



# Chapel Hill

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## United Methodist Church

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October 26, 2020

### Pastor's Message



#### Chapel Hill UMC Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen  
Senior Pastor

Adam Lubbers  
Youth Director

Adam Richards  
Office Manager

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Building Manager

Kurt Maerschel  
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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	Margaret Ellison's Family
The Gee Family	Louann Cross
Jocelyn Barnard	Alex Kaplinsky
Scott Fletcher	Earl Reed
Jennie Leamons	Mary Kathryn Mann
Tom Sanders	Judy Charvat
Peggy Shoemaker	Kaye Bandy
Robbyn Smith (Cranford)	<b>Those affected by COVID-19:</b>
Jordan Hammett	Nurses and Doctors
Neal Ellis	All patients in hospitals
Hank	Families who have lost people
Project Transformation After	and cannot have funerals
School	First responders
Leon Mauldin	Medical personnel who are
Willa Burton	working
Grace Smith	Parents of students
Candace George	Senior citizens in nursing homes
Nancy Hartman	Students and teachers taking
Barbara Edward's granddaughter	classes online
Candice and family	Those who have lost jobs
Elina Bunker	

## 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!