



Direct your children onto the right path,
and when they are older, they will not
leave it." Proverbs 22:6

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!

September

7th – Back to School Blessing
at stadium

14th – MYF Resumes

23rd – Annual Fall Coffee

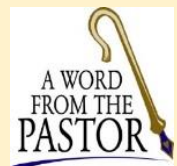
Summer vacations have come to an end. Our children and young people are back in school. College classes have been going for a while now too. We have even had a few days of rainy, somewhat cooler weather.

As the rhythm of life and the seasons shift in this new time, it is good to be reminded of who we are and who God is calling us more and more to become.

Who am I? Who are we? Who is God calling me to become? Who is God calling us to become? Here is a scripture that I find very helpful when I am meditating on these questions:

Colossians 3:12-17 (NLT) ¹² Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

I really enjoy the method of Bible study we follow in Sunday School each week. I have shared the format with you before. We begin by listening to the reading of the



OUR PRAYER LIST

Lillian Allen
 Dean & Andy Anderson
 Dorothy Blanks
 Anne Brenton
 James Catto
 Annie Cerny
 Clarissa
 Leon Cox
 Ann Defibaugh
 Lucas DeForest
 Hailey Drozd
 Frank & Gail Eckert
 James Flood
 Alice Evans Friedrich
 Grant
 Fannie & Bob Griffith
 Dorothy H.
 Stayton Hefner
 Billy Hobbs
 Lundy Hooten
 Barbra Horton
 Tim Kung
 Callahan & James Lane
 Lane
 Nova Layton
 Landon McLennan
 Goki McConnell
 Pastor Melanie & family
 Ben New
 Gail New
 Lillian New
 Cindy Odefey & family
 Bob Pesek
 Jackie Pucci
 Olivia Quirogg
 Sarah
 Karen Seuser
 Stephanie
 Dean Stewart
 Richard Wehling
 Lyn Wyatt
 Joe & Louise Wysatta
 Drs, Patients & Families
 at Md Anderson



HFUMC's Administrative Assistant Christie Wheelock, Pastor Melanie and our Website Advisory Team have been hard at work on developing a brand new church website.

www.hallettsvillefumc.org will be up and running in the next few weeks.

scripture. Then there are 3 questions: 1) What word, or phrase, or verse, or idea sounds most important to you today; 2) Why? And 3) What do you think God is inviting you to do differently because of what you have heard?

The first part of verse 13 stands out to me today: "Make allowance for each other's faults." That seems important to me because it sounds so human. I have faults. You have faults. It is easy to get caught up in feelings of inadequacy when we fail. It is easy to get caught up in feelings of resentment and blaming when others fail. But that sure does waste a lot of precious life and breath sometimes doesn't it?

The good news that God wants me, us, to hear today, is that these are not the only choices available. I believe that God is telling me and you, all of us, to accept this truth: **it is okay to be human.** We can choose to forgive, ourselves and others.

By definition, to be human is to be imperfect. We are not God. Whew! What a relief!

At the same time, this means we are always in need of forgiveness for something we have done, not done, something we have said, not said, and more. AND there is always someone else we need to forgive for the same reasons.

That is why I love this scripture so much. It reveals the simple secret to forgiveness. Simple. Not easy:

Clothe yourself in love, AND always be thankful.

As the rhythm of life and the seasons shift in this new time, it is good to be reminded that we are God's beloved children. We really do bring God great joy. We are truly loved, forgiven, and accepted.

God invites us to pass it on!

Blessings,

Pastor Melanie

September 2016	Greeter	Liturgist	Audio/Visual
4	Nancy Hunter	Stephen Hunter	Kristin Marak
11	Mary Jane Swope	Roddy Hobbs	Dawn Jansky
18	Diane Repka	Kenneth Taylor	Brent/Blake Sitka
25	Cate Siragusa	Robert Lundy	Vic Dyer
October 2016			
2	Susan Housley	Ray Housley	Kristin Marak
9	Alice Vickers	Zelda Walker	Brent/Blake Sitka
16	Mary Ann Defibaugh	Marvin Peterson	Vic Dyer
23	Susan Housley	Ray Housley	Dawn Jansky
30	Mary Jane Swope	Roddy Hobbs	Kristin Marak

First United Methodist Church AND Mossy Grove United Methodist Church

It is time again to prepare for our yearly Charge Conference. This year's conference will be held at First United Methodist Church in Yoakum on Sunday, October 30, at 2:30pm.

Methodist Churches in this part of the district come together each year to worship, to share reporting, to vote on church leadership and the pastor's salary, and to vote on candidates for ministry and lay pastoral leadership.

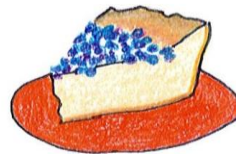
Our committees will be meeting to fill out forms and complete information required for the charge conference reporting. Pastor Melanie will be talking with committee chairpersons about these responsibilities.



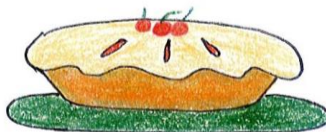
First United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall, 206 S. Dowling, Hallettsville

FUNDRAISER COFFEE



Breakfast and lunch served.



Friday, **September 23**, 2016

9:30a.m. --- 12:30p.m.

Salads, soups, desserts, and chips will be available for purchase. Drinks are complimentary. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship!

The Methodist Women ask everyone to bring sandwiches and baked goods - cakes, pies or cookies!

Baked goods can be dropped off at the church on Thursday, September 22nd from 1:30-4pm.

Sandwiches & baked goods can be dropped off on Friday morning, the 23rd starting at 7am.

The Methodist Women will also make sandwiches, soups, salads, desserts & will furnish chips, pickles, tea, coffee and water.

Funds raised will help finance various projects for our church & community.

. Let's all work together to make this an enjoyable & successful event!

Hallettsville Ministerial Alliance invites you to attend
A Community-Wide Service

**BEGINNING OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR BLESSING
& Dedication of the Artificial Turf**

WHO IS INVITED:

- ALL students
- school administrators
- teachers
- classroom workers
- other school employees
- family
- friends
- neighbors
- all folks from our public schools, our parochial schools, other private schools, and home schoolers

LEADERS:

ALL of the pastors in the community, Catholic, Protestant, and non-denominational have been invited to participate.

OUR PREACHER:

Father Max Landman

WHERE:

Hallettsville Football Stadium

WHEN:

WEDNESDAY, September 7, 2016, at 7pm.

OUR PURPOSE:

It is our joy to give every child in our community the opportunity to know and understand that God cares for them and we care for them and that all of us want the very best for each of them.

An offering of money and/or in-date nonperishable food items benefitting LAMB will be taken.

*Please put this event on your calendars.
Make plans to attend.
You will be blessed.*



Back to School

Postal Pigeon

Postal Pigeon, the new courier and delivery service business here in Hallettsville, did a great job of power washing the church sidewalks. Thank you!

This new business might be helpful to those who are homebound or whose mobility is limited for a time. They can do grocery shopping, pick up and deliver prescriptions and other useful errands. Flyers are available on the table where you enter for worship.

**Nursery Attendant Needed
For Sunday Mornings**

Please contact the church office for a job description and to pick up an application.
(361)798-2650

Blessing of Backpacks. . . .

About 2 dozen children and young people were present on Sunday, August 21, for the blessing of backpacks and trapper keepers as the new school year begins. Each person received a blessing tag to attach to their backpack or trapper keeper as a reminder of the truth that God loves them and their church family loves them too!



Dedication of New Pew Bibles . . .

What a joy it was to dedicate our new pew Bibles on Sunday, August 21, during worship. The New Living Translation Giant Print Bibles are easy for everyone to read. During our prayer time each person was asked to lift up a Bible as we prayed. The Bibles were dedicated to the glory of God and in honor or in memory of people who are precious to us. To find out who we are remembering with each Bible, open the inside left front cover, and read the memoriam information. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to make these new Bibles a reality. We will use them for many years to come.

Hamburger Lunch . . .

Following worship on August 21, we joined in the Fellowship Hall for our annual Back to School Hamburger Lunch. Very special thanks to our chef and gifted kitchen organizer, Kenneth Swope, for all you did to make this such a special day. Thanks to our faithful Methodist Women for your organizing, decorating, and preparations as well.

Thank you Mary Jane Swope, Susan Housley, Alice Vickers, Bob Vickers and Nancy Furhken and Bobbie Hobbs.

Yummy hamburgers (and hot dogs), with all the trimmings, pork and beans, and chips were served, along with beverages. The desserts provided by everyone else were absolutely delicious too! Thank you to every single person who participated! It was a wonderful Sunday!



Book Donation - Three very special books are available for you to read through our church library, thanks to the generous donation of Al and Fran Ringo.

Al Ringo's foster grandfather, Rev. William S. Ezell, was a circuit riding Methodist preacher, who served his very last appointment at Nixon, Texas, before retiring.

Al and Fran have donated two books from Rev. Ezell's library:

Texas Methodist Centennial Yearbook (1934), and
Sermons on Religion and Life, by F.W. Robertson (1924)

They also donated a book from the library of Fran's aunt, Maud Vick:

Belief and Human Worth, by Willard L. Russell (1966)

Stop past the church office to check out any of these books. They are wonderful glimpses into our past.

The Band (What is the name of that band anyway?)

After taking lessons and practicing faithfully since February of this year, our newly forming band played the congregational hymns for worship on August 21! The songs played were: Revelation Song, Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone), In the Garden, and How Great is Our God.

Christie Wheelock played piano. Dawn, Dayton, and Danna Jansky took turns on the drums. Marvin Peterson played mandolin. Bob Vickers played bass. Blake Sitka, Ray Housley, and Pastor Melanie played guitar. Vic Dyer was the sound technician. (Vic also plays great blues guitar). Kristin Marak did all the vocals, leading our singing for the day.

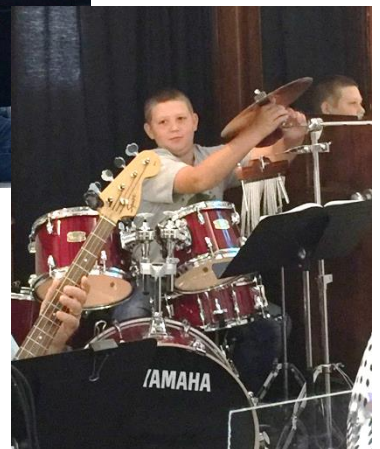
Grace Parvin played piano for our prelude. Lora Parvin played piano for our offertory.

Great job everybody! Thank you for your hard work and your faithful service to God.

Youth Band

One of the goals of our music program is to form an all youth band!

**If you had to drop out of lessons at some point because
of school or work or travel demands,
you are invited to resume lessons beginning in September!
We need you! God is calling you!**





Methodist Youth Fellowship

MYF BEGINS AGAIN!!!

Wednesday, September 14 - 5:30-7pm

We will begin each evening with a meal and some outdoor play (when possible).

Our high school youth meet in their own space for the meal
& for their lesson and fellowship time together.

Then all ages will gather in the sanctuary for interactive praise, worship, sermon, and learning.

MYF SERVICE PROJECTS

It is important that our children and youth grow up understanding that a vital part of being a follower of Jesus Christ is that we go out into the world to serve others. Our kids and youth will identify needed service projects. Then, on the last Wednesday of each month, instead of spending time in worship, our children and our youth will go out into the community to serve others.

Adult leaders will be needed on the last Wednesday of each month to assist.

14 MYF MENTORS NEEDED

Studies show that the people with the greatest influence on the spiritual growth of children and young people are absolutely parents. Extended family, when available are vital as well.

Studies also show that children and youth who have the opportunity to interact with responsible caring Christian adults experience an even deeper spiritual growth earlier in life.

Beginning on September 14, our Youth and Children MYF Team are seeking 14 responsible Christian adults to serve as MYF Mentors. Mentors are not asked to teach a class or to prepare materials.

Mentors are asked to share a meal and attend worship with a group of 4 kids every Wednesday night, to develop a personal and positive rapport with each one. The job will be to talk and listen to the kids (and helping them talk and listen too) about what is going on in their lives, about what is important to them. Our goal is at all times to demonstrate the Golden Rule – to treat other people the way you would like to be treated.

The mentor will focus on being a positive Christian role model, emphasizing in thought and word and deed the truth that each child, each young person, truly is a beloved child of God who brings God great joy.

Here is the summary of the MYF mentor responsibilities: **Listen, Listen, Love, Love.**

In accordance with our Safe Sanctuary Policy, and as we do with anyone who works with our children, each volunteer will undergo a criminal background check.

The schedule begins mid-September through the children's Christmas program (second Sunday of December). The program resumes mid-January, with a Wednesday off during Spring Break, with the last session at the end of April each year.

We realize that we are a congregation that travels a lot. But if your schedule would allow you to be here on most Wednesday nights, do not hesitate to volunteer. This ministry of presence is powerful and effective.

Please pray about this opportunity to serve God in your church. If you are ready to volunteer or if you have questions, please contact the church office as soon as possible.