

CONNEXION

Volume 15 Issue 1

January 2020



MISSION
"MAKING DISCIPLES OF
JESUS CHRIST
FOR THE
TRANSFORMATION OF
THE WORLD"

VISION
"A BRIGHT BEACON OF
GOD'S LOVE TO IRVING
AND BEYOND"

First United Methodist Church
211 West Third Street
Irving TX 75060
www.fumcirving.org

Connexion 15 Issue 1



New Year's Resolution: Reading Through the New Testament!

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

This is our first Connexion of 2020 so I'm still able to say, "Happy New Year!" The Holy Spirit is already moving in the life of our church. This will be an interesting year (aren't they all!), but if we keep our focus on faithfully following Jesus and being empowered by the Spirit then we are doing what God wants us to do this year.

If you were able to be in church on our first Sunday of the year, January 5, you witnessed the move of the Spirit as we embraced the challenge of reading the New Testament in 2020. This was not a planned out program but a spontaneous move of God that arose from the memorial service for Jeff Baker on January 3. Jeff, who was a member of our church for around ten years, had been living with ALS for the last fourteen years of his life. When he and Connie first started attending, he was visited by a former associate pastor, Pete McNabb, who challenged Jeff to read the Bible in a year. Jeff embraced that challenge and finished the entire Bible in nine months! God inspired me through this story and, in turn, led me to ask the church to join in. It seemed like the entire church stood up that Sunday to embrace reading the New Testament!

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley, commented on 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (written above): "*All Scripture is inspired of God*—The Spirit of God not only once inspired those who wrote it, but continually inspires, supernaturally assists, those that read it with earnest prayer." The Holy Spirit wants to guide you in the reading of the Bible. Go to God in prayer before reading and ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance. What is the Bible passage saying about God, His Son Jesus Christ, and the work of the Holy Spirit? What is God saying to you through the passage you read? How are you called to respond to the passage you are reading? The Bible is the living Word of God and God wants to become more and more alive to you as you read His Word!

If you are just getting started with the New Testament Challenge, you are not far behind if you want to catch up! You can also just start with this week's reading! Blessings as you encounter Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, through the inspired reading of the inspired Word of God!

Week	Reading
Jan 1 - 11	Matthew 1 - 7
Jan 12 - 18	Matthew 8 - 12
Jan 19 - 25	Matthew 13 - 16
Jan 26 - Feb 1	Matthew 17 - 21

Week	Reading
Feb 2 - 8	Matthew 22 - 24
Feb 9 - 15	Matthew 25 - 27
Feb 16 - 22	Matthew 28 - Mark 3
Feb 23 - 29	Mark 4 - 6

ONLINE GIVING



<http://www.fumcirving.org>

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

DECEMBER 2019 & JANUARY 2020

IN HONOR OF:

The Angels of this church, male and female, for their watch care for me to Benevolence Fund from Jackie Whitley
Doug Fox, Kyle Powell, and David Lee for their direction to FUMC Irving from Julie, John, and Claire Schilling
Carolers to General Budget from Dee Norris
Kyle Powell to Youth Specials from Mickey & Linda Wheeler
David Lee to Choir Program from Connie & Jeff Baker

In Memory of Norman Jones

to Music Ministry from Mary Good
to Music Ministry from Gayle Westmoreland
to Wednesday Work Crew from Susan Ruby
to General Budget from Jerry Wicks
to General Budget Bill & Marni Monty
to General Budget in lieu of Christmas Cards from Mike & Kathy Minturn
to Wednesday Work Crew from Billie & Joann Connell
to General Budget from Pathfinders SS Class
to General Budget from Tanya Tappehorn

In Memory of Marion Blythe

to Music Ministry from Mary Good
to General Budget from Ruth Henson
to General Budget from Annie McGee
to General Budget in lieu of Christmas Cards from Mike & Kathy Minturn

In Memory of Jim Wilcox

to General Budget from Ruth Henson
to General Budget from Bill & Marni Monty
to General Budget in lieu of Christmas Cards from Mike & Kathy Minturn

In Memory of Jeff Baker

to Youth Specials from Mickey & Linda Wheeler
to Chapel Renewal Fund from Jimmy & Christine Burkett
to Choir/ Music Fund from Paul & Mary Good
to General Budget from Connie Smart Baker
to General Budget from Bill & Marni Monty
to General Budget from Marydell Ponce
to General Budget from Robert & Patricia Schulze
to General Budget in lieu of Christmas cards from Mike & Kathy Minturn
to General Budget from William & Annette Lund
to General Budget from Lund cousins
to General Budget from Lori Greco
to General Budget from Christine Olivarri
to General Budget from Harrold & Ruth Henson
to General Budget from Windell & Gayle Baggett
to General Budget from Butch & Darla Liesman
to General Budget from David & Sandy Brady

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

DECEMBER 2019 & JANUARY 2020

In Memory of Jeff Baker

to General Budget from Ron & Maryla Zimmerman
to General Budget from Linda Murden
to General Budget from Gary & Sandra Dinsmore
to General Budget from Kay Crofford
to General Budget from Allee Anderson
to General Budget from Sammy & Barbara Hargrove
to General Budget from Connie Gifford Herrington
to General Budget from Jerry Wicks
to Food Pantry from Jan Mayo

In Memory of Boosh Brown

to General Budget from Jack & Pat Carnell
to General Budget from Bill & Marni Monty

In Memory of:

Ed Blythe to Chapel Renewal Fund from Joann Maykus
Mac & Jackie Spruce to General Budget from Bill & Janet Spruce
Mary Nell Cox to General Budget from her family
Yvonne Mullen to General Budget from Bill & Marni Monty
Bill Clyatt to General Budget from Bill & Marni Monty

FUMC REFUGE YOUTH

Hi everyone,

The spring semester is off to a great start. We've kicked off this new year talking about how we all have influences in our own areas. We are all placed uniquely to influence people in and around our lives with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Last week we talked about how we as disciples of Jesus Christ aren't called to change the whole world, but rather, the world we live, work, and play in. I hope you will continue to pray for our students. Pray for their schools, friends, and classes. Pray that they will cause a ripple for the kingdom of God. Starting a small change that grows into something they could never imagine. Pray for wisdom. Pray for boldness. Pray for humility. Pray that these youth will continue to grow more in love with God each and every day. Also be in prayer for our 17 youth who are going on our spring break mission trip in March. Thank you for your support and care so far this year!

Rev. Kyle Powell
Associate Minister and Director of Youth Ministries



Parent's Day Out



It may be cold and dreary in January but here in our PDO program - we take it as another learning experience. We study about things frozen, etc. We talk about how the trees and plants take a rest and sleep so that they can come back to having their beautiful leaves and flowers in the Spring. So - January is a great time for renewal, planning for the future, and reflection.

With all that being said - we still have our giggles, throwing pretend snow, watching ice melt, etc. So our January is filled with fun and learning and experiences, We hope yours is as well!!

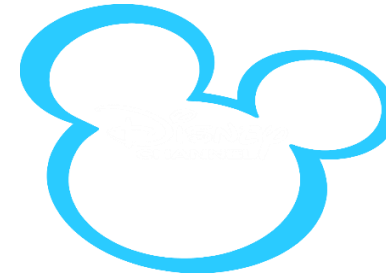
Sandi Parker
Director



Music Notes



FUMC 2020 Talent Show: February 23, Sunday



If you would like to be a part of the Talent Show let David Lee know.
DEADLINE: Sunday, February 2
Contact David Lee music@fumcirving.org OR 609.439.2655

The Talent Show Schedule:

5:00 – Baked Potato Dinner in the Family Life Center
6:00 – Talent Show! In the Sanctuary

2020 Easter Cantata

Jesus! The Resurrection of the Messiah

FUMC Irving Music Ministry will present Easter Cantata Music "Jesus" on Palm Sunday, April, 5 at the 10:30 worship service by the Chancel Choir and Orchestra.

We will start rehearsing for Easter Cantata Music Wednesdays starting from February 12th, 6:45 – 8:00 pm in the choir room. If you were interested in being a part of this inspirational presentation, please come to our rehearsals and Let us celebrate the resurrection of our Jesus Christ together. If you have any question about the Easter Celebration Music please contact David Lee at music@fumcirving.org OR 609.439.2655

David Lee
Director of Music & Worship