



First United Methodist Church

The Servant

September 1, 2018

Worship with Us

Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Contemporary Service

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

12:00 p.m. - Youth

Wednesday Night

A.W.E

5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner

6:20 p.m. - Gravity/ Youth

6:20 p.m. - Children's Bible Study

6:20 p.m. - Adult Bible Study

6:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Phone: 903-389-2225
www.fumcfairfield.org



The Staff of First UMC Fairfield

Pastor

Dr. Richard Heyduck

Youth Director

Scott Grow

Director of Music

Mykle Ann Wright

Accompanist

Loralee Darden

Organist

Tim Spivey

Secretary

Tonya Roberts

Noah's Ark Director

Cynthia Outlaw

A Clear Mission Statement

How do we decide what to do when we have limited resources? If we had unlimited time, unlimited money, unlimited personnel, and unlimited focus, we could do anything and everything. But that's not the real world. We all face limits, as individuals, as families, as a church. We are always in the situation of making decisions among options. Doing one thing means that we can't do some other thing – at least not now.

As a church, our mission statement offers our primary guidance in making decisions. Perhaps you've heard our mission statement: "Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." We share that mission statement with the United Methodist Church as a whole.

With this mission declaration in hand, we can ask of any decision, "Does this advance our mission of making disciples?" This is a very different question from "Is this a good thing to do?" There are many good things to do that we will refrain from doing. The first set, with our mission in view, is the set of things that do not work toward or actually impede the making of disciples.

Our difficulty comes in the number of good things we do that *indirectly* advance our mission. Having electricity at the church is *not* our mission. But having lights and air conditioning sure are useful as supports for most the other things we do. Having air conditioning is really cool. Right now, one of the AC units in the gym is out. We need several thousand dollars to get it up and running. Having AC is really nice. I prefer having it. It helps make our facilities more functional as we pursue our mission. But having AC is not our mission.

Or having a building. The building has been a great tool in our pursuit of the mission. It makes much of what we do possible. But having and maintaining a building is not our mission.

Or paying the preacher. I really like having a full time job. I like getting paid so I can support my family and focus my full time effort on leading the church in fulfilling our mission. But paying the preacher is not our mission.

You may be like me: you can tell a story that makes any and everything integral to our mission of making disciples. But we can't operate that way, given our limited resources. We have to allow our clarity of mission guide us in knowing what to say YES to and what to say NO to. That inevitably means saying NO not merely to bad things, but to good – often *really* good – things.

Our leaders – on Finance, Trustee, and SPR committees, and Church Council (just to name the administrative groups)– continually face the question of allocation of money, time, and focus. They continually ask the question: How does the decision we're faced with now fulfill (or impede) the making of disciples of Jesus? In light of our mission they continually identify and differentiate between what is important and what is urgent. Sometimes we have to wait on important things (for more than one reason). Sometimes we need to jump on urgent items, and set important things aside. The difficulty comes when so many urgent things come along that we neglect what is most important.



**Starting this
Month!!!
Monday Nights at
6:30 GloriBells**



**Wednesday at
5:15 Children's
Choir & Chancel Choir 6:15
There's a PLACE for YOU!!**



We would like to welcome Tim Spivey as our new organist :

Tim Spivey, a member of the American Guild of Organists, is our new organist. Born and raised in Jacksonville, he started studying music at the age of 7. Over the years he's studied with Marilyn Darst, Dr. Larry Marta, Helen Fordyce, Richard Herr, Dr. Joyce Jones, and Dr. James Moeser. He spreads his music talent around, playing at FBC in Palestine before he comes here Sunday morning, and at his home church, Trinity Episcopal of Jacksonville, once a month. Outside of playing the organ, he's been a funeral director for many years, holding positions in Tyler, Dallas and now at Bailey & Foster in Palestine. He was married to the late Kay Elizabeth Fair Spivey of Tyler, a past Tyler Rose Queen.



The UMW will hold its first meeting for the 2018-2019 year on **Thursday, September 13, at 10** in the Youth Area.

This is a one-time change of day due to schedule conflicts. We will have a salad luncheon provided by the officers, a short devotion, and we will prepare school kits for the conference UMW mission project. If you will need childcare, contact Terry Dunlap, 903.388.2121 by Thursday, September 6th.

Fall Fest will be held at Lakeview for the Conference UMW on September 14-15. Rev. Heyduck will be facilitating a Bible study on Saturday. Several of our members are planning to attend. If you are interested in attending, sign up at txconfumw.com and let us know. If you preregister it costs less. We can carpool or take the bus if enough attend.

We will be electing officers for the 2019 year in October. Please pray and consider serving.

Our second meeting will be Tuesday, September 25th at 10 in the Youth Area. The study focus for this fall will be Women of the Bible. Each meeting will concentrate on a different woman and will be a stand alone lesson.

Sunday Servers

Dates	September 2	September 9	September 16	September 23	September 30
Counter	Susie Kirgan	Cindy Neal	Gary Toothman	Gary Toothman	Mike Steward
Lay Readers	Robbie Robertson	Bob Anderson	Chad Morgan	Kevin Benedict	Robbie Robertson
Ushers	Andy Awalt, Steve Grecu, Andy Myers, Burt Richards				

OFFERING

July 1	July 8	July 15	July 22	July 29
General \$14,912 Building 475	General \$5,026 Building 420	General \$3,442 Building 200	General \$5,392 Building 1,000	General \$6,037 Building 250
Estimated Monthly Expenses \$40,000 to \$45,000				
Total General \$34,809 Total Building \$2,345 (as of printing)				



Date	Name(s)
9/2	Gracie Awalt
	Marshall Davis
	Tess Hill
	Tina Utley
9/3	Wendy Utley
	Paula Clark
9/5	Chris Fulcher
	Sam B. Bournias
9/6	Geraldine Thompson
	Robert Burns
	Cody Roller
9/7	Ashton Sleziak
9/8	Tommy Leadbetter
	Eunice Barker

	Lauren Jackson
9/9	Esther Walthall
9/10	Steve Grecu
9/11	Jacob Young
	Dori Grecu
	Catherine Robertson
9/12	Cyn Outlaw
9/13	Shirley Burleson
9/14	Conner Hale
	Liyan Cao
	Herb Eubanks
9/15	Brian Evans
	Tonya Roberts
9/16	Brenda Johnson
	Airen Roberts
	Charles Myers

9/17	Jaycee Jobe
	James Reed
9/18	Owen Grow
9/19	Collen O'mata
	Eva Beth Shin
9/20	Cindy Neal
	Mary Awalt
	Autumn Sleziak
9/21	Alyssa Thorne
9/22	Janie Richards
9/24	Loften Dunlap
	Luke Morgan
	Dr. Janice Collins
	Dustin Coufal
9/25	Bailey Ray
9/30	Tracey Schlabra
	Stacy Don Wright



We kicked off summer with a combination lock in / 6th grader welcome party. We had 33 students and lots of fun! This was a great way for incoming 6th grade students to join the youth group and for our current students to invite their friends.

We combined the Sunday school classes for the summer to allow students opportunities to learn through service. The youth helped lead the dramas, the games, and working with younger kids when reading scriptures.

We had a summer study with a few high school graduates focused on basics of world religions and ways we can share our faith with those who are not Christian.

Summer Service opportunities: The food pantry is up and running in their new facility and the youth took one night this summer to help sort items that would be distributed throughout the community. We will continue to partner with River of Life food pantry with the hope of expanding opportunities of service beyond just youth. We also are working with the nursing home ministry and spent a Sunday afternoon at the nursing home teaching the residents how to play games like Uno and Sorry. We will be looking for future opportunities to do this throughout the year as well.

We had a summer bash with Fairfield Christian Center on June 16th. This was one more opportunity for our youth to interact with other youth groups in town and to remind us that we are not just FUMC, we are Christians, united in Christ.

Our UM Army was cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control. In its place, we partnered with an organization called Unique Missions in Houston that works with youth groups to do Harvey relief for families. We had 6 students and two adults travel to Houston July 23-28th where we served families affected by Harvey. We prayed with them, and handed out toys and supplies needed. In the evenings we took time to reflect upon our mission through word, (getting into the Bible) and song (through evening worship). It was a great time of service and reflection for students and adults alike.

We went to Summer camp July 8-13th. Thanks to generous donations from the church and Lakeview, we were able to send 28 campers and 5 adult counselors. The theme was **Real** and focused on making our faith real in our lives. As we continue to grow our summer camp ministry, we will need more counselors, as well as more people willing to transport students to and from camp. If you are interested in either please contact the church office and let us know!

Our back to school bash was on August 18th where we partnered with FBC. This was not only an opportunity for students to invite friends who may not be plugged into a church to join us, but also allow for students to interact with other churches again reminding us that we are united as the body of Christ.

Make sure to stay informed by checking us out online www.facebook.com/gravitystumin/ & Instagram @gravitystudentmin

In Him,
Scott Grow



Memorial Gifts

Memorials & Honorariums

Gifts to Capital/General Building Fund

In memory of Lyle Red by
Charles & Susan Myers

In memory of Betsy Keller by
Jimmy & Paula Clark

In memory of Darold Nelson (Suzann Leadbetter's
stepfather) by Jimmy & Paula Clark

In memory of Edith Gillen by
Charles & Susan Myers, Candyce Gembler,
Harry & Jenalyn Schneider, Jimmy & Paula Clark

In memory of Richard Keaton by
Dick & Claudette White, Scott & Carolyn Newberry,
Davy & Sheri Reed

In memory of Larry Nolan (Lisa Horton's brother) by
Charles & Susan Myers

In memory of Elizabeth Lee Savage (Kelley Meza's
mother) by Sally Red

United Methodist Men Fund

In memory of Richard Keaton by
Kelly, Garrett & Abby Teer, Lisa Cates,
Dale & Eunice Barker

**Remember to indicate the person or persons for whom your memorial or honorarium is dedicated and to what fund it is to be credited: General, Capital Building, Choir, Youth, Music, etc.

Welcome to Our Church Family

Loralee Darden who is pictured with Cindy Hale, Mykle Ann Wright and Mary Alice Bonner



**Youth Summer Mission Trips:
Unique and Lakeview**




**UPcoming
EVENTS**

- September 4** - S.P.R. Meeting (6pm)
- September 9** - U.M.M. Breakfast (7:30am)
Sunday Night Bible Study (6pm)
- September 11** - Worship Meeting (6pm)
- September 13** - U.M.W. (10am)
- September 17** - Church Council (5:30pm)
- September 19** - Finance Meeting (5pm)
- September 25** - U.M.W. (10am)
- October 7** - Charge Conference (2pm)



5 Vows of Membership

Becoming a Christian and becoming a church member are different things. Well, taken as a description of the way we do things, they are, although biblically the two coincide.

When I come to faith in Christ, i.e., when I become a Christian, it's not just that my sins are forgiven or that I'm put on the trajectory toward heaven. Equally as important, if we go by the Bible, I'm joined to the Body of Christ (the church) by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit living within me, connects me with other believers who (by having put their faith in Christ) also have the Spirit.

Some of you might be like me, however. You were a member of the church before you put your faith in Christ. You were raised in the church, you had some set of beliefs about Jesus, you came to a point where it seemed only natural that you'd join the church. But if you were like me, the beliefs in your head did not connect with your heart. Though I joined the church through a confirmation class in sixth grade, I didn't understand the gospel enough to put my faith in Christ until my senior year of high school.

Others might come to a place of putting their faith in Christ, have a deep and real ongoing relationship with him, yet remain isolated from the church, lacking a primary relationship and commitment to other believers.

When we join the church our liturgy recognizes both these dimensions – the faith in Christ part and the joined to the Body part. We ask the question, “Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?” That's the faith in Christ part. We also ask, “Will you be loyal to this church and support it with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness?” That's the joined to the Body part. Well, technically, it's the outward, institutional, and sociological aspect of the Body part. Just as it's God's grace that delivers us from sin and sets us on the way of eternal life, it's also through God's grace the Spirit comes to dwell in us and joins us to the Body. God's work – in Christ and through the Spirit that's primary. What we do is secondary – by far.

But what we do is not irrelevant. God offers us the gift of life in Christ. We have to act – we have to respond, to receive that gift. Likewise, it is the Holy Spirit that connects us to the Body. But we have to live out that connection. We United Methodists talk about how we live out that connection by using those five words: prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. We are healthy insofar as we receive Jesus and live in him, full of the Spirit. The Church is healthy insofar as we live out our connectedness to each other through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. To the degree we fail to do these, or give them short shrift, the Body will be unhealthy, and unable to do the things God calls us to do.

9am Experiment

Our 9am experimental worship service will continue through September. We'll be evaluating it at the September Church Council meeting. The main measuring stick we'll use in our evaluation is our mission statement: “Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” We'll be asking not only *whether* having this second service is helping us accomplish our mission but *how* it is doing so. Note: This is our primary measuring stick for all the things we do, even those things that “we've always done.” We want to obey Jesus' Great Commission. We want people to come to know Jesus, put their faith in him, and live lives of increasing devotion to him and alignment with his kingdom.

Sermons are available for listening on the Church web site:

www.fumcfairfield.org/media/sermon-audio

FUMC PRAYER MINISTRY



STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Katie Anderson
Sharon Anderson
Kathy Arrington
Dale & Eunice Barker
Debbie Blair
Billie Bond
Joe Bond
NeKeisha Chin
Eleanor Clark
Jimmy & Paula Clark
Juliette Coleman
Bill & Jan Collins
Sheri Cuba
Julie Curington
Loralee Darden
Dennis Donohoo
Shelia Dove
Luke Harris
Bob & Frances Henley
Nick Henley
Mary Heyduck
Phyllis Hunt

Reed Jackson
Gina Jameson
J.B. Mason
Evelyn Moeglin
Sue Montgomery
Jimmy Onstott
Margaret Orand
Chris Perona
Mary Pittman
Shara Rickett
Judy Schick
Gwen Schlabra
Vito Schlabra
Irene Slaughter
Larry Smith
Mary Smith
Jesse Terry
Carolyn Thorne
Keith Wedige
Rosemary Whiting
Kandi & Roger Wilson

PERSONS IN LOCAL NURSING HOME FACILITIES

Patsy Ahlfinger
Jeane Beasley
Claudine Gibbs
Norma Helm
Virginia Humphries
Don McLeod
Bob Pearson
Eva Beth Shinn

THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES

Ryan Aiken
Dalton Barker
Daniel Barker
Damon Box
Jordan Burton
Robert Cortez
Brandon Cruce
Kyle Grecu
Brady Jackson
Chris Marr
Brandon Read
Ty Salazar
Mike Steward

Charge Conference

If you've been around United Methodist churches very long, you know we like to have meetings. Once a year (and more often on special occasions) we have what we call a "Charge Conference." This is a business meeting where major financial and leadership decisions are made. In recent years these have been held with other churches. Ours, for example, will be Sunday, October 7, at 2pm at FUMC Athens together with several other churches of similar size to us. In addition to business, we'll be learning how we can (a) more effectively make disciples of Jesus and (b) "Love all God's children."

United Methodists also have what we call "Annual Conferences." Here in Fairfield, we're part of the Texas Annual Conference. We usually meet in the Houston area Memorial Day week. General Conference is when United Methodists from all over the world come together every four years to conduct business for the whole denomination. Also occurring in General Conference years are Jurisdictional Conferences – there are five regional jurisdictions in the UMC. The main thing that happens at these is the election of bishops.



Breakfast and Fellowship, Sunday, September 9, 7:30

First United Methodist Church
201 North Mount Street
Fairfield, Texas 75840

903-389-2225
www.fumcfairfield.org

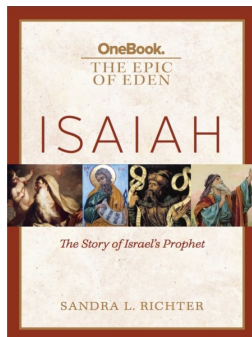
Non-Profit
Organization
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fairfield, TX

Return service requested
Time value mail please expedite

We thank God for.....

Isaiah Bible Study

Steve Grecu will be leading a Bible study of the book of Isaiah on this fall. Beginning the Sunday after Labor day, the class runs twelve weeks. If you would like to be a part of the class – or need more information, you can talk to Steve or contact the church office.



Kitchen

September

05 Chili Dogs

12 Chicken Parmesan

19 Meatloaf

26 Chicken Scallopini

October

03 Tamale Pie

10 BBQ Chicken

17 Chinese