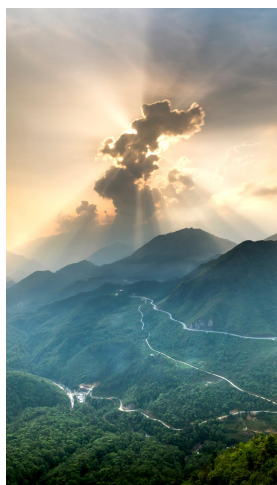


THE PULSE

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, AUGUST 30 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/624201194>

(more information below in Pastor Bryan's note)

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Inhale
6:30 pm

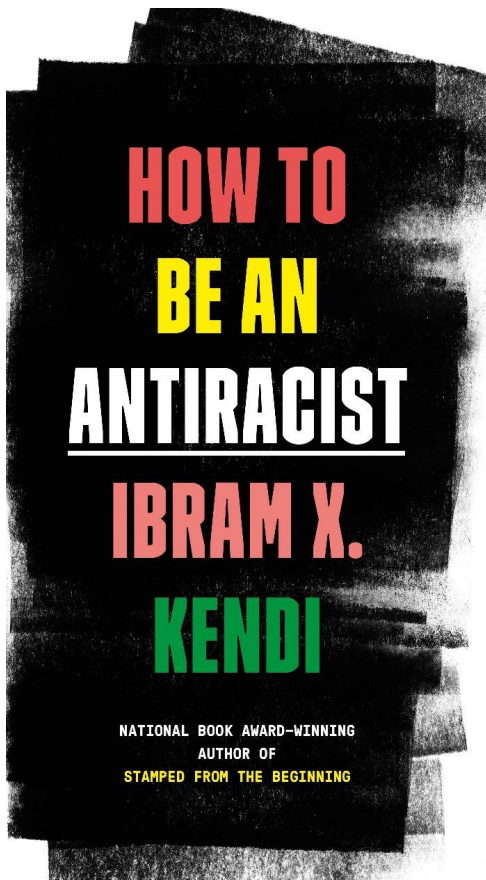
We focus on spiritual practices that help nurture our connection to God & help us stay grounded in the Spirit.

Link Here:

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

(more information below in Pastor Bryan's note)

HAPPENING NOW!



Racial Justice Book Group

email office@mcfarlanducc.org to join!

Many of us have been touched by the racial injustices that we've seen over the past several years, but this year - particularly with the George Floyd killing in Minneapolis - these events have really hit us in the core of our faith.

We feel the need to educate ourselves on what has happened and is still happening to people of color in our country, and one way to do this is to educate ourselves by gathering information that we may not have been aware of.

We've formed a book group to discuss some of the books on this subject, and the first book we're reading is "How to Be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi. Our first meeting (over Zoom) will be in mid-September (specific time and date TBD).

Please send an email to Melissa (office@mcfarlanducc.org) if you would like to join. All are welcome, and we're looking forward to a great discussion.



a few words from Pastor Bryan...

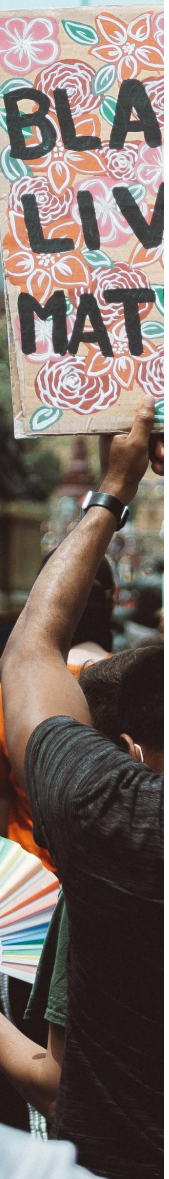
Hi everyone.


To state the obvious, this world of ours continues to be in the midst of great turmoil. You do not need me to recount the news to you regarding the tragic shooting of Jacob Blake in Kenosha earlier this week, or the resulting protests and rage and destruction of property in downtown Madison and many other cities throughout the country. Or the killings Tuesday night of two protestors in Kenosha, and this time by armed civilians. God help us all.

As your pastor, what I will say is that we will do our best to continue to be the Church at this moment in history. We will support each other emotionally and spiritually and gather around those in our immediate and surrounding community who are directly impacted by this violence and by the ongoing fear and terror that people of color live with every day, including here in McFarland. Our prayers and love go out to MUCC member Harold Stafford who owns two coffee shops on State Street in Madison that have been impacted by the violence and vandalism once again. We are with you in any way we possibly can be Harold, and we grieve with you and other business leaders as once again you do your best to literally pick up the pieces and regroup and recover.

Members of our congregation are also continuing to discuss how to work effectively and boldly for racial justice here in McFarland. We are participating in conversation and action with the village board and with citizens in McFarland who are forming an organization to keep racial justice in the forefront of everyone's lives. Rachel Saladis of our congregation is one of the leaders of this newly formed organization, and I am also involved in this effort. Mike Flaherty of our congregation serves on the village board and will play an important role in the processes and commitments of the board toward racial justice in McFarland.

(continued on next page)





Here at our own congregation we will soon begin a book study on Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's book, *How To Be An Antiracist*. We will begin our efforts to make sure that the symbols and toys and artwork in our church building decentralize whiteness as the norm. We will soon begin our own developing educational program and process through which we will offer opportunities to educate ourselves regarding the history and current realities of white privilege and supremacy in the Church and in our nation.

We will also continue, in the midst of this world's turmoil, to remind ourselves of who we are as followers of Jesus Christ. That means we will nurture the growth of the "fruits of the Spirit"—love, kindness, goodness, patience, gentleness, self-control, faithfulness, peace, and joy. We will prayerfully embrace the biblical mandates of justice, compassion, and humility. This is who we are as the Body of Christ, and being the Church means helping each other come back home to these commitments and attributes and expressions of God's Grace, especially when it is hard.

We'll also help each other make ends meet if and when it gets tough to pay the bills, which it is for more than a few of us. So if you are struggling in any way, please know that our congregation is with you, and don't hesitate to be in touch with me. We may not always be able to solve a problem, but at the very least we will face it together and remind you that you are not on your own in this world.

AND—maybe most importantly at this point—we will remind each other that this crazy world is still full of beauty, and love, and laughter, and so many blessings for which to be grateful. That is not shallow "positive thinking" or pious "God talk." That is the Truth at the heart of Reality and at the heart of the Gospel—the Good News—of Christ. Yes, it is easy to sometimes lose sight of this Truth, and that is why we need each other's encouragement and friendship and support.

It is such a privilege to be your pastor.
Love and blessings to you all,
Pastor Bryan

Pastor Bryan Out of Town This Week

Bruce Fischer To Preach! Pastor Kristin Gorton on Call

Pastor Bryan will be on vacation from August 27–September 2nd. If pastoral support is needed, Pastor Kristin Gorton will be on call for you in Bryan's absence. Kris's number is 608-438-6307. Our own Bruce Fischer is going to offer the message during this Sunday's zoom worship, so be sure to tune in and hear what the Spirit is laying on Bruce's heart to share. Speaking of offering a message, the next time Pastor Bryan will be out of town will be Sunday,

September 20th. If you would like to offer the message on that Sunday, please speak to Pastor Bryan about it. Bryan will help you think and pray through what you might say if you like, and also help you find Scripture verses to work with. Don't be shy about this! You will be blessed yourself in the process, and it is always a gift to others in our congregation to hear from church members and friends in this way.



CONNECT WITH US

CHURCH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor Bryan Sirchio

pastorb@mcfarlanducc.org
608-577-8716

Melissa Mendl, Office Admin

office@mcfarlanducc.org
608-838-9322

Office Hours: T/W/TH/F 9-1pm

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

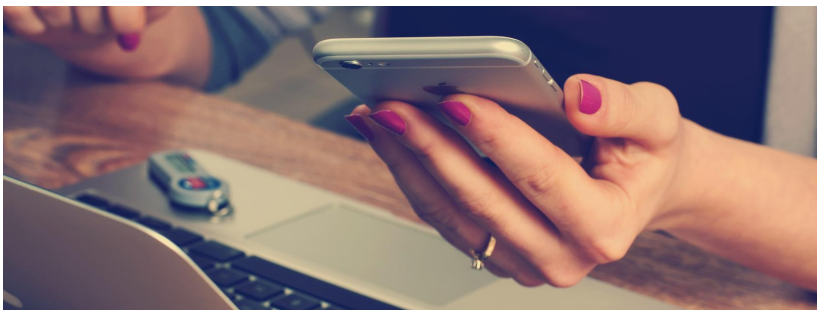
Sue Haeffner & Ann Ross

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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.

General Fund Summary Aug 2019 - July 2020
 (Funds for general operating expenses)

SaLT review 08/06/2020

Month	Revenue	Expenses	Variance
Aug-19	12,438	7,516	4,922
Sep-19	15,065	13,613	1,451
Oct-19	14,889	16,320	(1,431)
Nov-19	14,404	10,896	3,508
Dec-19	17,458	15,375	2,084
Jan-20	12,853	12,029	824
Feb-20	16,125	12,226	3,899
Mar-20	12,564	12,099	465
Apr-20	16,656	16,683	(27)
May-20	14,261	10,159	4,102
Jun-20	15,758	11,085	4,673
Jul-20	14,692	19,905	(5,213)
Total	177,163	157,906	19,257

2020 Budget

\$174,273

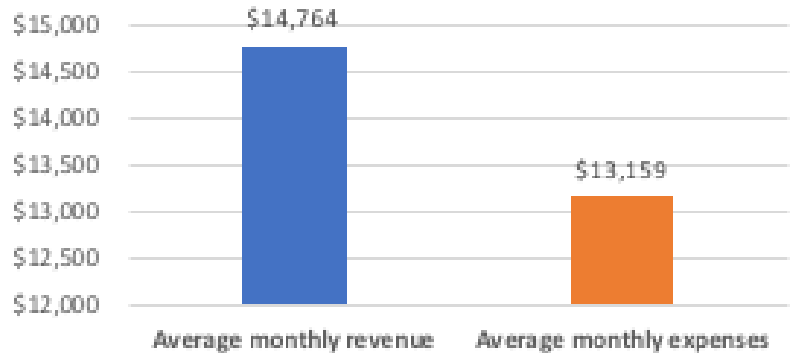
**Average Monthly Revenue
 Needed to Meet Budget**

\$14,523

**Actual Average Monthly
 Revenue Aug 2019-Jul 2020**

\$14,764

Last 12 Months - Average



MUCC Monthly Operations - Last 12 Months

