

Fear not... For I am with You...

The Final Say...

Recently I read about someone who said the following: “You know, I’ve heard enough about all this virus can do — all the panic and the fear and the heartbreak and the endless speculation about what’s next — I’ve heard enough. In fact, I’ve heard more than enough.”

That phrase resonated with me, because I, too, have heard more than enough about all that is going on. I noticed in the TV listings recently that one of the major networks had scheduled an hour long special on COVID-19. I didn’t watch it, but I wondered: What could they possibly say in that hour — in between the commercials - that hasn’t already been said a thousand times? Until something changes and there’s new information to share, I think many people would agree: I’ve heard more than enough about what we already know and what we still don’t know.

What I have not heard enough — and, perhaps at times, what I have not said enough and thought enough — is that this pandemic does not have the final say in what is to come. It does not have the last word in the future of our world, in the future of the church, or in the ultimate outcome of your life. That’s because we serve a risen Savior, and He is in the world today, and His power is more than enough to get us through whatever we may face.

This past Sunday was not the way any of us thought we would be celebrating Easter, that’s for sure — sitting at home watching a preacher preach into an MacBook computer. That’s not how we planned it, but even when things don’t go as planned, we can take courage and comfort in knowing that God’s grace — and the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is more than enough to get us through whatever we may face.

God said, “Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you.” (*Hebrews 13:5*). Jesus also said, “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (*Matthew 28:20*). And in Isaiah God said, “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” (*Isaiah 41:10*)

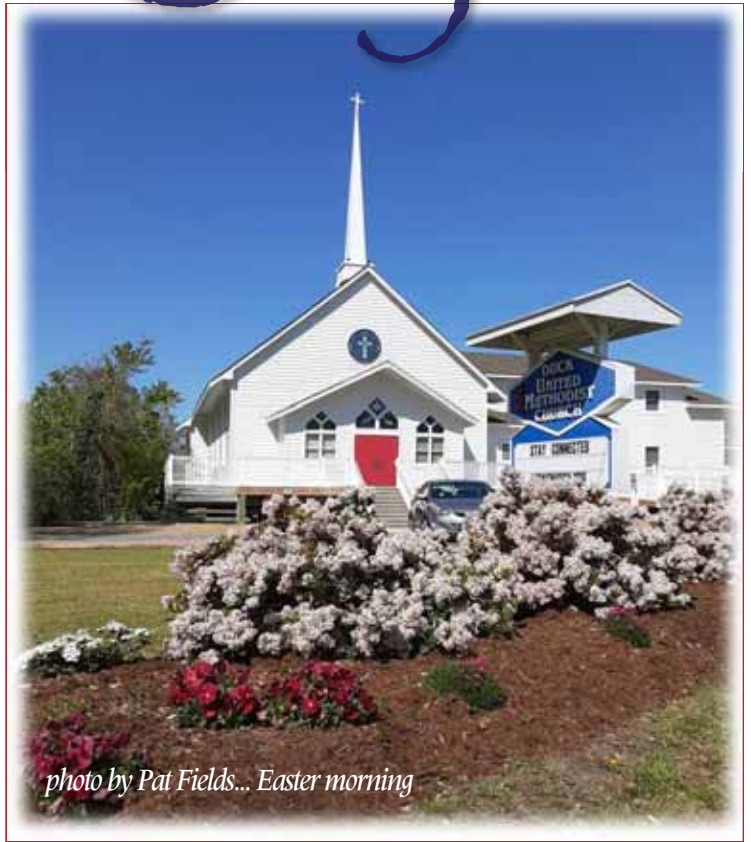


photo by Pat Fields... Easter morning

After the crucifixion, the disciples had every reason to think that their world had come to an end. And then they discovered the risen Christ. He would always be with them, and His presence was more than enough to get them through any challenge they may face.

Whatever you may be facing today, you can be sure that Christ’s mercy, His power, and His presence is more than enough for you, too.

I love you all,
Chris



UpDate: Vacation Bible School... Date Change!

New Date to be Determined • Ages 4 thru 5th Grade

For more information contact Debbie Breit at 252-202-1042
education@duckchurch.org



CHOIR NOTES from Cezette COME ONE... COME ALL!

We are all missing our choir rehearsals & fellowship, Sunday services, breakfasts in the kitchen on Sunday mornings and the wonderful warmth and comfort of being in church. We are staying connected by phone and emails and we are trying to rehearse hymns via "Zoom".

So far, we have enjoyed laughing and talking more than singing! I am sure you are anxiously awaiting our return to normal as much as we are.

Stay healthy, safe and keep singing. When you need a lift, tune in to youtube.com for some excellent performances of hymns in different styles and configurations.

If you enjoy singing as much as we do and would like to join our choir, please give me a call. When we get back to our normal schedule, please come to our Thursday evening rehearsals from 6:30-7:30 pm in the choir room. No audition is needed. We welcome all ages and all levels of expertise. Please join us! We also feature instrumentalists in our weekly services. If you play an instrument and would be interested in participating by offering your musical gifts, please let us know. Come one, come all!

For more detailed information, please call Cezette Barnes-Tyler at 252-619-1517.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

How to be a Happy & Useful Christian:

M A Y 2 0 2 0

Choose friends and acquaintances...

who will help you grow and advance in the

Christian Faith. Read 2 Cor. 6:14,

Lev. 20:26 and Psalms 1:1



Circle of Friends

Bible Study will be

on hiatus until

September.

Please stay tuned for the new study opportunities.

May

BIRTHDAYS!

5/02- Beverly Davison	5/19- Jeff Scott
John Jenkins	5/20- Mary Lou Breit
Tina Miller	Samuel Kitchin
5/03- Joyce Hannan	5/21- Beverly Kissinger
5/07- Pamela Peters	5/22- Larry Blackburn
5/09- Woody MacDonald	Bob Garrett
5/13- Lynn Blackburn	Yong Holian
Cole Fagersten	5/24- Al Smith
5/14- Amy Denson	5/27- Judy Chiles
Maryann Miller	5/28- Charlie Kitchen
5/16- Dick Hood	5/30- Jessie Runnels
Janet Pierce	5/31- Parker Melson

Happy Birthday to All of us!

If your birthday is this month but not listed, please call the church office to be included next year.



NOTES FROM THE SERVE CHAIR:

Do Not Be Afraid

I haven't counted but apparently the phrase "Fear Not" appears 365 times in the Bible. That's interesting - one per day throughout the year. I think God knows we get up each morning with a bit of fear - about the day,

about our families, about our neighbors and about the future.

But what if you're hungry? Let's say you're a parent out of work and you've got kids to feed and a dwindling bank account. I would be afraid - how could you not be?

Serving others can help them with their fears and let them know that they are not alone in this virus calamity. We need to be there for them - there is no other way. If it is not so, why do we call ourselves Christians? We need to be acutely aware of the basic needs of folks in our community.

So, a big "Thank you" to those volunteering at the food pantry from our church and others in the community. And Food for Thought is continuing to operate in these trying times. A couple of month's back, I was telling you that our numbers have dropped to about 325 bags per weekend. Now we're packing about 600 each week. And we're distributing FFT on Thursdays at Manteo Elementary, First Flight Elementary and Hatteras Elementary. Those are the 3 schools that the Dare County School system use to distribute meals for any children in the county from 0-18. You don't even have to be a student.

Thank you for supporting the Food Pantry and Food for Thought through your contributions to Duck Church. Those of us who can, will continue to be there for our neighbors that need help.

Let's put a hand on their shoulders and help them "Fear Not" for now.

They will remember your kindness.

Jim Cotter
Serve Chair



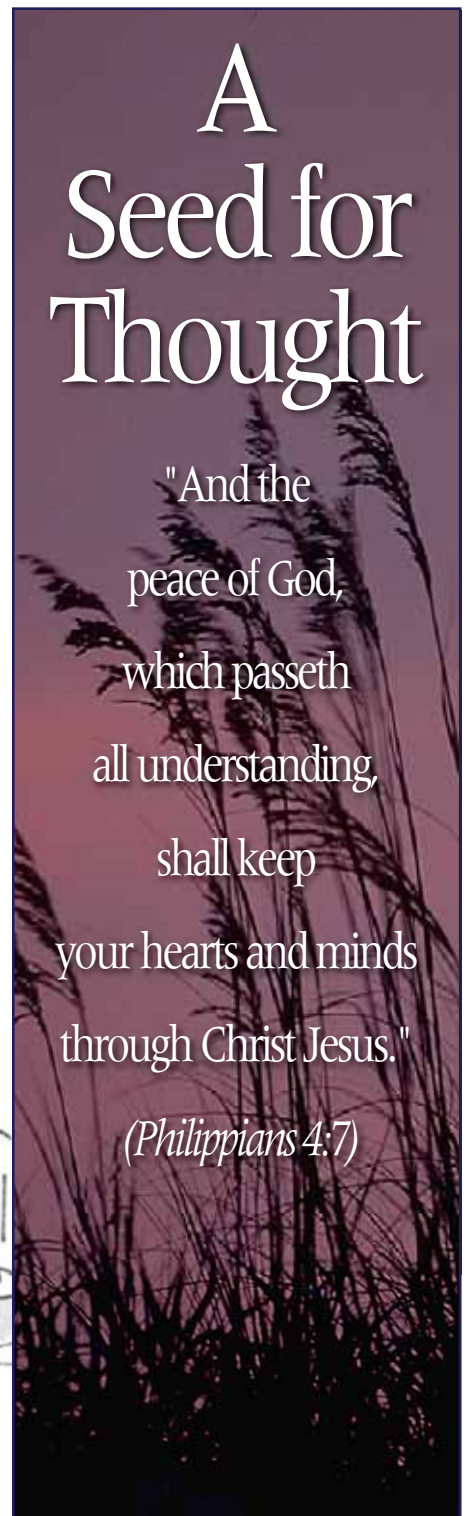
"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" - Galatians 6.2

We know the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everyone - raising the level of fear, stress, and anxiety for people all over the world and underscoring the importance of caring. During such a difficult time, our DUMC Stephen Ministers want to reach out with support and care, to offer help and hope. But how? One way Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders can be helpful is by calling congregation members separated by social distancing. Our Stephen Ministers' training in caring and listening can provide great support to our members.

Our Stephen Ministry team is standing by to help. Please phone or email if you would like us to reach out to you. All contacts are strict confidential.

- Pastor Chris (910) 581-8253 pastor@duckchurch.org
- Tom Davidson (252) 573-9631 tled56@aol.com
- Lynn Blackburn (252) 305-5375 llyblackburn@embarqmail.com

As we struggle with anxiety, loss, and isolation, we might not know exactly when our "Easter" from this crisis will come - but we can rely on our risen Lord to be truly present with us through it all, even when others can't be. He is forever Faithful!



A Seed for Thought

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

(Philippians 4:7)



POST OFFICE BOX 8010
DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA
27949-8010

Prayer Requests

Please call the church office if you do not have e-mail and would like to receive notices of prayer requests.

To Communicate ~

Call us at 252-261-1525

Monday through Thursday or

Email anytime at:

office@duckchurch.org

Office Hours:



Monday through Thursday – 9:00 to 5:00 PM

Follow us on Facebook for all the latest news:

Duck United Methodist Church



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No.56
Kitty Hawk, NC
27949

The deadline for the June Duck Call is May 15th. Thanks.



Dear Duck Church,

Our family wants to thank everyone that made calls, sent cards and letters and visited to remember my mother, Yvonne Humphrey.

Ed Humphrey

To our Duck Church Family,

We wish to thank everyone for the cards, notes and emails at the loss of our mother. It lifted our spirits and meant so much to us.

Blessings to everyone.

Todd and Cynthia Ahrens

Silver Link Luncheon

Our Silver Link Lunch committee has truly missed our monthly gatherings with our guests! It has been necessary to comply with the health precautions during the coronavirus crisis. Hopefully each of you has been well. Please contact one of us if you need a listening ear or if we can be of help to you.

We care about you and we miss you!

Irene, Sandy, Ellen, Jackie, Debbie,

Lynn, Lynne, Nickie, Paige, Pat, Diana and Lyn.



Stay in Touch with Duck UMC through The World Wide Web

Go to www.duckchurch.org. You will find sermons from Pastor Chris, opportunities to serve, Mission activities, ministry for children, youth and adults, along with the latest newsletter, ways you can serve and you can even donate online. Check it out!

The Care Ministry contact person for the month of May is Carolynne Adams,
252-261-0441.

Be well in Christ.

