



# Chapel Hill

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## United Methodist Church

October 26, 2020



### Chapel Hill UMC

Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen  
Senior Pastor

Adam Lubbers  
Youth Director

Adam Richards  
Office Manager

Alec McKay  
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan  
Building Manager

Kurt Maerschel  
German Worship Leader



### Pastor's Message

Katy and I discovered a few months ago that our wonderful St. Augustine grass at home was dying. We had significant brown patches in the lawn and could not understand why. After all, while the summer was hot and dry, the lawn was being watered regularly. We were afraid a fungus may have developed in the lawn as this is a common problem in St. Augustine grass.

Some investigation online, in the yard, and around the house, helped me discover the problem. I messed up when I changed the settings on the irrigation system late in the Spring. We read some information about watering that suggested we run our irrigation stations intermittently each time, five minutes a station with three rotations, each day we water so each area of the lawn would have an opportunity to soak up the water it received. I had adjusted our system to water in this manner but a slight error in my entries in the electronic system created a situation where the stations only cycled through once. The lawn was getting only five minutes of water instead of fifteen whenever the sprinklers ran. Thus, it had begun to dry up.

Our spiritual practices, or what Wesley and others traditionally called the means of grace, are like the water for our lives as disciples. They are methods, we Methodists might say, which water our souls and nourish us regularly so that we are strengthened in our lives as followers of Jesus. These means included acts of piety, worship, prayer, Holy Communion, etc., and acts of mercy, those acts we do out of compassion and our hunger and thirst for justice. They are called means of grace because we know God's grace is offered to us when we do these things. They are the ordinary means of grace where we can expect to encounter God's nourishing, strengthening love. They are the water for our lives of following Jesus. They help us continue to grow.

There are extraordinary moments of grace, which are like rain showers that often pop up unexpectedly. But these ordinary means are always available to us to form us in God's love so we produce the fruit of the Spirit. They are the irrigation system that waters our lives regularly. Take advantage of these with discipline and our lives will grow strong. But if our lives are underwatered, we will grow frail, brown, and full of weeds.

**Continued on the back...**

## Prayer List

CHUMC Home Bound  
The Gee Family  
Jocelyn Barnard  
Scott Fletcher  
Jennie Leamons  
Tom Sanders  
Peggy Shoemaker  
Robbyn Smith (Cranford)  
Jordan Hammett  
Neal Ellis  
Hank  
Project Transformation After School  
Leon Mauldin  
Willa Burton  
Grace Smith  
Candace George  
Nancy Hartman  
Barbara Edward's granddaughter  
Candice and family  
Elina Bunker

Margaret Ellison's Family  
Louann Cross  
Alex Kaplinsky  
Earl Reed  
Mary Kathryn Mann  
Judy Charvat  
Kaye Bandy  
**Those affected by COVID-19:**  
Nurses and Doctors  
All patients in hospitals  
Families who have lost people and cannot have funerals  
First responders  
Medical personnel who are working  
Parents of students  
Senior citizens in nursing homes  
Students and teachers taking classes online  
Those who have lost jobs

## And The Angels Descended

To all the angels who came to my rescue after my recent surgery, I thank you! The food, cards, prayers, and house cleaning were so greatly appreciated. I had only been in the hospital a few times in my life until recently and did not realize that complete recovery would be slower than I anticipated. So, I hope to see all of you soon and pray that each of you stay healthy and safe. We are all in God's hands so let's ask that we get a vaccine soon and can once again hug each other.

Blessings to all,  
Nancy Hartman

## Pastor's Message Continued

The General Rule of Discipleship for United Methodist churches is "To witness to Jesus Christ in the world and to obey his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit." It summarizes what it is to love God and neighbor. It summarizes the acts of piety and acts of mercy that are the means of grace. It is a tool we can use to help us make sure we are turning on the water for our lives with the full expectation that we will encounter the life-giving Holy Spirit when we do. Have we watered our lawns lately?

Grace and peace,

Rev. J.D. Allen  
Senior Pastor

While we are unable to gather, please remember CHUMC still has expenses. Please continue to make your faith pledge offerings by mail by sending them directly to our treasurer, Jan Wooldridge, at 12930 Mitchwin Road, Farmers Branch, TX 75234.

Please send prayer requests to Alec and Adam at [office@chapelhillumc.org](mailto:office@chapelhillumc.org). Please note, the office is closed during the week, so the phone is not being checked. If you are unable to email, please ask someone with email to send your information to the office email or contact J.D. at (972) 467-7756.

In the case of a pastoral care emergency, please contact J.D. at (972) 467-7756.

**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](mailto:office@chapelhillumc.org)



George Johnson 10/2	Kim Rangel 10/10
Alec McKay 10/11	Kelly Patterson 10/15
Iris Shivar 10/15	Madeleine Davis 10/18
Wilson Moore 10/18	Ana Laura Gamborino 10/19
Edith Brooks 10/20	Wesley Freeman 10/21
Robert Putnam 10/24	Jim Hanigan 10/25
Cindy Brown 10/28	Jan Wooldridge 10/29
Leslie Ochoa-Funez 10/30	Denise Maxwell 10/31

## Join Us for Online Worship!

**YouTube:** Search for CHUMC FarmersBranch

Please subscribe!