



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!

November

1st – Fall Coffee & Country
Store, 7-1pm

7th – Lunch & Learn
@ 11:30am

7th – MYF Veteran's
Appreciation @ 5:30pm

20th – Community
Thanksgiving Service

December

8th – Music Ministry Recital

9th – Annual MYF Christmas
Program & Lunch

24th – Christmas Eve Service
at 5:pm

I love November. November brings one of my very favorite holidays. November is my birthday month. November is Christie's birthday month. November is the birthday month of one of my daughters. November is the month when as a nation we have set aside a time to express our gratitude for the many blessings we have received. I love November.

This is a wonderful season for each of us to take time to reflect on our blessings, to tell God thank you for giving us every single thing we have, for making each of us who we are.

This is also a wonderful season to reflect on and to make conscious decisions about how we will choose to tell God thank you for these blessings in the new year which will be here before we know it.

There are many ways to tell God thank you. We tell God thank you in our prayers of thanksgiving. We tell God thank you in our songs of praise. We tell God thank you in the acts of kindness (acts sometimes small – sometimes huge) we offer to the people around us every day. We tell God thank you every time we just show up to see what might happen today, wherever we may be.

One of my favorite ways to say thank you to God is through giving. It brings me great joy to put my gift to the church first on the list when I sit down to pay my monthly bills.



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 Brenton
Vern Brenton
Virginia Carr
Family of James Catto
Ann Cerny
Colors of Hope Ministry
Tamara Davis
Daniel Drozd
Johnny Durham
Esterlita Englis
Andy Evans
Anna Ruth Evans
Jeff Evans
Beth Foulds
Daniel Fric
Family of Wade Gawlik
Francis Glueck
Bob & Fannie Griffith
Family of Robert & Gloria Haas
Hamel Family
Hannah
Dorothy Harris
Justin Hastings & 3 daughters
Emma Henke
Dennis Herring
Logan Herrington-Army
Billy & Bobbie Hobbs
Lundy Hooten & Family
Karla Housley
Bill & Sweet Hrcncr
Edward Garcia
Isaac
John
Sheldon Johnson & Family
Brooke & Phil Klemme
Peter Klemme
Lori Ishell
Charles Jahn
Gary Janak
Casey & Layna Jones
Cody Jones
Evelyn Lishinski
Renee Loden
Kathy
Marlene
Maryah
Russell & Cathy McGehee
Jana McMillan
Pastor Melanie & Family
Grandmother of Heather Mears
Jonell Mears
Karen Myers
Tyler & Ashley Nelson
Cory & Cindy Odefey & Family

I believe that I have been blessed to be a blessing. The truth is giving to God helps me in ways that I have not always understood clearly. As I thank God with my giving, I am blessed. Here are some of the blessings that come back to me:

- Giving to God brings order to my life and to my finances.
- Giving to God first, reminds me that God has first place in my life.
- Giving to God, stretches my faith.
- Giving to God reminds me that I am not in control but God is.
- I get to be part of the celebration when my giving helps make it possible for another person's life to be changed
- Giving to God is a way of modeling Biblical stewardship for the people around me.
- Giving to God breaks the grip of greed and selfishness in my life.
- Giving to God gives me a way to invest in something much bigger than me that will last much longer than me.
- Giving to God helps me discover that I can never out give God!

I invite you to spend some time reflecting on the ways God has blessed you and also to reflect on the ways you tell God "thank you".

There is a wonderful scripture from the Sermon on the Mount, from Luke **6:37-38 (NLT)** that speaks to us about the blessings that come when we offer God our thanks through our words and our actions:

³⁷ "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸ Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back."

May God bless you abundantly! Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Melanie



**Nursery Attendant
Needed for Sunday
Worship Services.
Please contact the
church office for more
information.**

Reformation Sunday

Pastor Melanie enjoyed participating in the Annual Reformation Festival held at Zion Lutheran Church this year. It is so good to remember our history in the faith and the leadership role Protestant churches have played in things like bringing the Bible to God's people in their own language.



Chesley Parvin
 Leslie Gene Parvin
 Paula Patterson
 Rudy Perez
 Msgr. John Peters
 Jackie Powell
 David Rakes
 Grady Sanders
 Family of Lucille Sanders
 Sarah
 Peggy Scherer
 Kay Seaff
 Geoffrey Seuser
 Karen Seuser & Family
 Wilma Seuser
 Sierra
 Fritzi Simon
 Brandie Sorensen & Family
 Cate Siragusa & family
 James & Melissa Smith
 Lauren Smith
 June Strickland
 Leon Svetlik
 Lawrence Teaff
 Cheryl Thacker
 Vic

Victor
 Howard Wagner
 DeDe Barnes Welder
 Diane Weise
 Family of Joe Weir
 Cynthia Werner
 Don & Claudia Williams
 Lauren Wilson
 Lyn Wyatt
 Our Nation
 The World
 Drs, Patients & Families
 at MD Anderson

All affected by Hurricane Harvey

New Additions:

Michael Drozd
 Eric Brookhouser Family

Administrative Board Meeting Highlights – September 2018

- Approved the use of Fellowship Hall by CASA for youth Christmas Party on December 13 at no fee.
- Advertisement for Nursery Attendant will be placed in local paper.
- Trustees approved paying for off duty police officers for Back to School Blessing.
- New “all age” choir is now part of the Music Ministry.
- Parking lot paving was inspected and bad seal job was reported. Additional information will be gathered.
- No further action will be taken on pursuing air conditioning/furnace service contracts.
- Cabinets in FH are not set up for locks. Church supplies and cooking appliances have been moved to locked closets.
- Approved the purchase of a new floor scrubber up to \$200.
- Rental guidelines for the Annex and Fellowship Hall were reviewed. Rental fees will remain the same. Reservation/Cleaning deposit will be increased. Decorating/Setup fee will be initiated. A/V system in the FH will be available with an additional fee. Contract users will be able to continue the use of A/V system without fee.

Flood Buckets

Many thanks to each of you who contributed items and/or money to assist with the much needed flood bucket project. About 35 people gathered after worship on Sunday, October 28, to fill up 30 buckets for our neighbors in need.



A quick pizza and salad lunch was enjoyed by all. Thanks to all who helped Kenneth Swope and Christie Wheelock make this a special time and truly useful time together.

Youth Mission Trip



Plans are underway for a Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic in June of 2019. You will be hearing more about this in the weeks and months to come.

Community Thanksgiving Service

Each year the Hallettsville Ministerial Alliance hosts an ecumenical, community-wide Thanksgiving Service. The service this year will be held at St. James Episcopal Church, 1103 East 4th Street, at 7pm. Afterward there will be a time of fellowship and refreshments. What a wonderful way to begin this season of living in gratitude for all that God has done for us!

Christmas Eve Service - It is not too early to mark your calendars for the Annual Christmas Eve Service here at First United Methodist Church of Hallettsville. The service will be held on Monday, December 24, 2018, at 5pm in the sanctuary. The decorations will be lovely and inspiring. The music will be spectacular. The fellowship will be warm and inviting. And the service will close with singing by candlelight. This is a service you will not want to miss. It is a great time to invite family, and friends, and acquaintances as we worship the newborn Savior and King.

At the annual MYF Christmas Program and Lunch on Sunday, December 9, we will distribute yard signs inviting people to this service. Even if you live out in the county, you can put them up. People will notice them, we promise. Be sure to pick up a sign that Sunday if you can. If you cannot be there that Sunday, yard signs will be available in the church office.

| Worship Service Schedule | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| November | Greeter | Liturgist | A/V System | Acolytes |
| 4 | Dick Nance | Beverly Nance | Kristin Marak | Emma & Juliet Davenport |
| 11 | Susan Housley | Ray Housley | Sitka Family | Sophia Walker & Kelly Catto |
| 18 | Mary Jane Swope | Jason Cozza | Tullos Family | Grace & Lora Parvin |
| 25 | Diane Repka | Lori Dyer | Dawn Jansky | Danna Jansky & C. Kostelnik |
| December | | | | |
| 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 |

Festival of Lights Christmas Pageant – Passion Play

One of the truly unique treasures of Hallettsville, Texas, is our annual Christmas Pageant on the courthouse square. The truth is it is a Passion Play which tells the story of Jesus from the promise of his birth all the way through his death and resurrection. Pastors from the community play the parts of the disciples of Jesus. Other roles are filled by folks from the community.

Mark your calendars to attend this event and invite family and friends to attend. The Pageant will be held on: **Saturday, November 24, 2018, on the courthouse square immediately following the Christmas parade.**

If you would like to play a role in the pageant - practice schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, November 8 @ 7pm (KC Hall Pavilion)
 - Monday, November 12 @ 7pm (KC Hall Pavilion)
 - Thursday November 15 @7pm (KC Hall Pavilion)
 - Monday, November 19 @7pm (Courthouse Square dress rehearsal)
 - Saturday, November 24 @ 3pm (Courthouse Square final walkthrough)
- (Children under the age of 15 must have an adult participate in the play with them.)



Youth Sunday - Thank you to every child and young person who assisted in leadership in any way on Sunday, October 28. Your church family is so proud to see each of you becoming more and more the followers of Jesus God created you to be.

We simply could not offer such wonderful opportunities without the steadfast, faithful work of our MYF Coordinator Christie Wheelock, our MYF Team of Dawn Jansky, Kristin Marak, Brenda Sitka, and Sara Repka, our facilities coordinator and kitchen guru Kenneth Swope AND all of our adult leaders, mentors and parents. You are truly doing your part to help God make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. God bless you! Thank you!



**Save the Date – Saturday, December 8
Music Ministry Recital**

St. Nicholas Ministry 2018 – Lavaca County

Each year churches and community organizations of Hallettsville work together to care for those in need in the season of Christmas. Beginning Sunday, November 11, you will find a St. Nicholas box in the entry way to the sanctuary.

We will begin **collecting new toys for children, assorted non-perishable food items, blankets/quilts and other items for their families and elderly for the St. Nicholas Ministry on that Sunday.**

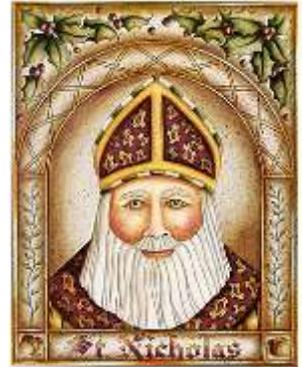
Food items needed are canned meats (ham, chicken, roast beef, stew, chili, etc.) canned vegetables & fruits, juices, bags of rice, beans, pasta, cereals, spaghetti sauces, boxes of macaroni & cheese, flour, sugar, oil and other basic food items & others non-perishable items.

Monetary donations are also gratefully received. Make donations payable to TCCM—St. Nicholas Fund, P.O. Box 913, Hallettsville, Texas 77964. You may send your donation directly or we can forward your gifts to them if that is more convenient for you.

Help is also needed wrapping gifts, and sorting items into boxes, and distribution of gifts. Gift items will be prepared at the Lillie Appelt Youth Center during the week of December 2-7. Distributions will be made on Saturday, December 8.

Recipients are identified ONLY through a referral process from local Pastors and social service organizations.

We hope that everyone in this congregation will participate in some way as our whole community joins hands in remembering the reason for the season.



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 6th grades meet for interactive praise, worship, sermon, and learning.

Our 7th/8th grade youth and high school youth each gather in their own space for a lesson and fellowship time together.

October

Food, Fun & Fellowship – MYF Annual Fall Festival was held on October 24. Fun times were had by all! The evening started with a brief worship service of thankfulness followed by tasty burgers prepared by our awesome kitchen crew. Then it was time to bring on the games! We were prepared for the rainy night and all games were moved inside. All ages of our MYF kids and their families had a great time. There were plenty of fun things to do and lots of great prizes. Special thanks to Dawn Jansky for her creative vision of this event, to our MYF leaders for their organization and to our mentors and volunteers for helping it to all come together.

Service Project - We are proud of our youth and adults who helped the Lutheran Church by staffing a booth at their Annual Halloween Carnival at the park. The crowds were great. A good time was had by all.

Youth Sunday – October 28 - It was great to see our youth assisting with various parts of the worship service. Growing leaders!

November

Service Project –Veterans Appreciation Meal and Special Worship Service on November 7.

December

Our annual MYF Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 9 during the worship service. All age youth will participate. Parts will be assigned soon!



