



**First United Methodist Church
Huntsville, Texas
January 11, 2017**

"We exist to connect and equip individuals with God's Grace through the love of Christ."

WOW, it's hard for me to believe we are already two full weeks into the New Year.

FUMC is certainly not slowing down as there are several important activities and events taking place this month. For the ladies, there is the Annual Women's Retreat at the home of Pam Markham on Saturday January 21st with Janice Willett as the featured presenter. Then two days later on Monday the 23rd at 6 PM, Celebration will have their monthly meeting which will be held in the children's assembly room. They provide a light meal, wonderful worship, a guest speaker and of course a very special time of prayer. If you are new to the community, I encourage you to come and join this special time of worship and fellowship with women from throughout the area.

Wednesday Nite Live is always a highly anticipated time of fellowship and study. We will begin our various classes on 1-25-17. As usual the meal will begin at 5:30 with classes starting at 6 PM. Look for the brochure of classes in Sunday's bulletin, then sign up on line. As always, WNL promises to be a great time of food, fellowship and study.

As this New Year begins, it's vitally important to discern and plan where we believe God is sending us to serve, minister and let our light shine in 2017. Please remember to mark your calendar to attend our Planning Session for everyone on a church ministry team. We will meet on Saturday, January 28th, beginning at 9:30 for coffee and juice. Each ministry team will discuss their own specific ministry goals in the larger context of our Mission Statement and sense of God's direction. If you are not on a mission team but would like to be a part of our 2017 outreach, please attend. If you have any questions please call the church office. Since lunch will be provided, we will need a head count. Please call the church office so we will know how much food to prepare.

Finally, let me encourage you to watch a very special video on our church website. Go to our home page and click on "For Such A Time As This" to watch the 10 minute video that is professionally produced. I think you will be very pleased and perhaps even learn a few things about our history.

*Happy New Year,
Blessings to all,
Pastor Mark*





Scripture Ref. I Timothy 4:8; James 1:5-6; Jeremiah 29:11; Philippians 4:13; John 15:5; Matt.6:33;

Heavenly Father, we ask Your help as we enter this new year. Each year we try to improve ourselves, that we might be better than before. We confess that each time we start off with our new plan, it only lasts a few days, then we are back to our old habits. We ask Your help in making this year different. Very seldom do I start off my new year with prayer about what You want me to do to be a better person. I usually start with watching my weight and doing exercise more regularly, then I found the scripture in 1 Timothy, **"For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come."** So I feel sure that Your plan for me is not to put exercise at the top of my list. Maybe what is important is why I am doing it. Is it for me to look and feel better, or is it to glorify You through a healthy body? Another good point for us is to read our Bibles and study Your word. Again, are we doing it because we know that is a good thing to do, or because we want to get to know You better that Your word might help us grow spiritually and our relationship with You might be stronger? From James we find these words, **"If anyone of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."** We are to ask in Faith, without doubting..So in setting our goals for the year, we pray for Your wisdom, and Your direction, Father. Help us to live lives that honor You. Help us to set goals that are in Your plan. **"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."** Paul tells us in Philippians, **"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."** Then in John we find, **"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for without Me you can do nothing."** Father God, as we start our list, help us remember that we are to, **"... seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."** Lord,we praise You for Your word that guides us. We thank You for the direction that we receive when we allow You to speak to us. Father, we pray for this congregation of Your people, this Bride of Christ, to put You at the top of our list. As we seek You and Your wisdom Your direction and Your plan, that we show godliness in the way we live. May Your Holy Spirit who dwells within us, direct us and remind us that we are the branches and You are the vine, and that all our strength comes from You. Cause Your plan for each of us in the new year, to be our plan. We pray this prayer in anticipation, rejoicing, and confident that You, as the Lord of our lives, be evident in our actions and that we might reflect Christ in our New Year! In His holy name we pray, And all of God's Children said, AMEN!



Wallace Abshire (father of Roger Abshire), Elaine Albrecht (mother of Janette Roesler), JoeAnn Brogdon, Stacey Buckner, Jay Dieringer, Elizabeth Cooper, Shirley Dye, Ray Ellisor (brother of Jerry Ellisor) Jerry Elrod, Barbara Felts (**John Cazort's sister**), Mrs. E. Finley (mother of Kim Hamilton), Sheri Gaines, Sally Gratzner (sister of Linda Aubuchon), Susan Greene, Charles Helmer (**Sylvia Rangel's dad**), Florence Holcomb, Paul Hudson (brother of Debbie Floyd), Christopher Huron (nephew of Linda Patteson), Lawrence Jamison (**Lee Jamison's father**), Charlcia Joiner, Karen Jones, Tim (brother of Mike Keathley), Jeanne Kellam, Tommy Lyles, (father of Tommy Lyles), Melvin Mason, Kathryn McClung, Wiley McDonald, Morgan McFarland (granddaughter of Joe and Jean Bon Jorno), Kathryn McKenzie, Pat Mead, Robert Miller, Brad Moberg (son of Pete Stovall), Tom Myers (**Judy Freeman's brother**), Turner **O'Banion**, Mitzi Pate (daughter-in-law of Gradylene Pate) Kyle Patrick (nephew of Faye Peery), Josephine Pope (mother of Sally Stalter), Bill Powell, Elena Rangel (mother of Fred Rangel), Shar Orr, Barry Shoemake, Ruby Shifflett (**Pamela Turner's mother**), Bobby Spann Sr. (**Bobby Spann's father**) Leona Spann (**Bobby's wife**), Sue (**Karen Robinson's Mother**), Charlotte Stevens, Pat Tobios (**Misti Sorenson's mother**), Christian Young (grandson of Jim & Linda Young), Vera (Sister of Esther Shoemake) Lindsey Vaughn (grandson of Marjorie Delbert), Geraldine Voelter (**Teri Thornton's mother**), Dixie Walker, Travio Washington (**Joyce McLaughlin's grandson**), Jeanne Warren, J. I. Wood, Mary Youngblood.

Pray for all our family and friends who are living in a nursing home or are homebound. Please call the church office at 295-5441 for updates.



To the family of Alice Russell. Alice passed away on December 21, 2016. A service for Alice was held at First United Methodist Church on December 27, 2016, with burial at Brooke Cemetery in Walker County, Texas.

Sympathy to Luke & Niki Gustafson, and Breece and family. Luke's mother passed away December 22, 2016.

Sympathy to Karen Conroy and family. Karen's father, Aaron Penland, passed away on Tuesday, December 27th. A funeral service for Mr. Penland was held on December 31st First United Methodist Church in Bay City.

Sympathy to Don and Judy Freeman and family. Don's step-father, Robert Crunk, age 94, passed away unexpectedly January 1, 2017, in Missouri. Services for Mr. Crunk, a WWII Veteran, were held in Dallas, Texas, January 7th.

Sympathy to the family of Susan Bayne: Susan's father Mr. "M.Q." Marion Q. Dominy, Jr., age 97, of Pennington passed away December 29, 2016, in Lufkin. Mr. Dominy resided in Pennington most of his life and was a member of the Pennington Baptist Church. He served in the United States Army during World War II and was a well-known rancher for many years.



Hi FUMC Family!

Looking back on all of the wonderful things 2016 has brought us: Wednesday Nite Live, After-School program, Sunday School, Children's Church, the first Walker County Easter Celebration, Movies in the Courtyard, Parents' Night Out, the first Drop & Shop, the Christmas Play (where we had 22 kids perform!), Choir Camp, Church Camp, Vacation Bible School, Jump Into July, Art Camp, etc. I am so excited for all of the amazing things that

God has planned for this year!

To kick 2017 off right, Wonderful Wednesdays and Wednesday Nite Live will be January 25th thru March 1st. Wonderful Wednesdays is our after-school program where we pick the kids up from school (or you can drop them off), we have a snack, do a craft, play games, and visit our own Children's Library. Pick-up time is at 5:30pm in the Children's Area. Ages K – 5th are invited to register. Please register by Monday, January 23rd! Forms are available in the church office and on the Nursery Sign-In table! Wednesday Nite Live has dinner at 5:30, with Bible Studies starting at 6pm until 7:30pm. Ages Pre-K thru 5th grade will be using Groups Living Inside Out curriculum to study "God's Game Plan: the Church". Through interactive games, activities, videos, music, and reader's theater we will learn that when we work together, God can work through us; that we put others first; that we please God when we obey; and that we can serve others as Jesus did. Child-care is available for children under 4. Keep an eye on your email, Facebook, and the church's website for more information about these upcoming events: Parents' Night Out (Valentine's Day edition), Walker County Easter Celebration, a Family Retreat, and more!

God Bless,

Briana, *Director of Children's Ministries*(936) 295 5441
bmccord@huntsvillefumc.org

Children's Council Meeting

When:
Jan. 12, 2016
6:30pm

Where:
Assembly Room





SUNDAY WORSHIP
 Traditional Services -- 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
 New Traditions Contemporary Service -- 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday School -- 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.
 PASTORS
 Rev. Scott A. Dornbush, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Ellen Willett, Associate Pastor, Adult Education
 Rev. Mark Pickett, Associate Pastor, Evangelism

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 Organization
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Wednesday Nite Live
 Starting January 25, 2017

If Bible Study has this effect on you...

We can help! - Sign Up at FUMC
 WNL — Small Group Opportunities for all ages.

We invite you to join us on Wednesday evenings for a meal, fellowship and a WNL Study Group. There is something for every age. Wednesday Night Live Classes will start Wednesday, January 25th. Our semester will end with FUMC's Ash Wednesday Service, March. 1st. Sign up at the church or sign up online.

Sign up early so that we have class material for the first class!

Wonderful Wednesdays

Free
After-School Program
for K-5th Graders
 Begins January 25th
REGISTER
 Email Briana McCord at
 bmccord@huntsvillefumc.org

Celebration's 17th Birthday

Monday, January 23rd
6:00 pm
With Light Supper

Gwynne Johnson
 "Celebrations Set Life's Rhythm"
 Colossians 3:23

Gwynne authored the training course, *Developing a Discerning Heart*, now translated into seven languages, and author of *So You're Moving*.

Memorials and Honorariums

MEMORIALS

BUILDING FUND

In memory of Barbara Sydow
by Gertrude Bechtold
Louis M. Green
The Joy Class
Turner & Linda O'Banion
Barbara Yoes

In memory of Hope Paige
In memory of Janice Knotts
In memory of Wallace & Barbara
Northam

by Cheryl Northam
In memory of Shelia Skidmore
by Gerald Skidmore
In memory of Carolyn Pyle
by Mr. & Mrs. Randal Wiseman
In memory of Dwane & Florene Reed
by Diane & Mark Smith

In memory of David Freeman
by members of the Stephen Ministry
In memory of Lewis McGilberry
by Ron & Melba Wiseman

In memory of Alice Russell
In memory of Janice Knotts
by Bryan Matthys

In memory of Joanne Sikes
by Don Miller

In memory of David Freeman
In memory of Jane Rogers

In memory of Laura Sue Gustafson
by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pate

CHURCH FUND

In memory of Gene Myrick
In memory of Tom Jordan
by Clark & Doris Gimpel

FUMC FOUNDATION

In memory of Gene Myrick
by Lillian Lester
Ann & Miller Ekas
In memory of Stephanie Smither
In memory of Dorothy Cole
by Dr. Harley & Marge Rex

HELPING HANDS FUND

In memory of Jim Montgomery
by Jamie & Ian Morrison

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Joanne Sikes
by Dr & Mrs. Harley Rex
In memory of Hope Paige
by Jerry Tobler
In memory of Gene Myrick
In memory Charles Mallery
by Margaret & R. D. Hopper
In memory of Dorothy Cole
by Thomas Cole
In memory of Betty Matthys
by Weldon Matthys

HONORARIUMS

BUILDING FUND

In honor of Winnie & Joe Sandel
by Sunny & Bob Ernst

HOMELESS FAMILIES & CHILDREN

In honor of the Staff at FUMC
In honor of Lola Hensley
In honor of the Rev. Jim &
Sue Crawford
by Rev. Tom & Florence Holcomb

GENERAL FUND

In honor John & Marsha Wilson
In honor of the Rev. Mark Pickett
In honor of the Stephen Ministry
by Donna Koska



Piper Kate Dixon was born December 5, 2016. Her parents are Travis and Amanda Hamilton Dixon of Dodge, Texas, and her grandparents are Mike and Kim Hamilton.

Traci and Morgan Hinchcliffe of Irving, Texas, are the proud parents of a baby girl, Abigail Rose Hinchcliffe, born on December 21, 2016. Big sister is Lucy Eleanor Hinchcliffe. Abigail is the granddaughter of Tom and Lynda Henry, and great granddaughter of Claude Henry and Lillian Lanier, all of Huntsville.

MANCE PARK METHODIST PARTNERSHIP



MPMP hosted a Christmas Luncheon for Mance Park teachers & staff which was delicious & much appreciated by all. FUMC participants (Glen Grant, Mark Brown, Judy Freeman, Janette Roesler, Linda O'Banion, Ann Connell, and Marilyn Chumbley) had great fun serving those who serve our children! And many thanks to FUMC members who provided the desserts!



Blood Drive
Saturday, Jan. 14
(2nd Saturday every month)
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Give Blood Today! Gibbs Elementary

Contact –
Bruce Thaler
(936)-594-4363
Sponsor code: 8008

Gulf Coast
Regional
Blood Center
Commit for life

Stephen Ministry is a program which offers a confidential, one-on-one, long-term caring relationship with one who is hurting. It is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another and bear one another's burdens.

Call 281-5443 or email Rev. Mark Pickett at mpickett@huntsvillefmc.org for a confidential appointment.



Just before Christmas, our Community Support Team (Paul Harbison, Don Harbison, Jim Young, Greg & Robyn Reeves, Joanne Smith, Chuck Sprague, and LDS Elders Jones and Toolson) completed a much needed wheelchair ramp for an elderly lady (Johnnie) referred to them by Habitat for Humanity.

Johnnie was very appreciative and the team enjoyed seeing her do a "test drive". Merry Christmas Johnnie!



United Methodist Women
 General Meeting & Supper
 January 29 at 4:30PM

Program: UMW 2017 Reading Program

The Reading Program encourages members to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work.

The Reading Program Leads to Action!

For 140 years, United Methodist Women have been involved in mission that includes prayer, study and action. The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action. The purpose of the program is to encourage United Methodist Women members to:

- Expand understanding of and participation in God's mission.
 - Increase sensitivity to all human beings—their needs, interests and concerns.
 - Encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today.
 - Grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life.
 - Enhance self-knowledge and act from that knowledge. Strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.
- <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram> for full list of 2017 Reading Program Books'

The United Methodist Women purchase Reading Program Books for the FUMC Library. Check a book. The FUMC Library is located in Room 17 (by the Pastor's Offices)

RJM Freedom Jackets for Inmates

In the weeks before Christmas, A big THANK YOU goes out to two UM churches brought that brought dozens of Freedom Jackets to us so we could get them out to the inmates being **released prior to the freezing temperatures we've experienced** in recent days. Rev. Roy Dillard of the Milano Circuit and his wife Shane, brought in two loads of coats. Chuck Talbot and Gary Turney, laymen from Crossroads UMC in Pasadena also brought a truck full of coats for the inmates. We are still collecting coats if you have some to donate.



HELP NEEDED

Camera Operator needed for our digital ministry.
Training will be provided.
Please call the office at 295 5441 if you are interested.



New Members



**Mary Michael &
Betty Riggins**
Joined January 1, 2017



**Krisha & Brad Goodney
Rylee, Grant & Haley**
Joined January 1, 2017



Becky & Wilbur Nichols
Joined January 8, 2017



Ryan, Jennifer and Kevin
Kevin King joined Dec. 18, 2016

HOSPITALITY HOUSE



The fellowship, warmth, and great food provided by Upper Room class to the guests at Hospitality House were enthusiastically praised around the dinner table. On Saturday, January 7, Upper Room members gathered at Hospitality House with a full spaghetti dinner. One guest from San Antonio asked to have a picture of the spread of food and desserts so she could show her daughter the kind of love provided by FUMC. Another guest said what a blessing it was to have such food and fellowship. She drove in snow and ice from Amarillo to see her husband, a trip she's been making for 22 years. He is now a leader in a faith-based dorm. Thank you, Upper Room, for the food and expression of love evident to all.

APOLOGY — We apologize for the blurry New Member Pictures. Looks like the church camera is not working properly. Please take time to welcome our new members to FUMC

2017 Annual Women's Retreat
January 21st
Some of Pam Markham
Presenter: Janice Willett



Register

ewillett@huntsvillefumc.org

A Mission Trip



A mission team led by Rick Carpenter spent several days in Louisiana in December working on rebuilding a flooded home. Rick and team members Glen Grant, Mark Brown, Joanne Smith, and Conan Henry (from Conroe FUMC) had a very good experience and were grateful for the support they received from LA UMC Conference, Baton Rouge Habitat for Humanity, and Blackwater UMC. Rick hopes to arrange for a return mission trip sometime in the near future.



ANGEL TREE



Every year FUMC participates in the giving of gifts to the children of incarcerated individuals. In addition this year, we asked for blankets and gift cards for HISD due to the number of homeless students here in our town. The blankets and gift cards were given to the HISD social worker to use as needed. Just before the first cold snap, the blankets already under the tree were given to the social worker who later expressed appreciation for the perfect timing of the fulfilling of a great need. We gave 20 blankets and 20 gift cards, in addition to the requested gifts for children with incarcerated parents. Those gifts were given out at the Angel Tree party at the prison museum on December 17 where the children heard the Christmas story, decorated cookies, and sang carols with Latrelle Lindon. One teenage young man called later that week to say "Thank you" for his watch and jacket, which he said he needed very much. THANK YOU to the members of FUMC who made Christmas for a number of local children brighter and warmer.



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS



Austin Adams, Stacey Black, Tyler Bruce, Corey Burkett, Elizabeth Christian, Kevin Cooper, Eric Deaton, Slade Ermis, Erik Ferguson, Brett Gaits, Larry Gilpin, Joe Godbuy, Kyle Harris, Ryan Harris and wife, Chuck Hayslette, David Hekman, Brandt Higgins, Matthew Hill, Jonathan Hullihan, Jason Johnson, Zachary Jones, Jacob & Ashley Knapp, Bryan Landry, Clayton Matthys, Will McAdams, Alex Miller, Christopher Miller, Brian Moorehead, Hayden Murray, Aaron Nelson, Susan Airola-Skully, James Schooley, Mike Snyder, Jacob Sczech, Gerald Stoermer, Carrie Stocker, Nick Sweet, Robert Traeder, John Turner, Brad Webb, Daniel Woodruff.

Our military board is located by the elevator/sanctuary doors.

- UPDATE THE FUMC MILITARY BOARD
- Will you please send the name and a picture of your family members who are serving in our military. Email to vbailey@huntsvillefumc.org or bring to the church office.
- Thanks

Pregnancy Care Center Annual Fundraiser!

When: January 22

Time: 11am-1:30pm

Where: McKenzie's BBQ



Come on out!