



*"This Morning I Pray For My Enemies" by Joy Harjo*

*And whom do I call my enemy?  
An enemy must be worthy of engagement.  
I turn in the direction of the sun and keep walking.  
It's the heart that asks the question, not my furious mind.  
The heart is the smaller cousin of the sun.  
It sees and knows everything.  
It hears the gnashing even as it hears the blessing.  
The door to the mind should only open from the heart.  
An enemy who gets in, risks the danger of becoming a friend.*

How do we make a nation of many - e pluribus Unum - one, without obliterating anybody? The election is just days away and the rhetoric is at a frenzied pitch. There is name calling and yelling and screaming. People are digging into to oppose those who don't believe the same as they do. Plans are even being made by people about what they are going to do and say if their candidate doesn't win. Just this past Sunday we were reading the words of the Great Commandment. We were committing to love God and love people. And now we are back to the posturing.

I love the poem above. It reminds me that the only difference between an enemy and a friend is what I think and feel about them. If we truly believe what Jesus said when he spoke love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and love your neighbor as yourself, then during this election season we will not be so quick to make those who think differently than we do our enemies. We will pray for those who we disagree with and allow love and the heart to rule our head. We will allow the commandment of God to become the core of our being. We will open our hearts to those who think differently than we do and allow the power of love to help and heal and lift and liberate. We know that love can change the world.

We are called to be the cornerstone people. We are the ones that the world is looking to for guidance. If we can show the world that love is the power that can make things better, then we will be able to lead our brothers and sisters to love God and love people.

This is not going to be easy. We all have a stake in what happens with this election. But is this election worth losing our soul and eternal life for? Is it worth displeasing our heavenly Father for? Is it worth putting more strife and pain and sorrow into the world?

I believe that if most people would speak and act with their heart and listen to what God is telling them, I think that things would be very different. I think most people are good. But too many times we forget to lead with our heart and let our head and our mouth take the lead. So I'm asking you for the next few days until after the election to lead with your heart. To offer grace to those who think differently than you. To take a few extra minutes before you speak words out of anger. I ask that you center yourself on the words of Jesus Christ and remember that we are all made in the image of our Maker and God has called us to love Him and to love our fellow humans. I plead that we take the words of the poem into our being and risk the danger of becoming friends with those who we would make enemies. I call on each of us to love God and love people. Let the following words be our mantra beginning today and for everyday afterwards.

"...We come in love. We come in love because we follow Jesus. And Jesus taught us to love. Love the Lord your God. And love your neighbor. Love your liberal neighbor. Love your conservative neighbor. Love your Democratic neighbor. Love your Republican neighbor. Love your Independent neighbor. Love your neighbor who you don't like. Love the neighbor you disagree with. Love your Christian neighbor. Love your Muslim neighbor. Love your Jewish neighbor. Love your Palestinian neighbor. Love your Israeli neighbor. Love your refugee neighbor. Love your immigrant neighbor. Love the prison guard. **Love your neighbor.**"

Credit for the poem and the quote at the end:

Harjo, Joy, *Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings: Poems*; Copyright © 2015 by W. W. Norton & Company. Reprinted with permission of Anderson Literary Management LLC, 244 Fifth Avenue, Floor 11, New York, NY 10001.

Curry, Michael B. *The Power of Love: Sermons, Reflections, and Wisdom to Uplift and Inspire*. Avery, 2018.

## *Sunday, November 1* *All Saints' Day*

On "All Saints Sunday", we celebrate those who have died during the past year and who continue their journey in another realm, in the fullness of God's glory.



"Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see."



## **SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

*"Declare His Glory among the Nations" Psalm 96: 3*

**Nov. 15**

**Shoebox Packing after Worship**

**Nov. 22**

**Blessing of the Shoeboxes**

**Send gift-filled shoeboxes  
To The Ends Of  
The Earth**

Call Colette Barth for more information  
at 361-676-5484

Dear Congregation,  
Thank you all so much for all the gifts and encouraging words during this month. I feel privileged to be able to serve here and partner with you in ministry. May the peace of Christ be with you one and all.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Jackie Freeman



O GIVE *thanks* TO THE LORD  
FOR HE IS GOOD, FOR HIS STEADFAST  
*Love* ENDURES FOREVER.  
PSALM 107:1



**There will not be a  
Gathering for the  
Annual Cuero FUMC  
Thanksgiving Meal.**

Lord God, it is hard for me to accept  
when someone I care about hurts me. I  
don't want to talk to this person anymore. I  
consider our friendship to be over. And  
all because my pride is bruised. Please  
help me recognize when I am not giving  
others a chance. Amen.



## ***Hello friends!***

I am officially back in the office as of last Monday. I am able to see clients by appointment following a COVID pre-screening survey prior to their visit. I am also continuing "curbside" pickup for supplies following a phone visit as appropriate. I am working out in the community as well touching base with previous community partners to regain contacts I have been unable to reach. All visitors are required to wear a cloth or paper mask. Please pray for the restoration of the Wesley Nurse Health Ministry.

With Love and Blessings to all,  
Sanesa



## CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

This year we are providing multiple worship services on Christmas Eve. Make your plans early, as seating will be limited. Please call the church office to inform us which service & how many will be attending. We need this information in order to follow CDC safety guidelines.

***Face Mask Will Be Required***

Thursday, December 24 @ 4:00pm

Thursday, December 24 @ 6:00pm



## November Worship Volunteer Schedule

Date	Liturgist	Ushers
11-1-2020	Bob Wood	Sue Halbert Jeanine Calliham
11-8-2020	Bobby Jones	Mildred & Stayton Weldon
11-15-2020	Colette Barth	Tom & Emily Cheatham
11-22-2020	Tom Cheatham	Dorothy Brown Jeanine Calliham
11-29-2020	Emily Cheatham	Bobby & Charla Jones



## Christmas Poinsettias

The Worship Committee will be providing Poinsettias for the Christmas Season. The price for each poinsettia is \$10 and the deadline is December 13. Forms & Envelopes will be in the Narthex soon.

## UMW Meeting

November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

No meal served



## Thanksgiving Holiday



Church office closed  
November 25 – 27



"There is always, always, always something to be thankful for."

## Boy Scouts of America

As you may be aware, the national organization of the Boys Scouts of America has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in order to restructure its nonprofit organization and pay sexual abuse survivors who were abused during their time in scouting on or before February 18, 2020. We are requesting your assistance in notifying anyone you are in contact with who may have been involved with Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, or any entity or activity associated with scouting. The deadline to file claims is November 16, 2020. You can also obtain further information and materials by visiting or calling 1-866-907-2721.

Sincerely,  
Official BSA Claim Agent

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Evelyn Boedeker	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Michael Farris	4 <sup>th</sup>
Stephanie Thurman	13 <sup>th</sup>
Bobby Jones	21 <sup>st</sup>
Sara Langton	22 <sup>nd</sup>
D'Aundra Eldridge	26 <sup>th</sup>

*Happy Belated Birthday to*

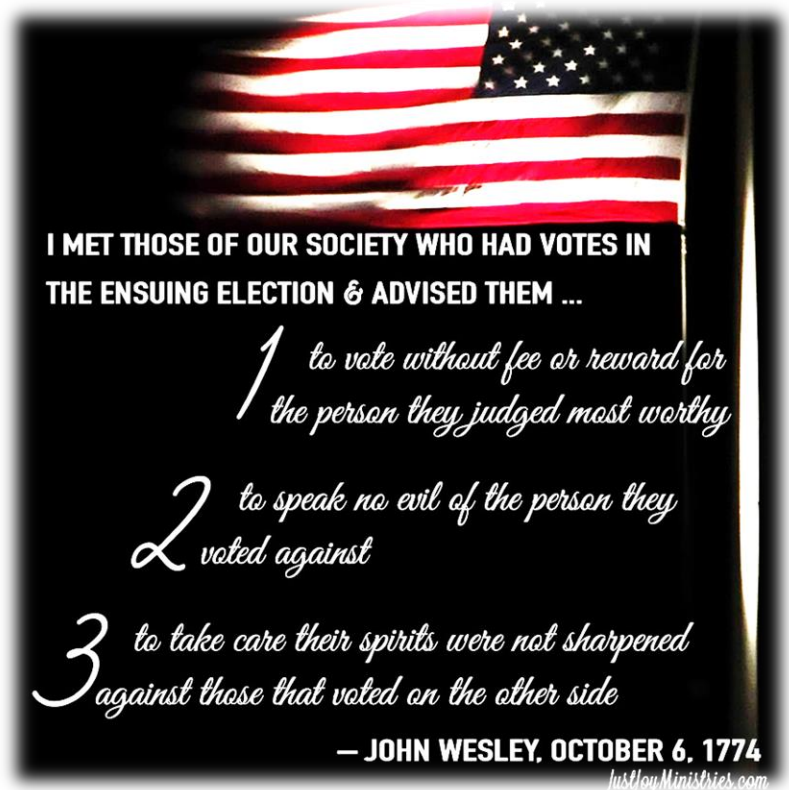
*Euner Johnson*

*October 19*



**C.A.M.A.L. House  
Collection for  
November:**

Small bags of  
Sugar & Flour



First United Methodist Church  
211 N. Clinton Street  
Cuero, TX 77954