



We need your help!

What: Decorate the Sanctuary for Advent
When: Sunday, 11/24 after worship
Who: The CHUMC congregation
Why: Preparing for Advent

The more people that stay to help, the quicker we'll be done. There are projects for all ages and physical activity levels.

Thanks from the Worship committee.



- | | |
|---|------------------|
| Archie Shivar | Anayah Ochoa |
| Audrey Oppenheim | The Ochoa Family |
| Bruce Breeding | Judy Bull |
| Charles Cancellare | CHUMC Home Bound |
| The Hampton Family | |
| The Gee Family | |
| Nita & Jonathan Horne | |
| Prayer for Carolyn's Family | |
| Netze | |
| Bette Fugit | |
| Kurt Maerschel – Confirmand | |
| Emily Smith – Confirmand | |
| Joey & His Daughter Daisy | |
| The Family of Richard Lease | |
| The Family of Ms. Rebecca Harris (Ruth Medcalf) | |
| The Family of Rev. Robert E. Langley | |
| The Family of Gerry Fleming | |
| Betsy McConnell | |
| Betty Peace | |



Chapel Hill

United Methodist Church

November 12, 2019

– Pastor's Message –



Chapel Hill UMC
Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen
Senior Pastor

Pastora Idalia Luna
Pastor of Children, Families,
& Hispanic Ministries

Dr. Donaleah Dedrick
Worship & Music Ministry

Adam Lubbers
Youth Director

Adam Richards
Office Manager

Alec McKay
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan
Building Manager

Kurt Maerschel
German Worship Leader

Berenice Baeza
Hispanic Ministries Intern

If there is one question that comes up regularly in our local churches it is, "How do we stop the decline in our beloved church?" This question comes from a place of concern from people who have been members of their church for many, many years, have wonderfully blessed memories of days past when the church really touched their lives in meaningful ways, and believe it can impact lives positively again, but are concerned about what the future of their local church may be.

Church Consultant Thom Rainer suggests five reasons for the steady decline: 1) the decline of Cultural Christianity within which people often joined local churches for the social, economic, and political benefits, 2) the exit of the builder generation born before 1946 that is/was fiercely loyal to the institutions in which they participated, 3) migration from small towns and rural areas to the cities, 4) faster church transfers as people shop for churches and often join the megachurch down the road, 5) slow response to change and fighting over minutiae in the face of change. (See Rainer's blog post at thomrainer.com on September 14, 2016)

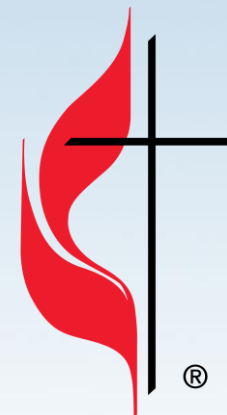
At CHUMC, we have seen a couple of other major and related factors in CHUMC's history: 1) white flight following the integration of the schools and 2) rapidly changing demographics in CHUMC's immediate neighborhood. These factors have led to the steep decline of our beloved CHUMC.

In recent years, CHUMC began to address its reality as a neighborhood church in a rapidly changing neighborhood. Through Holy Conversations, you discerned the importance of focusing on those now in the neighborhood and in partnering with Chapel Hill Preparatory Academy to mentor the children there. This discernment helped fuel a deeper commitment to Project Transformation and the launch of the Hispanic Ministry led by Pastora Idalia. CHUMC also formed a relationship with the German International School of Dallas who rents space here during the week.

CHUMC also remains a proud part of Farmers Branch with a desire to share with all people God's love. In a city that will be growing significantly in the coming years, the harvest is plentiful.

The seeds are planted for CHUMC to be a thriving, multicultural local church, but it will require effort along with a focus on evangelism. Without the lure of Cultural Christianity, local churches have exponentially fewer people walking through the door looking to join a church. Thus, evangelism is tantamount to the local church being what it is called to be. In fact, it always was.

Continued inside...



Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

12411 Templeton Trail Farmers Branch, TX 75234

www.chapelhillumc.org | office@chapehillumc.org

Upcoming Usher List

11/17 – Linda Pace, Robert Putnam, Kelly & Kevin Patterson
 11/24 – Sandra Fletcher, Fred Maxwell, Kim & Joel Rangel
 12/1 – Pat & Habib Khoury, Dave & Ilene Oldfield
 12/8 – Craig Davis, Mitchell Davis, Tom & Jan Wooldridge



Poinsettia Orders Now Open

It is time to order Red Christmas Poinsettias for \$10 each. They will accent our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Your poinsettia(s) will be available to take home after Candlelight Christmas Eve service.

All orders are due by noon on Sunday, December 1. Order forms will be available in the worship bulletins or on the narthex table. Poinsettias can be given to honor or to remember any loved ones. An insert honoring or remembering your loved one(s) will be placed in the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service bulletin.

Please complete one form for each poinsettia order and be sure to print legibly. Make checks payable to Chapel Hill UMC and place it on Adam's desk in the church office.

-Roxanne Rawdon



VETERAN'S DAY HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Come One, Come All Thanksgiving Feast Sunday, November 17 at 11:30a.m.

Come share food and fellowship with one another & give thanks for our special Chapel Hill family. Family Life will provide turkey, dressing and gravy. Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving side dish or dessert to share. If you would like to donate money toward the turkeys, please call Jan Wooldridge at (972) 243-1108.

Chapel Hill Mourns the Passing of Longtime Member Gerry Fleming

Siblings in Christ,

We learned this week that one of our longtime members, Gerry Fleming, passed away during the previous week. We pray today for Gerry's family and friends and celebrate the promise of the resurrection Gerry and all the saints will find in Christ.

Grace and peace,
Rev. J.D. Allen

Pastor's Message, Part 2

The benefits of Cultural Christianity simply lulled us to sleep, and, frankly, the decline of Cultural Christianity is a positive. If people joined local churches before because of the personal benefits rather than an encounter with the love of God and a desire to love God and neighbor, discipleship may have trended toward shallowness.

As we seek to recommit to the call to "go and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything (Jesus has) commanded you," and to "preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins," there are some clear steps we can take to reverse the impact of the decline of Cultural Christianity:

- 1) Get to know new people and invite them to participate in the Church - You have neighbors, coworkers, club members, etc., who you may not know well but as our Bishop Mike McKee says, "God longs to introduce you to people you do not know so you can introduce them to the God who already knows them and loves them." This is most important work and the Advent and Christmas seasons are among the best times of year to try and give this a shot once again or for the first time.
- 2) Reshape how we connect with people we serve - the way local churches often provide services to people is transactional. They receive the service the local church provides and that is it. We need to pursue relational ways of providing the services we provide that connect us with one another on a personal level and provides a bridge to Jesus.
- 3) New Spaces for New Faces - This is the missional emphasis of the North Texas Conference which acknowledges that the local church campus and Sunday morning worship is not where we are most likely to reach new people in the age beyond Cultural Christianity. We will need to keep our eyes open for ways to build community and make disciples off campus.

There is hope but it will take effort. We have addressed our CHUMC's contextual reasons and Rainer's first reason local churches are dying or are in decline. In future newsletters, we will discuss the remaining reasons. But, for now, keep your eyes open. Who is God longing to introduce you to today?

Church Calendar

Wednesday, November 13th

10:00 AM Staff Meeting
 7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Saturday, November 16th

9:00 AM Thanksgiving Feast Setup
 2:00 PM Coin Club

Sunday, November 17th

9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Worship (pledge Sunday)
 11:30 AM Thanksgiving Feast
 12:30 PM Outreach Meeting
 4:00 PM Youth

Tuesday, November 19th

9:00 AM Trustees Meeting
 10:30 AM Nurture Meeting
 7:00 PM Finance Meeting
 7:30 PM Church Council

Wednesday, November 20th

10:00 AM Staff Meeting
 7:00 PM Plus 4's Square Dancers
 7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Want something in the Newsletter?

Send your newsletter article to office@chapelhillumc.org by 8am Friday.

Need to reserve a room or get an event on the calendar?

Please fill out an Event Request Form located on our website: chapelhillumc.org, email office@chapelhillumc.org, or in the folders on the table in the narthex.

Want to have a bulletin insert or announcement slide?

Look at the standards and procedures in the folders on the narthex table and turn it in by 4pm Thursday.

Have something to celebrate?

Email the office with your celebration by Monday at 11am so that we can put your celebration in our "Hats Off" section to have everyone know the joy you are experiencing in your life.

BIRTHDAY REMINDER: Please let our church office know your birthdate, mm/dd/yyyy, so your church family can acknowledge your special day. **Your 'year' will remain private:** office@chapelhillumc.org



Martha Johnson 11/3
 Donna Daggett 11/12
 Neela Metzger 11/17
 Tom Laney Jr. 11/27
 Evelyn Womble 11/30

Heidi Tolle 11/3
 Claudia O'Shea 11/14
 Kenneth Stansell 11/26
 Mary Bandy 11/28

William Maxwell 11/6
 Vin Scheihagen 11/16
 Sherri Stansell 11/26
 Carol Rose 11/28

Bill Chapman 11/8
 Bitsy Laney 11/17
 Karyn Harlow 11/27
 Donna Hoisington 11/29