

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



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

Online Giving is
available for
contributions to
the Church
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Apportionments
Food Pantry and
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March 14th
2021



Pastor Carolyn's Conundrums

We are in the midst of changing seasons. A time when what has been dormant springs to life once again. We are in that season in the church as well. Lent is a time of preparation, doing the work to prepare ourselves and your church for the coming of Easter. The word Lent comes from a word that means spring. So Lent is a time to draw closer to God, a time for the passion for God that has been dormant in us to spring to life and transform us once again.

Did you know that for sharks to survive they have to keep swimming? If they stop, their oxygen supply is cut off and they die. We too must keep moving to not only survive but to thrive. We are never quite there, there is always room for improvement, and always more that God is calling us toward. God calls us as individuals and as a church community to draw closer to him and his purpose for our life. And to be faithful to that call that requires us to spring forward. This is never easy. Some of us seem to be wired for change, natural risk takers. While others of us cringe at the thought. But we are all called to change and work together for the glory of God.

We have experienced a lot of change this past year. At this point we long for "normal." I am not going to preach about a "new normal," but of the capacity for God to use the season in which we find ourselves. How is God calling each of us to deepen our relationships with God and with each other? How might this look now and, in the months, to come. It is taking the focus off ourselves and what we may or may not be losing and putting the focus on God and what we are gaining through God's love, mercy and grace!

As I was writing this, I was thinking about Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, that there is a time for everything. One point of the scripture is to point out that seasons change and there is a time for everything. Another point is that we are not alone in those seasons; God is there with us, guiding us, bringing us strength, comfort and hope.

Therefore, nothing God calls us toward is impossible and we are called to move beyond our own constructs to the future into which he is leading.



2nd

June Verkeke

3rd

Stephen George

4th

Alaya Lowery

5th

Nancy Hoffman

Josuah Westlake

7th

Wayne Warner

8th

Marianne Turner

9th

Emily Cooper

10th

Diane Morris

11th

Jim Mendis

15th

Brett Iles

Nancy Whittington

16th

Patti Brady

Paul Maass

18th

Prudence Knight

Carol Ann Kelly

20th

Kathy Schmidt

Eddy Conner

22nd

Mary Ann Walters

Ray Kelly

24th

Carolyn Strickland

Sharon Paris

25th

Jill Crookshank

26th

Diane Dombi

LynnAnne Burns

30th

Nina Ayers

31st

Kenneth Reim

Jeffrey Strait

Covid Task Force Update for March 2021

It is hard to believe it has only been one year since Earth, our country, our state and our church were stricken by the COVID-19 virus. However, many have been vaccinated and the number of people contracting the virus seems to be dropping. We continue to pray for all those affected. Shores UMC is proud that we have continued to be in mission to the Ecumenical Food Pantry and Port in the Storm. We are also proud to reach people in various ways for Worship. We would like to share with you our worship attendance. Our indoor capacity is 55 people and our outdoor capacity is 100.

2/7/21 Inside 34 Outside 52 Online 87

2/14/21 Inside 28 Outside 45 Online 68

2/21/21 Inside 29 Outside 53 Online 71

We have plenty of room for you! Come worship with us, or continue to worship online. We are currently investigating the placement of fans in the Fellowship Hall of the Christian Education Building. The Trustees have strongly suggested that air flow in that building be improved, for committee meetings and adult Sunday School classes. We hope to permit two classes to meet at 10:00 am on Sundays when the fans are in place. Thanks to Earl Hurst, Betty Roy and Ashford Services for helping us get 4 sturdy hand sanitizing foam dispensers which will arrive soon. These are much easier to use and more reliable than the ones we found in early summer. Two will be placed in the Sanctuary and two will be placed in the CEB. The Task Force meets via Zoom on a bi-weekly basis. We are grateful for your ongoing support. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office. God Bless you and Shores UMC.

Drive-in Service-Come as you are and stay in your car (rain or shine)

Pastor Carolyn will be wearing a cordless microphone and there will be 4 large amplifiers placed outside. Car windows or sunroofs will need to be open to hear. 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. If there is need to cancel due to extreme weather 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. We will continue to videotape our service and post it online Sunday afternoon. God bless you and keep you safe from all harm!

Resuming In-Person Worship at Shores UMC

The In-Person Worship Service will begin at 11:00 AM. Masks required. Reservations are required. How Should I Register for Worship? First and most importantly, no one should come to the service who has had a fever or symptoms of Covid-19 (which includes cough, shortness of breath, muscle aches, recent unexplained loss of taste or smell, or a sore throat), or have had known exposure to a Covid-19 case in the prior 14 days, or are waiting for Covid-19 test results. **Please register each week by calling the church office (904-797-4416), between 9 AM and 1 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday.**

Sanitization Information

The church Sanctuary building is being cleaned every Saturday by a Janitorial Service and on Sunday afternoons by Enviro-Master Virus Vaporizing Service (<https://enviro-master.com/commercial-cleaning-services/virus-and-germ-spraying/>). Hand sanitizer will be available at various locations.

Palm Sunday

The Sunday immediately preceding Easter Sunday. Palm Sunday commemorates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and begins the series of observances focusing on the events of Holy Week. This Sunday is also often referred to as Passion Sunday, marking the beginning of the passion or suffering of Jesus leading to and including the crucifixion. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, people honored him by putting clothes and big palm leaves on the ground. They praised God and welcomed him by shouting "Hosanna," which means "save us." They believed that God sent Jesus to help them. They believed that Jesus was the king for whom they had been waiting. The crowd knew who Jesus was, and they went wild. They yelled and waved their branches and threw their coats on the ground. It was a time to honor and praise Jesus. It was a time to be glad, for God's servant, Jesus, had come.

Why Eco-Palms

Eco-Palms preserve the vitality of the communities and forests for years to come. Community groups receive 5 to 6 times the normal payment per frond. Eco-Palms are purchased directly from the communities, which lessens the impact of the fluctuating market and allows value-added processing to take place within the community. A typical Eco-Palm is harvested in the forest by men and processed by women in the community. This increases employment opportunities for women in the community and helps them contribute to their family's financial stability. Without a market for the palms the forests are at risk of being converted to agricultural fields. By purchasing Eco-Palms we have the opportunity to improve the conservation of forests and forest species by improving the livelihoods of people living near the forests. Eco-Palms will be available at the Drive-In and In-Person Worship Service on Palm Sunday.

UMCOR-Texas

UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's US disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters. If you wish to make a donation to UMCOR for Texas please make your check payable to St. Augustine Shores UMC and in the memo section of your check put UMCOR US Disaster 310005-901670. Thank you.

Online Services
www.shoresumc.org

Drive-in Service
Come as you are.
Stay in your car!
9:00am
Every Sunday

In-Person
Worship
11:00am
Every Sunday
Reservations
Required



March 17, 2021



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

Church E-mail
shoresumc@bellsouth.net

Web Address
www.shoresumc.org

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.

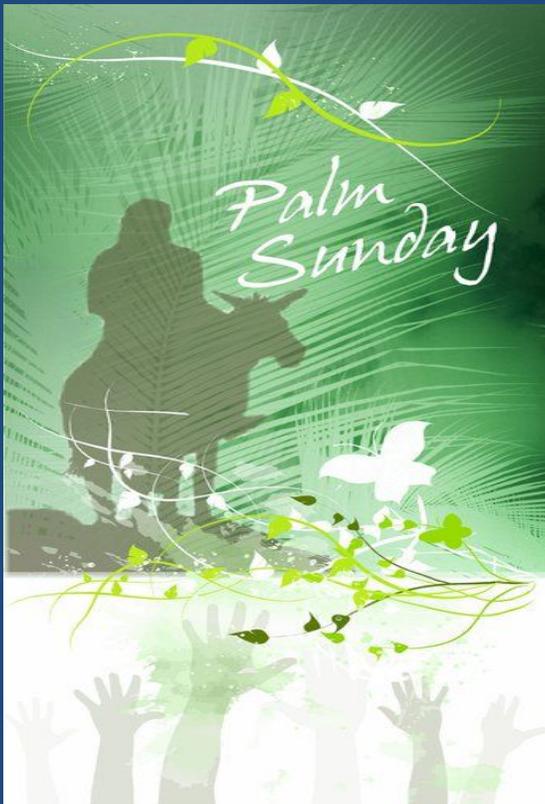
March Scripture/Sermon Titles

3/7/21 – 3rd Sunday in Lent, Communion Sunday
Scripture: John 2:13-22
Message: Sanctuary

3/14/21 – 4th Sunday in Lent
Scripture: John 3:14-21
Message: Look to Jesus

3/21/21 – 5th Sunday of Lent
Scripture: John 12:20-33
Message: Dust

3/28/21 – Palm Sunday
Scripture: Mark 11:1-11
Message: Shout Hosanna



March 28, 2021

