

September
2014



First United Methodist Church Mason, Texas



...Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Jesus Christ.

~ Philippians 2:13-14



A new school year has started and many see it as a time to breathe a sigh of relief. "We can finally get back to the routine of school and stop all this running around." If you don't have children in school, you might be thinking, "We can finally get back to our routine and settle in to our predictable existence. No more vacations, no more special summer events – at least not until Thanksgiving." The Kingdom of God doesn't stop for anyone or anything. It is a fluid and forward-moving, living organism, always seeking new growth. The people of God grow stale, and begin to wither, when they cease to move forward. We are a people of movement, not of standing still. Even when we stand firm, as scripture reminds us to do when faced with difficulty, we are standing ready – ready to move in one direction or the other - but ready to move all the same.

It is the time of year when we look forward to that which God has called us to – looking for ways to strengthen our faith, to draw closer to God, to develop new habits, and to seek new growth in our own lives. When we grow in our faith, we have the potential to help others grow in theirs. That being said, there are many ways to grow your faith at FUMC.

- Attend a Sunday School class. There are 5 adult classes to choose from, and each one has a different method and format for study. Attending Sunday School not only helps you learn, it also helps you become part of an intimate community, sharing joys and sorrows together.
- Make sure your children are also in Sunday School. It is during the earliest years that we begin to develop spiritually. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me," not just because he liked children, but also because he knew that children's minds are like little sponges, ready to soak up knowledge and to accept God without terms and conditions.
- Join an outside study/fellowship group. We have many to choose from:
 - *Monday Morning Men's Group – 7:30 in the Gathering Room
 - *Prayer Shawl Group – Monday mornings at 9:00 in the Gathering Room
 - *Common Path – A mixed group that meets on Mondays at 4:30 in the Social Hall
 - *Wednesday Morning Men – 7:00 A.M. in the Gathering Room
 - *Wednesday Night Men – 8:00 P.M. in the Gathering Room
 - *Thursday Morning Group – 7:30 A.M. mixed group
- Serve in a leadership role on a committee. Believe it or not, doing the work of the Church can help strengthen your faith. All of our committees are ministry areas that engage in teamwork and building up the community.

Jesus does not call us to stay the same. He calls us to be actively engaged in ministry wherever we are, and to be open to the power of the Spirit in our lives and in the lives of others. When Jesus ascended, he left the disciples with instructions: "Go into the world and preach the good news to all people, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

(Continued on Page 2)

Worship Times

Sunday

8:30 A.M. w/ Holy Communion
10:50 A.M. Holy Communion on
1st Sunday of the month
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.



Year to date as of August 29, 2014

Budget \$ 256,276.45

Offering \$242,027.87

Budget for 2014 – \$387,540.00

Weekly Budget – \$7,452.70



August Attendance

Aug 3 170

Aug 10 154

Aug 17 144

Aug 24 193

Upcoming Events

September 1 – Committee
Budgets for
2015 Due

September 3 - Youth Group
Begins

September 14 - 3rd Grade Bible
Presentation

September 25-28 - Men's
Emmaus Walk
@ Mt. Wesley

September 27 - Fall Festival of
Churches

September 27 - Trash to
Treasure Sale

September 28 – German Hymn
Fest at FUMC

September 28 - 5th Sunday @
Baptist Church

Study is only one way to grow in faith. There are also areas of action and mercy. Wesley believed that acts of mercy and study automatically pushed us toward action. We are blessed at FUMC to have gifts in all three of these areas. Some are more called to one or the other; however, all are called to be well rounded in all matters of faith. When we neglect our study, we begin to grow stale, believing we have learned all we need to learn. The mark of all Christians is to be engaged in lifelong learning. May we continue to grow in grace and love and knowledge for the express purpose of growing the Kingdom.

In Christ,

Colleen



VITAL SIGNS by Ann Scarth, R.N., Wesley Nurse

Do you remember the old saying attributed to Benjamin Franklin, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”? I doubt he was thinking about water, but it does apply. Water helps prevent a myriad of health issues or at least plays a part in averting problems. Take for example, a headache. A headache is often a symptom of dehydration & drinking enough water will help eliminate your headache. Indeed, it’s the first action you should consider if you are experiencing frequent headaches, especially when you consider the heat of a typical Texas day. In fact, drinking enough water is as natural a remedy as you can get & there are no side effects. Do you have joint aches & pains? Did you know that some of that pain can be related to dehydration & can be prevented by adequate hydration? The discs in your spine & the cartilage in your joints are the cushions between your bones that help support the weight of your body & they need adequate water if they are to function properly. Dehydration can cause serious damage to your joints & spine. Pain caused by herniated discs & thinning cartilage can be eased if you drink adequately. Proper hydration helps keep the joints & muscles lubricated, so you will less likely get cramps & sprains. So Cheers! Drink up the water & think of it as your medicinal Texas cocktail. In these dry times, it literally is a cherished commodity. Talk @ you later-Ann
<http://www.age-well.org/drinking-enough-water.html>



**PLEASE CALL
Chuck Bearden (347-6162) or
Bruce Strickland (409-283-1213)
to volunteer as an Usher
or Lynn Hedges (347-0152)
to serve as Lay Reader**

**New Bible Study
will start**

Thursday, Sept. 18

7:30 A.M. in the Gathering Room.

***Not a Fan: Becoming a Completely
Committed Follower of Jesus Christ.***

Signup sheet in the Social Hall.

**Please contact Nancy Bauer
for more details.**

Hope Circle

We meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 4:00 P.M. in the Gathering Room. We would love to have you join us. For more information contact Tiffany Klaerner at 347-6034.



United
Methodist
Women



During these tough economic times the need is great, and we continue to assist families with their utility bills. If you feel moved to help with this important ministry, please contact Pat Reardon at 347-0275.

The United Methodist Men will hold their monthly breakfast on *Wednesday, September 10th* at 7:00 A.M. in the Social Hall. Coffee will be ready at 6:45 A.M., so come early and join us for good food and good fellowship! If you want to know more about the UMM, contact Pat Reardon at 347-0275.

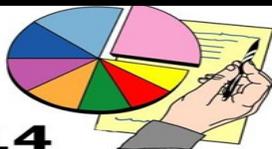
Children & Youth News

Loose Change Offering:

The children will collect your pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters on Sunday, September 7. Thank you for your helping us to be the hands and feet of Christ!

Youth Group:

Youth Group will start back on September 3 in the Youth Room.



**2014
Budget**

Church Committee Chairpersons

Please submit your 2015 Committee budgets to the church office by September 1st. Please e-mail them to fumcbiz@verizon.net

Mission News

The Back to School Drive held on Aug. 12th was once again a big success. We were able to assist 109 children who went back to class wearing new shoes and clothing items. What was amazing was how much the “gently used clothes” were appreciated by the families. The children and their families found many treasures from the items donated by the congregation. We thank everyone for helping us take the love of Christ outside the walls of FUMC and into our little corner of God’s world.



TRASH to TREASURE SALE

Saturday, September 27th
10:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Common Path

Starts on September 15th at 4:30 p.m.

Our fall study will last 10 weeks
& will look at the Gospel of John.

Come & See! Please sign up in
the Social Hall or call the office to
help us know how many books to order.



At

Mt. Wesley

Men’s Emmaus Walk

September 25-28

Women’s Emmaus Walk

October 23-26

**Applications can be picked up
in the church office.**

*Please pray for our members and loved ones who are
homebound and/or residing in nursing homes.*



*Marilyn Kahan, Charlene Schuessler,
Odessa Dannheim, Eva Tannehill, Jean Stengel,
Mary Beam, Carolyn & Terry Smith, Roy Lehmborg,
Chris Roberts, Blaine Thomas, Curtis & Dusty Henderson,
Pete Sharbo, Gerald Ross, Dr. Darrell Vines,
The Family of Jane Hoerster, The Family of Leta Durst,
The Family of Marie Metzger, The Family of Sonny Durst*

*Joseph Alba (U.S. Army) Savannah, GA,
Neil Shanks (USAF) Moody AFB, GA,
Melissa Garrison (U.S. Navy), Ferd T. Slocum III (U.S. Navy),
James Vacek (U.S. Navy), Terry Simonton (USAF),
Matt Irwin (U.S. Army), Houston Haley (USAF),
T.J. Schovajsa (U.S. Army) Korea, Jared Hudson (USMC)*

Steady Steps

Weekday Children's Ministry

An **Early Step** Toward a **Godly Walk!**

Playground Renovation is underway.

FUMC and Steady Steps would like to thank all of you for your support!



First United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 178
Mason, TX 76856

Rev. Colleen Haley.....Pastor
Maureen Shanks.....Office Manager
Christie Lehmborg..... Secretary
Marilyn Kahan.....Organist/Pianist
Art Davis.....Audio/Visual Technician
Jennifer Row.....Steady Steps Director
Ann Scarth.....Wesley Nurse

Address Label Here

Office Phone: 325-347-5105 Fax Number: 325-347-5289

Email: fumcbiz@verizon.net (Office Manager)

Website: www.fumcmason.org

Office Hours: 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Monday thru Thursday

8:30 A.M. - 12:00 Noon Friday

8:30 A.M. Worship Service with Holy Communion

9:45 A.M. Sunday School

10:50 A.M. Worship Service

(Holy Communion served on the first Sunday of the month)

Steady Steps Phone 325-347-0043

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