

April 2023

Visit us on the web
www.franklinmethodist.org

Purpose Statement

Franklin 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 Methodist Church 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 He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9

All throughout the weeks leading up to Easter we have been looking at the way God's gift of grace has been revealed in the people in the Easter story. Last week we talked about how God's grace was revealed in the way He helps those who have struggled with fear. We are grateful for the way the Bible shows us that the people called to follow him were imperfect and often struggled to be faithful because of moments fear. Peter, a cornerstone of the church, often failed to respond in faith. Remember, he began to sink in the water when he took his eyes off of Jesus and thought about the raging storm around him. That was later followed by his denial of Christ before the rooster crowed just as Jesus had told him he would. How broken-hearted Peter must have been. How hopeless he must have felt when Jesus was crucified. If he was unable to be faithful to God while Jesus walked beside him how did he ever hope to be faithful with Jesus gone, crucified. That is when the grace of God was revealed. When the tomb opened up and the light of the world stepped out from the darkened tomb bringing to creation the tangible truth that *"the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it."* John 1: 5 But even more than that, the resurrection of Christ revealed the truth that darkness could not conquer the Light. Victor Hugo once said "Dawn and resurrection are synonymous. The reappearance of the light is the same as the survival of the soul."

Perhaps Victor Hugo had heard the Old Testament scriptures that read: *"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1* or *"You, Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light."* Psalm 18:28 or even *"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you."* Isaiah 60:1 The great gift of grace in the resurrection is that the Light of God has not only come into the world, but it has come upon us. It has taken the guilt and shame of our unfaithfulness and has reminded us that *"Christ did not come into the world to condemn the world but that through him they might be saved"* John 3:17. There in lies the gift of grace, the hope found in the grace of God poured out through the faithfulness of Christ even onto death, because through Christ's death and resurrection we are given the opportunity to believe in him, to receive him into our hearts, and to be given *"the right to become children of God."* John 1:12.

Without the Grace of God that offers forgiveness to those who believe in Christ and are put back into right relationship with Christ through the atoning gift of his body and blood on the cross, we are simply disciples who have failed to be faithful and are cowering in fear of judgement. With belief in the resurrection and its evidence of God's redeeming grace we are like Peter, Saints who are sinners that fall and get back up to try again. Even in our own failures we who struggle to look into the eyes of one so faithful can find a Savior, who does not condemn but gives us grace to start again. To serve him just as Peter was instructed to feed Christ's sheep. That grace not only allowed the disciples to come out of hiding, but gave them purpose and drive to dare to serve Christ knowing all the time that the survival of the soul was secured through Christ. The cross and the empty tomb are the means through which the light of Christ goes into the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.

So this Easter take hold of God's grace and feel the hope that leads us to sing "Christ the Lord is risen today, sons of men and angels say. Raise your joys and triumphs high; sing, ye heavens and earth reply." Charles Wesley

I heard someone say that Christianity was the best system on earth to give hope. I say; that the Christ of Christianity is the only source of hope for earth and those who abide on it. So let me keep it real – what would you be willing to do for Christ if you truly believed that failure could not remove you from the hand of God? What would you be willing to give in response to grace that removes condemnation and promised eternal life?

Pastor Polly



Youth will help hide the Easter eggs

on Sunday, April 9th at 9:30am
for the Easter Egg Hunt.



Wednesdays April 5
Noon—1:00pm
Activity Building

Come, bring your lunch and finish the Lenten season at the last Brown Bag Devotional. Drinks will be provided.

April Mission of the Month Supporting the



This month we are asking for your time and talents as we look to build the volunteer base for the Clothes Closet. Can you spare a few hours to assist your neighbors? There are several volunteer opportunities—every weekday and on Saturday. During the week you can help as donations are sorted and prepared for sale. Volunteers are also needed on Friday and Saturday mornings from 9am until noon to help with customers. Don't feel comfortable working the retail store, don't worry someone will help put your mind at ease~just ask.

Do you know that every dollar made at the Clothes Closet goes to help some of your neighbors who may be struggling to buy groceries or pay their utility bills?

Won't you volunteer to help?

Contact Beth Vickers at 979-255-1406 or the church office for more information and to volunteer.

"The King will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Matthew 25:40

PARENTS OF GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



Please be sure to submit pictures for the special slide show that will be shown during the worship service honoring our 2023 graduating high school seniors. Any questions contact Mary Kamas or the church office.

Why Did JESUS Fold the Napkin?

On Easter Sunday, most of us probably heard the story of the first few people to find the empty tomb on that first Easter Sunday. While it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple — the one whom Jesus loved — the one we assume to be John. She said, "They've taken the Lord's body out of the tomb and I don't know where they have put him." Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stopped and looked and saw the linen cloth lying there, but didn't go in. Then Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the wrappings lying there, while the cloth or napkin that had covered Jesus' head was neatly folded up and lying to the side. John 20:2-7

Why did Jesus take the time to fold it? You may wonder, "Is this important?" Yes, it is. In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand some of the Hebrew tradition of the day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and the servant and every Jewish boy knew this tradition. When the servant set the dinner table for the Master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the Master wanted it. The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the Master was finished. Now if the Master was done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table. The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, "I'm finished." But if the Master got up from the table, folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because the folded napkin meant, "I'm coming back." Excerpt from an article by Phyllis Stoppel

The FUMP CORNER

Welcome Spring! Just as spring is a new start, we, as believers, are all new creations in Christ. We will be celebrating Easter this month. We will teach about God's sacrifice of his only son, Jesus Christ, to give us forgiveness of our sins. This sacrifice lets us have new life. Jesus came to redeem us from suffering and sin. To redeem means to buy back, to free from what gives distress or causes harm such as to free from captivity by payment of ransom, to restore, to exchange for something of value (www.merriam-webster.com). To redeem is giving value and honor to the rejected and dishonored, the one forgotten by the world. But God in His great mercy, redeems us as His own. Yes, this is most wonderful picture of the Lord's love for us, over and over in His word He tells us that He is our Redeemer, the one who buys us back from the slavery of sin and draws us into His everlasting love. This is the most wonderful story to tell our children.

Just as we have new life in Jesus, we will be learning about plant growth, bugs, frogs, butterflies and all things spring. The last few years, Brandi Liere, Agriculture Science Teacher at the high school, has brought some of her students to help our little ones plant flowers. We are hoping she can make it again this year.

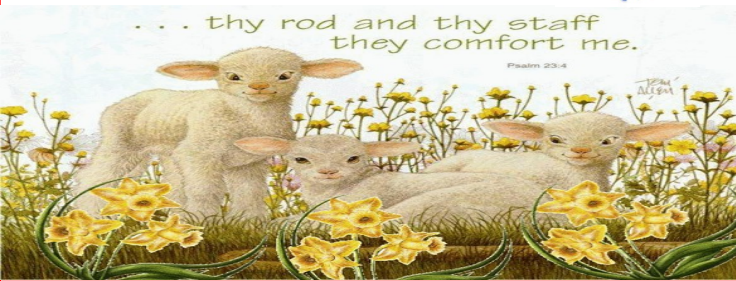
Our upcoming events in April:

Easter Egg Hunt and party will be April 6th

Grandparents Day will be April 20th.

We are so grateful to be given this ministry opportunity. Thank you for your love, prayers, and support.

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan,
Director FUMP

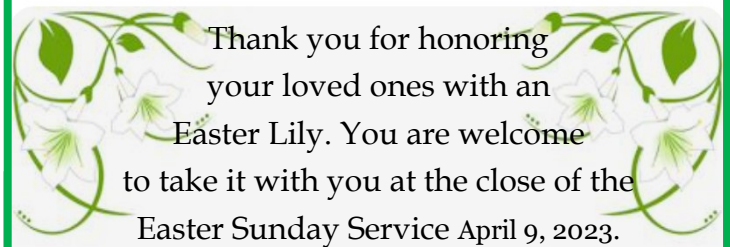


Prayer Committee



Surely we all have many concerns and loved ones on our hearts and minds. Your Church Family is here to join with you in prayer—just give us a call. If you are not receiving the weekly prayer concerns call the church office to update your information. Prayer is a wonderful thing we can do for each other.

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



Thank you for honoring your loved ones with an Easter Lily. You are welcome to take it with you at the close of the Easter Sunday Service April 9, 2023.

By Virginia Akin in memory of Ray Akin

By Kathryn Baker in memory of J.W. and Grace Baker

By Barry and Debbie Black in honor of parents Purvis and Louise Black Johnny and Barbara Kelm

By Barry and Jenny Cate in memory of Ruth Edwards and in honor of Pat Cate

By Sebie Harris in memory of Dona Harris

By Cathy Hayes in honor of new grandson Samuel Paul Kissinger

By Howard and Sandra Hoegemeyer in memory of Dr. Bill Hoegemeyer

By Julie Jarrell

By Daniel and Julie Jones

By Kip and Kristie Kissinger in memory of Chris and Sandy Christensen, Johnny Slafka and Ina Joyce Frier

By Jim and Rhonda Miller

By The Neylands in honor of Elizabeth Reinhardt and Ken and Delores Neyland and in memory of Kenner Reinhardt

By Bob and Donna Otto in honor of grandchildren David Reinke & Elizabeth Reinke

By Elizabeth Reinhardt in honor of Todd, Julie, Drew, Kris and Will Neyland Ken, Robbie, Noah and Lilly Reinhardt and in memory of Kenner Reinhardt

By Ken and Robbie Reinhardt

By Jeff and Tina Ripley

By Jody Smith in honor of Mattie Smith

By Greg and Monica Stem in honor of Marie Stem and in memory of Tracy Stem

(Lily purchases as of March 30, 2023)



It is not too late if you would like to purchase a lily in memory of or to honor someone. Contact the church office as soon as possible so that it can be ordered.



Children's MINISTRY

Blast
Kids Ministry

Believing, Living and Sharing Truth

Blast
Wednesday Nights April 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th. kids K-2nd & 3rd-5th are invited to join us from 6:00-8:00pm for dinner, worship, games, & small group time. Blast will meet at the church parsonage @ 503 N. Glass Street.

For where two or three gather in my name I am with them. Matthew 18:20



MOPS ♥ MOMSNEXT

MOPS/ MOMSNEXT WILL MEET: APRIL 5TH AND APRIL 19TH
COME JOIN US, WE'VE SAVED YOU A SEAT!

CONTACT BRITTANY @ 979-412-1467 FOR MORE INFO

UPCOMING EVENTS

Palm Sunday – April 2nd @ 10:15am

Bunny Brunch – April 2nd following Worship. Come for food, a family craft, & photos with the Easter bunny.

Easter Egg Hunt – April 9th following worship






The celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is almost here and we look forward to worshipping together during the upcoming days. The theme for this year's Easter Season is Amazing Grace, in celebration of the 250th anniversary of that beautiful hymn.

Palm Sunday, April 2 – Peter – Grace for the Fearful
Immediately following the Palm Sunday Service - Bunny Brunch – join together to enjoy a delicious brunch. Vegan and gluten free options will be served.

Holy Thursday, April 6 – 6:30 p.m. - John, Grace for the Loveless

Easter Sunday, April 9 – Mary Magdalene, Witnessing Amazing Grace

May each member of our congregation receive a special blessing from this season of renewal and recommitment.

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



THEY'RE BACK!!!

The "Sunday After Worship Potluck Lunches" are being resurrected!! Every few months, on those 5th Sundays of the month, we will gather in the Activity Building after worship to enjoy a time of good food and fellowship. Mark these dates on your calendar: April 30; July 30 and October 29 and come join in the fun!

Turquoise Table Ladies
Meets 1st Thursday every month
11am—Activity Building
Next meeting is April 6



Come share lunch and stay for fun and games!! Bring your own sandwich (the chips, drinks and dessert are provided.) After lunch we will break out the games and you can have your choice from several fun activities. For more information contact Deborah Hicks 979-255-8333 or Julie Jarrell 979-255-2966.

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



This video is a moving contemplation of the suffering that Jesus willingly endured, and a poignant reminder that He did it for each one of us. The video shows the power of the cross and the crucifixion of Jesus.

He Was

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

Katie's Korner



10 weeks. 5 nations.
 1 grateful heart.



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 SonShine Strummers will be back in action on Friday, April 21. The performance will be at The Waterford at College Station beginning at 2:00pm.

"Sing"cerely, Rhonda



**FOOD PANTRY
 WORKDAY
 APRIL 15**

The Franklin Food Pantry gives food to approximately 100 families each month. Area churches are responsible for distributing the food one Saturday morning every 9 weeks.

**Our next scheduled work day is
 April 15.**

Please join us from about 8:45 to noon to help distribute food to your neighbors in need. **MEN are especially encouraged to attend to help with some of the heavy lifting needed.** Just in case you do not know, the Food Pantry is located at 201 South Calvert Street here in Franklin. If you have any questions you can contact Laura Corn at 979-204-8593 or call the church office.

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.

Denver Richard-Health Issues

Audrey Miller-Health Issues

Peace in the world

Continued Revival in the Church

Safety in our gatherings

Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	34,978.50
Building Fund	\$	945.00
Memorial-		³
Designated~Other	\$	3,520.00
Wesley House Reno.	\$	5,050.00
Garage Sale	\$	3,220.00

(as of March 30, 2023)

We appreciate and need your continued faithful giving.



May you have a blessed Resurrection Day!!

Ushers for April

Rex Vickers
&
Keith Kamas



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

April Anniversaries

9th Keith & Terri Foltermann
11th George & Becky Permann
22nd Kip & Kristi Kissinger
29th Jack & Pamela Cloat



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1st	Peggy Cooper	12th	Michael Homann
2nd	Bettie Jordan		Haley Caubarreaux
3rd	Katie Kamas	14th	Reagan Corn
	Shane Huggins	18th	Monica Stem
	Noah Reinhardt	20th	Pat Cate
	Zachary Davis	21st	Julie Jarrell
	Luke Moran	22nd	Eric Law
4th	Jack Hutchison	23rd	Sara Davis
6th	Kyle Reinhardt	25th	Andy Scasta
	Laurel Lennie	30th	Debbie Harris
7th	Kevin Rawson		Jerry Rawson
8th	Lacey Buckner		
10th	Jason Bailey		
	Lilly Reinhardt		
	Lillie Ann Hinks		

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2  After Worship	3	4 Bible Study 10am-noon	5 MOPS/MOPSNEXT 10:00am-Noon  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	6 Turquoise Table Ladies 11:00am Maundy Thursday Service at 630pm	7 Good Friday	8
9 Easter Sunday  After Worship	10	11 Bible Study 10am-noon	12	13	14	15 FOOD PANTRY WORKDAY 9AM-NOON
16 Finance/ Trustees Committee After Worship Women's Emmaus Walk	17	18 Bible Study 10am-noon	19 MOPS/MOPSNEXT 10:00am-Noon	20	21 SonShine Strummers at Waterford in College Station at 2:00pm	22
23 VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING AFTER WORSHIP	24	25 Bible Study 10am-noon	26	27	28	29
30 Churchwide Potluck Lunch After Worship						

WEDNESDAY'S

Women's Emmaus 8:00-9:00am
 Ukulele Band practice 4:00pm
 Choir Practice 5:00pm
 Youth Group 6:00pm
 BLAST 6:00pm

THURSDAY'S

Men's Emmaus 6:30-7:30am

Dates to add to your calendar.

Confirmation Retreat	May 5-7
Confirmation	May 28
UM Army	June 4-10
Vacation Bible School	July 10-14