

My friend tells of the time his Devote mother-in-law was visiting:

After worship, as we were getting ready for lunch, she said, "We sang a good Baptist hymn this morning." I was quite surprised and couldn't really think of which hymn she was talking about and asked as much. She said, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling." I chuckled a bit and then said, "I hate to be the bearer of bad news but that hymn was written by Charles Wesley. That is one of ours." She was a good sport and laughed it off. I guess technically we were both wrong. Since Charles Wesley was always 100 percent Church of England, that one really belongs to the Episcopal Church.

It is said that Charles Wesley averaged 10 poetic lines a day for 50 years. This prolific writer penned almost 9000 hymns. Issac Watts penned 750 hymns. Fanny Crosby's 5500-9000 hymns would come much closer to the number penned by Charles. It is difficult because of her numerous pen names to know her exact total.

In addition to the volume written by Wesley, his work includes many hymns that are popular and enduring. Wesley wrote: "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling," "Rejoice! the Lord Is King!" "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "And Can It Be," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and "Soldiers of Christ, Arise." In addition to all these, he also wrote the hymns that traditionally open ("And Are We Yet Alive") and close ("A Charge to Keep I Have") annual conferences throughout the United Methodist Church.

Historically Charles often takes a back seat to his brother John. Without question, John's sermons were important to the early years of Methodism. But, Charles' hymns were also vital to early Methodists and continue to be so today. as we get ready for our Top 10 Favorite Hymn Sing, What are your favorite hymns? Which ones speak to your faith and your story? Which ones have sustained you through difficult times? Make your list and get it to us ASAP. Pray for our children and youth and adults at camp this week.

Grace to each of you! Karen

**FINANCE
UPDATE**

**2018 Budget
\$414,701.00**

**Needed weekly
\$7,975.02**

**Received on 07/09/2018
\$12,957.00**

**Received to date (week 27)
\$173,422.55**

**Needed to date 07/09/2018
\$215,325.54**

**Difference
-\$41,902.99**

July 8th Attendance

Sunday School	27
8:30 am Worship Service	73
11:00 am Worship Service	54
Total Worship Service	127

**Turn in your favorite
hymn list ASAP.
Top 10 hymn sing will
be Sunday, July 29th.**



**Want to receive updates
from the church?
Send your email to
fumccenter@sbcglobal.net
and we will add you!**

FYI

If you have purchased something for church use (ex: supplies, coffee fellowship food, etc.) you are welcome to turn your receipt(s) in to Kelli for a non-monetary donation on your contribution statement.

Upcoming Meetings

Finance Committee
Tuesday, July 17th
in the Parlor
@ 5:15 pm

Trustees Committee
Thursday, July 19th
in the Parlor
@ 5:30 pm

Church Council
Tuesday, July 24th
in the Parlor
@ 5:15 pm

Memorials

Roy Masterson

Donna Thomason
Billie Sue Payne
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Pigg
Tommye Hall McDonald
Jennifer Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Howell Howard

Pat Brittain

Mr. & Mrs. David Swanzy



Sunday Schedule:
8:30am – Worship
9:30am – Coffee Fellowship
10am– Sunday School for all ages
11am- Worship

July 15, 2018
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP
hosted by MYF



“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.” Ephesians 5:1-2 NKJV)

Our father once spent a day being shadowed by a precious little cousin of mine. Everywhere Dad went, Dale followed, his little feet stepping in Dad’s footsteps, and his hands reaching out to help hold the tools our father was using to repair an automobile. After a while, Dad turned around and asked, “Dale, what are you doing?” Dale responded immediately with “I’m pushiating you, Cousin Walter!” Although our father wasn’t used to having such a close shadow, he was surprised that such a little guy would understand the value of following and appreciating a grownup. Dale continued to shadow Dad that day, and our father learned a valuable lesson on love and appreciation. Father God, remind us how important it is to learn to walk in Your steps, and learn how to love others as You have first loved us. Teach us to share the fragrance of Your true love, freely and without hesitation, to those around us. AMEN

You may send your prayer requests and praises to Terri Lacher at btlacher@sbcglobal.net or at (936) 598-3484 or (936) 332-2717

First UMC of Center,

We just wanted to say a HUGE BIG THANK YOU for all the kindness shown to us during our week here for UMARMY. All the food – including 2 meals -snack stuff, smiles and kind words have been wonderful! The students have noticed (and commented) as have the adults. We really appreciate all you’ve given us... As well as just allowing us to be under your roof. Hopefully we can come back some day!

Sincerely,
John Sneed, Director



Covered Dish Luncheon



Bring your favorite dish and fellowship with us on Sunday, July 29th following the 10 am combined service in the Fellowship Hall.

We NEED you.
Can you HELP?

The Bereavement Committee has many jobs! If you would like to volunteer in any way, contact the church office.

First United Methodist Church
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www.fumccentertx.org

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