



THE CONNECTION **January 2021** **Newsletter**



From a Thankful Pastor

As we begin a new year, my heart is overflowing!
As we have completed a very challenging year, I cannot help but think about 2 Corinthians 12:9. In the verses preceding, Paul was sharing some difficulties. And then in verse 9, Paul tells us God's answer to him:

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Cor 12:9

Paul discovered that the place where you discover the sufficiency of God's grace is not in the easy, good times.

No. Discovering the sufficiency of God's grace only comes from one source (so far as I know)- and that's hard times. Challenging times. Times when you really need God's grace.

Thus 2020 has been such a year for me- and I suspect many others. God has shown his love and faithfulness to us and I am so very grateful.

Worship Times

Sunday Mornings

The Well / Contemporary at 9:45AM
The Crossroads Center

Traditions at 11:00AM
Main Sanctuary

Office Hours

Mon - Thurs

9:00AM- 4:00PM

Staff Meetings

Mondays 9:30-11:30AM

Lunch

12:00-1:00PM

Office Closures

Office reopens on Jan 3-
Happy New Year!
Mon, Jan 18-
for MLK Jr Day.

Church Staff

Pastor

Pastor Ronnie Bearden
drronbearden@hotmail.com

Church Administrator & Facilities Director

Angie Arnold
fumcrestview@gmail.com

Church Secretary

Cathrin Owens
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Children's Ministry & Family Discipleship Coordinator

Angela Long
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Youth Ministry

Paul Adams
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I know that many people have wanted 2020 to go away thinking “a year can’t get any worse.” Well, actually, it can.

But if it does (and I hope it doesn’t), I can rest assured that God’s grace will be sufficient to get me through.

To His honor and glory.

Pastor Ronnie

Music, Contemporary
Nathan Hight

Music, Traditional
Kevin Lusk

Organist
Leon Curenton

Pianists
Pam Myers, Susan Smith

Housekeeping
Amy Lohr-Sticha

Sexton
Samuel Allen

Hangings of the Greens Undecorating

We will need volunteers to take down the decorations and trees the week of **January 4th**, 2021. If you can help, please call the church office.



Adult Discipleship

Happy New Year!

I pray this message and newsletter meets you ready for the new year and in a time of great rejoicing. For many, these days bring trial and difficult circumstances. While the church programming looks different in many ways, we are slowly adopting to our new normal and seeing hints of tradition and long-awaited reopening’s back on the calendar. It is our hope to help you fill some of the gaps through our programming and outreach and want to hear from you with any way we can better meet your needs in our bible study and discipleship programming.

Planning for the new year is in full swing. We have a need for online and in person Small Group Bible Study Leaders to fulfill our commitment to continue to reach out to those who remain at home and fill the gap for anyone who is homebound or out of town and wants to join us online. Please contact Angela Long for more information, suggestions or to sign up and look for our 2021.22 Bible Study calendar in the next month.

Romans 8:28 – “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose

Sincerely –

Angela Long

Family Discipleship Coordinator



Children's Ministry

[DETAILS and Important dates](#)

RE-FIT Schedule - Monday's and Friday's at 8:45 am (childcare available on Kids Street)
Wednesday's at 6:45 am (no childcare available) This class meets in the Crossroads Center.
Children can be dropped off on Kids Street. NOTE: There is no class on January 1st.
REFIT ® is a workout you can feel good about! With powerful moves and positive music, you'll discover an inspiring workout that changes your body, mind and soul. This **cardio-focused class is effective and FUN -- perfect for beginners and challenging for fitness enthusiasts (which means it's a workout designed for everyBODY!)**



Parent's Night Out: January 15th is our next night to show appreciation for our parents and have a great time with the FUMC Kids. Register on our website or contact Angela Long at atfumc.angelalong@gmail.com for additional information. Keep in mind that all dates are tentative and pending the current community and safety precautions required.

January Wednesday night schedule:

January 6 - 6:00 PM – Children's Choir followed by lesson at 6:30 PM
January 13 - 6:00 PM– Children's Choir Practice- Kids Street Activities
January 20 - 6:00 PM – Children's Choir Practice – Kid's Street Activities
January 27 – 6:00 PM – Children's Choir Practice – Kid's Street Activities
- Angela Long

Benevolence Ministry

I thought Covid 19 would wipe out Benevolence funds this year. Thanks to the generous donations we have continued receiving all year we were able to be generous helping with utility bills.

In the first 2 ½ months of 2020 we helped 13 families with \$8287 to pay their bills. We also gave out about 50 bags of food.

When we were able to start up again at the end of June we had a lot of people calling for help. From June until December we helped 74 people with utility bills giving out \$24,588. At Thanksgiving we helped 26 families with food boxes. The Angel Tree made 57 children's Christmas brighter thanks again to the generosity of our congregation.

Over the last 6 months we gave out 350 bags of food. Benevolence had two new people come on the team, Eileen Kurtz and Kristen Sallberg, who have been a great help in helping so many families.

We look forward to 2021, praying for a better year for everyone.

-Margaret Larson



Yarn Ministry

Happy HAPPY New Year from your Yarnies!

Our first initiative of this year is to crochet blankets for nap time for PreK through Kindergarten for children who are homeless. We are so excited to assist our community in this sweet project. Can you just imagine how special a child will feel taking their special blanket to school with them to snuggle with at nap time? Precious- yes. Knowing that someone loves you enough to spend time making something so special just for you- priceless!

Here's to spreading God's joy and love to those around us one stitch at a time!

-Cathrin Owens



Wesleyan Child Care Center

We had so much fun trick or treating with all of our friends during our Harvest Parties! Each student loved getting to dress up as a character, as well as, gathering candy from our church staff members and Pastor Ronnie!

Thank you for all you guys do!

We had so much fun at our Thanksgiving Feast! We talked about everything we are thankful for, got to play some fun games, and even ate some yummy food!!



January Greeters & Ushers

Contemporary / The Crossroads Center 9:45AM

Aimee Keller & Dan Taylor

Traditions / Main Sanctuary 11:00AM

January 3: Glenda McMasters, Gary Johnson

January 10: Mark Young, Kit Callahan

January 17: Linda & Elyza Biondi

January 24: Dan Bradford, Margaret Larson

January 31: Elaine Mantle, Meg Caruso

Important Dates In January

Some of the meeting locations have changed due to social distancing guidelines that affect our room capacity limits!

Jan 1- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213

Jan 4- Office reopens for 2021! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Jan 4 through 7- Christmas tucked away until next season.

Jan 10- Trustees 3:00PM FH, Finance 5:00-PM Rm 212

Jan 11- United Methodist Men at 6:00PM FH

Jan 12- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Jan 13- Church Council 6:30PM in the Main Sanctuary

Jan 15- Parent's Night Out

Jan 18- Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan 20- Worship Committee 5:30PM Rm 212

Jan 25- February Newsletter Deadline

Jan 26- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Jan 31- Children's Committee 12:00PM Kid's Street, Long Range Planning 5:30PM Youth Rm

**FH- Fellowship Hall, Conf Rm- Conference Room, CRC- The Crossroads Center, Youth Rm- Youth Room*

Please see <http://fumcrestview.com/calendar-1> for any updates or changes

Looking Ahead to February

Some of the meeting locations have changed due to social distancing guidelines that affect our room capacity limits!

Feb 5- Women's Service Group 9:00-11:00AM Rm 213

Feb 7- Youth Committee 12:00PM Youth Rm, Missions 5:00PM in Rm 212

Feb 8- United Methodist Men 6:00PM FH

Feb 9- Yarn Ministry 6:00PM RM 213

Feb 15- Staff Retreat, Office Closed (Please keep us in prayer as we meet to plan the next year in the life of FUMC!), March Newsletter Deadline

Feb 17- Ash Wednesday

Feb 21- One Blood 9:00AM-1:00PM

*FH- Fellowship Hall, Conf Rm- Conference Room, CRC- The Crossroads Center, Youth Rm- Youth Room
Please see <http://fumcrestview.com/calendar-1> for any updates or changes

Encouragement for the New Year

"See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared." Exodus 23:20 (NIV)

I sometimes think New Year's Day comes at the wrong time of year. I'm usually facing a bunch of tasks left over from the old year, like taking down the Christmas tree and putting away all the decorations, writing thank-you notes and dealing with decisions about what to do with the stack of Christmas cards? Throw them away? Save the ones with pictures? Check the addresses? Then there's the thought of trying to catch up with all the work I put off during the holidays. I'm behind before the New Year even starts.

"Who can think about new beginnings or inspirational goals in the midst of old concerns?" I asked my lawyer-husband Lynn as he came in the door after a quick trip to the office to complete a couple of year-end responsibilities.

"Let me show you a gift I just received," he said, pulling an attractively wrapped package out of his briefcase. On it was a card: "To Lynn. May this gift encourage you in the coming year." It was signed by a friend in his Bible study group.

Lynn tore off the paper and lifted out a beautifully framed message, penned by a professional calligrapher. The message read:

Lynn,

Trust Me. I have everything under control.

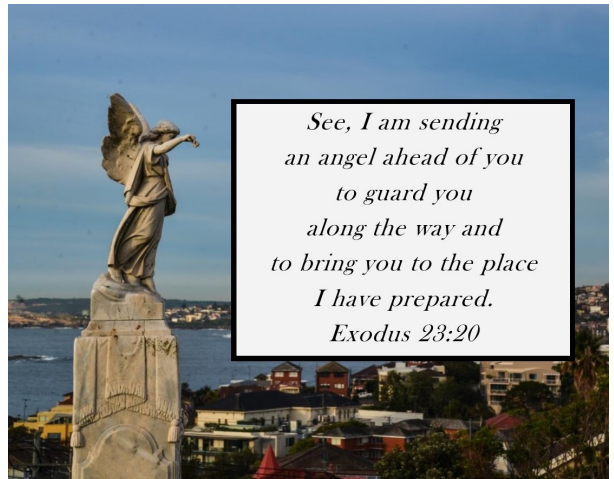
Jesus

He set the frame down amidst the clutter on the kitchen counter so I could see that simple message as I went about my tasks. Slowly those words began to change my frame of mind. If I needed something to help me carry my old concerns into the New Year, I'd just found it ... the determination to face each day's concerns, trusting in the words of this promise from the Source of all comfort and strength.

Leave your worries and fears in God's loving and capable hands.

Father, each day in this new year, please help me remember that You are in control of everything.

by Carol Kuykendall



FUMC News

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