

THE VOICE

Weekly Newsletter 8-23-20 12th Sunday After Pentecost

WELCOME TO PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL

When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!"

Luke 1:28



Open to Everyone Since 1998

Pastor Barry Petrucci — Pastor Jess Davenport

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
(269) 327-6643 pchum.org

AUGUST 23, 2020

12th Sunday After Pentecost - 10 a.m.

Who Is The Enemy: Uninvited and Pushy

Welcome & Announcements		Barry Petrucci
Prelude	Arabesque #1 Debussy	Tissie Hughey
Gathering Prayer		
Songs	We Shall Assemble Ever Be	New Life Team
call To worship		Jess Davenport
children's Time		Andrea Trantham
Hymn	christ Your words of Love confound us	
Scripture	Luke 1:26-33	
Message	Who Is The Enemy: uninvited and Pushy	Barry Petrucci
Special Music Offering	Lord God of Abraham From ELIJAH	Sam Macy
Dedication		Barry Petrucci
Hymn	Be Not Afraid	
closing Liturgy		Jess Davenport
Song	Great Are You Lord	New Life Team
Sending		Barry Petrucci
Postlude	Arabesque #2 Debussy	Tissie Hughey

Dismantling Racism: What Can You Do?

The Faith In Action Team from Portage Chapel Hill is encouraging everyone to engage in activities to help dismantle racism in our society. Here are some ideas that you and your family can do:

- **Read:** Chapel Hill's Summer Book Study is "Tears We Cannot Stop" by Michael Eric Dyson. This is a challenging read, and you will encounter some harsh language. While this is a read-at-your-own-pace book study, and it doesn't directly coincide with a sermon series, Director of Discipleship Tonya Boot has formulated discussion questions to go along with the book. Email tonya-boot@pchum.org to get the questions, or to join or form a book study group. Please purchase your copy from a local bookseller; if cost is prohibitive please contact the church office.
- **Sign Up for Pastor Barry's Small Group Book Study:** Pastor Barry will be leading a 6-week book study of "Tears We Cannot Stop." This small group will meet via Zoom on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. beginning August 26. Go to pchum.org/dismantlingracism to find the link to sign up.
- **Check out other books and resources:** Tonya Boot has been posting book reviews and reading lists of antiracist literature on Chapel Hill's Facebook page. Go to pchum.org/dismantlingracism to find these resources.
- **Attend an "Introduction to Systemic Racism" Workshop:** Chapel Hill will pay the \$150 registration fee for all those who attend this 2-day workshop put on by ERACCE (Eliminating Racism & Creating/Celebrating Equality). These virtual workshops are offered September 23-24 and October 21-22. Go to eracce.org/event-calendar to register, then contact the church office at office@pchum.org for reimbursement.
- **Attend a family-friendly peaceful protest:** "Portage Kids Peaceful Protests" is a group of families who gather each day at the corner of Centre Ave. and Westnedge Ave. in Portage from Noon to 1 p.m. for a family-friendly Black Lives Matter peaceful protest. Find the group on Facebook.
- **Take a "Virtual Journey to D.C. for Racial Justice":** ISAAC (Interfaith Strategy for Action & Advocacy in the Community) invites the whole family to run, walk, bike, or roll on a virtual journey to Washington, D.C. from now through September 20. Registration is free; simply get out and move, track your miles and log your journey on ISAAC's website and social media. For more information please go to walk.isaackalamazoo.org.

If you have any questions, concerns, or additional ideas to share, please contact Faith In Action Team Chair Richard Derenne at richard.derenne@stryker.com or the church office at office@pchum.org.

Give By Mail:

Portage Chapel Hill
7028 Oakland Dr.
Portage MI 49024

Give Online:

pchum.org/give

Give On Realm:

onrealm.org/pchum

Text-To-Give:

Text "PCHUM" to
73256

Get To Know Pastor Jess at Three Virtual Open Houses!

- TODAY at 4 p.m.
- Sunday, September 20 at 4 p.m.
- Sunday, October 11 at 4 p.m.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee will be hosting three virtual Open Houses where congregants can say hi and get to know Pastor Jess Davenport and her family. These will be done on Zoom; the Zoom link can be found at pchum.org/openhouse. Bring your own cake, cup of coffee, and make sure to drop in to say hi!

Save the Date: October Blood Drive

- Saturday, October 3
- 10:15 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Mark your calendars now for Chapel Hill's October Blood Drive, sponsored by the American Red Cross. Contact Blood Drive Coordinator Sue Dueweke at suzy-due@sbcglobal.net if you would like to volunteer to work at the event. To make an appointment to donate blood, please go to redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code "CHUM."

A Message to the Youth and Families of Youth at Chapel Hill..... from Pastor Jess

Part of my job description here at Chapel Hill is being the clergy person connecting to youth. I've been really excited for that *and* it's really interesting to think through how best to do that in a global pandemic. My favorite part of youth group was that I was able to be around peers, friends, crushes, and it wasn't school! And as I've been connecting with other folks working with youth a whole host of different ideas have come into my mind. However it seems wise to first check in about what folks want and need during this time, knowing it might be a few weeks into whatever the school year looks like before anyone can say what they need.

This has made me think a lot about our culture- both as Americans and midwesterners. We are independent folks, which has meant sometimes that people make decisions that are best solely for themselves and not the whole community. While we've seen that behavior these last few months, the part of our "independent" nature I've been pondering is that we hate to be a burden to others. Being "needy" is a horrible quality for a good midwesterner. We don't want to need anything from anyone... and subsequently can't ask for what we need... and sometimes don't even know how to identify what we need.

I'm certainly not trying to shame us into being needy, but I do want us as a community to think about our needs and what our faith community can do to support one another. When we baptize folks and incorporate new members we are asked: "Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?" and part of our answer is: "We will surround these persons with a community of love..."

This week, take some time to think about your needs- daily needs, weekly needs, what you need to take care of yourself, what you need from a partner or friend, and what you need to connect better with God. Be thinking of a way that your church home and church family can surround you as a community of love- and how you might surround others in the same way.