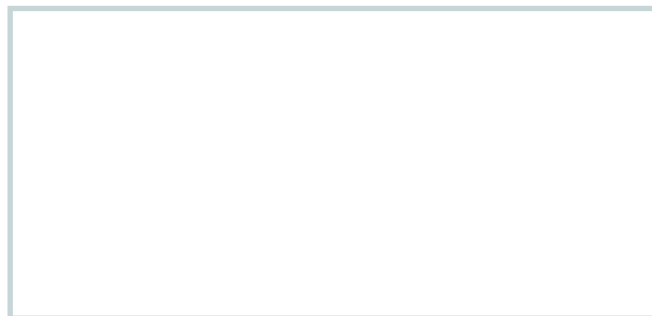


Franklin United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.
Franklin, Texas 77856



March 2022

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

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2

We just celebrated the transfiguration of the Lord on the last Sunday in February so as we begin this new month of March, I thought it would be good to look at the difference between shame, guilt and conviction. The scripture above tells us we are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. I believe that renewing of our minds is needed when it comes to issues that cause us guilt or shame. Otherwise, the enemy wins. Remember the last part of our key verse: "Jesus did not come into the world to condemn the world but that through him it might be saved." John 3:17

Webster dictionary states that guilt is "the fact of having committed a specified or implied offense or crime." On the other hand it states that shame is "a painful feeling of humiliation or distress caused by the consciousness of wrong or foolish behavior; a loss of respect or esteem"

Kegan Mosler, staff member with Cornerstone Christian Counseling relays the difference between guilt and shame in this way: "guilt is behavior-focused, and shame is identity-focused. Guilt says, "I did something disgusting" while shame says, "I am disgusting."

For those of us who believe we are created in the image of God and who know that God is not only good but very good therefore must logically follow that thought through to its conclusion - we *are not bad*, but rather good people making wrong choices. Shame is of the enemy. Satan loves when we feel that we are so disgusting that God would not even want to have anything to do with us. That is a lie. Nothing is impossible for God not even the redemption of the ugliness of our lives.

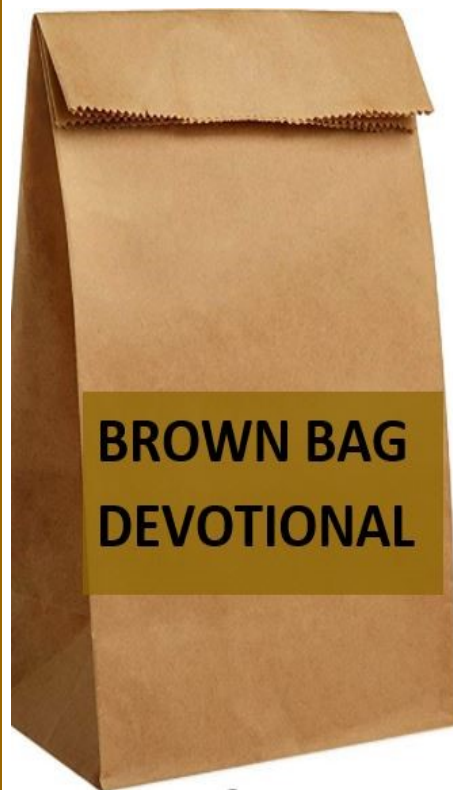
While guilt does focus on the action and therefore is somewhat apart from the person, it still opens the possibility of shame to seep in if not properly addressed. It might look something like: "You know, what harm can that act do really? I know a lot of good people, Christians even who do this sort of thing. Surely, it can't harm me." This sort of thinking only leads us into more sin instead of away from sin. The other possibility goes something like this: "I can't believe I did that disgusting thing. I don't know how God could possibility forgive me for doing that. I think I am beyond His grace." That is simply a lie of the enemy.

Shame and Guilt often lead us to self-abuse, self-punishment or self medicating behavior. We do things to numb the pain and cover the disgust we feel. This is self-destructive and the enemy loves it.

Conviction on the other hand, is more focused on the true identity of the individual as one who is made in the image of God and is very good, loved by God and created for good things. It comes to us as a gut feeling, a nudging of the Holy Spirit that says this action is not what God would choose for you. You were created for better things. Your body is holy and deserves to be treated as such. Your mind is fearfully and wonderfully made and created to think on lovely, pure, and holy things. It recognizes that what is being chosen is not helpful in drawing one closer to God, or for becoming all they were meant to become. It is selling oneself short. Buying the lie that we are not able to overcome, to choose better, or to make changes. That lie chains us to our sins, but conviction sets us free. Romans 5:8 says: "*God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*" We are never beyond God's grace. It allows us to acknowledge our worth and to repent for what we have done, which then frees us to try a new thing. Make a different choice, choose a different path, create a different plan – one that brings us closer to our creator and to the people around us. It does not isolate us. It does not condemn us. It encourages, inspires, and gives us the power not only to overcome temptations but to reach for greatness and to find ways to live a forgiven life with power and belief in the redeeming, healing power of Christ.

I once heard it said, when the enemy reminds you of your past – remind the enemy of his future! Remember "For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Let's stop trying to earn God's grace, and instead repent and believe the gospel!

Pastor Polly



Wednesdays during Lent (March 9, 16, 23 & 30) Noon—1:00pm Activity Building

What is your role in the suffering and death of Christ? What role did some of the biblical characters have in the crucifixion of Christ? These characters include Adam and Eve, Nicodemus, Judas, Barabbas, Pilate, the father of the Thief on the Right, Peter, the Centurion, and Mary Magdalene. Come, bring your lunch and explore these questions. Drinks will be provided.



March is the beginning of the Lenten Season. We are looking forward to this time of introspection and worship. There are several opportunities to participate in worship and fellowship as we enter this holy season.

March 2 – Ash Wednesday. Enjoy a soup supper in the Activity Building beginning at 6:00 p.m. Our Ash Wednesday service will begin at 6:30 also in the Activity Building.

March 9, 16, 23 & 30 - Come together at noon each Wednesday in the Activity Building for a time of devotionals during the Lenten Season. Bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy this time of focus and fellowship. (Replaces the Lenten Luncheons.)

March 6 – First Sunday in Lent. This will begin a series of sermons relating to God's mercy. This first sermon: Mercy in Temptation

March 13 - Mercy in Suffering

March 20 – Mercy in Betrayal

March 27 – Mercy in Relationships

As in years past, there will be an opportunity to purchase an Easter lily for someone you love and want to remember in a special way.

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 would be happy to have your input and participation. —Deborah Hicks

The FUMP CORNER



February was full of love, valentines, and kindness. The teachers were asked to catch children doing random acts of kindness while at school. Our Kindness Tree had many kiddos names with what kind things they did. Several of our staff members were also listed on our Kindness Tree.

March 2nd is Dr. Seuss' birthday and we will celebrate March 3rd by having *Crazy Hair and Silly Socks Day!* This is such a fun time for not only the kids but the staff has a grand time, as well. March 24th is our annual Rodeo Day with live animals, games, western snacks, and prizes. Please feel free to stop by and see all our little cowboys and cowgirls.

Our themes for the month are based on Bible heroes, from Naomi, Ruth, Jonah & the Big Fish, to Daniel in the Lion's Den. It is our goal that the children learn about having faith in God and how He answers our prayers.

Please be in prayer for our preschool as we minister to our little ones and their families. God reminds us to go out into the world and share the good news of the gospel. Our mission at FUMP is to always share God's Word with our children.

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan,
Director FUMP



Wednesday Nights March 9th, 23rd, & 30th from 6:00-8:00pm. Kids K-2nd & 3rd-5th are invited to join us for dinner, worship, games, and small group time. Nursery is provided for pre-k and under for parents who are volunteering in either Blast or Youth. For more information call the church office.

SAVE THE DATE



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 11-15TH
9 AM TO NOON



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*



SAVE THESE DATES!

March 15th-24th
Volunteers wanted!

Plan now for an extended work week building a new fence at the parsonage.

Thank you from your Trustees!



UPCOMING EVENTS



WE WILL NOT HAVE REGULAR YOUTH ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND. YOUTH ARE INVITED TO JOIN US DURING OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE IN THE ACTIVITY BUILDING FOR A SOUP SUPPER AND WORSHIP.



Youth will not meet on Wednesday, March 16th during Spring Break week. We will resume Wednesday, March 23rd.



SAVE THE DATE



June 6th-11th graduated 6th-12th will be volunteering at Camp Blessing, a camp for people with disabilities near Brenham.



June 12th-18th a mission team of graduated 8th-12th youth and adults will serve through UMC ARMY by travelling to Gulfport, MS.

If you know a youth (completed 6th-12th grade) who would be interested in serving with us in either or both these opportunities, please contact Mary Kamas or the church office.

What is Lent and why does it last forty days?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." This is why you will see the designation "Sunday in Lent" rather than "Sunday of Lent" in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

This content was produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.



Mission of the Month

The Food Pantry is in need of the following:
Cereal~especially the kinds that children prefer
Ramen noodles and all pasta products: Macaroni & cheese, egg noodles, spaghetti
Toilet paper

Canned beefy meats (stews, chili, ravioli, etc.)

Powdered laundry detergent

Coffee

Donations can be brought to the church anytime. You can also take them directly to the Food Pantry on any Saturday morning between 9 and noon or drop them off at the Franklin Library during regular business hours.

And of course monetary donations are always gladly accepted.



Sunday Small Groups

Begin 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

Home Builders - Adult

Wisdom - Adult



Music Note:



*"Praise to the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious and a song of praise is fitting."
Psalm 147:1*

The choir is gearing up for Easter and are always open to new members. Practice is on Wednesdays beginning at 5:00pm. All voices are welcome! For more information please feel free to contact the church office or Rhonda Miller direct.

"Sing"cerely, Rhonda



Katie's Korner

The second week of January Katie was a volunteer for the 'Stand Tall' camp. Stand Tall is a massive annual youth event, all about inspiring hope, that takes place in Sydney with around 5000 students in person and tens of thousands that join in online.

During the camp, high school students may come from a bit of a tough background. At the camp the campers all came from a small rural town that was hit hard by bush fires in the last couple of years. Her team got to spend a week with them swimming, hiking, having solid chats about life and hanging out with some of the Stand Tall Ambassadors who shared about getting through tough times in their lives. One of her favorite parts of the week was getting to



publicly affirm each camper on the last morning - something that can be a bit different/awkward for Aussie culture - but can be so powerful to have identity and truth spoken over these young people.

Motherhood is...



BETTER TOGETHER!



Join us for MOPS
@ FUMC

• March 9th & 23rd

• April 6th & 20th

• May 4th

From 9am-11am

Childcare provided

Contact: Brittany Gresham

@979-412-1467 for more info

See you there!

EASTER LILLY ORDERS

Again this year you have the opportunity to purchase Easter Lilies in honor of, or in memory of, that special someone. Pick up an envelope in the church Narthex or call the church office to place your order.



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.

Ferman and Denver Richard
Tonya Boyette
Sissy Rawson

Sherry Smith
Audrey Miller

Peace in the world
Pat Cate



Over 10,000 free videos for you and your family



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

What happens when you take 2,000 years of a Christian tradition, capture the heart of it, and reimagine it? Whether you're a veteran of observing Lent or a rookie who is jumping in for the first time, you can join thousands of people for an experience that just may surprise you.

The Lent Experience
(copies of the journal are available in the church office if you would like one.)

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

Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	22,190.50
Building Fund	\$	560.00
Memorial- Designated~Other	\$	1,380.00
Bus	\$	400.00



Lay Readers

6th	Julie Jarrell
13th	Terrie Foltermann
20th	John "Carty" Hicks
27th	Bill Wygle



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

Ushers for March

Todd Neyland
&
Ken Reinhardt

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



March Anniversaries

1st	Buddy & Toni Baxter
19th	Andy & Jill Harris
20th	Grady & Debbie Harris

2nd	Jill Harris	19th	Howard Hoegemeyer
	Jessica Richardson	20th	Autumn Cloat
4th	Aiden Peterson		Bayley Janacek
	Robbie Reinhardt	22nd	Beth Vickers
	Hudsyn Huggins	24th	Keith Foltermann
9th	Leah Davis	25th	Gwen Harper
	Amy Huggins	28th	Kathy Brimhall
11th	Todd Neyland		Bless Cloat
	Caleb Chanley	30th	Robyn McKinney
12th	Buddy Baxter	31st	Jim Miller
15th	Rex Vickers		
18th	Mikayla Sexton		
	Joni Bailey		

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Regularly Scheduled Events listed below.						
		1 Bible Study 10am-noon	2  ASH WEDNESDAY Soup Supper Soup Supper 6:00pm Services 6:30pm	3 Turquoise Table Ladies 11:00am	4	5
6  Next Sunday~ Don't be late.	7	8 Bible Study 10am-noon	9 MOPS/MOPSNEXT 9:00-11:00AM  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	10	11	12
13 CLOCKS SPRING FORWARD Finance/ Trustees Committee After Worship	14	15 Bible Study 10am-noon	16  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	17	18	19
FISD SPRING BREAK						
20 Admin. Council After Worship	21	22 Bible Study 10am-noon	23 MOPS/MOPSNEXT 9:00-11:00AM  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	24	25	26
27 VBS Volunteer Meeting After Worship	28	29 Bible Study 10am-noon	30  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	31		

Praise Band - Tuesdays 6:30pm

Women's Emmaus - Wednesdays 8:00am

Choir - Wednesdays 5:00pm

BLAZE Kid's Ministry - Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:00pm

Youth - Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:00pm

Men's Emmaus - Thursdays at 6:30am