



Chapel Hill

United Methodist Church

December 7, 2020

Pastor's Message



Chapel Hill UMC
Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen
Senior Pastor

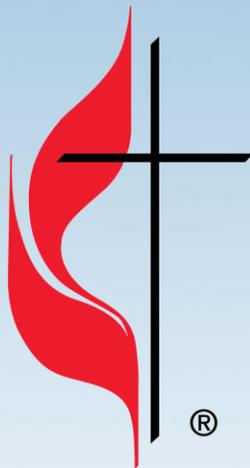
Adam Lubbers
Youth Director

Adam Richards
Office Manager

Alec McKay
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan
Building Manager

Kurt Maerschel
German Worship Leader



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Friends, I write today to share some news that was announced yesterday. The CHUMC Reopening Team decided, after much deliberation, that it is most prudent for CHUMC to continue to worship online only through at least January 3 with hopes of returning in person on January 10. I can tell you we long to worship together and went back and forth on this decision, especially considering this is the Advent and Christmas season, but we ultimately decided we could not risk harm to anyone in the church or community by gathering together.

You have likely seen the reports that the spread of the coronavirus and resulting hospitalizations have reached their highest point since the pandemic began. Also, Dallas and surrounding counties are required to limit capacity at local businesses to fifty percent once again due to the hospitalization rate over a seven-day period. The virus is simply spreading faster around us than it has all year and churches remain among the top-five super spreaders. We have observed important protocols without issue, so far, and I think much of the spread in churches has occurred where protocols have not been followed. In fact, we came close to deciding to worship together because everyone has followed the established protocols so diligently, but as we seek to love one another and love our neighbors as ourselves, we need to emphasize everyone's health at this time.

We are, however, seeking to provide worship on Christmas Eve. We are planning on gathering in the courtyard at 7 pm with chairs arranged in household pods and we will wear masks. These measures will provide an opportunity for us to sing together on Christmas Eve, something we have been unable to do in several months. If you are unable to attend there will also be a Christmas Eve service online at 7 pm for you to view.

We know this is a very different and difficult year and it is made more difficult in the ways it is disrupting our traditional Advent and Christmas gatherings. As Holy Communion reminds us, however, God is present with us and is walking with us throughout this long ordeal. A new day is on the horizon. Salvation comes.

Grace and peace,

Rev. J.D. Allen
Senior Pastor

Prayer List

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



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.

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 posts page with them and ask if their community could help!

Please Note:

As we will be worshipping online only now through January 3rd, the church office will be closed for in-person visits at this time.

Tithes and offerings can be sent to the church address or 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. Please note that although the office is closed to in-person visits during the week, we can still be reached at the above email and by phone at (972) 241-3491.

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



Howard Stansell 12/3	Melanie Willhite 12/4
Kandy Burdette 12/13	Riley Dobbs 12/26
Mary Fagan 12/31	

Join Us for Online Worship!

YouTube: bit.ly/CHUMCYouTube

Facebook: www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc