual circle leaders soon.



Love Offering for Kena Newkirk

We can show our appreciation to Kena Newkirk, departing youth director, through a love offering. If you would like to contribute, just get a check to the church or give online marking it “Kena Love Offering” by May 27. We also encourage you to pray for Kena, William and their coming baby as they take their next steps together.

Did You Know ... ?

The Drive-Thru continues

Come through The Drive-Thru at FFUMC for prayer, a church directory, donation to church or Fayette Samaritans, or encouragement. We’re here from 11 a.m. to noon every weekday.

Table Groups

Join or start a Table Group today! [Table Groups link](#)

Share handiwork with others

Gift one of your special handcrafted creations to an anonymous recipient to help share a little love and encouragement. Simply drop your creation off at the church via our Drive-Thru or contact Rev. Allyson Lawrence, alawrence@fayettevillefirst.com, to have someone come pick it up from you.

Congregational Care Connection Groups are in motion!

If you want to volunteer to call and to reach out to others in our congregation, [fill out this short survey](#) and Rev. Allyson Lawrence will be in touch.

FREE access to church media resources

Whether you are digging deep into personal studies, family devotionals, or small groups Amplify seems to have something for everyone. Please let Rev. Allyson Lawrence know if you have any trouble [logging on to our new digital media library](#).

Faith & Facts on the Frontlines

Pastor Thomas hosted conversation with Dr. John Robert Walker this past Sunday. [You can view the conversation on our YouTube channel](#) and hear Dr. Walker discuss his experiences in the hospital he serves as well as how faith influences us during this time.

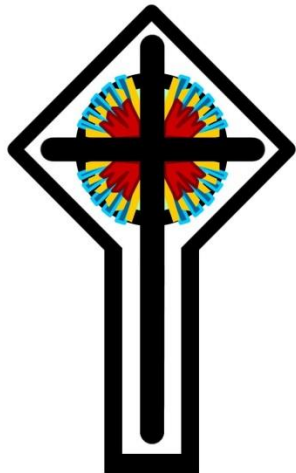
May 19, 2020 Financials

Operating Budget

Year to Date receipts	\$508,885.19
Year to Date expenses	\$430,404.50
Difference	\$78,480.69

Benevolence

\$670.00 received this week
35 families assisted in 2020 with a total of \$9,076.09 in assistance.



You can continue your financial support of the church in many ways:

Online giving: [Click here](#).

Mail check to church or place it in the drop box at the church office.

Use electronic funds transfer with your bank.

Thank you!

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