

First United Methodist Church of Saline

Rev. Tom Zimmerman
August 26, 2020

“Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, ‘We should by all means go up and take possession of it, for we will surely overcome it.’” Numbers 14:7-8

Dear Friends:

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Most of us understand the value of encouragement. The right kind of encouragement can inspire us to do almost anything. Someone point out to me that the word encouragement contains the word ‘courage.’ To encourage literally means to put courage into someone. Caleb was a tremendous encourager because he was a man full of courage. When others around him were fearful, Caleb stepped out in encouragement because of his faith in God.

That’s what faith can do. Faith gives us the power to hold on in tough times. Faith takes us through the problem; it doesn’t necessarily provide the solution to the problem. That’s what Paul meant when he wrote: “We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we’re not crushed and broken. We’re perplexed, but we don’t give up and quit. We’re attacked but God never abandons us. We get knocked down, but we get up and keep going!” 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

We’ve been through a lot these last several months, gotten knocked down a few times, but we keep getting up and we keep going.

Hold on to your faith! See you in church!

Pastor Tom

Pastor Tom

Memory Verse for August

“Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”
Psalm 27:14

And the Survey says...

We want to thank you for filling out our survey about returning to indoor worship. 150 households responded. Of those households 60% indicated they were not ready to come back into the building, while 40% said yes. We understand that many of you were concerned our survey only contained two choices about coming back inside the church. And we recognize for many of you, your answer is more nuanced than the survey allowed, however, we gave these choices to assist us in planning specifically for September 13. Please see attached FAQ sheet, hopefully this will answer possible questions you may have.

New Zoom Study with Pastor Tom—"Extreme Makeover" Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm, beginning September 1

True faith produces fruit. A faith without action and without life change is ultimately a dead faith. The book of James speaks to the realities of a living faith in Jesus—the kind of roll-up-your-sleeves and get-your-hands-dirty discipleship that is borne out of an authentic relationship with the risen Lord. James writes to believers who know suffering, who've faced trials, and who ultimately desire a deep relationship with God. Tuesdays at 7:00 pm, September 1, 15, 22, 29. (4 weeks)

Ironmen—Thursday August 27 @ 7:00 am

We had an awesome turn out August 6th at our men's group. Hoping to see more of you there on the August 27. All the men of the church are invited to attend. Bring a lawn chair and breakfast of your choice! We'll supply the portico and God will supply the weather! If it rains we will cancel.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

Tithes and Offerings

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7

For your convenience, we continue to offer secure online and mobile giving options that make it easy to give anytime, from anywhere. If online giving isn't for you, please feel free to mail us your gift. Thank you to all who continue to faithfully give to FUMC Saline. Your donations have allowed us to fulfill our mission giving, pay our expenses and serve our community!

Address: FUMC Saline, 1200 N Ann Arbor St., Saline, MI 48176
Online Giving Website: fumc-saline.org/online-giving
Mobile Giving: Text to 734-869-8052

NAMI Faith Group

NAMI Faith Group continues to meet from 7 - 8:30 pm using Zoom. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. We combine scripture lessons, educational topics and a sharing time to promote support and spirituality in mental health. The group is open to adults living with a mental health diagnosis, and to anyone who wants to learn how to better support those living with a condition. Drop in attendance. Friends welcome. For info about other National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) Zoom classes and support groups visit namiwc.org. If you or someone you know is in crisis, call 1-800-273-8255 or text HOME to 741741.

Methodist Children's Home

We reached out to the Methodist Children's Home asking them what they need for this fall. They responded with these requests: light weight jackets, tennis shoes, jeans, long sleeve shirts, jogger pants, socks, underwear and Halloween costumes. The boys range from about age 7 to 18 so many sizes can be used.

Despite a delayed construction start, MCHS's new charter school named "Fostering Leaders Academy" will open in some form this fall with 50 students; grades 6, 7 and 8. Additional grades will open each year until they have classes for K-8. This one of a kind "trauma-informed" school will be geared towards the special needs of the boys on campus. Our church is proud to support the good works of this very special agency.

Thank you!

A big thank you to Mike Johnson from Brookside Golf Course for allowing us to use a golf cart for our Wednesday evening and Sunday morning worship services! This generous donation has allowed us to assist in bringing folks from the large parking lot to the worship area much more easily. If you see Mike, please take the time to let him know how much we appreciate his kindness.

Wednesday Night Live—August 19 at 6:30 pm

We love to see how many come to our Wednesday Night Live, 60 last week! Trish gave an amazing message. This week Pastor Tom will be speaking. Please sign up and let us know if you'll be there

Write a memory for Tammy Schoenfeldt

Please help us celebrate Tammy's 25 years of faithful service here at FUMC-Saline by sharing a favorite memory, funny moment, or a thank-you. Feel free to email your memory to us at, office@fumc-saline.org, or fill out a sheet when you attend one of the in-person gatherings, or if you stop in during office hours on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon. Our quilting group will compile all of the memories and bind them in a book to present to Tammy in the fall. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Thank you

To our beloved congregation at Saline First United Methodist Church,

We just wanted to say a huge thank you for the beautiful video and virtual sendoff that was shown in the online service this past April. We really missed being able to say goodbye to so many of you during our last weeks in Saline. It was certainly an interesting time to move, but what was very hard on us was not being able to be in fellowship with you all during that time. We definitely still felt your support and prayers though, and we are looking forward to the day when we can come worship in-person when we are back visiting. There are no words to describe what this church and congregation has done for us, and the blessing so many of you were to both of us and our boys during our years there. Thank you also for the money that was collected as a goodbye gift. We have decided to use the money for a membership to the Grand Rapids Children's Museum (when it opens after Covid!) and also the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park (a gorgeous indoor greenhouse/outdoor venue that has many children's activities), where our family can enjoy making many wonderful memories. Thank you very much and many blessings to all of you!

Yours in Christ, Nat and Anna Burns



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Thank you for your support.

Youth & Family Ministries from Trish Farrell, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Confirmation Update

Year One/Incoming 7th grade: Due to the small class size and the limitations on meeting in person regularly, we have decided to wait on offering a class this year. Our intention is to offer the Confirmation class next fall combined with the grade below. We encourage students to participate in all youth events and The Underground to stay involved in the meantime.

Year Two/8-9th grade: Please see attached note for meetings.

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:b65b80c1-4b41-439e-9d24-7e14bdd14e39>

The Underground

Fall schedule is out! Please see attached and mark your calendar.

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:308d43b2-dbd2-476a-a638-814d90d6e616>

*Please don't hesitate to reach out to Trish! Email is trish@fumc-saline.org and her cell is 413-822-6840.

Children & Family Ministries from Kaylee Klepaczkyk, Director of Children & Family Ministries



Advent in August came to a close last night on SFUMC Live Stream. What a fun month it has been! We have journeyed with Jotham to the manger and have celebrated the waiting that is part of all our lives right now. Don't forget to trust God while you wait, just like the Israelites did so very long ago!

PLEASE NOTE: Information about Children and Family Ministry Fall Offerings is coming your way at the end of this week!

Please watch your inbox, check your spam, and put kaylee@fumc-saline.org in your contacts!

Congregational Care from Jeanette Brenner, Director of Congregational Care, jeanette@fumc-saline.org. Cell: 734-474-1357. My Zoom Meeting # 473-327-2890, Password 8UM79n. Work Days: Sunday – Thursday

Sunday Livestream Prayer Requests

We are going to be collecting prayer requests a bit differently for our Live Stream services. **You may continue to send requests during the service by texting me at 734-747-1357.** If for some reason you don't get it to me before the service prayer time, be assured that Tom and I will pray over your requests, include it in our Weekly Update prayer list, and will get it to our prayer groups as well. Remember that if you do have a private request, please be sure to mark it as such. Thank you for your understanding as we adapt our practices during this difficult time.

Friendship Ministry

I want to invite all of my Young Adult Program, Liberty Club and Friendship Ministry friends to meet once a week, Thursdays at 10:00-10:30 am to share God moments, games, prayers and smiles. Zoom meeting # 473-327-2890 Password 8UM79n.

Visits

I would like to safely visit with members socially distanced and outdoors. My availability is Sunday afternoon, Monday mornings, Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday afternoon. You can call me or text me anytime at 734-474-1357 or email me at jeanette@fumc-saline.org to set up a visit.

WEEK AHEAD – BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & PRAYERS

Birthdays Next Week ~ Linda Klepaczyk, Daniel Moss, Charlotte Thorpe, 9/1; Paul R. Chandler, 9/2; Matt Folta, 9/3; Leslie Sutherland, 9/4; Elizabeth McClelland, Barbara Tanner, 9/5.

Anniversaries Next Week ~ Jeff & Jennie Comfort, 8/30; Paul & Sue Campbell, 8/31; Jim & Dawn Ducca, 9/1; Bob & Carolyn Comfort, Elvin & Carol Curry, 9/2; Jason & Kristine Heffelbower, 9/4.

Prayer Concerns— Rob Fowler, Larry Johnson, Tammy Schoenfeldt, Carol Drexler Byron, Gwendolyn, Charolette Becker, Mary Domeier, Paula Schaffner, Sarah Stuke, Tamera Miller, Cheryl Schlaff, Sally Hanifi, Andrea Maddock, Ella Stubelt, Robert Ulrich, John, Kim Smith, frontline workers, for strength, church staff, safe travel, for full-time employment, students of all ages returning to school, for determination to keep going in the face of all the obstacles, rain for crops, a cure/vaccine for the Coronavirus, caregivers, our political leaders, safe opening of church in September, finding childcare.

Sympathies— Justin and Rachel Distelrath on the passing of Justin's grandmother. Sandra White and family on Russell White's passing. Greg and Trish Farrell and family on the passing of Greg's uncle

Praises— Rick & Debbie Walls' son Tyler was recently married. August 30 is the 5th anniversary of Bill Nash's liver transplant.

Continue to Pray for— Jim Ducca, Julie O'Keefe, Gayle Rogers, Bill Doren, Jeanne Cogger, Steven Baker, Mike Walker, Clarke Macy, Jack Ceo, LeeAnn Redies, Kent Aurand, Abby Cudney.

Military— Erik Maddock, J.T. St. Dennis, Abby Jenks.

Special Living— Betty Charles, Naomi Woods (Brecon); Florence Belt (Texas); Norma Jean West, Lysle Smith (Linden Square); Nancy Adsit (Brookdale), Vera Bennett (StoryPoint).

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What time and how many services will we have?

A: We currently have planned for one service. Our in-person and Live Stream services will be held at 9:00 am. Other services may be added if necessary.

Q: Do we need to sign up ahead of time?

A: Yes! A sign-up link will be available every Monday morning for the following Sunday. Just like the forms you have been filling out for Wednesday Night Live and Right Start.

Q: What happens when I get to church?

A: You will be met at the front doors and directed to your seats by the ushers.

Q: How will seating work?

A: There will be designated seating areas. Each household will sit together, 6 feet apart from other households. We will fill in pews from the front of the sanctuary to the back and dismiss from the back to the front. *(Red ribbons will mark the Do not sit zones. Therefore if it's red...do not tread! If it's red, you've been misled. "If it's red, choose a different spot instead!"*

Q: But wait, what is a “household?”

A: A household is a group of related or non-related people wanting to sit close together (not socially distant). For example, if you are coming alone - you are a household. If you are a group of 3, you are a household. If you are a group of 6, you are a household. If your household is larger than 6, please contact the church office directly.

Q: But wait, can I sit in my “normal” pew?

A: No. Or at least it will be doubtful. In order to be cautious and because of the way we will be seating people, you will not have a “choice” of where to sit.

Q: Will we need to wear masks?

A: Wearing a mask in the building is required. Please bring your own, but if you forget, we will have extra masks available. Please review our COVID-infograph <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:cbe871a0-9fce-41e3-93ae-9e1eb9e5ca2d>

Q: Will there be children’s programming or childcare?

A: No, for right now there will be no *in-person* children's programming or childcare on Sunday mornings. The Education wing will be closed off. If families with children attend worship, children will remain seated with their parents/guardians and be counted in their household count.

Q: But wait... will there be any programming for children on Sunday morning?

A: Yes! After Live Stream Worship, there will be a virtual program available for families to watch on Live Stream.

Q: What if my child(ren) cry or get fussy? Is the Oasis Room available?

A: At this time, the Oasis Room is not available for use. While we cannot allow people to stand in the back of the sanctuary because of the difficulty with social distancing, you may leave the service and stand in the lobby area. The doors will be open, so you will still be able to listen and participate in worship! When you are in the lobby area, it will be each individual's responsibility to be socially distant in that space.

Q: But wait, can't I just show up for church?

A: "Just showing up" is strongly discouraged. These are complicated and difficult times, but we are committed to socially distant seating.

Q: Are we singing corporately?

A: Although our "in-person" services include music and several songs of worship, for safety reasons we are not singing corporately.

Q: Will there be special seating for those who are "at-risk"?

A: No. Although we are taking precautions to keep things clean and people socially distant, those who are "at-risk" may want to consider continuing to worship remotely.

Q: Ok, but will the services continue to be available on-line?

A: Absolutely, we will continue to Live Stream at 9:00 am and recordings of the Live Stream services are available on the church website to watch anytime. Please choose the format that is best for you!

Q: Will there be coffee and tea?

No. Please fuel up before you get here. Please do not bring your own food or beverage into the sanctuary.

Q: In that case, will bathrooms be available?

A: Yes, of course. Bathroom surfaces will be cleaned before each service.

Q: What if I don't feel well?

A: Out of an abundance of love for our neighbor, please stay home and watch the Live Stream. Remember when in doubt, don't go out!

Q: What about communion?

A: In-person communion will be offered the first Sunday of the month. It will be taken in the pew, prepackaged and waiting in your pew rack. We will also continue to offer drive-thru communion the first Sunday of every month at 10:30 am.

Q: What happens at the end of worship?

A: The ushers will dismiss the congregation from back to front. We ask that you leave the building immediately and go to your cars.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Rev. Tom Zimmerman, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. James Tuttle, Minister of Faith Formation
Jeanette Brenner, Director of Congregational Care
Trish Farrell, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Kaylee Klepaczyk, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Linda Klepaczyk, Director of Worship Celebrations
Pilar Graden, Administrative Assistant
Michelle Grill, Financial Secretary

Confirmation Parents & Students,

As 2020 as thrown us curveballs, we keep trying to adjust and take the next right step. As we look at the fall, we have come up with a plan for our Confirmation classes for September and October. All of this is tentative, of course, and we will adjust as needed going forward.

Year One/Incoming 7th graders:

Due to the small class size and the limitations on meeting in person regularly, we have decided to wait on offering a class this year. Our intention is to offer the Confirmation class next fall combined with the grade below. We encourage students to participate in all youth events and The Underground to stay involved in the meantime.

Year Two/8th graders:

There were 2 lessons that were missed in the spring due to shut down. These lessons will be made up in the Spring of 2021 prior to Confirmation Sunday. Students are responsible throughout this school year to continue initial Year Two expectations on their own: Underground attendance, monthly worship and notes, and regular service. Church organized service opportunities and trips will continue when possible. Please attend the update meeting for more details.

Brief Update Meeting (parents & students): Sunday, September 20th 6:00pm in-person, outdoors, bring a chair

9th graders:

The majority of what students were unable to complete in the spring was focused around their faith statements and the Confirmation Sunday worship. Students are asked to participate in the 2 classes below and at home projects to complete this work.

Faith Statements: Sunday, September 20th 10:20-11:30am In-person, outdoors, bring a chair & notepad. (students)

Worship Planning: Sunday, October 11th 10:20-12:20pm In-person, outdoors, bring a chair & faith statements. (students)

Confirmation Sunday: Sunday, October 25th (details TBD but it will be separate from the 9:00am service)

If families are not comfortable with in-person, please reach out to me and we will design an appropriate option. Thank you for your patience and understanding in these unprecedented times. We want to serve your family in the safest way possible.

Faithfully serving,

Trish Farrell
Director of Youth & Family Ministries
trish@fumc-saline.org
413-822-6840 cell



SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2020

Sunday @ The Underground

Good news...Sunday night Underground is returning for September! Yes, it won't be the exact same because of safety policies but the important things will stay- worshipping God, FAITH, FUN & FRIENDS. We will be in person, outside, at church, and follow a similar format as previous years.

- 6:30 Free time
- 6:50 Group game
- 7:00 Music
- 7:05 Speaker/Message
- 7:25 Small Groups
- 8:00 Depart

Things to note:

- no dinners
- new starting time
- all outdoors
- cancelled in case of rain
- dress for temperature

Bring with you:

- chair or blanket
- mask
- Bible, notebook, pen
- soccer or basketball (optional for free time)

Schedule & Series Topics:

- 9/13 Kickoff with Kona Ice Truck!
The You Effect: More Than You Think
- 9/20 The You Effect: Small Steps
- 9/27 The You Effect: Change the Effect
- 10/4 Family Campfire Challenge
- 10/11 Love/Hate: What Are You About?
- 10/18 Love/Hate: Have a Filter
- 10/25 Costume Contest- PRIZES!
Love/Hate: Fill In the Blank

Virtual Options

We know that not everyone is comfortable with in person gatherings given our current health crisis with COVID. We respect comfort zones and want to provide opportunities for all. Join us online. Check our social medias- Youtube, Facebook, & Instagram- for the following:

Mondays

Watch the message from the previous night's Underground.

Wednesdays

Improv devotion. Can we see God in everything? Let's try! What will Trish pull out of a random bag and how can we see God through it?



www.fumc-saline.org/youth

Friday Night Lights

Since we can't do any trips this fall and we don't have football on Friday nights, we are going to do some social nights at church. Bring a friend & come hang under the lights.

Middle School Night
Friday, October 2
6:30-8pm

High School Night
Friday, October 9
6:30-8pm



We are Family

Being a family isn't all rainbows & unicorns, right?! Some big philosophies to help everyone survive include:

1. Laughter and playing together is healing.
2. You must be able to discuss the small stuff in order to discuss the big stuff.
3. A Christ-centered family is a strong family.

The intention of Family Ministry is to equip parents to share the faith in their home and lead their family. Opportunities to grow as a faithful family will be incorporated throughout our youth ministry and Confirmation this year. Our first will be the FAMILY CAMPFIRE CHALLENGE on Sunday, October 4th. Youth are asked to bring an adult from their family for a night of games and laughs around the campfire. (because #1)

To take family ministry to the next level, we will also be inserting family ministry opportunities into our church wide events. Families will be led through intentional activities that are adaptable for all ages to build relationships and grow in Christ as a team. We encourage families with middle & high school students to join these special event times and become a strong Christ-centered family. Details and info on all these family ministry opportunities will be revealed soon!

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as your charity & support our Youth Ministries.

Amazon Smile is now available on the app too!

"I alone can't
change the world,
but I can cast a
stone across the
waters to create
many ripples."

MOTHER THERESA

Safety Update

Our church and the youth ministry have taken precautions to keep the highest standards and policies in safety with COVID:

- All events will be outside if possible and brief. Events will be cancelled in case of rain or snow. All plans are tentative.
- We are only planning for Sept & Oct right now, when we are able to be outside.
- If you don't live with them or didn't come with them, social distancing of 6ft is required.
- Masks are always encouraged outdoors but mandatory if indoors or 6ft is not possible.
- We will not touch or share the same items.
- Hand sanitizer and wipes are readily available.
- Students are asked to do self checks before coming to church and stay home if they are not feeling well.
- Bathrooms for emergencies only.
- Virtual program options will be available also.
- No singing will be programmed.
- No shared meals. Grab & go snacks only.

Trish Farrell, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

trish@fumc-saline.org

413-822-6840 cell

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 6:30 Underground Kickoff	14 Online Message	15	16 Online Improv Devo	17	18	19
20 10:20 9th grade Confirmation Class 6:00 8th grade Confirmation Class 6:30 Underground	21 Online Message	22	23 Online Improv Devo	24	25	26
27 6:30 Underground	28 Online Message	29	30 Online Improv Devo	1	2 6:30 Friday Night Lights Middle School	3

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4 6:30 FAMILY CAMPFIRE CHALLENGE	5 Online Message	6	7 Online Improv Devo	8	9 6:30 Friday Night Lights High School	10
11 10:20 9th grade Confirmation Class 6:30 Underground	12 Online Message	13	14 Online Improv Devo	15	16	17
18 6:30 Underground	19 Online Message	20	21 Online Improv Devo	22	23 6:30 Den 56	24
25 Confirmation Sunday Worship TBD 6:30 Underground Costume Contest	26 Online Message	27	28 Online Improv Devo	29	30	31

OCTOBER