

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



August 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

"He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you except to be just, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Did you know that justice is not only what God requires of us but also is the very essence of God? My friend and Biblical teacher, Denise, reminded me of this truth. Pointing me to a verse in Deuteronomy, which is part of "The Song of Moses" which is intended to be a memory tool for future generations that the song and its message will not be lost. It begins by ascribing greatness to God, whom he calls the Rock:

"The Rock, His work is perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God, without deceit, just and upright is He;" Deuteronomy 32:4

It is no wonder that we have a great desire for justice. You hear the cries for it daily. Afterall, the Bible tells us that we are created in the image of God. Therefore, we too should be just, loving, and humble. Not only because it was commanded to us, but because that image lives within our very beings. So why is justice not a part of our everyday living? Perhaps that can be explained by the verse that follows the previous one.

"Yet His degenerate children have dealt falsely with Him, a perverse and crooked generation." Deuteronomy 32:5

It seems to me that we will never get a handle on justice until we turn our attention back to God. Without God as the image of the justice we cry out for our desires become motivated with selfish motives and look more like vengeance than the justice God requires. Without God as our common ideal we become divided and instead of working side by side to bring God's justice to our land, we form sides and label one the victim and one the victimizer. Neither of which is helpful in the pursuit of justice, because the focus moves to shaming, demeaning, and punishing the victimizer while simultaneously crippling the other with a victim mentality. To be successful, justice must be all individuals working together with a common understanding of both their worth as created in the image of God and of their tendency toward selfish motivations that do not honor the image in which they were created or their Creator. We must seek to act out of love and to practice kindness and walk humbly, setting aside our own selfish desires and motivations but instead choosing to walk with God, to choose His path, His ways, His thoughts, His desires, His will.

The Bible tells us that if we know Jesus, we know the Father who sent him. So perhaps it could be said that we all need a little Jesus. If we can work together to find pathways to justice that do not include condemning, shaming, indulging, demeaning, and labeling, none of which brings us closer to the justice we all desire, but rather acknowledge and reflect God who created us unique and different, yet each with His likeness, then we can finally put our difficult past behind us and move toward a more just future.

Pastor Polly

News from the Pews

Grady Harris wants everyone to know he has a new cell phone number.
That number is 979-906-5111.

From Barbara Eller:

Dear Church Family

We are getting settled into our new home on my family's ranch in Oklahoma. It has been a difficult move. We loved living in Robertson County for the past twenty five years and have many friends there. Our church family has been so important to us. Jim and I have had serious health challenges in recent years and it just makes sense for us to be near family for support now and in the future.

Because we were not gathering at the church building, due to the Corona virus, we were unable to tell many of you 'Goodbye'. We are missing the Christian fellowship and worshipping with all of you. We are grateful for the prayers that have been offered for us and for Pastor Polly's counsel.

Membership in FUMC has been a tremendous blessing to us. We will appreciate continued prayer and please know that each of you will be in our memory and in our hearts.

Love and God bless. Barbara Eller

NEW ADDRESS

5700 South 104 Street West
Muskogee, OK 74401

From our High School Seniors

Please tell everyone thank you for our supper Sunday. It was fabulous. We enjoyed it all. It was very thoughtful of you to think of us and Zachary.

Also, please share with Pastor Polly how much we appreciated the service. Jay and I left thinking "Wow, wished someone would of said all that to us when we left for college." We will treasure the picture she drew and I'm excited to see the Wesley Bible. I've never read from it. So I'm going to try to get a few things read before he leaves with it.

We are so blessed to have our church family.

Brenda, Jay, Sarah, Austin and Zach

From Noah Reinhardt

Dear Church Family,

I wanted to thank you for the church service honoring us Seniors. I am also appreciative of the gifts I received and the amazing meal you provided for me and my family. God Bless Noah Reinhardt

Letter from Bishop Scott J. Jones America, We Have a Problem

America, we have a problem. Texas, we have a problem.
United Methodism, we have a problem.

The problem is racism, and in recent weeks that problem has come to the forefront of our conversations and our attention. Some have rightly said to me, "Why are you all paying attention to this problem only now? It has been a problem for a long time." There is no good answer to that question. But when an opportunity arises where attention is being paid - however late and inadequate it is - one should take action.

The position of the United Methodist Church on the issue of racism is quite clear. It is embedded in our Constitution:

¶ 5. **Article V. Racial Justice**—The United Methodist Church proclaims the value of each person as a unique child of God and commits itself to the healing and wholeness of all persons. The United Methodist Church recognizes that the sin of racism has been destructive to its unity throughout its history. Racism continues to cause painful division and marginalization. The United Methodist Church shall confront and seek to eliminate racism, whether in organizations or in individuals, in every facet of its life and in society at large. The United Methodist Church shall work collaboratively with others to address concerns that threaten the cause of racial justice at all times and in all places.

We are obligated to "confront and seek to eliminate racism." I believe it is a task that requires sustained effort. We must still be dealing with this long after media attention and our society's focus has moved on to other issues.

I hope to be part of conversations within the Texas Annual Conference about eliminating racism both in our church and in society. Toward that end, let me lead with four affirmations that are worthy of much longer explanations and conversations:

- Racism is long-standing. We Americans have a 400-year history through slavery, Jim Crow, segregation and our present reality.
- Racism affects all persons of color, but especially African Americans.
- Racism is systemic. It results in health disparities, income disparities, educational disparities and mass incarceration.
- Racism privileges white people. Those of us who are white often take for granted the privileges that do now extend to people of color.

We in the United Methodist Church have an opportunity to be in relationship with people who are different from us, and we should intentionally work on those relationships. We need to have some courageous conversations to understand the experiences of people with a different ethnicity.

I am clear that I have work to do personally in addressing this issue. I hope and pray that, when you are given the opportunity to make progress individually, that you will avail yourself of that opportunity.

We need to reclaim and recommit to the creation of a beloved community where all God's people are valued and included regardless of the color of their skin. If heaven includes people of all ages, nations and races, let's start living on earth as it is in heaven.

Bishop Scott J. Jones





"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:16-18

Although we are living in times of uncertainty, we can WITH CERTAINTY know that God expects us, His people, to demonstrate our love for Him by following Jesus Christ's example of sacrificial love. We will be exploring ways that we, as individuals and as the UMYF, can give of ourselves for others.

August schedule:

We will meet each Wednesday from 6-8 pm., but the location will change. Contact me if you need this information.

Since we cancelled the day trip to Hawaiian Falls Waterpark last month, new dates are being considered. More information to come.



The 30 Hour Famine experience has been rescheduled for Nov. 6-7 (subject to Covid protocols). Please be in prayer for each youth who is drawn by God to attend.

In Christ's love,
Mary

The FUMP CORNER

Greetings to all! We have all been anxiously awaiting the green light to open our amazing preschool. It has taken us more creativity to plan different options for opening while keeping everyone safe. I would personally like to thank Pastor Polly, Christian Rawson and Maria Cottrell for collaborating with me to develop an Instructional and Safety Plan for the 2020-2021 school year. The Preschool Committee, parents and FUMP staff were emailed a copy of this plan Saturday July 25. If anyone would like a copy of the plan, contact the preschool office.

Unfortunately, three of our teachers are not returning, due to the uncertainty and ever-changing climate of today's pandemic. We will miss Diana Richardson, Jacy Walker, and Destiny Havard.

As we prepare to welcome our little ones and still in need of teachers, please be in prayer for a smooth school year, in spite of the challenges set before us.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan, Director FUMP



**PRESCHOOL STARTS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

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

NEW TEACHERS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, August 5 at 11:30am

Franklin High School

The church will once again provide a welcome lunch for the incoming New Teachers of Franklin ISD on Orientation Day, Wednesday, August 5, around 11:30. Please let me know if you will be able to help with any food, and if so, please indicate what you will be bringing up to the church by Wednesday morning. If you are able and willing to help us serve lunch on the 5th, please let me know.

Lunch Food So Far:

Fruit Salad - Sandra Hoegemeyer
Ham & Cheese Sliders - Kristie Kissinger
Chicken Salad Sandwiches - Beth Vickers
Cookies - Sandra Hoegemeyer
Tea - Mickie Callaway
Plates, Cups, Napkins, etc. - Beth Vickers

We will also be putting together Welcome Caddies again and need items to fill them! Please let me know if you can bring 12 of an item to add to the Caddies.

Welcome Caddies - Beth Vickers

Markers - Sandra Hoegemeyer
Sticky Notes - Brenda Davis
Tissues - Brenda Davis
Gum and Mints - Sara Davis
Lion Masks - Christan Rawson & Pastor Polly
\$\$ Donation - Virginia Akins



From 2019's luncheon

There are 12 new employees and we expect to serve around 20 people at lunch. Please give me a call if you have any questions, can help with providing food or caddie items or want to help serve the luncheon on August 5.

Beth Vickers 979-255-1406



Worship: “The feeling or expression of reverence and adoration for a deity.”

“But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.” John 4:23

Worship is not just a time for singing or even meeting. The “place” of our worship lies in Jesus Christ himself, as he is our means of access to God and that relationship to Him.

Worship is exalting God with our entire lives. It is not about mood or atmosphere or place. It is about recognizing the authority, goodness and holiness of God. It is a desire to live with Jesus Christ as our example. So, worship can be a true part of our daily lives and how we live – driving, talking, working, playing.

So many of us have learned this and seen this in action since the pandemic. Have you noticed how shoppers seem to be a little more patient in check-out lines? Are we giving and receiving more smiles? Are we less rushed and therefore, we are finding more things to be thankful for? It seems worship is taking place all around us on a daily basis. Continue praying for our community, our State and our country. God bless you all.

We are still 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



RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 6

Sunday Small Groups
Begin at 9:00 am

ARK - Nursery, Pre-K & Kindergarten

Kingdom Kids - 1st thru 5th grades

Encounter - 6 thru 8th grades

Fusion - 9th thru 12th grades

Journey - Adult

Home Builders - Adult

Wisdom - Adult

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



Click below to see a short video.

What does it really mean to love one another? Is love an emotion, a gesture, an act of our will? This thoughtful illustration encourages us to love one another with Christ as our example.

One Another?

**This is just one of the
THOUSANDS of resources
available through your
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.

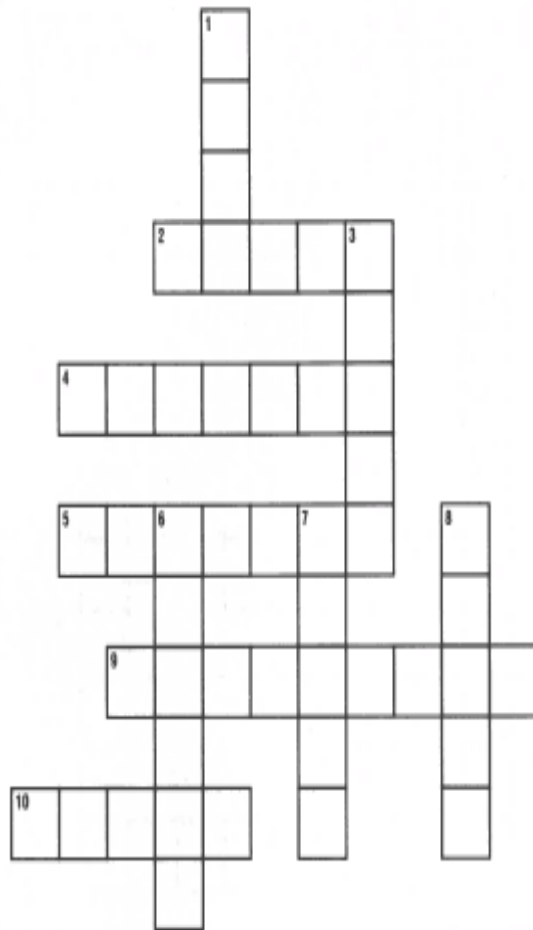
Be joyful always; pray continually! 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

BACK TO SCHOOL WISHES

**"May every teacher
become a mentor, may
every classmate become
a friend, may every
lesson teach and enrich
you. Here's to the best
school year ever."**

A Little Puzzle Fun!

Christ's Parables



ACROSS:

2. He takes away the Word from the hearts of those who have heard. (Luke 8:12)
4. Lazarus was in this man's bosom when the rich man who was in Hades asked Lazarus for a drink of water. (Luke 16:23-24)
5. In this parable, the servants were faithful with a few things, and were put in charge of many things. (Matt. 25:20-21)
9. This good man helped the one who was robbed. (Luke 10:33-36)
10. In this parable, the Word of God is the seed. (Luke 8:5,11)

DOWN:

1. The number of prudent virgins (Matt. 25:2)
3. The ten virgins took these to meet the bridegroom. (Matt. 25:1)
6. A woman hid this. (Matt. 13:33)
7. These were found among the wheat and represent sons of the evil one. (Matt. 13:38)
8. The Kingdom of Heaven is compared to this piece of jewelry. (Matt. 13:45)



August Mission of the Month School Supplies for FUM Preschool.

Due to current safety measures, each preschool student will need to have their own box of supplies. These will be kept separate from other students. The [August Monthly Mission](#) is to sponsor the supplies. There is a display of items that are needed, as well as sponsorship information in the sanctuary. The best thing is that **THE SHOPPING HAS BEEN DONE** for you!! All supplies have already been purchased; your sponsorship will help to offset the cost of providing the individual supply boxes filled with supplies. Below is a list of items available for sponsorship:

- 34 boxes of 24 Crayolas
- 21 boxes of chubby/jumbo Crayolas
- 50 washable markers
- 200 glue sticks
- 100 white school glue
- 50 small safety scissors, round tip
- Variety of paint brushes
- 55 plastic individual school supply boxes

For more information please contact Julie Jarrell at 979-255-2966 or call the church office.

**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.**

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
Samantha
Shirley Keen's granddaughter
Tonya Boyette

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

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)

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	17,205.42
Building Fund	\$	1,260.00
Memorial-Designated-Other	\$	820.00
Garage Sale	\$	8,020.00



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/Franklintxumc>

VENMO

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

Ushers for August

Ken Reinhardt &
Noah Reinhardt



2nd	John "Carty" Hicks
9th	Sandra Hoegemeyer
16th	Julie Jarrell
23rd	Jeff Ripley
30th	Mary Kamas

We appreciate and need your continued faithful giving.