

OCTOBER 2021



First United Methodist Church Palacios

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

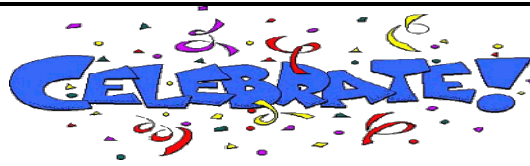
For this month's newsletter message, I want to share some thoughts on the leadership that supports our local, district and conference church. I am fortunate that over the course of my career, I have been able to develop close relationships with many of the leaders of our district and our conference. Who would have thought that a small campus ministry unit at UT Rio Grande Valley on the border of Texas would have been a crossroads for many leaders of our conference! The Rio Texas Conference stretches across a geographic area that essentially covers South Texas from Austin to the Rio Grande Valley. The district superintendents support the bishop's work and represent him in building relationships and serving the churches and the clergy of our conference. Our church structure is both an organizational and a spiritual connection for us.

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In late August I was very pleased to receive a call from our newly appointed District Superintendent, Rev. Laura Brewster. She wanted to visit with me here at our church. It was an unexpected meeting, but one I was happy to accept. It's heartwarming to see that she is actively building connections with the churches and the clergy of the Coastal Bend District. But honestly, it's what I expected from her. I have worked with Laura before, and I was glad to hear she would serve as our DS. Laura has most recently been serving at a church in Austin, but she had previously been appointed to several different churches some of which were in the Rio Grande Valley. She brings over 25 years of pastoral service to her job. I first worked with Laura when she became the pastor at First UMC in Edinburg and therefore became a member of the campus ministry board of directors. She was a dedicated board member, and I greatly appreciated her support and encouragement for the work of campus ministry. As I mentioned at the start, UM Campus Ministry of the Rio Grande Valley, where I was the director before coming here, is also where I worked with our out-going district superintendent. I got to know both these wonderful conference leaders through their participation and support of campus ministry. Robert Lopez, now Dr. Rev. Lopez, was a student at the university and an active member of the campus ministry group. I want to thank Robert for the opportunity to come here to Palacios. It was under his care and leadership that I was appointed. I am grateful for his continued support and wish him well in his new assignment. And I look forward to the leadership and support that Laura will bring to our district. I thank God for their commitment to serve and care for the churches and clergy of the Coastal Bend District. **Síockán/Paz/Peace, Dave**



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Happy wedding anniversary to Kevin & Seseley Harvey! They celebrate the special occasion on October 5th.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, October 3 – Communion Sunday
Monday, October 11 – Columbus Day Holiday
Sunday, October 31 – Noisy Offering

SCRIPTURES FOR OCTOBER

Oct 3 Mk 10:13-16
Oct 10 Mk 10:17-31
Oct 17 Mk 10:35-45
Oct 24 Mk 10:46-52
Oct 31 Mk 12:28-34



Weimer Hall will be cool and comfortable now! Just look at the new air conditioning unit that was installed. And the cabinet to enclose it is lovely. Thank you for all the donations and fundraising help to make this possible. The Sunday School groups are very grateful to have this air conditioning. One day we will enjoy it at our church luncheons again.



Please send prayer requests to me or turn in a prayer request card while in church. Indicate if you want your request included in Sunday worship and added the published church prayer list. Also, if a name can be removed from the list, please send that information as well. Pastor Dave



Below are links and contact information where you can send donations to help those affected by [Hurricanes Ida and Nicholas](#).

Give to UMCOR's U.S. Disaster Response and Recovery through Advance #901670. [UMCOR](#)

Donations also can be made to the Louisiana Annual Conference's disaster response fund. <https://secure.anedot.com/la-conference-of-the-umc/relief>

For information on relief supply kits, visit <https://umcmmission.org/umcor-relief-supplies/>

The Palacios Police Association is also coordinating aid to the victims of Ida. Please check First UMC Facebook page for more information. <https://www.facebook.com/FUMCPalacios>

Also offering aid, our sisters and brothers at St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church who are collecting items. Their phone number is 361-972-2446.



Our thoughts and prayers are
with the family and friends of
Herschell Neimeyer.

OPEN MINDS OPEN HEARTS OPEN DOORS

BE A LIGHT

[John 8:12](#) Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

[Psalm 119:105](#) Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

[Matthew 5:14-16](#) “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

[Psalm 43:3](#) O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

[Psalm 27:1](#) The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?





**Our deep appreciation goes out to all those who help during this time – our health care workers, grocery employees, and first responders!
Our own Lisa Harper and Mary Bari have our deepest gratitude!**



Members of FUMC cover many necessary tasks, least among these are the Sunday Duties. A great big Thank You goes to our Acolyte Rhea Han, to the Law Family for being our Liturgists last month, to Mary Bari for being our Friendly Greeter, and to Robert Bari for continuing to be our Camera Operator so that those folks who are unable to attend in person, are still able to worship with us via social media. We appreciate their time and dedication to the functions of FUMC.

Many of us were probably thinking (or singing) this favorite last month when Nicholas was heading for Palacios.

‘TILL THE STORM PASSES BY

In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face
While the storm howls above me, and there's no hiding place
'Mid the crash of the thunder, Precious Lord, hear my cry
Keep me safe till the storm passes by
Till the storm passes over, till the thunder sounds no more
Till the clouds roll forever from the sky
Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of Thy hand
Keep me safe till the storm passes by

Healthy Church Protocol



All adults and children over 2 years are required to wear a face mask or face covering in Sunday Worship and all church gatherings. Face masks will be available as you enter the sanctuary. The face mask must cover the nose and mouth. If you have a medical exemption from wearing a face mask, a face shield will be provided and must be worn. If you are running a fever, feeling sick, or have been exposed to someone who has COVID 19, please stay home and worship through Facebook or YouTube. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we care for ourselves and neighbors.



Masks are required; so is singing! Join us Sunday for live-in-person worship and sing hymns led by our Music Director Joni.



**FLU SEASON IS APPROACHING.
STAY WELL.**

Mission and Outreach Corner

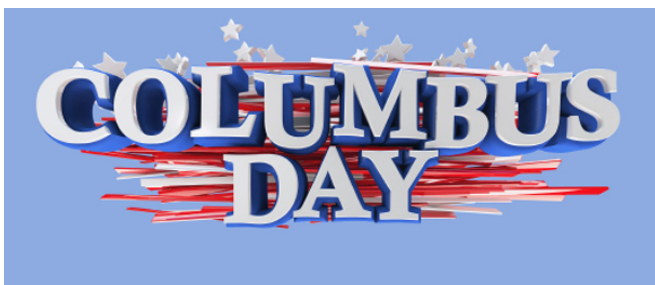


October's Rail Offering is designated to the **Pat Allen Christmas Dinner**. Carolyn Kubecka is heading it up yet again. There is money already set aside for this event but more funds are needed to support this opportunity to give to our community on Christmas Day. Mark your calendars as help is needed for cooking, serving, setting up, delivering meals, and much more. This was started by a former, now deceased, member of our congregation and it is primarily supported by our church.

September's Rail Offering of \$28 went to our church *Helping Hands Fund*. There is currently \$499.60 in this fund and the last expense charged to this account was in March 2020. Since our church office has reopened, hopefully, we can help more people in our community.

October 31st (Halloween and the Fifth Sunday) is when the next *Noisy Offering* will be held. This goes to the *Methodist Children's Home* in Waco. In May \$77 was collected and in August \$98.50 was mailed to them. This is lower than in previous years but considering current circumstances we are doing great.

November and December Rail Offerings will go to St. Andrew's Society and Heifer International. Both are worthy 5 Star projects of the United Methodist Church.

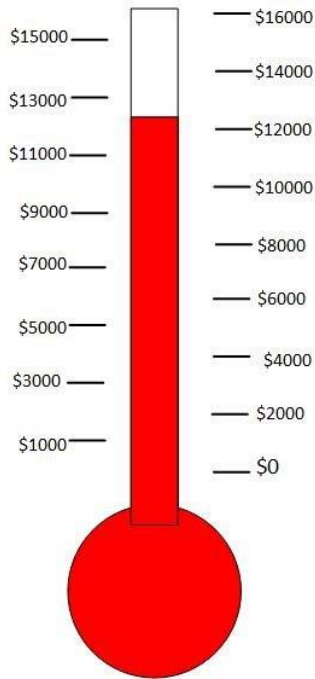


Holiday, Monday, October 11

Who remembers this??

*"In 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean
blue
To find this land for me and you."*

ELECTRICAL REPAIR FUND



FUMC
Electrical
Repair
Fund
Progress
\$12,233.65

FUMC'S electrical system for the church is in dire need of repair work. Much of it has to be replaced. Decades ago it was installed and it requires a great deal of work. New wiring needs to be run to Weimer Hall. The electrical feeds from the power lines to the church need to be replaced. New outside cutoffs and breakers are needed. A new power pole must be installed. We have begun a fundraising project to raise the \$18,000 necessary to take care of this important issue. We are doing great. Let's keep going and reach our goal before the end of the year.

First United Methodist Church – Palacios, Texas
Administrative Council Minutes – September 21, 2021 6:00 PM

Jimmy Neeley, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Jimmy Neeley opened with a prayer. In attendance: Pastor Dave Moreno, Bill Law, Melissa Law, Tony Barber, Wanda Johnson, Vanessa Kunefke and Erwin Janszen.

Included in the Council packet: Agenda, Balance Sheet, Monthly Profit and Loss and Profit and Loss Budget Performance.

Minutes from the previous meeting on August 10, 2021 were approved. Motion made by Vanessa Kunefke. Second by Tony Barber. All in favor.

Financial Reports were provided and explained by Wanda Johnson.

Profit and Loss Budget Performance –August 2021

1. Income from giving	\$20,822.45
Church Expenses February	(\$30,382.17)
Net	(\$ 9,559.72)

Balance sheet as of August 31, 2021

FFB-Checking Account	\$28,468.19
MF-Johnson Foundation	\$38,496.78
TMF-Josh Hebel Scholarship Fund	\$23,418.00
TOTAL checking/Savings	\$90,382.88

1. We did not pay anything on apportionments due to expenses/loss for August 2021.
2. The church did complete the following projects:
 - A. Two air conditioners installed in Weimer Hall - \$16,300
 - B. Air conditioner closet to enclose two units - \$1,800
 - C. Wesley Nurse office-electrical outlets have been dropped on each wall - \$800
 - D. Broken window has been replaced in Weimer Hall - \$455
3. Down payment has been made on electrical work (back of church) - \$14,025; upon completion of job, church will owe the remainder of bid - \$4,675.
4. As of August 1, 2021, there is \$10,613.65 in the fundraiser of Electrical Work – Church.
5. The PPP Loan Forgiveness Application for the Paycheck Protection Program - \$6,014.57 was approved and has been added to the income for August 2021.
6. Our current GivePlusVanco app will expire on September 30, 2021. All users of the Vanco app will need to sign on to their account and authorize the upgrade to the new Vanco app. More information will follow in the newsletter and bulletin.
7. Committee needs to decide on the unused Church Scholarship Funds awarded 2016-2017.

The board approved to put in unused scholarship money from 2016-2017 back into the scholarship funds.

The Board thanked Wanda Johnson and Vanessa Kunefke for all the work they did getting the PPP loan.

Erwin Janszen made a motion to approve the financial report. Second by Tony Barber. All in favor.

Trustees Report –Tony Barber reported that the window in Weimer Hall has been repaired. Mosier Services is still waiting on the panel box. Pastor Dave reported the sanctuary had damage from a panel on the roof from the Hurricane. Pastor Dave will get with Craig Glasscock so he can file a claim with Church Mutual.

Mary Jo Neeley wants to redo the flower bed in front of the sanctuary at her expense and her schedule. The Board approved her to redo it.

Pastor Dave provided an oral **Pastor's report**– Reports are due for the Church Conference. Files in the office need to be organized. Martha Law and Wanda Johnson started this project right before everything was shut down due to Covid 19. Files are very hard to find.

The church web page is a mess. There are three different pages that consist of the church, Community Outreach Organization and GoDaddy the domain. Pastor Dave and Jenny are working on getting this fixed. The Pastoral Retreat and vacation will be scheduled later. The Pastor checked on members of the congregation after the hurricane.

NewBusiness– None

Old Business- None

Motion to Adjourn:Pastor Dave closed the meeting in prayer at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Melissa Law

Action Item List

Description	Who will manage this?	Date to complete	Actual Date Completed
Electrical problems affecting the sanctuary and meter loop	Trustees	August 2021	
Clean up of church storage areas	Trustees and Church families		
Roof on sanctuary repaired	Trustees	No leaks were reported	
Get a bid on replacing the sanctuary floor tile.	Erwin		
Get bids on replacing the Plexiglas on stain glass in the sanctuary	Trustees		
Find out if the church has Directors and Officers insurance coverage through our liability with Church Mutual	Pastor Dave		
Hearing devices for members	Pastor Dave		
Background check information	Pastor Dave and Wesley Nurse		January 2020
Security Cameras	Jimmy Neeley and Trustees		



Reminder: Date for submitting contributions to the Newsletter to Miss Murphy, murphy_miss@yahoo.com and Candice Neese, cneese1012@hotmail.com, and Mary Jo Neeley, JimmyMary@NeeleyFamily.com is usually by or before the 21st of each month.



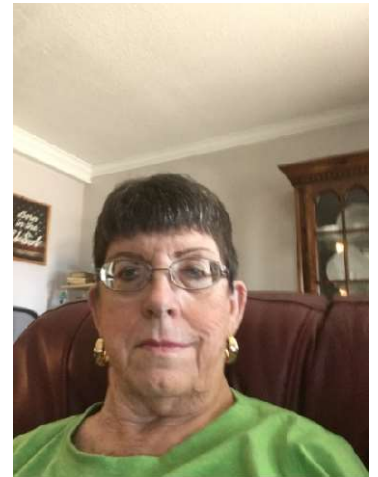
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



Ansley Kubecka – October 4



Joni Flores – October 9



Betty Janszen – October 29



Iris Stork-Nelson – Oct. 2
Jason Miller – Oct. 2
Jamie Weed – Oct. 4
Michele Colura – Oct. 6

Candice Neese – Oct. 12
Allison Bates Welsh – Oct. 16



Jody Kubecka – Oct. 18
Ney Oldham III – Oct. 21

Ginny Moreno – Oct. 22
Marty Rieck – Oct. 22
Jim Davidson – Oct. 25
Debbie Poessel – Oct. 31



(Would you like to include pictures on birth dates and anniversaries? If you or family members have upcoming birthdays or anniversaries, please send me a photo: murphy_miss@yahoo.com. The photos can be updated over time).

First United Methodist Church Palacios PO Box 947 Palacios, TX 77465