



FUMC Post-Harvey Update

“Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord.”

**Church Update #10 ~ Pastor Laura Becker
November 13, 2017**

Grace and Peace be with you in the name of Jesus Christ!

Wow, It's hard to believe that it is mid-November. We continue to make forward steps in our recovery. The phone calls and gifts of blessing continue to inspire and encourage our work of ministry. We are still several weeks from being able to occupy our church building. We are hopeful for Advent Season. There is much work to be done in the community. Volunteer teams are needed to address clean-up of homes and beginning preparations for reconstruction. The community still has many who are without homes or displaced due to unhealthy living conditions. Stories abound where families and business owners await adjusters disputing claims and fighting for funds entrusted to insurance companies.

The hope for each new day being better is fueled by people who are called to spend time and energy walking alongside us. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

WORSHIP PLAN: Worship Beyond the Walls (located at Aquarium Education Center)

- a. FUMC will continue to gather at the Aquarium Education Center for Sunday Worship. In November we begin holding two services: 8:00am and 10:30am. There will be indoor seating and climate control. It is handicapped accessible. It will be informal and Spirit filled. Holy Communion will be served at the 8:00am service and 1st Sundays at 10:30am service. As soon as we get word that we can occupy our church buildings safely, we will return to our home location.
- b. Worship as you are able and remember if you are out of town or unable to attend that your church in Rockport can receive offerings on our website at www.fumcrockport.org (Click the ONLINE GIVING icon) or you can mail gifts to the P.O. BOX 1045 Rockport, Texas 78381.
- c. Community Thanksgiving Worship Service will be held at First Baptist Church on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 7pm. Pastor Laura preaching. Come be blessed!

New Information:

1. **Donation Report:** \$15,864 has been given and designated for Harvey Relief and Recovery Outreach. The church has received to date \$92,840 for recovery of FUMC. \$20,620 has already been dispersed toward deductible, some appliance/equipment replacement and piano removal/storage. Items are expected to be reimbursed by Church Mutual.
2. **First Learning Tree** is open with current enrollment at 105 children.

Ongoing Information:

1. **Restoration Management Company Updates-Nov 10th:**

- a. VCT install starting in Education Rooms and office wing.
- b. Re-inspected and verified completion of punch list.
- c. 100% completion of electrical plugs replacement in Pastor Laura's offices.
- d. Roof 100% installed on church. Minor trim work around A/C units to be competed.
- e. Gable 100% caulked and 80% primed.

2. District and Conference Ministries Continue:

- a. www.riotexas.org
- b. **Charge Conference** on November 18th for the whole Coastal Bend District at Grace UMC in Corpus Christi.
- c. **UMVIM Leaders Training** – can be scheduled in your church or if your putting together a UMVIM team, please contact Conference VIM Coordinator, Frank Rojas, at 512-422-0210 and/or vim.riotx@gmail.com.
- d. **Gene Hileman, Disaster Response Coordinator-Rio Texas** Conference UMC, 210-557-8698: A Case Management program will be headquartered in Sinton at the First United Methodist Church. UMCOR will also have a similar program headquartered in Victoria.

Action Items for Congregation:

1. Check in. Call or email the church office and let us know how you are. 729-1659 or pastor@fumcrockport.org
2. Find one thing you can do to serve. Keep taking care of each other. Pray for all.
3. Ministries and programs will return as locations for operating those ministries are determined and volunteer leaders are ready.
4. Keep checking in on all our information: email, Facebook, website, etc.
5. And, please update any contact information and current mailing address.

Ministry Partners for Relief and Recovery

These are the churches who have reached out to us and said 'God is calling us to help Rockport FUMC'

Wellspring United Methodist Church – Georgetown, Texas
 Grace United Methodist Church – Corpus Christi, Texas
 John Wesley UMC – Victoria, TX
 First United Methodist Church – Georgetown, Texas
 Laurel Heights UMC – San Antonio, Texas
 Midge Hall United Methodist Church – Longmeanygate, Leyland, England
 Halifax UMC – Halifax, Pennsylvania
 St. Philips UMC – Round Rock, TX
 Our little church in Rockport, Ohio
 UMCOR
 Wylie UMC – Wylie Pirates
 Gruene UMC
 El Valle District UMC
 Coastal Bend District UMC
 Family Life Church - Sugarland, TX
 First Methodist Mansfield, Tx
 FUMC and Wesley Nurse – Goliad, Tx
 FUMC and FBC Portland - TX
 Thoburn United Methodist Church – St. Clairsville, Ohio

Ellisville FUMC
Stonebridge UMC – Sunshine Kids
The City of Sachse, Texas
Vermeer Charitable Foundation
Gutshall Charitable Foundation

Please let us know if we missed your church!