

❖ Faith Builder ❖

Volume 21 Issues 1

“A Church with a Heart for People”

January 2021

Message from the pastor

Lean In & Reach Out

Dear Faith Family,

This Sunday my sermon will be about looking back on 2020 and looking ahead at 2021. While it's no surprise that 2020 was totally different than expected, and most likely 2021 will have more of the same (at least for a while), our church mission is still, “to be/make genuine disciples of Jesus, transforming our community/world with His love.”

For this reason, this new year, I am asking our church family to make a concerted effort to **Lean In & Reach Out**. *Lean in is about doing the things we can to grow closer to Jesus. Reach out has to do with reaching out to our friends, neighbors, and community in intentional efforts to draw them closer to Jesus.*

Knowing God and loving our neighbors are the reasons for our existence. These are the foundation of what it means to worship and love Jesus. And while Covid and its accompanying restrictions have made it somewhat difficult for us to accomplish these tasks, they are no excuse to stop doing them altogether. Instead, these challenging times are an opportunity to stretch ourselves even further, to learn to adapt and change up our approach. I say opportunity because I believe God is calling us to something great. Viruses and lockdowns are no obstacle for Him. In fact, history has shown that oftentimes it is in the most difficult of circumstances that the gospel has thrived the most.

In light of this, I really want to encourage you to think of at least one thing you can do this year to take the next step in *leaning into the ministries of our church, and one thing you can do to take the next step in reaching out to your neighbors and community. If God does indeed have great plans for you and for us, we would be fools to miss out on them simply because we were too lazy or too busy or too afraid to accept His invitation.*

So what is God calling you to do this year? What is your next step? What is He seeking to do in you, and in what ways is He seeking to use you in the life of others? I hope you'll tune in this Sunday to consider several ways I believe our church needs you to lean in and reach out. And I hope you'll continue to journey with us the whole year as we continue to focus on fulfilling our mission to be and to make genuine disciples,



Giving Options

We now have online giving! Please see our webpage (www.fairedmonds.org) or download the Tithe.ly app to be able to make payments through credit card. Or, you can still send in checks through the mail. Thank you for your faithfulness during this difficult season!



Thank You for Your Financial Support

December 2020

Income:	\$12,643.00
Expenses:	\$16,327.34
	\$(3,684.84)

YTD

Income:	\$177,700.13
Expenses:	\$188,044.51
	\$(10,344.38)

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Cont'd

transforming our community and our world with the love of Jesus.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Andrew

This week we received news that Berta Christenson passed away. Berta was a long time member of Faith Community Church. Before passing she told us she is excited to go to Heaven to see her husband and John Wayne. In her directions for her memorial service, she also requested that no one cry on her behalf... She was 99 years old at the time of her passing and would have turned 100 in February. Please be in prayer for her family. We will keep you updated regarding any plans for a memorial/funeral service.



Vision House Update and News

- **We are grateful** for wonderful opportunities to bless and connect with our residents this Christmas - and thank God for your part in making this happen!
- **Four families in Renton moved into permanent housing** this past month. This is especially notable considering our challenging times!

Help needed! We are looking for volunteers who can teach classes (via Zoom for now) on job searching, resume building, career development, and home buying. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Julie at: juliew@visionhouse.org

Announcements

Saturday Recording Services: If you would like to attend one of Pastor Andrew's live, sermon recordings, on Saturdays at 10 a.m., please email/call/text Pastor Andrew the week before. Attendance is capped at 25 people, and safety protocols are emailed in advance and expected to be adhered to.

Women's Zoom Study: Tricia Edmonds will be leading another online bible study, this time going through the Psalms. Tuesdays at 7 p.m., starting January 12th and running for 8 weeks, this study is titled "Draw Me Close to You." Email the church to let us know you're interested in joining.