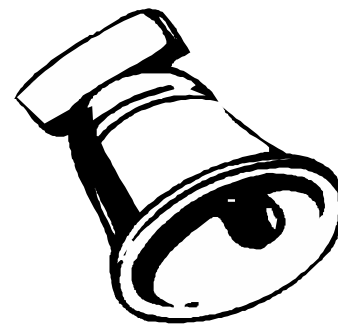




Christ United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 710
Levelland, TX 79336

THE BELL RINGER

February 2023



COMING IN FEBRUARY

Tuesdays, February 7 & 21 - Grief Support Group with Ann Akin in the parlor at 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 5 – Fifth Sunday After The Epiphany/Imagine No Malaria Sunday

Sunday, February 12 – Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany/Shared Ministries Sunday

Sunday, February 19 – Transfiguration Sunday

Monday, February 20 – Presidents Day – Office Closed

Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday – Office Closed – Ash Wednesday Service 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 26 – First Sunday In Lent

Monday, February 27 – Lenten Study – 6:15 p.m.



February Birthdays – LaShea Niblett- Feb. 3, Erica Montez - Feb. 10, Connie Verschuren – Feb. 20

A second order of memorial bricks is in the process.

The deadline to turn in orders is Wednesday, February 15th. Please contact Deborah Payne if interested in ordering.

Each brick is \$20, payable to Christ United Methodist Church.

The 2022 Directory is now Available In the Narthex.

Altar Flowers

Please consider donating flowers for the altar for worship service. A sign up chart is in the Fellowship Hall. You may donate flowers in honor or memory of someone if you desire.

Ash Wednesday

The office will be closed.
Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00 p.m.

Black History Month

Each Sunday during Black History month we will sing one hymn which comes from African-American Spirituals or hymns written by African-American lyricists or composers.

Lenten Study

Meetings will be held at Hickory Place each Monday at 6:15 p.m. starting February 27th. If interested please contact the church office.

A Word from the Pastor

Dear Guiding Saints,

On February 1, 2003, our nation experienced one of several heart-rending disasters that have pulled our hearts together to a unified moment of grief. This date was the occurrence of the Space Shuttle Columbia Disaster. Most north Texans remember vividly what happened as the shuttle broke apart and burned up streaking across the Texas sky. Each crew member was memorialized and our nation pondered the future of the space shuttle program. Sadness was prevalent in the news media for some time following the disaster. I think it is important to focus on a little known fact about the commander of the Columbia, Rick Husband.

Rick Husband was a man of faith who noted the wonder of God's creation several times during their mission. More importantly, his faith led him to responsibly tend to the raising of his children while he was away from home. The mission required him to be away from home for seventeen days. He undertook an act of faith that I am sure made an indelible impact on the lives of his children forever.

You see, Rick Husband recorded seventeen daily devotionals each for his son and daughter. Imagine their thoughts as they read each devotional from a father who was in space far away from planet earth. Imagine also their thinking when they realized after reading the last devotional that their father would not return. I can not fathom the depths of their grief. The testimony to God is that he had ensured that his children would be raised up, guided, if you will, to stand before the Lord as those enlightened by the beacon that is God's word.

I pray that as you begin the month of February and look up into the sky, you will remember what happened on February 1, 2003; not that the space shuttle broke apart, but that one man's faith was put forth for a new generation to experience Christian love.

In Philippians 1:6 we read the following: "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." Paul was writing this to the church at Philippi and encouraging them to stay true to the teachings they had heard and to continue following in the footsteps of those who had been their leaders. Like Rick Husband's children, we have been given a set of devotionals, hopefully read daily, that will sustain us until the day of Jesus Christ. May we stay true to our faith like those who have gone before us in the service of the Lord.

Reference:

<http://christianhistoryinstitute.org/it-happened-today/2/1>

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Dennis