



First United Methodist Church
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CONNEXION

Volume 12 Issue 7

July 26, 2017

Pastor's Report

Thanks:

Thanks to all who continue to work in the ministry of Christ and be that bright beacon of God's love to Irving and beyond.

Staff Team:

Welcome to Kyle Powell, our new Youth Director, and Rev. Sammy Hargrove our one-quarter time Associate Pastor Emeritus who will assist with pastoral care at FUMCI.

The Team is in the process of planning out the calendar into the summer months of 2018 to ensure major annual events are represented. FUMCI is very active and has many moving parts, so it is important to communicate with one another.

Sunday Night Services:

Sunday Night Services were suspended for now to allow for evaluation and planning for the future. I will be calling upon some individuals to gather together at the end of the month of July to discuss and discern where and how God is calling FUMCI in the area of Sunday evening services/concerts.

I hope that some form of service(s)/concert(s) will be forthcoming in September, October, and November 2017.

Hot summer but Ministry continues:

The Hot Summer is upon us and ministry continues. Many of you enjoyed or are currently enjoying your vacations and getaways and I've witnessed many Facebook picture posts of your travels (envious of the ones from cooler places). Please remember that a few activities are on a summer break but the cost of ministry at FUMCI continues. Remember also, that you can make your tithes and offerings electronically through our website, or via snail mail. If you have any questions, contact Barbara Canafax at the church office. Thank you for your generosity through your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

KYLE POWELL

Youth Director

My first full month here at FUMC Irving has been nothing but amazing. My wife, Molly, and I have been so blown away by the warm welcome we received our first day and every day since. I have hit the ground running meeting with youth every week, spending time planning for the fall, and even going on our first retreat as a youth group and youth choir. I cannot express how excited I am to kick off the fall with this group of youth and parents. I ask for prayers as we begin this journey together and prayers for our youth as they prepare to go back to school!

Kyle

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SEPTEMBER

Beginning with the September Issue, the CONNEXION will be sent electronically. If you desire a paper copy, please call the church office.

What a Blessing!

July 30th marks my final Sunday with First United Methodist Church in Irving. What a blessing my time with you has been! I have truly enjoyed so many events, activities, and projects including Mission Possible Kids, Sunday School, Children’s Church, Puppets of Praise, Confirmation Field Experiences, monthly family activities, Fall Festival, the impromptu Christmas pageant, the Easter Egg Hunt, and - the highlight of events for me – Vacation Bible School, plus so many more. The best part of serving at FUMC- Irving has been getting to know all of the wonderful people. The children and their families, the Children’s Work Team, the staff, and the congregation have truly embraced my family, welcomed us, encouraged and supported us. Although my family will be returning to worship at our home church, we will treasure the friendships and memories created during our time with you.

God's timing is perfect. He allowed me to serve here at FUMC this past year, and now He is calling me to serve as principal of Advantage Academy Grand Prairie West campus. I am so excited about serving the PreK through 8th grade students, their families, the staff, and community of this school. I so appreciate your prayers for me as I move into this new adventure. My family will continue to pray for you. You are a strong church committed to serving the Lord and all of the people He places in your lives. I know that the Lord will continue to bless this Bright Beacon of God’s Love as you work in mission to make disciples for Jesus Christ! What a blessing you have been and will continue to be!!

In Christ,
Lisa Hill

From: Cathy Ballard

Thanks you so much for all you prayers, cards, hugs and food during this very stressful and sad time. They were very much appreciated by all of us. We have the best church family ever.

Cathy Ballard, Tiffany Chambless, Bryson and Cody

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

May 30, 2017 – June 27, 2017

IN MEMORY: BJ Ballard:
To Youth Department from Theresa Bowers and to Memorial Fund from Peter and Daria McNabb.

IN MEMORY: Jim Brown:
To Chapel Renewal Fund from Jimmy and Christine Burkett; to Myrtle Beard Scholarship Fund from Dick and Jeanell Bischofhausen; to Memorial Fund from Jerry and Sally Wicks; to Memorial Fund from Martha F. McMurry; and to General Budget from Pat and Jack Carnell.

IN APPRECIATION From the family of Juanita Fischer:
for the Shepherd's Care Team and church staff to the Chapel Renewal Fund.

Finance Update for General Cost of Ministry

Beginning Balance, June 30, 2017	-\$77,185.00
Contributions & Other Income through July 25, 2017	\$43,386.00
Expenses thru July 25, 2017	-\$44,196.00
Closing Balance, July 25, 2017	-\$77,995.00
Giving to ministries outside the General Cost of Ministry	\$53,403.00

Thank you for your contributions



August is a month of new beginnings for our Children's Ministry. We are so sad to see Dr. Lisa (and Mr. Mike) leave us, but are very happy for her new position as Principal of the West Grand Prairie Charter School.

Another beginning is our fifth graders moving to Middle School and to Refuge Rocks/Youth. We will celebrate them with a Swim Party at the Fletchers house on August 19th from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. There will be hot dogs with trimmings and all FUMC children are invited. We are so proud of Elizabeth, Cody, Aiden, Joey and Bill as they move on to “bigger and better things”.



Sunday, August 20 will be the Back to School Blessing during the 10:30 morning worship service. All children and youth, and others involved with school will be recognized during the service. *“Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.”* **Proverbs 22:6**



Upcoming Fall Music Schedule

Chancel Choir
First Rehearsal - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23 - 7:00 – 8:30 pm
First Sunday Service - SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 – 10:30 Service

Refuge R.O.C.K.S. & Refuge Rings
Sing in Service – SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 – 10:30 am service
(Sing songs we learned on the retreat)
First Rehearsals - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 – 5:00-6:30 pm

Alleluia Rings (Adult Handbells)
First Rehearsal - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 – 4:00-5:00 pm

Children’s Choirs (Chimes; Angel ; Cherub)
Children's Choirs Kick-Off Party WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30
5:30-6:45 pm – HARGROVE HALL

Praise Band
PRACTICE EVERY SUNDAY MORNING FROM 8:45 – 9:15 AM
Except Communion Sundays