



Most Recent & Acute Needs

Those who don't know Christ and Those who are seeking to know Christ, Bill Belrose, Sally Shetter, Ryan Moore, George Hughes, Sandra D. Jones, Tonya Bailey, Burley Lamb, Bruce Koonce, Billy Don Hughes, Danielle Permenter, Edward McRae, Tammy Sparks, Kenneth Campbell, Glen Kerr, Ronny Lynch, Terri Draper Snider, Ann Burkhalter, Tammie Dick, Linda Warren, Robin Bell, Jonathan Stone, Mary Lou Lout, Alan Turner, Brenda Lucas, Sharon Samford Wilson, Martha Jean Golden, Wayne Wood, Eugene Haley, Phyllis Neu, Garrison McIver, Bobby Harness, Linda Bordelon, John Walker, Bob Scott, Case Howard, Sequin Lee, Cindy Simmons, Martha Wiesedeppe, Rev. Michael Mitchell, Maya Durkis, David Jacobs, Mike Addison, Alma Ellington, Louise Huff, Rena Thompson, Bobby Warr, Cole McAdams, FBC Sutherland Springs Texas, Jennifer Cornier, Sherry Lawson, Nita Atkinson, Buddy Hancock, Donna Dagotti, Ashlyn Forbis, Dorothy Argo, Jonathan Holt, Pam & Darrell Sanford, Angela Walker, Winnie Preston, Children & Staff of Methodist Children's Home, Rick Hollingsworth, Pat Hughes, Celina Selby, Georgia Kobell, Kenneth Rust

Healing and Recovery

Joyce George, Doug Heilmann, Donna Holt

Long Term Need for Healing

Howard Logan, Charlie Dina, Jeri Frank, Kevin Blake, Paula Kimbro Black, Kevin O'Conner, Lynn Fox, Bill Ginn, Debbie Mercer, J.W. & Bobbie Braden, Brooklyn Swann, Roy Masterson, Charles Hall, Jay Teske, Beth Kell, Patti Ballard Martin, Orval Headley, Martin Jones, Zac Day, Shelley Locke, David Swanzy, John Griffin, Kim Burkhalter, Cecil Watlington, Ed Turk

At Home & Nursing Home Members & Friends

Bea Mettauer, Tim Boyd, Mary Anna Menefee, Lyndell Griffin, Minnie Lovejoy, Pat Brittain, Mae Dell Brannen, Gwendolyn Crawford, Margaret Henry, Yvonne Permenter, Pauline Lorah, Doris Wennerbom, Edith Franks, Billy Cogswell, Bishop Samford

Those Serving our Country

Robby Hughes, Chance Wright, Wade Angelo, Josh Nobles, Jimmy Crocker, Jason Adams, Chris Bentley, Stephen Bentley, Kirk Cogswell, Cpl. Dustin W. Osgood, Caleb Rasmussen, Trey Taylor, Jason Peveto, Josh Waller, Kyle Bell, Robert Shaun Johnson, Rebecca Kruger, David Johnson, Anthony Johnson, Cpt. John Ruizo, Major Jonathon Welborn, Lt. Cody Dobiyski, Staff Sgt. Hannah Wilkins, Dylan Barbee

Comfort and Peace

The Families of Linda Watson, Michael Hurst

*We are working to update our prayer list. If you see names listed above that need to be removed, please contact the church office.



Annual Planning Retreat

Friday, January 19, 2018
6:00 pm
In the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, January 20, 2018
9:00 am

Leave from church and go to McMahan's Chapel
Breakfast & Lunch will be provided.



The church staff would like to extend a huge thanks to everyone who was so generous to us during the Christmas season. We very much appreciate each and every one of you. We all agree that we are truly blessed to be working at Center FUMC. May God continue to bless you all in this New Year!

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December 21, 2017

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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Return Service Requested



January 2018

First United Methodist Church
Center, Texas

UPCOMING DATES

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day
OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, December 27

9:00 am Ladies Exercise-Fellowship Hall

No Kids Grow 'N Christ, Handbells, Choir, or MYF

Friday, December 29

OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday December 31

No Coffee Fellowship

9:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Combined Worship Service

Monday, January 1

OFFICE CLOSED



I was fortunate to be raised in a family of faith. My daddy was a deacon in First Baptist Church in Mauriceville. We were present at the church every time the doors were open. All five of us girls., Mother and Daddy filled up a pew. I accepted Christ as my savior and was baptized in the church when I was 9 years old. I was active in many programs and enjoyed being a part of the church family.

When I began college in the summer of 1972 I did not include attending church regularly in my schedule. My parents retired and moved to Center that summer also. They became established in a Center church.

Time passes, college ends and a career of teaching school began and still I had no time for church. I still called on the Lord in prayer and read lessons and the Bible, but, I was missing out on an important part of spiritual growth by not attending church.

Marriage and children followed. As a couple, we knew we should get to church for our children's sake – if for no other reason. But, a pattern of not going was set. It was not until our family had a traumatic occurrence that we finally heard the Lord's calling. Danny's mom would always say, "There's not an ill wind that doesn't blow a little good." Because trouble was at our family's door step that this "ill wind" blew us to the church house door!

That was 27 years ago. Being a part of a church family is comforting. There is a togetherness that is shared each time we meet. I know that if I am in need I can look to my fellow church members for help. I am so glad to be a member of a caring congregation

-----advent devotionals submitted by Sally Miller Windham:

As you pause to give God thanks for all he has given you this past year, consider the gift of community found here. Consider the gift of his presence among us all year long... not just at Christmas. Give thanks for God calling us to be his body in this community in this place and in this time. May God continue to grow us and use us and bless us in 2018! Prayers from me and the entire staff for each of you -- for who you are and what you do! Thank you and Happy New Year! Karen



Kids Grow 'N Christ will resume back on Wednesday, January 17th.

Help us undecorate from Christmas by joining us on Monday, January 8th @ 10 am in the Sanctuary!

January Schedules

Acolytes

January 7th- 8:30 am-Rex Payne & Zac Carlton/11:00 am-Ty & Grant Gregory
 January 14th-8:30 am-Easton & Emi Kate Wulf/11:00 am-Jaxon Goings
 January 21st-8:30 am-Hudsyn Wulf/11:00 am-Ty & Grant Gregory
 January 28th-Logan Galindo & Tristan Carlton/11:00 am-Jaxon Goings

Children's Church

January 7th-No Children's Church-Communion Sunday
 January 14th-8:30 am-Terri Lacher/11:00 am-Ashley Wulf
 January 21st-8:30 am-Mary Pigg & Sally Windham/11:00 am-Renee Verdine
 January 28th-8:30 am-Becky Parfait/11:00 am-Mary Lynn Tinkle

Coffee Fellowship

January 7th - The Early Choir
 January 14th - Kids Grow 'N Christ Crew
 January 21st - Methodist Men's Breakfast
 January 28th - Bill & Donna Holt, Ken & Christy Mahan

MYF Snack Schedule (Wednesday)

January 7th-OPEN
 January 14th-OPEN
 January 21st-OPEN
 January 28th-OPEN

January Sunday Worship

January 7th-Shine A Light! Matthew 2:1-12/Isaiah 60: 1-6
 January 14th-Come & See! John 1:43-51
 January 21st-Get Going! Mark 1:14-20
 January 28th-Freedom In Christ? 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Opportunities to Get Spiritually Fit Early in 2018

Opportunity #1: Join the pastor for **the Wesley Challenge:** on Mondays, January 15, 22 and 29 at either noon or 6pm. You will need a book to participate but there will be no charge for the book. We do need to order the correct amount so please let Kelli know if you plan to participate. You will actually begin the daily readings on January 8. *The Youth will be participating during Sunday School at the same time the adults are participating on Mondays.*

Opportunity #2: The Texas Annual Conference is offering a **Resiliency Workshop** for clergy and laity on Wednesday, January 31st in Longview. The presenter will be Chaplain and Retired Brigadier General Ray Bailey.

"**Spiritual fitness**" is the development of those personal qualities needed to sustain a person in times of stress, hardship and tragedy.

"**Spiritual resiliency**" is the development of those inner capabilities and tools to be able to better cope and be resiliently strong in body, mind, and spirit. It is the ability to recover rapidly from illness, change, or misfortune. It is the ability of a soul to regain its power. The Goal of spiritual resiliency training is to create persons who are aware of the importance of being spiritually fit and resilient individuals. Along with increased awareness, they will also become better able to balance the demands of their careers, families and personal lives.

The workshop will begin at 10 am and end at 2pm. Lunch will be provided. Anyone interested in attending needs to **call the office before January 17.**

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Bonnie Walker No Coffee Fellowship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Combined Worship	1 OFFICE CLOSED 	2	3 Ann Tomlin No Kids Grow In Christ 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	4	5 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	6 Bryanna Sample Emily Walker Kelli Snider Shelli Haley
7 Jo Watson Tommye Hall McDonald Victoria Lee 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	8 10:00 AM Undecorating from Christmas	9 Hillary Sparks McElroy Portia Gaines Shanna Carlton 1:30 PM BINGO 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Missions Committee	10 No Kids Grow In Christ 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	11	12 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 2:30 PM Green Acres	13 Emerson Wulf
14 Alice Sue Howard Victoria Lee Wesley Wahl 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	15 Ellie Walker 12:00 PM Wesley Challenge 6:00 PM Wesley Challenge	16 Keela Johnson Neilson Davis 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Finance Committee	17 Sharon Crelia 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:00 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	18 Chelle Mooney Dawn Barnes Dowlin Arnold Faith Snider JoAnn Shillings Terri Lacher 5:30 PM Trustees Committee Meeting	19 Bobby Pigg Margaret Ihlo Melissa Lee 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 6:00 PM Planning Retreat	20 9:00 AM Pineywoods Photography Club 9:00 AM Planning Retreat
21 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	22 12:00 PM Wesley Challenge 6:00 PM Wesley Challenge	23 Joy Miller Sydney Haley 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:15 PM Church Council	24 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:00 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	25	26 Becky Grant Rachel Paddie 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 2:30 PM Holiday	27 Marlin Jones
28 Austin Patterson 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	29 Belinda Loftice Jimmy Strong 12:00 PM Wesley Challenge 6:00 PM Wesley Challenge	30 4:00 PM Staff Meeting	31 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 10:00 AM Resiliency Workshop in Longview (till 2pm) 3:00 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir			

PLEASE RETURN YOUR 2018 PLEDGE CARDS IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE A CARD, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH



Monday-Thursday
9am-5pm
Closed 12-1pm for Lunch
Friday 9am-noon

NO NEWSLETTER UNTIL THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8th!



Church Camp will be July 8-13, 2018 at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center in Palestine, TX. You can register online at <https://lakeviewsummercampregistration.campbrainregistration.com/> or call the Lakeview Registration office at (903) 538-2711. Registration ends June 24! Remember: the church pays half of each campers registration fee or we can assist those who are in need of the full amount. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Bohannon!