

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



March 2026



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

## Blowing on the Embers of Hope

*“A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out.”*

Have you ever tried to start a campfire by rubbing two sticks together? That takes effort and practice. Maybe you have tried to revive a fire that has burned out and gone cold through the night as the damper's air gives the room a chill. You stir up the ashes to find an ember or two still glowing. Then you have to take action. Add some flammable items like newspapers, cotton, or dried twigs. And with a steady stream of air dispersed from your lungs you hear the sounds of crackling, the stirring of hope, and the promise of a renewed fire. You feed it more wood and a steady stream of air and soon a small flame appears and with it the promise of a blazing fire is at hand.

This morning, I heard a sister in Christ declare on Facebook that her biological blood sister had declared that in this season of loss, that they were blowing on the embers of Hope. You see their mother, Nancy Guthrie, has been missing now for three weeks. The hope of her return is waning even as they know that God is able to perform miracles. But they long to be together with their mother once again. Even if it is just her lifeless body that is returned. So they are blowing on the embers of hope, stirring up the faith they hold on to, adding to the embers with prayer, scripture, and fellowship. And they are calling on the Spirit of God and God's people to fall afresh on the embers they are so closely guarding, feeding, and fanning. They know that her future is secure. That even if she has died, she is safe in the Father's arms but sometimes you want miracles to be answered here on earth.

It got me to thinking; how many of us are blowing on embers of hope, striving to reignite the flames of faith? How many are trying to do this on their own. Too worn out to look for the things needed to get the flame going. Too tired, too confused, too discouraged to seek after the twigs of scripture and prayer. Too ashamed, too despondent, too prideful to call on the people of God, let alone God Himself to breathe new life upon our embers of hope.

It is my hope that if nothing else gets through to us this Lenten season, that we will realize we are all broken. We are all in need of a savior. We are all calling out for renewed hope. And believe it or not there are people of God who are longing to breathe new life onto your ember of hope; all you have to do is humble yourself and ask. If you want to cry out to God and feel the power of His people when they pray, take the extraordinary step of asking. There is a prayer box on the table at the side of the sanctuary. You can drop a note in the mail slot. You can call the pastor directly. You can share your name or lift the need without a name. God knows who you are. And He is ready to blow on the embers of your hope. Remember, “a smoldering wick He will not snuff out.”

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13*

Blessings,

*Pastor Polly*

## Spring Cheer Baskets

Since the Christmas Baskets have been such a great success and visiting some of our members who aren't able to make it to church is a true joy, the Mission Committee has decided to do it again this Spring!

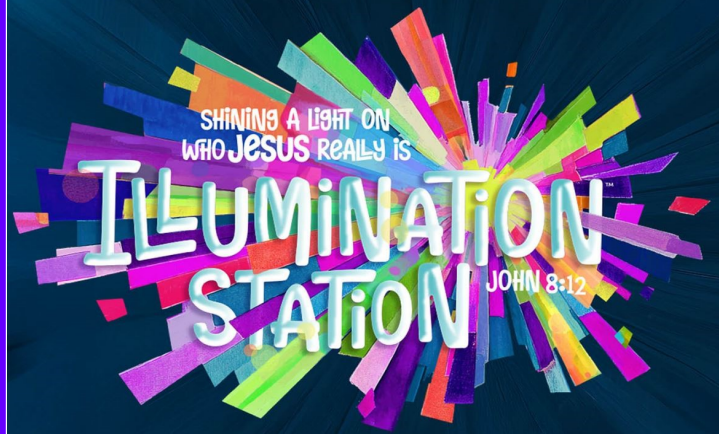
The "baskets" will be provided by the Mission Committee and will be ready to be filled with your items. The date for assembling the baskets has not been set~will update you on details in the April Newsletter.



The plan is to have 8-10 baskets put together and ready for delivery during the month of April. If you have someone you would like to add to our list, please call the church office.

Some suggested items for the baskets are: Wooden Crosses; Pastel Nonslip Socks; Lip Balms; Homemade Cards/Tags; Muffins; Cookies; Lotions; Popcorn Bags; Tea Bags; Granola Bars; Oranges; Bottled Water; Bookmarks; Gum/Mints Spring Decorative Items;

**SAVE THE DATE**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JULY 13–16, 2026  
9 AM TO NOON**

A CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES PRESENTATION:

## Messiah in the passover

**MARCH 15  
10:15am**

Please join us on Sunday, March 15 at our regular 10:15 am Worship service when we will be joined by Chosen Ministries Missionary Jason Rose as he presents

### **Messiah in the Passover**

*The Messiah in the Passover presentation is a powerful visual message not only of Israel's freedom from slavery in Egypt, but of the redemption of individuals from the bondage of sin through the atoning work of Jesus. The program is designed to give participants a deeper understanding both of Passover and of the Communion table.*

Currently living in Israel, Jason is the Manager of the Greater Tel Aviv Messianic Center. He has been instrumental in dozens of Jewish people coming to know the Lord.

A Love offering will be collected. There will also be a table with more information and resources available.



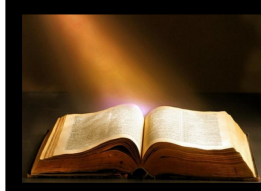
We take over the  
Worship service  
THIS SUNDAY  
MARCH 1

Be sure to join us every Wednesday night for  
worship, fellowship, food, fun and games!!

Wednesday night Youth Group meetings are:  
March 4, 18 & 25  
No Meeting on March 11—Spring Break

**YOUTH  
LEADERSHIP  
TEAM  
MEETING**  
Sunday, March 22  
at 11:30am

High School  
Bible Study  
Sunday,  
March 22,  
7:00-8:00pm  
in the Church  
Sanctuary.

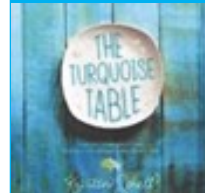


## Bible Study

Tuesday 10:00am  
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.

**Turquoise Table Ladies  
Meets 1st Thursday every month  
11am—Activity Building  
Next meeting is March 5**



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



The spring season is upon us  
as new growth appears on  
the trees and plants outside.  
Although our Texas winters  
are short, after a couple of  
months with bare trees and

brown grass I get so excited at the sight of buds on  
trees and blooms from the ground! And with this  
season comes the best part, Easter! We look forward  
to worshipping together during Lent and the  
upcoming celebration of the resurrection of Jesus  
Christ.

**March 29th - Palm Sunday and Bunny Brunch  
Pot-Luck after the service**

**There are still several Lenten Mission Food  
Pantry Boxes available in the Sanctuary.  
Please feel free to grab one.**

*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.*



**Palm Sunday, March 29 at 10:15am  
Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 6:30pm  
No Good Friday Service  
Easter Sunday, April 5 at 10:15am**



Kids K-2nd & 3rd-5th are invited to join us every Wednesday from 6:00-7:30pm for dinner, worship, games, & small group time. BLAST meets at the Wesley House. Join us in March on the 4th, 18th, & 25th. NO MEETING ON March 11 due to Spring Break.



## 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

Again this year, for Lent, the Mission Committee is providing you the opportunity to help fill the shelves at the Franklin Food Pantry. As we journey in the desert this Lenten season we want to continuing our mission to fill those shelves with food items. Boxes with a calendar showing suggested items needed by the pantry can be picked up anytime in the sanctuary. 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. (SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 7.)



### 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

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Over 10,000 free videos for you and your family

**"The Netflix of Christian Bible Study"**

Your life looms before you like a mountain. There are so many questions, so many unknowns, and you don't yet know the way. But this is testing ground, a place where God will forge you. You will never go alone. His goodness follows you. Your mountain is calling.

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

**Music Note:**

The Sunshine Strummers, that fabulous ukulele band of ours, has practice on Monday afternoons beginning at 4:00pm. If you are interested in learning to play the ukulele or singing with the band, please contact Rhonda Miller or the church office. The band performs around the area at nursing homes and other community events.  
"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."*

## The FUMP CORNER



March 2nd is Dr. Seuss' birthday, and we will celebrate March 3 by having *Crazy Hair and Silly Socks Day!* This is such a fun time for not only the kids, but the staff has a grand time as well. March 19 is our annual Rodeo Day with live animals, games, western snacks, and prizes. Please feel free to stop by and see all our little cowboys and cowgirls.

Our Bible stories for the month are based on *Palm Sunday and the Easter Story*. All other themes introduce everything Spring and the Farm.

A huge shout out of thanks to all our sponsors for the Daddy Daughter Dance who helped the preschool raise an amazing amount which will be put to good use. Our hope is to start a special fund for the renovation of the turf side of the playground. If anyone would like to make contributions for this cause, please let us know. It is also our goal for the director/assistant director to attend a Trainer of Trainers program that is designed on building a pool of skilled instructors dealing with preschool children. Our prayer is that our staff will gain needed knowledge making them feel more confident as they minister to our little ones. We anticipate this will help retain our staff as we provide them with new and innovative training.

Please be in prayer for our preschool as we minister to our little ones and their families. God reminds us to go out into the world and share the good news of the gospel. Our mission at FUMP is to always share God's Word with our children.

In Christ,  
Sherry Buchanan,  
Director FUMP



# March 29

# FOOD PANTRY LENTEN DONATION CALENDAR

Each day add an item to your box.

On Easter Sunday, or soon thereafter, bring the box to the church.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>FEBRUARY</b> 18 Can of Soup	19 Peanut Butter	20 Mustard	21 Boxed Potatoes or a bag of potatoes
22 First Sunday in Lent	23 Macaroni & Cheese	24 Canned Fruit	25 Cake Mix	26 Frosting	27 Mayonnaise	28 Canned Beans
<b>MARCH</b> 1 Second Sunday in Lent	2 Box of Crackers	3 Pancake Mix	4 Jar of Jelly (Preferably Plastic)	5 Dry Package of Pasta	6 Spaghetti Sauce	7 Can of Chicken Noodle Soup
8 Third Sunday in Lent	9 Can of Corn	10 Bag or Box of Cereal (Not individual ones)	11 Can of Cream of Chicken Soup	12 Can of Chili	13 Powdered Milk	14 Hearty Soup
15 Fourth Sunday in Lent	16 Can of Cream of Celery Soup	17 Dried White Beans	18 Dry Package of Pasta	19 Canned Tuna	20 Evaporated/Condensed Milk	21 Refried Beans
22 Fifth Sunday in Lent	23 Hearty Soup	24 Can of Green Beans	25 Cooking Oil	26 Peanut Butter	27 Coffee	28 Canned Fruit
29 Palm Sunday	30 Ketchup	31 Canned Spam or Vienna Sausage	<b>APRIL</b> 1 Toilet Paper	2 Corn Tortillas	3 Macaroni & Cheese	4 Case of Water
5 <b>Have a Blessed Easter He is Risen!!</b>						



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.

All who have lost family members      Hudson Swinne-7 year old with      Peace in the world  
 leukemia  
 The Miller Family

**DON'T BE LATE FOR CHURCH ON MARCH 8!!**



1st	Bella Morgan
8th	Kip Kissinger
15th	Joe Corn
22nd	Karli Morgan
29th	Meghan Moran

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

2nd	Jill Harris	18th	Mikayla Sexton
	Jessica Richardson		Joni Bailey
4th	Aiden Peterson	19th	Howard Hoegemeyer
	Robbie Reinhardt	20th	Autumn Cloat
	Hudsyn Huggins		Bayley Janacek
9th	Leah Davis	22nd	Beth Vickers
	Amy Huggins	24th	Keith Foltermann
11th	Todd Neyland	25th	Gwen Harper
	Caleb Chanley	28th	Kathy Brimhall
12th	Buddy Baxter		Bless Cloat
15th	Rex Vickers	30th	Robyn McKinney

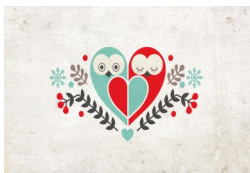
**Giving for Last Month**

General Offering	\$	24,094.84
Building Fund	\$	2,120.00
Memorial-Designated~Other	\$	2,260.00

**Thank You for Your continued support.**

**March Anniversaries**

- 1st Buddy & Toni Baxter
- 7th Marcus & Brea Worley
- 19th Andy & Jill Harris
- 20th Grady & Debbie Harris



**Ushers for March**

Franklin Methodist Youth

**Preliminary Financial report for the month of February & Year-to-Date**

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Funds received for the General Budget	\$ 24,095	\$ 45,237
Expenses Paid	\$ 27,716	\$ 51,295
Net for Period(s)	\$ (3,621)	\$ (6,058)