



First United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 352 - 206 S. Dowling - Hallettsville, TX 77964
Office: (361)798-2650 E-mail: hfumc@sbcglobal.net www.hallettsvillefumc.org

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!

March

28th – MYF Easter
Celebration

29th – Maundy Thursday
Service

30th – Good Friday Service

30th – MYF Bake Sale

April

21st – District Celebration
in Bastrop

As I walk my own Lenten Journey with a focus on doing my part to Keep Jesus in My Heart, I am grateful for the gift of salvation (ie – the gift of a relationship of love and forgiveness and acceptance now and forever in heaven) that God gives because I believe and seek to follow Jesus.

The true meaning of Easter is the joy of this gift of salvation. This gift – this joy -- of Easter (coming up on April 1) is extraordinary – nearly unimaginable – incomparable – outrageous – nearly indescribable. Know what I mean?

Yet as followers of Jesus Christ – called to share the Good News of Jesus (in some way) everywhere we go with everyone we meet, it is vital that we find meaningful ways to talk about what Jesus has done for us.

From a human perspective it can be hard for us to explain to ourselves, much less to anyone else, certain parts of our story, particularly the story of the suffering – that Jesus endured on our behalf – Why did Jesus have to go through all of that?

I found a wonderful story (author unknown) on the internet that has been so helpful to me. Maybe you will find it helpful too.

“There was a pastor from a small rural congregation who visited an old farmer from time to time in an attempt to share the gospel with him.

“Each time the farmer would tell the pastor, “I believe in God. It is impossible not to when you look around at the beauty of this earth and the way in which life is created. It’s just Jesus I don’t understand. Why would a perfect and all powerful God have to come down as a man, and then die, just to make things right.”



OUR PRAYER LIST

Family of Andy Anderson
Dean Anderson
Anne
Mary Ann Berger
Vern Brenton
Nicolette Cannata
Caroline
Lynn & James Catto
Cecil
Annie Cerny
Cody
Cookie Crandall
Jayden Darilek
Evelyn Dixon
Andy Evans
Anna Ruth Evans
Fella
Bob & Fannie Griffith
GG & family
Luke Haas
Rev. Dennis Herring
Logan Herrington
Billy & Bobbie Hobbs
Lundy Hooten & Family
Sweet & Bill Hrcncir
Jeanette Hunter
Jackie & young daughter
Kathy & Gary
Gary Janak
Jacob Janak & family
Jammie
Jerry
John
Alene Wilson Kirklen
Phil & Brooke Klenne
Michael Kopp & family
Tom M.
Marlene
Gok McConnell
Pastor Melanie & Family
Mendez Family
Noah
Robbie Norris
Odefey Family in Wharton
Cole Ohrt
Grace Parvin (eye infection)
Fonis & Margaret Payne
Peg
Joe P. Pelot
Jackie Powell
Renee
Heidi Rother
Grady Sanders
Sarah
Geoffrey Seuser
Karen Seuser
Wilma Seuser
Sierra
Dean Stewart
Vic
Victor
Jessie Villareal
Jerry & Margie Webb
Wehling Family in Houston
Richard Wehling
DeDe Barnes Welder
Jeanne Wilson

"The pastor was never able to come up a personally satisfactory answer.

"Then one night, as the farmer was sitting in his living room, he heard a thump on his window. He went to see what it was and outside he saw a group of birds floundering in the snow. They were trying to get into the warmth but they couldn't figure out how, and so they were dying in the snow.

"So the farmer went outside and opened his barn doors, and turned on the lights, and tried to herd the birds into the warmth of the barn, because he realized it was their only hope for salvation. But the more he tried to direct them the more they scattered.

"At that point the farmer thought, if only I could become one of them then I could lead them into the warmth. At that moment, he had an epiphany, and he fell to his knees and accepted Christ as his savior."

What a remarkable understanding that farmer gained on that cold winter's night! Jesus was able to save us because he became one of us – just like us.

Son of God – AND Son of Mary – Jesus became one of us – born a helpless baby – learned and grew from child to youth to adult – just like us. Jesus ate and drank and slept – just like us. He experienced joy and suffering – life (and when it was time) death – just like us.

And that is how God did it! His Son gets us - Jesus understands us – and instead of trying to figure out how to make us do what he wants us to do so our souls can be with Him forever, God's Son Jesus is able to lead us to Him.

Jesus does this for you. He does this for me. And we who are followers do our part to help Jesus do this for all of his children in all places and in all times.

May this be a truly blessed season of Lent for you and yours. May the joy of knowing who Jesus is and what he has done for you be evident in some way – everywhere you go – with everyone you meet.

God bless you.

Pastor Melanie

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.



Community Holy Week Service

This year the annual Ministerial Alliance Holy Week Service will be hosted by the First Baptist Church at 3pm. Clergy from all of the Hallettsville area churches will participate in the leadership of this ecumenical service. Rev. Jared Stillons of St. Peter Lutheran Church will be preaching.

Please make plans to attend. You will be blessed.



Order Your Easter Lilies!

Easter Sunday is April 1st and we will be decorating our church with Easter Lilies in celebration of Christ's resurrection. If you would like to purchase a lily in memory or in honor of a loved one or someone special, call the church office or complete the order form in Sunday's bulletin. Please place your order by Monday, March 26. The cost is \$16.50.

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:

Family of Laverne Klesel
 Family of Betty Abramson
 Family of George Davis
 Michael Aiken
 Daniel Fric
 Bob Page
 Family of Billy Graham
 Sarah Crawford
 Shirley Taylor
 Gary Hester Family
 Al Ringo

Confirmation Class

Our new Confirmation class will begin on Sunday, March 18, 2018. The group will meet for 2 hours on Sundays right after church. In our classes we will learn about God, grace, Jesus, Sin-Atonement-Reconciliation, the Holy Spirit, prayer, the Bible, Christian decision making, the sacraments, worship, Methodist beliefs, and mission and service. Confirmation Sunday is planned for May 20. Blessings to all who will be part of this class.



Valentine's Day Celebration & Congregation Appreciation Lunch

Worship Service Schedule

March	Greeter	Liturgist	A/V System	Acolytes
4	Betty Jean Metzler	Jason Cozza	Dawn Jansky	Danna Jansky & Kelly Catto
11	Carla Jones	Lori Dyer	Kristin Marak	Sophia Walker & Rylan Marak
18	Nancy Hunter	Stephen Hunter	Sitka Family	Emma & Juliet Davenport
25	Youth	Youth	Youth	Grace & Lora Parvin
April				
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



Mossy Grove

Easter Sunrise Service

Mossy Grove United Methodist Church invites you to attend the fourth annual Easter Sunrise Service at 7am on April 1, 2018. Mossy Grove United Methodist Church is located at 6083 CR 1.

Looking out over the lovely countryside and the beauty of God's creation, as the darkness turns to light, hearing the birds and the beasts greet the morning, is a powerful expression of God's love and the promise of life now and forever in heaven.

Some chairs and benches are available. You are welcome to bring your own chairs as well. It is absolutely okay to bring a blanket if you need one!

Everyone is invited to stay for fellowship and refreshments afterward.



MYF March Service Project

benefitting the Manna Food Pantry

A Bake Sale will be held on
Friday, March 30th
in front of Walmart starting at 7:30am.

Ways you can help:

-Donate-

\$\$\$ • Baked Goods • Homegrown Vegi's • Fresh Eggs • Canned Goods
- Come out that morning and buy some goodies! -

The MYF leaders ask each congregation family to please bring at least **one** baked item. Donations can be dropped off at the church office on Thursday, March 29th.

Thank you for your support!



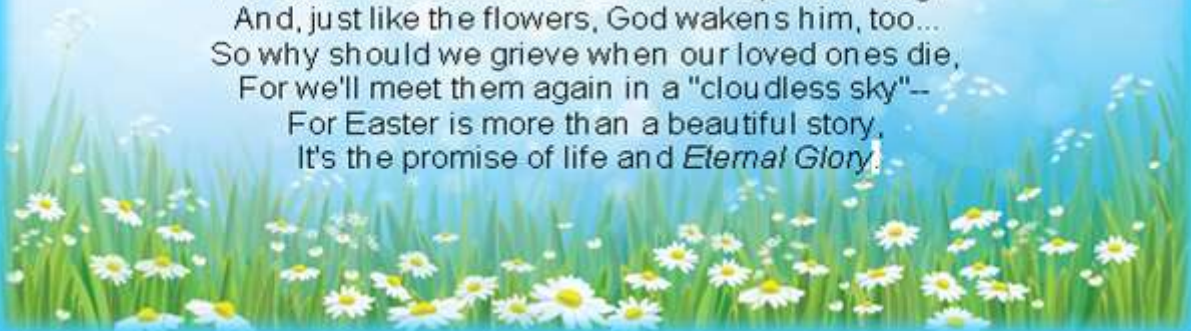
Youth
Sunday



Each Spring, God Renews His Promise

by Helen Steiner Rice

Long, long ago in a land far away,
There came the dawn of the first Easter Day.
And each year we see that *promise* reborn
That God gave the world on that first Easter Morn...
For in each waking flower and each singing bird,
The *Promise of Easter* is witnessed and heard,
And *Spring* is God's way of speaking to men
And renewing the promise of Easter again,
For death is a season that man must pass through
And, just like the flowers, God wakens him, too...
So why should we grieve when our loved ones die,
For we'll meet them again in a "cloudless sky"--
For Easter is more than a beautiful story,
It's the promise of life and *Eternal Glory*.



BE INCLUDED in our new family directory



Dear Families & Friends,

To celebrate our church family and strengthen the bond within our congregation, we welcome you to be a part of our upcoming new directory. We need you to make our directory complete!

A new directory :

- preserves this special time in the life of our church
- becomes a lasting record of our current membership
- helps us connect faces with names.

We are partnering with Lifetouch for this important project. Lifetouch is providing the directory at no cost to our church. Every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8x10 portrait.

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.

For your convenience, all photography and portrait viewing will take place at our church with no sitting fee. You will have a variety of poses taken and one pose will be selected for the directory. In addition to your complimentary 8x10, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits on the day of your portrait session. Lifetouch's portrait price lists are available in the church office for those who would like them prior to photography.

Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to be professionally photographed. We are looking forward to seeing you in our directory. We are encouraging 100% participation.

Your photography session will take about an hour, during which time you will check-in, be photographed and view your portraits.

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

Note: Online scheduling will be turned off on weekends to allow sign-up during Sunday worship.

Don't wait - sign up NOW!



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.

February Service Project – Nursing Home Visit

On Wednesday, February 7, all of our MYF youth, mentors and volunteers met at Hallettsville Nursing and Rehab Center. They gathered with the residents in the dining room for singing and then handed out handmade crafts. Everyone then met back at the Fellowship Hall for pizza and ice cream.



Youth Sunday – Our faithful and committed young people provided all of the leadership for our February 11th Sunday morning service.



March – Youth Service on Palm Sunday, MYF Easter Celebration and Bake Sale Service Project! **Bake Sale will be held on Friday, March 30 at 7:30am** in front of Walmart. All MYF families are encouraged to donate an item for the sale. Youth and volunteers will also be baking in the Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, March 29 starting at 4:30pm**. Mark your calendar for both these days!



Palm Sunday -

~All MYF Youth and Families~
Join us for Palm Sunday Service on March 25.

Please be here by 10:30am to line up
for the “Waving of the Branches” procession.

Youth will be leading various parts of the worship service.

MYF Annual Easter Celebration

Wednesday, March 28

Meal at 5:30pm followed by Egg Hunt & Games

MYF Youth, Parents & Family and HFUMC Congregation
are all welcome!

