



First United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 352 - 206 S. Dowling - Hallettsville, TX 77964
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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:40 a.m.

MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship): Wednesday - 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

"Helping God Make Disciples for Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World"

-Don't Miss It- Mark your Calendars!

April

10th & 11th – Directory
Photography Days

21st – District Celebration
in Bastrop

May

2nd – Lunch & Learn

19th – Spring Music Recital

20th – Confirmation Sunday

The season of Lent is done. I have so appreciated your stories of your Lenten experience of Spiritual Discipline this year.

What a blessing it is now to come through the season of waiting, the season of some kind of spiritual self-sacrifice, to the day of resurrection. What a blessing it is to come to that NEW day when nothing in all of God's creation would ever be the same.

In this holy season of Easter, we are reminded in so many ways that our thinking and God's thinking are very different. Our ways and God's ways are very different. Our human imagination about what is "possible" is very different from God's Holy Imagination about what "could be", about what "will be", about what "is".

The truth is that it is sometimes difficult for me to imagine what God can do for me, for us, for our families, our church, our community, our world.

Several years ago I decided to memorize a wonderful prayer that gives me words that allow me to ask God to transform my thinking – to transform my heart – to help me experience in some way God's Holy Imagination.

This is called the Prayer of St. Francis (of Assisi), though it was probably written anonymously in the early 1900's:



OUR PRAYER LIST

Family of Betty Abramson
Michael Aiken
Dean Anderson
Anne
Mary Ann Berger
Vern Brenton
Nicolette Cannata
Caroline
Lynn & James Catto
Cecil
Annie Cerny
Chase Cobb Cody
Cookie Crandall
Sarah Crawford
Family of George Davis
Evelyn Dixon
Judge Lee Duggan
Andy Evans
Anna Ruth Evans
Fella
Daniel Fric
Bob & Fannie Griffith
GG & family
Luke Haas
Family of Lisa Hastings
Rev. Dennis Herring
Logan Herrington
Gary Hester Family
Billy & Bobbie Hobbs
Lundy Hooten & Family
Sweet & Bill Hrcir
Jeanette Hunter
Jackie & young daughter
Kathy & Gary
Gary Janak
Jacob Janak & family
Jammie
Jerry
John
Kathy
Alene Wilson Kirklen
Phil & Brooke Klenne
Audrey Klmitchek
Michael Kopp & family
Callahan Lane-US Army
Joshua Leopold Family
Tom M.
Marlene
Gok McConnell
Pastor Melanie & Family
Mendez Family
Jeanette Middleton
Mike
Karen Myers
Noah
Robbie Norris
Odefey Family in Wharton
Cole Ohrt
Bob Page
Fonis & Margaret Payne
Peg
Joe P. Pelot
Jackie Powell
Benjamin Psencik
Renee
Mary Ann Reyes
Al Ringo

Prayer of St. Francis (of Assisi)

Lord make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy
O divine master grant that I may
not so much seek to be consoled as to console
to be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born to eternal life
Amen

I invite you to spend time reading this prayer and meditating on what it means to you. Maybe it would be inspiring to you, as it has been to me, to memorize these words.

May God's Holy Imagination guide every thing we think and say and do in this new time.

Pastor Melanie

Isaiah 43:18-19 (The Message)

"Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it?"

There are several open dates on the Flower Chart. If you are not currently in the yearly rotation and would like to provide flowers or plants, please call the church office or sign up on the chart in the church entryway.



Holy Week Community Service

The Annual Palm Sunday Ministerial Alliance Holy Week Community Service was hosted by First Baptist Church this year. Rev. Jared Stillions was our preacher. Thanks to each of you who was able to attend. It is a blessing to experience this worship gathering of Christians from many different denominations.

Family of Mason Rother
 Grady Sanders
 Sarah
 Frank & Sheila Saunders
 Geoffrey Seuser
 Karen Seuser
 Wilma Seuser
 Sherry
 Sierra
 Dean Stewart
 Shirley Taylor
 Vic
 Victor
 Jessie Villareal
 Wehling Family in Houston
 Richard Wehling
 DeDe Barnes Welder
 Jeanne Wilson
 Lauren Wilson
 Wanda Wright
 Lyn Wyatt
 Louise Wysatta
 Our Nation
 The World
 Drs, Patients & Families
 at MD Anderson
 All affected by Hurricane Harvey

New Additions:

Baby Azemia
 Barbra Horton
 Judy Evans - Surgery

Confirmation Class

We have a small but awesome Confirmation Class this year. Pastor Melanie teaches the classes joined by a youth mentor and an adult mentor.

In confirmation class, our young people learn about: God, Grace, Jesus, Sin-Atonement & Reconciliation, Holy Spirit, Prayer, The Bible, Decision Making, Sacraments, Worship, United Methodist Beliefs and structure, Mission, and Service.

Upcoming Celebration

Mark your calendar for our **Confirmation Celebration Lunch** for Sunday, May 20 right after worship.

This luncheon is usually a joint celebration of our graduates and our confirmands. This year we do not have any high school graduates – but we will have more next year.

The good news is the celebration of our confirmands is on. I hope you will plan to attend. This is a great time to invite family and friends and neighbors to enjoy the celebration of a joyful worship service and a delicious meal.

Many thanks to our Methodist Women for helping us prepare for this celebration! They provide the main dish, rolls, drinks and the cake for the meal! The rest of us are invited to bring favorite side dishes and desserts.

Worship Service Schedule

April	Greeter	Liturgist	A/V System	Acolytes
1	Cate Siragusa	Robert Lundy	Tullos Family	Lauren Lundy & Rylan Marak
8	Alice Vickers	Marvin Peterson	Dawn Jansky	Danna Jansky & Sophia Walker
15	Mary Ann Defibaugh	Carla Jones	Kristin Marak	Taylor & Christopher Kostelnik
22	Dick Nance	Beverly Nance	Sitka Family	Grace & Lora Parvin
29	Susan Housley	Ray Housley	Tullos Family	Emma & Juliet Davenport
May				
6	Mary Jane Swope	Robert Lundy	Dawn Jansky	Lauren Lundy & Danna Jansky
13	Diane Repka	Jason Cozza	Kristin Marak	Rylan Marak & Kelly Catto
20	Betty Jean Metzler	Lori Dyer	Sitka Family	Grace & Lora Parvin
27	Nancy Hunter	Stephen Hunter	Tullos Family	Emma & Juliet Davenport
June				
3	Cate Siragusa	Ray Housley	Dawn Jansky	Danna Jansky & Sophia Walker
10	Alice Vickers	Carla Jones	Kristin Marak	Rylan Marak & Kelly Catto
17	Mary Ann Defibaugh	Marvin Peterson	Sitka Family	Taylor & Christopher Kostelnik
24	Beverly Nance	Dick Nance	Tullos Family	Grace & Lora Parvin



Methodist Women

Our Methodist women meet twice each month, on the first and third Wednesdays at 10am in the Annex. You will be blessed every time you attend both by the fellowship AND the meaningful Bible studies.

You are invited!!

BE INCLUDED in our new family directory

There are still a few photography time slots available.

You can schedule your photo session by signing on the clipboard in the church entryway, online at www.hallettsvillefumc.org, or by calling the church office.

Photography Days are: Tuesday, April 10 and Wednesday, April 11 at 2 - 8:30pm.

If you are unable to participate in our directory photography event this year – but would like to be included, you may submit a high quality digital image (250 dpi preferred). Any professional photographs will need to have a Publication Authorization Form completed (please contact the church office).

If you have any questions, please contact Christie in the church office.

Don't wait - sign up NOW!

Let's gather together and celebrate!

Focus on Fruitfulness

Crossroads District Celebration

April 21, 2018

3:30pm District Conference

4:30pm Celebration Banquet

Special Offering

Lydia Patterson Institute

Bastrop Convention Center
1408 Chestnut St, Bastrop, TX 78602

RSVP/Pay: 361-573-4233

Celebration Banquet \$15/person

Crossroads District Celebration

The Annual District Celebration will be at Bastrop Convention Center on Saturday April 21st. Make plans to join us as we celebrate with Bishop Schnase the trials we have overcome, the strength and support shown throughout the Crossroads District and the growth, rebuilding and fruitfulness that is happening!

We will begin with District Conference at 3:30 pm (no cost) followed with the Banquet at 4:30 pm.

Thank
you!

The MYF leaders would like to thank everyone who so generously donated to our fundraiser Bake Sale benefiting the Manna Food Pantry. The total amount collected through sales and donations was \$1,452! We appreciate your continued support of our youth program and their service projects.



Methodist Youth Fellowship

Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) Wednesday evenings - 5:30-7pm

We begin each evening with a meal and some outdoor play (when possible).

All ages then gather in the sanctuary for music.

PreK (age 4) through 8th grades meet for interactive praise, worship, sermon, and learning.

Our high school youth gather in their own space for a lesson and fellowship time together.

Palm Sunday/Youth Sunday - The youth participated in the "procession of palms", provided special music and led various parts of the service.

Good Friday Bake Sale Fundraiser benefiting the Manna Food Pantry - Jr High and High School aged youth along with MYF Leaders gathered in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday after school for a baking frenzy. They prepared and packaged goodies for the bake sale. On Good Friday morning at 7:30am, work teams of youth and parents gathered at Walmart to help out. The Bake Sale was a huge success - \$1452 and 56 non-perishable canned goods were collected.

It is so wonderful to see the leadership of our children and youth in their church and community!

