



Cuero First United Methodist

Main Saíl

October
2020



Love Is The Answer

As a recent graduate of seminary and just as a pastor we are asked many times what theologian we most identify with. I find the one who guides my ministry and my life is Bishop Michael Curry. He is the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. He became renowned when he was asked to deliver the sermon at the wedding of Prince Harry and Megan Markle.

Bishop Curry doesn't have a complex theological doctrine that he teaches. He teaches that to be and do what God wants we simply need to love. He believes that if we lead from love then many of the problems and disputes of the world will be worked out because we love. He believes that everything we do must come from the heart of love. And I have become convinced that he is right. Love is what allows us to build a bridge rather than put up a wall.

You see too many people have a misconception about what it means to love. We think that love means holding hands and singing Kum Ba Ya. But that is a very immature idea about what love really is.

You see it is not a stretch to love the people that I would hold hands with and sing. Those people are the ones that usually think and feel like I do. They are the ones that validate who I am whether and what I believe. They are the ones that love me because I am like them.

But what happens when we meet that person that is different from us for whatever reason? Maybe they are a different race, a different physical appearance, speak a different language, are a different religion, or a different political ideology, or love differently than I think they should or just think about the world differently than we do. What happens when "those" individuals come into our sphere of life?

Too many times we put them into the category of "them". And we set in motion the them vs us dilemma. Because they are different we make the unconscious decision to hold them at a distance. They are definitely not the holding hands and singing people that we think about when we so often say love.

But I want you to think about Jesus. In the Gospels, Jesus was the person who loved the people that the Pharisees and other Jews were casting to the side. Jesus loved the unlovable in the eyes of the world. The people that were the hardest to love and the people that no one else would love. He loved the ones who were screaming at the top of their lungs "crucify him". Jesus hanging on the cross not only loved us, he prayed for our forgiveness.

Now understand that this is a radical kind of love. And as long as we are still holding on the immature concept of love we will never be able to embrace the radical love that Jesus lived his whole life.

You see Christian love means that you have to love the people that you don't want to love. They are the people that think so differently than you that your blood boils when you hear what they say. They are the people that do things so differently than you that you can't believe that they are God's beloved children. They are the ones that push all your buttons and make you want to lose your mind. These are the people that we are called to love. They are the "those" people and the "them" people.

God calls us to do away with the labels of them and us and embrace the WE. We are called to love all of God's children. We are called to love the ones who love us back and the ones that we dislike more than anything in the world. It doesn't say in the Bible that we have to agree with everyone. It doesn't say that we have to like the behavior of people especially when we see them doing wrong. But we are called to love. Jesus didn't tell us that we have to hold hands and sing with them. But we do have to love them.

That means praying for them when all we want to do is curse them. That means sometimes we have to take the first step and try to build a relationship with them. A relationship that is based on the teachings of Christ. A relationship based on love. We reach out and love because they are made in the image of the same God that created us.

Love is the answer. Relationship is the answer. There will always be individuals that we will never agree with but there is not a single person that we shouldn't love. God calls us to be the bridge that ends divisiveness and brokenness in our world. And the building blocks for that bridge is love. Love is the answer.

Grace and Peace - Jackie



Meet the Pastor

Come meet and talk with
Pastor Jackie.

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex or
you can call Pam at the church office
to set up a time.

Face Mask Required

Church Office News

- **Office hours**
Mon. – Thurs.
9am – 3pm
(Closed 12-1 for lunch)
- **Face Mask Required**



Devotionals

AM Praise & Sacred Spaces On our YouTube Page

We are providing morning devotionals on Friday mornings and evening devotionals on Tuesday evenings. These are simply times for you to reflect on God's word and hopefully find peace of mind for the times that we are living in. These can be found on our YouTube page.



Trunk-or-Treat

Trunk-or-Treat has been a tradition around Cuero for 20 years. In fact, it started with a few cars in front of our church, with Emily Cheatham leading the way to making Jesus and God's love a shining light in the darkness of the world. Once again, we will be lighting the night with God's love on Saturday night, October 31, (Halloween). *This year will look different, but the love will be the same.*

Details to come on the changes and set-up!

If you do not feel comfortable being out in public this year, I completely understand. We still really need your help. We need prayers before, during and after the event, we don't want anyone getting sick due to this outpouring of love. We also need CANDY!!

You can call or text me to let me know you'll help (361-676-5484). We will have a collection basket for candy donation s in the Narthex or you can drop it at the church office.

I look forward to this exciting tradition and seeing what God will do.

Colette



Virtual - YouTube
Blessing of the Animals
October 4

World Communion Sunday *October 4*



Website

www.cuerofumc.org

YouTube Page

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCej19h0LC2ltOerV56cxYVQ>

Facebook

First United Methodist Church of Cuero





Bible Study

7:00pm on Zoom

October 7, 14, 21 & 28

November 4 & 11

Beginning in October we will begin a study entitled "The Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven". The study will be on zoom and have six sessions.

Evening Book Study

6:00pm on Zoom

October 11, 18 & 25

November 1, 8, 15 & 22

Crucial Conversations – Starting in October our first evening book study will be looking at how do we as Christians engage in high stakes conversations. We will be using information from two well-respected books "Crucial Conversations" and "Fear+Less Dialogues".



October Worship Volunteer Schedule

Date	Liturgist	Ushers
10-4-20	Bob Wood	Mildred & Stayton Weldon
10-11-20	Mildred Weldon	Tom & Emily Cheatham
10-18-20	Bobby Jones	Dianne & Eddie Westmoreland
10-25-20	Tom Cheatham	Charla & Bobby Jones



SHOEBOX MINISTRY

If you've been shopping at all you know that Christmas preparation is well underway. Sadly, most of the emphasis at this point is not centered around the true reason for Christmas – God's precious gift of Jesus, and in turn, eternal life. We might not be able to change the world, but we have the chance to change the lives of children around the world.

This change comes in the form of a shoe box filled with gifts, stories telling of Jesus and God's love, and love and prayers from people who want to share the love that God has abundantly showered on us.

I know that this is not the first year we have done this ministry, but with as crazy as the world seems this year and the amount of hate that we witness every day this is an amazing way to send some love into the world.

We have 75 boxes to fill, which means 75 children learning the God loves them and that we love God enough to love them even though we don't even know them.

You are welcome to pick up a box, or several, fill it and return it to be blessed and shipped. You may go shopping and bring your donations to the box. You can make a monetary donation by Sunday, October 11, so we can order gifts to fill the shoe boxes. You are invited to our church's packing party on Sunday, November 15, after church service which will include a light lunch, fellowship, love and social distancing. You can donate to help cover the shipping costs of the boxes, \$9 a box (\$675). You can PRAY!

As in every evangelism project with prayer, love and each of us doing what we can, we open the door for God to do GREAT things.

If you have any questions, please call or text me (361-676-5484).

Colette



Pumpkin Patch Cancelled





Happy
Birthday

Mildred Weldon	5 th
Pastor Ron Welborn	9 th
Ashley Hunnam	10 th
Shirley Dodge	11 th
Mike Simpson	15 th
Pam Zengerle	17 th
Karen Zengerle	19 th
Darrel Foster	22 nd
Daphine Eldridge	23 rd
Mark Zuniga	25 th
Jayne Cooper	28 th
James Langton	31 st

Happy Anniversary 

Mark & Monica Daigle	26 th
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C.A.M.A.L. House
October Donation Item:

Canned Fruit



“Our vision is to
utilize the
gifts the Holy
Spirit has
given us to
share
God’s grace.”



First United Methodist Church
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