

March 1, 2017

First United Methodist Church



THE MIDWEEK VISITOR

From the Pastor's Desk... ..



Lent is a very special season of the year. This year we will begin the season of lent with our Ash Wednesday Service. It will be held in the Sanctuary on March 1st at 6:30 p.m. As a part of the service we will have the Imposition of the Ashes.

In addition to this EVERY WEDNESDAY DURING LENT FROM noon until 1:00 p.m. the Chapel will be open for you to come by for a time of quiet reflection and prayer. We will also open the Chapel from 4:00-5:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons.

There will be written devotions for you to follow.

In our sermon series during Lent we are going to look at places where "JESUS WENT" on his way to the cross. Each wednesday night from 5:30 - 8:30 you are invited to go to the youth room for a reminder of where all Jesus traveled and what he went through for you.

If you miss a week that is ok, for you will be able to make it because once a weeks theme is set up in the youth room it will stay there until LENT is over, and one will be added each week. We think the youth for doing this for us, please take the time to grow from this as often as possible.

In addition to this on MARCH 5TH (this Sunday) we will begin a new short term Sunday School Class for adults called Christianity 101. We will meet together for six weeks in the Chapel, and study the basics of Christianity in general and Methodism in particular. Rachel and I will be leading this class and it is open to anyone but especially anyone who is not currently in a Sunday School class.

Also each week in the bulletin there will be scriptures for you to incorporate into your daily reading to prepare you for the coming Sunday.

Also check out the new stuff that Dana is going to be posting on our church Web page.

See you Sunday at the Father's house. Brother Randy

Sunday Service

Worship Service Early 8:25am Late 10:55 am

Coffee time 9:30am Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Youth (Check schedule weekly) Sunday 5:30-7:30 p.m. & Weds 5:30 -7:30 p.m.

Kingdom Kids (children) Weds. 6-7:15 p.m.

A NOTE FROM DANA...



Time for Lent...

Just like we set aside time to spiritually prepare for Christmas Day, it makes sense to set aside time to prepare for the two most important days of the Christian calendar. Someone has said that Lent is a time that offers us an opportunity to come to terms with the human condition we may spend the rest of the year running from and it perhaps helps us see our own depravity and our great need for a Savior! Like Advent, Lent is a time to open the doors of our hearts a little wider and understand our Lord a little deeper, so that when Good Friday and eventually Easter comes, it is not just another day at church but an opportunity to receive the overflow of God's Grace being offered to us.

Lent is an intensely penitential time as we examine our sinful natures and return to the God we have, through our own rebelliousness, hurt time and again. Lent is also an opportunity to contemplate what Jesus really did for us on the Cross - and it wasn't pretty. But ultimately, the purpose of Lent does not stop at sadness, despair or hopelessness - it points us to the hope of the Resurrection and the day when every tear will be dried! (Rev. 21:3).

I pray that you and I would intentionally contemplate these things during the Lenten season.

Grace and Peace,
Dana

PS Remember: if you missed church this past Sunday you can go to our church website, www.manchesterfirst.org and listen to or watch the sermon! Just go to "media" and look for the sermon title/date!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Sanctuary Choir will be meeting this coming Wednesday evening at 7:15 in the Choir Room (B19).

PRAYERS FOR HEALING....Beginning this Sunday, March 5, 2017 we will re-institute our practice of "Prayers for Healing" in the Chapel during communion time. One of our pastors or someone from our prayer team will be available to pray for you OR perhaps you would like to "stand in the gap" for a loved one or someone you know. We will continue this prayer tradition each FIRST SUNDAY during communion at both services of worship.

The liturgical season of LENT is upon us. Our annual ASH WEDNESDAY service will be on March 1 at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary.



We appreciate the food, cards and calls to Bob after his fall. The prayer shawl is beautiful and he thanks the ladies who made it. First Methodist is a good Church.
Our Love, Bob & Nellie Leonard

MARCH 11, 7:30 TO 12 NOON -- Plan to Participate Church Wide Seminar with Skip Armistead, Tenn. Conf. Leader BEGINS with covered dish breakfast, PROGRAM at 8am and BREAKS during the morning. What is Healthy Congregations? Jesus Is Central: The Healthy Congregations helps Churches keep Jesus Christ central to their life, mission, and ministry. Flu Shot: As a flu shot is designed to keep us healthy, the *Healthy Congregations* ministry keeps the church healthy, preventing viruses of conflict. Antidote: If a church becomes infected with conflict, Healthy Congregations begins the healing process towards health.

I Will Support My Church With My Service

Acolytes: Mar.5 8:25: Megan Fibelkorn 10:55: Daniel Hawkins
 March 12: 8:25: Natalie Fibelkorn 10:55: Madison Miller
Building Checkers: Mar. 5: Jerry Watkins March 12: Dana Brooks
Counters: March: Brett Henley & Mike Anderson
Greeters: Mar.5 & 12: 8:25: Janelle Burt & Ed Holland 10:55: Allison & Brian Stacy
Welcome Center: Mar. 5: 825: Tina Niederhauser 10:55: Carolyn Norfleet
 Mar.12: Tina Niederhauser 10:55: Ed Turner
Kitchen Monitor: March: Sue Reid April: Lois Thormaehlen
Altar Guild: March: Kay Smoyak April: Beverly Smith & Ann Spaulding
Bakers /Visitors: Mar.5 Jim & Debra Thorington
Coffee Time: Mar. 5 & 12: Roy & Doris Hendrix

MEMBER PRAYER CONCERNS

All those in the Military
 Stan McHann
 Susan Wood
 Cookie Brassfield
 Bernice Thornton
 Rick McCoy
 Dorothy Bon
 Carey Teal Foster
 Clay Riddle
 Diane Conklin
 Brenda Clark
 Jimmy Stephens
 Bill Johnson
 Mary Rounds
 Jeanette Taylor
 Bill Boyd
 Susan Wood
 Glenn Norfleet



I hope that this finds you well and happy. Spring and summer are fast approaching. Big Stuf signups are happening NOW. If you have a teenager that would like to go please let me know ASAP and there are a few spots open. I have all the adult chaperones that I need so the spots that are still open are for students only in the youth ministry program in grades 6-12.

UPCOMING YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENINGS:

March 12-April 16 we will be doing our envelop fundraiser again. The money raised will go toward our summer trip to Big Stuf church camp. Thank you in advance for your help.

Back by popular demand on Sunday April 16, 2017 the youth will be hosting a fundraiser. We will have an Easter Sunrise breakfast. We will start about 6:40 and serve through coffee time. Please make plans to attend now. For a love offering you can come and fellowship with the youth and each other as we celebrate our Risen Savior.

Sunday May 7, 2017 will be Senior Sunday. We will be honoring our 3 graduating high school seniors. Sunday May 7, 2017 we will be having a parents meeting for ALL youth and youth parents at 4:30 in the youth room. Please make plans to attend. This includes the parents of our incoming 6th graders. We will welcome our 6th grade students at a later date. We will be discussing our upcoming summer schedule, tentative fall plans, transitioning to YOUTH Sunday School, and the rules and expectations for all youth members. It is VERY important ALL parents attend this meeting.

Sunday June 4, 2017 Incoming 6th graders are WELCOME to join Manchester FUMC youth group for the first time!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!As always if you have any questions, concerns, or issues please feel free to schedule a time to come and talk to me. My door is always open and I will be glad to visit with you. Thank you for allowing us to be on this part of your teenager's journey.

In the GRIP of HIS GRACE, Randa



Gifts given in the memory of **Mary Niederhauser** by Deborah Amacher, Billie McEwen, Pat & Joane Cassady, Rogers & Judy Starr, Mike & Karla Childs, Bunny & Bill Comer, Anne C. Frisby & Family, Dixie Heagy, Douglas Henry, Coffee County Bank, Earl & Mattie Lee Eaton to the General Budget and by Dennis & Brenda Bryan to the Good Sam Fund.

Gifts given in the memory of **Bill Boyd** by Dennis & Brenda Bryan to the Good Sam Fund.

Gifts given in the memory of **Rosalie Stringfellow** by Earl & Mattie Lee Eaton to the General Budget.



Wednesday Night Supper

March 1 at 5:00 pm **Please make reservations before noon Monday (cancellations by this time as well)** Come join us for a delicious home cooked meal. Adult meal \$6.00, Children 12 and under \$4.00 and a family for \$20.00. Please join us for friends, food and fellowship! Menu: Bar-b-Que Pulled Pork, baked beans, cole slaw, dessert and beverage. Call Karen at the Church office 931-728-4624 for reservations or sign up at the Welcome Center.



Current Resident Or :

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Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. Postage PAID
 Permit # 46

<u>I Will Support My Church With My Presence</u>	
Attendance:	Feb.26
Sunday School	98
8:25	68
10:55	102
Total:	170
<u>I Will Support My Church With Gifts</u>	
	Feb. 26
Sunday School	42.00
Missions	300.00
Coffee Time	25.00
Good Sam	-
Youth Fund	10.00
Music Fund	25.00
Req'd Weekly	9,106.57
Today's Gifts	9,062.00
Year-to- date	6,9421.09
Year- to-date req'd	81,958.59
Difference (+/-)	(-12,537.50)