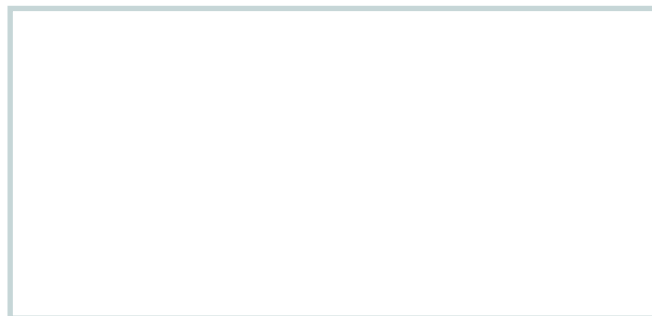


Franklin Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.  
Franklin, Texas 77856



**May 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

Over the last weeks of April and into May we will complete another year of ministering to children in our community through several vital aspects of our church programing.

Wednesday BLAST came to an end with a wonderful fun-filled night at the Rawson's home. There were train rides, volleyball, football, cornhole, trampoline, hot dogs, chips, and fruit along with Bible study and praise. We had a great time! Special thanks to our Family Life Director Kimberly Perez for the tremendous growth she has brought to this ministry. We are grateful to all those who have stepped in to assist with meals and programing needs.

The ASK program has completed another year of care for select students in first and second grade to provide one on one mentors to assist with self confidence in vital areas of reading, math, and self-esteem. I am extremely grateful to Beth Vickers and Sandra Hoegemeyer for their direction of this program, which of course would not be successful without the individuals who agree to mentor these students. What a wonderful way of partnering with our schools and meeting needs within our community.

Finally, let me lift up FUMP—our tremendous preschool program that cares for 50+ community children twice weekly as a means of preparing them for elementary school. Along that way we share the name of Jesus, we help them learn social skills, academic skills, and physical skills needed to be successful as they move forward in life. The program has been led by the capable leadership of Sherry Buchanan and Misty Skorupinski. These ladies have gathered a tremendous teaching team that we are incredibly blessed to have as part of the teaching staff. Our graduation plans are underway.

Our Youth program has also seen enormous growth this year. And it is a God sized blessing with a lot of responsibility that comes with that blessing. We are grateful for Roye Moran and his leadership, and for those individuals who have helped along the way. The numbers are approaching 50 especially with the incoming fifth graders. Please be praying for what God might be calling you to do to assist this ministry which will continue throughout the summer while still experiencing some breaks during the summer months.

Each Sunday we have teachers available to care for children and youth. There will also be activities planned for children and youth throughout the summer. Many of them will provide opportunities for families to come be a part of.

And of course VBS is just around the corner scheduled for July 8-11. This will require a full slate of adults and older youth who will come together to share a fun filled 4 day week of Bible stores, fun-filled games, science and crafts and music.

Many of your financial gifts have helped with all of these ministries. And as we always say we do need and appreciate your financial support of the ministries and missions of the church. But let us not forget that we are to be living sacrificial offerings and that is why we share with you this truth: We need your help to keep these ministries running. We are the church that is ready and willing to share and serve Jesus!

*Pastor Polly*

# Youth Ministry NEWS

6th-12th Graders!  
Join us Wednesday for

Food  
**Faith**  
Fun  
6-8 p.m. in the  
Activity Building

May 15

END OF  
SCHOOL  
BASH!



Youth Group helping out at Special Olympics in April.

GAME  
NIGHT  
MAY 29

♪ **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*

**WANTED:  
CHOIR MEMBERS!**  
No previous experience  
required!!

Choir practice is every  
Wednesday at 5:00pm. Come  
join with us as we "sing to the  
Lord a joyful song."

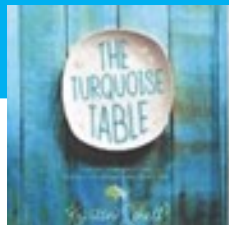


Want to join the band???  
Our Ukulele band, the  
SonShine Strummers, is  
always looking for new  
players. If you are interested,  
the band practices at 4pm on  
Wednesdays ~ feel free to stop  
in and visit.

"Sing"cerely,  
Rhonda Miller

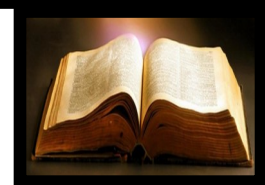
♪ ♪

**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. **See you on May 2 at 11am!!**



**Bible Study**  
Tuesday 10:00am  
Activity Building.

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!

## The FUMP Corner



WOW! This year flew by and what a year it has been. I cannot believe this school year is coming to an end. The children have learned a lot this year and so has our staff.

Early enrollment for our FUMP families opened April 2 and we have most of our younger children returning. Open enrollment for the general public will start May 2. Every year our classes are full to capacity- **Praise the Lord!**

Our graduates will be honored May 21 at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary. We are always filled with mixed emotions, as some of our littles are moving on to Pre-K. It is hard to let them go because some of them have been with us since they were babies. The graduates will get to experience "Big School" on May 9, as we will take a walking field trip to RRE. We will end the year with our annual Splash Day on May 23. The staff needs to be prepared to get wet because it will happen.

Children are like a sponge; they absorb everything they see and hear. They may not be at an age to verbalize everything, but they store it in their mind. That is why this ministry is so very important. Jesus said, ***"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."***

Please continue praying for the preschool, for to know the will of God is the greatest knowledge and achievement.

In Christ,  
Sherry Buchanan,  
Director FUMP



May the Lord show  
you his favor and give  
you his peace.

Numbers 6:26  
MOPS/MOMSnext only meets  
once in May!

May 1st is our last meeting this  
semester

Stay tuned for our new semester  
start in September!



HAPPY  
Mother's  
Day  
May 12



School is almost out for the summer and seniors are looking forward to graduation. As we face the hustle and bustle of May, make plans to worship during these special events.

**May 12 — Mothers' Day!** — Please join us as we celebrate the women who have been so important in our lives. There will be a special treat for these women.

**May 19 — Pentecost Sunday** — The sanctuary will definitely be filled with the Spirit.

**May 28 — Memorial Day Sunday**

*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!!

Will you be one of those 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 help the "campers" at this year's VBS.

## SAVE THE DATE~CAMP STARTS ON JULY 8



Join first-time camp, Counselor Sam and Lumen, "Lu," the lightning bug puppet, for a summer adventure at Camp Firelight. Campers accompany Counselor Sam and Lu during each assembly session and learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day, Campers see Counselor Sam face new challenges, from as simple as leading Campers on a hike to as intimidating as meeting a new and wise nature expert. With the help of Lu, the Lightning Bug, and the Camp Counselor Guidebook, Counselor Sam and the Campers explore timeless Bible stories showing how Old and New Testament Bible figures trusted God, faced their fears, and went on to do great things in God's name.

As the Campers experience the stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they learn ways to connect with and trust God. And best of all, they understand they can connect with God at VBS, church, home, and every area of their lives. They will learn that God is always with them, and feel confident in sharing the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ. 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
- Encounter**-Grades 5 thru 8
- Fusion**-Grades 9 and up
- Home Builders** - Adult
- Wisdom** - Adult



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 2, 2024 MARK YOUR CALENDAR An Opportunity to Pray for Our World



LIFT UP THE WORD -  
LIGHT UP THE WORLD

Thursday, May 2, we will once again participate in the National Day of Prayer by having our sanctuary open from 7:00am until 6:00pm for prayer. Please feel free to drop by anytime and stay for as long as you want. Prayer aids will be available.

We come together in prayer as a church, as a community, as a nation and as a world of believers.

Prayer Committee



### Parking Lot Paving Project Still in Need of Donations

AS OF TODAY, PLEDGES FROM CHURCH MEMBERS TOTALING \$25,850 HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. A BIG **THANK YOU!** TO THOSE GENEROUS DONORS!

We are needing to make the final payment toward the paving of the Clothes Closet parking lot, but seem to be falling short of donated funds to cover this payment. **Can you step up to help us take care of this?** We are truly blessed to have this ministry that serves so many in the community. And now, with a paved parking area, we can do so even better. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this need that is not only a benefit to the community but to our church and youth ministries.

### Katie's Korner

Katie is home for a few months. When you see her be sure to ask about all of her adventures in the mission fields. Her missionary work will continue come the summer, so catch her while you can.

# 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

Hudson Swinnea-Chemo

The Hall Family as Max recovers

The Stevens Family

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        |      | Eileen Cross   |
|      | Brooke Broadus    | 23rd | Brody Huggins  |
| 10th | Denver Richard    | 25th | Tammy Sexton   |
| 11th | Dorthea Allen     |      | Cindy Briggs   |
|      | Samuel Stevens    | 26th | Ian Cross      |
| 12th | Gemma Chanley     | 29th | Colton Ripley  |
| 13th | Barry Cate        |      |                |
| 15th | Odalys Blajeski   |      |                |
|      | Emma Buckner      |      |                |



### Lay Readers

|      |              |
|------|--------------|
| 5th  | Reese Rawson |
| 12th | Reese Rawson |
| 19th | Grady Harris |
| 26th | Eileen Cross |

### Ushers for May

Jerry Rawson  
&  
Kevin Rawson

## 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

|                           |    |           |
|---------------------------|----|-----------|
| General Offering          | \$ | 21,235.61 |
| Building Fund             | \$ | 645.00    |
| Memorial-Designated~Other | \$ | 3,570.00  |

**We appreciate and need your continued faithful giving.**

# May 2024

| 3Sun   | Mon                                 | Tue  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri | Sat |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|-----|-----|
|  |                                     | April 30<br>Bible Study<br>10am                                    | 1<br>MOPS/<br>MOMSNext<br>10:00am-Noon     | 2<br>Turquoise<br>Table Ladies<br>11:00am           | 3   | 4   |
| 5<br>Finance<br>Committee<br>Meeting<br>After Worship            | 6                                   | 7<br>Bible Study<br>10am   | 8  | 9<br>SonShine<br>Strummers<br>4pm<br>The Watercrest | 10  | 11  |
| 12<br>Happy Mother's<br>Day                                      | 13                                  | 14<br>Bible Study<br>10am  | 15<br>Youth Group<br>End of School<br>Bash | 16  | 17  | 18  |
| 19<br>Pentecost<br>Sunday<br><br>Admin. Council<br>After Worship | 20                                  | 21<br>Bible Study<br>10am<br><br>PreSchool<br>Graduation<br>6:00pm | 22   | 23<br><br>Last Day for<br>Preschool                 | 24  | 25  |
| 26   | 27<br>Memorial Day<br>Office Closed | 28<br>Bible Study<br>10am  | 29<br>Youth Group<br>Game Night            | 30  | 31  |     |

## 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

## THURSDAY'S

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

## Dates to add to your calendar.

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Family Game Night     | June 19   |
| Vacation Bible School | July 8-11 |
| Family Bingo Night    | July 17   |