

DRIVE IN SERVICE

Come as you are and stay in your car!!!

We have considered the input provided after our last communication with you and direction from Bishop Ken Carter. We believe that a Drive-In service is the only type of gathering we can safely have at this time. Pastor Carolyn will be wearing a cordless microphone and there will be 4 large amplifiers placed outside. We will not be using an AM/FM transmitter, so cars will not need to be running. Car windows or sunroofs will need to be open to hear and possibly catch a breeze. It truly will be experimental.

- Since the service will begin promptly at 9 AM, plan to arrive 15-30 minutes ahead of time so that the ushers can get you properly parked. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Cars will be parked in "every other" space.
- You will need to stay in your car, so masks are not required.
- You may want to bring your own water or coffee. Keep in mind that bathrooms will not be available.
- You will be able to hand in your offering at the end of the service by dropping it in a bucket as you leave.

Because the electrical equipment and keyboard are going to be outside, we will not hold a service in the rain. The decision will be made at 7 AM if we are "GO." If there is need to cancel, it will be posted on the church's Facebook page before 7:15 AM and an email will be sent out to the Google Group list. **If we do not have an email address for you, call the church office, 797-4416, and get on the "Google List." Please "friend" the church on Facebook so that you will receive notifications.**

We are asking for your continued prayers and additional grace for our Task Force members, ushers, and participants in the service who will also experience a "first" with this Drive-In experience. We will continue to videotape our service and post it online by noon on Sundays. God bless you and keep you safe from all harm!

Task Force Members: Pastor Carolyn, Susan Corcoran, Suzann Maass, Cheryl Jeffries, June & Sidney Baker, Bill Vershave, Phyllis Wolfe, Gary Morgan, Dennis & Lisa Jones and Vicki Hall.

St. Augustine Shores United Methodist Church
(904) 797-4416



Email your
prayer concerns
to the church
office at
shoresumc@bellsouth.net

Special Sunday
Apportionment
Offering is
August 16, 2020



Online Giving is
available for
contributions to
the Budget,
Apportionments,
Food Pantry,
Pastor's
Discretionary &
Youth. Visit
www.shoresumc.org
and click
"Donate" on the
top right.



Visit
www.shoresumc.org
and click on top left
"sermons"

Pastor Carolyn's Conundrums

At this time, with all that is going on I am drawn to one of my favorite scripture passages, Ezekiel 37:1-14. It is the story of Ezekiel being transported to a valley where a great battle has been fought and the bones of the fallen have been left there so long that they are completely dried out and picked clean. As he is looking over the valley God asks "Zeke, can these bones come alive? Can they become people again?"

Ezekiel gives a very tactful and non-committal answer, "Only you know the answer to that God."

The Lord then gives Ezekiel several commands. The first is to tell the bones what the Lord has in store for them. As he begins to speak Ezekiel sees the bones come together, but there is still no breath, no spirit in them. They look good, but are not living. The second command is to speak to the winds and have them bring breath to the ones standing. As the wind comes, the Spirit enters into the people standing there, and they live again. God then tells Ezekiel, and the ones standing there, that even though they may have lost hope since Israel has gone into exile the Lord will bring the people back and the nation will be restored.

His people, the nation of Israel, had rebelled against the Lord by committing transgression after transgression. This rebellion included putting God second, third, or even lower in their priorities; not treating workers and others fairly; worshipping other gods; not ministering to the poor, the lost, the orphan, and the list continues. God is going to restore Israel to its glory because it will show the surrounding countries He has not abandoned Israel.

I believe this narrative of Ezekiel's is not only a foreshadowing of being born again in Christ and the outpouring of the Spirit upon the believers at Pentecost as well as individuals throughout history since then, but also one that should give hope to churches that may be struggling because new life is possible through the power of God and the in-filling of His Spirit into our lives. Here are some observations and lessons we can take from Ezekiel's experience in the Valley of the Dry Bones.

1. There are times in our individual lives and in our congregations where we feel that hope is gone, and that we have been scattered.
2. We can look good on the outside, even look good on the inside, but if we do not have the Spirit of God in our lives we are still dead.
3. Regardless of how we look or feel, if we look good but do not have the Spirit in us, or we feel like there is no hope, God can bring us back to life. The essential part here is that God is the one who imparts life through the Holy Spirit; it is not us who gives life.
4. Once we are brought back to life there is movement required. It is too move from where you are to where God wants us to go.

No matter what is going on, God's got this. We don't have to understand. We don't have to see how things can be made better. We need to trust in God. God's power, grace, healing and light still exist and can continue/once again shine through us.

**Come Spirit Come! Restore us!
Renew us! Transform us! Use us!**

Reid Myers, James Jarvie, Dean Ford, Barb Brooks, Wanda Dighton,
 Suzann Maass, Steve Day, Jim O'Reilly,
 Ryan Baker, Walt Hardy, Janet Pope,
 C.J. Wohlford, William Liggett,
 Veralea Landrum, Helen Tenney,
 Sada Harding, Rod Paul,
 Danial Griffin, Hannah Fink



PUZZLE

WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.

 + e _____
 Water changes to _____
 JOHN 2:1-11

 - k + d _____
 Heals a man born _____
 JOHN 9

 - op +  - w _____
 Calms a _____
 MATTHEW 8:23-27

f +  - d _____
 Catch of _____
 LUKE 5:1-11

 - ch + er _____
 Walks on _____
 MATTHEW 14:22-33

Answer: wine, blind, storm, fish, water



**St. Augustine Shores
United Methodist Church**
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Web Address

www.shoresumc.org

Sermons are online weekly

Reverend Carolyn Westlake

pastorcarolyn5199@bellsouth.net

507-208-5842 (Text or call)

904-460-2014

Google Group

Call the church office to receive periodic e-mails sent to members of our Google group.

Message/Scripture

August 2nd

Matthew 14:13-21

"God provides what we need"

August 9th

Matthew 14:22-33

"Watch for falling Rock"

August 16th

Genesis 50:15-21

"the 50:20 principle"

August 23rd

Romans 12:1-8

"Give it all you've got"

August 30th

Romans 12:9-21

"Happy in the Lord"

Church Office-The office is open Monday-Friday 8:30 am-3:30 pm. Masks required and practice social distancing when in our buildings and if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms such as a fever, coughing, and shortness of breath please return another day when you are feeling better.

Food Pantry-Thanks so much for your support of the St John's Ecumenical Food Pantry. We are back to full operation of the pantry. What does this mean? It means we need your help more than ever, people are still struggling, we are busier than we have ever been. We are averaging 75 bags of groceries handed out daily. That equals out to 375 bags of food a week, 1500 bags a month!!! That's a massive amount of food. How can you help? We need volunteers to help in the pantry on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, if you are in the more vulnerable groups and can't help at the pantry we totally understand. The other ways you can help are monetary donations and food donations. We can use all nonperishable food, rice, beans, pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruit/veggies, cereal, etc. Bins are located outside the church and food is picked-up Thursday or Friday. At this time we do not need any more egg cartons. We thank-you for your continued support, please stay safe and feel our Lord's non-ending love during this difficult time. Alexis Stilwell, Food Pantry Representative for St. Augustine Shores UMC