



Are you ready for some good financial news? Your generosity meant that we finished August in the black! That's two months in a row!! We are still behind for the year, BUT, we're turning it around. So, I just want to thank you. It's an act of faith to be generous, especially in uncertain financial times. And your courageous, sacrificial generosity is changing lives. As you read what's below, let this soak in: it's because of you. Each of us, giving what we can, provide for the ministry God uses to change lives, to bring healing and hope in dark times. Thank you, my friends. As you read what's below, smile. You have helped make it possible.



A few exciting things that happened this week:

* WOW is starting back up on Wednesdays! Kids are going to meet virtually to learn about Wonder and grow in faith. There is a weekly Bible lesson from 4-4:30 and then virtual choir (how awesome is that?!) from 4:30-5. Each child will receive a packet with craft supplies to take them through the coming weeks. It's not too late to sign up and get a packet. Contact Mrs. Lee Ann (laclemons@mcfirst.com) or register ahead [HERE](#) if you'd like to be included. And tell your friends! New faces are always welcome and you don't have to be a member to join in.



*The Woven Women Ministry continues to give support to the Dietary Department at McAllen Medical Center through encouraging words and special treats. Thank you to all who have handwritten notes and been a part of this caring ministry!



* Did you know we gave away 30,000 pounds of food in August? This huge increase in the amount of food we distribute has meant a lot of trips to and from the Food Bank. Thanks to all who have given their time, strength and vehicles as we've ramped up our capacity! Here's the best part. We now have our very own trailer, purchased with funds we were gifted by the District!! As of this writing, we're looking for someone to go pick it up from San Antonio and bring it home. If you can serve in this way, contact Roland, rpecina@mcfirst.com



* FUMC has been getting letters from around the country! Pastors and their congregations in San Antonio and even the little town of Estes Park, Colorado, are sending encouraging letters and postcards to medical workers in the RGV, care of our church. I got to drop off another two dozen with the staff at Mission Regional Medical Center and they were so touched and grateful.

* Our FUMC Day School opened this week! Our Dayschool is following strict cleaning procedures and protocols to enable our littlest ones to return to campus learn and grow. There are still spaces open if you know of a preschool child who is interested (ages 18months- 4 years), contact Jenny for more information: jnnbzzll@yahoo.com.





* Pastor Jon and I loved getting to meet you in the meet and greet car parade on Sunday. Thank you for your kind words, your encouragement and your warm welcome. This is certainly not the transition any of us would have ever imagined, but your welcome and kindness are such a blessing to us and our families.





* The youth had an outdoor movie and fellowship night. Before they enjoyed fellowship together, they walked around the church, praying for our ministry, the community and each other. Then out came the folding chairs and they sat a social distance to laugh at the movie Shrek, which was projected on the brick wall of the sanctuary. I'm a little jealous...





* Youth group started up again! The youth are meeting Wednesday nights for Bible Study on Zoom from 7-8. They're learning about heroes of the Bible and how they can be heroic

in daily life. It's never too late to join and you don't have to be a member! Contact vdillion@mcfirst.com if you'd like to know more!

* Did you catch the newest addition to worship? Thank you so much to the Ramon family for helping us lead our online worship service! Robert, Dolly and Madi blessed us with their leadership and with the joy of providing another way to see each other. This was the first time the whole Ramon family had left their home (apart from walks and trips for shopping) since the pandemic. Thank you, Ramons.

* Our goal date to return to in-person worship is a little over a month away (Oct 25). We need your help getting to that point. A group is gathering to learn how to operate our light board, sound board, slide show and cameras too so that we can continue to live-stream worship once we return to in-person (many volunteer teams must be re-built because so many of our faithful servants still won't be able to join us in person). If you are ready to be back in person, please join the media team so we can get there! Contact vdillion@mcfirst.com for more information!

In ONE WEEK, your generosity accomplished all this. Thank you- your gifts of resources, times, skill and talents are bringing hope and light in the midst of a hard time. I am so honored to be the pastor of a church like this!

Pastor Laura

STAY CONNECTED

