



# First United Methodist Church

BROWNSVILLE

*Welcoming... Worshiping... Witnessing...*

**August 1, 2018**

*Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

As I write this article we are in the middle of an awesome Vacation Bible School, with over 50 kids participating and many faithful church members who are volunteering! After the first day I asked the kids if they were excited to come back to which they replied emphatically, "YEEEEEEEESSSS!!!!". Sure enough the next day all of them came back and we had a few new ones too!

August will be a month filled with special moments before, during, and after worship on Sunday! On August 5th we will have the children from Vacation Bible School come and sing songs they learned from the week. After worship we'll have a Fun in the "Son" party with food, games, and inflatable water slides! We are inviting everyone to come to worship in comfortable Summer clothes so we can head straight to the party after worshipping together.

On Sunday, August 12th, we will have a Backpack Blessing during worship. We will pray over the students, teachers, and administrators heading back to school. We encourage all to come with their backpacks or any school supplies that can be blessed and will pray for protection in the name of Jesus Christ! Sunday, August 19th we will be revving up Sunday School before worship with some new classes available for kids and adults. Keep an eye on the bulletin and the weekly church e-mail for updates on all the groups that will be starting up to help you grow in your walk with God.

Finally, Sunday August 26th we begin our new 6 week sermon series, "Praise Through the Storm", a look at Biblical truths and myths about suffering. We hope to have a class to go along with the series for those who would like to go deeper and ask questions as well. After the service we will be inviting new visitors and members to hear more about FUMC and how to be a part of it!

As you can see, there is a lot to look forward to this month! Keep your eyes open to all the many opportunities to share and grow in Jesus. May the love of Christ sustain you, and may the grace of Christ be shared through you.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Phillip Hoeflinger



Our sister church, El Buen Pastor is having a hamburger plate fund raiser on Saturday, August 4th. If you want tickets, Oscar Masso has tickets for sale. You can call Oscar at 956-592-0739 or email him at [oscar@massofamily.us](mailto:oscar@massofamily.us). Let us help support El Buen Pastor by purchasing tickets.

**Altar Rail for** August will be for School Supplies. The money will be to purchase school supplies for those students in need.



### Rolling River Rampage Celebration.

Join us for a joyous celebration on Sunday, August 5 at worship as our VBS children and staff share with us some songs from VBS.

Then after church we will have a party with hot dogs, chips, water and watermelon in the fellowship hall. We will have water slides and

games behind fellowship hall. Come dressed casually to enjoy the day.



Join us for a Family Game night on Thursday, August 9th in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm. We will share a meal and then enjoy playing games with our church family. Everyone of all ages are welcome.



Kids Nite Out will be Friday, August 10. Bring your kids for a fun evening at the church. Call the church office, 956-546-5364, by Thursday August 9th to reserve your child's place. This is free.

Thank you

I want to thank all the people who volunteered, prayed, donated items and helped us welcome parents and children to our church for Rolling River Rapids. It was a huge success with 50 children and almost 40 volunteers. Everyone has had a great time. We were able to show God's love to so many people this week. Thank You! Mary Reser



It is exciting to report that a hard-working staff, numerous volunteers, and a dynamic board of directors have partnered to the point where Good Neighbor Settlement House is now able to expand its services to the poor and homeless. Texas Tropical Behavioral Health and Texas Workforce Commission all provide services to clients here at Good Neighbor. Mesa Llana, the Good Neighbor/Food Bank's pantry, is now open to the poor four days a week offering nutritious food as well as healthy meal preparation classes and exercise classes. The food preparation and exercise classes are open to the public but subject to class size limitation.

We did have a significant setback this month when the plumbing burst on the second floor of the original Good Neighbor building. Paneling was separated from walls, the stairway was significantly weakened, and the flooring was damaged to the point where much of it has to be replaced. We are insured for most of the loss but with a deductible and co-insurance provisions, the damage is not fully covered. We would appreciate donations to help us meet the shortfall.

We head into August with a number of new folks set to join our board. It is our hope that this shot of "new blood" will keep us all energized for the work ahead. There will be new projects and always a need for volunteers to empower our ministry to the poor and homeless in Brownsville, Texas.

If you have questions, suggestions, or want to volunteer, call us at 542-

### Women's Walk to Emmaus!

Applications found in Welcome Center, due August 15th

The "Walk to Emmaus" is a once in a lifetime 72-hour experience. Time is spent studying, discussing, worshiping and experiencing God's Grace in a Christian Community. The next Woman's Walk is November 8<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> in Mission. Please prayerfully consider if you are ready for this next step in your Christian walk. The fee is \$190.00 and must be paid when the registration form is sent in. There are a limited number of half scholarships available on a first come first serve basis. The deadline to meet the minimum of 20 participants will be August 15th. There typically is a waiting list, so if you are interested sign-up in the Welcome Center or let Pastor Phillip know!



## *August Birthdays*

8/1 Jim Harnes  
8/2 Cesar Garcia  
8/4 Cody Carnesi  
8/8 Hannah Hoeflinger  
8/13 Yolanda Turbeville  
8/18 Myrian Gtierrez  
8/20 Jim Gilmore  
8/21 Arkess Earke  
8/24 Ted Albright  
Louise Chosy  
8/26 Bill Turbeville  
8/28 Patsy Rosas