

June 2020

Faithnews

Monthly Newsletter of Eldridge United Methodist Church

CONVERSATION *with Pastor Courtney*

As a result, those who had gathered together asked Jesus, "Lord, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now?" Jesus replied, "It isn't for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. Rather, you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." – Acts 1:6-8

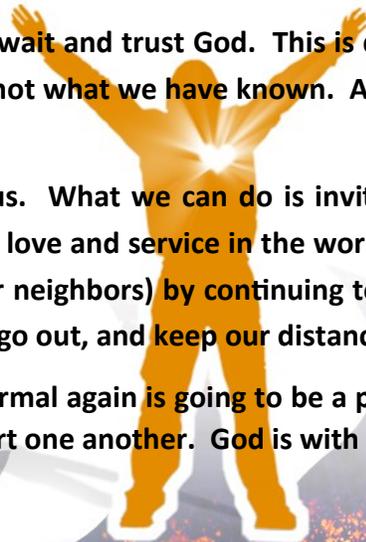
The Risen Christ is present with the Acts church, and they are curious when he will fulfill the promises he has made to them. They have been waiting for their messiah; he arrived, and yet he did not fulfill the prophecy in the way the Jewish people expected. He did not come as the redeemer king they expected. Jesus died, Jesus rose and ascended into heaven, leaving them to complete his work here on earth. They do not know when he will return to them again, and Jesus does not reveal it to them. Jesus's answer is 'God only knows'.

I imagine *our* question to Jesus, "Lord, are you going to restore humanity and rescue us from the coronavirus?" I see Jesus giving us the same answer, it is not for us to know. It is for God to know.

This is often hard for us to hear. Sit, wait and trust God. This is difficult because as places begin to re-open, it is still not what we're used to. It's not what we have known. And yet we have to put our complete trust in God.

We may not be able to cure the virus. What we can do is invite the Holy Spirit in and pray. As the Acts church, we can be witnesses of God's love and service in the world. We can bring the gospel message to the ends of the earth (beginning with our neighbors) by continuing to collect food and give blood, send cards of hope and love, wear masks when we go out, and keep our distance at gatherings.

Re-opening and gaining a sense of normal again is going to be a process. It is a process we can participate in together. We can pray for and support one another. God is with us through it all.



Mission Minute

Hello from Texas!

It's hard to start this update, for some reason, because it feels like everything is different and yet nothing is different. I don't know if you feel the same way about life right now, but it's a very odd feeling.

Things down here in Texas are starting to normalize, and we're fortunate that we're a small staff team down here at YWAM Ships Corpus Christi because we've been able to cautiously start meeting together for one work day a week. We're still using Zoom quite a bit because we've got a few staff working with us remotely—one from Washington state and one from Canada. We're also still running an online Bible Core Course cohort with students from around the world.

As we're looking toward this summer and next fall, we're seeking the Lord about what He has for us to do. We're really excited about what's next, even though it looks different from what we anticipated. We're working to put together a summer program for at-risk kids that we're hoping to be able to start later this summer. We're working with the local marina and we have some leads on getting a vessel that we can use for that program! Nothing is official yet, but we're seeing God move through connections we're making down here in Corpus Christi!

We're also planning on hosting another Bible Core Course from September to May, which I would be helping to run. We want to make our program—the teaching, the homework, the instruction, the community—accessible to people in the Corpus Christi area who aren't necessarily part of YWAM and who don't have three months to set aside to focus solely on a Bible school. I'm super excited about this, because we'll be able to reach further into the community we're putting roots down in.

We have a wave of birthdays in our little group in May and June, so that's been super fun. Out of our little 'family' in Corpus Christi (9 people), four of us have birthdays between May 1 and June 2, so this month has been filled with tacos and birthday cake! I love being able to celebrate my birthday with my wonderful strange little family down here.

I'm praying for you as you read this, that you would be so encouraged that God is moving even when things feel chaotic and different and sometimes scary. God is so worthy to be praised and so trustworthy in all seasons!

Always

Brittany Bunch



Keeping Up Keeping Together Keeping the Faith

* THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible Study has been meeting through Zoom for the past few weeks. We have been working our way through "**30 Days to Understanding The Bible**" by Max Anders. It has involved some memorization through repetition in order to partially understand the construction of God's Word. We plan to continue into the summer via Zoom and **starting June 2** we will be moving into the New Testament. We'd like to invite other ladies to join us for fellowship and study. If you are interested, please let us know by May 22nd so books can be ordered. Payment can be made at a later time. Questions or book order?
Call Cindy Irwin (563-424-4402) or Joyce Orcutt (563-285-8988).

We'd love to have you join us!

* NS FOOD PANTRY

For the summer months, the regular needs
At the North Scott Food Pantry are "Kid Friendly Snack & Meals". This includes items like microwavable cups of soup, pasta, etc. as well as snack bars, fruit cups, and the like. Unfortunately, we are not collecting here at the church right now, so drop off at the Faith Lutheran, please.



Simple Rules

Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God.

*John Wesley's **Three Simple Rules** provide the framework for approaching the strategic & compassionate guidance of the United Methodist community during the anxious times of the COVID-19 crisis.*

A Church Re-Entry team is being formed and will meet for the first time Tuesday, June 2. The task of this team will be to review resources provided by the United Methodist Church and make a plan to re-open the church. Please understand this will be a process, & our decisions will be based on what is best for the entire congregation. We will keep you updated on the work of the team. Prayers will be much appreciated.

Happy Father's Day !!!



GARY ABBAS – recovering at home after an episode of seizures

CAROL KAY – shoulder surgery June 1st

JIM ADEN (Susan Ames' friend) – cancer return and subsequent chemotherapy

LEONA LIGHTNER – recovering at home

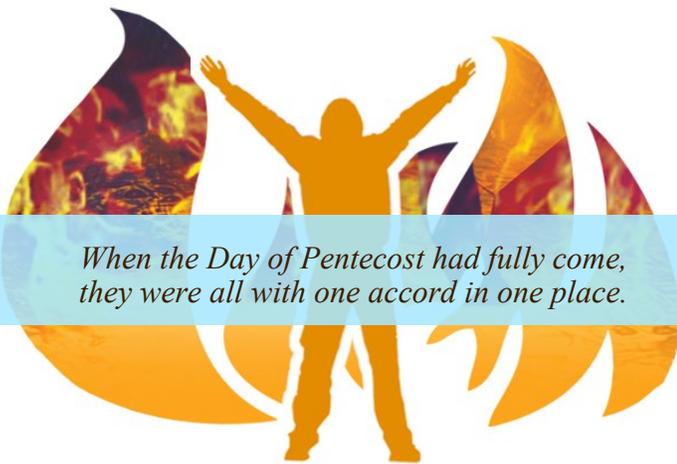
JASON DEIKMANN (49-yr-old, very good friend of Eric Orcutt) – serious stroke

BARB FISHER (Christie Nevenhoven's sister-in-law) – home (with family!) recuperating from surgery for pancreatic cancer

MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS & FIRST RESPONDERS — for wisdom, energy, patience and their own safety during this time of Coronavirus crisis

THOSE IN ECONOMIC DISTRESS — for respite, alternatives and ease.

EMPLOYEES RETURNING TO WORKPLACES — for the patience of those whom they serve, for safe workplaces and continued good health.



When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.



6/1	Brittany Bunch Mary Beth Riewerts Brenda Sorensen
6/2	Jenny Greenwood
6/4	Kenadi Mason Ryan Riewerts
6/11	Vicki Shaw
6/12	Becky Wall
6/13	Joe Greenwood Cindy Hawker
6/15	Emily Bunch
6/16	Craig Stilson
6/18	Sophie Blake
6/20	Bob Voelkel
6/22	Curtis Gay Lynn Orcutt
6/27	Nancy Dreibelbeis
6/29	LeAnn Cary Riley Greenwood



6/3	Patrick & Laura McLain
6/15	Larry & Carol Haugland
6/18	Kim & Levi Lehman Mark & Becky Wall
6/21	Don & Elizabeth Leslie
6/24	Jack & Cindy Hawker
6/26	Steve & Brenda Sorensen



2020 EUMC GRADUATES

* *Member of Eldridge United Methodist Church*

HIGH SCHOOL

***Jason Apple** (son of Ben & Karen) is graduating from North Scott High School. During high school, he was involved in Student Government, Band, Soccer, and Bowling. Jason also was active in the Eldridge Volunteer Fire Explorers program. He plans to attend Scott Community College in the fall and major in Business Management, with hopes to run his own Hy-Vee after college.

Maya Herrington (granddaughter of Jan & Larry Herrington; daughter of Mark and Angie) will be graduating from North Scott and then continuing her education at Scott Community College where she will be pursuing a degree in welding.

Angela Voelkel (granddaughter of Bob & Karen; second child of Scott & Donna) will be graduating from Lake Braddock High School, Burke VA. She has been nominated to West Point, and hopes to be appointed there. If not, she has been accepted at Virginia Tech where she will study Environmental Science.

Carter Winterlin (grandson of Joyce & Lynn Orcutt; son of Michelle) is graduating from North Scott and will attend Kirkwood Community College to major in electronics engineering technology

COLLEGE

***Kyle Apple** (son of Ben & Karen) graduated with highest distinction and University Honors from the University of Iowa with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. While at Iowa, Kyle held leadership roles with the Delta Sigma Pi Professional Business Fraternity and the College Republicans, while also completing political science research and an internship at a non-profit in Washington, DC. This fall, Kyle will be attending the University of Iowa / College of Law to pursue his law degree.

***Jennifer McLain** (daughter of Laura & Patrick) is graduating from Wartburg College with a major in biology, minor in psychology. She will be beginning a fellowship as an Orthoptist with Lurie Children's Hospital (Northwestern University) in Chicago in September. While she was at Wartburg she participated in two Service Trips (one to Orlando and one to Waco) during her breaks, was involved with Retrieving Freedom (training service dogs), played trumpet in Symphonic Band and Trumpet Choir, was a mentor with the Sparkles Dance Team, active participant with Dance Marathon, and officer in Chemistry Club and Tri Beta. She also worked for Johnson Eyecare in Davenport during her breaks.

Colton Coffman (son of Sara Sack) graduated from Iowa State. His interests include fishing, hunting, & cars.

Christian Winterlin (grandson of Joyce & Lynn Orcutt; son of Michelle) is graduating from the University of Iowa with a degree in marketing.

