



First United Methodist Church
211 West Third Street
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www.fumcirving.org

Connexion 13 Issue 11



CONNEXION

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Jack's Journal

*"...Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine."
Isaiah 43:1*
*"Before I was born the Lord called me; from my birth He has made mention of my name."
Isaiah 49:1*

Recently (maybe some would say longer than recently), I discovered that I have been saying some things that I don't realize I'm saying. Many have assured me that this comes with age, but it is very troublesome for me. It happened three times this past Sunday with my calling out of names. First, when I approached a mother and daughter recently, I knew their names and was going to impress them that I recall their names. I blurted out the names Billie (mother) and Lynda (daughter) only to be corrected that the names were Bobbie and Lynda. Then after baptizing Wade Allen Adamson, I gave a prayer of blessing upon him and his mother and dad, only to call Wade, "Adam" and not knowing I did such a thing until it was pointed out later. The last occurrence happen just moments later when I was speaking about Jean Tyrone, a Christian who dwells in the love of God, was moving to be closer to family. As I related her "dwelling in love" to Wade and his family, dwelling in love, I used "Adam," again, only to be quickly but kindly corrected.

Some of you, may be saying at this point, "Jack, get over it." But I can't. The reason is that forgetting names or using the wrong names, affirmed for me again the omniscience of God. God used this to remind me that God knows my name and never forgets or calls me by the wrong name. God used what I thought was a mistake and used it for good to edify him!

And guess what, God knows your name and will never forget it. God calls all of us by name and never gets it wrong.

Prayer: O Lord, please don't ever stop calling me by name. May I be faithful to respond to your call. May I do my part to help others hear you calling their name. In the powerful name of Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords. Amen.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

ONLINE GIVING



<http://www.fumcirving.org>



Mission Possible Kids made cards to send to all of our veterans and active military members. We also have been busy making Crissmon decorations for our tree. In January, our project will be *Celebrate All Holidays with Our Troops* so we are asking for everyone's help to collect used greeting cards from any holiday including birthdays. Please save cards and put in the giving center beginning 12/24.



Our Annual Fall Festival was awesome. There was a huge crowd of kiddos and their families who attended. Thank you to everyone who made it possible.



Watch for our annual Christmas Goodie sale on December 16th.

Blessings to all,
Ms. Bonnie Jones
Children's Director

Finance Update for General Cost of Ministry

Beginning Balance as October 31, 2018	-\$114,143.00
Contributions & Other Income through November 27, 2018	\$53,834.00
Expenses through November 27, 2018	-\$43,836.00
Closing Balance, November 27, 2018	<u>-\$104,145.00</u>
Giving to ministries outside the General Cost of Ministry	<u>\$105,130.00</u>

Thank you for your offerings, blessings, and support!

IRA Charitable Rollover Made Permanent

Another Way to Give to the Church

Congress has made permanent the opportunity to make a charitable gift from an IRA plan. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a direct transfer from your IRA account to First United Church – tax free!

How it works:

- The gift must be transferred directly from your IRA account to First United Methodist Church, Irving.
- You must be at least 70 ½ years old.
- You can transfer up to \$100,000 per year.
- If you haven't already taken your required minimum distribution in a given year, a qualifying rollover can count towards meeting this requirement.
- Distributions from 401 (k) and 403 (b) accounts or other employer-sponsored retirement plans do not qualify.
- Your IRA transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you don't itemize your taxes.

Consult your financial advisor with any questions you may have.

FUMC REFUGE YOUTH

The semester is quickly coming to an end. The month of November was an incredibly busy month for all of us. Some of the big highlights were our Youth Bake Sale which raised over \$800 and our campout to Loyd Park. The campout was an amazing time for us to grow closer to God and to one another. Thanks to everyone who helped with the Bake Sale and donated to the youth. This is a huge way we are able to make ministry happen here at FUMC Irving! Please continue praying for our youth as they wrap up school in the next three weeks. With projects and exams, this time of year isn't just the most wonderful time but also the most stressful time of the year.

Blessings,

Kyle Powell

Director of Youth Ministries





Music Notes



Christmas Cantata: "Sing Christmas"

The annual Christmas Cantata will be on December 16th, at 10:30 service. As we announced we will be performing "Sing Christmas" by Mary McDonald & Joel Raney at Carnegie Hall next year, 2019. But, we are so excited to sing this beautiful Christmas Cantata on December 16 during the Sunday Worship service this year as well. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors so that they can hear the joyous news that our Savior, Jesus Christ, was born for us.



Christmas Caroling:

Join us for a fun evening of Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 23rd 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

We will gather at the church at 5:30 pm in the choir room put everyone into groups and send you off into the community. At 8:30 p.m., we will all come together in Hargrove Hall for cookies, hot chocolate, and sing more fun carols.

Also, if you want our caroling group to stop by your house, fill out the Carol-gram at the Questions? Desk in the Narthex. Carol-grams are on a first come, first serve basis, they are limited to the first 20. Also, the please limit the addresses to the City of Irving.

If you have any additional questions, please contact David Lee, at music@fumcirving.org.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS NOVEMBER 2018

IN MEMORY of: Svetla Roussevo, niece-in-law of Ralph and Sue Wilson, wife of James Jones and Christian and daughter-in-law of Ann and Peter van Bever, Ellie and Claire to Music Ministry of FUMC , Irving, from Mary and Paul Good

IN MEMORY of: Donald A. Furlong to FUMC Irving Music Ministry from Paul and Mary Good

CELEBRATION INVITATION

You're invited to honor Glenn Mullen on his retirement after 34 years of devoted service to our church family.

Please attend a reception following our December 16th worship service - 12:00, December 16th - Hargrove Hall. A blessing basket will be available for your gifts and good wishes.



Parent's Day Out



We hope everyone has the best Thanksgiving EVER! PDO had our annual Thanksgiving Powwow and family feast on our last day before the holiday week. It was amazing. The children performed very well and the entire event went off as planned. We had approximately 170 people in attendance and enjoyed each and every one of them. Our parents make the most delicious food, by the way.

We want to thank Mr. Jimmy for all his help with the sound and the chair set up, etc. He is much appreciated!!

I personally MUST say how very blessed I am to have the staff that I do. These ladies have "the Sky is the Limit" attitude and reach for it every day.

Thank you Lord.

Sandi Parker

Parents Day Out, FUMC, Irving