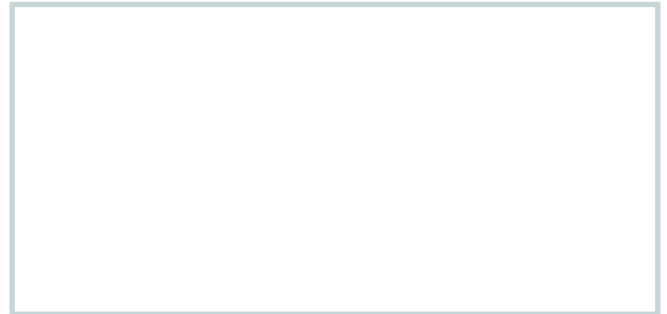


Franklin Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.  
Franklin, Texas 77856



March 2024

Visit us on the web  
[www.franklinmethodist.org](http://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

Last Sunday, Terrie Foltermann walked in with her eyes tearing up after hearing a chorus of a song on the radio. Out of curiosity I looked up the song and played it before worship. Those of you who were there might remember I sang the chorus. It was powerful and perfectly suited for that service. Since then, I have listened to that song 100 times. Let me share the words with you.

Heard the Preacher talking about three wooden crosses.

Up on a hill everyone to see

Two sinners on the outside couldn't save themselves if they tried

All I could think is man that sounds like me.

I've been the one on the left full of guilt and regret

Long gone on the wrong side of living

I've been the one on the right always looking for a fight thinking I could never be forgiven

I'm standing here today overwhelmed by grace cause I know who paid my cost

Thank God for the man on the middle cross

He didn't have to do it but for me he went through it

A love like that I'll never understand

Lord knows I don't deserve it and I know I couldn't earn it

Mercy rained down on this desperate man

The cross is where he went but that ain't where he stayed

He brought me back to life when he rose up out of that grave

Someday I'll stand before Him See Jesus face to face

I worship and adore him for a life forever changed.

I've been the one on the left full of guilt and regret

Long gone on the wrong side of living

I've been the one on the right always looking for a fight thinking I could never be forgiven

I'm standing here today overwhelmed by grace cause I know who paid my cost

Thank God for the man on the middle cross

This song makes me acknowledge my need for Jesus, but it also points me to the truth that God already knows my need and the causes for it. You see knowing my need is important but understanding that I can turn to God even in my need is more important. The Hebrew people have a name for this God, *Elohay Selichot*; it means "The God Who Forgives."

There was a time when the religious leaders of the people of Israel officiated a solemn festival, in which God's people were confessing their sins and crying out for cleaning. At a point during that service the leaders stood and used a song to point all of God's people to *Elohay Selichot*, "The God Who Forgives" because they knew that it is only in the presence of a righteous and grace-filled God that we are able to confess and it is only through a merciful and forgiving God that we are able to receive the forgiveness that washes us clean and sets us free from fear of judgement, and the bondage that comes with shame and guilt. The words of that song in recorded in Nehemiah chapter 9. Here it is in part.

"They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles You performed among them. They became stiff-necked and in their rebellion appointed a leader in order to return to their slavery. But You are a forgiving God, a gracious and compassionate, slow to anger abounding in love. Therefore You did not desert them." Nehemiah 9:17

And here is another song you might recall. "Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak but he is strong."

May we never stop singing songs about *Elohay Selichot*, The God Who Forgives. May we never stop sharing songs with others.

*Pastor Polly*



**Wednesdays during Lent  
(March 6, 20 & 27)  
Noon—1:00pm  
Activity Building**

- Mar. 06—Jesus joins the faithful in worship at Mount Zion.
- Mar. 13—No Brown Bag~Spring Break
- Mar. 20—On Mount Olive, Jesus assures us that we too are the children of God.
- Mar. 27—Finally, at Mount Calvary, we view the complete sacrifice of God.

Bring your “brown bag” lunch and join us on Wednesdays during Lent.

Drinks will be provided.



**Sign up for a Summer Camp  
Adventure with God!**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JULY 8-11, 2024  
9 AM TO NOON**



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 Lenten Season is  
**Words That Last Forever!**

**March 3 – BEHOLD!**

**March 10 – FORSAKEN!**

**March 17 – THIRST!**

**Palm Sunday, March 24 – FINISHED!**

**Immediately following the Palm Sunday Service - Bunny Brunch** – join together to enjoy a delicious brunch. Vegan and gluten free options will be served. Craft projects and fun for the children.

**Maundy Thursday, March 28 – 6:00 p.m. – FOR YOU!**

**Easter Sunday, March 31 – ALLELUIA!**

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*



# Youth Ministry NEWS

6th-12th Graders!  
Join us Wednesday for

Food  
Faith  
Fun

6-8 p.m. in the  
Activity Building



Wednesday, March 13  
Happy Spring Break!



The Youth will be attending the  
Zach Williams concert on  
Sunday, March 24 at 7pm.



## Bible Study

Tuesday 10:00am  
Book of Job

Bring your Bible and a notebook and come join us in the kitchen of the activity building.

For more information contact John "Carty" Hicks or the church office.



Scan to  
view study  
guide on  
Amazon!

WOMEN'S  
WEDNESDAY EVENING  
BIBLE STUDY

6-8 p.m.  
Franklin Methodist Church

We'd love for you to join us!

*"If you look for me wholeheartedly,  
you will find me."  
Jeremiah 29:13*

*Come check out something new!*

*MOP&MOM&Next meets  
March 6th & 20th this month*

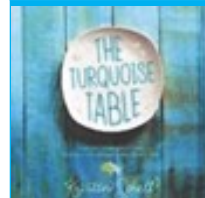
*In the activity building from 10am-12pm*

*Childcare provided*

*Text 979-412-1467 for more info*



Turquoise Table Ladies  
Meets 1st Thursday every month  
11am—Activity Building  
Next meeting is March 7



For more information  
contact Deborah Hicks  
at 979-255-8333 or Julie  
Jarrell at 979-255-2966.





**Wednesday Nights**  
 March 6th, 20th, & 27th kids K-5th are invited to join us from 6:00-7:30pm for dinner, worship, games, & small group. Blast meets in the Education Building.  
*For more information call the church office.*



**Palm Sunday –**  
 March 24th @  
 10:15am



**Bunny Brunch –**  
 March 24th  
 immediately  
 following Worship in  
 the Activity  
 Building.



**Easter Egg  
 Hunt – March 31st**  
 following  
 Worship.

## 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 Committee

Are you getting the weekly email of Prayer Request from Your Church Family? If you are not getting the emails please call the church office to confirm your email address. Remember to fill out the Prayer Request cards at worship~it helps us get the names and prayer requests recorded correctly. 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*



## March Mission of the Month and Lenten Mission Franklin Food Pantry

This year, for Lent, the Mission Committee is providing you the opportunity to help fill the shelves at the Franklin Food Pantry. As we continue journeying this Lenten season we are continuing the mission to fill those shelves with food items. There are still some boxes available should you need one and there are plenty of the calendars with the suggestions of the items needed by the pantry. Fill the box, fill the shelves and fill the stomachs of your neighbors. If you have any questions you can contact the church office or Julie Jarrell at 979-255-2966..



## 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

## Katie's Korner

This month has rushed by full of lasts' with ministry, church and friends, and I am grateful for every minute of it. Life also took a sudden turn so check out the update below.

### Next Steps

The course in New Zealand was cancelled, so I'm changing directions yet again. But after the initial shock and disappointment, I have recognized that I am even more excited for what this year may hold than I had expected.

I will be moving back to Texas for about 3-4 months and spending much desired time with family and friends back in the States. I am still feeling led to complete the Foundations of Counseling Ministry course so am looking into options and have started the application process for one that begins in July in Wollongong, Australia. With all the shifts, I have been learning so much about taking steps in faith and keeping an open heart and open hands for what God will do with those steps.

While in the US, I plan to spend heaps of time re-connecting with family and friends, finding some part-time work and taking a slower pace of life after a full-on few years of missions. I am heaps ready for it.

During my last week in Newy I will be soaking up all the time with friends as well as playing the tourist with my cousin, Audrey who has come over for my last week! It is a hard see you later but I am looking forward to what is to come.

I am still working out the details for my time in Texas but would love an opportunity to connect if you are available and not too far from Franklin. Let me know and we can plan a time.

## The FUMP CORNER

**WOW! It is hard to believe it is March already. This year is flying by. The best thing about March is we can look forward to spring! We will welcome spring with open arms and all the colors it brings with it.**

The Daddy Daughter Dance on February 17 was a huge success. You will be informed of income and expenditures as soon as we get our Financial Report. Many thanks for your monetary support.

Our curriculum is filled with lots of fun and learning. March 1 is Dr. Seuss' birthday, and we will celebrate it with our traditional "Crazy Hair and Silly Socks Day." The kids absolutely love this day, as well as our staff. We will learn about seeds, plants, bugs, baby animals- all things spring!

Our Easter Egg Hunt is March 26. Our parents are invited and are so wonderful to help hide the many eggs. The teachers will present Palm Sunday and the Easter story. My favorite part is to be able to demonstrate John 13:1-17 by washing the children's feet and praying with them.

In Christ,  
*Sherry Buchanan,*  
Director FUMP



## Easter Cheer Baskets

The Christmas Baskets were a great success and visiting some of our members who aren't able to make it to church was a true joy...so...the Mission Committee has decided to do it again for Easter!

The "baskets" (see below) have been provided by the Mission Committee and are ready for assembly. **Please let the church office, Beth or Julie know if you can help to assemble the baskets on Sunday, March 17 after worship and/or help with bringing items to decorate and fill our baskets (let us know what you plan to bring!)** At this time, we are planning on assembling 15 baskets. If you have someone you would like to add to our list, please call the church office.

Some suggested items are:

Wood Crosses - [Ed and Kathy Tomko](#)

Pastel Nonslip Socks - [Beth Vickers](#)

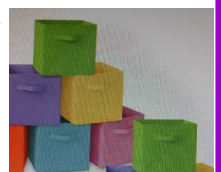
Lip Balms; Homemade Cards/Tags;

Muffins; Cookies; Lotions; Popcorn Bags; Tea Bags;

Granola Bars; Oranges; Bottled Water; Bookmarks;

Gum/Mints; Easter candy; Easter Decorative Items;

Individual Drink add-ins (could be electrolyte) Other Ideas?



# 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  
Terrie Foltermann-Continued healing during radiation

Hudson Swinnea-6 year old with leukemia

Peace in the world



## Lay Readers

3rd Mila Peterson  
10th John "Carty" Hicks  
17th Julie Jarrell  
24th Jeff Ripley  
31st Kip Kissinger

## Giving for Last Month

### Thank You for Your continued support.

General Offering	\$	20,008.00
Building Fund	\$	645.00
Memorial-Designated~Other	\$	35,312.00

## rightnow MEDIA

Over 10,000 free videos for you and your family

"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. It is perfect to show around Easter.

### He Was

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



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

## Ushers for March

Keith Kamas  
&  
Rex Vickers

### Music Note:

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.

The SonShine Strummers will have a performance at 10:30am on Thursday, March 21 at Calvert Baptist Church.

"Sing"cerely, Rhonda

*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."*

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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 Anniversaries

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



# March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Regularly Scheduled Events listed below.					1	2
3  Next Sunday~ Don't be late.	4	5 Bible Study 10am-noon  ASK 3:15-5:00pm	6 MOPS/MOPSNEXT 10:00-Noon  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	7 Turquoise Table Ladies 11:00am	8	9
10 CLOCKS SPRING FORWARD Finance Committee	11	12 Bible Study 10am-noon	13	14	15	16
FISD SPRING~~ Church Office on Limited Hours.						
17 Admin. Council After Worship Easter Cheer Basket Assembly	18	19 Bible Study 10am-noon  ASK 3:15-5:00pm	20 MOPS/MOPSNEXT 10:00-Noon  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	21 SonShine Strummers 10:30am Calvert Baptist Church	22	23
24 Palm Sunday Bunny Brunch after Worship	25	26 Bible Study 10am-noon  ASK 3:15-5:00pm	27  Brown Bag Devotionals Noon-1:00pm	28 Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00pm	29 Good Friday	30
31 Easter Sunday He is Risen! Easter Egg Hunt after Worship						



## WEDNESDAY'S

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

## THURSDAY'S

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