

CARTHAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2020 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME #24, ISSUE #11

Well, we are in another new normal at CUMC. We are now live-streaming an in-house, socially distanced service. It is live on our web page and Facebook at 10am and later in the day it is available on our YouTube channel and at 1pm on DTC3. Some improvements are yet to happen. We have some sound upgrades in the works, and some better lighting on the way so the sanctuary won't seem so dark.

In case you are wondering, we have had about 60 in worship so far, which is about one-third of usual attendance. We have nursery available, as well as. Little by little we are settling in. It seems as if many participated in online worship. Out of those that responded, 95% did.

About a month ago, I sent a survey out before we opened in an effort to see "hear" your feelings on gathering, worshipping, and safety. I would like to share some of the information we gathered.

RETURNING TO WORSHIP:

67.35% said they would return to worship with 24% saying not yet.
30% that responded said they would return if everyone was wearing a mask.
With 10% saying they would wait for a vaccine.

SMALL GROUPS:

42% indicated an interest in small group worship.
30% was not interested.
31% indicated they would be willing to lead a small group. If you are one of those people, please let me know.

MUSIC IN WORSHIP:

77.6% indicated that music in worship was very important.
The most interesting finding was the varied spread of interests in the type of music that prepares our congregation for worship:

- 24.5% Traditional Hymns
- 18.4% Contemporary Music
- 10.2% Instrumental Music
- 5.3% Gospel Music
- Many chose all types and a combination

WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN FOR US?

With us not knowing when a vaccine will come and when our numbers will decline in Smith County, I would say we could make space for more people being comfortable with coming if we all wore masks in worship.

We may need to consider adding some small group gatherings in the meantime, or maybe forever. It is in our Wesleyan heritage as Methodists to meet in small groups. If you are interested in leading or joining a small group, let Pastor Monica know.

Jennifer has already digested and is working with the music information. She has been, and will continue to add new music to our worship services, as well as, incorporate some favorites with a mixture of contemporary, traditional, gospel, and of course Ms. Kathryn's beautiful music.

Hopefully, our new normal of worship glorified God, draws you more closely to the savior and bolsters us to be the church in the community.

Pastor Monica

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS:



Mia Miller, Director of Youth Ministries

Mia Miller

Email: carthageyouth@gmail.com

Text: 615-418-7503

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Hi friends! Happy Fall and Happy November from the Children's Ministry! I hope everyone is having a wonderful start to the fall season. First of all I want to thank all of you for your wonderful support during our Children's Sabbath this year! It was a blessed Sunday and I am so grateful to all of the children and their parents for their wonderful support and help making the service great! Also I wanted to share that the Children's Ministry has received a huge blessing that we are grateful for. For the past year or so we have been in need of a new computer as the one we had to use for Children's Ministry has many many miles on it and during the past few months as we have been doing all of our worship mostly online. We were so grateful when we found out that a group of parents had gotten together to donate funds to purchase a new Chromebook for the Children's Ministry! We purchased the Chromebook and have been putting it to good use already! I don't know specifically who all donated the funds to purchase the computer but to each and everyone of you who did from the bottom of my heart thank you so much!!

We have started returning to in person Children's Ministry, we are currently meeting for Children's Sunday School at 9am in the sanctuary, this is an all ages Sunday School class for grades preschool – 5th grade. Children's Church is offered during the 10am worship service, and beginning Wednesday, November 4th from 5-6pm we are beginning a weekly Children's Ministry fellowship, we will have a lesson, craft, and snack each night and hope all who are able to will join us!

As always thank you all for being a congregation who loves and supports the Children's Ministry in their walk with God!

IN PERSON CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

**SUNDAY SCHOOL-9AM
CHILDREN'S CHURCH-
DURING 10AM SERVICE
WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP FUN-
WEDNESDAYS FROM 5-6PM**

ONLINE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

**BEDTIME STORIES AND
PRAYERS-TUESDAYS AT 8PM
CHILDREN'S CHURCH-
SUNDAYS AT 6PM
WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY-BY
EMAIL CONTACT MS. NICOLE**

BLESSINGS FROM CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Ms. Nicole, Mrs. Jodi, and the kiddos

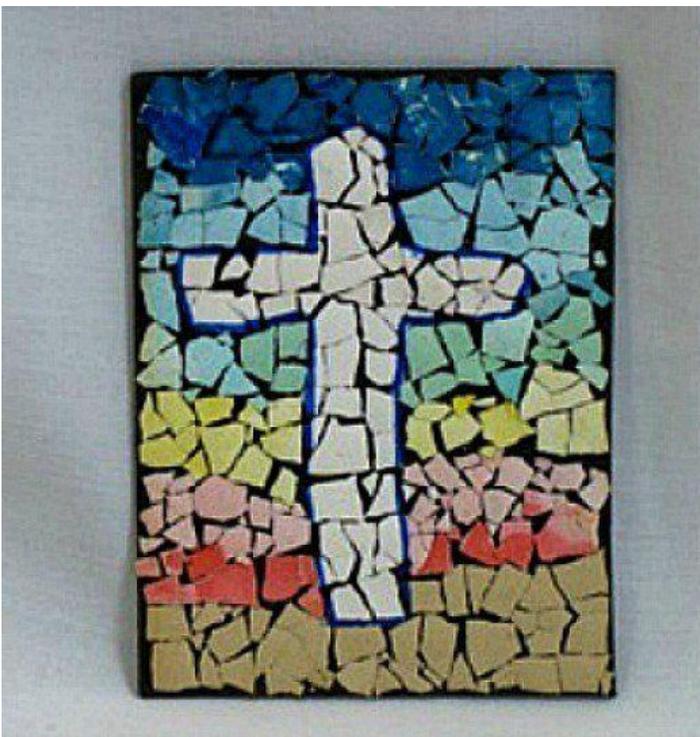
MUSIC NEWS:

November Newsletter

Thankfulness

When I was thinking of what I wanted to share with you this month, one of my favorite passages came to mind. Philippians 1: 3-6 says, "Every time I think of you, I thank my God. And whenever I mention you in my prayers, it makes me happy. This is because you have taken part with me in spreading the good news from the first day you heard about it. God is the one who began this good work in you, and I am certain that He won't stop before it is complete on the day that Christ Jesus returns."

The last several months would have been impossible without many of you volunteering to help with worship... you've shared your heart and testimony in music. You've played, sang, and videoed and, because we've been able to put our services online (thanks, Monica!), your gifts have gone far beyond our walls. Others have helped set up new equipment, arranged safe rehearsal spaces, sent encouraging notes, and lifted each other up in prayer. You are all a part of the beautiful mosaic of worship at CUMC and for that I am eternally grateful.



Christmas Time 2020

Christmas is coming and we need your help. We need many of you to video your favorite Christmas songs/hymns/carols... vocal and instrumental. Solos, duets, small groups, family groups... we need it all. Please send your songs to Monica or Jennifer as soon as possible, but definitely needed by the end of November. So, go ahead, get in the Christmas spirit a little early this year and spread a little Christmas cheer... they will be put to good use 😊

Jennifer Perry,

Music Director

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY NEWS:

Congratulations to all participants, both in person and online, who have just completed the 10 week study on the book of Hebrews. I think it is fair to say that this study has been very in-depth and we have learned so much more than even expected about this wonderful book of the New Testament, which is really an Old Testament book in disguise. I think it has quickly become one of my favorite books of the Bible – so much depth and so many layers to uncover in it.

If you didn't get to participate in that study, you have one more opportunity before the year is out. Can't believe I am even saying that. 2020 has been 20 years long and yet seems to have gone by in a blur at the same time. But, beginning November 11th and continuing November 18th, December 2nd, and December 9th – we will be doing the **ONLINE ONLY** study by Eugene Peterson on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. This is the third in the trilogy that we started earlier this year – the first two on Ruth and Esther. The books are in at the church office and I do request that you have a book in hand and do the workbook if you are taking the course. It isn't a time consuming book with lots of homework and you will benefit from having it in hand. The cost is \$7.00 and if that is a strain for your budget, don't worry – it will be covered. I will be recording the lessons on the Wednesdays listed and they will be posted that day – typically by early afternoon.

You must request to be added to WOW private Facebook group to view the video teachings. Just go to Facebook and type in Wow – women of worship – it will be black background with pink wow writing and you will see me doing some teachings. Submit request to join and I will approve. I hope you will join us for this very timely study.

And yes, I am already working on Bible studies for the new year. I have a couple in mind and have already rejected a couple because you all are such good students and so smart. I am so proud and grateful to each of you for coming along for the ride. Our desire is to be women who know how to handle the Word of God well and respectfully – in our everyday life as well as our Sunday morning Sunday school answers (as Rev. Monica would say).

Thanks to all who encourage, support, and express your love for studying the Word of God with me and with the others.

Much love to you all,
Jane Turner

THANK YOU

Hi, sweet ladies of meals on wheels. I can't thank you enough for all the delicious meals and sweet smiles!

It has been so wonderful as well as a great blessing and service. We are so blessed to have you in our church. Hope I can return the love and blessings one day.

Sincerely,
Linda Paschal

God Bless You!

THANK YOU

CUMC,

Thank you so much for the delicious meals, phone calls, cards, texts, and most of all your prayers during my recent knee replacement surgery and recovery. I appreciate everything that has been done for me and my family during this time. I love working at CUMC and am looking forward to being back in the office soon!

Love and Blessings,
Deanna Cowan

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Kim Jackson 11/02
Dakota Mowdy 11/03
Christy England 11/07
Jennifer Parker 11/08
Rion Rigsby 11/09
Jack Patrick 11/10
Maria Bisel 11/11
Lois Schnabel 11/11
Darlana Lytle 11/12
Will Wakefield 11/13
Celia Dillon 11/18
Paul England 11/18
Pam Petty 11/18
Eric Manning 11/19
Roger Lewis 11/22
Scott Miller 11/22
Joe Dunn 11/23
Alyssa Ash 11/24
Brody Chilton 11/24
Phillip Hudson, III 11/24
Josie King 11/24
Alissa Hudson 11/26
Taylor Shivers 11/26
Kathy Rodgers 11/27
Cheryl Hiatt 11/28
Andrea Patrick 11/28
Gavin Kemp 11/29
Cameron Paschal 11/30

DECEMBER

Frances Donaldson 12/01
Lilly Turner 12/01
Walter G. Birdwell, Jr. 12/02
Avery Flemmons 12/02
Isaac Bush 12/03
Jim Cowan 12/04
Corinne Manning 12/04

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

**NOVEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES**

Tommy & Paulette Parker 11/08
James & Michelle Halliburton 11/23
Herman Henry & Elaine Adair 11/26
Scott & Mia Miller 11/28

**DECEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES**

Roy & Louise Ethridge 12/02

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!!**

**IMPORTANT DATES IN
NOVEMBER**

- **Wednesday, 11/11 – Veteran’s Day Observed – OFFICE CLOSED**
- **Friday, 11/20 – 9:00 a.m. December Newsletter Deadline**
- **Thursday, 11/26 – Thanksgiving Day Observed – OFFICE CLOSED**
- **Friday, 11/27 – Day after Thanksgiving – OFFICE CLOSED**
- **Sunday, 11/29 – 1st Sunday of Advent**

SUBMISSIONS:

Persecuted Christians:

Please remember the following in your prayers.

Sam Khosravi & Maryam Falahi: are Christian converts who adopted a very ill child from a state-run orphanage when she was 3 months old. The child, Lydia, is presently 2 years old. A judge has taken the child away from the couple due to their conversion to Christianity. The judge acknowledged Lydia was strongly emotionally attached to her parents & that there is “zero chance” another adoptive family would be found for her due to her chronic health problems. Nonetheless, these facts did not change the ruling as the judge said Lydia is considered a Muslim & should be raised by a Muslim family. Over 120 activists & lawyers are calling for the decision to be reversed. (Iran)

Prince Atwal: was shot & killed when armed assailants attacked a Pentecostal Church. Four other church members were injured. The church had been attacked in the past by radical Hindus, such attacks are increasing in frequency & severity. (Amritsar, India)

Submitted by:

Jill Garner

**Want to worship but need
to stay home?**



WATCH US ONLINE!

CARTHAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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