

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!**

December

8th – Music Ministry Program

9th – Annual MYF Christmas Program & Lunch

24th – Christmas Eve Service at 5:pm

**Music Ministry
Christmas Program
December 8 @ 11am**



1 Corinthians 13 – The Christmas Version

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights, and shiny balls; but do not have love, I'm just another decorator.

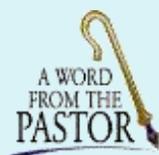
If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals, and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime; but do not have love, I'm just another cook.

If I work at a soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity; but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels, and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties, and sing in the choir's cantata; but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the spouse. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love does not envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens. Love does not yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love does not give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who cannot. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love never fails.



OUR PRAYER LIST

Carol Aiken
Herb Aiken
Justin Aiken
Kathleen Aiken Cullen
Kay Aiken
Michael Aiken
Dean Anderson
Mary Ayraud
JoAnn & Eddie Baker & Family
John & Carol Beck
Mary Ann Berger
Peg Bigger
Dorothy Boggus
Anne & Vern Brenton
Eric Brookhouser Family
Virginia Carr
Family of James Catto
Ann Cerny
Colors of Hope Ministry
Tamara Davis
Daniel Drozd
Michael Drozd
Johnny Durham
Esterlita Englis
Andy Evans
Anna Ruth Evans
Jeff Evans
Beth Foulds
Daniel Fric
Francis Glueck
Bob & Fannie Griffith
Family of Ronnie Haddock
Wilbern Hairell
Hamel Family
Hannah
Dorothy Harris
Justin Hastings & 3 daughters
Family of George Hazelett
Emma Henke
Logan Herrington-Army
Billy & Bobbie Hobbs
Lundy Hooten & Family
Karla Housley
Bill & Sweet Hrcir
Edward Garcia
Isaac
John
Brooke & Phil Klemme
Peter Klemme
Carolyn Kubecka
Charles Jahn
Gary Janak
Casey & Layna Jones
Cody Jones
Evelyn Lishinski
Renee Loden
Kathy
Geary Lyons
Marlene
Maryah
Kathy Matthews
Russell & Cathy McGehee
Jana McMillan
Pastor Melanie & Family
Karen Myers
Tyler & Ashley Nelson
Cory & Cindy Odefey & Family

Toys will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust; but giving the gift of love will endure.



For
God so
loved the
world that
he gave his
one and only
Son, that whoever
believes in him shall
not perish but have
eternal life.

John
3:16

May the Love of God shine bright in your life every moment in this Holy Season of Christmas!

Christmas blessings to you and yours!

Pastor Melanie

WOMEN'S FALL COFFEE

The Women's Fall Coffee was delightful this year. Soups and sandwiches, indescribably delicious baked goods, and a bountiful Country Store were enjoyed by all who attended. Drive Thru breakfast tacos and cinnamon rolls were a big hit!

Many thanks to our faithful Methodist Women for sharing your gifts of planning and designing and organizing this wonderful event. Your dedication is inspiring.

Many thanks to each of you who decorated, who prepared food, AND who cleaned up before, during and after.

Most of all, thank you for sharing the loving, welcoming heart of Jesus in our midst. Thank you for sharing that love with every person who walked through our doors.

God bless you all.



Worship Service Schedule				
December	Greeter	Liturgist	A/V System	Acolytes
2	Betty Jean Metzler	Robert Lundy	Kristin Marak	Rylan Marak & Sophia Walker
9	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth
16	Nancy Hunter	Stephen Hunter	Sitka Family	Grace & Lora Parvin
23	Betty Williams	Ray Housley	Tullos Family	Emma & Juliet Davenport
30	Cate Siragusa	Marvin Peterson	Dawn Jansky	Danna Jansky & Lauren Lundy
January				
6	Bob & Elaine Pakebusch	Jason Cozza	Dick Nance	Kate & Ava Caldwell
13	Dent & Shirley Taylor	Lori Dyer	Kristin Marak	Lydia & Wyatt Kram
20	Helen Sadler	Robert Lundy	Sitka Family	Lauren Lundy & Sophia Walker
27	Mary Ann Defibaugh	Bev Nance	Tullos Family	Noah & Tyler Ploch
February				
3	Susan Housley	Ray Housley	Dawn Jansky	Trevor Phillip & C. Kostelnik
10	Mary Jane Swope	Jason Cozza	Dick Nance	Grace & Lora Parvin
17	Diane Repka	Lori Dyer	Kristin Marak	Kate & Ava Caldwell
24	Betty Jean Metzler	Robert Lundy	Sitka Family	Emma & Juliet Davenport

Christmas Services - Mark Your Calendars – And Join Us!

Advent . . . The first four Sundays of December are Sundays of waiting. We will have wonderful services on each of these four Sundays. We will focus on waiting for Jesus in hope, waiting for Jesus in peace, waiting for Jesus with joy, and on that fourth Sunday – waiting for Jesus with love. Come! Worship! Be blessed!

MYF Christmas Program & Lunch . . . You do not want to miss the second Sunday, in particular. On **December 9**, our MYF Youth and Children will offer their annual Christmas Program during worship. Invite your family. Invite your friends. Invite your neighbors. Your hearts will be warmed as we share in the true meaning of Christmas on that day. Plan to stay afterward for our **Christmas Lunch**. We will provide turkey, ham, rolls, and dressing. You are invited to bring your favorite side.



Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT
SERVICE

Christmas Eve . . . This Annual Candlelight Christmas Eve Service is Monday, December 24, at 5pm. We will be done with worship in plenty of time for Christmas Eve celebrations afterward.

We will hear the Christmas story. There will be plenty of singing. This service is a perfect time to invite family, friends and neighbors to your church. The highlight of the service will be the singing of Silent Night in candlelight.



SAFE
GATHERINGS

WE HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED!!!

Hallettsville First United Methodist Church along with 145 Rio Texas Conference Churches (out of approximately 400) have been recognized by Safe Gatherings. Safe Gatherings partners with the Rio Texas Annual Conference in the process of certifying congregations, staff and volunteers in their Trusted con Confianza child, youth and adult safety program. Safe Gatherings recognizes churches that have demonstrated a sincere commitment to the program. Recognized congregations are selected based on the number or percentage of people certified through the program and will receive special window clings so members and guest can be made aware of the church's commitment to the safety of children, youth and vulnerable adults. **HFUMC currently has 35 certified individuals!**

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Beginning in October, a team of folks from this church has been working with a consultant from our Conference office in San Antonio on a very special project. 28 churches from the conference are participating. We meet in groups of four each month with a very specific focus.

Our task is to plan and execute two events, one in the season of Christmas, and one in the spring. The purpose of each event is to find innovative ways to reach out to families in our area who do not have a church home.

Here is the plan for Christmas: We will advertise and host a Live Music Christmas Singalong at the Gazebo on December 19, 6:30-7pm. The Methodist Women will serve hot chocolate and cookies. We will have candy canes and a craft project for the kids. We will sing a mixture of Christian and secular Christmas songs. We invite all who are interested to play with the band and to help lead singing. We will have a drawing for some nice Christmas gifts for kids. We will give invitation cards to everyone who attends. AND we will post our Christmas Eve worship service yard signs around the gazebo just for that evening.

The conference is providing a scholarship to fund this event. We hope every single person from the church will participate in some way. Come. Sing. Pray. Visit with people you don't know who come that night. Invite them with your words and with your actions.

May God bless this amazing opportunity to reach new people for Jesus!





Methodist Youth Fellowship

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

**MYF will be taking a break during the Christmas Season and will resume on January 9.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all!**

November - Our service project for November was a "Veterans Appreciation & Special Worship Service. MYF youth and volunteers invited family, friends, neighbors and congregation members. Guests were welcomed by our youth and volunteers. A delicious fried chicken meal was served by our kitchen volunteers - our high school assisting with drinks.

Following the meal, the group joined together in the sanctuary. Our young people offered prayers and a litany and a reading of the names of Veterans in attendance. The service closed with the singing of GOD BLESS AMERICA. After the service everyone enjoyed cake back in the fellowship hall and our elementary kids gave out handmade cards to all the veterans.

Thank you to all mentors, volunteers and youth who helped make this service project a huge success!

December - Our annual MYF Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 9 during the worship service.

