

May 2013



First United Methodist Church Mason, Texas



*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
his faithful love endures forever.
Psalm 136:1 (NLT)*



In our *Disciple Bible Study*, we are studying the Old Testament, and will be finished by the end of May. This week we are looking at the Psalms, which is sometimes called the “Hebrew Songbook.” In Psalm 136, the phrase, “His faithful love endures forever,” occurs 26 times. In 22 of those instances, the phrase is preceded by something God has done for the people of Israel throughout their history. “To Him alone who does mighty miracles, to Him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt and brought Israel out from among them, to Him who parted the Red Sea, He led Israel safely through, He remembered us in our weakness, and saved us from our enemies...” The psalm includes a long list of God’s actions in the lives of his people, and his great faithfulness and love for them throughout all of history. God’s faithfulness (sometimes referred to as steadfast love) and his intimate action still endure today, even though sometimes it doesn’t seem that way. In the wake of the untimely deaths of four members of the Koontz family from Brackettville, of the tragedy in Boston, and most recently, of the tragedy in West, God’s love might be the farthest thing from our minds. But in the midst of uncertainty and unrest, we find that God’s love has the greatest power to heal. When things are falling down around us, God’s love is the only thing we can count on, no matter what difficulties we face.

Right now we might be asking ourselves, “Why?” We don’t know who was responsible for the bombing in Boston; we don’t know why such a precious family had to die; we don’t know what caused such massive destruction in West. Our concern should not be why – it should be Who. We know Who will never abandon us; we know that in the face of an uncertain future, we can be certain of this: God’s faithful love endures forever. It doesn’t matter what kind of pain or uncertainty or horror we face – regardless of the size and scope of any tragedy, it’s all temporary, and we know the final outcome - God’s faithful love endures forever. Real power comes, not from the circumstances of our lives, but from God. God’s power over death and his love for all people are only things that endure forever. Terror, pain, sickness, loss, uncertainty, – all of these things are real, but none of them last forever. Only God’s faithful love does that.

In the coming weeks and months, world events could get even worse; unexpected events could occur in our lives or in the lives of our loved ones. But regardless of how hard things get, regardless of what the world offers us...God’s faithful love endures forever. You can go to the bank on that.

In Christ,
Colleen

Worship Times

Sunday

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



Budget for 2013—\$371,403.08
Weekly Budget —\$7,142.37

Year to date offering as of
April 22, 2013

2013 Budget.....\$119,674.30
2013 Offering.....\$105,948.02

April Attendance

April 7.....171
April 14.....190
April 21.....189

Parsonage Renovation Project

Estimated Cost: \$35,000
Parsonage Budget \$10,000.00
Parsonage Donations \$16,575.00
Still needed \$8,425.00

May Acolytes

May 5:

Raegan Glentz & Blixen Hofmann

May 12:

Ella Canfield & Raegan Palacio

May 19:

Makenna Palacio & Madelyn Heath

May 26:

Blixen Hofmann & Makenna Palacio

May Lay Readers

8:30 A.M. TBA

10:50 A.M. TBA

May Ushers

8:30 A.M.

Willie Lyles

10:50 A.M.

Mike & Dianna Dail and
Bobby & Kaylee Halamicek



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 (347-0275). **The United Methodist Men** will hold their monthly breakfast on **Wednesday, May 8th 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.

New Horizons Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 A.M. in the Gathering Room.
Chairperson:
Linda Reichenau 325-347-5589



United Methodist Women

Hope Circle meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 4:00 P.M. in the Gathering Room. Contact Tiffany Klaerner at 347-6034 for more information.



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

More old wives tales? You are probably asking just how many old wives do I know, but that is a trade secret I will never tell. However, I have a "tale" that really may not be as much of a tale as some might think. Take that saying, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away". Get this...apples can keep the doctor away by helping your immune system. There was a healthy food study at the University of Ulster in which it was found that apple phenols protect the DNA in colon cancer cells. The researchers stated, "Our results indicate that a crude extract of apple phenolics can protect against DNA damage." Researchers at Cornell University found that up to six apples a day can prevent breast cancer in primates and believe this can be extrapolated to humans. They are still researching, but feel that consumption of apples may be an effective strategy for cancer protection. So, drink up that apple juice and eat a couple of apples a day just like the old wives tell you.

Work crew inspected and reinforced all the light fixtures in the Sanctuary!



Many thanks to Steve Epps, Pat Reardon, Jim Heath, Brent Drennan, Winfred Bauer and Itz Electric for all their help with our Sanctuary lights!



Please call **Chuck Bearden (325 347-6162) or Bruce Strickland (409 283-1213) to volunteer as an usher! Thanks!**



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

- Eva Tannehill, Marilyn Kahan, Eva Dell Grote, Yvonne Alba, John Earl family, Ruth Dannheim, Roger and Tommie Lou Luckenbach, Cynthia Hernandez, Willeda Rea, Aaron Reardon, Carolyn Smith, Jack Lee, Deborah Whitworth, Ernestine Galviz, Nancy Hierholzer, Bob Vacek, Mary Beam, Michelle Hinckley, the family of Lucille Jordan, Troy Klaerner, Brad Duecker, Richard & Cindy Denison (Karen Olson's brother and his wife), Michael Taylor, Roy Lehmberg, Morgan Johnson, Alex Grosse, the family of Rose Novosad (Debbie Schovajsa's mother), Nancy Kramer*
- Joseph Alba (U.S. Army) Savannah, GA, Neil Shanks (USAF) RAF Mildenhall, England, Jeff Ingleby (U.S. Army) Afghanistan, 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) Fort Bragg, NC, Houston Haley (USAF), T.J. Schovajsa (U.S. Army) Korea*

Children & Youth News

Submitted by Deandra Palacio (347-5105)

Youth



Youth & Children's Bulletin Board — Outside of Deandra's office (aka the library) is a bulletin board where Deandra posts pictures, announcements, and registration information for activities that the children and youth have going on throughout the year. Please stop by and check it out!!!

Recycled Ink Cartridges are still being collected by the youth as a fundraiser. If you have old ink cartridges lying around your house, don't forget to drop them off at the church, city office, Mason Bank, Commercial Bank, or First State Bank. You are helping the youth while you help the environment! Thank you for your help!

Loose Change Offering — The children will collect your pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters on Sunday, May 5th. We recently made a donation to a child from Steady Steps who needed some specialized medical

equipment. Thank you for helping us to be the hands and feet of Christ!

U.M. ARMY Mission Trip Fundraiser — The youth and adults who will be attending the U.M. ARMY mission trip this summer from June 23-29 in Canyon Lake need your help! We have a list of tools and supplies that we will either need to borrow or have donated for our trip. Borrowed tools will be marked and documented so that we can return them to you when we return. We will also be selling "shares" in our mission trip for \$10 each. If you would like to become a "stock holder" in our mission trip, you will be invited to a meal following our trip where we will share firsthand information, testimonials, and pictures with you. Even if you can't join us in body on our trip, you can be there in spirit! We thank you in advance because we know that this will be a life-changing experience for all who attend. A bulletin board is in the Fellowship Hall with details. Contact Deandra for more information.

Confirmation Retreat — On Saturday, April 6th, Shay Ragsdale and Alexis Hernandez attended the San Angelo District Confirmation Mission Day along with Deandra and Pastor Colleen. What a joy it was to share the day serving and learning with our fellow confirmands, District staff, and our District Superintendent, Larry Altman. Praise God for these wonderful young ladies!

Wonderful Wednesdays — The elementary students met for their last Wonderful Wednesday of this school year on April 24th. Junior high and high school students will continue to meet through the month of May!

MISSIONS

The Missions Committee will be the host church at the Food Bank in May. The committee will meet the first week in May to box groceries and again on Monday, May 14th to distribute the food. If you would like to help at the Food Bank on our day to hand out groceries, we'll be there from 3-5:30 P.M. Come join us! The food bank committee is trying to make it a more welcoming atmosphere. There are children's activities, a prayer room and prayer partner available, and in the near future, families will come on different days to stagger the number of families having to wait in line.

The annual Back-to-School event will be held on August 14th from 2-5 P.M. with families registering in July. The congregation is asked to furnish gently used clothing items to have available for the families.

Missions is discussing plans to assist in providing meals to children this summer during the time there are no meals provided to them by the school.

Judy Branch, Missions

Parsonage Renovation

The Finance Committee has authorized the Trustees to move forward with the parsonage renovation. We remain \$9,000 short of reaching our goal. If you have not contributed to this much-needed project, please prayerfully consider your opportunity to do so!

Kitchen and Laundry Room

Cabinets
Tile Floor
Lighting Fixtures
Sinks and Fixtures
Counter Tops
Oven
Microwave
Cooktop
Replace outside sliding door
with double French doors
Mantle added to fireplace
Paint as needed



Bathroom

Cabinets
Tile Flooring
Counter Tops
Sinks and Fixtures
Lighting Fixtures
Possible door added
between master bath and master bedroom
Paint as needed



Alexis Hernandez, Amber Sanders, Deandra Palacio, Colleen Haley, Shay Ragsdale



Confirmation Mission Day

April 6, 2013



Front to back: Shay Ragsdale, Alexis Hernandez, Cassidy Cunningham, Brady FUMC youth



Pastor Colleen and youth lead worship at Hilda UMC.



Dear FUMC Mason,
Thank you so much for helping me get to Midwinter this year. I had a great time loaded with learning about God, and I can't wait to go back. Thanks to you, I am a better Christian.
Sincerely, *Jackson Chapman*



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

- Rev. Colleen Haley Pastor
- Dorothy Asbill.....Choir Director
- Marilyn Kahan.....Organist/Pianist
- Maureen Shanks.....Office Manager
- Margaret Brown.....Church Secretary
- Deandra Palacio.....Family, Youth and Children Director
- Art Davis.....Audio/Visual Technician
- Jennifer Row.....Steady Steps Director
- Isabel Rivera.....Custodian

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

Email: fumcmason@verizon.net (for church office) or
fumcbiz@verizon.net (for Financial Secretary)

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

Steady Steps Email jenniferjanerow@hotmail.com

