

37 E Beauregard San Angelo, TX 325.655.8981

First United Methodist Church, San Angelo, Texas

SUNDAY WORSHIP **SERVICES**

In the Sanctuary... 8:30 a.m. The BRIDGE Traditional 10:45 a.m. In Celebration Hall... 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Sunday School 9:30 Children & Adults



The Messenger



Modern reflections on John Wesley:

Do all the good you can (by social distancing while staying connected)

By all the means you can (harvesting technology tools to transmit your love and care)

In all the ways you can (always wondering and praying "Lord, who needs your loving touch today and how can I be that instrument of your peace?"

In all the places you can (never letting physical distance isolate you or others)

At all the times you can (scheduling times to connect both with people, with God and leaving time for selfreflection)

To all the people you can (reaching out to the loneliest and most vulnerable)

As long as ever you can (as long as it takes to beat this dreaded disease!)

God has got this! We just need to be on His Team



<u>A Word from Pastor Scott</u> **A** "soft opening" . . .

MAY 2020



Church Family,

I want to begin with Romans 1:11-12 because it captures my heart for you:

"I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith."

I don't know about you, but into this 7th and 8th week of this, I long to see you, and maybe you feel the same and are hopeful we can soon get back to

worship inside the building.

Early on, I did not want to make unilateral decisions and so I met with Key leaders of the various committees and Church Council as well as Pastor Bryan, and asked them to help me make decisions in the first couple weeks about how we were going to respond to the Global Health Crisis. This "Executive Team" has been invaluable to me in this time of unprecedented decision making.

Following the Governors announcement on Monday about reopening plans in phases, I met with the Executive Team last night by Zoom to discuss our own plans following the Governor's checklist for churches; his and the Attorney General's instructions a week ago, as well some guidance from the Rio Texas Annual Conference that was published yesterday. (May 28)

The Team decided that we would have a "soft opening" for <u>Worship only</u> on <u>Mother's Day, Sunday May 10th</u>.

While we want to see you, and we long to see you, we want to continue to remain safe. This "soft opening" is much like the "distancing" practices we put into place the last time we met together (on March 15th).

As we resume, in this soft opening, we are expecting those at risk, defined by age 65 or older, and those with underlying health risks, and especially those who are ill, to please stay at home and worship with us online via our live streams.

For those attending we will follow the guidelines published:

Wear a mask

You must only sit with members of your household; leaving two seats (6') between non-family members

Sit in every other pew (we can use the balcony)... In the 11th Hour tables will be spaced further apart and you should only sit with your immediate household.

Wash your hands

Don't touch your face

Continued page 3

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Phil 4:13)

Practice Social Distancing by avoiding handshakes and physical contact.

We estimate that utilizing a 25% estimate of capacity, we can accommodate about <u>90</u> <u>people in attendance</u>, however I believe we should hold those numbers down for several weeks while we continue to evaluate moving into Phase II. In Phase 1 we will not be having Sunday School or other "gathered" activities. We will worship in this manner for <u>Sunday May 31 st (Pentecost) which will also be Confirmation Sunday.</u> This is a date recommended by our Bishop Robert Schnase for actually returning to worship.

During those few weeks we continue to ask your Sunday School to meet by virtual means, but above all what we really want to do is ensure that you are safe! Soon I hope we will all be together! I long to see your face, so that we can encourage one another! I love you, and I miss you and this Executive Team will continue to work to make the best decisions possible.

In Christ

Pastor Scott A. Bradford, Senior Pastor

OH! MORE ON MY HEART...

Wow, the last six weeks have absolutely been unprecedented in my life and ministry, and I trust that it has been in yours. For myself I suddenly found myself, and with some key leaders of the church, making decisions that I never ever dreamt I would make. Choosing safety and health over our freedom to worship together, but all the while ensuring that we are still worshipping together. The staff has worked to reach out to you and to connect Sunday School Classes and Youth & Children's ministry as well as we have found ourselves engaging in new ministries like taking food to youth in CPS custodial care.

But here we are approaching the seventh Sunday since this all began, and while there is talk about "reopening" we all know we want that but we also want to do it so that it doesn't cause more harm than good. As I reflect on that I go back to what happened in the Book of Jeremiah. In *Jeremiah 30* we find the context that he is speaking about the Restoration of Israel. Israel and Jerusalem had been carried into captivity, and Jeremiah begins to speak to them Hope for restoration. In *Jeremiah 31:1-4* he prophecies:

1 "'At that time,' declares the LORD, 'I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they will be my people.'

2 This is what the LORD says: 'The people who survive the sword will find favor in the wilderness; I will come to give rest to Israel.'

3 The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: 'I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

4 I will build you up again, and you, Virgin Israel, will be rebuilt. Again you will take up your timbrels and go out to dance with the joyful.' "

I find these verses speaking to me, and to us.

Continued on page 4

God is the "God of our families" in this time of pandemic!

God reminds us that those "who survive the sword will find favor in the wilderness; I will come to give rest!" Not stay at home rest, we have that, but a peace found in restoration!

God is the God who appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." This is a God of past, present and everlasting future!

And then like a final word "I will build you up again, and you, ... will be rebuilt. And when it happens you will go out and dance and play the tambourine and your hearts will be joyful!"

I don't make light that we have been in a difficult time in this wilderness, but I don't believe it is God's will to leave us here. One way or another we will be delivered!

In Christ

Pastor Scott



Coming our way! . . .



Rev. Kristie Crisp grew up in the United Methodist Church

Pastor Kristie Crisp kcrisp@riotx.org and was baptized by her grandfather, Rev. John D. Withoff at Kempner UMC in 1976. She met her husband at Southwest High School located in San Antonio

where their love story began. Pastor Kristie and Johnnie celebrated their 27th anniversary in December along with the 1st birthday of their only grandchild. Together they have two beautiful daughters, one pretty cool son-in-law, and an amazing grandson. (Kirstin Crisp, Katelynn & Hans Amende, and the amazing Jensen Amende)

Pastor Kristie received her BA in Pastoral Studies from Southwestern College in Kansas in 2017 and will graduate with her Master of Divinity with a concentration in Holy Spirit and Church Renewal from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio on May 30, 2020.

Her passion for ministry includes preaching, teaching, pastoral care, spiritual formation, disciple making, and reaching out in service to the community. Pastor Kristie is currently serving at Pawnee & Pettus UMCs (July 2017-June 2020). Prior to her current appointment, she also served at Hebbronville & San Diego UMCs (July 2015-June 2017). She is excited and looking forward to serving alongside each and every one of you in San Angelo.

Be an Overcomer not Overcome!

Inspiring acts during the pandemic are called by some: "*heart threads*" Thread binds material together. Perhaps these will help bind you to the fabric of your soul.

Rachel Rojo by way of Pastor Scott Bradford: **Recognize** the times you are in. **Refuse** to let Satan in. **Release** your fears to Jesus. **Renew** yourself through rest and refilling. **Reach** toward the goal, one step at a time!

We can work together even though we are 6' apart!

Look for the ordinary acts of kindness you can give and they will become extraordinary!

Remember your past. It is never lost to us. We carry it in every pore of our being. The gift is to know that how we embrace it can give us the power to change everything.

The smallest ministries of kindness have the power to leave imperishable memories forever. (J.R. Miller 1913)

Cling to the unchanging character of God. Dig deep and think about what do you know about God? He saves souls. He knows your name. He is always near. He is just a heart beat away! (Max Lucado)

Lean on God's people. Assemble a prayer army. Talk to others. They have been through hard times too! (Lucado)

Remember these: "God is good! All the time, God is good! Have you got the Victory? Praise the Lord, I sure do!

I am okay although things are not okay! (Pastor Scott and/or Carl Rholf

Here are some more thoughts picked up from different sources and friends. Sorry I don't have references but these are special and I wanted to share:



Ever hear of **'soul seeds'**? These are the gems we hear and read that grow into beautiful thoughts and understandings. Here is one: *May we raise children to love the unloved things*– *the dandelion, the worms and spiderlings. Children who sense that the rose needs the thorns and who run into rainswept days the same way they turn towards the sun. And when grown be someone who speaks for those who*

have no voice.

Isolation has been hard. No one wants to have their fears quarantined! Human touch is so healing so we strive to stay connected "online" or on the phone; and, then choose how to take the "gems" in. Gems from virtual thoughts, words expressed, messages sent and shared stories. These convey humor, sadness, some are thought provoking and some are filled with anger. We read special writings and soak in scriptures. It doesn't matter how far apart we are. . . We are assured that God is with us and we can worship no matter where we are!

Consider Silver Lining Moments during the Pandemic! . . .

<u>Dana Bollinger:</u> Time to slow down... get to things that were "I'll get to that later when I have time! Loving not being in a hurry!!!

<u>Brenda Stone:</u> I can still cook. I find peace in my backyard. My hubby has been a strong, calming force on days I'm down. Digging in the dirt is therapeutic.

Cont. from pg. 5

5 Silver Lining Moments during the Pandemic! MAY 2020



<u>Candace Cooksey Fulton:</u> 1. Just the weekend before the shelter in place began, Friends of the Library had their annual book sale. I came out with two bags of books, books on cd, and a few DVDs. In real time they likely would have gone (still in the bag) to the closet and languished. But suddenly there was a gift of time. My mind has been broadened, my heart has been comforted, and my literary journeys have been incredibly expanded. 2. I've had to make choices to simplify my life that ultimately have enriched it. 3. I've be-

come more aware of people's kindnesses. . . universally, locally, and within our church. 4. I've taken the time, because I had the time, to take walks, watch sunsets, pot plants, sort through stuff that desperately needed sorting, look for happy things, and count small blessings. I made the conscious decision to complain less, praise more. 4 ½ With my usual grocery staples hard if not impossible to find, I have had to regroup. I tapped my creativity and have had some great old-fashioned meals. I've used my grandmother's small blue speckled roaster and prepared the meats the way she and my mom would have. Pulling the little roaster out of the oven, I'd see my mama's hands, and my heart would overflow. 5. I've been on an extremely tight budget and for almost a year have worked very hard at reducing my debt ratio, so I will be able to qualify to buy a small home. With the stimulus check, I was able to pay down on three accounts and bring two to a zero balance. The third will be at a zero balance by May 15 and bring the ratio down so that I will qualify this summer.

<u>Tammy Jones:</u> I have enjoyed having time to catch up on projects, reading, and even use the time to learn something new.

Candis Hicks: Getting back in Bible study with the Morning Glories.

<u>David & Ann Hardegree:</u> Seeing families I work with: seeing them interact positively and have fun together. Making an extra effort and looking for ways to enjoy this time together. This is a contrast to how things used to be. Where we all landed at home exhausted at the end of the day. Often times a very long day.

<u>Lori Francks</u> Ditto what Anne said. I'm seeing folks go back to the "olden days" as far as creating new ways of celebration events. There are drive by birthday celebrations with decorated cars, cards, balloons and shouts of well wishes! We placed baskets of essentials and funnies in a front yard for another celebration! We are writing cards & sentiments more. . . we seem to be caring more for one another. And calling to check on friends & especially the elderly to see if we can drop something off or picking something up.

<u>Martha Dolliver:</u> -to have more time to get to some chores that have been needing to be tended to for a long time. Going through boxes of clippings and photos has been fun. Just reminiscing old times brings joy to my heart. Sharing some of these memories with others has brought many loving responses.

<u>Sabrina Sadler:</u> Time to self evaluate in every aspect: work, faith, emotionally, physically, etc.

Experimental time to see how I am without lots of plans and distractions, obligations. Growing in compassion for others in loneliness. Growing in my love and appreciation for interaction and community. Opportunities to hug and see my loved ones will mean so much more. I will enjoy the freedom I



have when this is over. I will appreciate the variety of stores and foods I have available I have realized I don't need a lot of the things I tell myself I do. Greater appreciation and understanding of cooking for myself at home. Spending more time with family-- I feel honored to have this time. I probably would not have this opportunity any other time in my life to be with them so much Getting to know my brother more, learning more about my family. Simplifying and organizing my space. I'm not so much doing that than realizing what I can simplify. Newfound compassion for those who have limited mobility-- I want to connect with people more. I'm witnessing the changes of nature more so than before. It is so beautiful and comforting.

More Silver Linings!

If you've been affected by Covid19: loss of job; income or some other way and have a need please contact a Pastor so we can figure out a way to help you. We have some disaster funds as well as Methodist Assistance and the Massey Trust that are all intended for this purpose. 655-8981

Generosity through Service . . .

Our Heroes!



ON THE FRONT LINES responders and providersemergency personnel, fire fighters, police, health care workers, we are indebted to your diligence, commitment, and the loving care you provide.

FIRSTFAMILY CUSTODIAL HELP AND EMPLOYEES who have worked around the clock to keep our building clean

and safe. TO OUR VOLUNTEERS who have responded without question to needs of others, whether it be food, clothing, furniture, transportation, deliveries, sewing, calling, writing, and support for anyone struggling!

NOTE WRITERS needed to be in contact with those who are shut-ins and isolated in the nursing homes. They cannot have visitors so your "written" visits will help make these loved ones feel loved and missed.





MASKERS! Thank you to nurse Lesa and all the volunteers who donated material, cut out masks, sewed them together and enabled *First*Church to donate over 300 masks to Fire Fighters, and another 200 to health care providers, to *First*Family members and the general public!! This is an ongoing need so your help is most needed and appreciated!

FOOD DRIVE and DELIVERIES! Many many thank you's to all the volunteers who have continued to help with Meals for the Elderly (although that has been interrupted for a while), those who helped pass out groceries at St. Paul's where Methodist Assistance had also donated funds, and those who helped deliver food to home-quarantined patients of Shannon.





MEALS FOR CPS/CASA! More blessings to wish! Thank you all the volunteers who are helping provide meals to children under the care of Child Protec-

tive Services and the Court Appointed Special Advocates. Sherrie Walker is lining up this team of volunteers. If you are interested, contact her. 655-8981

KEEPERS OF THE BLESSING BOX! Thank you!!! To all of those who are keeping the Blessing Box filled. This is one of only a few in town and is emptied everyday!



Costa Mission Trip Cancelled for 2020



COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP 2020

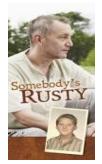
After much prayer and visiting with our team and our missionary in Costa Rica, Ray Zirkle, we have decided to cancel our mission trip for 2020. There are too many unknowns at this time and our next payment was due to the airline soon. We would not have been able to get that money back and would have only received vouchers from Southwest Airlines. At the present time the standards are that if we had chosen to go (if travel was opened back up), we would have had to come home and self quarantine for 14 days. Many just can't do that after a trip as they need to get back to work!

Our hearts are still in Costa Rica! We decided to send \$3000 to this mission so at least some of the construction and ministry can continue. Due to mission teams can-

celling for at least most of the summer, if not all, they have had to lay off some of the construction team. Not only that, but the paid construction workers are already very few. They depend on mission teams to complete the children's home and the churches that are built there. We are heartbroken that we can't go, but want to be of some support in the work that can be done.

With that being said, we have very high hopes to go again in 2021! We are so very thankful for the support *First*Family has always given this mission. Maybe you can begin being in prayer about going with us next year! You will be blessed. And, YOU will bless the people those of us who have been before have come to love and call family. *Pura Vida*!

Somebody's Rusty



By Candis Hicks



Clothing Distribution

Tidings of Last Tuesdays

Maybe in June!



Your contribution to the Blessing Box is critically needed. Please take time to place some food items in the box. There are many who are hungry and in need. This time has had a huge impact on those who have very little.

MAY 2020

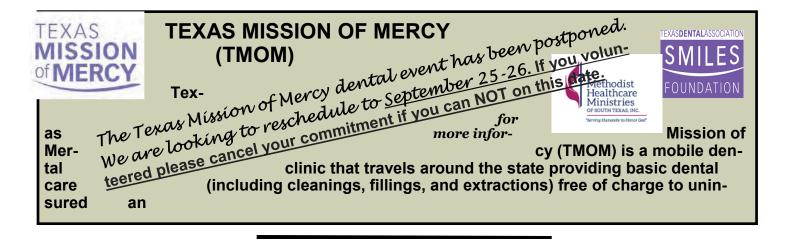


Lesa Parry, RN

MAKE A MASK

If you would like to help sew masks please text or call 215-4835 or email <u>lparry@mhm.org</u>. Note these are considered CRISIS Supply not PPE-Personal Protective Equipment. It will be used in the event that PPE is not available. Material can be made available if needed..

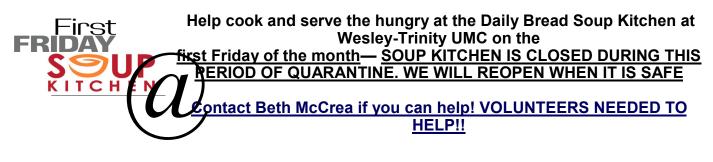




HELPING HANDS HAVE SELECTED A HOUSE TO WORK ON

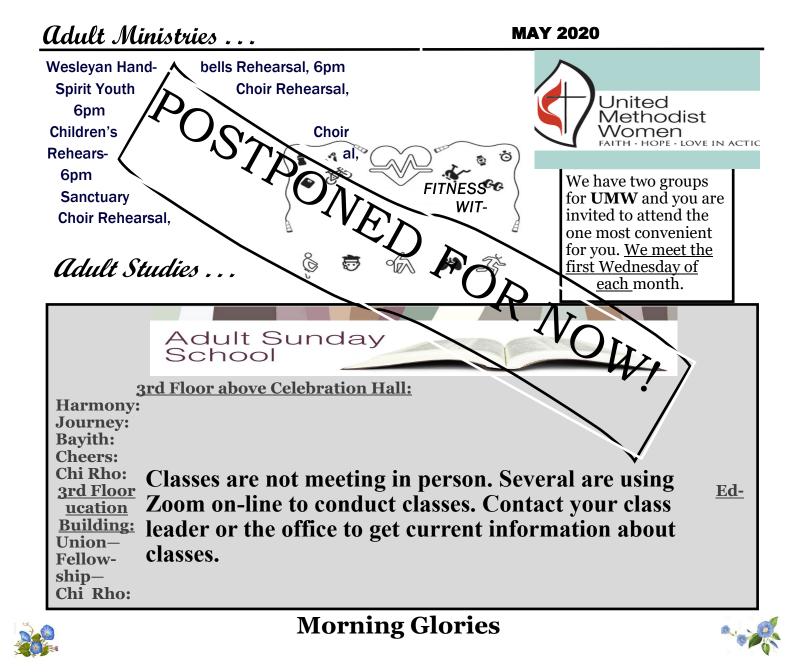


Many thanks to Jay Jones and Kevin Porche who are heading up this effort. For now it is postponed. Watch for new information and a new schedule hopefully in the near future!



Liturgist Needed

Would you like to serve in worship as a liturgist? We would love to add you to our list of those who help. Contact Pat Haines at 325 277-8124 to be added to our rotation.



Morning Glories are meeting via Zoom every Tuesday at 10am. Contact Lori Francks for more info if you wish to join this "virtual" class. They have just completed the second week of <u>Women of the World</u> by Jen Wilken and led by Jackie Cortez. This is a 6 week study so it's not too late to join them. Contact Lori at <u>lfrancks@hotmail.com</u>

Sunday Night Devotionals

A Sunday Night Prayer Meeting at 6:00 pm led by Pastor Scott has started via ZOOM. ZOOM is an ap you can download on your phone or computer. *Join a meeting?* appears and you are asked to enter the meeting link and password (shown below). Pastor Scott conducts this time of devotional. The church FaceBook and website enable you to connect and the following also allows link: <u>https:// us04web.zoom.us/j/7191121436?pwd=cVE1cmkxa0JDRWAmQ2JyM3M1VDBld209</u> can be used. *The meeting link # is <u>719 112 1436</u> password is <u>prayer</u>,*

APRIL MEMORIALS		
IN MEMORY OF	GIVEN BY	FUND
Myrt Mortimore	John & Sharon Alexander	Staff Appreciation
Myra Stovall Beeson	Judy Wilde	General Op. Budget
IN HONOR OF	GIVEN BY	FUND
Staff & Congregation	Vernon & Kathy Fritze, Jr.	Staff Appreciation

If you are financially able to continue your giving please consider giving online; setting up a draft with the Business Manager Juanita Downey, or mailing a check. If you need assistance in setting up your offering please contact the office and leave a message. 655-8981

If you go to our website: **firstmethodist.net**, there is a link for making your contributions and you can designate the source: bank or debit/credit card.

If you would rather have the church draft your offering, call Juanita Downey and you can set up procedures for that process.

APPS make life easier. With **GIVEPLUS CHURCH**, OUR MOBILE GIVING APP, YOU CAN MAKE GIVING EASIER. Use your smartphone to give anytime, anywhere!

With **GivePlus Church**, you can give to any of our church funds whenever it is convenient for you. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Please contribute as you are able. Funds are considered for the needy through Methodist Assistance and at the discretion of the pastor. Emergencies: 325 659-4424

First Family Services . . .

MAY 2020



Rev. Scott Bradford

Senior Pastor

SUNDAY WORSHIPSERVICES In the Sanctuary... 8:30 a.m. The BRIDGE 10:45 a.m. Traditional In Celebration Hall... 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Notes 10:45 Traditional service broadcast on KWFR 101.9 Childcare available during all services Children are always welcome in worship. Worship activity bags

	MAY		
/	MAY 10	1 KINGS 17:1-6 CABIN FEVER-LIFE RESTORED	
		1 KINGS 17:1-24	

SERMON TOPICS

are inside the sanctuary front and back doors and on the stage in Celebration Hall. Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the narthex.

FirstPlace Café & Info Desk

The open area next to Celebration Hall is our home to coffee and donuts, connections with our members and guests, and information about our

ministries. The Info Desk is located in the main area near the entrance to the Education wing off of Beauregard Street.



Rev. Dale Weise

Associate Pastor

Holy Communion

We celebrate Communion in all services on the first Sunday of each month. We believe this is the Lord's Table, and all are invited to participate in this Sacrament. In Homes—We will take communion to the homebound. 655-8981 to schedule OTHER SERVICES FOR WORSHIP AND FAITH DEVELOPMENT Sunday School...

Classes for adults, young couples, youth, children and infants/toddlers are held every Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m. Brochures are available

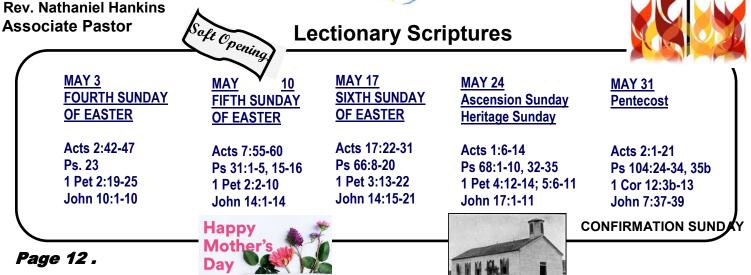
throughout the church to point you in the direction you wish to attend or check online: firstmethodist.net, or call 655-8981 for more information.

Special Seasons and Events....

Morning Glories, a women's prayer and study group, meet every Tuesday morning at 10:00 am in the Journey Sunday School Classroom. Studies are led by various members and include mission projects, prayers and active

discussions. An annual retreat highlights this group's devoted study and communion. Other study groups are held throughout the year. Our online site will list those courses that are available: firstmethodist.net or you can call the office at 655-8981 for more information.





Rev. Bryan Rog-Associate Pastor



HEALTH CONCERNS

Betty Andrews Consuelo Lopez Diana Engel (mother of Chris Wells) Ernest Lopez



Gene Walton Jim Rasor Kevin Downey (husband of Juanita Downey) Lisa Lesosky Liz Hernandez Marie Davis Mary Witt Phil Scaggs The Family of Myrt Mortimore Health Concerns Strength & Healing

Hospice Care Health Concerns Shingles & Complications Health Concerns

Health Concerns

Health Concerns Health Concerns Fall Health Concerns Health Concerns d. 3/8/2020

CANCER

Barry Kleypas Bill Humble Bitsy (Durham) Kirby Briana McCall Carol Smith Connie Weems Darlene Speck Dawn Jackson Don Drew Williams Ethan Miller Fay Coleman Fred Buck Fred Gudmundson

Jay Moore Jeff Ward Jennifer Cooper Jerry Tindel Johnny Fender Kathy Robinson Katie Ball Kevin Halfmann Kim Hunter Kinsley Baker Linda Rogers Melissa James Michaela Rigsby Nicole Kleinsmith Patsy Eckert Raul Najera Richard Watts Robert Jordan Ron Hoelle Roy Shannon Sheryl Bragg Shirley Kennedy Susan Armstrong Vernon Fritze Wendy Slaughter

Honor or memorialize someone by placing flowers on the Chancel. Contact Dori Wegner at dori@wtxs.net or 254-718-6189.





Tyler Barden USAF Jason Bird USN Daryl BradfordTXNG Chris Cavaness USAF Ryan Gandy USAF Savanah GideonUSA Johnny Goldthrite USA Randall Tye GrahamUSA Mica Greenwood USN Zane Jarvis USAF Josh Mort USAF Danielle Pozun USAF Joshua RodriguezUSAF Cody Smith USA Ryan Tallant USA



Page 13... "God is our refuge and strength, a help always near in times of great trouble."

firs kids

TUNE IN TO ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: 6:30

The Elementary kids of Sunday School are meeting Wednesday evenings around 6:15 via Zoom as an alternative to Sunday school mornings. If you would like your child to attend, contact Laurel Bradford at laurel@firstmethodist.net

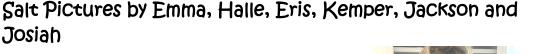


Sariah Noworatzky, the Children's Choir Director and Laurel Bradford, Director of Children's Faith and Formation Ministries are holding the Zoom meetings. There are songs, stories, and crafts for all to do at this time.

If you would like your child would like to join us-6:15 Wednesday on Zoom, https://us04web.zoom.us/j/663387603? pwd=3DYUhvZEtqTHFmSTE2RUFT<u>SXFyVkwwUT09</u> Meeting ID: 663 387 603 Password: Jesus



10Sigh





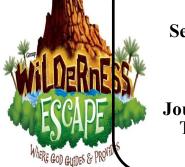




Laurel urges parents to keep connected with other parents...give kids the Chance to talk too! FaceBook, e-mails, voice messages, and even writing Cards and letters to one another. Shut-ins and nursing home occupants would welcome a note or picture from your Child. Laurel Can help with information for this sweet and Caring ministry your family Can do. E-mail or Call.



Page 14 . . .



School Set Up-Sunday, June 28th Dates Monday, June 29th-Thursday, July 2nd. Journey with God's people, The Israelites, bringing God's World to life.

Vacation Bible



AFE

"Start children off the way They should go, When they are old, they will Not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

YOUTH Ministries

MAY 2020



As I've gotten older, I have realized how annoying I was as a child. In reality, the only reason I know this is because I know my kiddos are JUST LIKE ME!

If it's one thing I cannot stand, its when we go on a long trip, and I hear the words from the back seat: "ARE WE THERE YET?!"



If I'm honest with you, that's how I feel right now. Is this crisis over yet? ARE WE THERE YET!?

The reality is, we don't know how much further we have to go, but I do know that sooner, rather than later, we will be back together again.

With that being said, many of your students may have already heard from me yesterday that our potential candidate for our Youth Pastor position will be leading this coming Sunday's Zoom call. This will be an opportunity for our candidate to meet our students and for our students to meet him.

His name is Ryan, and I know he is looking forward to meeting you, and I know our Students will show in great numbers and give him a warm reception. With that being said, below is the ZOOM info for the call. It is different than what we normally use because Pastor Scott is hosting the call. Finally, as of right now, Summer camp is still on! So, make sure that if you want to go to camp, you click the link below and preregister! I miss y'all terribly, and hope to see you all soon! We'll be in touch! Bryan

ZOOM CALL FOR SUNDAY MAY 3rd Join Zoom Meeting: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7191121436?</u> pwd=cVE1cmkxa0JDRWhmQ2JyM3M1VDBldz09 Meeting ID: 719 112 1436 Password: prayer



Dear Spirit Families,

It is with heavy heart that I send this email. Laura, Dale and I have had extensive conversations for weeks and optimistically all of us, along with our host churches have been praying for the best outcome and have been proceeding in the thought that Spirit Tour 2020 would continue. It has come time for us to realistically look at an alternative plan for tour this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is concluded by all parties that we must err on the side of safety for ALL, considering the circumstances. Practically speaking, placing a group of 50 kids and adults on a contained bus, getting on and off a bus for restroom breaks and meals, staying at hotels and camps between here and South Dakota when the planned peak for them is June 7, is not in

the best interest of anyone concerned. So this year's tour to South Dakota will be unfortunately canceled. In discussions with churches, on behalf of both parties we are all saddened and disappointed, however they are already extending the invitation for next summer in 2021. So on a positive note, next year's tour is planned!!

However, that does not address an alternative plan for this year. Within the school district's new policies, for now; contact with students is going to be prohibited until the end of June. It is looking like there is a possibility of being able meet in small groups at the beginning of July, if all seems to be going well. If possible, towards the end of the summer, I would like to see us be able to share Godspell and other music with our home congregations and some other outlying churches that have invited us to share Godspell with their congregations. In addition we would like to honor our seniors with our traditional senior led worship/ communion service with Spirit, whenever that looks feasible to congregate together with the kids. Until that time, small story groups and individuals will develop a schedule to work on needed Godspell material. Individual work time at home to learn and memorize music and any speaking lines becomes extremely crucial and important. There will just be some things that cannot be done until we are able to meet back as a group.

Regarding the handling of tour accounts. If you are paid in full for tour and are NOT a senior then your tour for 2021 is now paid for, Congratulations! If you are a senior and you paid into your account with personal/non-fundraising monies then you will be refunded your money. If you participated in a fund raiser under the name of "Spirit", those funds would stay in the Spirit account. If you paid into your Spirit account and you participated in fundraising and are over your required amount, you can be refunded your non-fundraising money or you can choose to leave it in your youth account for any youth activities such as camps or youth activities, your choice. If you have any questions about this please feel free to contact me.

For those of you that did participate in the Spirit Fund-Raising Geranium sales, I ask that you start gathering and organizing your money and get that to me. Please just contact me individually and I will make arrangements to get your money.

I waited to share this news as long as I possibly could, but arrangements need to be canceled and plans needed some resolution with churches. I thank you all for your support and sharing your youth with Spirit! I am terribly sorry for having to be the bearer of sad news. This isn't what we were hoping for but there is Hope!! Together we will all see this through and once again will be able to celebrate with full Spirit that *"He is the Light of the World!"*



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God Bless, TONY



First United Methodist Church 37 E. Beauregard San Angelo, Texas 76903

Worship Schedule...



First United Methodist Church 37 E. Beauregard San Angelo, Texas 76903

The mission of this Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world..." So, help us God!

MAY 2020

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES In the Sanctuary 8:30 a.m. The BRIDGE Traditional 10:45 a.m. In Celebration Hall –Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 Children & Adults



10:45 Traditional service broadcast on KWFR 101.9 Childcare available during all services Children are always welcome in worship. Worship activity bags are outside the sanctuary. Hearing Assistance Devices are available in

Livestream by tuning in on **YOU Tube** (if you are a member) and search for **First United Methodist Church San Angelo** or you can go to our website: **firstmethodist.net** and find the link **firstmethodist.net/sundaystreaming**; OR tune into radio: **KWFR 101.9** *THE FIRE* Questions???? Call **Bryan at 830-992-0301** the narthex.

If you would prefer to receive your Messenger publication by "snail mail", notify the office at 655-8981 and make your request; or, if you are aware that someone does not receive this publication or other FUMC mail through e-mail, please have them notify the office. Thank you!