

FARMINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 2020 Newsletter



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPT. 1ST. NOMINATIONS 6:30 ZOOM
SEPT. 2ND – YOUTH 7:00PM ZOOM
SEPT. 7TH. LABOR DAY
SEPT. 13TH ADMIN, COUNCIL 4:30
SEPT. 13TH GRANDPARENT'S DAY
SEPT. 14TH – SCOUTS 6:00PM OUTSIDE
SEPT. 17TH. – UMW MEETS 6:00PM ZOOM
SEPT. 19TH – FOOD PANTRY 11:00AM
SEPT. 26TH – GENESIS FEED 10:30

Farmington United Methodist Church

355 Southwinds Dr., PO Box 42, Farmington, AR 72730

Phone: 479-267-31803

Online at: www.farmingtonumc.net

Email: farmingtonumcar@gmail.com

Pastor Dee Harper 501-593-8978

Facebook: Farmington UMC & FUMC YOUTH

Instagram: farmington_umc

Newsletter: farmingtonumcnewsletter@email.com

A Note from Pastor Dee

One of my favorite verses is 1 John 2:6, Whoever says, "I abide in him," ought to walk just as he walked. It expresses an important truth that we become like the one that we admire. In this case John is calling followers of Jesus to walk as Jesus walked. Which means to live our lives seeking to obey God, seeking to live in God's presence and asking the question what would Jesus do if he were living my life?

It is so easy to distance ourselves from walking in the footsteps of God by qualifying our relationship with Jesus. Well Jesus is alive, but he lived on this earth such a long time ago the Bible does not tell me how Jesus would have been a mail carrier, engineer, hair stylist, or banker. We can also distance ourselves because of Christ's divinity.

And yet we profess to believe in the power of the Holy Spirit to shape us in the image of God. I want to invite us to consider this month in whose steps are we abiding in? Are we walking in the footsteps of the rulers of this present world, seeking to imitate them? Or are we seeking to imitate Christ?

In Christ,
Pastor Dee

WORSHIP STARTS

As we begin to open up the church to in person worship, we encourage everyone to read over these guidelines that have been set forth by the Arkansas Annual Conference and approved by your local church leadership.

Worship Area Initial Requirements for Attendees

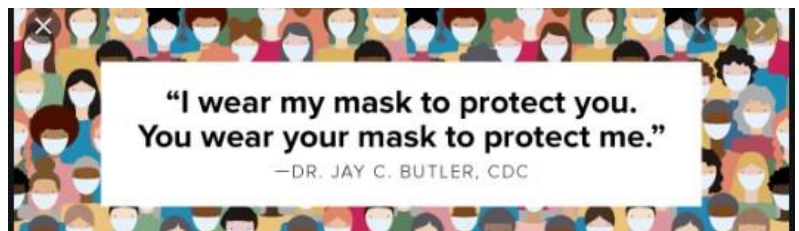
- Masks required/worn at all times (provided by church if needed)
- Speakers/pastors/musicians may remove masks when speaking/singing
- No handshakes/hugs/physical contact
- No nursery care provided
- There will be baskets at exit of sanctuary for you to drop your offering into at the beginning or end of the worship service.
- Enter the worship areas while maintaining physical spacing
- Families may sit together/all others must remain at least 6-feet apart

Worship Area Provisions

- The only doors that will be open are the double doors facing the baseball fields
- The entrance will be propped open
- No food or beverages will be provided
- Hand sanitizing stations provided at entry points
- All materials in pews (hymnals, Bibles, etc.) will be removed and stored
- Attendance pads/offering plates will not be utilized.
- Holy Communion provided through pre-packaged elements
- No bulletins will be provided in person. We will continue to post-bulletins online to download
- Worship spaces will be cleaned and sanitized after each use

Worship/Gathering Guidance

- If you have a fever or are symptomatic, please stay home.
- If you are at risk or more vulnerable to COVID-19, we encourage you to worship online.
- Water fountains will be inaccessible.
- There will be no food or beverages prepared in the facility including family or buffet style meals. (There may be times where we serve individually wrapped prepackaged items under certain circumstances.)
- Follow directional signage and prompts from greeters/ushers.



HOMELESS FEED AT GENESIS CHURCH

September 26th 10:00 AM

The Homeless feed will be at Genesis Church in Fayetteville, AR. The meal starts at 11:30am but drop off and prep starts around 10:00-10:30. We will be practicing social distancing when distributing the food (it will be pick up only). They have masks and gloves available for volunteers. Numbers have been a little low so we will prepare food for 50. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please sign up on the Google Link below or contact Cassie Warren by email at cwarren@marshalltown.com.

The Link: https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_goo.gl_LOiWwX&d=DwIFAg&c=cpwSbXV_cEM2az9w-1Ja6g&r=jqyERmXrtZT_Jl3X6uFt6DQq4OmlUL5-zbunNp7Ojhs&m=rAJ2pVcnGikWF7V0TBb_zdCH6UXrCbPofUJld-zAqcY&s=H62tiRymAzKO-YmCv7DXSC5rXGZd0c8KFgufWpExxN0&e=

THE FOOD PANTRY

Please remember our food pantry and the Little Free Pantry outside. The pantry is in need of specific items such as: **instant oatmeal packets, canned fruits, soda crackers, canned meats, and macaroni and cheese.** Please help if you can. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by those who are in need. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there are more people coming for food through our drive-through giving out food and the pantry is almost bare. **Helpers are needed. Please volunteer if you can.** Thanks to all that helped in August.

*The Food Pantry is held the third Saturday of the month from 11:00 am -1:00pm (September19th)



*see additional note regarding the pantry

***The Farmington UMC Food Pantry and Blessing Box** would like to say thank you to everyone who has and is continuing to donate to this ministry. We are so thankful for the support that you have given us along with those who have helped in the community.

Since the start of summer, the number of people using the Food Pantry has more than doubled. For example:

In May we served 15 families that included 52 people

In June we served 27 families that included 117 people

In July we served 38 families that included 127 people

In August we served 42 families that included 164 people

The Food Pantry is growing, we believe, because of the economic issues related to COVID-19 and a strong utilization of social media to get the word out.

At the last Food Pantry give away we gave out everything in our pantry but a few boxes and bags of macaroni. It really was a loaf and fishes' moment as God used us to help provide for people in Farmington and western Washington County.

If you would like to help with this ministry you are always invited to put cans and other food items in the Blessing Box. You can also give to our Food Pantry. Needed items include:

- **1 pkg. Ramon noodles**
- **1 spaghetti sauce**
- **1 can meat**
- **2 cans vegetables**
- **2 single serving oatmeal**
- **1 sleeve crackers**
- **1 can fruit or 2 fruit cups**
- **1 can soup**
- **1 roll toilet paper**
- **Peanut Butter**
- **Jelly or Jam**



Thank you again.

Farmington UMC is now on Amazon Smiles!

Are you looking for another way to help Farmington UMC be disciples who make disciples for the transformation of lives, our community and the world? We have recently signed up with the charity Amazon Smiles.

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

You can learn more about this opportunity by going to smile.amazon.com

Children's Ministry Update

I hope you all had a good end of summer break and are off to a great start to the school year! My kids are doing virtual school this semester, and I can already see that it's going to take some flexibility and perseverance to be successful. Whether your kids are going to school, doing virtual school or homeschooling, I pray for a successful year academically, socially and health-wise!

Anyone who has been to my house knows that I have a vegetable garden as well as a lot of other flowers and landscaping. During one of the hottest, driest days of summer, I found myself staring out the window at the sun beating down on my plants, and hoping that the early morning watering I gave them would be enough to get them through the day. I knew that to try to water them mid-day would do more harm than good, as water on leaves magnifies the sun and can scorch the leaves.

It occurred to me that that was a good metaphor for raising children. We have them for a brief time early in their lives, and in that time, we need to provide them with what they need to survive the droughts of life, the things that will test their willpower and faith. It's difficult sometimes not to let the busyness of day to day life keep us from focusing on those important things.

Please join me in praying for our children and their parents this week, that they will keep their focus on God.

Love in Christ,

Melanie Barnes



YOUTH

Congratulations on a new school year! We are wishing each of you a great semester with whatever format of school you chose. We are in active prayer for each of you for safety, wellness, and for this new experience to be one we all grow from.

James 5:13 says: **Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.**

If you have a specific praise or prayer request, please don't be shy about reaching out. It can be a prayer of thanksgiving, an ongoing prayer request, or a short-term worry... but remember... you are not alone! If you wish to a part of the prayer ministry team, please also reach out. All prayer requests are private unless given permission to share.

Resuming on WEDNESDAY, September 2nd, FUMC YOUth will continue studying Christ's parables in a life application fashion followed by an activity. Until WNL resumes, we will continue to meet via ZOOM from 7-8pm. In an effort to save on supplies and cost, please let Casey know if you are planning to participate, as there will be times when special supplies may need to be sent ahead of time. We hope to see you there!!

Casey Luther

479-409-8251

caseyluther@gmail.com



September 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 6:30 Nominations via Zoom	2 YOUth 7:00PM VIA ZOOM	3 119 DAYS LEFT IN 2020! WE CAN MAKE IT!	4	5
6 WORSHIP 10:30 THANKS FOR WEARING YOUR MASK!	7 LABOR DAY 	8	9 YOUth 7:00PM VIA ZOOM	10	11 HUGS THOSE KIDS TIGHT TODAY, THEY JUST FINISHED 3 WEEKS OF SCHOOL!	12
13 WORSHIP 10:30 4:00PM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL VIA ZOOM GRANDPARENTS DAY!	14 SCOUTS 6:00PM OUTSIDE	15 TELL SOMEONE HOW MUCH YOU APPRECIATE THEM TODAY!	16 YOUth 7:00PM VIA ZOOM	17 6:00PM UMW MEETING VIA ZOOM	18	19 FOOD PANTRY 11-1
20 WORSHIP 10:30	21 SCOUTS 6:00PM OUTSIDE	22 	23 YOUth 7:00PM VIA ZOOM	24	25 TIME TO START TALKING ABOUT STARTING YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!	26 GENESIS FEED 10:30
27 WORSHIP 10:30	28 SCOUTS 6:00PM OUTSIDE	29	30 YOUth 7:00PM VIA ZOOM			

