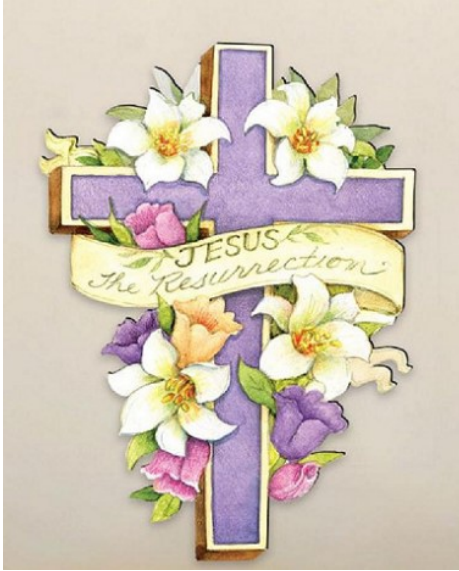


Franklin Methodist Church
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.
Franklin, Texas 77856



April 2024



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

Let Your eyes be open to the plea of Your servant and to the plea of Your people Israel, giving ear to them whenever they call to You. 1 Kings 8:52

I just discovered that the word April is from the Latin verb *aperire* which means “**To Open.**” This of course got me to pondering about **open** things near April. I began to visualize the **open** mouths of baby birds, and the freshly **opening** buds of iris. And the sight of children in spring colors running in and out an **open** door into the spring air to play. I recall Jesus entering through a locked door into the upper room having risen up from the tomb leaving it wide **open**. All around me are signs and sounds of new life springing up. God’s power on display and hope is strong.

The scripture I noted above did not occur in spring but somewhere in the seventh month. It is a part of the recorded prayer of Solomon as he stood before the Temple after it had been completed in Jerusalem. Gathered before him were the leaders of Israel and Judah as the Ark of the Covenant was brought into the city.

Each Sunday as the Word is being read and proclaimed in the House of God known as Franklin Methodist, I stand before the congregation, and ask them to share their prayer requests. I then lift them up in prayer asking God to be **open** to not only hear the prayers of the people but to answer them as well. And just as Solomon could declare the power of God that had been evident in the journey of these people. I too can point to answered prayers, hedges of protection, sustaining power amid grief and suffering, and other evidence of the faithfulness of God to His people in this mission field of Franklin. I believe in prayer and so do you!

Brothers and sisters I come to you with a prayer request that is heavy on my heart and I pray that you will be **open** to joining me in prayer. Here is a picture of Amanda, Max and their kids that was taken not too long ago when he returned from active duty assignment in Egypt. He is a black hawk pilot, and she is a pediatric ICU Nurse and a nurse anesthetist. They are both believers in Jesus Christ. Amanda grew up in my youth program and spent hours at my home hanging out with my girls. Max came into my life when he fell in love with Amanda. I officiated their marriage, dedicated their children to the Lord, I have prayed with them, laughed with them, and shed a tear or two as well. He has been diagnosed with six huge masses throughout his face, and under his mandible and pharynx. These seem to be the result of a poorly handled tumor removed 8 years ago. I won’t get into those details, but it is difficult not to feel anger at this poorly handled procedure which now has resulted in a serious situation. He is looking at an 8-15 hour surgery to remove the tumors and do what reconstruction can be done. This will be followed by 3-7 days in ICU, and a week or more on the hospital floor as well as six weeks of daily radiation. We need urgent prayer that all of the tumors can be removed without traumatizing major nerves. Everything needs to be removed or he will be looking at doing this process over and over the rest of his life, and if it were to become malignant it would not be survivable.



So today I come before God asking Him, begging Him, to “let His eyes be **open** to my plea and the pleas of His people of faith who are joining in prayer all over the world. Because I still believe the God who brought His people out of bondage in Egypt, can bring Max out of the medical bondage he is now in. I believe our God who raised Christ to new life can restore new life to Max. For I still see and hear the sounds of new life in the world God so loved even today. And I hold to this scripture from 2 Chronicles 7:14 &15

*“If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now My eyes will be **open** and My ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.” Amen*

Pastor Polly

Youth Ministry NEWS

6th-12th Graders!
Join us Wednesday for
Food Faith Fun
6-8 p.m. in the
Activity Building



Saturday, April 6

Youth will assist 10 of their classmates who are participating in the Special Olympics Spring Games being held in College Station. Then we will stay to cheer them on!



Current 5th grade students attending BLAST are invited to experience the Youth Group on Wednesday, April 17 in anticipation of the upcoming year.

SAVE THE DATE



Sign up for a Summer Camp Adventure with God!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 8-11, 2024

9 AM TO NOON

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR IMPORTANT UPDATES.

April Mission of the Month Supporting the



We have a new and improved parking lot and now we need to make some other needed improvements to the Clothes Closet facility. To better serve our clients and volunteers and to make it a more welcoming environment the hope is to be able to spruce up the building with new flooring and a fresh coat of paint. This month we are asking for your time and talents as we look to make these changes. Do you love to get that paint brush out and make things look different? Have you every helped tear out carpet or put down flooring? We can use your expertise as we look to make these much needed improvements. **Do you know that every dollar made at the Clothes Closet goes directly 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 the church office for more information and to let us know how you can help. .

Have you returned your Food Pantry donation box yet? We hope to deliver those boxes to the food pantry Wednesday, April 3, so if you have not returned it please try to do so as soon as possible.

"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.'

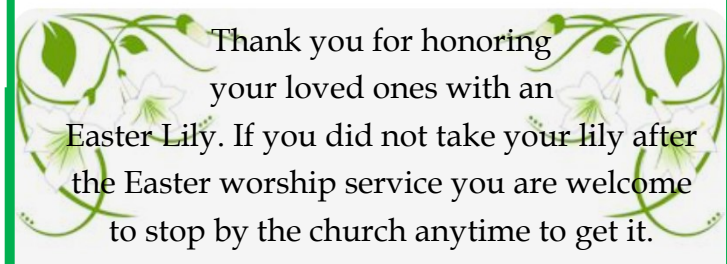
Matthew 25:40

The FUMP CORNER



April showers bring May flowers! Springtime is such a beautiful demonstration of God's beautiful landscape. I'm so grateful that He gave us different seasons to enjoy. The Horticulture & Floral Design class at the high school will visit us on April 9. The children love it when they come because they get to play in the dirt while planting the flowers. We are so blessed that Brandi Liere and Bradley Compton bring flowers and soil for the children to plant. Our annual Rodeo Day, April 4, is not only a fun day but also a day to learn about farm life. Many of our families bring goats, chickens, ducks, ponies, or horses for the kids to pet/ride. We will celebrate Grandparents Day April 16 at 1:30. This is a precious day to witness. There are many smiles from ear-to-ear. One of our Bible stories this month is Ruth, the story of abiding love and loyalty. *But Ruth replied, "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."* Ruth 1:16 Please continue to pray for our preschool~that we follow God's lead.

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan,
Director FUMP



Thank you for honoring your loved ones with an Easter Lily. If you did not take your lily after the Easter worship service you are welcome to stop by the church anytime to get it.

By Tommie Engler in memory of J.D. Engler

By Grady and Debbie Harris in memory of Peggy and John Harris

By Sebie Harris in memory of Dona Harris

By John "Carty" and Deborah Hicks in honor of Terrie Foltermann

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

By Katie Kamas in memory of "Pawpa" Eugene Kamas

By Kip and Kristie Kissinger and Cathy Hayes in memory of Johnny Slatka and Ina Loyce Frier

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

By Bryan and Jeannie Reed in memory of Walter and Maxine Reed

By Elizabeth Reinhardt in honor of Julie and Todd Neyland and family, Ken and Robbie Reinhardt and family and Kyle and Deborah Reinhardt and family

By Elizabeth Reinhardt 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 memory of Tracy Stem

(Lily purchases as of March 28, 2024)



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 aware that the National Day of Prayer is coming up on Thursday, May 2. More details to come on how you can participate in joint prayer that day.

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

LIFT UP THE WORD -
LIGHT UP THE WORLD
2 SAMUEL 22:29-31



They waited for me as for showers and drank in my words as the spring rain.

—Job 29:23



Blast

Wednesday Nights April 3rd, 10th, & 17th, & 24th kids K-5th are invited to join us from 6:00-7:30pm for dinner, worship, games, & small group time. Blast will meet in the Education Building.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUMMER GAMES

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

Dinner & Bunco

Wednesday, July 17th 6:00-8:00pm

Dinner & Bingo

VBS

July 8th-11th



9:00am-Noon



Worship Committee

The Worship Committee is meeting early in April to plan worship opportunities for the spring and early summer. We will share that information as soon as our plans are set.

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

THANK YOU!

WELCOME!

The Mission Committee and the Franklin Methodist Church would like to take this opportunity to say a **HUGE** "Thank You!" to Rhonda Miller for her many years of dedicated volunteer service in managing the Clothes Closet Ministry. What an awesome job she has done and how grateful and blessed we have been for her sacrifices throughout the years to keep things running so smoothly. Her willingness to serve has made a significant impact on the lives of those in need in our Franklin community.

As Rhonda turns her focus where she is needed elsewhere, we are happy and excited to welcome Kathy Tomko as the new volunteer manager of the Community Clothes Closet. She, along with several dedicated volunteers, have been working many hours to sort donated clothes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and to keep the Closet looking great! Kathy has lots of experience and would love to talk to any of you about her ideas for the future of the Community Clothes Closet. Her cell number is (979) 985-8716.

Come grow with us!



This April MOPS/MOMSNext meets:

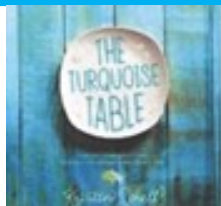
April 3rd and 17th

"Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

Colossians 2:7 NLT

Text or call 979-412-1467 for more info

Turquoise Table Ladies
Meets 1st Thursday every month
11am—Activity Building
Next meeting is April 4



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.

rightnow MEDIA

Over 10,000 free videos for you and your family



"The Netflix of
Christian Bible Study"



This dramatic video illustration reminds us that an invincible God became human flesh. He came down to earth as a perfect man and died for sinners. Nails, thorns, bread and wine remind us of the sacrifice on the cross Jesus Christ made for mankind

The Elements of Easter

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

Bible Study



Tuesday Mornings at 10:00am
Book of Job

Bring your Bible and a notebook and come join us in the kitchen of the activity building on Tuesday mornings~~Everyone is welcome! For more information contact John "Carty" Hicks or the church office.



Scan to view study guide on Amazon!

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday evening in the Sanctuary

6-8 p.m.

Franklin Methodist Church

We'd love for you to join us!

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 have a performance on Thursday, April 11. The performance will be at The Waterford at College Station beginning at 3:00pm.

"Sing"cerely, Rhonda



FOOD PANTRY SERVICE DAY
APRIL 13

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 service day is April 13.

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.

Katie's Korner

Katie is home for a few months so look for her around town and get all the scoop on her upcoming adventures

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 Hudson Swinnea-Chemo Treatments Pamela Cloat-Radiation
 Tony Arnold-Battling Cancer Max Hall and family-Tumor Surgery

News from the Pews~Do you have news that you would like to share with your church family? Did your son or daughter make the Dean's List or loose a tooth? Has your spouse received a promotion or achieved a new personal goal? Do you have a new family member (pets included?) We want to celebrate with you by having a section in the newsletter with all this good news. Please email or call the church office with your good news items.

Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	21,659.00
Building Fund	\$	775.00
Memorial- Designated~Other	\$	2,813.00
Parking Lot Repairs	\$	23,350.00

(as of March 29, 2024)

We appreciate and need your continued faithful giving.

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		



Lay Readers

7th	Olivia Campbell
14th	Meghan Moran
21st	Avery Rawson
28th	Jeff Ripley

Ushers for April

Bob & Donna Otto

April Anniversaries

9th	Keith & Terri Foltermann
22nd	Kip & Kristi Kissinger
29th	Jack & Pamela Cloat




Our Amazon Wish List

has been updated with some new items that the church and preschool can use, please check it out at the following link.

[FMC Amazon Wish List](#)

This Wish List contains various items that might not be a priority in the church and preschool's budgets, but that are needed. **We will be adding many items that will be needed in the renovation of the Wesley House, so please consider this opportunity to be a part of this newest church building.** You can purchase items and they will be delivered right to the church. Of course, we want to acknowledge all the gifts, so be sure to fill out the gift receipt. You can access the wish list by following the link above or searching in Amazon by the church's name or email address.

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Bible Study 10am A.S.K. 3:15-5:00pm	3 MOPS/MOMSNext 10:00am-Noon	4 Turquoise Table Ladies 11:00am	5	6
7 Trustees Meeting After Worship	8  Worship Committee 4:30pm	9 Bible Study 10am A.S.K. 3:15-5:00pm	10	11 SonShine Strummers 3:00pm The Waterford	12	13 FOOD PANTRY SERVICE DAY 9AM-NOON
14 Finance Committee After Worship Men's Emmaus Walk	15	16 Bible Study 10am A.S.K. 3:15-5:00pm	17 MOPS/MOPSNEXT 10:00am-Noon	18	19	20 Men's Emmaus Walk
21 VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING AFTER WORSHIP	22	23 No Bible Study A.S.K. 3:15-5:00pm	24 Last BLAST	25	26	27 Women's Emmaus Walk
28 Women's Emmaus Walk	29	30 Bible Study 10am Last A.S.K.				

WEDNESDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

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

Important Dates to add to your calendar.

Family Game Night, Wednesday, June 19, 6pm
VBS Decorating, Tuesday, June 25, 10am-2pm
VBS Decorating, Thursday, June 27, 10am-2pm
VBS Set Up-Monday, July 1, 10am-2pm
VBS Set Up-Wednesday, July 3, 10am-2pm
VBS Set Up-Sunday, July 7, After Worship

Vacation Bible School, Monday-Thursday, July 8-11

Family Game Night, Wednesday, July 17, 6pm