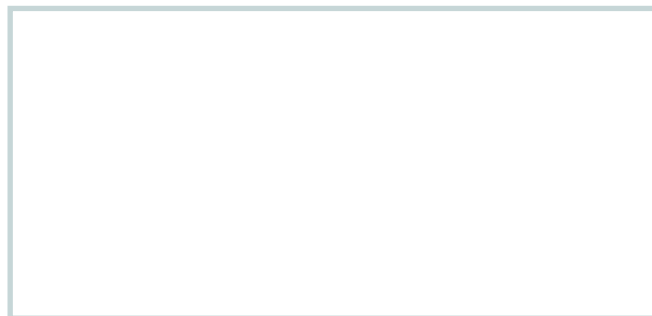


Franklin Methodist Church
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.
Franklin, Texas 77856



July 2026



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

Celebrating Traditions

"Through Christ, the Spirit gives life and sets us free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1-2

On July 2, 1776, a vote was taken by the Continental Congress to seek independence from British rule and to be united as free and independent states. The approval for the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress occurred on July 4, 1776.

The first organized celebrations of Independence Day occurred in Philadelphia and Boston on July 4, 1777. It was declared a Federal Holiday in 1938 and it continues to be a Federal Holiday. Today it is celebrated with picnics, fireworks, parades, and family celebrations. All of which are supposed to remind the people of our nation of a time when we fought and struggled together because of beliefs and ideals.

John Adams, writing to his wife Abigail, rightly believed that the celebration of Independence would "be celebrated by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shows, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illumination from one End of this Continent to the other from this time forward forever more."

There are hymns that have been written over the years that give devotion to God for this land. "America the Beautiful", "Battle Hymn of the Republic", "My Country 'Tis of Thee", "O God, Our Help In Ages Past", and "God of our Fathers"; which is often called the "National Hymn" and was famously played at the 1876 US Centennial and petitions God to be a perpetual ruler and defense.

Every Sunday we gather and celebrate our freedom to worship and the Almighty God who gives true freedom, over sin and death. We sing the Doxology to remind us that all blessing come from God, and we end each worship service with a hymn to place our thoughts in proper perspective to go forth in praise of God to serve Him and the world for which He gave His only Begotten Son, Jesus.

I love traditions, but any tradition is only worth something if the motivation for that celebration is true to the intent. People can lift their voice to sing the Hymns and Praise Songs, they can join in Prayers, recite the Apostles' Creed, but if the intent is not in their hearts to honor and celebrate the Almighty God, then it is nothing more than worthless noise. But if that celebration of worship comes from the children of God, who worship God as their Heavenly Father and seek to be reconciled with Him, then our hymns become a beautiful symphony of voices being lifted as a sweet offering to God. John Wesley, our founder would have put it this way, "Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye toward God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing Him more than yourself, or any other creature."

I pray that you will have a glorious Fourth of July with Family and Friends – celebrating our Independence and freedom to worship the Almighty God upon whom our nation was founded and then join us on Sunday the 5th as we glorify God for the freedom over sin and death that He ushered in through belief in Jesus Christ.

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36

Pastor Polly



Prayer Committee

In mid August our church will be undergoing a major transition. Pastor Polly Standing will be retiring and Pastor Royce Moran will become our Senior Pastor. As a church we want to support them, their families, church employees and leaders along with the church community with prayer. There will be specific days and suggested prayer topics for each person, family and group involved. Watch for lists on Sundays with detailed information.

Your continued use of the Prayer/Praise cards helps with sharing accurate prayers and praises. Remember asking for prayer can be private, just given to the pastor, or going to the committee only. You can be added to the list of prayers during the week by calling the office or contacting Eileen Cross at 281-468-4665.

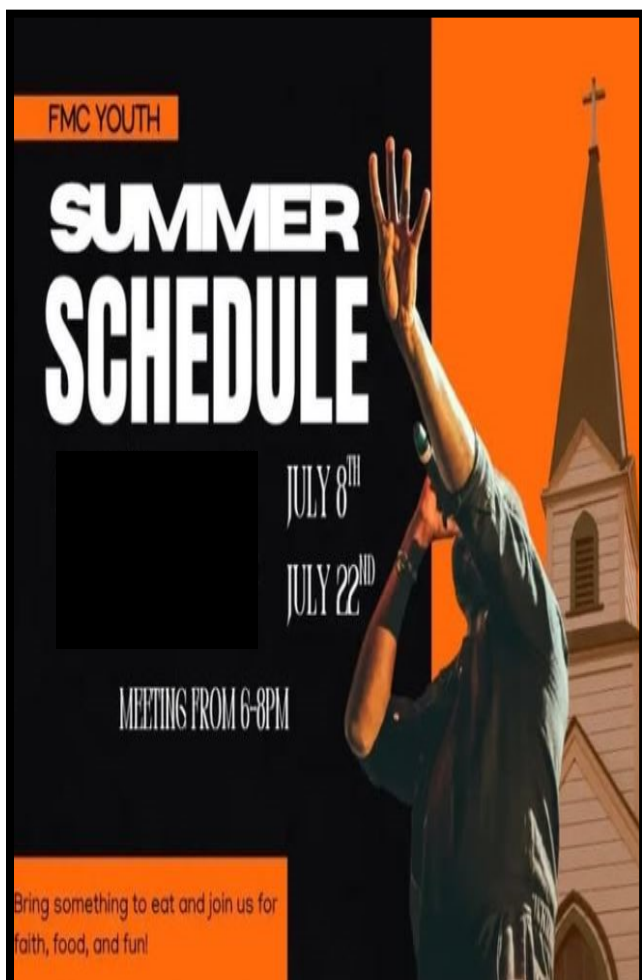
Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:24



VBS WILL BE SHINING A LIGHT on who JESUS is Beginning July 13 through July 16 9:00am until Noon

Invite kids to **Illumination Station** VBS for the brightest week of the year! While many people in the world claim to know about Jesus, many are in the dark about who he really is. During VBS kids will explore all the ways light brightens, illuminates, reflects, and reveals at **Illumination Station** and the world around them. **Illumination Station** guides kids to the truth of Jesus. Each day kids are learning about who Jesus really is, while participating in really cool crafts, exciting games, and enriching Bible study lessons that will have a lasting effect on them. Anyone (age 3 as of 9/1/25 through 5th grade) can attend and learn these Bible truths because there is teaching and learning materials for everyone. Literally, everyone. As little as babies up to adults can experience this awesome VBS rooted in John 8:12!"

Contact the church office at 979-828-3355 for more information. You can register your child/children using this QR code.



8 WEEK ONLINE BIBLE STUDY ON THE BEATITUDES TO BEGIN JULY 1

Look for a link in your Weekly Update each Wednesday, beginning July 1, to the July/August On-Line Bible Study on The Beatitudes. Each session is no more than 14 minutes. View Trailer [HERE](#).

What does it mean to be blessed? And, more importantly, how do we become someone who is blessed? The kind of life God is calling us to may not look the way we imagined, but it will be better than we could have hoped. In this eight-session series, pastor Matt Chandler takes us through the Beatitudes and shows us what it means to live in the kingdom of God. Through Jesus's teaching, learn what the blessed life really looks like.

There is also a study guide that you can access through your **FREE RightNow Media** account.

Have you registered for your FREE account yet? If not click [HERE](#) to do so.

Questions?? Contact the church office 979-828-3355.

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.

All those suffering a loss in the family
Pam Cloat and all cancer patients

Families in distress
World Peace

Hudson Swinnea-Leukemia

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1st	Cadie Martin	14th	Cynthia Hobart
	James Buckner		Evelyn Huggins
2nd	Natalie Garrett	15th	Louise Cates
4th	Hanna Westerman		Lee Ann Scasta
5th	Elizabeth Reinhardt	16th	Rylie McKinney
	Frank Cates		Mason Corn
	Justin Frieda	17th	Cade Rue
	Tessa Frieda	20th	Carlee Thompson
	Derik Stevens	22nd	John Harris
6th	Brea Worthly		Maloree Neichoy
7th	Kevin Foltermann	23rd	Toni Baxter
	David Bailey	24th	Molly Dean
8th	Jill Foltermann	27th	Kylie Caubarraux
	Keith Kamas	28th	Sadie Buckner
	Sissy Rawson	29th	Hap Campbell
	Lloyd Scasta		Karlie Kissinger
9th	Melvin Bailey		Addie Nelson
	Andrew Moran		Drew Neyland
10th	Bo Campbell		Marie Stem
	Aaron Huggins	30th	Brenda Davis
11th	Samantha Jones		
	Teri Wygle		

The FUMP Corner July

Let's SHINE Together! The preschool has some areas that need a few touch-ups (i.e., painting, window cleaning, etc). We could use your help sprucing up both inside and outside. Your presence will make a difference. The date will be announced in the near future.

In Christ,

Sherry Buchanan



**FOOD PANTRY
SERVICE DAY
JULY 11**

Lay Readers

5th	Jeff Ripley
12th	Kip Kissinger
19th	Teri Wygle
26th	Robbie Reinhardt

Ushers for July

Greg Stem
&
Howard Hoegemeyer

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

5th	Scott & Amy Huggins
6th	Howard & Sandra Hoegemeyer
28th	Roye & Meghan Moran



Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	24,637.64
Building Fund	\$	1,195.00
Memorial-		
Designated~Other	\$	3,509.00
AC Repair	\$	9,050.00

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

Preliminary Financial report for the month of June & Year-to-Date (as of June 30, 2026)

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Funds received for the General Budget	\$ 24,638	\$149,475
Expenses Paid	<u>\$ 30,350</u>	<u>\$163,303</u>
Net for Period(s)	<u>\$-5,712</u>	<u>\$-13,828</u>