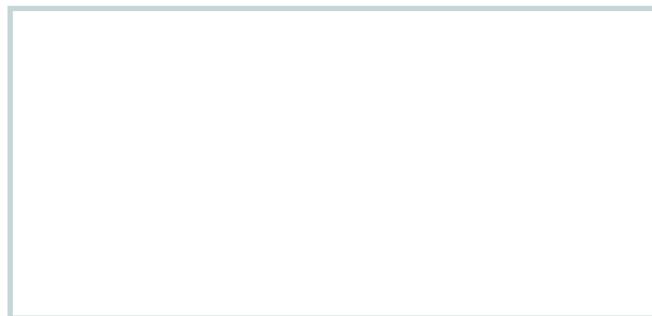


Franklin Methodist Church
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.
Franklin, Texas 77856



May 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

Faith's Response

The world answers back to our faith. It trusts when we trust it. It responds to our confidence. It says to the farmer, "Sow your seed"; to the aviator, "Spread your wings"; to the miner, "Sink your shaft" to the sailor, "hoist your sail"; to the engineer, "Swing your bridge"; to the scientist, "Trust your hypothesis"; to the financier, "Make your investment"; to the explorer, "Follow the gleam." Faith is man's highest venture. The poet Whitman puts it thus: "The steps of faith fall on the seeming void and find the rock beneath." It is a "seeming void" on which we set our faith; beneath us, however, is the unseen reality, and faith gives it substance. Hugh Thompson Kerr

Last Sunday we shared together the portion of the letter from Paul to Timothy in which Paul was expressing gratitude to God for Timothy and speaking a word of faith-seeking inspiration over him.

"I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. Therefore, I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

I am grateful for my mother, who, while greatly harmed by the church of her Father, allowed me still to seek and practice faith. She allowed me to answer Christ's call to follow him. And as Kerr stated above sometimes those "steps of faith fall on the seeming void." But those steps of faith have always lead me to a solid foundation upon which I have continued to build. That doesn't mean the path was easy, or without struggle, or disappointment. Faith takes courage. That in spite of the fear you might be feeling, you choose to move anyway.

There have been so many other women along the way who have encouraged me to keep moving forward and to stand firm when I might have chosen to turn and run. And for all of those people I am so grateful. They have reminded me to stir up faith. But this month of Mother's Day I am grateful for a mother who trusted in the rock behind the religions of man to let me move forward in my own faith journey. And I stand now on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ because she gave me the freedom to lean into faith.

And so I want to encourage all women to be encourages of one another, to share your stories of faith, to call the children and youth adults in your lives to stir up the faith within them. Remind them that even when everything around them would point to a "seeming void" that Christ, himself, is the solid rock on which they will find sure footing for the journey.

Let us pray this prayer of David found in Psalm 31 1&2

"In You, O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed; deliver me in Your righteousness. Bow down Your ear to me, deliver me speedily; Be my rock of refuge, A fortress of defense to save me. For You are my rock and my fortress; therefore, for Your name's sake, lead me and guide me." Amen

Pastor Polly

Youth Ministry NEWS

SENIOR SUNDAY

Sunday, May 21st at
10:15am



MISSION TRIP



Middle School

June 12th-16th

High School

June 25th-July 1st



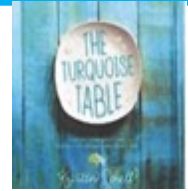
Wednesday, June 21st 6:00-8:00pm

Dinner & Bunco

Wednesday, July 19th 6:00-8:00pm

Dinner & Bingo

Turquoise Table Ladies
Meets 1st Thursday
every month
11am—Activity Building



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.

Bible Study

Tuesday 10:00am
Activity Building.



HAPPY
Mother's Day May 14



Confirmation will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023 at our regular worship service. Please join us as we celebrate the youth that are affirming their personal response to God's divine grace and proclaiming their faith in Christ.



Children's MINISTRY



BLAST KIDS MINISTRY
Believing, Living and Sharing Truth

Blast

Wednesday Nights May 3rd, 10th, & 17th- 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 at 503 N Glass Street.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, June 21st 6:00-8:00pm

Dinner & Bunco

Wednesday, July 19th 6:00-8:00pm

Dinner & Bingo

VBS

July 10th-14th

9:00am-Noon



The FUMP Corner

The saying, "All good things must come to an end" is so true. That is how we feel about the month of May. Some of our little ones have been with us for three years and will be leaving us to move up to the elementary school. We are filled with mixed emotions. Our graduates have been very busy with rehearsals for our program on May 16th at 6:00 PM. It is so rewarding to see how much they have grown.

The teachers are busy reviewing the concepts taught during the year and finishing each child's memory book to take home. Our Bible lessons will focus on Jesus always shows up. The story will be taken from Mark 4:35-41 when Jesus calmed the storm. This is a great lesson for all of us, not just the children. Another Bible story is found in Mark 10:13-16 when the disciples tried to prevent the little children from being blessed by Jesus. As Jesus saw this, He became indignant and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." All the little children were blessed by Jesus. Christ bids us to bring our children to Jesus so they can learn to know and love Him.

We will wrap up the school year on May 18 with a water filled splash day! This is the kids favorite day of the year, as they slip and slide until their hearts content. They love it when our teachers join in the fun.

Many thanks for your love and support for this precious ministry. It has been a wonderful year teaching about how much God loves us. With the world changing in so many ways that has brought about fears and stress, we are considering purchasing more security systems to keep everyone safe. In addition, we will be interviewing new teachers, since three of our teachers will be having babies! We appreciate you interceding for us and laying these needs at the feet of Jesus.

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan,
Director FUMP




MOPS ♥ MOMSNEXT

MOPS/MOMSNext will meet just once in May
Please join us at our end of the year meeting on May 3rd

Contact Brittany @ 979-412-1467 for more info on summer meetups and membership for the new MOPS year starting September 2023!



Come celebrate our graduating High School Seniors on Sunday, May 21, 2023.





Spring is here and the Worship Committee looks forward to planning worship opportunities for the upcoming months.

May 7 — Katie Kamas will be visiting and will be delivering the message this Sunday.

May 14 — Mothers' Day — Special service honoring the very special women in our lives. The Children's Sermon will be presented by Kim Perez who will then lead the children as they make a special presentation.

May 21 — Senior Sunday — Join us as we celebrate the high school seniors that are graduating this year.

May 28 — Pentecost Sunday & Confirmation Sunday — The sanctuary will definitely be filled with the Spirit as some of our youth are confirmed.

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

May Mission of the Month Vacation Bible School

What does this year's Vacation Bible School need? VOLUNTEERS!! Yes, you can be one of those HERO'S that comes together for half a day, during the second week in July to share the story of God's love to the children of our community. There are so many opportunities to participate. Are you "crafty?" There are sets to design and daily craft activities. Are you "musical?" Themed music is used throughout the week. Do you like science? There is a Science Station where the children get to participate in experiments. Do you like to "play?" Lots of varying-intensity activities are planned for "play time" that you can help with. And of course there are the snacks!!! Some great ideas for "feeding" everyone during the week. AND all of these activities come with detailed instructions so you do not have to come up with them on your own. Of course there are also other ways you can help just let us know you want to be a HERO at this year's VBS.

Won't you be a HERO and volunteer?? Contact Kimberly Perez at 832-754-1558 or Beth Vickers at 979-255-1406 or you can contact the church office for more information.

SAVE THE DATE~HERO HEADQUARTERS OPENS ON JULY 10



In the depths of a colorful underground cave, is the beating heart of the hero community, the Hero Hotline Headquarters where everyone's gifts are valued and every hero has a role to play. Each day at the Hero Hotline Headquarters, superheroes of all ages and abilities answer the call and join the Professor and veteran hero, Super Meer the Meerkat, to provide expert assistance and solutions to Hero Teams everywhere. When Heroes in the field call in, the Professor, Super Meer, and our team of heroes will spring into action and explore the ultimate Hero Handbook -the Bible- to discover how all Heroes can follow the examples set by a cast of supporting Bible Heroes in stories from the Old and New Testaments, who work together to bring peace, build each other up, and share the great story of God's love for us where they are and with the whole world.

Contact the church office for more information and registration forms.



Sunday Small Groups at 9:00 am

- ARK** - Nursery, Pre-K & Kindergarten
- Kingdom Kids**-Grades 1 thru 4
- Credo Confirmation**-Grades 5 thru 8
- Home Builders** - Adult
- Wisdom** - Adult



Click below to see a short video.

Arlington National Cemetery is considered Holy ground, as it honors those who have sacrificed their lives. This dramatic video illustration shows how the ground on which we all stand is Holy because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Holy Ground

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



THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023 MARK YOUR CALENDAR An Opportunity to Pray for Our World

Thursday, May 4, we will once again recognize the National Day of Prayer. Reserve this day to be in prayer for:

- ◆ Our Community
- ◆ Our Country
- ◆ Our Leaders
- ◆ Our World

As we join with thousands of others in collective prayer.

Prayer Committee

Katie's Korner

More from my time in Europe.

Rzeszow, Poland

This mural was designed and painted by our team for the kids room at one of the refugee centres. Our first day visiting, the centre manager asked if we could add something to make the space more welcoming and fun for the kids living there so we got to leave a piece of AUS behind through the sea life mural.

Some of the kids and adults living at the centre joined in the painting as well, including an older man who had been an artist and art teacher in Ukraine but had not been able to pursue that much since having to relocate to Poland.

Shehyni, Ukraine

Rzeszow is only about an hour's drive from the Ukranian border. We spent two afternoons walking around a small border town just inside of Ukraine having conversations, praying with people and distributing bibles. We had many meaningful conversations and gave out around 70 bibles. One of my highlight moments was when the trio I was with decided to approach a man sitting in his car. As one of the students began talking to him [via Google translate] and explaining that we were there to encourage and pray with people, he became very emotional. I felt a nudge from Holy Spirit to ask after his health and the health of his family. When I did, he explained that he had health issues and would love prayer for it. Our team prayed with him and gave him massive hugs. The people of Ukraine are very strong and resilient but of course this last year has been unbelievably hard for them. Please continue to pray for the nations of Ukraine and of Russia to see this war come to an end.



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

Peace in the World

Families in distress

Continued Revival in the Church

Safety in our gatherings

Audrey Miller-Health Concerns

All those suffering a loss in the family



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



On Pentecost Sunday, the Holy Spirit filled the Church with power and added 3,000 new believers.

Read Acts 2:1-41 for the whole story.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

2nd	Kay Kastner	16th	Virginia Akins
3rd	Charles Westerman		Bea Bridwell
	Allen Homann		Laura Cate
4th	Katherine Scasta	20th	Anne Perry
8th	Jay Davis		Kathy Tomko
	Marlo Davis	21st	Teddy Vickers
9th	Mary Kamas	23rd	Brody Huggins
	Brooke Broadus	25th	Tammy Sexton
10th	Denver Richard		Cindy Briggs
11th	Dorthea Allen	29th	Colton Ripley
	Samuel Stevens		
12th	Gemma Chanley		
13th	Barry Cate		
15th	Odalys Blajeski		



7th	Julie Neyland
14th	Jeff Ripley
21st	John "Carty" Hicks
28th	Reese Rawson

**Ushers for
May**

**Ken Reinhardt &
Todd Neyland**

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

9th	Andy & Cathy Reed
20th	Jay & Brenda Davis
22nd	Kelley & Tammy Sexton
30th	Greg & Monica Stem
	Cole & Tiffani McKinney



Giving for Last Month (as of April 27, 2023)

General Offering	\$	24,617.27
Building Fund	\$	490.00
Memorial-Designated~Other	\$	8,409.00

We appreciate and need your continued faithful giving.

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Bible Study 10am-noon	3 MOPS/ MOMSNext 10:00am-Noon	4 Turquoise Table Ladies 11:00am	5 CONFIRMATION RETREAT	6
7 Katie Kamas will be visiting and preaching CONFIRMATION RETREAT	8	9 Bible Study 10am-noon	10	11	12	13
14 Finance/ Trustees Meeting after Worship Happy Mother's Day	15	16 Bible Study 10am-noon PreSchool Graduation 6:00pm	17 Last BLAST	18 Last Day for Preschool	19	20
21 Senior Sunday (Celebrating our graduation High School Seniors) Admin. Council After Worship	22	23 Bible Study 10am-noon	24	25	26	27
28 Pentecost Sunday CONFIRMATION	29	30 Bible Study 10am-noon	31			

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.

Middle School Youth Mission June 12-16
 Family Bunco Night June 21
 High School Youth Mission June 25-July 1
 Vacation Bible School July 10-14
 Family Bingo Night July 19