

The Messenger

October 7, 2020



UPDATE: Limited Meetings resume **Prior approval by Building Review Committee is required**

Good News! The church is ready to take the next steps in reopening some parts of the church for important events.

Funeral services and chapel weddings for church members and their families have been approved by the Executive Committee. The same protocol guidelines used for in-person Sunday morning worship apply to funeral services held in the Sanctuary. Chapel weddings do have specific rules and protocol guidelines for the family to follow and are subject to approval by the Board at the next meeting.



There have been requests to resume in-person group meetings at the church. The Executive Committee has approved for this to happen with some restrictions.

Group meetings are restricted to only our church family at this time. A review for allowing other groups (Scouts / Clean Air) to use the church will not be conducted until January 2021.

Group meetings can be scheduled beginning in October 2020.

Group meetings do require prior approval and must be added to the church calendar. The Building Review Committee will handle the approval process for the Executive Committee (see below). Recurring meetings are approved one time and all planned meetings placed on the calendar at that time.

Group meetings need to be scheduled around the custodian's work schedule. This is to ensure sufficient cleaning time is allowed between the use of the space (group meetings) and Sunday Morning in-person worship (which comes before all other needs). For example, a meeting that takes place on Tuesday evening allows time for Dale to clean the space on Wednesday morning, however a meeting on Saturday does not allow time for Dale to clean the space before Sunday morning.

Group meetings are restricted to the Fellowship Hall (the easiest space to clean) and to the nearby restrooms. Attendees would be restricted to this space.

Continued on next page...

Nursery could be available when needed – guidelines will apply.

The Kitchen continues to be “off limits” and not used at this time.

Group meeting leaders are required to ensure all in-person attendees read the protocol guidelines and use a sign-in sheet for each meeting.

Group meeting leaders are also required to use the sign-in sheet at the Avenue A entrance so the custodian knows what areas to clean after the meeting.

The Building Review Committee has set up the Avenue A Foyer to have the supplies needed (thermometer, masks, hand sanitizer, etc) available for Group Meeting attendees.

The Approval Process

Group meetings, funeral services and weddings will need to go through an approval process so that protocol guidelines can be communicated and the event can be added to the church calendar.

Contact the church office by calling 972-272-5423 or by sending an email to officeadmin@fccgarland.org

Communicate request for group meeting, funeral service, or wedding.

Office administrator will send request to Building Review Committee. (Cyndy Smith – leader)

Building Review Committee will evaluate request and send protocol guidelines.

Once requestor has agreed to the guidelines (signed document or email acknowledgment) the event will be added to the church calendar.

Executive Committee will be consulted if event falls outside of current approvals.

The Church Member making the request for use of the church is responsible for ensuring attendees know and follow the protocol guidelines.

Want to get your event on the calendar?

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

- Event leader contacts the office administrator and give the details of the event
- Wait for the Building Review Committee for approval
- Once approved, event leader sends signed guidelines agreement to the church office
- Once event ends, give sign-in sheet to church office

Stewardship 2021

Our Stewardship Campaign is now underway. An email from the Stewardship Chair went out on Monday, September 28th with a link to the Time & Talent and Pledge card. A few were also mailed out.

You can email them to stacey@cloptoncpa.com

or fill it out online at www.fccgarland.org/stewardship2021.

Stewardship Sunday is October 11th.



Communion Elements



If you have exhausted your supply of pre-filled communion cups and wafers and would like some more as you take part in worship at home, please contact the church office 972-272-5423 or officeadmin@fccgarland.org. There are kits assembled and we'll make an arrangement for you to come to the church to pick some up.

Spiritual Development Offerings

Many of us are spending more time at home—but there's several options for spiritual enrichment available to us. Read about what's coming up.

Study of Ephesians

Rev. Dr. Douglas Skinner, member of our congregation, invites you to a Bible Study.

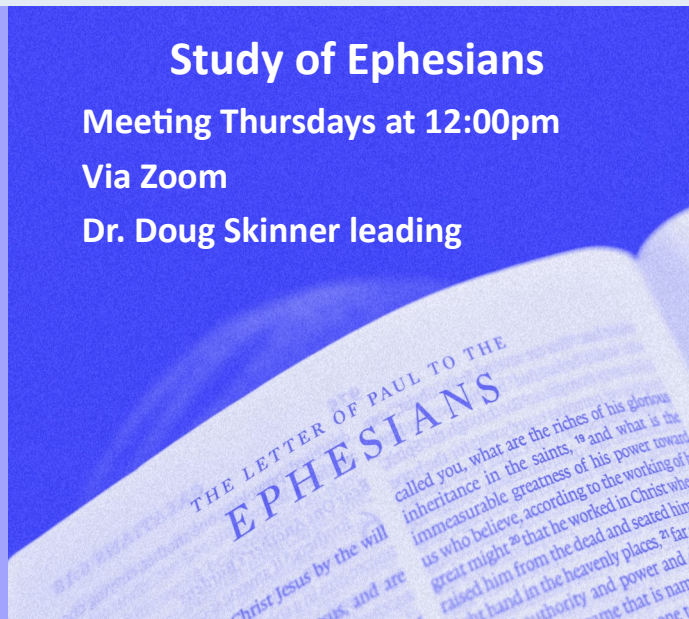
The class will meet weekly, Thursday at noon. Check your email each week for the link to the Zoom meeting.

Study of Ephesians

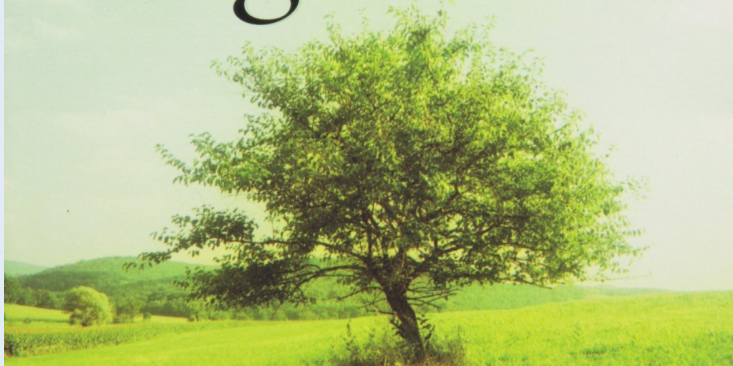
Meeting Thursdays at 12:00pm

Via Zoom

Dr. Doug Skinner leading



Life Together



**A Study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer
with Rev. Dave Hargrave via Zoom
Beginning October 5 at 7:00pm**

Life Together—Study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Beginning Monday, October 5 through
November 16

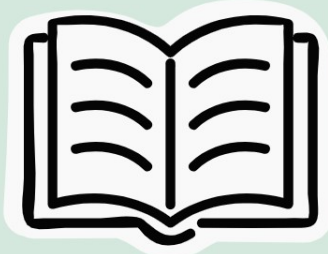
Via Zoom

7:00pm

Rev. David Hargrave leading

Spiritual Development Opportunities

continued



Small Group Study

Paul's Letter to the Philippians

With Dr. Dan Jones
Beginning Wed. October 7th

CCSW REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

**SAVE
THE DATE**

Regional Assembly of the Christian Church in the Southwest

October 8-9 (Friday & Saturday)

“Crossing the Threshold”

Workshops, Worship and Business

Online

Midweek

Pause

Each

Wednesday at

3:00pm

Mid-Week Pause

Be sure to check out Dr. Dan and Rev. Dave every Wednesday at 3:00pm for their **Mid-Week Pause**. These are days of high anxiety for us as a Church. It's a hard time for so many. Quite frankly, we could all use a break—just a minute or two to refocus and get some perspective. Take a few moments each week for a meditation and spiritual renewal from your ministers. Watch on the [FCC Garland Facebook page](#) or on the [FCC Garland YouTube channel](#).

YOUTH EVENTS

The following youth meetings will happen in person at the church in the Fellowship Hall.

October 11th @ 4:00pm—ChiRho

October 18th @ 4:00pm—CYF

October 25th @ 4:00pm—All youth groups

How can I give to the Church?

[Click here to give online!](#)

You are asked to place your offering into an offering plate as you enter the sanctuary. We will not be passing an offering plate during the service. We encourage all who can to use direct deposit or regular mail to our CPA for your offering:

Clopton & Company

ATTN: Stacey Garretson

610 Main Street

Garland, TX 75040

WHEN IS IT SAFE FOR ME TO RETURN TO CHURCH?

When determining whether to attend an in-person worship service, we understand it is a personal decision that each of us must make based on our comfort level. We understand that while everyone may not have the same level of comfort in returning to the building, some are comfortable and ready. Therefore, we will continue offering online services while we add in-person services.

Steve Sutton has provided the following guidance which we believe may be helpful to you in making your decision.

It is suggested to evaluate your health-status by:

- Communicating with your Primary Care Physician's office regarding your medical history and risk factors for high-risk illness associated with contracting COVID-19.
- Is it safe for you to risk herding and exposure to COVID-19 in public specific with your medical history?
- Do you have any of the following known high-risks for hospitalization associated with COVID-19?

- | | |
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| ◇ Coronary Artery Disease | ◇ Immune Deficiency (HIV/AIDS, Auto-Immune Disease(s), others, etc.) |
| ◇ Heart Disease | ◇ History of Deep Vein Thrombosis |
| ◇ Blood Clotting / Embolism History | ◇ Cancer and Risk for Hypercoagulable (Blood Clotting) Disorder |
| ◇ Stroke History | ◇ Pregnancy |
| ◇ Congestive Heart Failure | ◇ Obesity |
| ◇ Cardiac Arrhythmias | ◇ African American |
| ◇ Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease | ◇ Sickle Cell Disease |
| ◇ Respiratory history, Reactive Airway Disease / Inflammatory Diseases | ◇ Immobilization |
| ◇ Diabetic | ◇ Prolonged Travel |
| ◇ Advanced Age | |

High-risk individuals based on age or predisposed health conditions may decide to not to attend the in-person service and wait a little longer before coming to the church. We are dedicated to making sure all members have access to a weekly service whether in person or online. Please reach out to the church office (officeadmin@fccgarland.org) if you need assistance connecting with the church.



IS IT SAFE?