



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, Terri Draper Snider, Ann Burkhalter, Tammie Dick, Linda Warren, Robin Bell, Jonathan Stone, Mary Lou Lout, Brenda Lucas, Martha Jean Golden, Wayne Wood, Eugene Haley, Phyllis Neu, Garrison McIver, Bobby Harness, Linda Bordelon, John Walker, Bob Scott, Case Howard, Sequinn Lee, Cindy Simmons, Martha Wiesedeppe, Rev. Michael Mitchell, Maya Durkis, David Jacobs, Mike Addison, Alma Ellington, Louise Huff, Rena Thompson, Cole McAdams, 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, Kenneth Rust, George Kobell, Tina Hagler Vaughn, Todd Vincent, Judy Carrington, Braden Loden, Wyatt Foster, Teresa Pearce, Barbara Dance, Mark Adkins, Ed Yates, Charlie Popham, Ina Bass, Dickey Gilchrist, Tem Morrison, Yancy Boyd Fleming Bradford, Daniel Timothy Newman, Suzanne Ihlo, Robert Carroll, Connie Mettauer, Sandy Newman

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 Swanzey, John Griffin, Kim Burkhalter, Cecil Watlington, Ed Turk

At Home & Nursing Home Members & Friends

Bea Mettauer, Tim Boyd, 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 & Peace

The Families of Ronny Lynch, Rodney Brittain

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



Make Plans to Attend!!!!
Sock Hop in the Fellowship Hall
February 25th @ 5:00pm
Join your friends for a fun evening in the Fellowship Hall with dance music to help you remember (or learn) the twist, mashed potato and all the others.
A meal will be provided. Bring the family and bring some friends!

BOY SCOUT

Sunday
 Boy Scout Sunday
 Sunday, February 11th
 We invite all Boys Scouts and Eagles Scouts to join us!

First United Methodist Church
 211 Porter Street
 Center, Texas 75935
 936-598-2707 Fax 936-598-2708
 e-mail: funccenter@sbccglobal.net
 website: www.funccenterx.org
Karen Jones, Pastor
 January 23, 2017

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO. 10
 Return Service Requested



February 2018

First United Methodist Church
 Center, Texas

UPCOMING DATES

- Wednesday, January 24**
 9:00 am Ladies Exercise in the Fellowship Hall
 3:00 pm Kids Grow 'N Kids
 5:00 pm Handbells
 5:00 pm MYF
 6:00 pm Choir
- Friday, January 26**
 9:00 am Ladies Exercise in the Fellowship Hall
 2:30 pm Holiday Nursing Home
- Sunday, January 28**
 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship-Bill & Donna Holt and Ken & Christy Mahan
- 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 pm Worship Service
- Monday, January 29**
 12:00 pm Wesley Challenge
 6:00 pm Wesley Challenge
- Tuesday, January 30**
 4:00 pm Staff Meeting
 5:15 pm Church Council in Parlor (Date Change)
- Wednesday, January 31**
 9:00 am Ladies Exercise in the Fellowship Hall
 3:00 pm Kids Grow 'N Kids
 5:00 pm Handbells
 5:00 pm MYF
 6:00 pm Choir



My most profound thanks to all of you who gave up all or part of your weekend to attend our annual Leadership/Planning Retreat! 22 people came and shared their hopes and dreams for our congregation. All of the ideas will be presented to the church council and appropriate committees next week. We also began developing 4 BHAG's to serve as our overarching guidelines. More information will follow.

I am reading a very interesting blog about sowing seeds for a great spiritual awakening. The writer contrasts Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones (Ezekiel 37) to the vision God showed him about the river and life-giving trees in Ezekiel 47. The writer asks how we get from dry bones to flowing rivers from the throne of God.

It really is the question at the heart of our faith isn't it. How often do we choose to live as dry bones (which is not really living at all) instead of enjoying all the richness that God provides. Why do we lead lives that are poorer than the ones God intends us to live. How often do we choose the wilderness over abiding in his presence?

There is a theory when working with juveniles offenders that I believe is true for many of us. It goes like this: A teen has messed up so many times and been in so much trouble that when given the opportunity for rehab and a fresh start with new tools and coping mechanisms the teen will mess up again. Why? Because even though they have a new beginning, it is not comfortable. They do not know how to live this new life. They do not know what to expect or believe they are worth this new life so they go back to what they know and what they have been taught to believe is true about themselves. They return to offending.

God has told us that what the world says about us is not true; that we are God's beloved children and friends and brothers and sisters of Jesus. God tells us we are to have abundant life so why do we go back to valleys of dry bones? Don't let us get comfortable there! Read these 2 chapters from Ezekiel. Are you in the dry valley or sitting beside a flowing stream of life-giving water? Perhaps the blogger I am reading is correct in saying that the journey to life is just that and deliberate journey. As we prepare to enter Lent on Wednesday, February 14, let us contemplate where God might be leading us to more abundant life.

Karen





My morning thoughts from today's devotional read: She's the kind of person who looks at a cloud and says to herself, "there's a rainbow coming in just a little while," then she kicks off her shoes and dances in the puddles until the sun comes out again. Colossians 3:2 says, "Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth."

As I typed these words, I heard the words to the song, "Come to Jesus." I realized that by focusing our thoughts on the turmoil around us, we remove our eyes from our Peacemaker, Jesus Christ. The waves kick up high. The wind blows, and it feels as if we will perish in the midst of the storms. When the disciples looked to Jesus resting in the bow of the boat, they cried out to Him to save them. Our Lord lifted His head and calmed the stormy seas. Immediately!

When we remember to look to Jesus, we do find the rainbows, even after the fiercest of gales, trusting in our precious Savior to deliver us from the worst situations. He is always there! We just need to look past the clouds, and learn to "dance in the puddles until the sun comes out again."

Father God, even though it seems as if the trials and storms of life are overwhelming, You are there, never leaving us abandoned and alone! Help us today to take the tiny seeds of Hope and Encouragement to heart. Hand us our dancing shoes of Faith, and may we use them holding fast to Your Holy Spirit. In place of our sorrow and pain, fill us with Your peace which passes all understanding. Help us to see the rainbows even in the midst of our overwhelming storms. Amen.

You may contact Terri for prayer requests at (936)598-3484 or at (936)-332-2717, or at btlacher@sbcglobal.net

February Schedules

Acolytes

February 4th - 8:30 am-Ty & Grant Gregory/11:00 am-Rex & Zac Payne
 February 11th -8:30 am-Jaxon Goings/11:00 am-Easton & Emi Kate Wulf
 February 18th -8:30 am-Ty & Grant Gregory/11:00 am-Hudsyn Wulf
 February 25th -Jaxon Goings/11:00 am-Logan Galindo & Tristan Carlton

Children's Church

February 4th -No Children's Church-Communion Sunday
 February 11th -8:30 am-Mary Pigg & Sally Windham/11:00 am-Ashley Wulf
 February 18th -8:30 am-Becky Parfait /11:00 am-Renee Verdine & Keela Johnson
 February 25th -8:30 am-Terri Lacher/11:00 am-Mary Lynn Tinkle

Coffee Fellowship

February 4th - Windham, Miller and Pigg Families
 February 11th - Tinkle/Runnels SS Class
 February 18th - Methodist Men's Breakfast
 February 25th - Fellowship Class

MYF Snack Schedule (Wednesday)

February 7th - OPEN
 February 14th - Sue Chapman & Vicki Lee
 February 21st - OPEN
 February 28th - OPEN

February Sunday Worship

Feb 4 - Isaiah 40: 21-31 Renew Your Strength
 Feb 11 - The 30 Day Gift Guest Speaker : Kasey Smith
 Feb 18 - Mark 1: 9 - 15 The Importance of time in the Wilderness
 Feb 25 - Mark 8: 27-38 "I am...."



One of very first counseling interns was a young woman named Kasey Smith. Kasey was a juvenile probation officer making a real difference in lives of her probationers. Kasey has a real passion for God and the people who do not know God cares for them. She finished that internship, became licensed and a colleague. She has a passion for the outdoors which is a good thing. Her husband is a Game Warden you may have seen on Lone Star Law on the animal Plant. Kasey and Sam share their love of a good hunting dog. They have 2 adorable children. One thing that always intrigued me was Kasey's passion to do God's will in her life. Kasey waited and listened and **The 30 Day Gift** has come out of that time of waiting on God to lead her. The mission of The 30 Day Gift is to reignite a passion for prayer in the hearts of God's people. She prays that the givers find new appreciation for prayer, and may the receivers be touched by the love of another, and the power of God through answered prayer.

Confused? No need to be! Kasey will be speaking in worship on February 11 to share her story and I hope you will bring a friend to worship that day. She now lives in Johnson City and we don't get to visit as often so I am excited to hear what God is up to in her life and ministry. Be sure you join us on Feb 11!

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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	1	2 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	3 Collin Mathews 9:00 AM District Training Event @ Lufkin FUMC
4 Roy Blackshear 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	5 6:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting-Parlor	6 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Education Committee Meeting-Parlor	7 Bill Ginn Justin Bobbitt 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:00 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	8	9 Dr. Danny Paul Windham Olin Hebert Paige Hairgrove Virginia Watlington 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 2:30 PM Green Acres	10 Mary Lynn Tinkle Matt Loftice
11 Boy Scout Sunday Kasey Smith-Speaker 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	12 Barbara Dance	13 Charlene Kraemer Lisa Thomas Suzanne Ihlo 1:30 PM BINGO 4:00 PM Staff Meeting	14-Lent Begins Kylie Wilburn Melvin Tomlin 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:00 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	15 5:30 PM 50 Women 5:30 PM Trustees Committee Meeting	16 Jay Teske 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	17 9:00 AM Pineywoods Photography Club
18 Carol Newman 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	19	20 4:00 PM Staff Meeting	21 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:00 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	22	23 Brant Barnes Lee Lunsford 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 2:30 PM Holiday	24 Katrina Walker Scouts Van
25 Scouts Van 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Sock Hop -Fellowship Hall	26 Bo Mooney	27 No Staff Meeting Rev. Karen Jones	28 Keaton Watlington Tate Barnes 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:00 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	1	2 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	3

Attendance 1/21/18
 Sunday School-46
 8:30 am Worship-64
 11:00 am Worship-70
 Total Worship-134



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

Watch for Lenten Offering Letters being mailed soon!



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!