



The Midweek Visitor

First United Methodist Church

Our mission is to lead persons to Christ and disciple believers

March 14, 2018

(931) 728-4624

(615) 521-3346

Serving the people of Manchester since 1813
Senior Pastor, Rev. Randall T. Brown



Please be advised that the Trustee's have a very sensitive issue before them.

This is the same issue that schools face.

This is the same issue that air lines face.

This is the same issue that public buildings face.

This is the same issue that movie theaters face.

This is the same issue that athletic stadiums face.

This is the same issue that restaurants face.

This is the same issue that entertainment venues face.

This is the same issue that convenience market's face.

The issue is security, please rest assured that the Trustees of Manchester First United

Methodist Church are making every effort to have a safe Open Door policy and plan

for you, your family, our guest, and members whenever anyone is on our campus.

Prayerfully,

Randy Brown

Inspiring Stewardship

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10). In our last article as part of this year’s stewardship emphasis, we saw that God is the owner of everything and that we are managers and stewards of what God has given us. We considered how each of us has been given gifts

of time and talents as blessings of God’s grace. We also learned about the importance of using these gifts for God’s glory, for the good of others, and for the ministry here at First United Methodist Church. In addition to time and talents, God has also given us financial resources. For most of us, this means working to secure monetary gain. But make no mistake about it: According to Deuteronomy chapter 8, God gives us the ability to earn money. According to King Solomon, even work itself is a gift from God (Eccl. 5:19) In fact, everything we have — even the air we breathe in order to be able to work — is a gift that has been temporarily loaned to us by God. All of us know the old saying, “You can’t take it with you.” That’s why whatever we are going to do with the financial resources God has entrusted to us has to be done in this life. In fact, whatever we intend to do for the Lord with our money, we need to be doing now. Or as one person observed, “Do your giving while you’re living so you’ll be knowing where it’s going!” How we use the money which God has given to us is an indicator of our priorities. Our checkbook will reveal clearly the things that are really important to us. How we spend our money is, in fact, a barometer of our spiritual temperature and of our personal faith. You see, it doesn’t take a lot of faith to make a rational, logical decision concerning our giving. As we review expenses and anticipated income, we can easily find the balance and base our commitment on the numbers alone. Remember, giving is not to help “poor God” pay the bills. Giving is not because God needs anything from us. Giving is God’s way of growing Christians. Every time we give for God’s glory from hearts that have been redeemed by God’s love and grace, we give away a little of our selfishness. Every time we give of our resources that have been loaned to us by God, we grow in grace and in our walk with Christ. As you consider your life during this time of stewardship emphasis, will you begin by first giving yourself to the Lord? Will you then be one of the “Faithful Stewards of God’s Infinite Grace” who will step out by faith by giving your time, your talents and your treasure to the Lord?

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A NOTE FROM DANA...

Em Griffin writes, in Making Friends, about three kinds of London maps: the street map, the map depicting thoroughways, and the underground map of the subway. "Each map is accurate and correct," he writes, "but each map does not give the complete picture. To see the whole, the three maps must be printed one on top of each other. However, that is often confusing, so I use only one 'layer' at a time.

"It is the same with the words used to describe the death of Jesus Christ. Each word, like redemption, reconciliation, or justification, is accurate and correct, but each word does not give the complete picture. To see the whole we need to place one 'layer' one top of the other, but that is sometimes confusing- we cannot see the trees for the whole! So we separate out each splendid concept and discover that the whole is more than the sum of its parts."

Grace and Peace,

Dana



As we continue talking about peace this week, our key question is, "**How do you walk away from a fight?**" If you walk into a fifth-grade classroom, you'll start to discover that even if fists aren't flying, kids fight with each other. Walking away from a fight can be one of the hardest things a kid does because they feel like their entire reputation is at stake. We pray kids leave with a game plan for how they can make the wise choice and walk away from a fight.

Throughout **Genesis 26**, we find Abraham's son, Isaac, settles in his father's land and reopens some wells. When his new neighbors argue with him, he simply moves to a new place and digs new wells. Isaac had every right to fight for those wells, but he chose peace instead.

Bottom Line: **Prove you care more about others by walking away from a fight.** Sometimes creating peace with someone means walking away

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even if we're not wrong. Often it takes a stronger person to have the self-control to walk away.

Mrs. Jackie

jackiemconnelly@aol.com



Back again this year by popular demand the youth will be having an Easter sunrise breakfast on Easter Sunday morning. The sunrise service will be at 6:30 AM and we will serve breakfast from the conclusion of the sunrise service through coffee time. Please make plans now to attend this annual event as we have fellowship and celebrate the risen Savior Jesus Christ.

We are now making sure that we have the names of all the high school graduating seniors for the class of 2018. **If you know of one, please let Randa know by March 18, 2018.** As always, I have an open-door policy and will be happy to discuss any issue or concern you may have.

Thank you for allowing us to be on this part of your teenager's journey, please know that I count it an honor and blessing.

In the grip of HIS Grace,

Randa



Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 24 (if it rains we will reschedule for March 31). I would appreciate it if you could donate some wrapped, non-chocolate candy (Chocolate melts!) for us to put in the eggs! Please put your donations in the box in the bunny box near the Welcome Center. Thank you!

7/13-14 Vacation Bible School – *Polar Blast: Where Jesus' Love Is Cool*, where kids chill with new friends and warm up to Jesus – the coolest friend of all.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Sanctuary Choir** will meet for rehearsal on Wednesday evening at 7:15 in the choir room.

“AMAZING LOVE-HOW CAN IT BE” Please join the **Community Outreach Choir** as we celebrate Easter with the 2018 musical “Amazing Love-How Can It Be?” The performances will be **Thursday, March 22 and Friday, March 23 at 7:00 PM** both evenings. The presentation will be in the Sanctuary of Trinity Baptist Church located at 1513 McArthur Drive here in Manchester. Everyone is invited!

The **DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY** will meet this coming Sunday at 3:00 PM in room 219.

The Sallie O'Neal Circle will meet at the home of Joane Cassady on **Monday, March 19 at 7 pm**. Our circle will be showering the Mike Marshall family with home goods. We invite all ladies of the church to join us. For more information and a ride contact Lois Thormaehlen at [931-580-5908](tel:931-580-5908).

March 22 and 23 - Community Wide Easter Cantata

March 25 Palm Sunday

March 26-30 Holy Week and Spring Break for local schools. Noon Service at First Presbyterian Church.

March 29 Maundy Thursday: Meal at 6 pm, Service at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

March 30 Good Friday Service Noon at St. Bede's Episcopal Church

April 1 **EASTER SUNDAY** that's no April fool hoax. Sunrise service at 6:30 am and Breakfast at 7 am prepared by the Youth of the Church. The rest of the day is on regular schedule. Communion in the Chapel.

Just about ANYTHING you need to know about the mission and ministry of Manchester First UMC can be found at our website, www.manchesterfirst.org! Download the “Mid-Week Visitor,” audio and video of sermons and children's sermons, link to other important web sites and even find help for those who need it. Check out our website today!

And don't forget about our church APP which is available for your smart phone on Google Play Store or Apple App Store! (Mobile MFUMC)

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Wednesday Night Menus

March 14: Homemade spaghetti, french bread, tossed salad/dressings, orange dreamsicle cake

March 21: Herb roasted chicken, homemade mashed potatoes, buttered corn, roll, tossed salad/dressings & banana pudding



The Sallie O'Neal Fellowship invites you to join us as we “shower” the Mike Marshall family. A blue bin is located at the Welcome Center and items may be placed here.

Some suggestions include:

Toilet paper	Shampoo/Conditioner
Paper Towels	Toothpaste
Garbage bags	Hand soap/bar soap
Body Wash	Dishwashing liquid
Kleenex	Laundry Detergent
Dog/Cat food	Cleaning Supplies

We thank you so much for partnering with us to reach out to this family in need as Mike rehabs from his stroke.

Goods will be collected through Sunday, March 18.

Faithful Stewards of God's Infinite Grace

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10

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I Will Support My Church With My Presence

<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>March 11</u>
Sunday School	83
8:25 Service	55
10:55 Service	94

I Will Support My Church With My Gifts

	<u>March 11</u>
Sunday School	51.00
Missions	1,847.00
Good Samaritan	50.00
Coffee Time	46.00
Youth Fund	300.00
Music	
Pastor's Discretionary	21.00
Required weekly	9,347.00
Budget Contribution	7,043.00
Year-to-date offering	79,786.00
Offering needed to date	93,470.00
(+/-) Difference	-13,684.00

I Will Support My Church With My Service

Acolytes

March 18 8:25 Natalie Fibelkorn 10:55 Daniel Hawkins
 March 25 Megan Fibelkorn Madison Miller

Building Checker

Week of March 18 Ken Kimble
 Week of March 25 Jay Trussler

Coffee Time

March 18 & 25 Wade Stevenson
 April 1 Youth Sunrise Breakfast

Altar Guild

March Kay Smoyak

Counters

March Mike Anderson & Brett Henley

Greeters

March 18 & 25 8:25 Sarah & Tommy Potuk
 10:55 Betty & Jerry Watkins
 April 1 & 8 8:25 Patty & Charles Roberts
 10:55 Mattie & Earl Eaton

Kitchen Monitor

March Sue Reid
 April Lois Thormaehlen

Welcome Center

March 18 8:15 Ann & Wade Stevenson
 10:45 Mike & Julie Giffin

Bakers/Visitors

March 18 Roger & Kimla Weeks
 March 25 Bea Ferrell

Good Samaritan Workers:

March 19: Ben & Ann Spaulding, Lois Thormaehlen and Anita Turner

March 26: Marie Kimble, Max & Judy Hester and Mike and Karla Childs

First United Methodist Church
 105 Church Street
 Manchester, TN 37355
 931-728-4624
 www.manchesterfirst.org
 manchesterfume@gmail.com

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