



Chapel Hill

United Methodist Church

November 23, 2020

Pastor's Message



Chapel Hill UMC
Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen
Senior Pastor

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As we enter into this week of Thanksgiving, I want to start by thanking you. We have been navigating an unexpected and difficult year of life and faith as we have encountered the COVID-19 pandemic. You all have approached the circumstances we face with grace and understanding as we, under Bishop McKee's direction, moved to worshipping online only for a number of months. Once we returned to in-person worship, you have been faithful to the protocols our Reopening Team established to allow us to gather together once again. We know worship with these protocols is less than ideal and we thank you for your observance of these protocols in this time in which we need to exercise great care for one another.

It is with this concern for one another in mind, I share the most recent decision we have made. As you know, the CDC is encouraging people not to travel during the Thanksgiving holiday and has explained that while so-called super spreader events exacerbate the spread of COVID-19, the most frequent way people contract the disease and it is spread is in small, indoor gatherings, usually with friends and family in someone's home. You also know we are in the midst of a dramatic spike in the COVID-19 infection and hospitalization rates.

Due to these factors, we are suspending in-person worship for, at least, the two Sundays following Thanksgiving. This will provide a buffer for us, should the coronavirus be transmitted in any Thanksgiving gatherings, as we try to prevent the arrival of what is called replication-competent virus into our worship space. Coronavirus, which has impacted the German International School of Dallas which meets in our southern wing, is simply not the advent we long for in this holiday season.

So we will prepare to, hopefully, be able to return to in-person worship on December 13. Trust me when I tell you this is as disappointing for us as it is for you. But, as we near Advent, we can rest assured that a newness is promised to us in Christ when all is said and done.

Grace and peace,

Rev. J.D. Allen
Senior Pastor

Prayer List

CHUMC Home Bound	We give thanks for the safe arrival
The Gee Family	of Savannah - the newest
Jocelyn Barnard	great-grandchild of Janis and
Scott Fletcher	the late Kermit Coggshall.
Jennie Leamons	Rusty George family fighting
Tom Sanders	COVID-19
Peggy Shoemaker	Doug Laing
Robbyn Smith (Cranford)	Those affected by COVID-19:
Jordan Hammett	Nurses and Doctors
Neal Ellis	All patients in hospitals
Project Transformation After	Families who have lost people
School	and cannot have funerals
Candace George	First responders
Elna Bunker	Medical personnel who are
Margaret Ellison's Family	working
Alex Kaplinsky	Parents of students
Judy Charvat	Senior citizens in nursing homes
Leon Willhite	Students and teachers taking
Kay Randall	classes online
Clara Knight and family	Those who have lost jobs



Christmas Poinsettias

Decorating for Christmas 2020 will be simple. Only ten (10) poinsettias will adorn the sanctuary for Christmas' services.

Please contact the church office (office@chapelhillumc.org) by Monday, December 7, to contribute toward the cost of the poinsettias. Any amount is appreciated. Make checks payable to Chapel Hill United Methodist Church marked for poinsettia.

Help Decorate for Advent!

Needed: 6-8 helpful sets of hands to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent. We'll be putting up our Christmas tree, advent wreath, nativity scene, and other wreaths. Meet at church on Saturday, 11/28 at 10 am. Call or text Pat Moore (214/773-1408) to volunteer.

Oak Lawn UMC Emergency Shelter

Our friends at Oak Lawn UMC have reached out to us for help to provide shelter for neighbors who experience housing and food insecurity. Under normal circumstances, OLUMC uses its building to provide overnight shelter and meals when temperatures drop below freezing. Unfortunately, with the pandemic this is no longer feasible. The work around to this is that they are fundraising money to provide hotel rooms for these men and women at \$75/night. The Center for Missional Outreach of the North Texas UMC Conference is generously matching up to \$50,000, which is half of their total goal of \$100,000 to provide enough rooms for the estimated numbers this season.

What can we do to help?

- If you are able, please donate at olumc.org/shelter. This is also where you can find more information about the work they are doing.
- Have friends in other UMC's? Share Oak Lawn UMC's Facebook page (facebook.com/OLUMC) with them and ask if their community could help!

While we have reopened the campus for in-person worship, please note that remains the only time we are gathering in the building as we continue to navigate the pandemic. The office is open during the week but we ask that you call and make an appointment if you need to come to the campus for any reason and wear a mask while you are here. This will help us monitor traffic in the building and manage the number of airborne droplets.

Going forward, your faith pledge offerings may be sent to the church office.

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



Martha Johnson 11/3	William Maxwell 11/6
Donna Daggett 11/12	Claudia O'Shea 11/14
Vin Scheihagen 11/16	Sandra Fletcher 11/19
Sherri Stansell 11/26	Kenneth Stansell 11/26
Carol Rose 11/28	Donna Hoisington 11/29
Evelyn Womble 11/30	

Join Us for Online Worship!

YouTube: bit.ly/CHUMCYouTube

Facebook: www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc