

First United Methodist Church of Saline

Rev. Tom Zimmerman
June 24, 2021

“Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:31-32

Dear Friends:

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

I was at the gas station the other day when I witnessed some excitement. A young man was trying to turn left out of the station and onto the street. There was a small break and so he gunned his car out of the station and made his left. It was close, but he made it. But it didn't sit right with the oncoming car driver—so he laid on his horn, made wild gestures out his window, and screamed insults as well. The other guy fired back with words and gestures of his own.

Thankfully, no one was hurt, but it was still sad to witness. How do you respond to insults and ridicule? Speaking from experience, it's not always easy to respond in a godly way. And unfortunately, in today's culture we are increasingly becoming more rude, more impolite, more polarized, more disrespectful and more divided. Truth is, we don't need louder voices, we need godlier voices with godlier responses.

Think about that as we embark on a busy week of traffic!

See you in church, outside, or on Livestream!

Pastor Tom

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES + PRAYER LIST

Birthdays ~ Samantha Thorpe, Mike O'Keefe, 6/27; Noreen Adle, 6/29; B Melendez, Leah Kelley, Cindy Austin, Clare Bowman, 6/30; Carolyn Beal, Paul Renberg, Nancy Miller, Sarah Roberts, 7/2; Saralyn Klepaczyk, Chucky Feeny, 7/3.

Anniversaries ~ Dan & Kristi Cundiff, Rob & Kathy Struk, 6/30; Chris & Sara Masters, 7/1; Gavin & Peggy Crawford, 7/3.

Prayer Concerns—Doug Cogger, Robert Barnes, Muffy Largin, Barbara Ulrich, Chuck Webster, Sally Hanifi, Janet West, Jim Hill, Shiela Blough, Kent & Sue Herrick, Dave, Sue & Ruth Hares, Kevin Culy & family, Laurie Tuttle Stewart, all of our shut ins, safe travel, young people with mental health issues, our nation's leaders, our first responders, and all impacted negatively by the pandemic.

Praises—Trish Farrell took 20 kids and chaperones to the MOVE conference in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Continue to Pray for—Jim Ducca, Julie O'Keefe, Gayle Rogers, Bill Doren, Steven Baker, Mike Walker, Sally Hanifi, Jack Ceo, LeeAnn Redies, Rob Fowler, Abby Cudney, Macy family, Kim Durham, Coach Mike Smith, Laurie Tuttle Stewart, Kent Herrick.

Military—Erik Maddock, J.T. St. Dennis, Ben Herrick.

Pray for the homebound and those in special living facilities—Naomi Woods, Betty Sellers, Florence Belt, Norma Jean West, Nancy Jedele, Joyce Gifford, Vera Bennett, Doris Schmerberg, Virginia Sherman, Pat Peterson, Doris Sekerka, Sally Hanifi.

Announcements

Church Voicemail—We have been experiencing problems with the church voicemail system. If you have an emergency after hours or over the weekend and do not reach voicemail, please contact Pastor Tom at (419) 262-5575.

Drive Through Communion—Please note that drive through communion will not be held in July and August.

Prayer Partners—Become a prayer partner for our youth! There are key tags with youth names who are participating in our summer trips on the tables in the church narthex. Please grab a key tag and commit to praying for the named youth all summer. Pray that for safety, for open eyes and hearts, and for a life impacting trip!!! If you have any questions, please contact Trish Farrell.

Emails from FUMC Saline—If you are not receiving church emails please contact the church office so that we can rectify the problem.

Prayer Garden Bricks—Consider purchasing a brick for our prayer garden, something beautiful that will last a lifetime. We will be accepting orders now until July 28. 4" x 8" bricks, with up to three lines of characters are available for \$50.00 and 8" x 8" bricks with up to six lines of characters are \$80.00. Simple graphics, such as a cross or dove, may be added. Order forms are available from the church office.

Adult Sunday School—Sundays at 10:30 am via Zoom and in person in Room C. The apostles were growing older and churches were springing up all over the Roman Empire. False teachers, claiming to be Christians, had arisen from among the church. Whom could they believe? The author of 1 John has the answers to combatting false teaching. This short letter to the believers near Ephesus sounds a clear call to today's church for maintaining truth by maintaining fellowship with the Lord.

Grief Support Group—Grief is a journey that you do not want to walk alone. The grieving process can be overwhelming and difficult. If you have experienced the death of a loved one, we offer a grief support group twice a month. We meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 pm in Room C. Contact Jeanette Brenner for more information 734-474-1357.

Dementia Care Giver Support Group—If you love someone and/or are caring for someone who has dementia, please know that you are not alone. EHM, Senior Solutions is offering a caregiver support group on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm in Christler Hall. You do not need to attend FUMC Saline to join us. For more information call Jeanette Brenner at 734-474-1357.

Post-COVID-19 Transition—Navigating through the last year has been hard for our church family, both individually and collectively. As we find our way forward, we must remember that the lives of many have been impacted in unseen ways that will have long-lasting effects, some physical, some emotional, and some spiritual. As a church, we endeavor to move forward together thoughtfully and respectfully. We intend to extend grace, patience, and love to all, no matter their COVID experience, vaccine status, masking practices or comfort level.

