

CONNEXION

Volume 13 Issue 9

September 29, 2018

Jack's Journal



First United Methodist Church
211 West Third Street
Irving TX 75060
www.fumcirving.org
Connexion 13 Issue 9



Read: Psalm 46

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.... Be still, and know that I am God!"

Psalm 46:1, 10a

I grew up around mass transit in the southeastern part of Pennsylvania. It was easy and relaxing to travel to Philadelphia to see a sports event (never attended an Eagles game), tour the historic area, or go shopping with my mother and dad during the Christmas season. Now granted, that was some time ago for sure, but I still recall the sense of excitement of the adventure and of course took for granted the ease of the travel.



These experiences vividly returned to me recently as I discovered the ease to use the DART Light Rail System and TRE to commute occasionally to/from work from the Wylie area, but also I realized the less stressful commute to be had when not behind the wheel on the highways and roads of the DFW Metroplex. I



discovered that upon arrival at either work or home after the train commute I was less stressed out and/or irritated with the driving skills of others on the highway (Marlane would laugh at my driving skills).

One of the things that I quickly grasped during the commute was the ability to attend to phone calls, messages, work on my computer, read, and the like, since I was not driving (nor tempted to do the same while driving). But even more recently, after using two Day Passes (\$3 for this old guy's commute), I realized that God was showing me the opportunity to reflect as the verse above states, *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.... Be still, and know that I am God!"* This revelation being that God wants me to take the time on my life commute to reflect, relax and rejuvenate in these promises for me, my family and for the people called FUMC Irving. That God is with us always in the good and not so good times, and we are called to be still in the assurance that God is GOD! To take a deep breath of the Spirit along our commute through life.

Prayer: O Lord helps to pause throughout our commute in life to acknowledge your presence and help and to be still I know YOU ARE GOD. Amen.

Grace and peace,

ONLINE GIVING



<http://www.fumcirving.org>

Mission Possible Kids met twice during the month of September. The first week we made fifty "Busy Bags" containing coloring and drawing items to entertain children while they are waiting in the doctor's office or emergency room. Thank you to Jessica Anderson who will deliver them to Parkland Hospital for us. At our second meeting, we worked on bookmarks in Spanish and "warm fuzzies" which will be sent to Guatemalan children to help with literacy efforts.



September also brought Camp Bible at Bridgeport for our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Ten of our children went for the weekend and had a great time. The rain did not dampen their spirits. Thank you to Ronnie Buchanan and Linda Wheeler for being great counselors for them.



COMING SOON:

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 31 @ 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Blessings to all,

Ms. Bonnie Jones

Children's Director



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

SEPTEMBER 2018

IN HONOR OF:

Jeff and Connie Baker to A/C fund from Sammy & Barbara Hargrove
Sammy Hargrove to A/C fund from Mickey & Linda Wheeler
Jeff Baker to Ida Hartin Repayment Fund from Connie Baker

IN MEMORY OF Max Whitley to:

General Budget from Pathfinders Sunday School Class
General Budget from Jack & Pat Carnell

IN MEMORY OF Terry Hudnall to:

General Budget from Jack & Pat Carnell
General Budget from Paul & Dottie Creech

IN MEMORY OF Walter Barnett to:

Benevolence Fund from Chuck & Teri Hyde
Chapel Renewal Fund from Jimmy & Christine Burkett
General Budget from Charles & Alaine Coppin
General Budget from Pathfinders Sunday School Class

IN MEMORY OF:

D.J. Stark to Sack Lunch Ministry from Peter McNabb
Buddy Uhr, Tom's brother, to General Budget from Jack & Pat Carnell

Finance Update for General Cost of Ministry

Beginning Balance as August 31, 2018	-\$94,442.00
Contributions & Other Income through September 27, 2018	\$43,981.00
Expenses through September 27, 2018	-\$61,520.00
Closing Balance, September 27, 2018	<u><u>-\$111,981.00</u></u>
Giving to ministries outside the General Cost of Ministry	\$112,515.00

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

This fall is off to a great start. Our worship on Wednesday nights has been awesome and we are so excited to welcome Jessica Jones to the Youth Ministry. We've had lots of fun this semester with some new group activities focused on smaller groups. We covet your prayers as we approach the end of the first six weeks and midterms!

Blessings,
Kyle Powell
Director of Youth Ministries



Music Notes

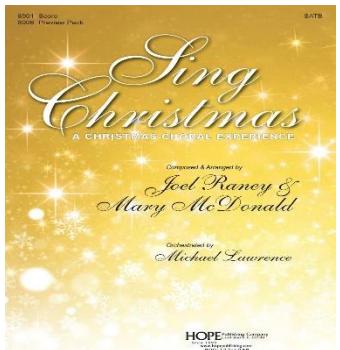


Chancel Choir of FUMC Irving presents "2018 Gospel Concert" with Country Church Choir and will be held Sunday, October 28, at 6:30 pm in FUMC Irving sanctuary. Please Come out and take this opportunity to worship and support FUMC Irving Music Ministry.

Program:

1. Sinner Saved by Grace
2. Precious Lord, Take My Hand
3. He Touched Me
4. Shall We Gather at the River
5. Fly Away Medley
6. Just a Closer Walk with Thee...and more!

"Sing Christmas"



Christmas season is right around the corner and the FUMC Irving Music Ministry has a lot to do to prepare for the wonderful time of year! This year, the annual Christmas Cantata will be on December 16th, at 10:30 service. This announcement is an open invitation for anyone who would like joining us for the preparation of the Christmas Cantata. Starting Wednesday October 10th at 7:00pm, we will begin to rehearse Mary McDonald & Joel Raney "Sing Christmas" Christmas Cantata. Rehearsal schedules for the Cantata will be every Wednesday at 7:00pm.

If you have any additional questions, please contact David Lee, at music@fumcirving.org. We hope to see you at Cantata Rehearsal!

Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

I cannot find the words to express my sincere appreciation for your prayers, visits and cards during my recent recuperation. Your love and concern is overwhelming. All of you mean so very much to me. I love all of you.

Love,
Jean Tyrone

Thank you to all who lifted us up during Gail's illness. Your prayers, cards, calls, and visits were greatly appreciated.

Barbara & Gail Clemens



Parent's Day Out



Just an update from PDO! We have settled into our new school year very nicely. We have had a few tears (even some parent tears), some hugs, but mostly a lot of fun learning and sharing in class. Teachers are looking forward to the excitement of each and every day as we begin to end September and go into Fall.

If you ever need a smile - come by and see us because "there is no place like PDO".
Sandi Parker and the wonderful PDO Staff