



First United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 352 - 206 S. Dowling - Hallettsville, TX 77964
Office: (361)798-2650 E-mail: hfumc@sbcglobal.net

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:40 a.m.

MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship): Wednesday - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

"Helping God Make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World"

-Don't Miss It- Mark your Calendars!

July

25, 26, 27th - VBS
5:30-7:30pm

August

3rd – Lunch & Learn

21st – Backpack Blessing &
Hamburger Lunch

September

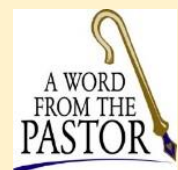
7th – Back to School Blessing
at stadium

14th – MYF Resumes

23rd – Annual Fall Coffee

We have heard many times that a disciple is a follower of Jesus Christ who has made three commitments:

1. to be part of the Body of Christ
2. to become more like Jesus, and
3. to follow Jesus out into the world in mission and ministry



The commitment to become more like Jesus is always a challenge isn't it? What an extraordinary divine, AND very ordinary human being, Jesus is.

We talked about this on Sunday, June 26, becoming more like Jesus is "not for wimps", but it is fine way to live. Becoming more like Jesus requires effort on our part. We never achieve perfection in this goal. Rather the commitment to become more like Jesus is the choice to live our lives in a certain way – an ongoing choice we make day-by-day, sometimes moment-by-moment, our whole lives long.

One of the ways we become more like Jesus is through study of scripture. Throughout the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, it is clear that Jesus was well-versed in both the content and in the Spirit of God's Holy Word.

Therefore, part of our commitment to become more like Jesus necessarily involves the work of reading and studying scripture. We too seek to understand more and more both the content and the Spirit of the scriptures, and to apply what we have learned in our day-to-day lives.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Past & Present Military
Men & Women
Justin Aiken – Air Force
Herb & Kay Aiken
Howard Aiken
Kathleen Aiken - Army
Michael Aiken
Lillian Allen
Dean Anderson
C. B.
Bidge Bairrington
Beth
Dorothy Blanks
Richard Bierman
Riley Blum
Dorothy Boggus
Douglas Boggus
Canaan, Amanda & Casey
Bowers
Brandon
Anne Brenton
Terry Bruce
Bill Burns
James & Lynn Catto & Family
Annie Cerny
Christine & Family
Clarissa
Leon Cox
Ann Defibaugh
Lucas Deforest
Raymond Derry
Dorothy
Claire Edmons
Rev. Ellen Ely
Charles Evans
Chez Evans
Daniel Fric
Clem Garcia
Caitlen Garavin
Tommy Godwin
Grant
Fannie & Bob Griffith
Alvin Grisham
Tara Halla
Virginia Henyan
Mildred Hermes
Billy Joe Hobbs
Bill Holloway
Mason Hoot
Lundy Hooten
Barbra Horton
Howard
Kasey Huser & Family
Wayne Johnson
Jewel Jones
Audrey K.
Bill Kaiser
Travis Klekar
Kristi Kostelnik
Tim Kung
Lane
Law Enforcement
Chris Layton
Ron Layton
Ron Lewis – Home
Linda
Shirey Loden
Keith McConnell
BeBe McGee
Pastor Melanie and family
Allen Lee Menking
Lowe Minter
Laurie Monical
Morgan Family
Charles Ed New

I realize that many of us have grown up believing that you have to be some kind of Bible scholar to really understand God's word. The truth is, we don't have to be experts to hear God talking to us through the scriptures.

These days, there are many Bible Study options out there for us. There are excellent books we can use as guides. There are outstanding Bible studies online (some are free). Many people just pick up the Bible and read it cover to cover.

One of my personal favorite ways to study scripture is the simple format we follow in our Sunday morning informal Bible Study. This is an ancient form of Bible study that anyone who can read (or anyone who can listen to someone else reading) can use. This works with just one person or with a group of people.

Here is the format:

1. Select the scripture
2. Read the scripture silently three times, or have another person read the scripture aloud three times.
 - a. Meditate in silence on these questions:
 - i. What word, or phrase, or idea in this reading seems important to you today?
 - ii. Why?
3. If you are doing this study by yourself, write your answer down.
4. If you are doing this study with a group, invite each person to share their answer.
 - a. Meditate in silence on this question:
 - i. What do you think God is asking you to do, or to become, or to change in your own life because of what you have heard in this scripture?
5. If you are doing this study by yourself, write your answer down.
6. If you are doing this study with a group, invite each person to share their answer.
7. Close with the Lord's Prayer.

Simple, yet powerful and effective.

I confess that there are times when I look at a scripture and I think – “this doesn't mean anything to me. I don't get it”. But something about this approach to Bible study almost always helps me hear something God is trying to say to me. I invite you to give this simple Bible Study format a try in your own life!

Blessings and peace to you and yours,

Pastor Melanie

Emmaus Gathering



People who have had the privilege of attending the WALK TO EMMAUS spiritual retreat weekend make a commitment to stay in touch, to share a meal, to encourage one another, to do their part to make it possible for other people to go on a walk, AND to spend time in worship together, sharing in Holy Communion.

Different churches in the area take turns hosting this monthly event. It was our great privilege to host the Cathedral Oaks Emmaus Community at our church on June 21st.



Prayer List (con't)

Lillian New
Clara Nichols
Amelda Orsak
June & Bob Page
Parvin Family
Peg
Jackie Powell
McLain Raybon
Judy Richards
Ione Riske – S'burg College Pl
Virginia Ritcher & Family
Rosales Family
Vernon Rose
Sarah
Sue Schiff
Alisa Seanze
Dan Segelquist Family
Karen Seuser
Melissa Smith
Rev. Paul Smith & Family
Baca St. Onge
Ray St. Onge
Lyle Stang – army overseas
Stephanie
Kay Teaff
Lawrence Teaff
Amanda Thompson
Nate Thurman
Terri Trahan
UM Council of Bishops
Traylor Walker
Richard Wehling
Dede Barnes Welder
Katherine West
Whitney
Austin & Scott Wilson
Keaty & Tanner Wilson
Preston & Henry
Lyn Wyatt
Joey Wysatta
Summer Zarate
Drs., Patients & Families
At MD Anderson

New Additions:

Hayens Family
Bill Graff
Laura Dannhaus



On Father's Day June 19, we welcomed new members Vic & Lori Dyer into this congregation. Vic & Lori live in Ezzell. They come by transfer from another denomination. Vic has worked in the field of rehabilitative psychology and is known to have some musical gifts. Lori has worked as a teacher and school librarian and plays the flute.

Welcome Vic & Lori to your new church home!

UM Army

We are so grateful for the privilege of having a UM Army team here in Hallettsville in June. Led by Jason Tirey, this team of 50 people did an awesome job of reaching out to those in need in this community. They helped mostly elderly, low income folks with home repairs, including painting, which they would not be able to do for themselves.

We shared in a wonderful celebration at the Client Dinner in our Fellowship Hall on Thursday, June 16. At that time each team shared the story of the work they had done that week, the relationships they formed, and what they had learned. Families they assisted also shared.

Following dinner and sharing, we joined together in a time of worship with song and praise. Pastor Melanie celebrated Holy Communion. You could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in that room.

Thanks to each of you who provided yummy desserts and treats for the teams when they were here. Several people came to Pastor Melanie with reports of their favorite goodies! You all are such a blessing.



Thank you so much for the incredible amount of support that you have all provided to the 2016 Weimar UM Army Camp. As we have served the community it has been such a blessing to receive your servant's hearts in all that you did. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity, prayer and support. Blessings to you always!
2016 UM Army Weimar Camp

What Happened to our Choir?

Our choir in this church has been such a blessing. So many talented people who love the Lord faithfully gathered every Thursday afternoon to prepare special music for Sunday morning. Bobbie Hobbs has done a great job of playing the piano for many years. After Sharon Hooten left, Fayrene Clarke took up the job of Choir Director. She did a great job too.

In April these leaders found themselves dealing with some very significant health issues in their families. They met with choir members and everyone agreed, with the deepest of compassion, that it would be okay for the choir to disband for now.

We do expect that we will soon have some folks who will be singing and or playing instruments as special music in worship.

The next time you see Bobbie or Fayrene, please take a moment to thank them for their many years of faithful service.





Generous ~ Hard Working ~ Faithful

Thank you to our faithful United Methodist Women's group for your thoughtful gifts to honor the men of our congregation on Father's Day on the 19th. We appreciate your faithfulness to God in your commitment to make being part of the Body of Christ a wonderful and meaningful experience. God bless you!

Worship is NOT the same without YOU!!

Thank you every time you make the choice to show up for Sunday worship, for going out of your way to be part of the fellowship of believers in this place.

It really is true that when two or more are gathered in Jesus' name, Jesus is always there!

Worship is always better when you are here.

You make a difference!

Sunday Leadership Schedule

Thank you to each of you who assist in leading our Sunday worship in so many ways. When you sing, you are leading the person beside you. When you say words of welcome to a new person or someone who has not been here in a while, you are assisting in the work of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We also appreciate those who serve as liturgist, and greeters, and AV operators, as ushers, and acolytes, and musicians. We are in the process now of developing monthly schedules for these leadership roles. If you are on the schedule and find that you cannot be here, we will be asking you to help us find someone to fill in on that date.

	Greeter	Liturgist	Audio/Visual
July 2016			
3	Susan Housley & Taylor Catto	Ray Housley	Kristin Marak
10	Mary Jane Swope	Roddy Hobbs	Dawn Jansky
17	Diane Repka	Kenneth Taylor	Brent/Blake Sitka
24	Cate Siragusa	Robert Lundy	Kristin Marak
31	Nancy Hunter	Stephen Hunter	Dawn Jansky
August 2016			
7	Alice Vickers	Zelda Walker	Brent/Blake Sitka
14	Mary Ann Defibaugh	Marvin Peterson	Kristin Marak
21	Dawn Jansky	Ray Housley	Dawn Jansky
28	Diane Repka	Roddy Hobbs	Brent/Blake Sitka

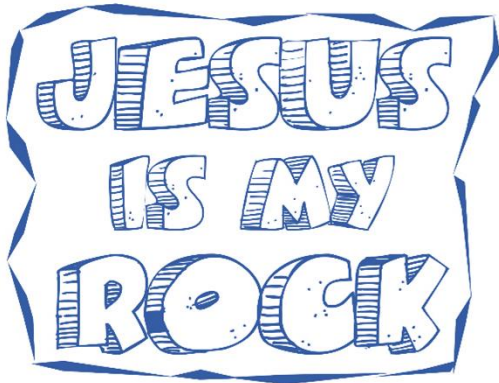


Methodist Youth Fellowship

Summer Time Fun Nights

Our Junior High MYF enjoyed getting together for a special movie fun night on June 17th. Thanks to all of our leaders and parents who helped make this happen!

The High School MYF travelled to Victoria on June 23rd to enjoy a night out at Outlaw Pass & Johnny Carino's! Thanks to Dawn Jansky and Kristin Marak for getting them there and back home safely! What a blessing!



Vacation Bible Study - July 25-27

Our summer VBS "Jesus is the Rock" is coming July 25-27, 2016, from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

Each day there will be food, worship, songs, crafts, and outdoor fun.

Kitchen helpers AND adult leaders are needed. If you would like to be of assistance please call Christie Wheelock at the church office or talk with Dawn Jansky.



MYF Volunteers Needed!!!!

Our faithful and fearless Youth and Children Leadership Team is in the process of planning for our Wednesday night program that will resume in the fall. They really need committed volunteers to assist with both Wednesday night and some new possibilities on Sunday mornings.

Some volunteers need to be lead teachers. Many other volunteers are needed to assist the lead teachers. One of the most important needs is for adult volunteers who are willing to just show up, to be a friendly face, to simply be present for our children and our young people.

If you have any interest in assisting with this amazing ministry with our children and our youth, please contact Christie Wheelock in the church office.

