

Prayer Requests:

*Paula Jackson	*Dorothy Hairell
*David Morris	*Charlotte Underwood
*Steven Lee	*Jane Moore & family
*Sarah Schwartz	*Clifford Mahlow
*Allene Seale	*Dale Gray
*Carolyn Briggs	*Melissa Hill
*Dennis Ceder	*Terry Dyer
*The Keller Family	*Brad Chesser
*Dennis Barnard	*Dillon Moore
*Harry Richardson	*Sue Jones
*Jamie Avery	*Joe Dana
*Mary Pearl Sutton	*Diana & Mike Abbott
*Cal Robbins	*Florence Finn
*Rick Clouse & family	*Beckermann Family
*Trisha Copeland	*Schwartz Family
*Noble Atkins	*Merton Rose

Assisted Living/Nursing Home/ Homebound/ Rehabilitation Center

Fred Switzer-home	Florence Finn-home
Edna Cowan-home	Paula Douglass-rehab
Corene Dodson-SPJST	Millie Whittington-home
Lynn Lankford-home	
Betty Ashworth-San Gabriel Rehab&Care Cetr RR	
Lynn Lankford-Falcon Ridge Rehab&Care Hutto	

NO BIBLE STUDY JUNE 20TH

Goal: 100% of Members Involved in Bible Sunday!

Sunday 9:45 am, Monday 9:15 am or Tuesday 6:30 pm

Scriptures we will study on Monday Morning, June 27

Book of Acts for the next several weeks

If you're interested in Tuesday night Glory Bound Bible Study, please contact
Jim Curik 512-352-6782

Church Business

June 19, 2016

Worship Attendance: 74

Sunday School: 20

Counters

6-26 Brian/Charlene

7-3 Shirley/Marsha

Finance to Date

2016 Budget \$166,818

2016 Income: \$69,383

2016 Expenses: \$68,285

Connexion Deadline

If you would like information added to the Connexion, please have it submitted to the church office by 3pm each Monday. This is to insure that your/group/committee news is shared on time.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Connexion 6-26-16

Pastor Rankin's Words for Action

It is hard to believe that this will be my last Connexion article and that this Sunday will be my last Sunday to lead worship and to preach here at First UMC! Wow, the time has passed so quickly. And I wish to express to each and every one of you how much I have appreciated the way you received me and have responded to my ministry in your midst. You are indeed a wonderfully loving, hospitable and caring community of faith. I will truly miss being with you.

I wish to leave you with this observation as a sort of "state of the church" message. I have preached with my heart and mind set on the creation of a renewed openness to a fresh outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on this church. It is my hope that God will do a new and creative thing here. I have sensed almost from day one that God has already begun a new thing. I so appreciate the ministry and leadership of Rev. Brenda Adkins. Her time here seemed to ignite a fire of love that has continued. Under her leadership, the church grew and prospered. With that momentum, I pray now that you are ready to seriously consider that God is calling you to a new way of doing and being in ministry that will be more appealing to the younger generations. Our world moves very rapidly now. Any organization that employs an administrative organization that cannot make and implement decisions very quickly will simply not be able to meet the expectations of the younger generations. Also, the younger generations have lived their entire lives with computers and visual media. Therefore, the church's website must be first class and interactive. Also, the church must have an active social media presence. Finally, the use of visual media in all areas of church life is of critical importance. This has simply become a way of life for the younger generations.

Also, it is my hope and prayer that this community of faith will fully grasp the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ as it relates to the basics. Jesus clearly calls all those who choose to follow Him to love the Lord God with all of our hearts, souls, minds and strength. And, He calls us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. And, He clearly calls us to lives of "servant leadership". This means that we are called to serve rather than be served. These teachings often find resistance in a culture that values self over others. The order for the day in Christ's church is respect, courtesy, kindness and love in all relationships. Finally, as the apostle Paul so rightly observed, we are all in this together. There are no distinctions of privilege.

It has been my honor to serve among you. This Sunday, the scripture is Galatians 6:1, 13 - 26. The sermon title is "Moving Into Our Future". The scripture focuses on the "fruits of the Spirit". In other words, we will be celebrating what we can expect to become the outcomes of our lives led by the Spirit of our risen and living Lord, Jesus the Christ. I look forward to worshipping with you Sunday.

Rankin

Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 and 10:30

Sunday School 9:30

Nursery is available from 8:30 - 11:30 am (Infant through Preschool)

First United Methodist Church

902 West Lake Drive

Taylor TX 76574

512-352-2593

For emergencies outside of office hours,
please contact Pastor Koch @ 817-657-9526

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June Events

June 26 Fellowship Luncheon following 10:30 service

July Events

July 4 Church Office Closed for 4th of July

July 9 Circle 6 Bunko & Bake Sale

July 10 Family Game Night 5-7pm

July 11 Committee Meetings (Finance, Ad Council & Trustees)

July 14 Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting 2:30-3:30pm

July 20 Men's Fellowship Breakfast

July 24 Fellowship Luncheon following 10:30 service

August Events

Aug. 6 Church-wide Garage Sale

Aug. 8 Committee Meetings (Finance, Ad Council & Trustees)

Aug. 11 Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting 2:30-3:30pm

Aug. 17 Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Aug. 28 Fellowship Luncheon following 10:30 service

WEEKLY & MONTHLY SCHEDULED

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Sunday School (all ages)	Every Sunday	9:30 am	Edu. Hall & FH
Monday Bible Study	Every Monday	9:15 am	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday Night Bible Study	Every Tuesday	7:00 pm	Call Jim Curik
Chancel Choir	Every Wed.	6:00 pm	Choir Room
Chime Choir	Resume Aug 31st	7:00 pm	Choir Room
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Every 2nd. Thurs.	2:30 pm	Room 2
Al-Anon	Every Thursday	6:00 pm	Fellowship Hall
A. A.	Every Thursday	7:00 pm	Fellowship Hall
UMW Women's Circle 1	Every 1st Sun.	9:30 am	Sept.- May
Family Game Night	Every 2nd Sunday	5-7 pm	Sept.-May
Men's Breakfast	Every 3rd Wed.	7:00 am	Fellowship Hall
Women's Circle 6	Every 4th Tues	3:00 pm	Sept.-May

Children and Youth Corner

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."

2 Timothy 3:14-15

FUMC Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was a huge success! We had 47 little hearts and minds at FUMC this week learning about the love of Jesus Christ. We learned to Hold on! to God during times of doubt and struggle. We also learned that God will ALWAYS Hold on! to us.

- God has the power to provide...Hold on!
- God has the power to heal...Hold on!
- God has the power to forgive... Hold on!
- God has the power to love us forever...Hold on!

Thank you to Blythe Cavender for guiding the expedition, we couldn't have made it to the top without your enthusiasm and love. A big thank you to Shirley Ball, Steve Barber, Melissa Burrow, Pat Carpenter, Tylor Cavender, Julia Coward, Vesta Ryan, Rev. Rankin Koch and all of our youth workers for your hard work, support and energy given so generously to share the message with the children at VBS 2016!

Please Keep Mission Teams in Your Prayers

There will be two Mission teams working on homes in our community during the month of June. They will not be using our church's facilities this time around; but we would like to ask that you keep them in your prayers.

6/22-6/25 - St Andrews Methodist church in Baton Rouge.

Youth with adult leaders. Between 25-30 total, boys and girls.

6/26-7/1 - FUMC Aledo. Youth with adult leaders.

Between 50-55 total, boys and girls.

Welcome! We hope you enjoy your time with us today!

Greeting church! Thank you so much for the honor of being able to attend and represent Taylor First at Annual Conference in Waco.

I was able to see and hear about many things that are happening around our conference. The Central Texas Conference is working hard to find, train and build leaders in both the laity and clergy persons.

- One example is the Mission Leader Reading Group. This is an opportunity for anyone called to missions to read current best practices in missions and participate in guided discussion about how to use these ideas in the local church. There are 4 books and discussion group all over the conference. For more information and to register, go to <http://www.ctcumc.org/learningopportunitiesinmission>
- Another example is the CTC Serve. This is a one day mission opportunity for churches in the conference to engage in their community in some way that connects to hunger. Last year's event was quite successful and they are excited to see even more church participating this year. The date this year is September 11, 2016. For more information go to www.ctcumc.org/ctcsolve
- There were many workshops that we learned more about including a Ministry Safe workshop, Hunger ministries and how to conduct community assessments for food, Justice for Our Neighbors and Project Transformation.

We are got to hear about just a few exciting things that the church is doing in the communities around them. Tenth Street UMC was recognized for their efforts in coordinating with UMCOR to provide housing and logistics during the Memorial Day flooding here in Taylor.

Bishop Lowry's Episcopal Address was a call to reach beyond our own faith story. The Paths of Discipleship clearly lays out a discipleship making system. We need to work on small group development, not just meeting as small groups, but having spiritual depth and growing our spiritual muscles. We need to start thinking about discipleship as a way of life for all of us. He also reminded us that the church can "break out" anywhere, not just a typical church building. In conclusion he called us to go out into the wilderness like in Exodus to reach the world.

Some highlights of General Conference that were shared:

- Abundant Health: Our Promise to Children is a program that will build on the Imagine No Malaria campaign
- A new Hymnal is coming!
- Celebrated
 - 20 years of Deacons
 - 30 years of Disciple Studies
 - 60 years of full clergy rights to women
 - Upcoming 150th anniversary of the United Methodist Women
- Recalled and lamented the Sand Creek Massacre
- There were demonstrations and protests and they heard the Young People's Conference call the UMC to unity.
- There was a request and vote to follow the Council of Bishops' lead us in finding a way forward as a denomination. This is the first time a request like this has come to the Council and a called General Conference will happen in 2019 or 2020. This defers all votes on human sexuality and a special commission is being formed to work through this issue as a denomination.

As a conference we votes to learn and grow through this process while practicing grace with each other; and to follow the Book of Discipline.

Thank you again for the opportunity to see the workings of our church at Annual Conference.

In God's Love,

Blythe Cavender



VBS might be over, but we still have lots of exciting whole family events planned this summer! Come join us! These are open to any age and whole families.

We have Parent's Night Out on July 15th, August 12th and 20th.

A chance for you to get a date night, grocery shopping or a nap.

We also have game nights, painting as a family, off site adventures and more every Tuesday and Thursday starting July 19th.

Questions or to register call Blythe or Tylor Cavender at 432-770-9659 or 512-352-2593

We hope you join us for one or all of these exciting events!

First United Methodist Church
907 W Lake Taylor, Tx 76574
512-352-2593