

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!

March

29th – Nursing Home Comm.

April

5th – Palm Sunday/Youth
Sunday

5th – Community Holy Week
Service @ H'ville Community
Church

9th – Maundy Thursday Service
@ 6pm

10th – Good Friday Service
@ 3pm

12th – Easter Sunday

May

17th – Confirmation & Graduate
Recognition & Lunch

PRAY FAST GIVE

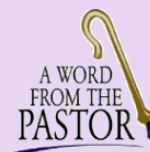
The holy season of Lent for this year began as we gathered on Ash Wednesday for worship, the imposition of ashes, and Holy Communion.

On Ash Wednesday we were invited to make a renewed commitment to a life of humility, a life of acknowledging that we need God every moment. We need God when things are going great. We need God when it seems like the whole world is falling down around us. AND we need God in all the times in between.

On Ash Wednesday, each of us was invited to listen to Jesus' teaching from the Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew 6:1-8; 18-21. In that scripture Jesus teaches about what the church calls Spiritual Discipline.

Spiritual disciplines are practices found in Scripture that promote spiritual growth among believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Spiritual disciplines are habits, practices, and experiences that are designed to develop, grow, and strengthen certain qualities of spirit — to build the "muscles" of one's character and expand the breadth of one's inner life. They structure the "workouts" which train the soul. Some spiritual disciplines are personal, inward exercises that are practiced alone; others require interpersonal relationships and are practiced in community." (Richard Foster-Christian author)



OUR PRAYER LIST

Howard Aiken
Ken Allen
Marguerite Azemia
CB
Marc Baker
JoAnn Baker & Family
Claude Barnes
Doris Barnes
Debbie Benedict & Family
Mary Ann Berger
Pastor Mark Brechin & Family
Annie Cerny
Fayrene Clark
Colors of Hope Ministry
Frank Coker
Larry & Samia Coker
DSC
DeWayne Dixon
Denise Drozd Family
Robert Eaton
Gina E.
Anna Ruth Evans
Bernie Fitch
Greg
Bob & Fannie Griffith
Billy & Bobbie Hobbs
Bill & Sweet Hrcir
Family of Stephen Hunter
Gary Janak
BJ
The Jones Ministry at TAMUK
Lane
Loved ones of Brooke Klemme
Kostelnik Family
Evelyn Lishinski
JM
Maryah
Monica Maddox
Pastor Melanie & Family
Matthew & family
Dustin Metting
Jonell Miears
Mildred
Kathryn Lee Miller
Anna Marie Monroe
Cynthia & Cory Odefey & family
Marilyn Patlovany
Jack Powell
Al Ringo
Ted Rodgers
Hisae, Steve & Nancy Rooks
Ryan
Sarah
Sheila Saunders
Sandra Scott
Karen Seuser & Family
Sierra
Martha Sitka
Brandie Sorensen & Family
Victor
Laurence Teaff
Cheryl Thacker
Alice Vickers
Diana Weise
Don & Claudia Williams
Lauren Wilson & family

There are many spiritual disciplines. In the Matthew texts we read on Ash Wednesday, Jesus talks about three spiritual disciplines in particular: Prayer, Fasting and Giving.

During the 40 days of Lent in which we reflect on everything Jesus has done for us, each of us is invited to consider making an intentional commitment to a spiritual discipline that we choose to practice every day.

Here are some practical suggestions about how you might observe the discipline you choose:

PRAYER

Find a scripture which is meaningful to you. Read that scripture everyday offering it to God as a prayer. For example, if you choose a favorite Psalm, like Psalm 23, you might pray:

"The Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need" – Lord you are my shepherd. Thank you for (name all of your blessings – even the simplest ones you take for granted).

"He lets me rest in green meadows" Thank you Lord for the beauty I can see all around me in your creation. Thank you for times of rest and comfort in my life....

Etc.

Or find a prayer you love (Prayer of St. Francis, Wesley's Covenant Prayer, and more) and memorize it. Pray it every day.

Commit to 15 minutes of prayer every morning when you wake up or every evening when you go to sleep.

FASTING

To fast is to stop doing something you usually do, to make room to spend that time with God.

Here are some fasting suggestions that are all over Facebook right now:

Fast from something you should stop doing anyway.

Fast from hurting words and say kind words

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

GIVING

We talk about this all the time around here. Our relationship with God is a two-way relationship. You do your part. God does his part. And what you/we do in partnership with God is better than anything God or we could do by ourselves. It makes sense really. If only one person is doing all the work, it is not a relationship.

And the nature of our relationship with God is love, pure and simple. We seek to love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our strength and all our mind. We seek to demonstrate our love for God in the way we treat our neighbors and ourselves (love your neighbor as yourself). We seek to treat others exactly the way we would like to be treated.

Joe Wysatta & Lisa
All the depressed
Our Nation & the World



We welcome the following
new member to our church!

Kayla Fitch

We are glad you're here!

FLOWER CHART

There are several open
dates on the Flower Chart.
If you are not currently in
the yearly rotation and
would like to provide
flowers or plants, please
call the church office or
sign up on the chart in the
church entryway.



*March 8
Daylight
Savings Time
Begins
Set your clocks
forward
1 hour!*

And the nature of God's relationship with us is this: "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." The nature of God's relationship with us is "giving" as God gives us Jesus, now and forever in heaven – as God has given us all that we have and made us all that we are.

As God gives, we too give—abundantly and without charge. As Jesus gives, we too give—our lives—our presence—our love—our forgiveness—our willingness to accept—now and forever in heaven. We give our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness generously and without doubt.

If you are not giving regularly to your church, make a commitment to give during Lent.

If you give to your church, consider giving more during this holy season.

If you attend church, every so often, consider making a commitment to attend church EVERY Sunday you are in town during the season of Lent.

Make it a point to give to God by sharing food with someone who is hungry, offering a drink to someone who is thirsty, giving clothing to someone who needs it, to help provide shelter for someone who is homeless, visit those who are sick, or lonely or in prison.

We give as God gives.

Those who attended Ash Wednesday services received a little purple bracelet that says "Pray – Fast – Give" as a reminder to keep the commitment you have chosen to make. If you did not receive a bracelet yet, they are available in the church office during the week or on the table as you enter for worship on Sunday mornings.

May this be a blessed and holy season of Lent for you.

God bless you all

Pastor Melanie

Administrative Board Meeting Highlights – January

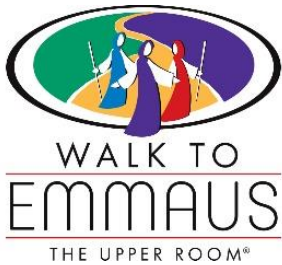
- Confirmation classes will be scheduled .
- Pastor presented information on possible UM church split that has been in the national news.
- Christie Wheelock presented Financial Reports and the 2020 Proposed Trustee Donations for approval. Motions made and approved.
- Music Ministry has three new students.
- Kenneth Swope presented Information on new icemaker for Fellowship Hall. Motion made and approved to purchase.
- Discussion resumed about the fountain in the courtyard. Ray Housley explained that the fountain was a gift to the church and it needs to be functional. Electrician/plumber will be contacted to get it back in operation.
- Methodist Women will host Valentine's Day Brunch fundraiser on 2/14/20.
- The Foundation will be meeting with Robert Lundy at Edward Jones soon.
- Dick Nance discussed companies he has contacted regarding secure entrance for office and old kitchen door entrances.

Worship Service Schedule

**If you are unable to serve on your scheduled Sunday,
please contact another person in the rotation to take your place.**

Mar.	Greeter	Liturgist	R. Reader	A/V System	Acolytes	Flower Chart
1	D. Hopper	R. Housley	W. Kram	Tullos Family	S. Walker & D. Jansky	N. Fuhrken
8	A. Vickers	D. Nance	R. Marak	Marak Family	L. & W. Kram	B.J. & B. Hobbs
15	E. Hastings	L. Dyer	P. Webb	Sitka Family	K. & A. Caldwell	J. & B. Allen
22	D. & S. Taylor	R. Lundy	B. Sitka	Jansky Family	Q. DeLaRosa & L. Parvin	J. & A. Zachary
29	H. Sadler	K. Marak	R. Walker	Webb Family	T. & D. Phillips	A. & F. Ringo
April						
5	Youth	Youth	Youth	Tullos Family	Youth	D. & L. Immenhauser
12	M. A. Defibaugh	B. Nance	K. Caldwell	Marak Family	S. Walker & D. Jansky	Easter Lilies
19	S. Housley	R. Housley	D. Phillips	Sitka Family	L. & W. Kram	J. Timm
26	M. J. Swope	D. Nance	S. Walker	Jansky Family	K. & A. Caldwell	C. & M. Barnes
May						
3	D. Repka	L. Dyer	B. Webb	Webb Family	Q. DeLaRosa & L. Parvin	P. & V. Carr
10	B. J. Metzler	R. Lundy	K. Wood	Tullos Family	T. & D. Phillips	Meth. Women
17	N. Hunter	K. Marak	L. Lundy	Marak Family	L. & W. Kram	R. & B. Sitka
24	B. Williams	B. Nance	G. Parvin	Sitka Family	K. & A. Caldwell	J. & J. Carpenter
31	B. & E. Pakebusch	R. Housley	K. Tullos	Jansky Family	L. & G. Parvin	OPEN

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



Walk to Emmaus - LaGrange, TX - March 19-22

This women's retreat will start on the evening of Thursday, March 19, and will end on Sunday afternoon, March 22. It will be held at Camp Lone Star in LaGrange.

If you have never attended this retreat, would you like to attend?

If you have already participated in a Walk to Emmaus, is there someone you would like to recommend?

If you are interested in attending, or know someone who is, please contact the church office as soon as possible.

A Journey with Christ - While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. - Luke 24:15

The walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.

The Walk to Emmaus experience begins with the prayerful discernment and invitation from a sponsor. After one accepts this invitation they complete an application. The Emmaus leaders prayerfully consider each applicant and in God's time, the person is invited to attend a three-day experience of New Testament Christianity as a lifestyle.

Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ.

Through the formational process of accountable discipleship in small groups and participation in the Emmaus community, each participant's individual gifts and servant-leadership skills are developed for use in the local church and its mission. Participants are encouraged to find ways to live out their individual call to discipleship in their home, church, and community.

The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

Methodist Women

Saint Valentine was the Italian priest who was martyred for helping those in love. In that regard, much love was shown to the First United Methodist Church on this past Valentine's Day at the first ever "Valentine Day Brunch". About \$2,500 was raised for the future projects of the Methodist Women. This is a wonderful way to start the new year and everyone who contributed food, money, time and support in such a generous and loving way is sincerely thanked.

The Methodist Women meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month with a Bible study first and then a meeting. Come and join us!!!

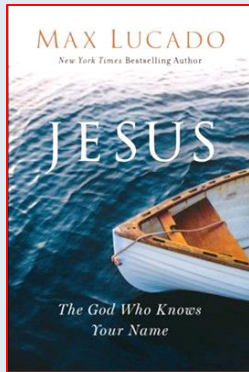


*"A little to the left, up a bit,
no, back down, be careful - don't fall"*



Methodist Men

Calling all men of the church! Get your weekend off to an amazing start! Our men's group will have their 2nd meeting of the year on Saturday morning, March 7th at 8am in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a delicious breakfast, great Christian fellowship, discuss possible service projects and study God's word. We hope to see you there!



“Jesus” by Max Lucado ~ 6 Week Tuesday Night Lenten Bible Study
Starts March 3, 2020
in the Annex, 5:30 – 7pm

March 3 – God with Us
 March 10 – Friend of Sinners
 March 17 – Compassionate Physician
 March 24 – Great Teacher
 March 31 – Miracle Worker
 April 7 – Victorious Sacrifice

Do you ever feel like Jesus couldn't possibly know what you are going through? He's the God of the universe after all! Does he really know your daily struggles? The good news is: he does.

For thirty-three years Jesus felt everything you have ever felt. Weakness. Weariness. Sadness. Rejection. His feelings got hurt. His feet grew tired. And his head ached. To think of Jesus in such terms almost seems irreverent. It is much easier to keep the humanity of the incarnation. Clean up the manure from around the manger. Pretend he never snored or hit his thumb with a hammer... But we have to remember that the people who saw Jesus first...saw him as a person.

Call the church office to sign up.



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.

February – Service Project: Valentine crafts for Steven's Nursing Home. The youth made a variety of Valentine Day crafts for the residents at Steven's Nursing Home. Usually, the youth visit the nursing home to sing, deliver the crafts and visit the residents. Due to the flu outbreak in the schools, we decided to cancel this year's visit. Thank you to Mossy Grove members for delivering to Steven's for us.

March – (MYF will not be held on 3/18/20 – Spring Break)

April – Sunday, April 5 is Palm Sunday and a Youth Sunday. Youth of all ages will take part in leading various parts of the service and participate in the waving of the palms. **Wednesday, April 8**, is the annual Easter Celebration. Service Project: Manna Food Pantry.

