

THE PULSE

MCFARLAND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

a church with heart - weekly newsletter

"I will put my teaching in their minds and write it on their hearts..."
Jeremiah 31:33



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8th 2020

Worship Using Zoom Technology 10am at this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/97010988439> Note: Because of the threat of "Zoom Bombing," Sunday Morning Worship is password protected. If you would like to join us, and do not yet have the password, please email our very warm and friendly choir director Tom Ludwig at tludwig.rn@gmail.com.

Bible Study 11:45am <https://zoom.us/j/262314649>

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY thru FRIDAY

Devotion & Check In
8:00 am

We will continue to have morning devotion time Mon. through Fri.

Link

Here: <https://zoom.us/j/94276813637>

TUESDAYS

Bible Study &
Discussion 6:30 pm

NEW THIS WEEK! Bryan will facilitate a bible discussion time.

Link Here:

<https://zoom.us/j/95481817891>

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Inhale
6:30 pm

We focus on spiritual practices that help nurture our connection to God & help us stay grounded in the Spirit.

Link Here:

<https://zoom.us/j/123020606>

a few words from Pastor Bryan...

Hi Beloved MUCCers,

What a week so far. It is Wednesday at 2:45 p.m. as I write this, and everything seems so fluid in terms of the election that I'm really not sure where we'll be by the time this message reaches you tomorrow. At this moment, Wisconsin has been called for Biden, and protestors are gathered outside the vote counting facility in Detroit and making it difficult for the counters to do their job there. Other swing states are still unresolved. It's hectic and no winner has been officially declared. As we all know, whatever results initially emerge are likely to be challenged and unresolved for a while.

So to state the obvious, 2020 continues to be a wild year of unpredictable and uncontrollable situations and challenges. But then again, is life ever really predictable or controllable? Not really in my experience. Oh we may think we're in control or that we can somehow manipulate outcomes or make things happen, but life usually has a way of reminding us that we simply don't know what's coming our way.

A Bible verse I've quoted lots over the years, and most often just quietly to myself, is Proverbs 27:1:

Boast not of tomorrow,
for you do not know what
today may bring forth.

Oh it's great to make plans and to have goals. I'm all for that. In fact I've got a long list of things I plan on doing in the next few days and beyond and I would imagine many of you do as well. But it's also just helpful to remember that there are very few things we can truly count on happening exactly as we would draw them up if we somehow had the power to do so.

And 2020. I mean really. Who could possibly have seen all this coming?

And yet... there are a few things that we can count on, no matter what life throws our way.

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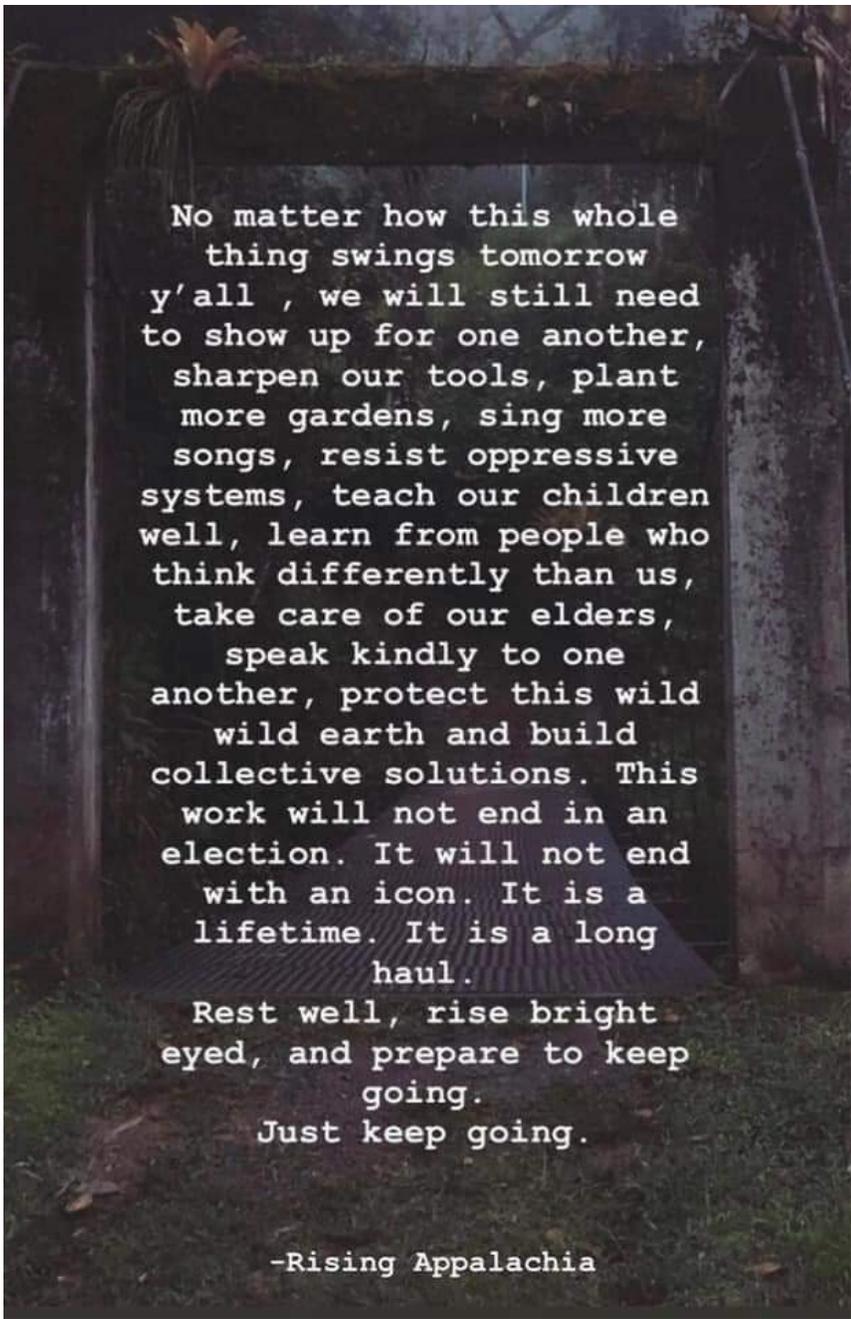
a few words from Pastor Bryan...

We can, for example, count on God being with us and empowering and equipping us to face anything we've got to face. We can count on our congregation being a circle of people who will stand with us when we need friendship, support, or love. We can build our lives, as I said in my message last week, on Divine Truths and principles that are worth living and even dying for and that will stand up to any and every challenge. And we can count on our work and calling as instruments of Divine Healing and Justice in this world to continue for as long as we live. I could go on, but you get the point. Our identity as followers of Jesus grounds us in many things that we can count on, though that certainly doesn't mean we're in control.

Another thing I seem to be able to count on is that a good handful of you keep reaching out to me with words of encouragement and support, and also with wonderful articles, social media memes, and reasons to laugh. I'm going to leave you with a wonderful post just sent to me a little while ago by MUCC member Trish Kalhagen. It's a post-election exhortation of sorts attributed to "Rising Appalachia." Thanks so much Trish. Love this!

I'm so grateful to and for you all. Hang in there and I hope to see you soon at zoom worship and/or another of our almost daily (except Saturdays) zoom programs.

Pastor Bryan



No matter how this whole
thing swings tomorrow
y'all , we will still need
to show up for one another,
sharpen our tools, plant
more gardens, sing more
songs, resist oppressive
systems, teach our children
well, learn from people who
think differently than us,
take care of our elders,
speak kindly to one
another, protect this wild
wild earth and build
collective solutions. This
work will not end in an
election. It will not end
with an icon. It is a
lifetime. It is a long
haul.
Rest well, rise bright
eyed, and prepare to keep
going.
Just keep going.

-Rising Appalachia

CONNECT WITH US

CHURCH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor Bryan Sirchio

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SaLT

(Servant & Leadership Team)

salt@mcfarlanducc.org

NOTE: this email address goes out to all SaLT Members listed below:

Hélène Benink, Moderator
moderator@mcfarlanducc.org

Colleen Krattiger, Vice Moderator

Joan Jacobsen, Treasurer
treasurer@mcfarlanducc.org

Anne Gerke, Clerk
clerk@mcfarlanducc.org

Lavon Geasland, Ann Ross, Cindy Wendorf, SaLT Members

FINANCIAL

SECRETARIES

finsec@mcfarlanducc.org

Sue Haeffner & Ann Ross

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Other Helpful Email Addresses You Might Like to Have

N.I.O.N. nion@mcfarlanducc.org

Eco-Justice Green Team ecojustice@mcfarlanducc.org



IT'S ALL ON THE WEB!

CALENDAR with QUICK UP TO DATE EVENT INFO

mcfarlanducc.org/calendar

EVENT DETAILS

(easy to share with friends)
mcfarlanducc.org/upcoming-events

ONLINE DIRECTORY

(password protected to respect privacy of those who offered their personal information. Call or email Melissa in the office for the login password)
Mcfarlanducc.org/directory

FORMS

(Church Building Use, Ministry Idea, etc)
Mcfarlanducc.org/forms

ALL CURRENT SIGNUPS

Mcfarlanducc.org/signups

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.