



# Chapel Hill

## United Methodist Church

March 6, 2023

### Pastor's Message



CHUMC Family,

**Chapel Hill UMC**  
Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen  
Senior Pastor

Kate Whitaker  
Minister of Families

Melissa Sky-Eagle  
Worship & Music

Jill Cox  
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan  
Building Manager

In last week's newsletter I provided a summary of Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr.'s sermon from his installation on February 19. In that sermon he shared, "I am excited about our church's future and our mission because of our amazing clergy and laity, our message of God's grace and our concern and commitment for personal holiness, evangelism, service in the world, and social justice," before laying out the five points of emphasis in his vision for the Central and North Texas Conferences. I summarized those points last week and will flesh those out over these next weeks..

The first point of emphasis was: we will engage those who have been left behind by society so that they know God sees them, hears their cries, cares for them, and draws near to them through ministries of church planting, spiritual formation, compassion, mercy, and justice.

Many people and people groups are simply ignored, overlooked, neglected, or dehumanized by the overarching powers that be. They do not have equal access to resources and opportunities that others may have. The circumstances into which they were born leave them not only in the batter's box hoping to find a way on base, they have a long shot to even make the proverbial team to get into the batter's box and may not even be invited to the tryout. Perhaps a people group is new to a community and that community is slow to recognize they have different needs and desires than those who resided in that community before. There are many ways in which we can seek to build community that includes those left behind.

Churches and churches-within-churches are being planted in growing areas and into areas with population shifts, such as Farmers Branch which now has the largest segment of its population represented by our Hispanic neighbors. We were starting toward this in 2019 before the pandemic disrupted those efforts, though we shall still seek to build a local church that reflects the community in which we live. Many of our neighbors, new and old, believe in God or sense the divine is out there and need a community that will help form them spiritually and connect them with God's grace. As we build new relationships in our community we can be guides along the way. People in our communities are suffering from grief, a lack of mental health, poverty, a lack of community, and oppression. Compassion will move us to build loving relationships in which we get to know them and their needs as we walk in ministry with them rather than assuming what they need. This compassion will result in movements in mercy in which we seek to help fulfill our neighbors' most pressing daily needs and movements of justice in which we seek to lovingly reshape ecclesial, political, economic, and social structures so that justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion become realities in place of the systemic issues that play a major role in creating the pressing daily needs we serve with our acts of mercy.

God sees us, hears our cries, cares for us, and draws near to us. In response to God's grace, may we share this with all our neighbors.



***Grace and peace,***  
***Rev. J.D. Allen***

## Prayer List

CHUMC Homebound	Valerie Lach-Szyrma & Family
The Gee Family	Iris Shivar's sister Bea
Tom Sanders	Bea's son Scott
Danny Halron	North August, SC Dept. of Social Services regarding Bea's great-grandson
Grandma Gloria	Lenox
Yvette's kids	Family of Andy Hoelle
Edrese Hanigan	Verlyn Madson
Kevin Patterson	Mike Hill (Barbara Tatum's son-in-law)
Sam Orton	Gay Keim (Kandy Burdette's daughter-in-law)
Gloria (Pinson) Ming	Eleanor Body
Judy Bull	RL Turner Community
Scott Fletcher	Mass shooting victims
Jim Cranford	Turkey & Syria Earthquake victims
Margaret Young	
Martha Johnson	
Don Oldfield	
Phyllis Hendrix	
Juan Torres' friend	
Leonardo Meadow	

## It's Frisco RoughRider Baseball Time Again

Because we had so many people who backed out of going to last year's game, we're going to change the method this year. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway, once I have enough people signed up, I will order the tickets and the deadline to sign up is Sunday, March 5th. I have picked May 20th as the Saturday to go; however, until I have the commitments and order the tickets I will not know where the seats will be nor the cost. For your planning purposes, figure the tickets will be no more than \$25.00 and I will get the best seats available at the time. You don't have to pay until the tickets are ordered; but you can.

Any questions, please contact Tom Wooldridge.

## Announcements

**Easter Lilies** may be ordered for \$15 each. They will decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. An insert honoring or remembering your loved one(s) will be placed in the bulletin. All orders are due by NOON on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Please complete one form for each order and be sure to print legibly. Make checks payable to Chapel Hill UMC and place the form and check on the desk in the church office.

**Outreach Meeting** Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM

**Church Council Meeting** Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM

**Chili Cook Off** Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 4-6 PM  
Benefitting the Children and Youth Bridgeport Camp. We will be sending 8 children to the camp this summer. Entry sign up sheets are in the hallway.



## Bishop Saenz, Jr. to answer your questions at District Meetings

Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr. is excited to meet with lay and clergy of the North Texas Conference on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 AM-Noon at First United Methodist Church Duncanville. To submit a question, please go to <https://ntcumc.org/district-huddles> and fill out the form.

## Join Us for Online Worship!

**YouTube:** [bit.ly/CHUMCYoutube](https://bit.ly/CHUMCYoutube)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc](https://www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc)

**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)



JD	Allen	3/8
Cindi	Moore	3/11
Lee	Willhite	3/15
Haley	Byrd	3/16
Kelly	Lopez	3/17