

**FIRST NEWS
ROBERT'S REFLEXIONS**

We have begun our journey through the Lenten season—40 days to draw closer to Christ. I suggested to those who attended Ash Wednesday worship that they choose a book of the Bible—maybe a familiar one, or one you’ve never looked at much—and read through it during Lent. With 40 days (or only 33 left now) it’s time to get started. Such regular biblical study will benefit you greatly. Or sign up for the Bible Study “He Chose the Nails” as a great way to draw closer to Christ during Lent (more info on this study elsewhere in this newsletter).

I learned on Monday that our District Superintendent, Travis Franklin, suffered a heart attack following worship on last Sunday. Pray for Travis to make a full recovery. Also, pray for our Bishop and his cabinet as they work to appoint a new pastor for this congregation and all of the other churches in our conference.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Lenten Sunday School:

Senior High Sunday School is studying “Creed” by Adam Hamilton, a look at the things we believe as Christians. Middle School Sunday School is doing a series on the Sermon on the Mount.

Wednesday Night Live Dinners:

If you are able to help serve food, donate funds to purchase food, or provide a meal for Wednesday Night youth group, please contact Marianne at: marianne@fumccleburne.com

Summer Mission Trips:

This summer we will go on two trips, 9-12th graders to New Mexico and 6th-12th graders to Southwest Texas.

We are looking for work team adults for both trips.

Please pray about joining us for a life changing experience in serving others.

New Mexico:
June 17-23, 2018

Southwest Texas:
July 15-20, 2018



A STEWARDSHIP REMINDER FROM OUR FINANCE TEAM

Dear FUMC,

As a church we are to prepare and pray in advance for our new pastor. One way to prepare is to ensure our church is financially stable so our new senior pastor will have a solid foundation to launch new visions and programs. I am reminded of I John 3:18 - “Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” Our actions can relate to our tithes, gifts, and offerings. In regard

to our January 2018 budget, we were 41% short of covering our expenses. We don’t want to be struggling financially, but running full speed upon the arrival of our new minister. As the Chair of the FUMC Finance Committee, I ask you to pray how you can give of your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness in preparation of a new season for FUMC. Thank you!

In His Service,
Keith Whitworth,
Finance Committee Chair



WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Following last week’s worship, we welcome 2 new members to our congregation—Edith Peacock who transfers from another United Methodist Church and Madelaine Tallent who has reaffirmed her faith. Great them and welcome them into our midst, and help them feel at home.

ADULT MINISTRY

FUMC BOOK CLUB

The next meeting is this coming Monday at 6:30 pm. The Club will be discussing "The Hidden Place" by Corrie Ten Boom in room 106/108 in the Adult Sunday School wing.

Come join in on the discussion whether you have read the book or not. Love to have you!

PRAYER MINISTRY

You can be involved in our prayer ministry today!

1. **Share a prayer concern.**
2. **Volunteer to pray in our prayer room during the week.**
3. **Join us at 5:30 pm weekly for Wednesday Worship Service.**

DON'T FORGET TO JOIN US FOR:

1. Methodist Men's Breakfast every second Saturday at 7:45 am in the Family Center
2. PrimeTimers every third Thursday for pot luck and games beginning at 10:30 am with lunch at 11:30
3. Fit For Faith Exercise group on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:15 to 10:15 am

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Prayer Stations

Our children have been learning ways to talk to our Father. We have practiced positions of prayer, types of prayer, and when to pray.

We have prayer stations in the Family Center that are available to anyone who needs them. I would encourage you to allow your children to teach you how to use them. I also encourage you to allow your children to say the dinner prayer.

Children copy what they see! Please take time to say prayers in the presence of your children.

We have talked about quick "thank you" prayers and "please help _____" prayers. Let them see you say them.

During this season of Lent, let your simple prayers become a habit .

Let your children see that God is the beginning and end of each day and that God is woven into our daily moments.



Children's Mission of the Month

Each month we have a chance to make a difference and also teach our children that, as followers of Christ, it is our responsibility to do his work.

The missions for February and March will be:

Snack sacks– we will assemble food bags for children in need.

Garage sale prep.– we will help prepare the family center for our bi-annual church wide fund raiser.

Heifer International– please send your spare change with the children during Lent! We will be helping to "teach a person to fish" through this wonderful ministry outreach. Take time to 'google' it.

Show your children what the hands and feet of Christ look like.

KIDS CORE- Sunday mornings

During the season of Lent we will be diving into the subject of The Garden of Gethsemane. We will have art, Science, cooking, and stories that all relate to the great love and sacrifice Jesus gave us in the days leading to his amazing resurrection

Acolytes

We still have openings for Sunday mornings.

If you have not been trained, but are interested in being an acolyte, please contact Beverly and we can schedule a training session.

Lent or Lint?

During Lent we will be walking the Walk and talking the talk of Jesus and his teachings.

We will think about the choices we make in relation to the choices Jesus talks about in his ministry.

Meal signups

Please take time to sign up for a snack or meal.

We must feed our children body mind and soul!

MID-WEEK PROGRAMS

Come join us for all our Wednesday Activities!

- Sonlight Express @ 9:30 to 11am for 3-5 year olds
- E.M.T. @ 4 to 5:30 for 5-2nd grade
- God Squad @ 5 to 6:45 for 3rd-4th graders

New Bible Study!

"He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart" by Max Lucado

Taught by Richard Scogin Sundays beginning February 25th at 4 pm in Youth Center and ending March 25th.

Join us for a special Lenten journey. Sign up through our church office.

Listen as they tell you what God did to win your heart:

"Linger on the hill of Calvary. Rub a finger on the timber and press the nail into your hand. Taste the tinge of cheap wine and feel the scrape of a thorn on your brow.

Touch the velvet dirt, moist with the blood of God. Allow the tools of torture to tell their story

GARAGE SALE TIMES!

The date will be Saturday, March 17th from 8 am to 4 pm.

The Church will start accepting your donations beginning on Thursday, March 7th every day from 9 am to 2 pm; except Sunday, March 11th, which will be from 1 pm to 4 pm. The last day for drop off will be March 14th. Only large furniture on March 15th and 16th.

Please do not bring the following items: clothes, shoes, books, old TV's, outdated computers, telephones, firearms, weapons, mattresses, toxic chemicals or exercise equipment.

Thank you all your donations to come.



Meet Judah Raquel Jones
Born February 2, 2018
7 pounds, 2 ounces and
21 inches long.

She had a bit of a jaundice problem and then she decided she didn't like the formula very well so she would rather sleep than eat, but after a change in formula she is now doing well and the latest report has her gaining weight.