

May 13, 2020
Volume 21, Number 19

The Wesley Witness

**To Believe. To Belong.
To Become Christ-Like
Through Discipleship.**



The Plan

After receiving the Bishop's guidelines for resuming in-person gatherings, a group of leaders here at Wesley have come up with a plan to get back together. We are planning to resume Sunday School and worship on Sunday, June 7. As we do this we will be following CDC recommendations in an effort to keep you safe. First and foremost, if you are running a fever, have excessive coughing, or have been exposed to someone who has Covid 19, please stay at home. Second, if you are a person who is high risk, we recommend that you stay at home for your own safety. Third, when we do gather, we ask that you wear a mask and maintain social distancing. Please refrain from hugging, shaking hands, etc. We will not be handing out bulletins, passing the

peace, or passing the offering plate, all in an effort to keep you safe. We ask that you make a special effort to maintain personal hygiene, washing your hands, and keeping them away from your eyes, ears, nose, and mouth.

Sunday School classes will meet at 9:30 AM in their usual rooms. If your room is too small to maintain social distancing then we have larger spaces that can be used. The nursery will be open for the little ones. Initially, we will not have donuts and coffee. We will gather for worship in the CLC as this space allows for easier social distancing and is easier to disinfect. Tables will be set up and family units are invited to sit together, maintaining distance from others. Chairs will also be set up at various locations to allow room for everybody. The choir will sit among us until it is time for their special, when they will gather on the stage to sing. The choir will practice on Wednesday, June 3, in the CLC to rehearse for the anthem on June 14. Several folks will be out on June 7. So the choir will not perform that Sunday. We will have Communion our first Sunday back together using the same prepackaged cups we used on Easter Sunday. I will distribute these with mask and gloves. Offering plates will be placed at the entrance to the CLC for you to deposit your offering. We will keep our interior doors open to cut down on the spreading of germs. Ushers will be there to remind us about social distancing.

Initially, we will not have Sunday evening services or Wednesday evening classes. Disinfecting our common spaces is a primary concern. Please remember that if you do come down with the virus, you will be asked who you have been in personal contact with. Then those folks will be asked to quarantine themselves. If we are careful, should one of us come down with the virus, by using common sense, maintaining personal hygiene, wearing masks and maintaining social distancing, we will not have to ask the entire congregation to quarantine themselves again. Once we get back together we do not want to have to stop again.

Grace and Peace,

Roger.....



HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

Even during this uncertain time, we at Wesley UMC do not need to forget our Class of 2020. There is not a definite plan at this time to celebrate our High School graduates, but we do need to know who they are to prepare for when we can show them special recognition. If you have a high school (or college) graduate, please contact the Church Office to add them to the list. Thanks!



Sunday Morning's Message

Doing the Right Thing
1 Peter: 3:13-22 NRSV



Wesley United Methodist Church

PO Box 2434 ~ Tupelo, MS 38803-2434

Located at 2010 West Main Street

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Pastor's Cell #: 662-871-5511

Pastor's Email: roger.puhr@gmail.com

Roger Puhr ~ Pastor

Linda Austin ~ Worship Leader

Vicky Burleson ~ Church Secretary

Martha Webb ~ Pianist

Sandi & Doug Haire ~ Custodians

Frances Heavens ~ Nursery

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Praying for others is an important part of our ministry as the body of Christ. Please incorporate this list as a part of your personal prayer life.

- Blake Austin
- Ray Alexander (Madie Morton's Brother)
- Claudia Ellison (Randy Davis' Mother)
- Mary Pat Hancock (Requested by Martha Langley)
- Mariana Thetford (Requested by Phyllis Hunter)
- Tina Wilburn (Requested by Mary Ruth Wilburn)
- Joan McCain

In praying for one another, please pray for these families: Bill & Linda Austin; Blake Austin; Gary & Ruth Baker; John, Paige, Riley, Reed, & Reagan Baker; and Ronald Baker.



Thanks to all of you for your continued support of Wesley UMC financially even though you have not been able to attend church services. Because you have, we are still able to cover our everyday operating expenses at this time. You may bring your contributions to the church office Monday - Thursday from 8:00 til 1:00 or mail to Wesley UMC, PO Box 2434, Tupelo, MS 38803. Thanks again!!!



... to the family of Florence Roberts on her recent death. She had lived these past several years in Louisiana close to her daughter.

We NEED you.
Can you HELP?

The Food Pantry needs some additional help in packing the bags on Tuesdays. Would you be willing to help????? You would only have to help once every couple of months or so. Contact the Church Office to add your name to the list. Thanks!!!!!!



Would you help our Food Pantry stock their shelves? Each month we feature a specific item to collect. May's item for the Food Pantry will be Canned Fruit (any brand - any kind). You may drop off your donation in the blue tub located in the sanctuary foyer. Thanks for helping those in need by supporting this ministry of Wesley UMC. Without your donations, it would not be possible.



We are still working on a "pictorial directory" to send to Emily Sanford (Wesley's new pastor).

This will hopefully help her put names & faces together before she begins her new appointment in late June. Thanks much to those that have sent pictures already. We have "borrowed" some from Facebook. Others are pictures that had been uploaded sometime ago into the file that we are using. BUT we are still missing quite a few folks. Check your email for a copy that was sent out and let us know if what is included will work. Or send us one to use. THANKS!

For the Record

May 10, 2020

Stewardship

2020 Operating Budget	\$296,122
Needed Weekly	\$5,695
Needed to Date	\$108,198
Weekly Budget Receipts	\$5,325
YTD Budget Receipts	\$80,825