



The Messenger

October 2020

From Martha

Thank you to all of you who came to our hybrid Congregational Meeting and who have participated in our survey! These have resulted in our making the following plans for this fall:

—**Attention to Advent and Christmas.** Our consensus was that we should prioritize making the Advent season and our Christmas Eve service special and meaningful this year. In service of this priority, we will be doing the following:

- 1) **Advent Book**—Dwight Mays will be heading up the creation of an Advent Devotional book for 2020. We will **need submissions from EVERYONE**: photos, paintings, poems, essays, stories and recipes on the theme “*Light Out of Darkness.*” This is a key feature of our Advent season and we need each of you to send us something to share with the community.
- 2) **Advent Worship and Christmas Eve Service**—These services will all be pre-recorded and shared as videos. **Beginning November 9th**, we will be scheduling **YOU** to come into the church to record a reading, a piece of music, or a prayer to be shared during Advent. You can also record yourself at home if you wish! In addition, each Sunday and on Christmas Eve, we will have in-person elements—candle lighting, carol singing, decorating. We intend for this Advent and Christmas season to reflect a faith that is filled with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love!

—**Outdoor Events.** We will be using our outdoor space for good during these fall months in the following ways:

- 1) **Playground Renovation**—our Facilities Team will oversee the cleaning, repair and painting of our playground to ensure that it is safe for the children who are using it with increasing frequency.
- 2) **Haunted Halloween Hunt—October 31st from 1pm-5pm**--This socially distanced Halloween event will invite our community and our neighbors to dress in your best costumes and scour our property for prizes! Events will include a Costume Parade, with prizes, the Halloween Hunt (like an Easter Egg hunt, but with spiders), and assorted socially distanced games! **Anyone who would like to help with this event should contact Martha Kearsse—soon!**
- 3) **Pledge Sunday**—See Finance Team report for details—date is **October 25**.
- 4) **Advent Services and Christmas Eve**--Each Sunday morning while we broadcast our pre-recorded services, we will also have in-person elements which include decorating our sanctuary and our campus, lighting candles and singing carols.

—**Small Groups. THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH AT 5PM**, we will have our Zoom meeting to initiate program of small groups, including:

- 1) **Topic Group**--this group will take on issues and will discuss topics that are chosen together by consensus.
- 2) **Fellowship Group**--this group will join to get to know each other, to share conversation and fellowship with no particular agenda except friendship.
- 3) **Hobby Group**--this group will focus on things we like to do, with each person taking a week to host and share about art or cooking or crafting or model trains or whatever it is that makes their life interesting!

The initial meeting for Small Groups will be a Zoom meeting which you can join by computer or by phone.

Finance Team Report

Your PBC Finance Team has been meeting regularly over the last six months and met again this past Sunday evening. The continued great news is that our giving has been stable and, despite the pandemic, our giving numbers are not too different from this time last year. Thank you, all, for the ways your faithful giving has been supporting our community during these difficult months! We have authorized a few purchases, some of which are a result of the pandemic and some which are simply needed upgrades. The additional purchases include:

Paying a technician to handle videotaping and streaming of worship services; we have hired Mason Williams (Nicole Zulauf's son) to handle this for us and it is going very well!

Paying for software and services to provide more security for our email and online accounts.

In October we begin our Stewardship Focus. During the month of October, all of us at PBC will be prayerfully considering our gifts of time, talents and finances to the church for 2021. This year, our **Pledge Sunday will be on October 25th**. On that day, worship will be pre-recorded and we will invite everyone to **drive through our parking lot at 11am to turn in your pledge card!** Those who wish to, can stay in their cars and social distancing will be observed but it will give us a chance to be on our property together and see each other, while we invest in our church community for the next year. We look forward to seeing you on October 25th and to the hope of another year at Peakland Baptist Church.

PBC Opportunities Booklet 2021

The PBC Opportunities Booklet 2021 offers all kinds of information about who we are and what we plan to be doing over the coming months. It is intended to offer each person in our community chances to engage and levels that work for you. It will be available:

By email

On our Facebook page

As a hard copy (by request)

Check it out and get connected with PBC!

One opportunity beginning this month is the start of **small groups**. You can join us via Zoom **this Sunday, Oct. 4th at 5pm with this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84988185824?pwd=Mj90OGJQVVRjMFZCWkNBVUp3WWhGUT09>

Meeting ID: 849 8818 5824

Passcode: 135057

+1 646 558 8656



hello october,
please be good. ♥

Spiritual Formation Offerings

Our **Wednesday morning Bible Study**, which meets at **10:30am** each week via **Zoom**, continues through the fall. Zoom sign-in information is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83386060036?pwd=QWN5ZTFoRHNWZE44WVNvZUVGbZwQT09>

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 now and December 16th.

PHONE: 434-384-2031 EMAIL: peaklandbc@outlook.com WEBSITE: www.peaklandbaptistchurch.org

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

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.



October Worship

4—Communion Sunday

11—Regular Worship

18—Regular Worship **Pink Sunday**

25—Worship Pre-Recorded—**PLEDGE SUNDAY DRIVE-IN**

Engaging in Worship at Peakland Baptist Church is happening right now in the following ways: Online access to worship through Facebook Live, our website, and emailed copies of sermons;

--Sending worship resources and sermons by email and 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.

October Birthdays

2	Mackenzie Woody
4	Fran Christie
5	Nancy Cardwell
8	Louise Riley
10	Meredith Clapp
12	Penny Barden
13	Woods Cook
13	Nancy Sale
14	Elizabeth Cook
15	Gus Hermosa
17	Charles Read
18	Debbie Burton
18	Phyllis Thomasson
19	Dona Duval
20	Jackie Asbury
23	Sam Cardwell
27	Trey Moon
31	Mary Lee Bell

Sunday School Class Information

The *Searchers Class* will begin meeting by Zoom on Sunday, October 4, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to be on the list for Zoom and other e-mail notices, please contact Parks Snead (cflex14@gmail.com) or Deborah Raessler (dcraessler@yahoo.com). The first book to be discussed will be *Listening for the Heartbeat of God* by J. Philip Newell (available for ordering at Givens). Join us for thoughtful, stimulating discussions around a variety of issues!

The *Formations Class* continues to meet with social distancing and face masks in our Parlor on Sunday mornings from 9:45am-10:45am.

The Forum Class is checking in with each other regularly.