



NOVEMBER, 2020

First United Methodist Church Palacios

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

As I prepare the message for the November newsletter, I find I am still concerned about how we are doing during this pandemic. Last month I shared that I was concerned about how we are holding up as individuals, as a congregation, a community and a nation, during this pandemic. We are all struggling at times with our isolation and may feel lonely, anxious or depressed. Our activities and interactions with others have been limited to protect them and ourselves. Hugs and smiles are shared cautiously these days and we all miss those affirmations and that affection. However, added to my concerns for the month of November is the presidential election to be held Tuesday, November 3. It has been an emotionally charged and contentious political process. There is potential for discord from this political process to negatively affect our relationships within our community. Our United Methodist Church encourages its members to vote. I hope we will all exercise our civic responsibility and take the opportunity to vote in the upcoming election. As we strive together to love our neighbor and ourselves, I hope we will find that the common ground of faith and service will continue to unite us in love for humanity and creation. Below are a Psalm and a prayer that we may want to use as sisters and brothers in Christ, the day after the election. Like our Congregational Benediction which we recite each Sunday, may they be a blessing of wisdom and faith, that unites us and guides us in our journey together each day with or without the stress of an election during a pandemic.

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Psalm 34 Common English Bible

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise will always be in my mouth.
- 2 I praise the Lord—
let the suffering listen and rejoice.
- 3 Magnify the Lord with me!
Together let us lift his name up high!
- 4 I sought the Lord and he answered me.
He delivered me from all my fears.

Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth.
Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed
the responsibility of government and leadership
in the nations of the world.
Give to them the vision of truth and justice,
that by their counsel all nations and peoples may work together.
Give to the people of our country
zeal for justice and strength of forbearance,
that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will.
Forgive our shortcomings as a nation;
purify our hearts to see and love the truth.
We pray all these things through Jesus Christ. Amen.

— United Methodist Book of Worship #442

Síockán/Paz/Peace, Dave



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Standard Time Returns/Daylight Time Ends 2 A.M. Sunday, November 1



Joys and Concerns



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of J.D. Greenawalt. And the family and friends of Lee Tobel, the family and friends of Leland Schuetz, and the family and friends of Rev. Emerson Villegas.



The current YTD (Year to Date) figures from the dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus website show total Case Count for **Matagorda County** at 1100, and Fatalities at 53.



Gratitude

Pastor Dave Moreno and Erwin Janszen, members of our Healthy Church Committee, accept a Certificate from the Palacios Wellness Council's Gratitude Project for our Church's vigilance in striving to keep its members safe and healthy.



Erwin Janszen, Pastor Dave Moreno, Miss Murphy



Sunday Church Services continue being held in the Sanctuary for those who feel comfortable coming for worship in person. Masks are required. Temperatures are taken as folks enter the Narthex. The congregation observes safe distancing by sitting in the pew areas that are marked. Our music is taped and/or a solo piece. We leave the church by pews, staying safely apart. Communion is even handled safely, using individual communion wafer and juice cups that are sealed. If you are unable to make it to church, do not panic. Service is available on YouTube (usually by that afternoon) and also on facebook using the website: <https://www.facebook.com/FUMCPalacios/>. Please contact Pastor Dave if you would like Communion served to you at home. He would be happy to do so.



Scripture for Next Week, Nov. 1

*sermon scripture

Josh 3:7-17

*Ps 107:1-7, 33-37

I Thess 2:9-13

Mt 23: 1-12



United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women will meet on Wednesday, November 11 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Becky Johnson. After the meeting there will be a fellowship and lunch.,

If you have not paid your pledge for this year, please give it to Becky Johnson by the end of the year.

Please call if you need a ride or directions to Becky Johnson's home. Thanks, Thelma Holloway, phone: 361-972-2453

Masks for Pandemic Prevention

Face masks have become an important part of our daily lives. Thelma Holloway shows some of the face masks she's been making and donating to groups and individuals. With the holidays season coming up, she's starting to make masks with a Christmas theme. Contact Thelma if you need a mask.



First United Methodist Church -- Palacios, Texas **Special Finance Council Meeting** – October 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes

A Special Finance Council meeting was called, using Zoom during our time of social separation due to the Coronavirus. In attendance were Pastor Dave, Ken Johnson, Bill and Melissa Law.

Bill Law presented the profit and loss for the first three quarters without September's income. Next year we would not be paying property taxes, insurance, house payment or utilities on the rent house. We will be able to project our budget according to figures closer to the end of the year.

We will fall short on paying our apportionments by \$6000.00 according to what we have paid. Ken Johnson recommended to replenish the Johnson Fund with 90% and the apportionments with 10% from the sale of the rent house. We will discuss more at our next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Melissa Law

Administrative Council Meeting - October 13, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Jimmy Neeley, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Jimmy Neeley opened with a prayer. In attendance: Pastor Dave Moreno, Bill Law, Melissa Law, Erwin Janszen, Tony Barber, Leland Singer, Leslie Machicak and Marty Rieck. Included in the Council packet: Agenda, Balance Sheet, Monthly Profit and Loss and Profit and Loss Budget Performance. **This meeting was held through Zoom in order to continue social separation due to the Coronavirus.**

Minutes from the previous meeting on September 8, 2020 were approved. Motion made by Tony Barber. Second by Bill Law. All in favor.

Wesley Nurse, Leslie Machicak: I am back in my office on Tuesdays and Thursdays, cleaning and prepping for reopen. I will see patients by appointment only, at their cars or at their homes. All patients will be prescreened before appointment. I need help getting my numbers up. Due to being out of the office, I have lost several patients. Please help me advertise my services. I have 20 flu vaccines reserved. If anyone needs one, please call me by this Friday 10/16/20 to reserve yours.

Financial Reports were provided by Maxine Kubecka and explained by Bill Law.

Profit and Loss Budget Performance – September 2020

1.	Income from giving-September	\$ 9,994.98
2.	Income from other sources	26.20
	Total	\$10,021.18
3.	Budget Income for September	\$12,750.01
4.	Under budget for September income	2,728.83
5.	YTD under budget	(\$-9572.00)

The balance sheet as of September 30, 2020

FFB-Checking Account	\$23,337.15
TMF-Johnson Foundation	\$21,322.52
TMF-Josh Hebel Scholarship Fund	\$23,291.51
FFB-House Payment	\$64,836.86

\$1000.00 payment made towards apportionments. Received the full \$5000.00 From TMF-Josh Hebel Scholarship Fund. Seven of the ten fall semester scholarships have been funded. One funded scholarship returned. Rent house property sold on September 28, 2020 for \$125,000.00.

\$125,000.00 sale of rent house
-\$76,076.93 closing costs-FFB, Taxes, Fees
\$ 48,923.07 Net to seller. Plus \$180.00 Courier fee refund.

The apportionments will fall short by \$6000.00. Wanda Johnson will be rotating as Treasurer beginning January. Erwin Janszen made a motion to put the proceeds from the sale of the rent house in the Texas Methodist Foundation. Second by Tony Barber. All in favor.

Joni Flores requested not to be paid during this pandemic. Maxine said she is giving her time during this hard time. Will need to figure out how to make it a contribution since she is on the payroll.

Erwin Janszen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Second by Tony Barber. All in favor.

Trustees Report – Tony Barber reported the rent house sold. Erwin Janszen reported that we were a month behind on spraying for bugs and he will get them out as soon as possible. The Mission house is still on our property and needs to be moved. Leland Singer said Jan Pierce is working with the purchaser to remove it. The house is sitting in the right of way and poses liability concerns. Erwin Janszen made a motion that Tony Barber write a letter to the owner in the name of the administrative council to remove the house within 45 days. Letter will be sent registered mail. Second by Marty Rieck. All in favor.

Pastor Dave provided an **oral Pastor’s Report**: “We need to upgrade the video equipment on worship service and try to write a grant. Right now we are using both our iPads for live video to be viewed on Facebook and YouTube. We need video cameras and a Wi-Fi system since this is our church life right now. If I’m on vacation someone would have to video the service on their iPad for Facebook. I’ll ask Al for advice since he did our sound system. I’ll be taking a vacation in November. I’m in the office every Thursday afternoon. I’m available for appointments Tuesday through Friday. Have been trying to clean up around the sanctuary and parsonage. Things have been piled up in the sanctuary for years. Maybe a family could pick a room to clean. Would need to coordinate which days so everyone could maintain social distancing. Marty and Carl Rieck will take a room along with me and Ginny.”

New Business- Healthy Church Committee - Jimmy Neeley expressed concern about a person coming in the sanctuary on Sunday without a mask, since masks are required. The person claimed to have health issues and couldn’t wear one. The committee will meet soon to discuss this matter. Erwin Janszen appreciates all of Leslie Machicak’s professional input about Covid19, wearing a mask and social distancing.

Old Business - Charge Conference Reports need to be turned in by the end of this month.

Motion to Adjourn: By Erwin Janszen. Second by Tony Barber. Pastor Dave closed the meeting in prayer at 7:18 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Melissa Law

Action Item List

Description	Who will manage this?	Date to complete	Actual Completion
Electrical problems affecting the sanctuary	Trustees		
Clean up of church storage areas	Trustees		
Recommendation in June 2018 from the trustees for the church to hire a part time handy man for property maintenance.	Trustees		
Get a bid on replacing the sanctuary floor tile.	Erwin		
Emergency Preparedness Plan	Joni writes the draft plan and sends on to Erwin, Bill, Pastor of input/consideration	Joni sent draft plan in August 2018	
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		



Remember for Church giving when not attending in person, we can use the software app **GivePlus** or mail checks to the Methodist Church P.O. Box 947, Palacios TX 77465

Congratulations

Brooke Vandenberg Each year the National FFA organization honors FFA members who show the utmost dedication to the organization through their desire to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.



PALACIOS FFA's Brooke Vandenberg (left) and Lanae Tucker (right) will receive their Natinoal America FFA Degrees at the 93rd National FFA Convention - held virtually this year. (Submitted Photo)

THANK YOU

Our deep appreciation goes out to all those who help during this time – our health care workers, grocery employees, and first responders!



Some folks might still need a helping hand. So if you, or someone you know, needs assistance, because of the virus or because of any other reason, there are Helping Hands at the ready - Pastor Dave, Leslie Machicek, Melinda (Law) Cruz, and others! These folks are happy to do grocery shopping/delivery, provide transportation, etc.. Need a ride to the store, a doctor's visit, or to visit family or friends? Call Pastor Dave at 956-342-9075 . Also, The Robert Duran Food Pantry is also continuing distribution of items to any and all who could use some extra staples at this time. Emergencies can be taken care of by calling 972-5236.

NURSE'S CORNER

Wesley Nurse, Leslie Machicek, our Wesley nurse, has a new phone number: 361-288-1116. She can't return to the office yet but is doing home visits. She is doing Zoom meetings for Yoga. If anyone is interested, email her at lmachicek@mhm.org and she will send an invite. They do this every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 5:30pm- 6:30pm. It is a very simple yoga program and there are modifications.

Bible Study & Devotional

Bible study has resumed on Wednesday evenings using YouTube link <https://youtu.be/7elbqjuXT0Q> for our Midweek Meditation. "Essential Practices of a Christian Life" will be the theme. The first was uploaded Wednesday October 7th. All videos will post by 6:00 PM.

Bible Study Topic: Essential Practices of the Christian life

NOVEMBER 11 – VETERANS DAY

It was originally called Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I. Veterans Day honors all of those who have served the country in war or peace.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thursday November 26

Count your blessings

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen

DATES TO REMEMBER

(Oct. 31 - Eve of All Hallows



Can you guess who this is?

Nov. 1 – End of Daylight Savings Time

Nov. 3 – Election Day

Nov. 11 – Veteran’s Day

Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving Day



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Amy Kubecka – Nov. 4



Judy Davidson-Nov. 8



Ruben Cruz – Nov. 10



John Neese – Nov. 12



James Neese – Nov. 24

- D'Lynn Griffith- Nov. 12**
- Jeri Corporon – Nov. 14**
- Landra Vanderbergh – Nov. 16**
- Robert Curtis – Nov. 16**
- Sandy Miller – Nov. 19**
- Mary Bari – Nov. 20**
- Andy Erdelt – Nov. 21**
- Frances Crunk – Nov. 25**
- Erwin Janszen – Nov. 26**
- Rhonda Huitt – Nov. 27**

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

Reminder: Date for submitting contributions to the Newsletter to Miss Murphy, murphy_miss@yahoo.com and Mary Jo Neeley, jimmymary@neeleyfamily.com is usually by or before the 21st of each month.

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