



First United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 352 - 206 S. Dowling - Hallettsville, TX 77964
Office: (361)798-2650 E-mail: hfumc@sbcglobal.net www.hallettsvillefumc.org

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:40 a.m.

MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship): Wednesday - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

"Helping God Make Disciples for Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World"

-Don't Miss It-
Mark your Calendars!

December

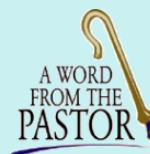
8th – Annual MYF Christmas
Program & Lunch

14th – Music Ministry
Christmas Performance
@ 11am

18th – Caroling on the Square
6-7:30pm

24th – Christmas Eve Service
@ 5pm

One of the books I always spend time reading during this season of the year is a book of poetry called Kneeling in Bethlehem. The poet is Ann Weems. I hope you find her words as encouraging and inspiring as I do:



What Do I Want for Christmas?

What do I want for Christmas?

I want to kneel in Bethlehem,
the air thick with alleluias,
the angels singing
that God is born among us.

In the light of the Star,
I want to see them come,
the wise ones and the humble.

I want to see them come
bearing whatever they treasure
to lay at the feet
of him who gives his life.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Howard Aiken
Michael Aiken
Cindy Anderson
Stanley Angerstein
Natalie & Rob Aparicio
Marguerite Azemia
CB
Claude Barnes
Doris Barnes
Debbie Benedict & Family
Mary Ann Berger
Andrea Birkman & Family
Jeff Boswell
Alton Brown, Sr.
Margie Cecil
Annie Cerny
Christine
Colors of Hope Ministry
Frank Coker
Carol Davis
DeWayne Dixon
Vic & Lori Dyer
Robert Eaton
Gina E.
Anna Ruth Evans
Greg
Bob & Fannie Griffith
Keri Herman
Rev. Dennis Herring
Justin Hastings
Piper, Quinn & Mabry Hastings
Edith Hickl
Robbie Holik
Bill & Sweet Hrcir
Billy Hobbs
Family of Stephen Hunter
Gary Janak
Jane
The Jones Ministry at TAMUK
Lane
Leslie
Evelyn Lishinski
Maryah
Matthew and family
Pastor Melanie & Family
Anna Marie Monroe
Ben & Carol New
Donna Nevlud
Cindy Odefy & family
Marilyn Patlovany – MD
Anderson
Fonis Payne
Family of Brock Powell
Jackie Powell
Shalan Raabe
Ted Rodgers
Hisae, Steve & Nancy Rooks
Family of Charles Sadler
Sanders Family
Sarah
Frank & Sheila Saunders
Karen Seuser & Family
Sue Schiff
Sierra
Martha Sitka
Karen Smith
Randy Snell

What do I want for Christmas?

To see in that stable
the whole world kneeling in thanks
for a promise kept:
new life.

For in his nativity
we find ours.

Weems, Ann (1993-10-01). Kneeling in Bethlehem (Kindle Locations 290-304). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.

May this be a Christ-filled season for you, every step of the way.

May your Advent be a meaningful time of anticipation and joy.

May your Christmas be merry and bright!

And, may God bless us, every one!

Pastor Melanie

Administrative Board Meeting Highlights – October

- Approved a request from Hospice of South Texas to use the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall on 2/16/20 for their "Service of Remembrance".
- Pastor Melanie, Ray Housley, Marvin Peterson and Christie Wheelock attended a District Strategy Team retreat at Cathedral Oaks in September.
- Charge Conference Reports presented and approved.
- 2020 Proposed Budget was presented and approved. Added to the budget were line items for Asset Maintenance (painting and carpet cleaning) and Adult Christian Education. SPRC recommendations were incorporated into new budget.
- Youth Budget will be funded by the Trustees before the end of the year.
- Trustees approved the purchase of a 10x16 storage building. A motion to purchase fencing for storage building was also approved.
- SPRC met and approved a 2.5% pay increase for the Pastor, Administrative Assistant and Custodian. Committee also recommended the Custodian be reimbursed for gas expenses for church shopping.

Ministerial Alliance Community Thanksgiving Service

Many thanks to all who attended the Community Thanksgiving Service at Faith Family Church on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Thank you to our acapella group for singing so beautifully as well!



Family of Edith Stith
C.J. Taylor
Kay Teaff
Cheryl Thacker
Victor
DeDe Barnes Welder
Family of Thomas Wick
Don & Claudia Williams
Lauren Wilson & family
Family of Brazos Wood
Joe Wysatta & Lisa
Gene Young
Our Nation & the World
To those who hurt inside
The Poor & Hungry
Those who have hatred in their heart

New Additions:

Mark Hopper
Delbert Miller
Katie & Tim Yeramian le Roy
Larry & Sonia
Elizabeth
Larry Hull
Taylor Sanders
Ricky Garner

YARD SIGNS

Please remember to pick up a Christmas yard sign (or two) on Sunday, December 8. If you live in town, or out in the county, put your sign where people will see it. Our prayer is they will take us up on the invitation to attend our beautiful Christmas Eve service.



Methodist Women

In deepest compassion, our Methodist Women made the decision to postpone their annual Fall Coffee previously scheduled for November 7. They are busy working on a new format rescheduled for Valentine's Day! Watch for details in upcoming emails and newsletters!



Meanwhile, they had collected some great items for their Country Store. **The Country Store will be set up here at the church on Sunday, December 15 after worship.** There will be some very nice items that might just be the Christmas gift you are looking for. There will be items you can purchase and take home immediately, as well as photos of items you can purchase and make arrangements to pick up offsite.

Please put December 15 on your calendar and make it a point to support our faithful Methodist Women.

Worship Service Schedule

Dec.	Greeter	Liturgist	R. Reader	A/V System	Acolytes	Flower Chart
1	Edith Hastings	D. Nance	R. Marak	D. Jansky	L. & W. Kram	Repka & Rakes
8	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth	Poinsettias
15	D. & S. Taylor	L. Dyer	B. Sitka	Webb Family	Q. DeLaRosa & L. Parvin	Poinsettias
22	H. Sadler	R. Lundy	P. Webb	Tullos Family	T. & D. Phillips	Poinsettias
29	M.A. Defibaugh	R. Housley	R. Walker	K. Marak	S. Walker & D. Jansky	Poinsettias
Jan.						
5	S. Housley	K. Marak	K. Caldwell	Sitka Family	L. & W. Kram	D. & C. Matula
12	M.J. Swope	B. Nance	D. Phillips	D. Jansky	K & A. Caldwell	B & E. Pakebusch
19	D. Repka	Ray Housley	S. Walker	Webb Family	Q. DeLaRosa & L. Parvin	D. Repka
26	B. J. Metzler	D. Nance	B. Webb	Tullos Family	T. & D. Phillips	D. & J. Madden
Feb.						
2	N. Hunter	L. Dyer	K. Wood	K. Marak	S. Walker & D. Jansky	K. & M.J. Swope
9	Betty Williams	R. Lundy	L. Lundy	Sitka Family	L. & W. Kram	OPEN
16	C. Siragusa	K. Marak	G. Parvin	D. Jansky	Q. DeLaRosa & L. Parvin	N. Hunter
23	B. & E. Pakebusch	B. Nance	K. Tullos	Webb Family	T. & D. Phillips	D. & B. Nance

Note: Flower Chart reminders will only be sent through regular mail to those who don't receive emails



According to the Christian calendar, the four weeks before Christmas Day are called the season of Advent. On each Sunday of Advent we light an Advent candle, adding one more candle each week. We begin with the candle of Hope, then the candle of Peace, then the candle of Joy, then the candle of Love, and finally we light the Candle of Christ on Christmas Eve.

"During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning.

MYF Christmas Program & Lunch – December 8

You do not want to miss this coming Sunday!

Our MYF Youth and Children will offer their annual Christmas Program during worship.

Invite your family! Invite your friends! Invite your neighbors! Your hearts will be warmed as we share in the true meaning of Christmas on that day.

Join in fellowship afterwards and stay for our **Christmas Lunch**. The Methodist Women will provide turkey, ham, dressing and rolls. You are invited to bring your favorite side or dessert.



The Annual Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 24, at 5pm. We will be finished with worship in plenty of time for your Christmas Eve celebrations afterward.

We will hear the Christmas story. There will be plenty of singing. This service is a perfect time to invite family, friends and neighbors to your church. The highlight of the service will be the singing of Silent Night in candlelight.

Christmas Caroling on the Square

You are invited to come and join in a fun evening of Christmas Caroling at the Courthouse Square gazebo.

We will serve hot chocolate and yummy cookies. We will have hayrides around the square and door prizes and more.

Mark your calendar for Wednesday December 18, 2019, from 6:00pm until 7:30pm.

Invite your friends.
Invite your family.

You will really enjoy this special time of outreach to our community.

Hope to see you there!

Caroling on the Square

Hallettsville Courthouse

Everyone is invited!

December 18

6—7:30 p.m.

**Live Music & Singing
at the Gazebo*

**Hot Chocolate and Cookies*

**Hayride around the Square*

**Drawings for Gift Cards*

*Sponsored by
Hallettsville First United Methodist Church*

Music Ministry
Christmas Program & Lunch
Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 11:00am

First United Methodist Church
206 S. Dowling St. ♦ Hallettsville, TX

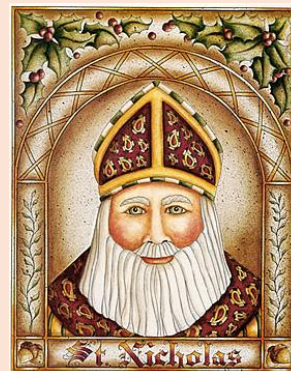
Please RSVP for the lunch by noon on Monday, December 9th to 361.798.2650

St. Nicholas Ministry 2019 – Lavaca County



Thank you for your love and care for those in need in our community with your donations to St. Nicholas Ministry. The last day to make your donation is Sunday, December 8.

Food items needed are canned meats (ham, chicken, roast beef, stew, chili, etc.) canned vegetables & fruits, juices, bags of rice, beans, pasta, cereals, spaghetti sauces, boxes of macaroni & cheese, flour, sugar, oil and other basic food items & others non-perishable items.



Monetary donations are also gratefully received. Make donations payable to TCCM—St. Nicholas Fund, P.O. Box 913,

Hallettsville, Texas 77964. You may send your donation directly or we can forward your gifts to them if that is more convenient for you. Envelopes are available in the entryway of the church.

Help is also needed wrapping gifts, and sorting items into boxes, and distribution of gifts. A "Ways to Help" form is located in the church entryway. Gift items will be prepared at the Lillie Appelt Youth Center during the week of December 8-13 (Sunday to Friday). Distributions will be made on Saturday, December 14 from 8am to 12 noon.

Recipients are identified ONLY through a referral process from local Pastors and social service organizations.

We hope that everyone in this congregation will participate in some way as our whole community joins hands in remembering the reason for the season.



Methodist Youth Fellowship

Wednesday nights: 5:30-7pm

(high school till 7:15pm)

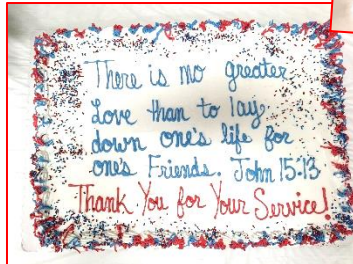
We begin each evening with a meal and some outdoor play (when possible).

PreK (age 4) through 5th grades meet for interactive praise, worship, music and learning.

Our 7th/8th grade youth and high school youth each gather in their own space for a lesson and fellowship time together.

November – Our service project for November was a “Veterans Appreciation & Special Worship Service. MYF youth and volunteers invited family, friends, neighbors and congregation members. Guests were welcomed by our youth and volunteers. A delicious fried chicken meal was served by our kitchen volunteers.

Following the meal, the group joined together in the sanctuary. Our young people offered prayers and a litany and a reading of the names of Veterans in attendance. Special music was provided by the Jr. High group accompanied by Dick Nance on guitar – they did an awesome job singing “Hallelujah - Veterans Version.” The service closed with the singing of GOD BLESS AMERICA. Afterwards everyone enjoyed cake back in the fellowship hall and our elementary kids gave out handmade cards to all the veterans.



Thank you to all mentors, volunteers and youth who helped make this service project a huge success!



December – MYF Christmas Program and annual Christmas lunch on December 8! All MYF families are invited! MYF will break for the Christmas Holidays and resume on Wednesday, January 8.



Fall Festival Fun

