



As you may be aware, the church parking lot has been re-striped in recent weeks. We have also added two handicap parking spaces at the west end of the Education Building near the Lafayette Street entrance. Those spaces are marked with the handicap logo on the asphalt and with new vertical signage.

The parking spaces near the Picnic Shelter have been changed from diagonal to parallel. Two are next to the playground and three more are near the Monroe Street exit, parallel with the alley. There will be no parking next to the Picnic Shelter itself and the asphalt in that area is marked “No Parking”.

In keeping with our familiar traffic patterns, vehicles will still enter the parking lot from Lafayette Street and exit onto Washington Street or onto Monroe Street, as they always have.

Please remember, the alley that runs next to the Picnic Shelter is city-owned and the traffic laws will be enforced if there is ever an accident due to a motorist(s) entering from the wrong direction. Please **do not enter** the parking lot from Monroe Street.



The old black and white “One Way” sign has been replaced with a three color “One Way –Do Not Enter” sign next to Monroe Street for safety purposes.

Finally, since we have had problems with people loitering inside the ramp area next to Monroe Street, the Board of Trustees approved the manufacturing and installation of a metal security gate. The gate also meets the fire code, has a slap handle, and opens in one direction...OUTWARD. In an emergency, you can always get out, but you cannot get back in. When functions are taking place in the Fellowship Hall or adjacent rooms, the gate will be propped open.



Current building keys will also open the gate once the new lock cylinder arrives. Thank you for your cooperation and I look forward to seeing you when we are allowed to be together again!!!

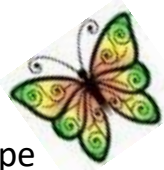
Bill Brannon, Chair  
Board of Trustees

**Daily Devotional**—Monday thru Thursday at 1 p.m. live on Facebook and posted later that day on our web page. (See page 2 for details.)

Join Pastor Mark live on Facebook  
Monday thru Thursday at 1 p.m.  
<https://www.facebook.com/FUMCGalax/>  
Videos will be posted to our web page  
later in the day at:  
<https://www.fumcgalax.org/>

If you would like a copy of the weekly sermon emailed to you please let the church office know. It is usually 1 page long and the Pastor testifies that it is a cure for insomnia.

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Rebecca Vaughan	05/01	Jewell Melton	05/13	Celia Vaughan	05/24
Jacob Patton	05/04	Paul Kapp	05/15	Eddie Hanks III	05/25
David A. Spraker	05/07	Sally Richardson	05/16	Cathy Cruise	05/26
Loretta Wilson	05/07	Betty Parks	05/19	Agnes Ritchie	05/28
Lois Fincher	05/08	Billie Buchanan	05/22	Jackie Butler	05/28
Carolyn Vaughan	05/10	Danita Moore	05/23	J. D. Butler	05/29

May 3 is Communion Sunday. If you are able to watch on FaceBook Live, have bread and wine (juice) ready in your home.

(Continued from page 1)

grape juice, or juice or wine or whatever you have and partake with me. It is the Holy Spirit who makes the bread and wine the body and blood of Christ. If the Holy Spirit is able to this when we gather, the Holy Spirit is able to do this even when we are not able in extreme circumstances as we are now.

The season of Easter continues through May 24. The last Sunday of Easter is Ascension Sunday (May 24). Pentecost Sunday is May 31 and then Trinity Sunday on June 7. Then we pass into “Ordinary Time.” Thus far this year since March nothing has been “ordinary.” Even our Annual Conference is not meeting in June at beloved Lake Junaluska. We will have a “virtual annual conference” and I will participate in my home.

Have a blessed season of Easter! Find hope in the resurrection of Jesus and the life that it brings us and the world through the Holy Spirit forming Christ within us and among us in all seasons and all situations.

**Pastor Mark B. McFadden**

**PRAYER LIST**

**NEW ADDITIONS: Chris Hunter (Christine Sizemore's mother); Donnie Ogburn (his other knee replacement)**

Maggie Amburn	Susie Floyd	Trish Moore
Audene Bogert	Jan Cheryl Galyen	Jane Naylor
Clare Boyer	Brenda Gravely	Bud Nelson (Cancer)
Skip Boyer	Ronnie Gravely	James Rollins
Tracy Brannock	Keith Helton	Jo Rudy
Gardner Brannon	Angie Hill	Barbara Sawyers
Christine Briscoe	Tommy&Rhonda Jones	Sadie Schaeffer
Max Brown	Keri Grimes Keith	Rexene Spraker
Steve Burcham	Don Knox	Tim Spraker
Ruth Ann Cox	Penny Kyle	Sandy Ward
James Duncan	Rubie Larrowe	Edith Wilson
Larry Felts	Pam Leadbetter	



**THE VINE NEWSLETTER**



**May 2020**      *“I am the vine...you are the branches”*      **VOL. 57 – ISSUE 5**  
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**INVITING—FORMING—SERVING**

**PASTORAL PONDERINGS**

What an April! In March, I did not think that we would be going into May and still not yet able to worship together in our beautiful sanctuary. It looks like this season of Easter and hope has been a time of severely testing our hope and faith. The Corona Virus will pass but who knows when?

Despite the uncertainties of life, we have faith in a risen Lord! We anticipate a future and in light of that future, we struggle to make sense of the present. We cannot travel far even though gasoline prices are at record lows. We must keep a safe distance from those we love and those whose friendship we value. Those laboring in health-care, the food industry, and the transportation of goods have a right to be very concerned. Many small businesses and restaurants that have lost business and income. Large businesses have suffered too as will revenue for state and local governments in the near future. It is a difficult time. It is an unusual time.

We have adjusted to limits on our travels and contacts. We have adjusted to our methods of shopping for groceries and goods. We have adjusted to the ways we worship and connect with each other as a congregation of Christ’s Church. Life is full of adjustments and a worldwide pandemic has caused everyone to adjust. It gives us pause to consider who or what we trust. It gives us pause to consider what the future will be when this time of pandemic has passed. We are not the only generation that has suffered pandemic nor will we be the last. Who knows what the future holds?

Nevertheless, our hope is in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This hope is not only an individual hope but a universal hope for the world and humankind. It is about the ultimate transformation of the world and humankind into full communion with God. God has reconciled us through Christ. May we continue this ministry of reconciliation as Paul urges us in 2 Corinthians.

After the first Sunday of closure (March 10, I wondered what I was going to do. Preachers do preach. Teachers do teach. I made adjustments, you made adjustments. Technological advances have made broadcasting a possibility that only 35 years ago was only available to those able to pay to be on television or have their own studio and cameras to broadcast. I broadcast on my cell phone on Facebook. I imagine when this is over I will continue a podcast ministry in one form or another.

I have missed our times of worship and fellowship together. I have missed our monthly celebration of the Lord’s Supper. The first Sunday of May is May 3. I have been reflecting on communion. We will celebrate the Lord’s Supper on May 3 but in a different manner. I will have the elements of bread and wine and cup here at FUMC. You at home please take bread, crackers, **(Continued on last page)**