



First United Methodist Church

The Servant

February 1, 2019

I know you're praying for our General Conference meeting coming up at the end of February. It's a big deal. On the down side, I have no control over what happens there. What I DO have some control over is my life as a disciple and disciple-maker.

Our call to *make* disciples works on the assumption that we *are* disciples. Discipleship is more than just something we do with children, youth, or new believers. Being a disciple of Jesus is our way of life with God, and it is out of our continuing life with God that we fulfill God's mission in the world.

We can think of our growth in Christ as crossing four lines of commitment. The first line is our initial commitment to Christ. This is where we turn from our sin (repentance) to Jesus (faith), owning him as our Savior and Lord. Some of you need to step across that line today.

A second line is our commitment to live out this Christian life with *these* people, with *this* church. Christianity is not something we can do by ourselves any more than baseball is something we can play by ourselves. If we have made a commitment to Christ but not to the church, we are falling short of the salvation God intends for us in Christ. In our United Methodist Church, this "commitment to the church" is summed up in our membership vows. When we join we declare that we will support the church with "our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness." Sticking to our baseball analogy, prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness are to the church as pitching, hitting, and fielding (etc.) are to baseball. These activities are what constitute the game. If there are no pitching, hitting, or fielding, there is no baseball game happening. Likewise, if there are no prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, the church is not happening. We might be *busy*, we might have plenty of *activities*, but we're missing God. Some of you are ready, even as you read this, to take this step of commitment.

We cross the third line when we take responsibility for our own life in Christ. We are no longer children, reliant on our parents or teachers to feed us a lesson. We are ourselves partaking of the means of grace so that we might know Jesus better and become more like him. Many of you have responded to our challenge to read the whole Bible this year. Engaging in this discipline is one way you take responsibility for yourself. Some of you have seen people around you cross this line of commitment. You need to take that step for yourself now.

The fourth line is an advance on the third. When we cross the fourth line we take up responsibility for others. We are not content to just pursue our own growth (or our own security in Christ). Through the Spirit, we have gained a vision for what God wants to do in the lives of people around us. We can't just stand around waiting for *someone* to act, someone to obey God for their sake. We ourselves take up the calling and let the Spirit work in and us through us for their sake. Many of you are doing this. You're teaching our children. You're working with the youth. You're actively using your gifts in worship. You're working food delivery, home repair, and ramp building ministries. You're not satisfied with the popular notion that your life in Christ is all about you. For those of you who have not yet crossed this line of commitment, let yourself be inspired by those who have. Strike up a conversation with one of them and ask if you can join them in what they're doing. I bet they'll let you.

Worship with Us

Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Contemporary Service

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

4:30 p.m. - Youth

Wednesday Night

A.W.E

5:15 p.m. - Children's Choir

5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner

6:15 p.m. - Gravity / Youth

6:15 p.m. - Children's Bible Study

6:15 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

Organist

Tim Spivey

Secretary

Tonya Roberts

Noah's Ark Director

Cynthia Outlaw



For Lent this year I just read of something “new” to me, but not new to the Methodist church. I thought it would be something we could try out at the church. A Cappella Sunday is when worshiping communities across the United States commit to singing a cappella in their Sunday morning worship service. For communities where this is a new concept, it could just be one

hymn, but for communities that are more comfortable singing unaccompanied, they are encouraged to sing their entire service a cappella. Below are why we do it, when we do it, and some resources to help make it successful.

Since we have never done this before I think we should not attempt an entire service to this. We will do this with just a few hymns.

Spending one Sunday a year to focus on your congregation singing a cappella (without instrumental accompaniment) has many benefits and purposes.

It connects us to the history of the church. For thousands of years, a cappella singing was the mainstay of the church’s song. By recognizing this and exploring this way of music-making, we are acknowledging and honoring the saints of the past.

It connects us to many Christian denominations, traditions, and regions of the world that continue to use a cappella music as their primary mode of music-making in corporate worship. Those include but are not limited to many Mennonite denominations, the Church of Christ, many Orthodox traditions, the Church of God in Christ, and South African Methodists.

It offers to God something that is, for many congregations in the United States and Canada, a gift that is different from our usual music-making. Psalm 96:1 tells us to “Sing a new song to the Lord,” which can be achieved for some of us by singing a cappella.

It encourages the congregation’s song by building up confidence in their own voices. Many in our congregations believe that they can’t sing, or can’t sing well. Singing a cappella presents those people with the best opportunity to hear themselves and others singing, giving them a fresh perspective on their assumptions of their own abilities and the ability of the congregation’s combined voice.

It emphasizes the unique ability of instruments to enhance the congregation’s song. By showing the congregation that they can sing without instrumental accompaniment, instrumental accompaniment can then begin to enhance and empower the congregation’s voice rather than acting primarily as a crutch.

It allows the instrumentalists to spend a Sunday listening carefully to the congregation to assess where their voice needs support. Often times it is hard to listen carefully to the congregation when you are focusing on playing your instrument accurately and musically. This gives the instrumentalists permission to step away for a Sunday without feeling like they are leaving the congregation stranded.

Finally, singing a cappella is fun! By removing our typical means of accompanying song, our minds are often challenged to come up with new and creative ways to sing together that maintains energy and vitality. It can bring out the best in not only the congregation, but in the musician’s leadership.

I hope you will be praying for this Worship Service.

Mykle Ann

United Methodist Women

Tuesday, February 12

Bible Study: Women of the Bible

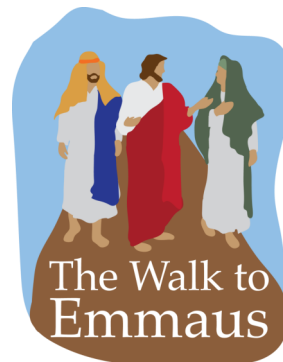
Friday - Saturday February 22-23

Spring Retreat at Lakeview

"Sisterhood of Grace"

Information and registration is at

<https://form.jotform.com/90049008517151>



Men’s Walk to Emmaus

For more information:
contact Steve Grecu 903-423-0020
John Cheek 903-390-1114

Women Walk to Emmaus

For more information:
contact Vicky 903-390-4411

Sunday Servers

Dates	February 3	February 10	February 17	February 24	March 3
Lay Readers	Chad Morgan	Cameron McVeay	Bob Anderson	Ava Grecu	Chad Morgan
Counters	Susie Kirgan	Cindy Neal	Katherine Jackson	Gary Toothman	Charlene Ezell
Acolytes	Lily Steward Wyatt Steward	Lucas Awalt Cole Coufal	Kenna Coufal Dafne Haigler	Anderson Cruce Cash Wilson	Nadia Grecu Rhett Ralstin

OFFERING

December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23	December 30
General \$13,380 Building 250	General \$5,347 Building 50	General \$4,640 Building 270	General \$4,417 Building 1,125	General \$5,697 Building 150
Estimated Monthly Expenses \$40,000 to \$45,000				
Total General \$33,481 Total Building \$1,845 (as of printing)				



If you know you'd like to serve as part of the usher team - or would like to learn more - you can talk to Andy Myers at 254-625-2129.



The Finance Committee met January 16 and after research and discussion will be sharing details of a new mobile app for the church to use for tithes and offerings as well as other donations!

Be watching for more information!

We are also working on new administrative forms to be used by committees and others with budgeting responsibilities.

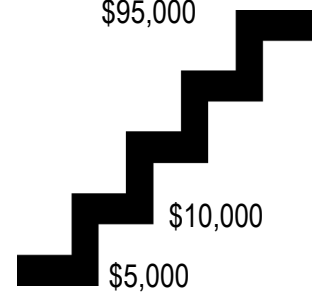
Thanks!
Katherine

Pave The Way

Flooring Goal

\$95,000

The journey has begun to replace the flooring in our sanctuary, narthex, office wing and adult Sunday School wing!



The women of the church have kicked off the project with an initial gift of \$5,000. Additionally two \$100 gifts have been received. To date, \$5,200 has been given.

All gifts are important as we continue making our church a welcoming place to worship, learn and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Please note on the memo line of your check that your gift is designated for this project. Honorariums and Memorials are welcomed.

For more information you may contact Terry Dunlap, Janie Richards or any Trustee of the church office.

Join the Journey!

Sermons are available for listening on the Church web site:

www.fumcfairfield.org/media/sermon-audio



Happy New Year, Teen Parents and Families:

Meal times used to be an hour or more; now they are around 15 minutes! Did you know that? There is a shift in our society from when we were teens. There is most definitely a difference in our society since our parents were their grandchildren's age.

Meal times used to be lengthy family times, when people relaxed and talked. How often, other than the holidays, does that happen? Even this time of year, many families still don't take the time to just sit, eat, and talk.

It is why I am so very excited to share this month's Online Parenting Class. It is about "Leveraging the Power of the Dinner Table."

Family meals are powerful. Studies have shown that a tween/teen that eats dinner five times a week with their family are twice as likely to not use alcohol and drugs. A regular family meal a few times a week changes a teen's long term physical health and even has been proven to improve their grades!

The Bible even speaks about the power of food and a meal together. Christ used food and meals to describe Himself, illustrate community, and used the Last Supper as a longer-term way to continue to help us remember Him.

Meals can be powerful moments for your family. Do not miss out on those moments and the power they can provide in this New Year. Plan now to choose a few days a week that your schedule allows that you will protect as family meal nights! You won't regret it!

Please check out this week's online parenting class: <http://bit.ly/parentdinnertable>

In Him,

Scott Grow



Hey Everyone! It's that time again. Time to sign up for summer camp! This summer we will be attending the week of July 7th-12th. You can check out more information about summer camp here: <https://staging-lakeviewmethod.kinsta.cloud/summer-camp/>

Make sure to sign up now so we can lock in a spot for your child! For more information you can contact Scott Grow at the church office or at Scott@fumcfairfield.org

You can check out this video for a look at what summer camp is like <http://bit.ly/lkvsummer>



Sunday Night Live

4:30 - 6:30 pm

Wednesday

A.W.E.

(dinner and fellowship)

5:45 - 6:15 pm

Small Groups

6:15 - 7:30 pm

Confirmation Class

6:15 - 7:30 pm

Kitchen

My Nana, Jonnye Lansford, was the best cook. It was never boojie or extravagant...it was just "slap your mamma" deliciousness. I was always amazed how she could take inexpensive, humble ingredients and create the most delicious meals, all the while making it seem quite effortless.

She was exactly the same when it came to her faith. Nana loved the Lord and cherished her little church in Richland, Texas. She worshiped humbly, she served simply and she gave generously.

As she walked her daily Christian walk, she carried herself with a certain Godly peace, for she knew the Lord was alongside every step.

Last month, as we prayed that uncomfortable traditional Wesleyan Covenant Prayer, I thought of Nana and realized there is no need to be nervous to pray for the Lord to, put us 'to suffering' or 'let us be empty' and 'let me have nothing', as long as we walk our walk faithfully, humbly and generously, for He is walking with us.

Nana's Cast Iron Cornbread

Combine:

1 c. corn meal (plus a little more for prep)

1/2 t. salt

1/2 c. flour

1 egg

3 t. baking powder

1 c. milk (buttermilk if you have it)

For pan:

A bit of extra cornmeal, Shortening or bacon grease

Preheat oven to 400. Heat empty cast iron skillet until very hot. Throw a little shortening or bacon grease and heat again. Remove pan from oven and sprinkle bottom of hot pan with cornmeal and allow to brown. Pour in prepared batter and cook til bottom is brown, flip and brown other side. Serve with REAL BUTTER.

Enjoy,

Nicole



February

06 Tuscan Garlic Chicken

13 Chicken Piccata

20 Chinese

27 Meatloaf

March

06 BBQ Chicken

13 Spring Break

20 Buttered Sriracha
Roast Beef

27 Fried Chicken

Thanks to families that have made a photo appointment for new church directory. You'll receive printed & mobile directory and free 8 X 10 portrait with **option** of purchasing photos. Price sheets are on church web site, Facebook & table in Narthex.

Everyone will get \$10 coupon to use on purchase (if you choose to buy any) plus \$30 Shutterfly coupon with photography purchase. Veterans, seniors (60+) & 1st responders receive 20% discount. **5% of all sales (photos/frames) will be given to our church missions program.**

We've started a waiting list **Tuesday, February 5, 2-9 pm**, for those who still need to sign-up. Contact Liz Thornton lizthornton10@aol.com 817-988-8533 to get scheduled. Of course anyone can be in directory without picture but one BIG advantage is to be able to connect faces to names.

Meetings!

Monday, February 11 (Trustees 5:00 pm)

Wednesday, February 20 (Finance 5:00 pm)

Thursday, February 21 (Family Ministries 5:30 pm)



Free Income Tax Service

for all Ages, every Thursday, Feb 7th to April 11th

For the fifth year, Tax Aide will provide free federal income tax preparation services to area residents of all ages. The dates and times are every Thursday from February 7th to April 11th, from 9am to 2pm, at First United Methodist Church, 201 North Mount St, Fairfield. Interested residents should bring their tax paperwork (W-2s, 1099's for income, self employment details, deduction details), picture ID for

taxpayer and spouse, and social security cards for all family members, and 2017 return if available. The 2018 returns will be prepared while you wait and efiled each evening.

Tax Aide volunteers are sponsored by AARP and trained and certified through IRS sponsored programs. Tax Aide has over 35,000 volunteers at 5,000 sites nationwide who assist in preparing tax returns. For information, go to www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Door Prizes Fellowship

Valentine's Luncheon

SUNDAY, FEB 10 Photo Booth

12pm covered dish -
meat & dessert provided

*Meat prepared by
Smokin Hot BBQ guys

Chocolate
Fountain

Games

Good Food



Memorials & Honorariums

Gifts to Capital/General Building Fund

In memory of Don Carroll by
Scott & Carolyn Newberry

In memory of Daphne Carroll Fryer by
Scott & Carolyn Newberry

In memory of Milton Sanders by
William Windsor & Family, Lisa Browning, Carroll
(Bear) & Faye Adams, Jane Owens

In memory of Case Robinson by
Scott & Carolyn Newberry

In honor of Janie & Burt Richards by
Hugh & Bitsy Stone

**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.

FUMC PRAYER MINISTRY



STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Katie Anderson
 Sharon Anderson
 Kathy Arrington
 Dale & Eunice Barker
 Debbie Blair
 Billie Bond
 Joe Bond
 Sherry Burns
 NeKeisha Chin
 Eleanor Clark
 Jimmy & Paula Clark
 Juliette Coleman
 Bill & Jan Collins
 Sheri Cuba
 Julie Curington
 Lorelee Darden
 Dennis Donohoo
 Shelia Dove
 Albert Gallegos
 Joan Grounds
 Bentley Hall
 Luke Harris
 Bob & Frances Henley
 Nick Henley

Mary Heyduck
 Phyllis Hunt
 Reed Jackson
 Gina Jameson
 J.B. Mason
 Evelyn Moegelin
 Sue Montgomery
 Mike Morris
 Margaret Orand
 Jimmy Onstott
 Chris Perona
 Mary Pittman
 Shara Rickett
 Rory Roach
 Judy Schick
 Gwen Schlabra
 Irene Slaughter
 Larry Smith
 Mary Smith
 Jesse Terry
 Carolyn Thorne
 Keith Wedige
 Rosemary Whiting
 Kandi 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

On January 13, Wyatt Steward has been baptized into Christ's holy church.



Upcoming Events:

- April 14:** Palm Sunday (children wave palms)
- April 17:** Easter Egg Hunt (following A.W.E.)
- April 18:** Holy Thursday (Presbyterian Church)
- April 19:** Good Friday Service (12:00 pm)
- April 20:** Easter Sunday
- April 28:** U.M.W. Simulcast (12:30 - 4:00 pm)



Breakfast and Fellowship, Sunday, February 10, 7:30 a.m.

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.....



PANCAKE SUPPER

March 5, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Come celebrate Mardi Gras with us.

Featuring the
Fairfield High School
Jazz Band.



Ash Wednesday

March 6
6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary