



Most Recent & Acute Needs

Ryan Moore, Burley Lamb, Kenneth Campbell, Tammie Dick, Linda Warren, Jonathan Stone, Mary Lou Lout, John Walker, Sequinn Lee, Sherry Lawson, Pat Adams, Yancy Boyd Fleming Bradford, Margaret Ihlo, Bonnie LeRoy, Scotti Smith Castro, Cliff Porter, Bobbie Braden, Jennifer Cohenour, Rhonda Walker, Betty Robertson, Bill Hughes, Mary & Tim Anderson, Ina Bass, Tammy Bohannon, Keith & Jerry Goldston, Kathy Beavers, Hawaii Flooding (Hurricane Lane), Bryan LaFitte, Continued prayers for (1 year Anniversary) Hurricane Harvey victims

Healing and Recovery

Donna Holt, Winnie Preston, John Griffin, Cecil & Virginia Watlington, Alice Sue Howard, Robert Ortigo

Long Term Need for Healing

Howard Logan, Charlie Dina, Jeri Frank, Kevin Blake, Paula Kimbro Black, Kevin O'Conner, Lynn Fox, Debbie Mercer, J.W. & Bobbie Braden, Brooklyn Swann, Charles Hall, Jay Teske, Beth Kell, Patti Ballard Martin, Orval Headley, Billy Wayne Williams, Zac Day, Martin Jones

At Home & Nursing Home Members & Friends

Bea Mettauer, Lyndell Griffin, Minnie Lovejoy, Mae Dell Brannen, Gwendolyn Crawford, Margaret Henry, Yvonne Permenter, Doris Wennerbom, Edith Franks, Billy Williams

Those Serving Our Country

Robby Hughes, 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, Major Jonathon Welborn, Lt. Cody Dobiyski, Staff Sgt. Hannah Wilkins Saunders, Dylan Barbee, Jacob Jones, Caleb Jones, Thomas Bartle, Dallas Osburn, Daniel Fox

Comfort and Peace

Senator John McCain, Carolyn Campbell Brown, Margaret Montgomery

School has started, and things are HAPPENING in our KID area! We have a new look down our Sunday School hallway. . . new bulletin board decor, new hallway decor, and three newly painted rooms!

Sunday School starts at 10:00 -- every Sunday -- so come join us as we learn more about Jesus and his teachings. . . and about how we can WALK IN HIS WAYS. We hope to see you there!

Kids Grow 'n Christ is starting, TOO!! Our first meeting will be next Wednesday, August 29th. We have a full house, with most of our previous kids coming back and several new kids joining us for FOOD, FUN, and FELLOWSHIP as we learn more about our walk with Jesus.

Lookin' forward to a great year of friendship, fun, music, and GROWing in Christ!!

Miss Nancy



Dear Friends,

I want to thank all of you for my Walmart gift card. Wow! I was so surprised and am so thankful for your generosity.

In His Name,
Alice Sue Howard

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Walmart gift card to use for supplies. It was very much appreciated. I am blessed to be a part of such a wonderful, loving church family.

Thanks again,
Megan Holt

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Karen Jones, Pastor

August 27, 2018

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First United Methodist Church
Center, Texas

The Methodist Messenger

Love God, Love People, Serve The World

August 2018



When Kelli showed me the art for the banner of this newsletter, I knew what I needed to write about. It was also part of the sermon on Sunday.... John's Gospel's call to abide in Christ. Andrew Murray wrote a little book in 1895 titled, *Abiding in Christ*. In it, he urges readers to yield themselves to Jesus, in order that they may know the "rich and full experience of the blessedness of abiding in Christ."

I hope this week you will spend some time with John 15 and contemplate the meaning of its words and message. Apart from Christ we cannot live and grow and thrive and bear fruit for God. I particularly like vs 8: *By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be my disciples*. There it is: DISCIPLES BEAR FRUIT! How's that going with you this week?

I don't particularly care for vs 2 that tells me that branches that bear fruit are pruned so they can bear much fruit. Pruning is not pleasant, but it is important to ask how God is pruning us. Maybe some of the difficult things we encounter are pruning so we can be more fruitful. What about for you? Please do not miss the beautiful ending to this pericope in vs 11: *These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may remain in you and that your joy may be full*. How much joy are you experiencing these days? Abide in Christ! Spend some time with Jesus in prayer and with John 15 this week. Spend some time abiding in his presence. It makes all the difference!

PS: One of my favorite devotional books is titled *The Imitation of Christ* by Thomas A' Kempis. It was written centuries ago for monks trying to abide in Christ and to look more and more like Christ through their actions and words. It really is about how we can abide in Christ. There are several copies in our church library. Check them out.

Karen

FINANCE UPDATE

2018 Budget
\$414,701.00
Needed weekly
\$7,975.02
Received on 8/26/2018
\$3,494.00
Received to date (week 34)
\$238,939.55
Needed to date 8/26/2018
(week 34)
\$271,150.68
Difference
-\$32,211.13

Celebrating a special occasion?
 Honoring a loved one?



Contact Kelli in the church office to reserve your spot.



Bring your favorite dish and fellowship with us on Sunday, September 30th following the 10 am combined service in the Fellowship Hall.

September Schedules

Acolytes

September 2nd -8:30 am-Ty & Grant Gregory/11:00 am-Easton and Emi Kate Wulf
 September 9th - 8:30 am-Jaxon Goings/11:00 am-Hudsyn Wulf
 September 16th -8:30 am-Ty & Grant Gregory/11:00 am-Logan Galindo & Tristan Carlton
 September 23rd -8:30 am-Jaxon Goings/11:00 am-Rex & Zac Payne
 September 30th - 10:00 am (Combined)- Ty & Grant Gregory

Children's Church

September 2nd - No Children's Church
 September 9th -8:30 am-Mary Pigg & Sally Windham/11:00 am-Ashley Wulf
 September 16th -8:30 am-Becky Parfait/11:00 am-Renee Verdine & Keela Johnson
 September 23rd -8:30 am-Terri Lacher/11:00 am-Mary Lynn Tinkle
 September 30th - TBA

Coffee Fellowship

September 2nd - Windham, Pigg, Paddie, Grant, & Miller
 September 9th - Pairs & Spares
 September 16th -Methodist Men's Breakfast
 September 23rd -Bill & Donna Holt, Ken & Christy Mahan
 September 30th - 5th Sunday-Covered Dish Luncheon



"Sing to the Lord, you saints of His; praise His holy name. For His anger lasts only a moment, but His favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning." (Psalm 30:4-5 NIV) When our mother was a young teen, she worked for a florist. She often had to remove the floral arrangements at the cemetery next door in the evening after the families had left, something that made her most uncomfortable. To keep her uneasiness at bay, she would sing as she entered the cemetery, chasing her fears away with the dark shadows that lurked behind the headstones and marble angels. "It's hard to sing when you're scared," she said, but she kept singing in spite of how she felt. One of her favorite passages she lived by was, "And it came to pass." Sometimes sadness and fear keeps us from seeing the blessing that is to come, after difficulties and trials have pelted us from all sides. But, our Lord reminds us that those things last only for a moment in God's calendar of things. Suffering and pain does "come to pass", and joy is just on the horizon with the rising of the sun. Father God, we thank You that our trials and tribulations do pass, even though it seems they may never end. We lift up our voices to You in praise and thanksgiving for Your loving and tender care poured out upon us by Your Holy Spirit. Teach us to learn to sing songs of praise and joy in spite of how we feel. In Jesus name, 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

I hope that everyone is having a great third week of school! or first week if you go to Excelsior! On August 21 at 6:30 a.m., Matthew and I decided to meet the youth group at McDonalds. We used this time to fellowship and eat with one another. After breakfast, Matthew and I dropped the youth off at school. I appreciate all of the parents and guardians of our youth and their willingness to entertain my ideas! (Although this was Karen's idea...) Breakfast B4 School gave Matthew and I an opportunity to grow our relationship with the youth outside of church time. The next Breakfast B4 School will be on September 18 @ 6:30 a.m. (Location: TBA)

Our next event will be on September 3rd @ 5:08 p.m. Yes, the time of 5:08 p.m. is CORRECT! We will meet at the Odom's house for a Breakfast Bash! Bring your appetite and an AWESOME ATTITUDE!!!

Peace be with you
 Sarah Odom
 Director of Youth Ministries



September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 BCF Lakeview Retreat (5th & 6th Graders) 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Bible in 90 Days- Pastor's Office 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Bible in 90 Days	27 Austin Lucas	28 Peggy Haley	29 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:15 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	30	31 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	1
2 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Bible in 90 Days- Pastor's Office 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Bible in 90 Days-Parlor	3 Taighen Mathews 4:15 PM Staff Meeting	4 5:15 PM Education Committee Meeting-Parlor	5 Randy Fausett Tim Verner 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:15 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	6 Emily Glass	7 Steve Hippler 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	8 Raymond Dance* Tiffany Ruizo
9 Mary Pigg 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Bible in 90 Days- Pastor's Office 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Bible in 90 Days-Parlor	10 Jeffery McSwain Lea Ann Robertson 4:15 PM Staff Meeting 5:15 PM Finance Committee	11 Derrick Prince 1:30 PM BINGO 5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting in Parlor	12 Evelyn Green 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:15 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	13 Brent Dance Taylor Morrison	14 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 2:30 PM Green Acres	15 9:00 AM Pineywoods Photography Club
16 Connor Dance* Easton Wulf* 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Methodist Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Bible in 90 Days- Pastor's Office 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Bible in 90 Days-Parlor	17 4:15 PM Staff Meeting	18 Jennifer Fausett Mae Dell Brannen Melissa Howard	19 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:15 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	20 Scarlett Shires* Steve Tinkle	21 Donna Whitney 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	22
23 Lyn Logan 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Bible in 90 Days- Pastor's Office 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Bible in 90 Days-Parlor	24 Betty Robertson Ryan Hippler 4:15 PM Staff Meeting	25 Megan Grant 5:15 PM Church Council Meeting-Parlor	26 Austin Whitney 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:15 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 4:30 PM Doo Dah Parade 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	27 5:30 PM Trustees Committee Meeting-Parlor	28 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 2:30 PM Holiday	29 Jaxon Goings*
30 Covered Dish Lunch following service Dedication of Historical Marker following service 9:00 AM Bible in 90 Days- Pastor's Office 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM Bible in 90 Days-Parlor 6:00 PM Choir Concert	1 Sierra Dance* 4:15 PM Staff Meeting	2 Amy Robertson Olivia Whitney	3 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise 3:15 PM Kids Grow 'N Christ 5:00 PM Handbells 5:00 PM MYF 6:00 PM Choir	4 Jim Green Theresa Hume Tresa Pearce	5 9:00 AM Ladies Exercise	6 C.J. Goings

Office Hours:
 Monday – Thursday: 9am – 5pm
 Friday – 9am – Noon
 Office Phone
 936-598-2707
 Fax: 936-598-2708
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ATTENDANCE 8/26/18

Sunday School – 38
 8:30am Worship – 64
 11:00 Worship – 66
 Total Worship – 130