

Encourager

Walker Baptist Church

June/July 2020



**GROW IN
YOUR
FAITH
THIS
SUMMER!**

www.walkerbc.org

Activities described in the Encourager and on the calendar are subject to change as needed. The online calendar is kept up to date when changes occur. You can access the updated version on the website.

“Let us not give up meeting together. . . but let us encourage one another--- and all the more as you see the day approaching.” – Hebrews 10:25

SUNDAY SCHEDULE		STAFF	
Youth Sunday School on Zoom	9:00 AM	Chuck McElhannon	Pastor
Walker Worship	10:15 AM	Andy Wolverton	Associate Pastor
Las Americas Worship	12:30 PM	Wally Whidby	Youth Minister
		Jonathan Wells	Worship Leader
		Theresa Rogers	Accompanist
		Taylor Huff	W.E.E. Care Director
WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE		CONTACT INFORMATION	
Youth on Zoom	6:15 PM	Church Telephone	615-794-7000
She-Shed on Facebook Live	6:30 PM	Church Email	ask@walkerbc.org
		Chuck	chuck@walkerbc.org
		Andy	andy@walkerbc.org
		Wally	wally@walkerbc.org
		Jonathan	jonathan@walkerbc.org
		W.E.E. Care Telephone	615-794-1202
		W.E.E. Care Email	weecare@walkerbc.org
		Las Americas	682-240-7533

*Find us on Facebook at
“Walker Memorial Baptist Church
Members and Friends”*

How to Give Online to Walker

We appreciate the Walker Family’s faithfulness in the area of giving, especially during difficult times. Mailing a check is one way to remain a consistent steward, and giving online is another very convenient way. Below are step-by-step instructions for giving online to Walker securely using your bank card or your bank account.



- (1) Navigate to the Walker Baptist Church website - www.walkerbc.org
- (2) Select “ONLINE GIVING” from the headings (on a computer) or from the options on the drop-down menu (on mobile devices).
- (3) Once you have navigated to the Online Giving page, scroll down and choose the red button that says, “CLICK HERE TO GIVE.” You will be directed to a page hosted by REALM, our church management software. Follow the instructions to give using your card or bank account. The system will recognize your email address if we have it on file and give credit on your church contribution record automatically. If you have used the system before and it asks you for a password, you may choose to “Continue as Guest.” If you would like to establish and use a REALM account, ask Andy to send you a system “invitation” to do so. That way, you may access your giving record anytime and store payment information to make future giving simpler.

Dear Walker Members and Friends,



Well, Praise God, it looks like we are finally coming out on the other side!

After months of Live Streaming and online worship from the safety of our own homes, we are planning to return to in-person church gatherings on Sunday, June 7. The first thing we must all do is thank our Heavenly Father for His divine protection and lovingkindness.

I know we all have visions and ideas of what it will look like when we come back together, but allow me to paint a picture of what must happen. Our re-opening will surely be small and gradual. Some of us are cautious and careful; others are adventurous and aggressive. Some are younger and healthier; others are older and deal with ongoing health issues. Some have embraced the wearing of masks; others see them as a necessary evil. All that being said, we will return to church with ALL of you in mind.

We will re-open our church with a few new procedures in place as we adapt to the current situation:

1. Some of you will be wearing masks. Others will not. That is a personal preference, so please keep that in mind and respect one another. Maintain your distance and do what you can to keep each other healthy. We will observe social distancing guidelines while in the worship center. We will rope off every other pew and ask that only family groups sit together.

2. If you are sick or have a fever, please stay home.

3. There will be no welcome and greeting time during the service. I know we miss one another, but we will have to be satisfied with elbow taps and smiles for the time being.

4. We will have ushers stationed at all doors and entrances. They will open the doors for you and your family so you won't have to worry about touching door handles or surfaces. They will be wiping down and sanitizing throughout our time together.

5. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the common areas. We will only be using the worship center and the bathrooms at the welcome center. All other areas should be avoided.

6. For the time being, we will be having 10:15 am worship only. Sunday School classes, Bible Study, children's activities, and any other programs that involve small groups in small spaces will have to wait until a later date. We will not provide nursery during the worship service.

7. We have temporarily removed the pew Bibles and hymnals so you don't have to worry about unnecessary handling.

8. There will be no offering time during the service with the passing of the plates. We ask that you place your offerings and tithes in the plates either as you enter or leave the worship center. They will be stationed at both doors into the worship center.

9. Before we re-open for church on June 7, your staff will be tested for the virus. If any staff member tests positive, they will not be allowed to return until their quarantine time has passed.

10. We will take attendance for all who are in the building. Should someone test positive at a later time, we will then know who to contact for follow-up.

11. We will monitor the situation regularly and gradually open other church programs and events as we feel it is safe to do so.

Thank you all for your faithfulness during this difficult and unusual time. My goal throughout has been to keep us centered on the two most important things Jesus told us: [1] Love God and [2] Love One Another. We'll surely get through this together. As the weeks go by and the situation improves, we will slowly open up more and more of our "regular" church life.

Until then, keep trusting in the Lord, our Rock and our Salvation!

Chuck



June 7	Ed Madden	615-973-3105	July 5	Bobby Hargrove	615-519-1537
June 14	Charlie Irwin	615-566-1455	July 12	Doug Leonard	615-886-0101
June 21	Tom Massey	615-430-9766	July 19	Wally Whidby	615-456-6770
June 28	Bill Reitmeyer	615-943-3705	July 26	Chris Wheeler	615-512-5522

"Progress"



"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." --- Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)

One thing we will all be able to say when it is time to gather once again physically for church is that it is certainly new and different. "We've never done it that way before" will be taken to extremes we never would have dreamed possible! By the time this article is available for you to read, we should be gearing up for our first worship services back inside the building together since March 8th

Not too very long ago I was moving about in the sanctuary and noticed a bulletin that had been overlooked and left in place. It was dated March 8th. That day none of us had any idea it would be our last time to gather freely as a church family, giving hugs, shaking hands, standing close to one another during fellowship time, squirming through narrow gaps between people to reach someone down the aisle, sitting next to one another in Sunday School, etc. We just took all of that for granted.

Guess what we will never take for granted anymore? First, the freedom to gather without a least a tiny thought in the back of our head, wondering if we might be breaking a governmental mandate. Second, the ability to meet together without the concern that we might be causing someone else to become sick by not wearing a mask. We know a lot more about this sickness than we did earlier, but we don't know enough about it to be absolutely certain that we can't transmit it to others. Third, we will no longer take for granted the simple pleasures of doing any activity that could result in being close to other people – whether exercise, shopping, watching a movie, sitting in a crowded restaurant, or visiting our families.

Even if you are one who believes that our exaggerated response to this situation has been largely unnecessary, you have been affected right along with everyone else. If it wasn't a crisis in and of itself, we have made it a crisis through the economic destruction of our nation and world – which will result in more lives lost in the long run than the virus could possibly take. Perhaps your heart breaks along with mine over the multiple millions of families that have lost their livelihoods and quality of life, parents under great stress unable to meet basic or extended financial

(Associate Pastor's message continued)

obligations, losing homes, cars, medical care, and mental health. When will we hear the reporting of the objective number of people who were already living on the edge emotionally and financially – who decided it was now all just too much to handle? How many marriages have met their end from the added stress? How many children have been left stranded away from the structure of school and the security of social interaction? How many people who were beginning to show an interest in the Lord and His Church – ministered to by God's people in real and personal ways – have been lost in the shuffle of trying to be just the "online" church?

Those are questions that weigh heavily on my heart. It's not that I know very specific instances of any of these situations – it's just that I *know* deep in my heart by common sense that when there is this much disruption of life, these things are going to happen by extension. And there is something else that weighs heavily on my heart – knowing that some of the people who matter most in the world to me are very susceptible to the effects of a sickness like this. Again, the numbers speak loudly – age and other conditions are powerful factors. Life may never look the same as it once did a very short time ago, but it must go on, and no one can live in a bubble indefinitely. A positive side of this for sure is that all of us have come to appreciate the time we have together more than ever before, and that is a great thing.

Yes, God is doing a new thing. He always is. Sometimes we have no choice but to recognize it. Unless there is a major development between this writing and the first of June, we will have our first Sunday service back at church on June 7th. It will be different – and more details will follow about what exactly that means. But anything we do will be done not out of fear, but out of love and consideration for one another. For some, it may not yet be the right time to return, but better days are ahead. God is doing something new. It is springing up before us if we will perceive it. He will bring from all of this wilderness and wasteland something good if we will cooperate as His Church and allow Him to do so.

Walking with You,

Andy



Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he can not see the kingdom of God. John 3:3 (KJV)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Kody Leonard—Independence HS
Transition 2 Program
Interest: Child Care Provider



Sammy Johnson—Independence HS
Columbia State Community College
Interest: Nursing



Stephen Wheeler—Franklin HS
Transition 2 Program
Interest: Body Shop Foreman



Harrison Lackey—Brentwood HS
Belmont University

GRACEWORKS

HELP SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORS

Critical Needs

- Non-perishable foods. All are needed. Most needed now: tuna, hearty meals (*beef stew, chili, and ravioli*), cereal, canned meat, mac and cheese.
- Baby Products: Diapers (*sizes 3,4,5, and 6*), baby formula
- Household & Hygiene Products: Toilet paper, laundry detergent, shampoo, deodorant
- Financial Assistance: You may give through the church or directly to Graceworks.

You may bring the items to the church or take them directly to Graceworks. If you want to deliver them yourself, they ask you make these donations Monday through Friday from 9am to 12pm. You can bypass the food line, enter the parking lot, and tell the parking attendant you are there to make a pantry donation. They will direct you to the safest place .



The annual Fish Fry is tentatively scheduled for September 26th. Marti is going ahead with the planning since there is much to be done. Therefore, she will be asking for volunteers as usual. Of course, we are aware that this may need to be changed depending on the circumstances in our community and nation.



JUNE Tom & Jeanette Massey

JULY The Leonard Family

CHURCH-WIDE COOK-OUT
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24th
6:00 PM

Music Worship
Fellowship



<p>June 7 Gene Austin Keith Norwood Wally Whidby Larry Newell</p>	<p>June 14 Kevin Adair Glenn Gatlin Monte Garnette Raymond Vaughan</p>
<p>June 21 Reese Potts Charlie Irwin Wayne Mangrum Randy Hazelwood</p>	<p>June 28 Charlie Young Doug Leonard Marvin Cox Wally Whidby</p>
<p>July 5 Nick Lunn II Nick Lunn III Nick Lunn IV Chris Wheeler</p>	<p>July 12 Kevin Norwood Larry Newell Kevin Adair Glenn Gatlin</p>
<p>July 19 Ed Madden Tom Massey Bill Reitmeyer Marvin Cox</p>	<p>July 26 Monte Garnette Raymond Vaughan Charlie Irwin Reese Potts</p>
<p>USHERS SUBJECT TO CHANGE</p>	

FEATURING OUR COLLEGE AND MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES



PAIGE MASSEY
Lincoln Memorial University
Will be completing her Medical Residency
at St. Thomas Hospital Midtown.







EMILY SANDERS
University of Tennessee Martin
Will be attending graduate school at the
University of Tennessee Nashville

Regular Sunday Schedule

June 2020

Worship 10:15 AM
 In person and on Facebook at Walker Memorial Baptist
 Church (one with red shirt with fish hook)




















Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <i>Mary Hargrove JoAnn Wyatt Andrew Wheeler</i> 	3 She-Shed 6:30 pm	4 <i>Gene Austin</i> 	5 <i>Henrietta Whidby Burnis Cummings</i> 	6
7 <i>Boyd Potts</i> 	8	9 <i>Barbara Madden Jamie Hazelwood</i> 	10 She-Shed 6:30 pm	11 <i>Katy Carrier</i> 	12	13
14 <i>Nick Lunn III</i>  	15 <i>Brenda Johnson</i> 	16	17 <i>Emily Sanders Elizabeth Lee</i> 	18	19 <i>Jacob Hazelwood</i> 	20
21 <i>Bill Reitmeyer</i>  	22 <i>Kate Lee</i> 	23	24 COOKOUT AT JIM WARREN PARK 6:00 PM	25	26 <i>Kay LaFever</i> 	27 <i>Natalie Chunn</i> 
28 <i>Kelly Lee</i>  Youth Sunday School via Zoom 9:00 am	29 <i>Angie Carson</i> 	30	 <p style="text-align: center;">LADIES You won't want to miss She-Shed as we study selected Psalms. On Facebook Live at She-Shed Walker Ladies until further notice. Wednesdays at 6:30 pm</p>			

Regular Sunday Schedule

July 2020

Worship 10:15 AM
 In person and on Facebook at Walker Memorial Baptist
 Church site (one with red shirt with fish hook)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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<p>WATCH FOR SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT THE YOUTH BBQ and FALL KICKOFF! MARTI & WALLY ARE EXPLORING CREATIVE OPTIONS.</p>			<p><i>1</i></p> <p>Youth Fish Tank via Zoom 6:15 pm</p> <p>She-Shed 6:30 pm</p>	<p><i>2</i> Matthew Donoho </p>	<p><i>3</i> Terry Reed </p>	<p><i>4</i> </p>
<p><i>5</i> Henrietta Parker </p> <p>Youth Sunday School via Zoom 9:00 am</p>	<p><i>6</i> Andrew Donoho  James Hazelwood III </p>	<p><i>7</i></p>	<p><i>8</i> Charlene Williams </p> <p>Youth Fish Tank via Zoom 6:15 pm</p> <p>She-Shed 6:30 pm</p>	<p><i>9</i></p>	<p><i>10</i></p>	<p><i>11</i></p>
<p><i>12</i></p> <p>Youth Sunday School via Zoom 9:00 am</p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i> Cherry Jackson </p>	<p><i>15</i> </p> <p>Youth Fish Tank via Zoom 6:15</p> <p>She-Shed 6:30 pm</p>	<p><i>16</i> Chris Wheeler  Nicholas Lunn IV </p>	<p><i>17</i></p>	<p><i>18</i> Jami Lunn </p>
<p><i>19</i> Walt Gatlin </p> <p>Youth Sunday School via Zoom 9:00 am</p>	<p><i>20</i></p>	<p><i>21</i> Jessica Groves  Marty Carson </p>	<p><i>22</i> Judy Goins </p> <p>Youth Fish Tank via Zoom 6:15 pm</p> <p>She-Shed 6:30 pm</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i> Henry Jefferson </p>	<p><i>25</i></p>
<p><i>26</i></p> <p>Youth Sunday School via Zoom 9:00 am</p>	<p><i>27</i> Billie King </p>	<p><i>28</i></p>	<p><i>29</i> Isabella Conley </p> <p>Youth Fish Tank via Zoom 6:15 pm</p> <p>She-Shed 6:30 pm</p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	<p><i>31</i></p>	