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HIGHLIGHTS

- Hello Again, Rev. Ginger....1
Traditional & Contemporary Services.....2
Pumpkin Patch.....3
Spread the Love.....4

DR. CHRIS PULLIAM
SENIOR MINISTER

REV. GINGER BRANDT
ASSOCIATE MINISTER

CONNECT ONLINE

www.fcctyler.org
and on Facebook & YouTube



TRADITIONAL
WORSHIP SERVICE

Live Sundays 9:30am
In-Person, YouTube, Facebook

CONTEMPORARY
WORSHIP SERVICE

Stream Sundays 9:30am
YouTube, Facebook

HELLO, CHURCH FAMILY...

...and how GREAT TO BE BACK! I'm now in the office during the week, and in worship each Sunday, post sabbatical.

I feel refreshed and renewed by the time away - and I also confess that I feel a little anxious to plow right through "reacclimation," straight into "well-oiled groove." But if I've learned anything this summer, I've learned it's better NOT to skip ahead. Each natural phase, of life and work, has its place. And The Spirit is often working in the spaces I'd rather just overlook or leap across. So, mindful of God in the midst of my own tendencies, I'll be trying to take it steady-on, instead of breakneck speed, this fall.

Meanwhile, I'm going to find it impossible to sum up sabbatical in a sentence or two (I'm so sorry, conversation partners who'll have to listen to me ramble!). Mostly, this is because I'm still trying to figure out whatever "revelation" might have come from that focused time. I'm not done learning all that sabbatical held for me. I know I'm still teaching myself how to pace for the life ahead, instead of the one I had been living. I'll say it's been VERY helpful to have been given a moment of pause and intentional reflection in a pandemic, at a moment of national strife. Stepping out of the frenetic moment we're living has given me a different set of thoughts... maybe a different hope?... to take back into it.

In lieu of a definitive report, I figured we could have some fun reviewing my sabbatical "by the numbers.*" May this give you a glimpse into what I've been doing, and a chuckle at how I generally spend my time.

...Continued on page 3



TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Prelude	“Festive Trumpet Tune” Jean Worden, organist	German
Welcome		Dr. Chris Pulliam
*Passing of the Peace		
*Opening Hymn	“The Church’s One Foundation”	
*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer		Kim Braly
*Gloria Patri		
Giving Moment Video		
Scripture Reading	Matthew 13:31-32	
Time of Prayer		
Special Music		
Sermon	Grow Your Compassion	Dr. Pulliam
Communion Hymn	“I Come with Joy”	
Celebration of the Lord’s Supper		Dr. Pulliam Kim Braly
Spoken Affirmation	“We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and accept Him as Lord and Savior.”	
Invitation		
*Closing Hymn	“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”	Dr. Pulliam
*Benediction		
*Benediction Song	“God Be With You”	
*Postlude	“Trumpet Fanfare” Jean Worden, organist	Mouret



The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Ed Barry, Kay Davis, and Jill Wallace in memory of Joyce Gibbs



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

MESSAGE

Dispatches from Sabbatical
Week 1: At Home in the World

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 145:8

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

MESSENGER

Ginger Brandt

MUSIC

Mike Hazeltine

PRAYER LEADER

Kelly Lea



DID YOU KNOW...

Last Sunday we had 92 in attendance in our sanctuary for Traditional worship. AND through the week, we had 276 YouTube and 386 Facebook Traditional and Contemporary service views.



WEEK OF COMPASSION

SPECIAL OFFERING

Again this week, we are receiving a special offering to support WOC and the many people served and cared for by WOC, especially in the wake of Covid and Hurricane Laura.

We will receive that offering in worship and online. You may also text “WoC” to 71777, and you will be led through the giving process.

WORSHIPING CARING SERV

PUMPKIN PATCH RETURNS!

As we usher in (hopefully) cooler temperatures, we are planning for our annual Pumpkin Patch. We are still hoping to use the proceeds in our youth and children's ministries, but we also understand that 2020 has brought many changes to our world and we may yet find an even greater benefit for pumpkin sales.

Just as the pandemic has caused us to rethink and restructure many parts of our lives, including our church lives, Covid will be a strong consideration as we make plans to host the Pumpkin Patch again this year. Since the Patch is an outdoor activity and social distancing is possible, it may be as safe an activity as any and provides an opportunity to return to a normal church activity – one that reaches through both our whole church family and out into the surrounding community. One of the best things about the Patch is that we get to interact with the people in our community and offer a friendly, peaceful and loving influence in their lives.

As usual, we need plenty of help filling shifts to sell pumpkins. We are working on various ways to sign up. A physical calendar will be available before and after worship, and you can call the church office and our receptionists will be glad to add your name to the calendar. Shifts are from 12:30pm to 3:30pm and 3:30pm to 6:30pm, Monday through Sunday, plus an extra shift on Saturday from 9:30am to 12:30pm. The three-hour shifts require fewer people to fill and simplify the process. Please sign up as you are able and feel comfortable.

The first, and largest, task to complete is unloading the pumpkins. In recent years, we have been able to speed up the process by using some outside groups and throwing as many bodies at pumpkins as possible. This year, we will need to spread out more, taking turns being in the back of the truck, ventilating the space better and handling the pumpkins one on one. Social distancing will be a priority in our strategy for unloading. We want to have a big day opening the Patch and a safe one. If you can, plan to join us Saturday, October 3rd at 9:00am.

My family and I have enjoyed working the Patch for ten years now. I'm looking forward to coming together as the church to make it happen this year. In a quarantined world, our Pumpkin Patch will provide a place for social interaction, fellowship and service. Let's spread a little good news together.

ROB MASON
YOUTH MINISTRY, INTERIM DIRECTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

*Warning: Some measures will be more statistically and spiritually significant than others.

1 new favorite Texas river – the Brazos

2 times I volunteered to preach for a friend in need (neither took me up on it – thankfully!)

3.5 number of times I watched Hamilton on Disney Plus

4 days I spent in silence with the Jesuits at Montserrat Retreat

4 trips out of Smith County (dang the COVID!)

6 new books read

8 other DoC churches I watched online

12 more started, currently in stacks around my house

14 days I gave myself to shop for, pack up and adjust to a child living in a college dorm

24 number of times a family member found me singing from Hamilton in the kitchen

95 number of Andy's Frozen Custard concretes consumed by household

1,240 approximate number of peanut butter sandwiches made for an offspring or myself

IVING GROWING TOGETHER

SPREAD THE JOY...

ENCOURAGEMENT & PRAYER FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

We've begun a list of all the places our FCC family has students, teachers or administrators, pre-K through 12th grade. Check FCC's Facebook to add your family's info for this project. Our hope is to coordinate some shared prayer times/ prayer points for these learning communities, and to get a stream of "happy mail" onto the desks of admins and teachers hard-pressed by this most unusual year.

This week, we found a list of educators' prayers we have adapted for any school group. (See below). And, we're highlighting the Admin Team at Ramey Elementary, where FCC has had a past presence for teacher appreciation, tutoring, reading and mentoring, as suggested beneficiaries of short, encouraging notes. (Just pick one name, or address to all.)

If you have the time and inclination, please pray and write your way into the needs of our schools, this fall!

A PRAYER FOR COVID-19 TIMES

For Students who are frustrated, Lord, we pray. For Teachers who are tired and overwhelmed, Lord, we pray. For those who feel ill at school; for those stuck, sick, at home; for those who are alone; for those who are unsure what to do next or where the next meal comes from... Lord, we pray. For all the needs that fall on the smallest, the youngest, the most tender and the most giving, Lord, we pray. For the new hours needed that teachers don't have, for the families they fear they ignore, for the care they deny themselves, Lord, we pray. We ask that You be in the hardest, tightest spots with our educators and our children. May you cover this school year in your grace, and bend us towards one another, to build emotional shelter.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT DURING COVID

"We know this year is unusual, and we're thankful your students have you!"

"Thanks for putting in the extra time needed this year."

"We pray for your safety and success!"

CHERI BOGUE, KORI CARBONARO, MARCHETTA MACON, SARAH MOTES,
DEMETRUS MUSE, GUILLERMINA NARANJO

Ramey Elementary

2000 N Forest Ave.

Tyler, TX 75702

CUB SCOUT RALLY, SEPT 14

Do you have a child interested in scouting activities? Join the fun at the Cub Scouts Preview Rally Night, starting at 6:30pm at FCC. Call Nicole Martin for more information 903-922-6640 or visit 335scouts.org/cubs

DEBORAH CIRCLE, SEPT 14

We will meet at 10am in the Children's Church area. Our speaker will be Georgia Pierce. A light lunch will be provided.

GENERATION GREAT, SEPT 17

Ages 55+, See you for lunch next Thursday! Thanks for your RSVP. Be sure to watch out for our meeting next month!

BOARD MEETING, SEPT 22

Board will meet at 6pm in Disciples Hall. All FCC members and interested parties are welcome to attend. The agenda will include the ECC proposal and consideration of those who will serve on our Search Committee.

THIS WEEK, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Karley Lea, Kelsey Lea, Eva Denson, Ed Barry, Gretchen Hammack, Nancy Patterson, Fred Mullin

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

Buster & Pam Sartain, Patrick & Robin Paine

PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS...

Richard Davis, Jennifer Diotallevi, Mike Flowers, James Hardage, Bill Hughes, Michael Lewis, Clark Nash

AND OUR FRIENDS & FAMILY...

John Ardill (Weskamp), Laura Ashby (Kraus), Virginia Billings (Billings), Bill Ellis (Spain), Gabriella Hunt (F. Hunt), Nancy Rozzell (Rozzell)