

April
2014



First United Methodist Church Mason, Texas



Every time I think of you I give thanks to God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the good news about Christ...And I am certain that God, who began a good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. ~Philippians 1:3-6



Every time I think of you I give thanks to God.... That statement rings in my thoughts and words when I think of the Body of Christ at here at FUMC. During the last several months, in the midst of a very full schedule, we have received a weekly meal from several "anonymous angels." And although I love to cook, it has been the greatest gift to be able to come home late and have a meal waiting for me to just to warm up. It's almost like having a wife! I also hear about how many of you pray for us on a regular basis. WE NEED IT, and we are grateful for all of your prayers. I am constantly reminded of how well this congregation loves and exhibits that love in tangible ways – calling to check on each other, stopping by to visit folks who are no longer as active as they once were, volunteering to support those who are going through a rough time, serving as Friends in the Faith to our confirmands. There are so many beautiful expressions of God's love in this congregation. All of you look like God with skin on.

I love to tell people about the great work God is doing in the lives of all of you! Sometimes I feel like I'm bragging when I tell people about the great ministry here in Mason. As a Body of Christ, we are truly blessed. The Spirit is moving in a mighty way in Mason County! God is not finished here, that's for sure. God is working in us and through us, continuing the work he began here, and faithful to complete it "until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." Sometimes we feel tired, and think we just can't do one more thing for the Kingdom, but the Holy Spirit gives us the strength we need to complete the work which God began in us - and we still have much work to do!

There are so many people outside the walls of this church who are hungering for a relationship with God, but who feel uncomfortable coming into our building. There are many reasons for this - and none of them matter. What matters is that we be willing to overlook their resistance and fear, and go outside to meet them where they are. The early church had one goal – to "make disciples of all nations." John Wesley's goal for the early Methodist Church was "to spread scriptural holiness throughout these lands, and to flee from the wrath to come." The goal of the modern day United Methodist Church is to "make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Throughout the history of the Church, the goal has always been to share the Message, to share our story with those who are unacquainted with it, or whose memories of it have begun to fade due to their not having heard it in a very long time.

May we be the hands and feet of Christ, known in Mason County as "those Christians who are not afraid to talk about Jesus, and who are not afraid to walk into unfamiliar places to do it."

In Christ,
Colleen

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.



Budget for 2014
\$ 93,759.67

Offering for 2014
\$ 87,875.41

(Year to date as of 3-28-14)

Budget for 2014 – \$387,540.00
Weekly Budget – \$7,452.70



March Attendance

Mar 2	180
Mar 9	141
Mar 16	116
Mar 23	166

Upcoming Events

Apr 2 - Lenten Luncheon at
St. Joseph Catholic

Apr 4 - Steady Steps Geranium
Sales End

Apr 9 - Lenten Luncheon at
St. Paul Lutheran

Apr 13 - Palm Sunday

Apr 17 - Maundy Thursday
7:00 P.M.

Apr 18 - Good Friday
7:00 P.M.

Apr 20 - Easter Sunday
8:30 & 10:50

Apr 26 - Steady Steps
Fundraiser, Golf
Tournament & Meal



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

Drinking water reduces swelling? Oh, come on, you're kidding! No, I'm not & I've seen it happen. Here's the facts: water retention often shows up as a swollen belly, feet, legs, & hands. Often retention is treated with diuretics, especially for chronic conditions. However, if a person is not drinking enough water, the problem will not go away. Although this appears to be contradictory if you have a tendency to retain water, this actually indicates dehydration & a need to drink more water. How can this be? Because the body stores water when it is in short supply & will cease storing so much if it is adequately hydrated. Sounds like a different twist on hoarding, but if your body senses it doesn't have enough, it will hang on to what it has with a vengeance. So drinking enough water every day is actually the best treatment for fluid retention. Sometimes, the problem might be caused by too much salt/sodium intolerance. Maybe you have been sitting for hours on a long trip. Drinking enough water can flush excess salt from your system. However, at the same time, you need to reduce your salt intake. Now I do want to add this disclaimer-not all retention is caused by dehydration. So if you have been prescribed medication for water retention related to congestive heart failure or another chronic condition, do not throw it out the window thinking you can drink water & cure yourself. Follow your doctor's orders & take your medication. I'm not here to tell you to discount your doctor's expertise. Talk @ you later-Ann <http://www.age-well.org/drinking-enough-water.html>

News from the Missions Committee

The Missions Committee will once again be participating in an Easter project for our families at the Food Bank. Melany Canfield, one of our committee members, will be chairing the event and will be involving the high school youth in this as a community service project. The students will research the prices of fresh fruit and eggs and egg dying kits, along with healthy snacks, and then will be on site during the Food Bank distribution days the week before Easter to represent all of us well! Thank you Melany and students.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday April 13th 8:30 & 10:50 am
Maundy Thursday April 17th 7:00 pm
Good Friday April 18th 7:00 pm
Easter Sunday April 20th 8:30 & 10:50 am

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



Marilyn Kahan, Charlene Schuessler, Yvonne Alba, Odessa Dannheim, Ginger Cave, Eva Tannehill, Toni & Jim Hurlbut, Kathy Fritze, Michael Taylor, Jack Lee, Lee Bradley, Peter Sharbo, Mary Beam, Jane Hoerster, Carolyn & Terry Smith, Roy Lehmborg, Sidney Kothmann, Chris Roberts, Elizabeth Smith, Carol Jordan, John Harmon, Family of Charlie Williams, Dorothy Schuessler, Jax (7 month old from Minnesota), Richard Taylor, Jodie Mahan, Ellie Andres, Blaine Thomas, Roberta McMillan

Joseph Alba (U.S. Army), Neil Shanks (USAF), 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), Jared Hudson (USMC)



Remaining Lenten Luncheons

April 2 St. Joseph's
April 9 St. Paul

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.



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

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, April 9th 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, April 6. Thank you for helping us to be the hands and feet of Christ!

Wonderful Wednesdays: Wonderful Wednesdays are for grades 1-5. The church van will pick up children at school from the ACE Program. If you have an interest in volunteering to help with this group please contact Beth Reardon at 347-0809.

Youth Group: We still need your help with Wednesday night meals. There is a signup sheet in the Social Hall. April is filling up, but we will still need May. For more information contact Helen Dockal 347-2571. Also, we need a few volunteers to lead the youth. If you would like to volunteer, please call Deandra Palacio 347-5948.

Steady Steps

Weekday Children's Ministry



An Early Step Toward a Godly Walk!

Steady Steps Fundraiser!!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 26th, for the annual Steady Steps Fundraiser which will be held at the Ft. Mason Community Building. The doors will open at 5:00 p.m. for viewing of the silent auction items, and the meal will be served at 6:00. Chase Smith will be master of ceremony at this year's event with the "donation only" meal catered by Willow Creek Café. The always popular cake auction will be held, and some of Mason's finest bakers will have their delicious cakes ready for the highest bidder. This year's silent auction will have some excellent items to bid on with a longer opportunity to get that special item.

In addition to the nightly activities, there will be a 4-man ABCD scramble golf tournament that afternoon beginning at 1:30 p.m. (must check in by 12:30) at the Comanche Creek Golf Course. Prizes for holes-in-one for each par 3, including \$10,000 (\$5,000 to Steady Steps, \$5,000 to player) on Hole No. 2; closest to the hole for each par 3, men's and women's long drive contest; welcome bag. For information, please contact John Olson at 325-265-4458 or e-mail him at jfo1020@hotmail.com.

GERANIUMS.....Time is running out to order your beautiful geraniums, so get those orders in by April 4th. Forms are included in the newsletter, at the banks, schools and the Steady Steps office at 347-0043. You may also contact Brooke Rosberg at 325-347-7600. Favorite colors will be offered, such as blood red, rose, flag red, salmon, orange, lavender, tickled pink, neon purple, watermelon, and parfait. They will arrive in 6" pots and the cost is \$8.00 for one or \$7.50 for 4 or more plants. Your plants may be picked up at Ft. Mason Community Building Friday, April 25th between 4:00-6:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 26th, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon.



Healthy Church Initiative
HCI Consultation Weekend
May 2nd-4th

The church workshop will be held on **Saturday, May 3 from 10:15 A.M.- 3:00 P.M.** It is a "must meeting" for every member of FUMC, Mason. To help us better prepare for the meeting and the lunch on Saturday, please drop a note in the offering plate, call the church office at 347-5105 or e-mail fumcbiz@verizon.net if you plan to attend. There will be a combined Worship Service on Sunday, May 4. A "Town Hall Meeting" will be held immediately following the Service at which time the report will be presented to the congregation.

PRE-ORDER FLOWERS NOW!!!

STEADY STEPS FUNDRAISER

Geraniums

Place orders by April 4th @ STEADY STEPS

Name: _____ Ph. #: _____

Address: _____

Geraniums: 6" Pot \$8.00/pot or \$7.50 for 4 or more pots

Blood Red Rose (pink) Tickled Pink Watermelon

Flag Red Salmon Neon Purple

Orange Lavender Parfait (pink duo)

Total Pots: _____ Total Cost: _____

_____ PAID IN ADVANCE _____ PAY UPON RECEIPT

Hydrangea Order Form

If you would like to place flowers in church in honor or in memory of loved ones on Easter Sunday, April 20th, we still have 5 hydrangeas available for \$20 each. Please fill out this form and return to the church office or drop in the offering plate along with your check or cash for each hydrangea ordered.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____



Tai Chi
Starting April 1st
Monday—Friday ~ 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. ~ Social Hall
Everyone welcome!



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
Isabel Rivera.....Custodian

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

April 2014