

Prayer Requests:

- *Paula Jackson
- *Charlotte Underwood
- *Trisha Copeland
- *Carolyn Briggs
- *Donna Saylor
- *Harry Richardson
- *Jamie Avery
- *Mary Pearl Sutton
- *Elissa Ray
- *Suzie Barber
- *Terry Dyer
- *Steven Lee
- *Florence Finn
- *Melissa Hill
- *Charles Chenault
- *Vera Schwartz
- *Cal Robbins
- *Jamison Family
- *Donna & Bob Keller
- *Crawford Daniel

Assisted Living/Nursing Home/ Homebound/
Rehabilitation Center

- Fred Switzer-home
- Edna Cowan-home
- Corene Dodson-SPJST
- Vera Schwartz-home
- Betty Ashworth-San Gabriel Rehab&Care Cetr RR
- Sarah Schwartz-nursing home
- Florence Finn-home
- Paula Douglass-rehab
- Millie Whittington-home

**Please notify the office of any changes or updates
512-352-2593**

Church Business

September 11, 2016

Worship Attendance: 81

Sunday School: 31

Counters

9-18 Bobby/Marsha

9-25 Charlene/Jim

Finance to Date

2016 Budget \$166,818

2016 Income: \$105,735

2016 Expenses: \$106,393

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 9-18-16

From the Pastor's Desk

One of the things I noticed since being here at First UMC Taylor is that you are very mission oriented. About a month ago when we requested donations for school supplies to families and students in need, you responded by giving and showing up. When we requested donations of flood buckets for families in Louisiana, you again showed up and gave. There's not a week or a day that goes by that we're not doing something with and for our community. Tonight, we will provide a meal for the Taylor High School Football Team. Next Saturday, we have a volunteer work day with UMCOR. Not only is this great but it aligns with our mission as a church. Jesus calls us to be change makers in the world, to make a difference in people's lives by actively sharing God's love both at home and afar. Church, I'm incredibly proud of you and feel very privileged to be your pastor.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are asked to live a life of giving ourselves away for the sake of others. Many times, it's not an easy life. As followers of Jesus, we are asked to put God first, love our neighbors, feed the poor, practice forgiveness, show mercy, and humility. It's one that asks for the very best we have to give, and it continues to asks over and over again. Are we still following Jesus today, or are we following someone else? Are we reading Jesus' newsfeed in the Bible or are we more occupied reading someone else's on social media? The truth is, we are all following someone or something. Who are we really following? Are we, each day, following the ways of Jesus? It's a question we must continuously ask ourselves.

Join us this Sunday as our message will come from the Gospel as written in Matthew, the parable of the wheat and weed.

See you Sunday!
Sela

BIBLE STUDY

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, Sep. 19

Book of Acts for the next several weeks

Tuesday night **Glory Bound Bible Study**

Jim Curik 512-352-6782

Thank you!

We had a great time at our Family Game Night this past week! We had about 25 people in attendance and we collected \$244 for the Louisiana Flood Buckets. A total of 10 buckets were assembled. Awesome Job!

UMCOR Volunteer Day September 24th

Glynn Tucker will be heading up a group of volunteers to work with UMCOR here in Taylor this Saturday, September 24th. The team will work part of the day, mainly in the morning. Please contact Glynn 512-898-2323 or the church office if you are interested in helping.

First United Methodist Church
907 West Lake Drive
Taylor TX 76574
512-352-2593

For emergencies outside of office hours,
please contact Pastor Finau @ 817-874-3533

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September Events

- Sep. 15 FUMC Serve Meal to Taylor HS Football Team
- Sep. 20 Financial Peace University class preview 6:30pm
- Sep. 21 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 7:00am
- Sep. 24 UMCOR Volunteer Day
- Sep. 25 United Methodist Women's Sunday
Fellowship Luncheon following 10:30 service
Pumpkin Patch Set-up
- Sep. 27 Circle 6 Meeting- making poppers @ 3pm in Fellowship Hall

October Events

- Oct. 2 Pumpkin Delivery 12:30pm
- Oct. 4 National Night Out 5:30-8:30pm
- Oct. 8 Harvest Blessing 9am-3pm
- Oct. 9 Family Game Night 5-7pm
- Oct. 10 Committee Meetings (Finance, Ad Council & Trustees)
- Oct. 19 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 7:00am
- Oct. 20 FUMC Serve Meal to Taylor HS Football Team
- Oct. 23 Fellowship Luncheon following 10:30 service
- Oct. 30 FUMC Pumpkin Patch Carnival 4-6pm

November Events

- Nov. 7 Charge Conference at FUMC 6pm
- Nov. 12 Christmas Bazaar
- Nov. 13 Fellowship Luncheon & Silent Auction
Family Game Night 5-7pm
- Nov. 14 Committee Meetings (Finance, Ad Council & Trustees)
- Nov. 16 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 7:00am

WEEKLY & MONTHLY SCHEDULED

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Activity	Frequency	Time	Location
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	Every Wed.	7:00 pm	Choir Room
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Every 2nd. Thurs.	2:30 pm	Room 2
AI-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

*"Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light"
Genesis 1:3*

Children's Ministry

Children's Sunday School classes include Nursery (ages 0-2), Preschool (ages 3-5), Elementary (ages K-5th), Middle School and High School.

Exciting News! Blythe will be starting a Children's Church during the 10:30am service starting September 4th.

Mother's Day Out

God Made Me Special! This next week we will enjoy plenty of fun activities that teach us this message and show us how much God loves each one of us.

Our Bible story will be Genesis 1 The Story of Creation.

We will be learning about the letter "G"



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



Mark Your Calendars

FUMC's October Pumpkin Patch is a Taylor community tradition that is loved by residents and schools in the area. This is also a huge fundraising opportunity for the church! Everyone's help is needed to make this event successful.

There are multiple ways you can help, so plan ahead:

Pumpkin Patch Decoration September 25th

Pumpkins are scheduled to arrive Sunday, October 2 @ 12:30pm. *Help will be needed to unload and arrange pumpkins on display.*

Volunteer as a children's story time reader and/or patch worker. *We will have signup sheets located in the church office starting in September.*

Provide homemade baked goods for the bake sale or crafts to be sold.

Please contact Maureen Gray or Shirley Ball for details.

Ready to Work!

We will be setting up the Pumpkin Patch Sep. 25th, following the Fellowship Luncheon. Come ready to work and dressed appropriately.



Member Spotlight

Bob Keller

In central Kansas, about 50 miles west of Wichita, is a little town called Penalosa. That's where Bob Keller grew up on a farm. In another little town close by, Donna Keller grew up, and Bob met her while they were still in high school, and they later married. They have four children, two boys and two girls. The youngest boy lives in Georgetown and they moved to Taylor to be close to him. The other three live in Florida, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania. They have nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, with two more arriving soon. Bob says the experience of having children made him a stronger person. All of us parents know what he means!



Bob was one of seven children himself, six boys and one girl. A favorite family story is about Bob and his brother climbing the outside of a 60-foot tall silo to install a blower pipe.

It's that can-do attitude that held Bob in good stead in his years of working for Boeing and later as manager of computer programming for IBM. Going from a time when they used punch cards for programming up until the modern computer era, Bob saw a lot of change in his field. In the last 4 or 5 years of work, he worked on Data and Process Programming, and used a modeling tool which he got very good at, and enjoyed doing.

The Keller family moved every 7 years until Bob retired, living such places as New Orleans, Huntsville, Alabama, and Little Meadows, Pennsylvania. Everywhere they lived, they made life-long friends.

After retiring, Bob and Donna moved back to the Penalosa, Kansas farm where he was raised. They raised show llamas for 17 years, and Bob was treasurer and later president for the Golden Plains Llama Association. They entered their llamas into many shows and had three champion male llamas that were in the top ten in the nation.

Bob and Donna joined Taylor FUMC three years ago when they moved to Taylor. He was an enthusiastic member of the Grace Notes choir, playing guitar and even learning bass to add to the music. He says playing guitar is the most fun he has ever had, and Donna reports he has a very nice voice.

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Cont. Member Spotlight

Bob's favorite hymns are "Here I Am, Lord" and "The Hymn of Promise". The music to "Here I Am, Lord" is chiseled into his headstone.

Even his church friends may not know that he used to carry a 172 average in bowling, and that he has a garden railway layout that includes 4 complete trains, buildings, people, horses and wild animals and 600 ft. of track. Be on the lookout! He may set it up for Christmas this year. Bob collects many things including belt buckles (beginning with his dad's collection), coins, butter churns, and depression glass. And if money were no object, Bob would set up a charity foundation that would provide babysitting services to allow women with small children to attend college.

What a blessing to us that Bob Keller is a member of our church!



Taylor Football Meals

FUMC will be hosting two meals for the Taylor High School football team on 9/15 & 10/20. Meals will be prepared by our church and taken to the players prior to games on these game nights. If you would like to help, please contact Pat Carpenter or the church office for more information.



Circle 6 Meeting

Circle 6 will be meeting September 27 at 3pm in the Fellowship Hall to make poppers for the Pumpkin Patch booth. Please join us for this craft making event!

Financial Peace University

Do you find yourself living paycheck to paycheck? Do you wonder if you have enough savings for retirement? Starting this October FUMC would like to help our community get "gazelle intense" and become debt free. We will begin a Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University class, Tuesday evenings at 6:30 to 8:00, starting with a free preview September 20th at 6:30. The class will run for 9 weeks starting on October 4th. The price is \$93 + shipping per family and they will need to purchase through the web site www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1027407 otherwise it will be more expensive. If you have any questions, please contact Mitch Drummond.

Lights, A/C, Doors, Oh My!

To keep our church safe, please make sure that all exterior doors are locked and shut properly, as well as thermostats used and lights are turned off when leaving the building.



Keep Our Earth Clean



We need volunteers to take our recycling to the Recycling Center here in Taylor. It will only require being taken one or two times each month. Please call the church office to sign up for your month.

Upcoming Classes

Do you have questions about your faith? Do you wonder what it means to be a Christian? What and why we believe? This fall, Pastor Sela Finau would like to offer a class for those new to the Christian faith. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 512-352-2593 or email her at sela@fumctaylor.org.

Charge Conference

FUMC will be having an individual Charge Conference on Monday, November 7, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Any church member that would like to attend is welcome to do so.

Taylor Christmas Parade

Christmas is fast approaching. Every year FUMC participates in our community Taylor Christmas Parade the first Saturday in December. If you would like to help with planning the churches float for the parade or participate in the parade, please contact Frieda Isbell 512-352-6042.



Sunday School Class Lessons

The Mighty Mini Methodists (3-4yr.) – **Love: The Commandment**
Elementary & Youth Groups – **Scripture Lessons**
The Builders (Adults with Rev. Bob Walker) – **Making Sense of the Bible**
The New Horizons (Adults with Lisa & Mitch Drummond) - **The Wired Word**
New Adult Class (Rev. Sela Finau, substitute) – **When Christians Get It Wrong**

Harvest Blessings

Greetings
Craftspeople!

Autumn 2016

Very soon, the air will cool, the leaves will turn, and the sun will angle on the horizon. It will be time to celebrate the gifts of the earth.

At First United Methodist Church of Taylor, we salute the season with our annual Pumpkin Patch. It is a destination for family and friends to savor the serenity discovered within the cornucopia of autumn gourds and beneath the cocooning arms of live oak trees. For the third time, First United Methodist is inviting local craftspeople to trade in an open air fair. We ideally seek those offering handmade or repurposed items, unique gifts, architectural details, fiber arts, ephemera, home décor and seasonal items. We would love for you to participate.

The Harvest Blessings Craft Fair will be on the FUMC campus located at 907 W. Lake Drive in Taylor, TX on October 8 from 9am to 3pm. Spaces rent for \$30. Bring a canopy, tables and chairs, offer your wares and enjoy an Autumn day.

Looking forward to hearing from you,
Maureen Gray 512 365-0670 co-chairman
mgray82@sbcglobal.net

Shirley Ball 512 751-2178 co-chairman

Please return this form along with payment to reserve your spot! Make checks payable to FUMC Taylor.* Mail to:

FUMC Taylor
c/o Maureen Gray
904 Dellinger St.
Taylor, TX 76574

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Type of items for sale: _____

Booth 10' X 10'	\$30.00 X	(Number of booths)
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*Harvest Blessings will be cancelled and funds reimbursed in the case of inclement weather.