

April 2013



First United Methodist Church Mason, Texas



"When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked, but the angel said, "Don't be afraid. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid his body. Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you before he died." ~ Mark 16:5-7 (New Living Translation)



The women went to find Jesus' body in the tomb; instead they found a young man that scripture tells us was an angel. The look of shock must have registered on their faces because the angel's first words are, "Don't be afraid." Then the angel tells them that Jesus has risen from the dead, and he gives them a message – to go and tell the disciples – including Peter - to meet Jesus in Galilee. He even reminds them that Jesus had told them all of this would happen before he died!

Go tell the disciples – including Peter. Remember that Peter had denied he knew Jesus 3 times on the night he was arrested. He must have been feeling pretty badly after Jesus was crucified, probably swimming in the guilt of having let down his friend. But Jesus didn't die so that Peter could wallow in guilt. And the really great thing is this: Jesus didn't stay dead. He rose from the dead so that Peter – and all of us – could understand that things like guilt and blame are natural, but they are not permanent, and they are not meant to be carried around for very long. Jesus was moving forward despite the fact that he had been betrayed by one friend, denied 3 times by one, and abandoned by the rest of them as they scattered that night.

In the midst of Holy Week, and after Easter Sunday, we are blessed to know that Jesus is alive. The disciples had to wait for that news. We know it to be true every single day. We know that Jesus has overcome not only the chains of death, but also the prison of fear. It's pretty easy not to be afraid of death – if you are reading this right now, you haven't experienced it. But there are so many other things we are afraid of: losing a loved one to death; being alone; losing our independence; thinking that someone might actually find out that we are not, at our deepest level, who we portray ourselves to be; losing cherished friends and lifestyles due to our own actions. The disciples experienced all of these things. There are so many things people are afraid of!

Jesus not only gave his life for us – he also rose from the dead to prove that even life cannot be bound up, and to remind us that death does not have the final say. Because he lives, we are able to face the things that we are afraid of and walk in the assurance that nothing can overcome us. We can certainly experience discomfort and setbacks, but all of it is temporary. Even our happiness is temporary. The only constant in our lives is God. He is the only one we can truly count on not to abandon us, not to turn on us, not to walk away from us.

During this Easter season, let us remember that hope is the only thing that is stronger than fear. As the angel said to the women that day, "Don't be afraid...He is risen from the dead...Go and tell the others." Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! ~

Walking in Faith,
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
March 25, 2013

2013 Budget.....\$86,860.36
2013 Offering.....\$78,502.27

March Attendance

March 3.....195
March 10.....189
March 17.....204
March 24.....213

Parsonage Renovation Project

Estimated Cost: \$35,000
Parsonage Budget \$10,000.00
Parsonage Donations \$14,150.00

April Acolytes

April 7:

Megan Canfield & Blixen Hofmann

April 14:

Raegan & Makenna Palacio

April 21:

Blixen Hofmann & Madelyn Heath

April 28:

Kendra & Klay Klaerner

April Lay Readers

8:30 A.M.

David Scarth

10:50 A.M.

Rob Hofmann

April Ushers

8:30 A.M.

Willie Lyles

10:50 A.M.

John & Karen Olson

UNITED METHODIST



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, April 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.*

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

Does vitamin C really cure the common cold or is this just another old wives' tale? That old tale actually dates back to a book published in 1970 called Vitamin C and the Common Cold by Linus Pauling. The author was a chemist and a two-time Nobel Prize winner. His claim was that mega doses of vitamin C cured the common cold. However, he did not have any solid research to support the claim. Of course, the medical society loudly denounced him and the controversy was a great jump-start for his publicity. As a result, many bought into the theory and still do, even though there is still a lack of evidence. But wait! In 2007, a review of 60 years of studies did find that taking 200 milligrams of vitamin C every day, which is 2 to 3 times the recommended dosage, but still a safe dose, reduced the time spent sick from a cold from about 12 days to 11 days per year. The same dosage also seemed to reduce the incidence of colds in people who were under extreme stress by 50 percent. Pauling also believed that good health consisted of supplying the body with the proper balance of molecules needed for vital biochemical reactions. He called this approach orthomolecular medicine. That's a mouth full. Researchers today are excited about the antioxidant properties of vitamin C. An antioxidant is a substance that repairs cells by rebuilding molecules that are damaged during everyday activities. Hhhmmmm... well, there are some similarities between old wisdom and new research. Chat with you later-Ann

Steady Steps

**Weekday Children's Ministry
An Early Step Toward a Godly Walk**



Greetings from all of us at Steady Steps Children's Weekday Ministry. We are really enjoying the beautiful spring weather God has blessed us with. We are also pleased to report that Steady Steps continues to grow rapidly in this new spring season. The enrollment is up in all of our classrooms and the children are busy and moving. We would also like to thank everyone who has helped with our annual spring fundraising event. Many of you put in hours of hard work and dedication to make this event a success. Thank you!!! We would not be able to continue our ministry without the help and support of the church and its members. We are blessed to be a part of things here at First United Methodist Church. Please continue to pray for our program, that we would continue to grow and thrive and that we would be successful at teaching God's Word to all of our children. We hope this spring finds all of you happy and well, Jennifer and Tiffany



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

Marilyn Kahan, Eva Dell Grote, Yvonne Alba, Roger and Tommie Lou Luckenbach, John Earl family, Ruth Dannheim, Cynthia Hernandez, Willeda Rea, Aaron Reardon, Carolyn Smith, Jack Lee, Ernestine Galviz, Alex Grosse, Nancy Hierholzer, Bob Vacek, Mary Beam, Michelle Hinckley, Morgan Johnson, *Richard & Cindy Denison (Karen Olson's brother and his wife), Deborah Whitworth*

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



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

Youth



Children & Youth News

Submitted by Deandra Palacio (347-5105)

Easter Sunday School fun: On Sunday, March 31, we hope all of the children will join us during the Sunday school hour for a fun, Easter morning surprise! If you will have family or friends visiting with you that Sunday, please bring them with you! We hope to see everyone at 9:45 a.m. on Easter morning in the Sunday school wing!

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, April 7th. The children make the decisions on which missions to support each month. This past month we donated 500 filled Easter eggs to the City-wide Easter egg hunt sponsored by CASA.

UM ARMY Mission trip Fundraiser- The youth who will be attending the U.M. ARMY mission trip this summer from June 23-29 in Canyon Lake will be raising funds over the next couple of months to help with costs and enrollment for the trip. The details are still being worked out, so please watch the Sunday bulletins and announcements for more information. We pray that this will be a life-changing experience for all who attend. So far, those students signed up to attend are Evan Dayton, Jackson Chapman, Kendra Klaerner, Traci Jordan, Samantha Jordan, and Claudia Canfield. We still have a few more spots available if you know of a student who is interested in going. Adults going on the mission trip are Pastor Colleen Haley, Rick Ragsdale, Kim Jordan, and Deandra Palacio. Contact Deandra for more information.

Confirmation Retreat — On Saturday, April 6th, our three recently confirmed young ladies will attend the San Angelo District Confirmation Mission Day. We will begin our day at FUMC Mason, and finish at Hilda UMC. There will be several mission opportunities, music and games, and a Journey with Jesus that day. Please continue to pray for Shay Ragsdale, Raegan Glentz, and Alexis Hernandez as they continue their Christian walk.

We need a couple of large refrigerator-sized boxes for VBS. If you have one, please let Deandra know! Thank you!

On Sunday, April 7th, during the Sunday school hour, an adult class titled "What Does It Mean to be United Methodist?" will begin. The 5-week class will meet in room 104 in the Education wing. The lessons will begin with a video, followed by discussion. Whether you were born a Methodist or just started attending, you are welcome to come! The only thing you need to bring with you is a friend! John Palacio (325 347-5948) will lead the study and Pastor Colleen (325 347-5105) will join in when she is able. We hope to see you in class at 9:45 a.m.!



The parsonage is in need of some repairs and updating. We need approximately \$10,850 to meet our goal of \$35,000.
(An itemized list of needed repairs/updates is on the Social Hall bulletin board.)



**There will be an open house at the parsonage
on Sunday, April 14th from 1:30-4:30.
Everyone is invited! Come and enjoy!**

MISSIONS

FUMC brightened the lives of many families at the Food Bank for the March distribution. As an Easter project these families received fresh eggs, an Easter egg coloring kit, fresh fruit and healthy snacks, along with a scripture card wishing them Happy Easter from FUMC families to their families. There were approximately 78 families who came through the Food Bank on that day, which was during Spring Break. Usually, the number of families is closer to 90. But the Baptist church provided guitar music and were the volunteers in charge for the day. The children had a fun table where they could paint crosses and do other activities. So, it was a festive occasion. We are fortunate to have a great group of people who are working to make the Food Bank and their services more applicable and even enjoyable for the families. Our thanks go out to Cathy Terrell who spearheaded this Missions project for FUMC. We appreciate her time, energy and talent!

Judy Branch, Missions Co-Chairman



Youth and Family Director Deandra Palacio announced that 22 kids from Mason attended the Mid-Winter Camp at Mt. Wesley in February. A great time was had by all!



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.....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



Dear Church Family,
 Thank you for helping me be able to go to Midwinter Camp. I had a great time. Especially because there were twenty-two kids from Mason instead of two. My favorite time was worship and recreation time. Thanks again.
 Love, Raegan Palacio

Dear FUMC,
 Thank you for giving me the opportunity to go to my very first Mid Winter Camp. I had so much fun and it was a great experience. I met lots of people and we had great worship. Respectfully, Evan (Dayton)

Thank you so much for helping us attend midwinter! It was a great experience! Madelyn Glentz

Thank you so much for sending us to camp! Raegan Glentz



2013 CONFIRMANDS AND SPONSORS

Front row, left to right:

Raegan Glentz,
 Shay Ragsdale, Alexis Hernandez

Back row, left to right:

Rev. Colleen Haley, Judy Cordes,
 Amanda McMillan, Doreen Murphy

