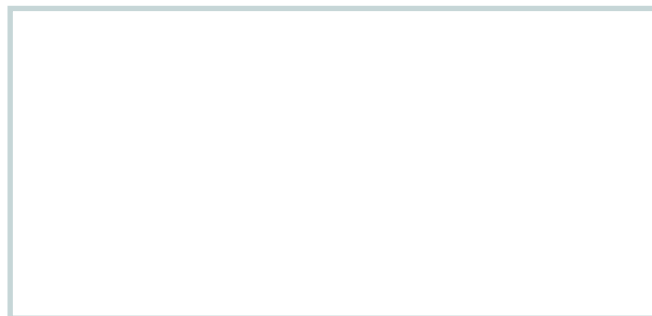


Franklin United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.
Franklin, Texas 77856



August 2019

Visit us on the web
www.umc-franklin.org

Purpose Statement

Franklin United Methodist Church is a fellowship of believers who have come together as a family of faith. Together we have established the following purpose, vision, and mission statement:

Purpose:

Willing and ready to follow and serve Jesus Christ.

Vision:

Franklin UMC shares God's love, Christ's sacrifice, and our faith for the salvation of the world.

Mission:

We believe in Jesus Christ whom we follow, serve, and share.

Key Verse:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” John 3:16 & 17

POLLY'S PONDERING

Give thanks to the God of heaven, for His steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 136:26

In September of 2018 the Lord saw fit to place a gift of life into my hands and it was a marvelous thing. A baby squirrel had fallen 30 feet from the safety of its mother's nest. There on the ground, the squirrel waited and called out for its mother, who for whatever reason never answered its cries. When the dehydration began to set in and the mother no longer sat and watched from above, we took the squirrel inside. That was when I began my journey with "Marvel"; and oh, what a journey it has been.

Almost immediately, I was connected to this little guy – within days we discovered it was a girl. There was absolutely nothing she could do for herself. I fed her, cleaned her, comforted her, and began to train her. She had to be taught to drink, eat, and eventually to hide things. She had to be taught to be aware of danger from humans and animals, and to jump, leap, and to hold on when the branches swayed. And there was the endless cleaning of her living space.



When the last frost passed, we moved Marvel outdoors and transitioned her to a sweet squirrel mansion that John built. It wasn't long until she moved to the hollow tree in the corner of the yard and continued her journey in the real world. She would still visit daily to be petted and fed on a few pecans and so forth. She began burying more than she ate and we knew the transformation back to the wild was working. Soon her visits were less frequent and she didn't want to be handled as much. But she would still perch on a shoulder and eat out of our hands. She weathered the tornado that did damage to our trees and shed. She made it through lightning storms and the like.



And every time she visited with me, she brought me such delight. When I would pull up in the drive I would look up in the tree and call out her name. Sometimes she would emerge from within the hollowed trunk, but most times I was just left marveling at the wonder of her.

Then last week, I was alerted to her presence in the yard.

My granddaughter, Caitlyn, spotted her moving toward the house in short spurts. In between her movement she would fall still on

the ground. I ran out to her where she laid just a few feet from the porch. She was trying to get home to safety. I dropped to my knees beside her and knew instantly how desperate the situation was because of the pleading look in her eyes. I placed my hands on her soft coat and whispered "Oh Marvel". She calmed while I became more anxious. She lifted her head toward me and I scooped her into my arms in time to be witness to her last breathes.

Nella, my 2-year-old granddaughter was the first to break the silence, "Grandma, you have water on your cheeks." "I know, sweet girl, those are tears, and it's okay for grandma to cry." Then it was Caden's turn (4-year-old grandson). "Grandma, you will be okay." To which I replied, "I know, baby, I will be fine." Then in perfect faith he said, "Grandma, we could pray to God and He would raise Marvel from the dead." And I agreed, God is able. After a thoughtful pause, while still holding Marvel, I said, "Caden, it is okay for Marvel to die. God is taking care of her now."



continued on page 4

August Monthly Mission



The Gideons International



MOPS & MOMS NEXT

Franklin MOPS/MomsNext is getting ready to kick off a new year with a new theme, and we are very excited! Our theme for 2019--2020 is TO THE FULL. Our guiding scripture is John 10:10 -- "The enemy comes to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." We will be focusing on how to fear less, worry less, and have more fun as mothers -- how to experience motherhood TO THE FULL in Christ. Your support of this ministry helps moms in Franklin and surrounding communities be better moms -- better moms means better kids and a better world.

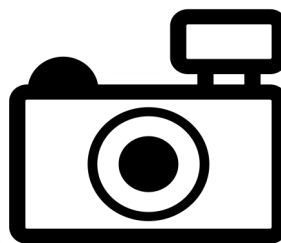
Our year kicks off with a meeting on September 16th, 10-12 in the Activity Building, then a play date at The Ranch on September 23rd, time TBA.

*Motherhood is stressful,
but it doesn't have to be lonely.*

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee will be meeting again in August to begin making plans to enhance the very special worship experiences awaiting us in the Fall and early Winter. Meanwhile, we wish you all lots of summer fun filled with good times while you make memories with your families and friends. We look forward to seeing our membership return from all the summer vacations and events and joining together once again at Franklin United Methodist Church.

Church Directory



Work is continuing on assembling photos for the new FUMC Members and Friends Directory.

If you haven't had your/your family photo taken yet before or after church services, please call Anne Perry at 979-828-4374 to arrange for a photo shoot at your convenience.

ALSO, you may be getting an email with your current information and a request for additional information. Please



Looking for a place to help make a difference in our community? Volunteer at the Community Clothes Closet or the Local Food Pantry. Call the church to sign up.



Fridays
10:00am - 2:00pm

Saturdays
9:00am - noon

Sort donated clothes:
ANY DAY



Saturdays
8:00am - noon

**August 31st is Methodist
Church workday!**



Franklin United Methodist Church will be providing Lunch for all new employees of Franklin ISD on their orientation day, Tuesday, August 6th. If you would like to help the Connections Committee in putting together this "Welcome to Franklin" lunch, please contact the church office or Beth Vickers.



August 25

A special recognition will be made during the worship service on August 25 to all our children and youth as they promote to their new grades. In addition, those students in our church family promoting into the 1st, 2nd and 5th grades will be presented with Bibles. Please be in prayer that these Bibles will be used to help our children grow in their relationship with Christ.

POLLY'S PONDERING

continued from page 2

Now, some of you might be saying – it was a squirrel! Why all this fuss? And I have to admit I asked that question myself. After all, I am not much of a crier. In fact, other than some glistening eyes and recognition of the loss, there wasn't much else to it when, not too long ago, we lost our dog of 18+ years. So, I asked God, "What is going on? Why am I so distraught over this wild creature that couldn't do much of anything for me? I mean I spent an enormous amount of energy and time providing for Marvel, yet she couldn't do much for me, except just be. So why, God, is my heart so sad, and filled with so much love for this creature?" And then, just as the words came out of my mouth, it hit me. Isn't it just like God and me? I cannot do anything for Him, except just be and yet He loves me – radically loves me. The aha moment was marked with a verbal declaration. "I get it, God. You have just given me a glimpse of how much you love me." Gratitude filled my soul for the marvelous way God loves me, and for the lesson God taught me through a once in a life time relationship with one of His wild and wonderful creations.



And when I looked back at the place Marvel died, I realized it was almost exactly the place where John found her nearly one year ago. It truly was a full circle of life.

Pastor Polly

FAMILY MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Home Hangs

Our next Home Hang will be hosted by the Neyland family. We will enjoy dinner and fishing together. It will be **Friday, August 2 from 6-8pm**. Check your email for further details and to RSVP.

If you would like to host a Home Hang during the fall, please contact Katie Kamas.



On August 25 we will be celebrating Promotion Sunday. This is a special time as we celebrate our children and youth stepping into a new school year and some will be moving into a new Sunday School class or into our youth program. We will be presenting bibles to all children entering 1st, 2nd and 5th grades. Parents will be receiving an email in the coming weeks with more details.

As we begin to swing back into the school routine, I encourage all families to include Sunday School as part of your weekly schedule. For children and youth this is a wonderful time to learn the word of God and therefore better know the Lord personally. We have classes for children starting in preschool through 12th grade and a few adult classes as well so that parents have a spot to learn and grow also. Please plan to join us on Sundays starting at 9am.



With the desire to welcome our incoming 6th graders, and to grow in unity as a group in following Jesus, the youth group will have an overnight event on August 24-25 (returning in time for Sunday School on the 25th.) More details will be sent out in August. All youth from grades 6th-12th are welcome to join us! We will need 2 men and 1 woman to volunteer as chaperones—please let Katie Kamas know if you would be willing to serve in this way.

Starting this past Wednesday and for the next couple of months, our Wednesday youth program will be focusing on the life of Jesus and how we can follow His example. John 5:19-20 says, “So Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.’” In this series, we are seeking to follow Jesus’ example of obedience to the Father and to experience and celebrate the love that the Father has bestowed on us again and again.

Peace,
Katie Kamas

Music Note:

*Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
Psalm 95:1*

The Choir, Sonshine Strummers and even our youngest, newest Ukulele players continue to praise Him with a joyful noise! The only Sonshine Strummers performance in August will be on Friday, August 9 at 3:00pm at the Carriage Inn in Bryan (rescheduled from July.)

Mrs. Otto is continuing to book gigs for the Ukulele Band, so if you’ve never had the blessing of watching them perform, make plans to do so soon!

PRAYING PIECERS NEWS

We will be meeting on the 12th and 26th of the month. Come join us in the Activity Building Kitchen from 9am - Noon. We enjoy working on sewing, quilting & other various projects, while we fellowship and enjoy a potluck meal together.

If you don’t have your own project to work on, we’d be happy to let you help in this wonderful outreach project.

Happy stitching!
Donna Otto

TRADITIONAL ETHIOPIAN DINNER MISSION FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10th AT 6:00PM

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ACTIVITIES BUILDING
TICKETS: \$20 DONATION

All proceeds from the dinner will go to support the mission of building Biosand Water Filters ~ bringing life-giving clean water to rural Ethiopian families. Abraham Bezabeh will be there to give a report on where past mission donations have been spent and on his current work with Friendly Water for the World.

Tickets can be purchased at Church Office or Franklin Supermarket

ANNUAL ALL CHURCH



SUNDAY, AUGUST 25TH

(After Worship)

Bring a Covered Dish to Share*

Enjoy "Minute-To-Win It" Games

*Don't Bring Dessert ~ Cake and Ice Cream Provided!



Sunday Small Groups

Begin at 9:00 am

Small groups are also traditionally known as "Sunday School Classes".

We want everyone to feel welcome to come try a small group and find what works for you & your family!

ARK - Nursery, Pre-K & Kinder

Kingdom Kids - 1st thru 5th

Encounter - 6th thru 7th

Fusion - 8th thru 12th

Journey - Adult

Home Builders - Adult

Wisdom - Adult

Come join us!



To keep the prayer list as up-to-date as possible, please contact the church office with any changes to the specific need for each one on the list.

Sanders Family	Harry Gilland	Marie Kellum	Lennie Family
Archer Folterman	John Callaway	Jim Hanks	Madison Wilcox
Ginger Mareth	Katherine Scasta	Tom and Bessie Fuller	Joey Mickelwitz
Mike Allen	Reeves Family	Dornbush Family	Akins Family
Barbara Eller	United Methodist Family of Faith	Mary Garrett & Family	

Eric Michael (Air Force)
Benjamin Standing (National Guard)
PFC Joseph Pawley (Army, Afghanistan)



Lay Readers

4th	Mary Kamas
11th	Kip Kissinger
18th	Sarah Ann Davis
25th	Wenona Taylor

Giving for Last Month

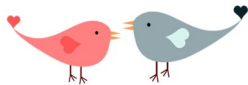
General Offering	\$	20,013.25
Building Fund	\$	3,247.41
Memorial/Designated	\$	1,117.53
Tornado Relief	\$	750.00

Ushers

Grady Harris
&
Stacey Reeves

Average Attendance

73



August Anniversaries

- 2nd John & Polly Standing**
- 7th Warren & Kay Kastner**
- 9th David & Adrienne Bailey**
- 10th Jerry & Sissy Rawson**
- 16th Finley & Kaye Poe**
- 18th Jim & Cynthia Hanks**
- 20th Keith & Mary Kamas**
- Ervin & Terri Homann**
- Lloyd & Katherine Scasta**
- 22nd Bob & Donna Otto**
- 30th Jim & Rhonda Miller**

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2nd	Melanie Coomer	17th	Cade Rue
4th	Kyla Drake	18th	Nathan Fachorn
	Mary Lou Green	19th	Pamela Cloat
	Hannah Buckner		Ruby Edwards
5th	Kerri Black	23rd	Julia Ann Michael
6th	Calvin Scasta	25th	Olivia Campbell
12th	Josh Hanks		Chris Hoegemeyer
	Ferman Richard	26th	E. W. Bridwell
13th	Maegan Law	29th	Emily Cloat
15th	Wayburn Harris		
16th	Cole Herring		
	Sydney Herring		

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
	Regularly Scheduled Events listed below!				Home Hang at the Neyland's 6-8pm	
4	5	6 New Teachers Luncheon 11:30am	7	8 SPRC 6:30pm	9 Sonshine Strummers 3:00pm Carriage Inn in Bryan	10 Ethiopian Dinner 6:00pm
11 Finance	12 Praying Piecers 9am-12pm Worship Committee Planning 4pm	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Youth Overnighter
25 Gideon Sunday Promotion Sunday BIRTHDAY BASH!!	26 Praying Piecers 9am-12pm	27	28	29	30	31 Food Pantry 8AM-Noon

Choir - Wednesdays 5:00pm-5:40pm	Girl Scouts - Wednesdays 4:30pm-6:00pm	Praying Piecers - Select Mondays
Clothes Closet Volunteer - Mondays 3:00pm-5:00pm	Youth - Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:00pm	United Methodist Women - 1st Mondays at 9:30am
Thursdays 9:00am-11:00am	Men's Emmaus - Thursdays at 6:30am	Ukulele - Wednesdays 5:45pm-6:30pm Beginner Lessons - Thursdays By Appt.
	Women's Emmaus - Wednesdays 7:00am & 6:00pm	

Lectionary Reading for the Weekly Worship

August 4	Hosea 11:1-11	Psalm 107: 1-9, 43	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
August 11	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
August 18	Isaiah 5:1-7	Psalm 80:1-2, 8-9	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
August 25	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17