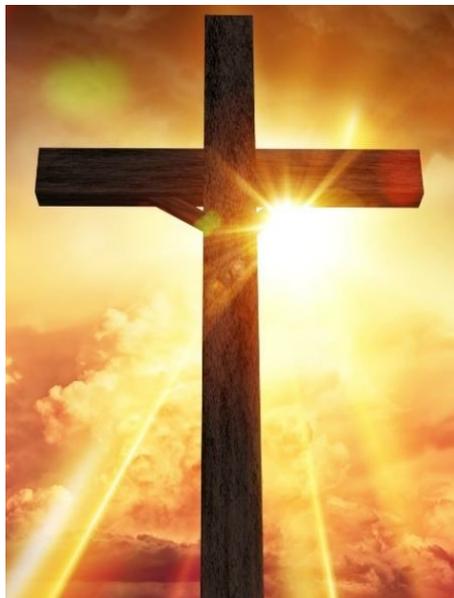


Franklin United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.
Franklin, Texas 77856



September 2020



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

I took a break from office work to sit out near the fountain on the benches on the church grounds. As I sat there was a beautiful wind blowing. I began to close my eyes and to breathe in deeply. As I felt the cool breeze rush across my face this scripture came to mind; "With that he breathed on them and said, receive the Holy Spirit" John 20:22.

I have a son-in-law who knows a lot about weather. He can watch the patterns created by the winds and know a bit about the movement it will make and how it will affect people living in different parts of the world. But the one thing he will not ever be able to explain is where the wind originated. Can you imagine the first-time humanity felt the cooling breeze of the wind? Can you imagine their awe and wonder and perhaps a bit of trepidation when the winds gained strength and came with power as a mighty rushing force?

God has always been connected to us in the wind. We are told in Genesis that God breathed into the lump of clay that He had fashioned into Adam and gave him life. The word in Hebrew for breath is ruach; it is also the word for Spirit.

In Judaism, the Holy Spirit (ruach hakodesh) refers to the divine force, quality, and influence of God over the universe or over God's creatures. I have learned a lot about God and about His Holy Spirit, but like my Son-in-law, my education and experience are limited. I can not tell you the origin of the Holy Spirit. But I know this, I have felt that breath of God moving in me. I have felt the influence of God when He breathed into me His Holy Spirit. I have felt God's leading, teaching, corrective power as the Holy Spirit abides with me. It has at times felt like a mighty force pushing me toward higher grounds of faith. I have felt God's comfort and companionship when life was uneasy and I felt isolated and alone, just as Jesus promised would happen when he sent the Holy Spirit to move among us. I have felt the Holy Spirit renew my energy as the weariness was blown away and I have felt new life spring from the death and destruction of dreams, selfish desires, sinful motivations, and damaging untruths I had unknowingly been holding onto for so long.

How do you need the Holy Spirit to move in you to deepen your relationship with God? Do you need a comforter? Do you need a teacher? Do you need to be more kind, patient, gentle? What do you need the breath of God to blow away to make this more possible? Could it be resentment, bitterness, selfishness, discontentment, apathy, stress, self-pity, self-righteousness, grief, despair, pride, etc.?

Let's join together in a prayer asking God to move among us with His breath of life, His ruach hakodesh in the name of Jesus.

Most powerful Holy Spirit, come down upon us and subdue us. From heaven, where the ordinary is made glorious, and glory seems but ordinary, bathe us with the brilliance of Your light like dew. God give us the courage to allow the Holy Spirit to move freely within us. Open our minds to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Open our ears to the teachings of the Holy Spirit. Open our hearts to the healing of the Holy Spirit, and open our lives to the power of the Holy Spirit. We ask this so that we might be in right relationship with You, God, and with Your people on earth. We ask this in the powerful and holy name of Your only begotten Son, Jesus. Amen

Pastor Polly

Youth

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." John 15: 9-12

Loving others unconditionally isn't always easy, but it's always right!



Big shout out to the wonderful people that provide our meals each youth night! We appreciate you!

Thank you to the Campbells for a fun time in their pool!

FUMYF: Wed., Sept. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23th, and 30th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. We're meeting back



in the Activity Building, so face masks are required.
Youth-led worship service: Sunday, Oct. 18th. More information to come. If you know of a youth who doesn't regularly attend FUMYF, but would like to participate in the worship service, please let me know.

30-Hour Famine: Nov. 6-7

In Christ's love,
Mary

September Monthly Mission



We will again be collecting new & gently used kids jackets and hoodies to give to those in need this winter!

Please bring your donation by the Church office and we will distribute them later in the Fall.

October Monthly Mission

Operation Christmas Child, the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox project, will be the mission for October. Shoeboxes, and a list of suggested items to fill the boxes, will be available beginning September 20 at the back of the church. Some of the items suggested are small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. These boxes are then sent to children affected by war, poverty, famine and disease, as well as to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.



God's love is demonstrated in a tangible way through each shoebox gift.

Missions and Outreach Committee Chair, Julie Jarrell, was able to present a check, as well as diapers, clothing and lap quilts, to Elizabeth House Maternity Homes Volunteer Coordinator Jessica Moffett.



From Seth & Kailey Kissinger

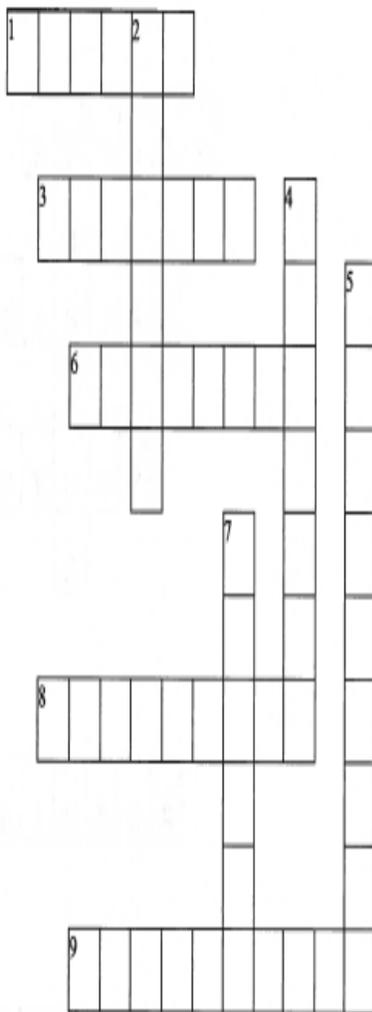
FUMC,
I do not have the words to express the immense gratitude that we feel to be cared for and supported by this congregation. I know that this place will always be my home and my family, and to have your blessing as we pursue obedience means the world to us. May the LORD bless you in faithfulness and grace you well.
Love,
Seth + Kailey Kissinger

A Puzzle~Just for Fun!



Whose image
Is this?
And whose
Inscription?

Give to God What Belongs to God
Matthew 22:15-21



Across

1. Desire to cause pain, injury, or distress to another
3. According to the Pharisees, Jesus was not concerned about this.
6. The Pharisees said that Jesus was a _____ man.
8. They plotted against Jesus.
9. Jesus knew the Pharisees and Herodians were testing him so he called them this.

Down

2. the roman coin was used to pay this tax.
4. "...repay to God what _____ to God.
5. They came with the Pharisees to speak to Jesus.
7. Whose image and whose inscription were on the coin?

The FUMP CORNER

Since March, I have been asked so many questions about the opening of our awesome preschool. Many text messages, phone conversations, meetings, and emails were sent to Pastor Polly, the Executive Board, and Staff Members to make arrangements for opening, if possible. Believe it or not we came up with three different options of how preschool would look amid COVID-19. After much prayer and thought, our opening will look very similar to what we have done in the past, with the exception of extra safety precautions. If anyone would like more information about our *Instructional-Health & Safety Protocol*, please contact me for a copy.

I cannot think of a better song to start off the 2020-2021 school year than *Jesus Loves the Little Children*. We are prepared to teach our little ones about how much God loves each and everyone of us. Our theme for the school year will be the Fruits of the Spirit. Each month we will study a different fruit starting off with love.

Our staff is so blessed to have each of you in our lives. A huge shout-out of thanks for the Executive Board, the Kitchen Committee, Connections Committee and the congregation of FUMC. This summer the board met with me to plan for this school year and prepared, with the help of the Kitchen Committee, a delicious lunch for our staff. The Connections Committee presented the staff with a variety of supplies from office items to personal items to goodies at the luncheon on August 21. The FUMC August Monthly Mission focus was the preschool. The members of FUMC donated school supplies to each of our 44 children. What a blessing the start of this unusual school year has been. A simple thank you does not seem enough. Our staff was in awe of your love and support.

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan,
Director FUMP



New Giving Opportunity

Looking for a new, "non-traditional", way to give?

Amazon Wish List

An Amazon wish list, containing various items, has been set up for the church. You can purchase items and they will be delivered right to the church. Of course, we want to acknowledge all gifts, so be sure to fill out the gift receipt. You can access the wish list by following the link below or searching in Amazon by the church's name or email address.

FUMC Amazon Wish List

Thank You Anne & Frank Perry for your gifts from the Amazon Wish List!!



Psalm 66:4

“All the earth bows down to you, they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name.”

Discovering good worship in this new reality means we will have to set aside the pursuit of our previous definition of worship. Maybe worship included moments of entertainment, pleasure, fellowship or even a certain routine in order to pursue God. Perhaps

now we should ask him to reorder our priorities and passions. This is a new and different process than we have been used to and it will require us all to be stimulated by God’s grace and imagination. What we once considered good worship may no longer be feasible as our congregation gathers in a socially distanced manner or as we worship from home. Just because it isn’t the same doesn’t mean it can no longer be good.

The Worship Committee continues to pray for our congregation—not only for good health, but also that each member is finding their own way to enjoy whatever new form of worship they may have found.

Thank you again to Pastor Polly for her diligence in her work to keep us connected as a congregation.

We are always in need of volunteers for Special Music if anyone is interested in sharing a special talent with us.

As always, if you have any ideas or suggestions, or would like to participate or volunteer to help the Worship Committee with these special opportunities of worship, please contact the church office and we will be happy to have your input and participation.

Deborah Hicks, Worship Committee Chair



SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

HICKS’ FARM



Sunday Small Groups

**Beginning again on September 13
at 9:00 am**

ARK - Nursery, Pre-K & Kindergarten

Kingdom Kids - 1st thru 4th grades

Encounter - 5th thru 8th grades

Fusion - 9th thru 12th grades

Journey - Adult

Home Builders - Adult

Wisdom - Adult

rightnow MEDIA
Over 10,000 free videos for you and your family

**"The Netflix of
Christian Bible Study"**

Click below to see a short video.

Why does God use small things to change the world?
To show us that He can use anything, even us,
to change the world.

Small Things

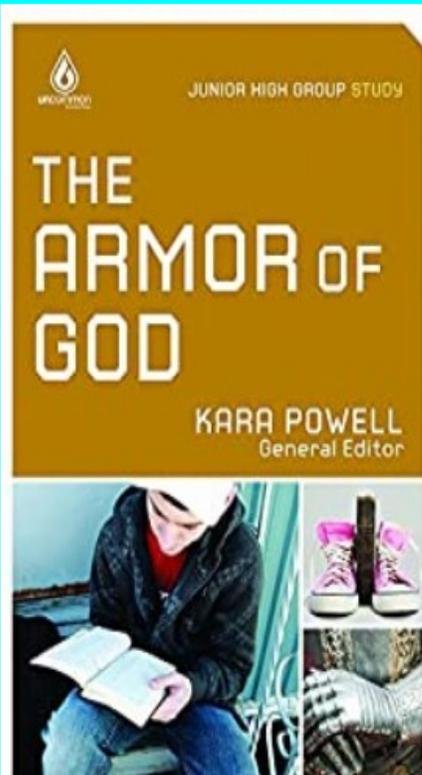
**This is just one of the
THOUSANDS of resources
available through your **FREE**
RightNow Media account.**



Prayer Committee

Are you getting the weekly email of Prayer Request from Your Church Family? If you are not, please call the church office to confirm your email address. Also, always check the Prayer Request in this newsletter for others in need of prayer.

Be joyful always; pray continually! 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17



New Middle School Study

Starting Sunday, September 13th at 9:00am, the Encounter Class (grades 5th thru 8th) will begin a new study. We will dive into Ephesians, where the apostle Paul reveals the secret to being strong in the Lord. This study will help teens put on every piece of God's armor, including the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the footreadiness that comes with knowing the gospel of peace. We will learn to use the sword of the Spirit, God's Word...prayerfully equipping these young Christians to stand strong in their faith and march forward in confidence! For more information or questions, please call Beth Vickers.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO
CHECK THE CHURCH
WEBSITE AND
FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
UP-TO-DATE MEETING
AND EVENT DATES
AND TIMES.**

**ALSO REMEMBER
THAT THE SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICES
ARE RECORDED AND
POSTED TO THOSE
PAGES.**

the Elizabeth House
MATERNITY HOME



Thank you

Franklin United Methodist,

Thank you so much for the time and organization of this donation drive. We absolutely love the blankets! The clothing, diapers, and blankets will all be a tremendous blessing!

You are really working as Goos Hands and Feet! Praise the Lord!

Serving Christ together,

The Elizabeth House Staff and Board members

Dear Franklin United Methodist Church, Thank you for your generous donation of \$275, given to The Elizabeth House Maternity Home on August 12, 2020. We are sincerely grateful for your support. Your donation allows us to fulfill our mission of providing a safe home for best women and enables them to gain a fresh start to a better

and more independent life for their family.

God Bless You,
green Knix
House Administrator

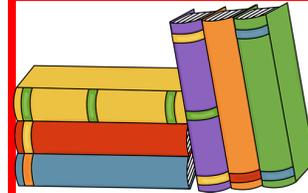
God Weeps
Words by Shirley Erena Murray

God weeps at love withheld,
at strength misused,
at children's innocence abused,
and till we change the way we love,
God weeps.

God bleeds at anger's fist,
at trust betrayed,
at women battered and afraid,
and till we change the way we win,
God bleeds.

God cries at hungry mouths,
at running sores,
at creatures dying without cause,
and till we change the way we care,
God cries.

God waits for stones to melt,
for peace to seed,
for hearts to hold each other's need,
and till we understand the Christ,
God waits.



Lending Library

Looking for something to read while we are still staying home? Be sure to check out the Lending Library located in the Narthex. There are many Christian and motivational books available to borrow! Take a minute or two and browse to find that special something that speaks to you! Have a book or DVD that you have found helpful or encouraging, we would love your help in growing our library! Just stop by the office and have a look.



Thank you

for your thoughts, prayers, and cards on the death of my mother. We appreciated all that you did for us. You are a great example of Christian love.

The family of Dorothy White

Elizabeth and Kenner Reinhardt
Julie and Todd Neyland and family
Ken and Robbie Reinhardt and family
Kyle and Deborah Reinhardt



Julia Ann Michael says
"Thank You"

to all that participated in a "drive-by" to celebrate her birthday and homecoming.



BACK
OPEN ON
FRIDAYS.

9AM—
12PM

PRAYER requests

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.

Furman Richard
 Grady Harris
 Peggy Cooper
 Shirley Keen's granddaughters
 Samantha & Sarah
 Tonya Boyette

Frank Perry
 Julia Ann Michael
 Keith Foltermann
 Mike Allen
 (Cynthia Hanks' Brother-in-Law)
 All Students

The Stacey Family
 Katherine Scasta
 All Teachers & Educators
 Chip Blevins
 Amy Huggins' uncle
 Tom and Bessie Fuller



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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st	Peyton Drake	21st	Christan Rawson
4th	Jerry Briggs	23rd	Jobe Law
	Noah Smith		Barry Black
	Diana Richardson		Janet Zamzow
5th	Bryce McKinney		John Standing
6th	Kenadi Janacek	26th	Jeren Hanks
	Sophia Zahn		Jenny Cate
12th	Allie Herring	27th	Kelley Sexton
14th	Terri Foltermann	28th	Chris Huggins
	Cathy Hayes		Chelsea Currie
16th	Zachary Kissinger		Chip Zahn
17th	Robert Hailey		Will Neyland
	Deborah Hicks	29th	Emily Cloat
	Matthew Kamas	30th	Mark Hailey
18th	Bob Otto		Richie Black
19th	Addy Miller		

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12th	Jack & Diana Hutchison
18th	Justin & Heather Frieda
19th	Thad & Dorthea Allen
21st	Charles & Jan Westerman
22nd	Barry & Debbie Black
30th	Douglas & Olivia Campbell



ELECTRONIC GIVING NOW AVAILABLE!!

Can't get to church and want to save a stamp? You now have two **NEW** options for giving online. PayPal and Venmo accounts are set up to receive your electronic giving. Use the information below to search for our accounts and to send your giving straight to the church's bank account. You can even indicate how to apply the amount you are sending (Giving; Building; Mission, etc.) No more need for writing two checks~just indicate the split (\$100 giving; \$100 building.) Also, many banks have bill paying options that you can use to set up and send a check to the church, either at your request or automatically generated. Check with your individual bank for specific information on that service.

ANY questions do not hesitate to give the church office a call (979-828-3355.)

PAYPAL

<http://paypal.me/Franklinoxumc>

VENMO

<http://www.venmo.com/FranklinTXMethodist-Church>

Ushers for September

Ken & Noah Reinhardt

Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	15,648.00
Building Fund	\$	2,097.00
Memorial-Designated~Other	\$	1,986.62

We appreciate and need your continued faithful giving.