

F.H. & L.

Faith, Hope and Love, and the Greatest of These is Love

A Mini-Newsletter From Your Family at Oakhurst United Methodist Church



OAKHURST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Find us on Facebook

LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, LOVING LIFE

**Our Mission is to make disciples, nurture disciples,
and spread the Kingdom of Christ.**

Dr. Tim Ehrlich, Senior Pastor
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Rev. Nathan Carlson, Associate Pastor
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Hello to our Friends and Family,

June is the wedding month. June also ushers in hurricane season. What do the two have in common? Sometimes a wedding can make you feel like you are in the middle of a hurricane! For the most part, they are opposites. Weddings join two people together before God and man. Hurricanes tend to scatter people to the far reaches to get out of their way. Hurricanes seem to be the nature's imitation of the wrath of God. Weddings are blessed by God.

This year so many weddings have been postponed. This COVID-19 stuff has made a mess of those celebrations we planned. There are some couples who have found a way to celebrate their marriages in unique ways. There are couples who have celebrated their wedding in the street where all their neighbors could watch and participate through the windows and from the porches of their homes. Some have said 'I Do' using Zoom. Where there is a will, there is a way.

After Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana, the steward said to the bridegroom, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." (John 2:10) Today, some of us are waiting for the "good wine" Jesus made. But, just maybe, those creative couples are showing us that the "good wine" is now. In spite of the restriction we have in place, weddings and other celebrations can still take place with a little creativity. If asked, God will bless our celebrations no matter how non-traditional. The big wedding can still take place. The witnesses just get to save a little money on airfare and hotels while joining in on Zoom or Facebook Live.

During these crazy times don't let Hurricane COVID-19 keep you from celebrating big events. Use your imagination and carry-on with your celebration. God will be watching over you wherever and however you do it. Just ask.

*In His Joy,
Your Pastors and Staff*

For those who want the whole story:

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

John 2:1-11

Please wear a cloth face covering.



**Maintain a distance of 6 feet
whenever possible.**



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Happy 90th Birthday, Mildred Zielinski!

**We are sending you tons of
Prayers, Hugs and Love!**

Touch-Free Worship?

While we can't shake the hands of our pastors or pat the shoulder of a fellow church attendee, we are blessed to have the technology to use many of our other senses to participate in worship.

Online worship allows us to see Pastor Tim and Pastor Nathan, giving us reassurances that, yes, they are with us and well. We see glimpses of our familiar church décor or our pastors' home offices, allowing us to feel safe that they are staying safe.

Online worship allows us to hear God's word from our pastors and our lay ministers, congregational prayer concerns, mission updates, the choir's voices, the praise band's music, the God-given talents of our vocalists and instrumentalists.

Instead of going to the House of the Lord to experience worship, we invite the Lord into our own home, and doesn't it feel good to reciprocate the hospitality?

The senses of smell and taste? Well, I don't know about you, but the coffee is brewing in my condo, the bacon is sizzling, and the toast is ready to pop up! It's Sunday morning breakfast with a side of worship. Or is it Sunday morning worship with a side of breakfast? Either way, as you sing along with the hymns or recite spoken responses, remember not to talk with your mouth full! We are even blessed to be able to partake in Communion during this time of isolation. What a privilege that is!

Perhaps we can't touch hands, but we can see and hear the work of the many hands that go into producing our traditional and contemporary online worship events, Bible studies, live prayer time, children's messages, pantry give-and-take, the newsletter, and in mastering the technology that allows all of this to happen.

Perhaps we can't pat a shoulder, but we can see the strong shoulders of the loving souls who are carrying the weight of continuing to provide us with what we need most ... to know that our Lord and our church family are still here. We are not alone.

And we are, indeed, touched!

In gratefulness,

Donna Parrey

Hurricane Humor

Southern Word of the Day: "Namaste"
As in: "Y'all gonna evacuate?"
"Namaste here"

Q: How does a hurricane see?
A: With its eye.



Sunset from the Koontz Family deck in Wilkesboro, NC. (Do you think they will let us spend the rest of our quarantine time with them? LOL)

⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

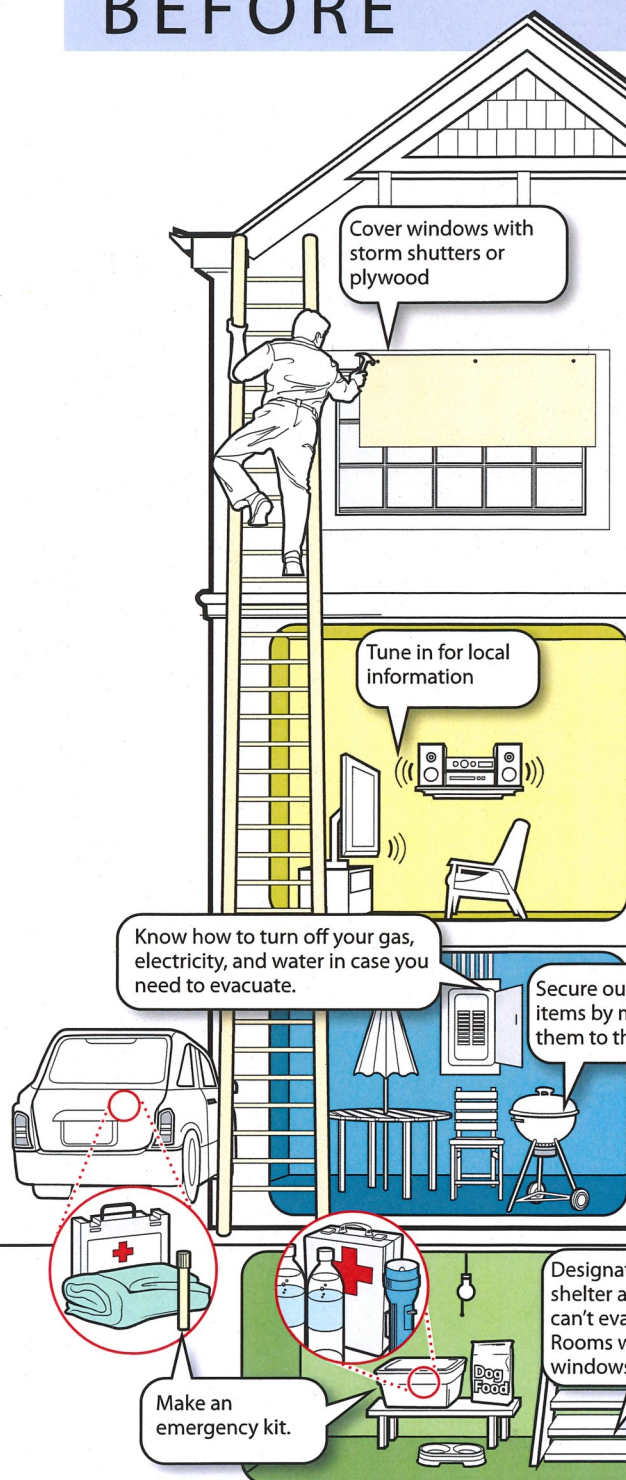
1 Corinthians 13:4-7

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Be ready! Hurricanes

BEFORE



AFTER

