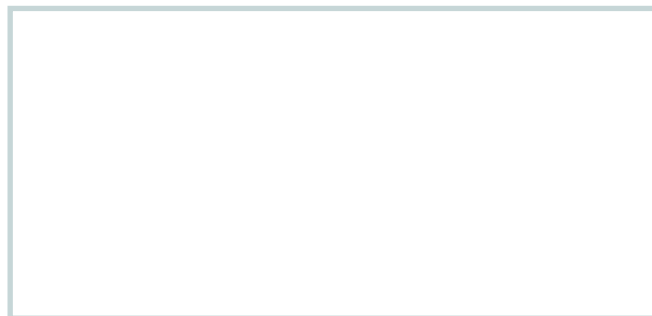


Franklin United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.
Franklin, Texas 77856



February 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

*Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever.
They will have no fear of bad news, their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.*

Psalm 112:6-7

Abraham Lincoln has been called by some the greatest American who ever lived. I don't know if that is true but I have always been thrilled to learn new stories about his life. I would like to share one with you.

When Abe came home from having served in the Black Hawk War, he had thoughts of becoming a blacksmith but those plans changed when at 23 years of age he bought a general store in New Salem Illinois on credit with his 21-year-old friend, William Barry, who became his business partner. That was somewhere around 1831. But things did not work out well and the store was not the profit-making business they had hoped it would be.

At some point during the next few years the two of them were standing on the front porch of the store. Barry turned to Abe in the middle of a conversation and asked "How much longer do you think we can keep going?" Abraham is quoted as saying, "It looks like our business has about winked out," "You know I wouldn't mind so much if we could sell everything we've got and pay all our bills and have just enough left over to buy one book, Blackstone's Commentary on English Law, but I guess I can't".

It is about that time that a wagon is said to have pulled up in front of the store. In it was a desperate man who was moving his family West and was out of money. So, in his desperation he made this offer, "I've got a good barrel on here that I could sell for fifty cents." Of course, the man did not know that he was talking to store owners who had debts, and little to no money. In fact, the story goes that Abraham reached into his pocket and pulled out "the last fifty cents" that he had. The deal was made and Abe now fifty cents poorer was the owner of a barrel for which his business partner made great fun. It sat on the front porch all day.

Later as the evening sky descended, Abe walked to the barrel and peered inside. Noticing there was paper at the bottom he reached in and noticed that it was a book. Can you imagine his surprise when the book turned out to be the Commentary on English Law by Blackstone! Here are his words: "I stood there holding the book, looking up toward the heavens. There came a deep impression on me that God had something for me to do and He was showing me now that I had to get ready for it."

I love this story for a couple of reasons: First, Abraham was failing at something when a message from God came loud and clear. Second, Abraham saw in this experience not a simple coincidence but rather God's providence. Third, Abraham trusted in the power of God to use an ordinary man for something that would require much of him, so he dedicated himself to getting ready for it, mentally and spiritually.

On March 4, 1861 Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as the 16th President of the United States.

On September 22, 1862 Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation declaring all slaves in rebel states should be freed as of June 1, 1863

On January 31, 1865 the House passes the 13th Amendment to the Constitution with a 119-56 vote.

On April 15, 1865 President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated 42 days into his second term as President.

On December 6, 1865 the 13th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified.

And fourth, that even death could not stop God's plan for Abraham's life to be completed.

Maybe there have been some coincidences in your life lately that you might want to revisit, you might just discover God's providence being spoken into your life.

Pastor Polly



The Worship Committee is happy to be preparing for upcoming events and celebrations for the busy months ahead.

Scouting Sunday-February 9: Our church will recognize scouting and the many contributions that scouting makes in the lives of the scouts themselves and in the communities they serve.

Preparations for the Lenten Season and Easter celebrations are underway. The first Lenten Luncheon on March 4 will celebrate the beginning of the Lenten Season reminding us that Lent is a participatory season in which we are all called to be actively involved with opportunities to search our spiritual selves. Lenten Lunches will continue each Wednesday through April 8 (Wednesday of Holy Week).

The Ash Wednesday service is February 26 and will be preceded by a Church-wide Soup Supper in the Activities Building at 6:00 p.m. followed by worship in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. This service includes Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. Please make plans to attend this meaningful service of introspection and commitment.

Palm Sunday is April 5 and will include a procession of the children waiving palm branches as they enter the Sanctuary.

Holy Thursday (Maundy Thursday) is April 9 at 6:30 p.m. and will include Holy Communion as we focus on the death of our Lord with a Tenebrae service.

Good Friday is April 10 and will be observed with a showing of The Passion of Christ and Communion.

Easter Sunday is April 12 and will begin with a Church-wide breakfast at 8:30 a.m. sponsored by the Worship Committee. Special worship services are being planned as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ.

If you wish to honor or remember a loved one during the Season, you will have the opportunity to purchase an Easter Lily as in previous years.

God bless each of you as you prepare your hearts and minds throughout this most Holy Season.

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.



SPRING WALK DATES MOVED UP

Upcoming Spiritual Retreats

Men's Walk Weekend: FEBRUARY 6-9

Women's Walk Weekend: FEBRUARY 20-23

If you are interested in deepening your walk with Christ by attending one of these special weekends (Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon), please feel free to contact

Mary Kamas, Keith Kamas, Beth Vickers, Rex Vickers, or any Emmaus Community member for more information.

**Men's Day Breakers Reunion Group
Thursdays @ 6:30am in Kitchen**

**Women's Rekindled Reunion Group
Wednesdays @ 7:00am in Kitchen**

**Women's Awaken Reunion Group
Wednesdays @ 6:00pm in Education Building**



Confirmation Retreat

February 14-16

Camp Tejas

Please keep all attendees in your prayers.



Stoning of St. Stephen

February Mission of the Month~Society of St. Stephen

The Society of St. Stephen is a fund dedicated to helping local people in need of financial aid. This is mostly done through help with utility, food and prescription cost assistance during emergency situations. Supported by the Clothes Closet sales and other donations this ministry, is unfortunately, a much needed resource for some of our neighbors.

The FUMP CORNER

There is excitement in the air at the Preschool!!! We are finally able to get a shade covering for our playground. Construction began on January 27 and we cannot wait to see the finished product. I want to thank everyone who has served on committees in past years to help plant the seed for this much needed covering. On hot days, even the kiddos do not want to play on the playground.

February is a busy month for FUMP. It is Dental Hygiene month which means our local dentist office makes a visit to teach the littles on how to take care of their teeth. They always do such a great job and they bring each child a new toothbrush, toothpaste and fun stickers. In addition, the parents will provide special snacks for the children for their Valentine's Day Party celebrated February 13th.

February 8th from 6:00 – 9:00 is our biggest fundraiser, the Daddy Daughter Dance. This year's theme is a **50's Sock Hop**. We cannot wait to see all of the dads and their daughters come dressed in costumes that will take us back in time. Feel free to share our Facebook posts in order to reach as many members of our communities as possible.



Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1John 4:8

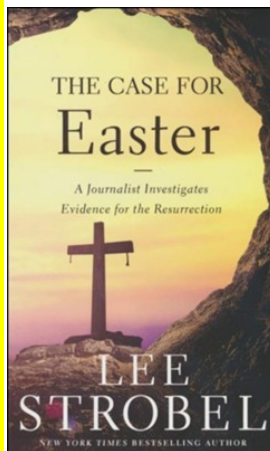
Our Scripture verse for February is one of my favorites since it reminds me that love is a must to Christian living. It is an essential part of God's identity. Each morning during our prayer time, we ask God to help our FUMP Families see His love through us.

Thank you for your love, prayers and support as we minister to the precious children and their families.

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan, Director FUMP



Lenten Bible Study



You are invited to our Lenten Bible Study!

Sunday evenings, March 15th, 22nd, 29th, and April 5th in the Activity Building.

Pot luck supper at 5:00pm, followed by group study around 5:30pm.

We will investigate Christ's death and resurrection through the study *The Case for Easter*, by Lee Strobel.

Child care provided during group study. Contact Meghan Moran with questions: MeghanLMoran@yahoo.com (979) 240-4195

PRAYING PIECERS NEWS

We will be meeting on the 10th and 24th of the month. Come join us in the Activity Building Kitchen from 9am - Noon. We enjoy working on sewing, quilting and 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

Contribution Letters for 2019 have been mailed. If you need one, and have not received one, or if you feel there is an error on yours please contact the church office.



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

Youth

Franklin UMYF is going to have "The Best Year Ever!" We're beginning 2020 with a lesson series on how to purposefully choose to have "the best year ever" by making decisions/choices that will deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ and others.

The last weekend in February ten of our youth will attend the Ignite Youth Retreat at Lakeview. Please be in prayer for all those participating: to "ignite" a longing to live fully as a Christ-follower. Due to generous donations to the Youth program in the Memorial Fund, the majority of the retreat fees were covered by our church. Thank you!

Continued thanks to our faithful supper providers! We appreciate all the delicious food.



Wed. Feb. 5th, 12th, & 18th @ 6:00: FUMYF

Wed., Feb. 12th @ 5:00 pm: 2020 Youth Council will meet.

Wed. Feb. 26th Ash Wednesday-Soup Supper @ 6:00 pm Worship @ 7:00 pm

Feb.28 - Mar. 1, 2020: Ignite Youth Retreat (for 7th-12th graders) at Lakeview

April 24-25th our youth and their friends will participate in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. By raising donations and fasting together for 30 hours, they become part of the solution to alleviate the suffering of so many children around the world.



If you know a youth who would be interested in joining us, please let me know.

In Christ's love,
Mary

DON'T LET ANYONE
LOOK DOWN ON YOU
BECAUSE YOU ARE YOUNG,
BUT SET AN EXAMPLE
FOR THE BELIEVERS IN SPEECH,
IN CONDUCT, IN LOVE,
IN FAITH
AND IN PURITY.

1 Timothy 4:12

Sunday, April 19, the youth and children of our church will lead us during worship.
More information will be coming soon.



Pastor Appreciation Lunch

Sunday, February 9
After Worship
Covered Dish Lunch

All the church is invited to join together in expressing our love and appreciation for Pastor Polly.

Please bring a dish to share.

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

"There's a Song In the Air" again. The Choir and the Sunshine Strummers took January off to rest but we are back now. This is the perfect time to join either group (or both). The choir meets on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. and the ukulele band meets at 5:45 p.m. If you've thought about a good way to support our church, then these groups are the answer. COME ON! We have a chair just for you!

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!

"Sing"cerely, Rhonda

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY
1:00pm to 3:00pm
● Luke Part 2
● Wisdom Classroom

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 on how Christ's sacrifice cleanses us of our sins.

Iodine

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

February 26
Ash Wednesday
Holy Communion
Imposition of Ashes
Soup Supper 6:00pm + Worship 7:00pm

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.

Ginger Mareth

Madison Sexton Wilcox

The Stacey Family

Barbara and Jim Eller

United Methodist Family of Faith

Katherine Scasta

Grady Harris

Mike Allen

Tom and Bessie Fuller

(Cynthia Hanks' Brother-in-Law)

Tonya Boyette



Lay Readers

2nd	Julie Neyland
9th	Meghan Moran
16th	John "Carty" Hicks
23rd	Jeff Ripley

Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	18,789.61
Building Fund	\$	2,250.00
Memorial- Designated~Other	\$	340.00

Thank you for your gift!

By sending a Gideon card, your donation of \$ 314.00 will provide for the purchase and placement of Scriptures throughout the world. It will provide approximately 63 Bibles here and across the globe. This includes all costs of getting a Scripture into the hands of someone who needs it.

Richard Reut 12/21/19
Gideon Signature Date

THANK

Donation Receipt
(Send original to the donor; retain copy for your camp records.)
Franklin United Methodist Church
PO Box 556
Franklin, TX 77856
12/14/19

Thank you for your contribution of \$125.00

To the Wesley Foundation United Methodist Student Center program fund.

Our ministry to college students depends on the continued generosity of contributors like you.

Date: 12/12/2019

YOU

Dear First United Methodist Church,
As we finish up one year and begin another, we want to take a moment to express our sincere appreciation to your church. Thank you for your support and the volunteers to work at the panting. We could not provide the service we do if it were not for your partnership with us. We look forward to a new year of working together.
Thanks again,
Franklin Food Panting

CORNER



January 8, 2020

Franklin
United Methodist Church
P O Box 556
Franklin, TX 77856

"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself." - Luke 10:27 CEB

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be - Thank you!

Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world.

And through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms - sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need!

Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.

Grace and Peace,

Thomas G. Kemper
Thomas G. Kemper, General Secretary

Roland Fernandes
Roland Fernandes, COO and General Treasurer

Supporting UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery

Gift Amount \$ 240.00

Date Received 12-23-19

Account #76764



Eric Michael (Air Force)
Rachel Johnson (Army National Guard, MP)
Benjamin Standing (National Guard)
PFC Joseph Pawley (Army)

Ushers for February

Jack Hutchison & Rex Vickers

Average Attendance 88

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2nd	Kristi Kissinger
5th	Anne Vickers Ronald Gresham
6th	Ruth Schultz
9th	William Kastner
10th	Serenity Michael
12th	Wayne Huggins
14th	Ervin Homann
16th	John Callaway
18th	Susan Nelson
19th	Grady Harris
22nd	Anisa Zahn
23rd	Tina Ripley
25th	Lou Whatley
26th	Christopher Zahn Joe Corn



February Anniversary

February 22

Kenner & Elizabeth Reinhardt

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Regularly Scheduled Events listed below.						1
2	3 MOPS 10am-12pm Prayer Committee 11:30am Bible Study 1-3pm Clothes Giveaway (Tornado) 4-7pm	4 Clothes Giveaway (Tornado) 4-7pm	5 Clothes Giveaway 10am-2pm	6 Men's Emmaus Walk	7 Men's Emmaus Walk	8 Men's Emmaus Walk Daddy Daughter Dance Pridgen Center 6-9pm
9 Scouting Sunday All Church Covered Dish Lunch After Worship Finance/Trustees Committee After Worship	10 Praying Piecers 9am-12pm Bible Study 1-3pm	11 Missions Committee 6:30pm	12	13	14 Confirmation Retreat	15 FOOD PANTRY WORKDAY 8AM-NOON Confirmation Retreat
16 Confirmation Retreat	17 MOPS 10am-12pm Bible Study 1-3pm	18	19	20 Women's Emmaus Walk	21 Women's Emmaus Walk	22 Women's Emmaus Walk
23	24 Praying Piecers 9am-12pm	25	26 ASH WEDNESDAY Soup Supper 6pm Worship 7pm	27 Ignite Youth Retreat	28 Ignite Youth Retreat	29 Ignite Youth Retreat

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 Men's Emmaus - Thursdays at 6:30am	Ukulele - Wednesdays 5:45pm-6:30pm Beginner Lessons - Thursdays By Appt.
Thursdays 9:00am-11:00am	Women's Emmaus - Wednesdays 7:00am & 6:00pm	

Lectionary Reading for Weekly Worship

February 2	Micha 6:1-8	Psalms 15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12
February 9	Isaiah 58:1-9	Psalms 112:1-10	1 Corinthians 2:1-12	Matthew 5:13-20
February 16	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Psalms 119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Matthew 5:21-37
February 23	Exodus 24:12-18	Psalms 99	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9