



The Messenger

September 2020

From Martha

As we enter the month of Pumpkin Spice and all things fall, I want to say a few “Good Jobs” to us:

Good job, Peakland Baptist, at figuring out how to continue to worship together in a pandemic. Good job figuring out the technology, from everyone’s end, good job showing up in whatever way we can and good job staying committed to the public worship of God.

Good job, Peakland Baptist, at being faithful givers. In September and October, our theological focus will be on the theology of generosity and how both the giving and the receiving of gifts offers blessing. According to our Finance Team, we have continued to receive your faithful gifts through all that has gone on in the past five months. We are also, now, working on ways people can give online (stay tuned for more information on that as we get the details in place).

And, last but not least, Good job, PBC Leadership! This season has demanded of everyone that we find new ways to do what we have been asked to do. New ways to do everything from music to teaching and learning; new ways to offering support as deacons; new ways to be the church for each other. We’re still doing that work—and there is more to be done. But knowing what it has taken for me to figure all these things out as we have gone through these months, I want to be sure to say to each of you that I appreciate the many ways you are adjusting, being creative, learning and adapting to the world as it is right now.

In service of that spirit of adaptation, we want to announce the **Very First Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Congregational Meeting/Gathering on September 13th at 3pm on the Parsonage Lawn.** If you are someone who is able to come in-person, bring a lawn-chair and a mask and join the circle on the lawn at 3pm! If you are not able to come in-person, you can join via Zoom, either on a computer or by phone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89819496607?pwd=M0VmVjBKTjVwTjBVamhUS0NsZXNGdz09>

Meeting ID: 898 1949 6607

Passcode: 111805

+1 646 558 8656 US

We will have a big screen TV set up with a speaker so we can see and hear you clearly and we will use the breakout rooms in Zoom (don’t worry about it—it’s easy and we’ll have it all set up) so that Teams can talk with each other. We’ll have some lawn games set up, as well as coolers of drinks available. **Our rain date will be September 20th.** Put **September 13th on your calendar now and plan to join us for this important conversation in the life of our church!**

We do not have a final report from everyone who participated in our Moving4Good program, but we did have many wonderful participants and many, many wonderful, generous givers to the local organizations we supported in that program. Thank you!



Missions Team Report

The Missions Team is using the month of September to offer our support for those health professionals who are caring for the people of our community most affected with the coronavirus right now. Amy Ray has helped to connect us with the COVID care unit at Centra, and our plan is two-fold:

- 1) We will fill a large basket with all kinds of individually wrapped treats. We can purchase these through the discretionary line item in the Missions budget. There will be chocolate.
- 2) We would like to invite you each to write a short note of thanks and support to the members of the COVID care unit at Centra. There are about 70, so write a few if you want to. You can drop those off at the church office or send them to us in a mailer and we will deliver them. We would like to be able to deliver the basket by mid-September, so you can send in your notes any time in the next two weeks. We will also have some notecards available around the sanctuary on the next two Sundays.

NOTE TO CRAFTY PEOPLE: If you would like to create a card or other item around an inspirational word, like “COURAGE” OR “HOPE” OR “STRENGTH,” we could deliver those as well—painted rocks, decorative cards, pipe cleaner animals with inspirational signs on them—the limit is your creativity! You make it, we’ll deliver it!

For anyone that may be interested, the minutes from our PBC Congregational Council Meetings are being stored in a binder in the Parlor. As per our policy, these are available to all members at any time.

CHURCH STAFF:

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse
Rev. Nathan C. Brooks, III
Nicole Zulauf

Pastor
Pastor Emeritus
Office Administrator

Susan Allen
Debbie Burton
Allan Heer

Financial Assistant
Music Director
Organist

Catching the Next Wave

The last six months have been tough—we've been like surfers who are forced to wait out the summer sitting on the sand. Jackie Asbury, our Moderator, has proposed that we head into the fall with this theme in mind:

"Let's catch the next wave."

Let's talk with the Teams we are on and ask this question: "What is possible for us to do right now?"

Let's consider ways we can build community, ways we can celebrate worship and the coming holidays, ways we can cultivate relationships and trust. Let's talk about Spiritual Formation and how we would like to keep being learners right now. Let's use the system we already created—and maybe try some new things—to make what is possible happen.

At our CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (this is for everyone) on September 13th, let's catch the next wave.

CONGREGATIONAL

MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

3PM-5PM

PARSONAGE LAWN/ZOOM

LAWN GAMES PROVIDED

**BRING LAWN CHAIRS/
SNACKS & DRINKS FOR**

YOUR FAMILY



September Worship

6—Communion

13—Final week in The Way of Wisdom “What We Leave Behind” – Regular Worship

20—Regular Worship

27—Regular Worship

We anticipate that our current process of worship will continue unless the regulations for health safety change:

--Continuing to offer online access to worship through Facebook Live, our website, and emailed copies of sermons;

--Continuing to send worship resources and sermons by mail to those who do not have internet access;

--Offering space for those who wish to worship in person, with face masks and social distancing on Sunday mornings.

Spiritual Formation Offerings

Our **Wednesday morning Bible Study, which meets at 10:30am each week via Zoom**, begins again on **September 9**. Zoom sign-in information is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83386060036?pwd=QWN5ZTFoRHNWZE44WVNvZUVVGbzZwQT09>

Meeting ID: 833 8606 0036

Passcode: 024784

Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US

This information will stay the same for every week between September 9th and December 16th.

September Birthdays

- 1 Sam Johnson
- 3 Laura Arrington
- 5 Linda Williams
- 7 Max Brochon
- 8 John Riordan
- 11 Sylvia List
- 11 Bill Thomasson
- 15 Pat Flemming
- 16 Dan Raessler
- 16 Susan Spencer
- 18 Susan Clapp
- 18 Jeff Riley
- 21 Linda Webb
- 22 Devon Clapp
- 22 Dwayne Lewis
- 22 Cooper Zulauf
- 23 Nathan Brooks
- 23 Wilma Whitehead
- 24 Livvy Flippin
- 25 Ed Burnette
- 25 Jack Wilson
- 27 Jim Faulconer
- 28 Pat Shahrokhi
- 30 Lynda Russell

VISION STATEMENT

We are faithful and loving servants of God who believe that Jesus Christ is the risen Lord. We are a spiritual, ecumenical congregation, called by God, bound by faith, united in fellowship, dedicated to freedom, and engaged in God's work of mission and outreach.