

This Week's Schedule
2nd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 19th

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service on "Facebook" or Radio 100.5 FM

Please remember, during these times of so much uncertainty we all have continuing expenses. Your church is no different. We ask that you all continue to be as faithful as you have been with your giving as well. If you already do so by ACH, that's great, but the mail still works and you can drop your tithe off in the drop box outside the office. Thank you for your love of God's church.

YOUTH NEWS!!!!!!

Youth are going through Group devotions using the YouVersion Bible App or Bible.com. You can create an account with an email or Facebook.

Contact info:
Joseph Gomez (478-331-8498)
jmgomez.ministry@gmail.com

Access the church calendar from your mobile device.



Facebook.com/fumcswainsboro

Twitter.com/fumcswainsboro

F. Y. I.

ALL ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH HAVE BEEN POSTPONED THROUGH APRIL 30th.

We would normally have included the April Events Calendar in the bulletin but due to the cancellations we are not sure at this time when we will be able to resume our activities.

At this time there will be no updates to our attendance or giving records in the weekly bulletins.

The March / April issue of the Upper Room is now available on the bookcase by the Trinity Sunday School Classroom.



The Children's News

10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Children's Church

Kids for Christ Clubs

Send a text to 81010 with the message @sfumckids
Kids for Christ News and Events.

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST BULLETIN (USPS326-890) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 319 WEST MAIN STREET, SWAINSBORO, GEORGIA 30401.

Last Sunday's Attendance

Sunday School

9:00 a.m. Service
11:00 a.m. Worship
Evening Service
Total Worship

Last Sunday's Gifts

Weekly Budget \$ 9422.00
Received for Budget Amount (Under)

YTD Budget
YTD Rec'd for Budget Amount over (Under)

Received for Budget Designated Giving
This Week's Giving

Donations left at the altar rail on Communion Sunday go to the Golden Harvest Food Bank.



THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST BULLETIN

Swainsboro First United Methodist Church

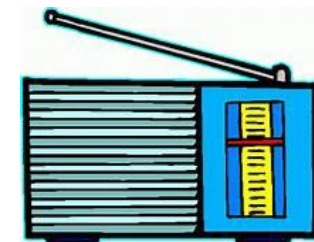
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April 19, 2020

Volume 20

Number 16



WE ARE STAYING CONNECTED !!!!



Rev. David Unkles, Pastor
Dr. Ennis Bragg, Choir Director
Melinda Hall, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Joseph Gomez Associate Minister / Youth
Connie Terwilliger, Music Director
Judy Wells, Administrative Assistant

**Swainsboro First United Methodist Church
2nd Sunday of Easter**

April 19, 2020

Broadcast over WXRS 100.5 FM

I think it's a safe bet now pretty much everyone, unless you have literally not stepped off your property in the last 4 weeks, has seen someone wearing a mask of some sort. Seeing it on TV is one thing, but seeing the person standing next to you in line at the grocery store (or wherever), **wearing a mask** does something to you. You wonder...the normal clues we receive through facial expressions are partially blocked. Are they nervous? Are they sick? If it's someone you know, it helps, but even then you look harder at their eyes and listen closer to their voice.

And what if that person is you? Over the past few weeks, especially if you have any reason to believe your health might be compromised, wearing a mask becomes something you think you, and everyone else, must do, regardless of how hot or uncomfortable it can become.

And depending on where you go now, those with-out masks are becoming the minority. And then it's just a short skip and hop to the "mask-less" becoming the "new leper", a pariah to be avoided and shunned. It's amazing how quickly things change.

In a public crisis event, like what we are experiencing now, it is astonishing how quickly and how much, **fear**, (unfounded or not) enters into our thinking and influences our decisions. (Do I have to remind anyone about our TP status?). Even when we intentionally strive to think rationally and even faithfully, we never fully remove the push of fear. And when fear has a face, either with or without a mask, we can find ourselves putting more than just 6 feet of distance between us and another human being.

Part of what stood out for those who witnessed Jesus' ministry on earth was His willingness to see lepers as more than just a disease, a threat, and to act with compassion; approaching to within "6 feet" and touching them when no one else would. Remember, the lepers in Jesus' day were required to shout "Leper!" wherever they went so others could avoid them. With or without masks, it seems we don't have to shout anymore.

Don's misunderstand me here. For the time being we do need to be extra sensitive and careful about how we interact with others. We cannot afford to be cavalier, but can we afford to let fear override our compassion we say we get from Jesus?

I'm not saying this is easy. Jesus never promised us a cross-less faith. But maybe those masks we are seeing now in ever increasing numbers may help us see the face of Jesus a little bit more in others...if we look. I know it helps, when we accept more and more Jesus into our own lives, to enable others to see Jesus in us.

Order of Worship:

Prelude O Lord, Whose Mercies Numberless Handel / Hilfe

Welcome and Invocation

Opening Hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling UMH 384

Apostle's Creed

Message to our Youth Joseph Gomez

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Children's Message Melinda Hall

Special Music Surely the Presence
Lanny Wolfe / arr. Charles F. Brown
soloist, Lori Bonds

**Scripture:
Sermon:**

Closing Hymn It Is Well with My Soul UMH 377

Benediction

Postlude Hark! Ten Thousand Harps and Voices
L. Mason / John Sciveyner

**The beautiful flowers on the side table are given in
memory of Dr. M. L. Reid and Shirley
by Gerrye, Mimi and Shaw Merritt**

This Week's Scripture Verses

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16 (UMH 748)
I Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Church Members:

Lei Bragg, Charles Drake, Chesley Flanders Jr.,
Mary Foskey, Vernon Hardy, Linda Lamb,
Catherine Mattox, Karen Pyle, Ginny Smith,
Mary Ellen Smith, Sue Stockholm, Phil
Thompson

Extended Church Family:

Buddy Bonds (Lori Bonds Mother-in-law), Buck
Bryant Family, Susie Bryant, Patricia Coleman,
Sam Daniels, Brandon Dickens (Cathy
McDaniel's nephew), Lynn Drake (Charles
Drake's daughter-in-law), Frances Dryden,
Kevin Edenfield, Teah Fennell, Don &
Stephanie Flanders, Helen & Tom Graves
(Carolyn Derden's brother & sister),
Georganne Hairr (Kim Hooks' mother), Mary
Huston, R. L. Marshall (Kay Peacock's
brother), Ken McGee (Sharon Edenfield's
father), Shirley McNeely, Art & Joan Neil (Bob
Neil's parents), Mitch Proctor, Don Rainwater,
Vaughn Riner, Faye & John Rountree, Michelle
Scott, Keith & Kal Thompson, Frances & Lee
Vaitha, Eloise Wood (B. J. Williams mother)

Military Family: CMDR. Michael D. Heltzel,
(Charles Drake's Grandson)

Attn: Church Council

**We will not have our meeting in
April. The fourth Monday which
is our regular meeting night in
May falls on Memorial Day so
therefore we have moved the
next Church Council Meeting to
Monday, June 1st, at 6:30 p.m. in
the church Social Hall.**