

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



January 2025



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 MC 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

“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:22-23

I don’t know how many of you are history buffs. I know I do not include myself as one. But I do find I am continually fascinated by some bits of history when I come across them.

For instant, did you know that the first Methodist bishop to the United States has a statue dedicated to him in Washington, D.C.? It is true, Francis Asbury was dedicated as the fifteenth rider to Washington. All the previous riders were political figures, but Asbury was a missionary.



Even more fascinating is the fact that President Calvin Coolidge is the one who gave the Dedicatory Address at the Equestrian Statue of Francis Asbury. Here are some of his words:

“[Asbury] did not come for political motives. Undoubtedly, they were farthest from his mind. Others could look after public affairs. He was a loyal and peaceful subject of the Realm. He came to bring the gospel to the people, to bear witness to the truth and to follow it where so ever it might lead. Wherever men dwelt, whatever their condition, no matter how remote, no matter how destitute they might be, to him they were souls to be saved.”

President Coolidge also said: *“The real reforms which society in these days is seeking will come as a result of our religious convictions, or they will not come at all. Peace, justice, humanity, charity; these cannot be legislated into being. They are the result of Divine Grace.”*

This Christmas season we have talked about the mission for which God sent Christ into the world. It is the same mission for which the Angels were sent to Joseph and Mary and to the shepherds. It is the same divine mission to which you and I are commanded to participate. It is a mission of love. One that can free people from the bondage of sin and death. One that can break the shackles of shame and depression. It is a mission that can bring light into darkness, hope into despair, and promised eternity into death. Our mission is to tell the Gospel Good News that we believe in, to speak love to a world filled with hate, to bring hope to confused and desperate people, and to show the way of salvation to a world so desperately lost. These are not works of our own accomplishments they are a result of a Divine Grace given to us in Jesus Christ on Christmas morn. And through Christ all things are possible, even the salvation of the world.

It may seem like an impossible mission but nevertheless we who are courageous enough to believe the promises and power of the Almighty God are called to go forth and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world. It really is not as hard as it sounds – after all one sixth grade peer invited me to church and the Holy Spirit did the rest.

So are you with me? Will you follow in the footsteps of Francis Asbury and bear witness to the truth following wherever it leads? Will you live your faith today for the sake of those who have not yet given their lives to the Christ Child? There most likely will not be a statue of you sitting on a horse at the end of your journey, but just maybe you will hear the Savior say, “Well done Thy good and faithful servant.” Matthew 25:21

Tomorrow is a new day, a new start, a new beginning, so Saddle Up Your Horses – it going to be a **Great Adventure**.

P.S. Check out the lyrics to “**Great Adventure**” by Steven Curtis Chapman on the next page →→→→→

Pastor Polly



Happy New Year to our Franklin Methodist family! What a blessed Advent Season we had with many families able to come together once again. The Worship Committee is looking forward to planning meaningful worship experiences for 2025.

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



**FOOD PANTRY
SERVICE DAY
JANUARY 11**

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 January 11.

Please join us from about 8:45 to noon to help distribute food to your neighbors in need. If you have any questions you can contact Laura Corn at 979-204-8593 or call the church.

The Great Adventure

Started out this morning in the usual way
Chasing thoughts inside my head
I thought I had to do today
Another time around the circle
Try to make it better than the last
I opened up the Bible
And I read about me
Said I'd been a prisoner
And God's Grace had set me free
And somewhere between the pages
It hit me like a lightning bolt
I saw a big frontier in front of me
And I heard somebody say 'Let's go!'

Saddle up your horses
We've got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God's Amazing grace
Let's follow our leader into the Glorious unknown
This is the life like no other whoa whoa
This is The Great Adventure
Yeah...

Come on, get ready for the ride of your life
Gonna leave long faced religion
In a cloud of dust behind
And discover all the new horizons
Just waiting to be explored
This is what we were created for, yeah

Saddle up your horses
We've got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God's Amazing grace
Let's follow our leader into the Glorious unknown
This is the life like no other whoa whoa
This is The Great Adventure

We'll travel on, over mountains so high
We'll go through valleys below
Still through it all we'll find that
This is the greatest journey
That the human heart will ever see
The love of God will take us far
Beyond our wildest dreams
Yeah, oh Saddle up your horses
Come on get ready to ride

Saddle up your horses
We've got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God's Amazing grace
Let's follow our leader into the Glorious unknown
This is the life like no other whoa whoa
This is the Great Adventure

The FUMP CORNER HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New Year! January starts our unit on winter which includes snow and ice. Living in Texas doesn't offer us many opportunities to experience this, so our teachers must be very creative.

The year 2024 ended with maybe one of the best Christmas programs. The sanctuary was standing room only and for that we Praise the Lord! Mrs. Teri Wygle returned as a part-time music teacher to help with this outstanding performance. All our staff worked so hard to help the children learn the songs. It was a proud moment for us!

January is Law Enforcement Appreciation month. We will celebrate John Key, as he continuously stops by the preschool making sure we are safe and secure. Please show your appreciation to all the Law Enforcers who help keep our community safe.

As usual, the Daddy Daughter Dance is coming up February 8, 2025, from 6:00-9:00. This memorable event is one of our largest fundraisers, which enables us to be financially self-sufficient. If you or someone you know would like to make a donation, please contact us.

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."
Helen Keller

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan,
Director FUMP



YOUTH GROUP RETURNS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025
and then will meet every Wednesday night
in January at 6pm.



Jan 31-Feb 2



**Blast resumes
Wednesday,
January 8!**

**Wednesday Nights beginning January 8 kids
K-2nd & 3rd-5th are invited to join us from
6:00-7:30pm for dinner, worship,
games, & small group time.
Blast meets at the Wesley House.**



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 Concerns Hudson Swinnea-Leukemia
All others that are in need of prayer

**CHURCH CONFERENCE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025**

Please mark your calendar to attend.

January

- ❖ Happy New Year from the MomCo!!
- ❖ Our January meetings will be held on the 8th and 22nd from 10:00 am-12:00 pm.
- ❖ Philippians 4:8 "From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise."



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3rd	Andy Reed	21st	Keith Zamzow
7th	Kyle Hoegemeyer		Jan Westerman
9th	Austin Ray Corn		Raheem Green
	Ed Tomko		Meghan Moran
10th	Landon Vickers		Caden Perez
11th	John Kamas	24th	Ben Zamzow
12th	Mackenzie Marak	25th	Caitlyn Martin
15th	Sebie Harris	26th	Tabitha Cloat
	Cooper Huggins	28th	Amy Neichoy
18th	Jennifer Garrett	30th	Stephanie Broadus
	Kimberly Perez	31st	Jim Hanks
19th	Maddie Nelson		Samantha Harris Weyer

Giving for Last Month		
General Offering	\$	36,230.00
Building Fund	\$	770.00
Memorial-Designated~Other	\$	2,940.00
Cookie Walk	\$	5,885.94

We appreciate and need your continued faithful giving.

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES



14th	Todd & Julie Neyland	26th	Lewis Conner & Molly Dean
20th	Bill & Terri Wygle	30th	Frank & Louise Cates
24th	John & Deborah Hicks		