



## From Pastor John...

I don't know about you, but there have been multiple times in the last eight months when I've wanted to tell whoever is listening that "I'm through with 2020, can I get off the bus until 2021?"

I'm going on 15 years in ministry, and I can safely say that this has been the most challenging year of that time.

I don't know about you, but there have been multiple times in the last eight months when I've wanted to tell whoever is listening that "I'm through with 2020, can I get off the bus until 2021?"

I'm going on 15 years in ministry, and I can safely say that this has been the most challenging year of that time. For all of us, on many different levels, we have been stressed and grieved and pushed in ways that we couldn't ever imagine before.

With that in mind, I want you to do something right now. Take a moment and evaluate how you're doing, especially your mental health. As you do this, be honest with yourself.

What are you feeling?

Are you experiencing emotions you aren't used to?

Do the smallest things annoy you or make you angry for irrational reasons?

How are you coping?

Have you developed new healthy habits?

Have you developed new unhealthy habits?

How is your overall health?

These are not an exhaustive list of questions, but are a start. As you go through this process, are you happy or unhappy with your responses? The next most important question to ask yourself is, do you have someone that you can talk to about this? It may even be a few folks.

If you do, that's good and very helpful. If you don't, it's time to find a someone to talk to. This doesn't mean you need to go find a psychiatrist's couch to lie on, but someone you trust. It also doesn't have to be a formal thing. I have a few folks that I talk to on a regular basis, and it's just an informal gathering of friends, but its also the place that we know we can talk to each other and work our way through this time.

I'm bringing this up now for a couple of reasons. The first is that we still have a long way to go through our current pandemic crisis, and also through our more local tragedy. We need to do what we can to make our way through this, and keep our strength up for the remainder of the journey.

The second thing is that at the end of this month we'll be participating in a virtual mental health conference. This comes from the Rural Connections Conference, and we'll have video sessions through the day covering a wide range of topics. Later in the newsletter you can find a full list of them You'll also find registration instructions if you want to join in person, or at home.

In Worship recently we set up a different worship space. We did that to mark our sharing of communion as different and important. I would encourage you to do something similar on your own. Remember it doesn't have to be complicated. It can be as simple as a lighting a candle and taking dedicated time to be present with God. You can pray, read scripture, watch a sermon, read a Christian book, something that connects you and the space to God.

As we go through this time, we all need that space. Even Jesus went off on his own to pray on a regular basis. Finding that space gives us time to process and recharge for the world we are a part of right now.

And always remember that I'm around to talk, share a up of coffee, or even take a walk around the park if you need to get out.

While the times are challenging, God has helped us find a community of faith that we use to support each other as we go through it.

Peace,  
Pastor John

Remember you can forward newsletter on to folks that might be interested and they can [subscribe](#) to our email list to stay up-to-date on things.

## Monthly Calendar

### ***Mondays***

7am-7:30am Scripture Reading on KDWD 99.1

### ***Tuesdays***

4pm Centering Prayer Live on our [Facebook Page](#)

### ***Fridays***

7am-7:30am Scripture Reading on KDWD 99.1

### ***Sundays***

Online Worship on [our website](#) (click on the link for Sunday's date)

9am Worship in the Sanctuary

10:30am Worship in the Sanctuary

### ***Other Church Events***

10/5 3pm-5pm: The Food Pantry is open in the Fellowship hall

10/11 2pm-4pm: Come & Go Baby Shower for Emily & John Pinkston

10/14 11am: Pioneer Service-Pastor John

10/14 1:30pm: Orpha Circle

10/14 6:30pm: Church Council Meeting

10/18 After 10:30 worship: Youth Bonfire & Cookout

10/19 3pm-5pm: The Food Pantry is open in the Fellowship hall

10/24 9am: Rural Connections Conference (see more info later in newsletter)

10/31: Happy Halloween

### ***Community Calendars***

Marceline [School Calendar](#)

My Country 99.1 [Community Calendar](#)

### ***Office Hours***

Beth: Wed-Fri, 8am-1pm

Pastor John: Monday all day, others by appointment (or stop in)



Calling all kids! We need you to join us for CAKE (Christmas Acts Of Kindness Experiment)

**What is CAKE?**

**Time:** For now it will be 9:45-10:30 between church services starting Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>-Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. Occasionally, there might be extra practices for solos, duets, or youth with speaking parts.

**Who:** 3rd Grade and up...we really need the junior high kids to make it work. We would love high school kids to come and help. Pre-schoolers-2nd grade class will also have a class to learn their Christmas songs and do lessons.

**Why:** To keep our youth growing in the Lord and thinking about opportunities to walk with the Lord. They will also be learning lessons from the bible, singing, memorizing scripts and acting, playing games with a purpose and doing short missions around Marceline.

All of these CAKE meetings will lead to our Christmas Program on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> .

**NEEDED VOLUNTEERS:**

Adults to help keep kids on track, to help lead singing and/or actions, to help practice and rehearse speaking parts, to video Dialogs of each scene, songs and Acts of Kindness as they are completed and to teach class to the 4 yr olds to 2nd grade. The number of volunteers we need depends on how many kids show up! Please let Donna Moore know if you can help for a Sunday or two by calling 713-303-0649.



### **Baby Shower Announcement!!**

In Honor of Baby Pinkston  
Sunday, October 11 | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
At the United Methodist Church

To be held outside if weather permits. If not, to be held inside with social distancing.

Emily and Pastor John are registered at [Walmart](#) and [Amazon](#)

## **Bonds are Moving**

It is with both joy and sadness that we will be moving. Our new address will be

6121 SW 40th Terr.  
Topeka, KS 66610

We are looking forward to being closer to both of our families but it with sadness that we will be leaving our friends. We will especially miss our church family. We moved to Marceline when our children were young and appreciate the assistance that our church provided in their mentoring. We have developed long lasting friendships through shared study, work and interests developed through our church family and will miss you greatly. "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." -2 Corinthians 13:14

Rich and Linda Bond

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## **Birthdays**

2-Sutton Lowrey  
9-Joni Hoover  
10-Cheryl Cavanah  
12-Mitchell Smith  
14-Dennis Pope  
15-Roger Fellmann  
15-Emmitt Tarpeneing  
16-Kaye Malins  
16-Gary Ravens  
17-John Moore  
19-Staley Lowrey  
20-Jeff Gullett  
20-Don Walsworth  
21-Will Heller  
22-Alaura Coe  
30-Bill Moore  
31-Jenny Pope

## **Anniversaries**

4-Dennis & Lisa Pope  
5-Jason & Jamie Sibley  
9-Scott & Kimmi Brooks  
14-John & Natalie Dyas

## Celebrate Recovery

We have a couple of opportunities available to help the Celebrate Recovery program on a short term basis. Eleanor Ravens will head-up a small group to decide what we want to do and then the team will ask for some of our congregation members as additional volunteers. We need three to five people to volunteer now, to develop a plan. If you are interested, please email the church or write your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary. If you have questions, feel free to contact [Eleanor](#).



The graphic features a yellow background with a central illustration of a church with a cross on top. Below the church, the text "RURAL CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the left of the church is a stylized illustration of a landscape with a horizon line and several lines radiating downwards, suggesting a field or a path. To the right of the church is a stylized illustration of a building with a porch and a sign above the entrance. Three white curved arrows form a circular path around the central text, pointing from the church towards the landscape, then towards the building, and then back towards the church.

Sponsored by the  
Mark Twain District  
and the MOAC  
**REGISTER AT  
MOUMETHODIST.ORG**

Virtual Conference  
Oct 24, 2020 @ 9am  
**LAY & CLERGY TRACK  
WITH A MENTAL HEALTH  
FOCUS**

**RURAL  
CONNECTIONS  
CONFERENCE**

Please attend as you are able! You can register in a variety of ways, which ever works the best for you.

For the in person conference you can sign-up in the Sanctuary, or [online](#).

If you want to attend at home, you can register through our [Annual Conference](#).

Below you can find the session titles, and you can click on this [link](#) for more information about them.

- Starting the Conversation About Suicide: a Plan of Action and Resources for Local Churches
- Help! How Can I Respond to the Emotions?
- Self-Care during COVID
- Resilience: Strength for These Days
- Loss Isn't Little: Looking at how grief/loss effects folks and learn ways to support those who are hurting.
- Acknowledge and Address Aging Adjustments: How the Church Family Can Accommodate and Assist our Elderly Parishioners.
- Soul Care in this Season of Life and Ministry

## **Prayer List**

### ***Ongoing Concerns***

Covid-19 Emergency, Youth, Young Adults, newcomers, Victims of Violence, Zoe Tolliver, Dean Enyeart, Stallo Family, High School students & teachers, Amber Carmichael, Nathan & Dennis Cook, Lynn Bishop, Rollie Smith, Marlene Graves, Stacie Ervie, Waverly Dixon, Sarah Cavanah (married to Brad), Bobby & Rita Peterson, Joan Sportsman, Bob & Pat Magee, Ronny Christmas, Michael Pauley, Marcia Vandeford, Phil Hamilton, Shane Cavanah, Dan Brooks, Sandy Hoskins, Wayne Heins, Ruth Farris, Linda Korte, Mary Sayler, Tom Hoover, Lynn Fellmann, Mark & Linda Ewigman, C.A. Lain, Steve Yates, Thomas Wellman

Economy, Families, Nation Leaders

### ***Pioneer***

Mabel Worley, John Haynes, Jim Payden

### ***Bristol Manor***

Myrtle Crippin

### ***Lenior Woods***

Ed McLachlan

### ***Military Service***

Patric Munson, Nick Cain, LTC John Casey Welch, Tyler Nanneman, Jeffrey Tucker, Kelly Tucker, Brett Wellman, Brandon Wellman, Heath Floray, Steve Graves, Michael Pyrtle, William Leukenotte, Kerry Lowrey