

THURSDAY, MARCH 12
 10:00 AM THE CARING PLACE
 4:00 PM STEWPOT

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
 6:00 PM WINTER FORMAL (PEACE)

SUNDAY, MARCH 15
 8:30 AM CHAPEL WORSHIP
 9:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
 9:45 AM THE MEANS OF GRACE: TRADITIONED PRACTICE IN TODAY'S WORLD (ALDERSGATE CLASSROOM)
 10:45 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP
 4:30 PM LUKE BIBLE STUDY (AVERITT)
 6:00 PM YOUTH

MONDAY, MARCH 16
 4:00 PM STEWPOT

TUESDAY, MARCH 17
 4:00 PM STEWPOT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18
 NOON LUKE BIBLE STUDY (AVERITT)
 1:00 PM INTERCESSORY PRAYER (MARILYNN BLACKWOODS)
 3:45-6:30PM NURSERY RESERVATION ONLY SCHOOL PICKUP & SNACK (K-6TH)
 3:45 PM AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (K-6TH)
 3:45-4:30PM HANDBELLS (3RD-6TH)
 4:30-5:00PM CHOIR (K-6TH)
 5:00-6:00PM PRESCHOOL (3 & UP)
 5:00-5:15PM BREAK
 5:15-6:00PM BIBLE BLACK BELT (K-6TH)
 5:30-6:15PM CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICE
 6:00-6:30PM MEAL & PLAY TIME (K-6TH)
 6:00-7:30PM YOUTH ACTIVITY (PEACE)
 6:15 PM INTERCESSORY PRAYER (PARLOR)
 6:15-7:00PM ADULT HANDBELLS

THURSDAY, MARCH 19
 10:00 AM THE CARING PLACE
 4:00 PM STEWPOT
 6:00 PM METHODIST MEN (ASBURY CHURCH)

Schedules
ALTAR GUILD—Sanctuary
 Mattie Bell Epperson, March 15
 Christa Marsh, March 22
ALTAR GUILD—Chapel
 Linda Wood

METHODIST FAMILY HEALTH
GET UP & GIVE



Collection Dates: Feb. 26- April 9.
You can honor the Lenten season by collecting and donating necessities for Arkansas children and families at Methodist Family Health

For a complete list of items, visit MethodistFamily.org/Get-Up-And-Give

For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart. Matthew 6:21

RESPOND YOUR WAY TO THE 2020 CENSUS

By April 1st, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. The Constitution calls for everyone to be counted every ten years. This is important to our city and county as this determines how much money is returned back to Magnolia and Columbia County for the next 10 years. This money helps to provide infrastructure and quality of life projects.

You will have three ways to respond: online, by phone and by mail. The online form is available in many different languages. Visit 2020CENSUS.GOV for more information. Help shape our community by participating in the 2020 Census.

First United Methodist Church
320 West Main
Magnolia, AR 71753

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THE VISITOR

First United Methodist Church
 320 West Main, Magnolia, Arkansas 71753
www.magnoliafumc.org

To invite all to know the love of God, to share grace, and to develop relationships
 March 11, 2020

Give Up Something Bad for Lent—Part 2

Sunday
 8:30 a.m.—Chapel Worship
 10:45 a.m.—Sanctuary Worship
 Noon—Cable Channel 13
 KVMA-AM 630
 KVMA-FM 99.1

Wednesday
 7:00 PM—Broadcast of previous Sunday's 10:45 Service Cable Channel 13

How to Reach Us:
Church Office Hours
 Monday—Thursday
 8:00—4:00
 Friday 8:00—Noon
870-234-4530

Our Staff:
 Reverend Dr. Gary Maskell
 Shelly Burgess, Children & Families Ministries;
 John Scott, Youth Director
 Tracie Nipper, Administrative Secretary;
 Amanda Franks, Business Manager;
 Dr. Kim Shirey, Director of Music;
 Sharon Ard, Organist;
 Chelsea Ross, Bonnie Adcox, Tabitha Lewis, Kathy Loper, Children's Music
 Skippy Warlick, Building Supervisor;
 Kenneth Manning, Custodian
 Gwendolyn Reed, Director Child Development Center
 Barbara Lewis, Director, The Caring Place
 Libby and George Gilbert, Stewpot Cooks
 Burlene Easter, Kathy Easter & Kim Easter, nursery

If you missed last Sunday morning's sermon, but would like to "hear" it in a very abbreviated format, then this is your answer! If you'd like to do so later, you can read the whole sermon ("Give Up Something Bad for Lent - 2") in the Magnolia Messenger. Our message is from the books of Matthew and John and they speak about ridding our lives of hypocritical, harsh, and hasty judgments and replacing them with righteous judgments! [Read Matthew 7:1-5 and John 7:24]

As I thought about these verses, a little saying I remember hearing as a kid came to mind. I'll bet that you not only know it, but have probably told it to someone too, it goes like this "*Sticks and stones can break my bones, but names can never hurt me.*" It was usually told to us by our parents, or some well-meaning teacher, to help ease the hurts of the hateful and often judgmental words of some school-yard bully! That little saying sounds really nice as it flows from your lips, but in realistic terms, it's just not true! Names can often be more hurtful and more brutal than most sticks or stones ever dreamed of being!

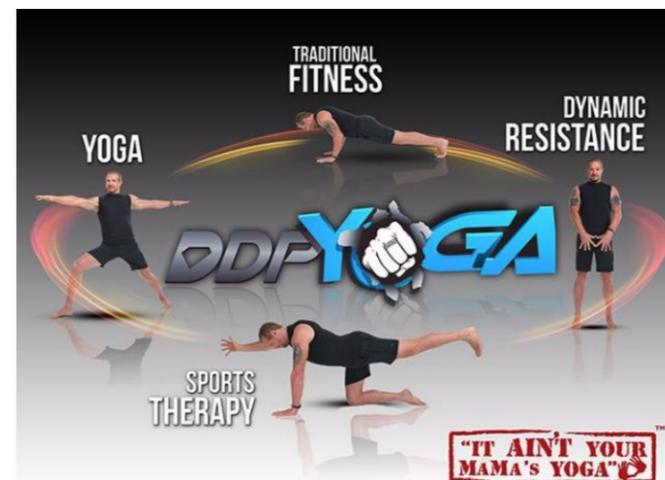
Let me share a story with you from James Moore's book that painfully demonstrates this notion. "Her name was Ellen. She was a junior in high school, an honor student, a member of the band, and secretary of her class. Her life was beautiful, her future bright; but then, everything went wrong." Moore said that he was called on to conduct her funeral on what would have been her seventeenth birthday. "It was suicide. In the depths of depression, she had taken an overdose of sleeping pills. She left a note saying that she couldn't go on. She couldn't fight the rumors and the rejection any longer. She felt betrayed by her friends and her community. It was all so sad, so useless, and such a waste" he wrote. "This tragic teen suicide was sparked by a false rumor, by people spreading vicious gossip. The rumor was that she had come home at daylight in a drunken stupor, her clothes disheveled, delivered to her door by an older man in a fancy sports car. That was the rumor. The truth was that she had sat up all night with her gravely ill grandmother and had been brought home early the next morning by her uncle. That was the truth! The rumor started because a neighbor saw something out of her kitchen window and she jumped to the wrong conclusions, judged Ellen, and then started spreading a false rumor. As a result, an innocent teenager was devastated. The harsh stares, the cruel jokes, the wisecracks, the vicious gossip, the whispering behind her back, the pointed fingers, and the blatant lies all became too much for Ellen. Her sensitive personality couldn't take it. She cracked under the pressure, and in a moment of deep agony and excruciating pain, she took her life. A young life with so much promise was snuffed out because ordinary people, like you and me, participated in spreading false rumors. They acted as judge, jury, executioners."

So, what does Scripture say we should do if we were to see a situation like young Ellen's? Before I comment, let me say that I'm so glad that we have all four gospel accounts, because in Matthew, Jesus tells us not to make hypocritical judgments like the Pharisees who only looked on the exterior and often misjudged people. But In John, Jesus tells us that we should judge, but we should righteously (correctly) judge and not according to appearance! If the neighbor had done that, Ellen would be alive today.

So how do we make righteous judgments? We judge righteously when we are guided by the Holy Spirit, the real facts, a heart of love, and always with the goal of restoring that one either back into the faith, if they have slipped away or to help to pick themselves back up and start afresh! When do so, we keep ourselves safe from error and we can then help and encourage one another! So what if we're lacking a clear lead by the Holy Spirit, or we don't know the real facts, or we're lacking such a heart of love, at least for that moment? There might be some exceptions to this, but here's a good rule of thumb to go by that ought to sound very familiar to anyone who is, or has ever been, a member of the Rotary Club, it's called the "Four-Way-Test" It goes like this: Of the things we think, say or do (1) *Is it the TRUTH?* (2) *Is it FAIR to all concerned?* (3) *Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?* (4) *Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?* The bottom line is this, if you can't answer these four questions with a pretty solid, "Yes!" then you might want to reconsider thinking it, saying it, or doing it!

If that idea doesn't connect with you, then consider this, "When it comes down to it, we are all like the fellow named Sam who went into the photographer to have his portrait made and said, 'Now Joe, I want you to do me justice.' The photographer took one look at him and said, 'Sam, what you need is mercy, not justice!'" Isn't that what we all need? A whole lot of mercy and not the justice we deserve? That is the truth! Since we have been shown mercy and grace by our Lord, let us also do the same for the least, the last, and the lost of this world and reflect Jesus in all that we say and do and we will see souls touched for Christ Jesus! Remember always, that you have been blessed to be a blessing. So be one!

Pastor Gary



"Not sure?": Check out the web page <https://ddpyoga.com/pages/about-us> Then come join us at 5:15 on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at First UMC Magnolia in the basement as we work our way through this program to become stronger and healthier without impact on our joints."

Faith journey

A family was heading on vacation: two little ones were nestled in car seats; the van was packed. As Dad locked the house and Mom secured the garage, an adult neighbor the kids knew walked up and spoke through an open window. "Where are you going?" The kids shrugged. "Well, what road are you taking?" the friend asked with a knowing smile. Of course, they had no idea. "Do you know where you'll eat today, or where you'll spend the night?" Blank stares. Then the friend asked, "Who are you traveling with?" The children broke into grins and shouted, "Mommy and Daddy!"

On the journey of faith, we don't know precisely where we're headed or how all our needs will be met. But we know who we're traveling with: our loving God who is fully aware of the twists and turns ahead; the loving Parent who promises to care for us wherever we go.



**WINTER FORMAL
Dinner & Dancing
Saturday, March 14
6:00 — 9:00 Peace Hall
Tickets are \$10**

A Record of Our Faithfulness

	Worship	S.S.	Offerings
March 1	130	48	\$23,307.00
March 8	103	25	\$32,464.00

We praise God for...

**Jason Parks Epperson was baptized Sunday, March 8, 2020. He is the son of Hunter Epperson and Whitney Epperson. Grandparents are Christy and Chris Lynch and Eric Epperson. Great grandmother is Mattie Belle Epperson*
**Magnolia Basketball Team won against Brookland for the 4-A conference champions. They will play for the 4A championship against Little Rock Mills on Friday in Hot Springs.*
**Congratulations to Magnolia High School Lady Panthers Swim Team first state win*

3/1	T.H. Bradley, Jr.	3/16	Skippy Warlick
3/2	Clair Burge	3/19	John Alexander, Sr.
3/2	Carl Bismark	3/20	Bob Burns
3/2	Peyton Card	3/21	Randy Couch
3/2	Lucy Ray	3/23	John Michael Davis
3/3	Tracie Nipper	3/23	Miriam Leman
3/3	Shelby Chesshir	3/24	Mia Bailey
3/4	Anna-Marie Deloach	3/24	Isaiah Williams
3/5	Harriet Alexander	3/25	Brianna Brummett
3/5	Todd Beams	3/25	Caylea Brummett
3/6	Ross Burge	3/27	Clay Boreing
3/7	Ella Williams	3/27	Joey Kaar
3/8	Morgan McDonald	3/27	Valerie Kent
3/9	Mike Boyd	3/28	Sandra Cawyer
3/9	Lori Epperson	3/28	Taylor Fallin
3/13	Maggie McDonald	3/28	Riley McCook
3/13	Tabitha Lewis	3/28	Kassidy Thomas
3/15	Lana Meadows	3/31	Gary Maskell

Special dates

- First Sunday in Lent, *March 1, 2020*
- World Day of Prayer, *March 6, 2020*
- Second Sunday in Lent, *March 8, 2020*
- Daylight-Saving Time begins, *March 8, 2020*
- Third Sunday in Lent, *March 15, 2020*
- First day of spring, *March 19, 2020*
- Fourth Sunday in Lent, *March 22, 2020*
- Fifth Sunday in Lent, *March 29, 2020*



**Spring Break
March 23-27**

**No Wednesday Night
Activities**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Begins Monday,
July 20—Thursday, July 23**



Mini Camp
1st-3rd Grades - \$238
May 31-June 2 - June 14-16 - July 28-30



Discovery Camp
1st-4th Grades - \$362
June 14-16 - June 28-July 1

Elementary Camp
3rd-6th Grades - \$467
May 31-June 5 - June 21-26 - July 5-10 - July 26-31



Fishing Camp
3rd-6th Grades - \$178
June 5-7

MAD Camp
7th-12th Grades - \$473
July 18-24

Junior High Camp
7th-9th Grades - \$473
June 21-26 - July 5-10 - July 19-24 - July 26-31

Senior High Camp
9th-12th Grades - \$473
July 12-17



2020 SUMMER SCHEDULE