

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
*Burrow Family	

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
Betty Ashworth-San Gabriel Rehab&Care Cetr RR	
Lynn Lankford-Falcon Ridge Rehab&Care Hutto	

NO BIBLE STUDY July 4th or July 5th

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, July 11

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

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

Church Business

June 26, 2016

Worship Attendance: 106
Sunday School: 16

Counters

7-3 Shirley/Marsha
7-10 Jim/Charlene

Finance to Date

2016 Budget \$166,818
2016 Income: \$71,569
2016 Expenses: \$68,659

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 7-3-16

A Message from Pastor Sela Finau

Mälö e lelei (Greetings in Tongan) in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As I write this note, it is Monday morning, the day after I said goodbye to my last church, Annetta/Bethel. Goodbyes are never easy, but we all need closure. We go through seasons in life. We wrap up one season to begin another, as we are in the beginning of summer. The good news is that God is present in all seasons. The last 3 years were amazing, and I give thanks to God for the people, ministry, relationships, and time. Life, however, is never stagnant but always on a forward move. We may pause momentarily to reflect, remember, give thanks, get upset, be sad, cry, but then we must get up, forgive, wipe our tears, laugh and hope again, and move on because there's work to be done in the mission field and God is calling us forward.

Throughout Scripture (Hebrew and New Testament), folks were always on the move. People were always on a journey, leaving one place and heading for another. Some things never change! Today is the beginning of my journey with you, and I am deeply grateful and thank God for you and the ministry that we will embark on together. I have heard wonderful things about you, First United Methodist Church of Taylor, and I am looking forward to learning more.

I recognize that change is not always welcome nor is it easy, and even at times resisted, and I understand. Any change in pastoral leadership gives us a little bit of anxiety, uncertainty, and fear. At the same time, there's probably some excitement, hope, and joy as well. I want you to know, you're not alone as I feel it too. But the good news is that while change is part of our reality, God is always present, we're in this thing together, and we'll all figure it out along the journey.

As we proceed forward in our ministry journey, may we trust the Holy Spirit to lead us. May we continue to trust in God who is calling us forward. May we faithfully follow Jesus and extend love, grace, mercy, and peace to each other and everyone we meet, hear about, read about, and think of, just as God offers it to us.

By the time you read this, I have moved to Taylor. I am very excited to be here with you, to minister among you, and to reach out to our mission field that God has placed before us. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your pastor.

For the next several weeks, I will be on a Listening Tour and perhaps at your home if you are willing to host a small group of about 7 people. At this gathering, you will have the opportunity to share your concerns, love, hope, and vision for the future of your church. We will have sign-up sheets available.

I look forward to meeting and getting to know each of you,

Grace and peace,
Sela

Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 and 10:30

Sunday School 9:30

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July Events

July 4 Church Office Closed for 4th of July

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

The Circle 6 Bunko & Bake Sale that was scheduled for July 9 will be moved to a later date. We will announce soon.

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

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Mother's Day Out

Our first session of the summer has been a blast. We will be taking a week off the week of July 4th. We will return for a second session of the summer July 12th and have many more fun activities planned for the children.

We have been trying to collect plastic parmesan shakers for a skill building activities for our kiddos. If you happen to have any at home, we would really appreciate it if you could send them our way when they are emptied.



Also, if you happen to have any colorful buttons, silk/plastic flowers, or bingo dotters laying around that you would like to get rid of, we'd love to have them.



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



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

4th of July Celebrations

Many of you may be celebrating the 4th of July with BBQ's, fireworks, parties and travel. We pray for God to watch over you and your families and keep you safe this holiday.

Here are a few other ideas on how you may like to honor this holiday:

For Those That Serve

Make a Donation

There are tens of thousands of charities dedicated to serving the needs of veterans and military personnel, and many of them accept donations of just \$10.

Here is a good place to start:

<http://www.umc.org/topics/topic-ministry-with-those-who-serve>

Drop a Salami

Hobby's Delicatessen & Restaurant in Newark, N.J., delivers its famous salamis to hungry troops overseas through a program called Operation Salami Drop. This Independence Day, you can share the holiday goodness with a soldier who is far from home. For exactly \$10, you can drop a salami of your own. <http://www.operationsalamidrop.com/>

For Our Friends with Paws

Keep Them Cool

- Keep pets inside if possible.
- While outdoors: provide plenty of water, cool shade, wading pools, fans, "pupsicles" (frozen chicken or beef broth) and keep their paws on grass- remember pavement & asphalt are HOT!

Oh, What Big Ears

Dogs have incredible hearing, much more sensitive than us mere humans. Remember that even though those fireworks may be fun for you, your dog may think their world is coming to an end. Keep them inside with you during firework displays, they want to feel safe. If you must leave them home alone, they may feel safest in a crate with a TV or radio left on for them.

Adopt or Foster

The Williamson County Animal Shelter receives hundreds of strays after the 4th of July and they will not have beds for them all. If your family has been thinking about getting a pet, now might be a good time. Sunday, July 3rd from 10am – 5pm and, Monday, July 4th from 12pm – 6pm all pets will be available for a free adoption when you wear red, white, and blue. Or you might consider fostering an animal for a few weeks to make room at the shelter.

