



# FUMC Newsletter

## SEPTEMBER 2015

426 St. Paul, Gonzales, TX 78629

Phone: 830-672-8521 Fax: 830-672-4612 [www.fumcgonzales.org](http://www.fumcgonzales.org)



Enjoy a night of  
clean, family  
friendly comedy  
& music... and  
don't forget to  
save room for  
dessert!



**Saturday • October 17 • 6:00 PM**

**First United Methodist Church**

426 St. Paul Street • Gonzales, TX 78629

**TICKETS: \$10 in advance | \$15 at the door**

Doors open at 5:30 PM • Event begins at 6:00 PM

Childcare provided for age 2 years and older. Reservations are required.

Please call 830-672-8521 to reserve space for your child.

INFO: **830-672-8521** | [www.fumcgonzales.org](http://www.fumcgonzales.org)

[www.ScottDavis.com](http://www.ScottDavis.com)

Does God like to laugh? Some might consider the question irrelevant, but I don't think so. I believe laughter is at the heart of God's character and a fundamental principle to our faith. This is based on 1 Corinthians 1: 18, ***"For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."***

God laughs joyously every time the foolishness of the cross changes someone's life, or gives someone hope, or heals someone's wounds, or leads someone to a deeper commitment to God. I believe laughter blesses our body and soul. It can encourage. It can promote healing and even help us understand God.

Scott Davis is a nationally renowned Christian comedian. He will perform at our Church on October 17. Scott will not only make us laugh but inspire us with his faith testimony. This is a wonderful fellowship opportunity for our church. It also provides a reason for each of us to invite someone to church (or encourage someone to come back to church.)

Tickets are available ***NOW*** through the church office and on Sunday mornings. Tickets are \$10 in advance.

I encourage you to buy tickets for those in your home

**BUT ALSO** that you buy 2, 5, or 10 extra tickets (as you can afford) and give them to someone as a gift. This is evangelism! Give your extra tickets to someone that needs to experience the joy of Christian fellowship, or someone who hasn't been to church in a while, or someone that needs the blessing of a church family.

We have a limited amount of tickets for the 6pm show. If we sell out, Scott will be prepared to offer a second show at 8:30pm. If that happens, we will sell separate tickets for that later performance.

**My hope is to have as many people come and experience this joyful event.**

*In Christ's Service,*

*Andy*



*Altar Flowers for September  
are given by:*

*September 6*

Nancy Logan  
In Memory of Jim Logan

Eldon Farek, and Carol Farek  
Deanie, Leslie, and Paisley Ploeger  
Lisa and Bruce Gindler, Andy Gindler  
Kayla and Brent Gindler  
In Memory of Ann Farek

*September 13*

Mrs. Norma B. Fink  
In Memory of William Fink

Mary Ella and Hensley Hurt

*September 20*

Herman Grauke  
Tyree and Loretta Schurig,  
Ashley and Robert  
Jason and Carolyn Rogers,  
Layne and Jasey  
In Memory of Sue Grauke

*September 27*

Bobby Morgan Family  
In Memory of Loved Ones

**Staff**

Rev. Andy Smith, Senior Pastor  
Ruth Smith, Youth Pastor  
David Smith, Director of Discipleship & Connections  
Willa Keck, Children's Ministry Director  
Felicia Cantu, Office Manager  
Rosemary Hindman, Business Manager  
Shirley Goss, Wesley Nurse  
Craig Aamot, Music Minister  
Christina Menking, Organist  
Bill Meadows, Pianist  
Sandra Jandt, Happy House Director  
Rosannah Green, Attendance  
Lupe Longoria, Custodian

**Book Club News**

At our meeting on August 27, we discussed the selection for this month: The Yada Yada Prayer Group by Neta Jackson. Jackson and her husband Dave are best known for the Trailblazer books, a forty-book series of historical fiction about famous Christian heroes. The Yada Yada Prayer Group is the first in a series about an unlikely group of women who are bound together by their search for spiritual growth and emotional support after meeting at a "women's conference." Jackson does an excellent job of creating believable characters who are interesting, astonishing, genuinely-funny (at times) and likable. Our group agreed that the Yada Yada group was Christianity in action. We also discovered that "Yada" in Hebrew has a completely different meaning from the way some of us use the word in English (sort of like, "blah, blah," or "etc., etc., etc."). The Hebrew meaning is "to know" which is what the women of this prayer group were seeking to do...to know the Bible, the Christian life, and each other better. They accidentally ended up with the perfect name for their group. We agreed that we would recommend the book as a fun but insightful read and would also like to read some of the rest of the series.

We are excited about our September selection which has been a topic on 60 Minutes and took place in near-by Williamson County. Getting Life: An Innocent Man's Journey from Prison to Peace is the true story of Michael Morton's twenty-five year wrongful imprisonment for the murder of his wife. While in prison, Morton obtained two degrees in literature, so the book is well-written and not ugly or brutal, but a story of hope and peace. Come join in our discussion on September 24 at 9:30 in the church library. Fran Jackson will be leading the discussion.



Martha Jo Whitt

**ATTENTION ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS AND PARENTS!!**



Please give us the address of where your student will receive mail. Call the church office at 672 -8521 as soon as possible. Our Membership & Care Committee will be sending them care packages throughout the year. Thank you!

# Thank You

Our Methodist church family has been a wonderful support group during my illness and recoup period. I appreciate your prayers, calls, cards, food, etc.

Thanks for everything!  
Love, Arva Nell Needham

Dear FUMC Scholarship Committee,

Thank y'all so much for awarding me with the Traeger Scholarship! I am so blessed to have you as my church family and thank you for your support. I am honored and can not thank y'all enough.

Much love & thanks, Hannah Keck

Dear Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to thank you for your generous \$1,000 Minter Family Scholarship. I was very happy and appreciative to learn that I was selected as the recipient of your scholarship.

I am a Athletic Training major. I plan to pursue a career in athletic training upon graduating from Texas State University. I have enrolled in 16 hours and plan to attend school both during the fall, and the summer. I am planning on graduating in 2019. After graduation, I am hoping to land a job in the NCAA. Thanks to you, I am one step closer to that goal.

By awarding me the Minter Family Scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Sincerely, Alexis Cerda

Dear First United Methodist Church Scholarship Board,

Thank you for the Minter Family Scholarship of \$1,000. I am attending Texas A&M in College Station as part of the Texas A&M Blinn Team Program. I will have dual enrollment on both campuses. My goal is to graduate with a business degree. I greatly appreciate your generosity.

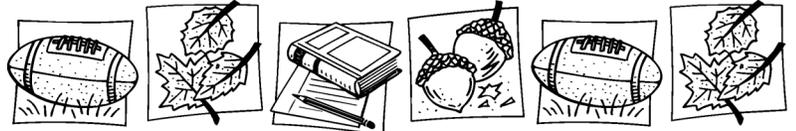
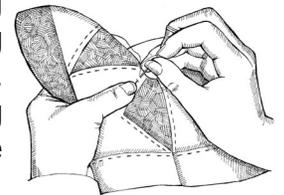
Sincerely, Travis Schauer

**Thank you to everyone who helped make  
our Annual Teacher Appreciation  
Luncheon a huge success!**

## Earth Angels

Earth Angels are gearing up for a new and exciting new year. New people, new plans, new projects, and new challenges are all on our monthly agendas. Come see us; come see what we do; come learn with us.

Women who are interested in quilting make up our group called Earth Angels. Meetings are usually held at 6:00 PM on the second Tuesday of each month, in the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Center. A typical meeting involves an inspirational reading followed by the mentioning of persons who may be in need of prayers or in need of being "wrapped in God's love" by the presentation of a quilt. Members share ideas, show quilts they have made, and engage in quilting projects. Fellowship and sharing play a major role in Earth Angels. Feel free to visit our next meeting on September 8, 2015; we'd love to have you.



### STATISTICAL REPORT JULY, 2015

DATE	8:30	10:45	TOTAL	SS	OFFERINGS
5	—	179	179	72	\$ 12,590.50
12	118	129	247	76	\$ 11,007.25
19	121	188	309	70	\$ 15,791.28
26	112	123	235	65	\$ 7,981.70
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>\$ 47,370.73</b>
<b>AVERAGES:</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>71</b>	

**TOTAL EXPENSES FOR THE MONTH: \$ 52,306.99**  
**NET GAIN OR LOSS FOR THE MONTH: \$ 4,936.26**  
**APPORTIONMENTS PAID TO DATE: 75%**

# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/01	Connie Davis	9/13	Don Leifeste	9/21	Charlotte Wilson
9/02	Macy Sample		David Bivins		Deanie Ploeger
9/03	Eve Waddell		Dustin Williams		Keith Stultz
	Layne Barnick	9/14	Booty Neitsch		Keith Heldarsen
9/04	Sue Harris		Jack Finch		Maggie Farrar
	Mason Matejcek		Devin Bennett		Brendan Yoakum
9/05	Billy Bouldin	9/15	Bobby Morgan	9/22	Steve Taylor
	Doyle Allen		Braden Brzozowski		Kathleen Borrer
	Garen Reese	9/16	Rusty Clampit	9/23	Frances Ehrig
9/06	Sammie Massie	9/17	Leah Behlen	9/24	Willene Tate
	Andy Smith		Jay Pruet		Nancy Logan
	Christi Fullilove		Cole Boothe		Luke Meadows
	Cade Davis	9/18	Lana Lucas	9/25	Judy Neitsch
	John Gentry		Emersyn Kusak		Matthew Oakes
9/08	Elenore Ehrig	9/19	Tammy Morgan		Parker Storey
	Dane Sullivan		Mike Vaughan	9/26	Kristi Mercer
	Jake Hardcastle	9/20	Kathy Gibson	9/27	Ludene Poe
9/09	Darren Schauer		Keith Schauer		Chad Denman
	Eldon Farek		Shannon Sample	9/28	Sherry Poe
	Tim Gray		Jamie Bryant		Tyler Campos
	Will Miller		Kristie Seale	9/29	Blake Allen
9/11	Charles Pankey		Tyler Kuntschik	9/30	Tim Allen
	Stephanie Carter		Travis Malaer		Joseph Matejcek
	Lance Behlen		Lloyd Gacke		
	Kelsie Remschel				
	James Gacke				



Happy  
Anniversary!

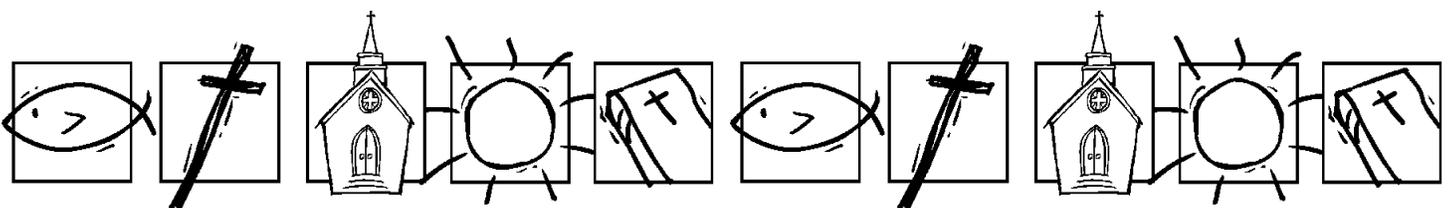
9/3	Robert & Amanda Willman
9/10	Greg & Joan Griffin
	Clayton & Stephanie Gacke
9/11	Keeton & Jessica Ehrig
9/12	Matt & Lea Ann Wyant
9/14	Emmitt & Marie Currie
9/18	Bobby & Barbara Atkinson
9/21	Steve & Penci Petty
9/22	Larry & Patrice Gray
	David & Sascha Kardosz
9/25	Bill & Tommie McMurtry

Please contact Felicia at the church office, 672-8521, if your information is missing or incorrect.

# SEPTEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

 <p><b>Communion Service</b></p>	<b>September 6, 2015</b>	<b>8:30 A.M. SERVICE</b>	<b>10:45 SERVICE</b>	
	Cole Boothe Morgan Boothe Josie Stowers Emmitt Currie (Lead) Erwin Ckudre Bill DeBerry Herman Grauke Commie Hisey Bill Keck Willa Keck	Kylee Watson Baron DuBose Sadie Thibodeaux Pal Lester (Lead) David Bird Jeffery Braune Mike Davis Bitsy Henderson Shirley Goss Willa Keck	<b><u>ACOLYTES</u></b>  <b><u>USHERS</u></b>  <b><u>LITURGIST</u></b> <b><u>CHILDREN'S SERMON</u></b>	
	<b>September 13, 2015</b>	<b>8:30 A.M. SERVICE</b>	<b>10:45 SERVICE</b>	
	Hadley Borrer Brody Borrer Daniel Sullivan Emmitt Currie (Lead) Joe Britt Hindman Kenneth Fink John Lucas Ronnie Menking Emily Neuse Lisa Gindler	Morgan Farrar Faith Lester Trent Wilkerson Pal Lester (Lead) Eldon Farek Dick Goss Shirley Goss Greg Griffin Gene Kridler Lisa Gindler	<b><u>ACOLYTES</u></b>  <b><u>USHERS</u></b>  <b><u>LITURGIST</u></b> <b><u>CHILDREN'S SERMON</u></b>	
	<b>September 20, 2015</b>	<b>8:30 A.M. SERVICE</b>	<b>10:45 SERVICE</b>	
	Mallory Clack Braden Clampit Natalie Tenberg Emmitt Currie (Lead) Greg Sengelmann Steve Taylor John Whitt Martha Jo Whitt Maydell Pankey Commie Hisey	Ava Medellin Grace Morgan Weldon Holub Pal Lester (Lead) Tom Lester Sr. Cheryl Meadows Bobby Morgan Ray Neitsch Pam Lester Commie Hisey	<b><u>ACOLYTES</u></b>  <b><u>USHERS</u></b>  <b><u>LITURGIST</u></b> <b><u>CHILDREN'S SERMON</u></b>	
	<b>September 27, 2015</b>	<b>8:30 A.M. SERVICE</b>	<b>10:45 SERVICE</b>	
	Ashtyn Kardosz Brendon Mercer Ancel Atkinson Emmitt Currie (Lead) Billy Boothe Sue Boothe Jimmy Borrer Gary Clack Amanda Reed Kristi Mercer	Slone Gibson Paisley Ploeger Nicholas Casares Pal Lester (Lead) Leslie Ploeger Mary Tomas Justin Pope Kelly Allen Cheryl Meadows Kristi Mercer	<b><u>ACOLYTES</u></b>  <b><u>USHERS</u></b>  <b><u>LITURGIST</u></b> <b><u>CHILDREN'S SERMON</u></b>	

If you are unable to serve on the date scheduled, please contact the church office, 672-8521.



# September 2015

September 2015

October 2015

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 30 - Sep 5	Aug 30	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5
			10:00am Shut-In-Visitation 11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 6:00pm Small Group Bible Study	8:30am Happy House 10:00am Bible Study-CO 1:00pm Alzheimer Support Group-BP 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 4:00pm Jr. High Youth 5:30pm Praise Band Practice-S 6:30pm Choir Practice- 6:30pm Sr. High Youth	9:00am District Event-Shift-FC 9:30am Communion @ Care Centers 11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 4:00pm Reunion Group-CO		
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sep 6 - 12	COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:30am Worship-S 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship-S 2:30pm Communion @ Romberg House 5:00pm Youth Bible Study-YR 6:30pm The Gathering-C	Labor Day-Office Closed	10:00am Shut-In-Visitation 11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 5:30pm Wesleyan Circle-N 6:00pm Quilt Group-FC 6:00pm Small Group Bible Study	8:30am Happy House 10:00am Bible Study-CO 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 4:00pm Jr. High Youth 5:30pm Pioneer Club Registration-FC 5:30pm Praise Band Practice-S 6:30pm Choir Practice- 6:30pm Sr. High Youth	11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 4:00pm Reunion Group-CO 5:30pm Pioneer Club Registration-FC		10:00am Private Event-N
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	8:30am Worship-S 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship-S 5:00pm Youth Bible Study-YR 6:30pm The Gathering-C	8:00am Happy House Fall Pictures-N 8:30am Happy House 10:30am Staff Mtg-L 12:00pm Cancer Support Group-N 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP 6:00pm Dominoes-N 7:00pm Bible Study-CO	8:00am Private Event-FH 10:00am Shut-In-Visitation 11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 6:00pm Small Group Bible Study	8:30am Happy House 10:00am Bible Study-CO 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 3:30pm Pioneer Club 4:00pm Jr. High Youth 5:30pm Praise Band Practice-S 6:30pm Choir Practice-CR 6:30pm Sr. High Youth	11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 4:00pm Reunion Group-CO		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
8:30am Worship-S 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship-S 4:00pm 4-H Meeting 5:00pm Youth Bible Study-YR 6:30pm The Gathering-C	8:30am Happy House 10:30am Staff Mtg-L 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP 6:00pm Dominoes-N 7:00pm Bible Study-CO	10:00am Shut-In-Visitation 11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 6:00pm Small Group Bible Study	8:30am Happy House 10:00am Bible Study-CO 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 3:30pm Pioneer Club 4:00pm Jr. High Youth 5:30pm Praise Band Practice-S 6:30pm Choir Practice-CR 6:30pm Sr. High Youth	9:30am Book Club-L 11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 4:00pm Reunion Group-CO		8:00am Private Event-FH	
27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3	
8:30am Worship-S 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship-S 1:30pm Set up Food Booths 2:00pm Private Event-FC 5:00pm Youth Bible Study-YR 6:30pm The Gathering-C	8:30am Happy House 10:30am Staff Mtg-L 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP 6:00pm Dominoes-N 7:00pm Bible Study-CO	10:00am Shut-In-Visitation 11:00am Flex & Tone-FC 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 6:00pm Small Group Bible Study	8:30am Happy House 10:00am Bible Study-CO 2:00pm WN Exercise-FC 3:30pm Pioneer Club 4:00pm Jr. High Youth 5:30pm Praise Band Practice-S 6:30pm Choir Practice-CR 6:30pm Sr. High Youth				

# Children's Corner

**About Pioneer Club,** Registration dates are Sept 9th and 10<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm. Bring copies (front and back) of insurance cards. Registration fee remains at \$50/year. This fee covers cost of afternoon snacks.

Starting date is Sept 16 as long as I have all the volunteer positions filled. Volunteers are always welcome and needed as there are several areas that I still need help with--classroom assistants, teachers, and transportation. The Pioneer Club program reaches so many children in the community, but only works smoothly if the volunteers are present. Prayerfully consider helping with this rewarding program on Wednesday afternoons. You will learn and have fun as much as the children! Please contact me at 672-8521, 830-857-6630, or [wkeck@gvec.net](mailto:wkeck@gvec.net) if you can help or have questions!

**Come and Take It News:** Come and Take It will be here before you know it!! Plans for the Children and Youth Come and Take It Food Booth are under way!! **Parents, children and youth are all asked to work on the square in the food booth! We need workers in every shift!!** The sign up board will go up soon in the Narthex! Remember that the food booths are a major fundraising event for youth and children and we are providing a service for the community by hosting the food booths. I use the fundraising monies towards Pioneer Club activities, Christmas Craft Fair, Rocky Creek Maze Trip, Vacation Bible School, and other events. Come and Take It weekend is very busy for everyone, filled with many activities, but as long as we all share the food booth workload, everyone still has time for family and fun too! The menu includes the ever so popular turkey legs, sausage wraps, roasted corn and sweets!

**Congregation-**Once again I am asking for the congregations help. Can you supply the children and youth booth with great desserts again? You have always provided us with so many delicious desserts - cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, rice krispy treats and more!! And we always sell just about everything you bake! Our congregation is known for what great cooks we have! Thank you for always helping us out!

I do ask that if you provide a dessert; do not use peanuts or peanut butter or bake anything that requires refrigeration. Bring sweets to the kitchen as each item must be logged in. Items will be cut and packaged in the church kitchen. I have to keep count of every piece of dessert that goes to the food booth!

**On Sunday, Sept 27, the food booths must be set up.** Meet at the City Warehouse across the street from E-Barr Feeds at 1:30pm. The food booths must be loaded onto trailer first. Then, go to the downtown square to begin set up. Youth, children and parents are needed to assemble, clean the booths (our responsibility) and to help our neighbors on the square with their booths too. Let's have a great showing of Methodists to help that afternoon!

Do you have a **Sunday School** class? Ask about the different classes we have for children and adults! Classes begin at 9:45am. If you need help in finding a class, don't hesitate to ask. Children and youth meet upstairs in the education building. The 2-4 year olds meet downstairs of the education building, next to the nursery. Sunday School is where you can really get into the Bible story and lesson and discuss and ask questions! And sometimes you even get to play with puzzles or go to Dairy Queen!

**Acolyte Training** – Date to be determined. Stay tuned!!

## Fall Calendar:

**Sun, Sept 6 - Come and Take It Sign Up Board-**Start signing up to work the Food Booth.

**Sun, Sept 6–** Help Pastor Andy with Communion at Romberg.

**Mon, Sept 7 -** Labor Day, **office closed.**

**Wed, Sept 9 and Thurs., Sept 10– Pioneer Club Registration** in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm.

**Wed, Sept 16– Pioneer Club starts! (If all volunteer positions filled)**

**Sun, Sept 27-** Help is needed to **set up Come and Take it Food booths. Meet at city warehouse (Across street from E-Barr Feeds) at 1:30pm. Then go to the square to set up and clean food booths.** Help Set up the Methodist booths and others too.

# United Methodist Women News



So sorry we had to cancel the August Luncheon; I simply forgot that the Narthex was in use that day. Hope that didn't inconvenience anyone.

We will plan to get-together on December 7<sup>th</sup> for a Christmas celebration of faith and fellowship.

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## UMW Sunday

**Thank you** to everyone who stepped in and took parts for UMW Sunday. From all I have heard, everything went well. Martha Jo Whitt's talk must have wonderful. Thank you Martha Jo for accepting that important responsibility. Many thanks to Emily Neuse and Shirley Goss for being liturgists. Ushers, Katie Garrett, Mary Ckudre, Teresa Clack, Norma Fink, Julie Lester, Marian Gindler, and Mary Tomas, thank you for greeting and attending to all the "behind-the-scene" jobs of using.

## Wesleyan Circle

Wesleyan Circle will start up after our summer break on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in becoming a part of United Methodist Women is invited to join us at 5:30 PM in the Narthex. We begin with a light meal, then move on to the program.

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## Victoria District UMW Annual Meeting September 19, 2015 Industry United Methodist Church

The first Annual Meeting for the Crossroads District of United Methodist Women is meeting in Industry, Texas (Just east of La Grange) at the United Methodist Church located at 1914 Main Street.

**Registration begins at 8:00AM with the meeting beginning at 8:30AM.**

**Deadline for Registration is Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> Cost is \$8.00**

Studies to be offered include – "**Latin American**" taught by Becky Harrell, "**Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God**" taught by Andrea Gibbud and "**The Church and People With Disabilities**" taught by Barbara Dorff.

Please contact Cheryl Meadows by **September 6<sup>th</sup>** if you are interested in attending. Cheryl plans to attend and would love to have others go with me. I'll handle registration on-line; just let me know if you can attend.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Rio Texas Conference Annual Meeting**  
**Friday and Saturday, October 16-17, 2015 to be hosted by the Capital District.**  
More details to follow in October Newsletter.

# DISCIPLE FAST-TRACK

BIBLE STUDY FOR BUSY LIVES

Disciple Bible Study has come out with a new course built upon their original study material but modified for busy lives. This Bible study is a 24 week exploration of the Old and New Testaments.

It's not too late to join one of our two weekly Bible Study groups: Monday nights at 7pm. Or Wednesday mornings at 10am. Both groups will meet in the Servants Sunday School Room. (next to the choir room in the education building). Student books are available in the church office for \$32.



A new Grief Support group will begin meeting on Tuesday, September 8th.

We will meet at Noon in the bridal parlor room across from the church kitchen.

This is an open group to anyone in our church family and community.

## Wesley Nurse News

*“O Lord, I have come to you for protection; do not let me be disgraced. Save me, for you do what is right.” Psalm 31:1.*

Mental Health is something we tend to take for granted until there is a problem. At that time we wonder where to turn for help. In addition, stigmas are often attached to mental health issues which make us reluctant to seek help and we pretend that everything is just fine. Mental illnesses can affect people of any age, religion, race, or economic status and are one of the leading causes of disability in the world. Without treatment, they can result in unemployment, homelessness, incarceration, or suicide. Depression is one of the most common mental illnesses. Symptoms of clinical depression include: persistent feeling of “emptiness,” sleep disturbances, inability to concentrate, memory problems, changes in appetite, loss of pressure or interest in things that were once enjoyable, irritability, loss of energy, and feelings of hopelessness. We can't separate our physical, mental, and spiritual health. Only when we seek wholeness through our Creator do we find true joy. Most people who are diagnosed with some kind of mental illness can be successfully treated, especially if help is sought early.

*“Everyone tried to touch him, because healing power went out from him, and he healed everyone.” Luke 6:19* Starting with your family physician, find a hospital/psychiatrist that can treat the entire family. The plan should include interventions to educate the family, treat the person medically, and address the spiritual and interpersonal components of the illness. Mental illness affects more than just the patient so make sure everyone that is physically and emotionally connected to the patient seeks assistance for the ramifications of the illness. As caregivers, remember to take care of yourself in order to deal with the frustration and anxiety of the family disease.

The Wesley Nurse Program at First UMC provides health education programs, exercise classes, and office hours for resource information. Contact Shirley Goss at 830-672-1031. Thank you for your support in forms of participation, interest and donations to the Wesley Nurse Discretionary Fund which helps serve the needy people of our community.

## Discipleship News

Hey everyone! Here is a brief snapshot of three things that have been going on this summer. Also, **look for an important announcement at the bottom for all the men in the church.**

### College Group

This summer, Ruth and I were able to get to know an incredible group of college students. Meeting weekly in Ruth and I's home, we worked with through the book, *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan. It was a wonderful experience to be able to discuss together God's love and how His love moves us to obedience. We sent our group off by going to The Main Event in Austin where we tried some rock-climbing, played some arcade games, and got dominated by Ruth in laser tag.



### Small Group

In July, we began our first small group in Ruth and I's home. For the past couple of months, fourteen of us have been meeting weekly to eat together, spend time with one another, and discuss our relationship with Christ. We have been working through the book, *In the Name of Jesus* by Henri Nouwen. I am so grateful for these fourteen people who have made the decision to meet together every week.

We will be expanding to another group during the Fall semester. If you are interested in this amazing opportunity to grow together as followers of Jesus, don't hesitate to contact me!

### The Gathering

The Gathering is a worship service we have every Sunday night from 6:30-7:30pm in the Chapel. The purpose of the Gathering is simply to enter together into the Lord's presence. We do this primarily through prayer and music. Every week we center our time around a different theme; in past weeks our themes have included: The Brevity of Life, The Holy Spirit, Seeing God in Creation, and Intercessory Prayer. I highly encourage you to come and worship with us one week! It is a great way to keep our eyes fixed upon Jesus for the week ahead.

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**Men's Group- Thursday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00-7:30 am**, A brand new Men's Group will meet weekly on Thursday mornings. We'll be working through a 24-week series called, **The Quest For Authentic Manhood**, where we will discover what it means to be a real man as defined by God. Cost is \$20 for a workbook. Contact David Smith if interested!

# All things YOUTH

*“For you have died, and  
your life is hidden with  
Christ in God.”*  
**Colossians 3:3**

Hey everyone!

Can you believe that it is September already!? With the month of August wrapping up we welcome a new season—one filled with full plates, booked schedules and time flying by. So many new and exciting things are happening all around and all we need to do is slow down and take it all in. As we start this new school year with so much to do I challenge us as a church to reflect over our lives and gain a fresh and true perspective—a perspective with Christ at the center of our lives.



## IMPORTANT DATES & ACTIVITIES:

**Jr. High Youth: 4:00-5:00PM \*Snacks are provided for Jr. High\***

**Sr. High Youth: 6:30-8:00PM \*Dinner provided for Sr. High\***

Starting on **SEPTEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>** we will start our Sunday night bible study, which is open for Jr. & Sr. High. It will be up in the youth room and will meet every **Sunday evening 5:00-6:00PM.**

SEPTEMBER 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <i>Jr. High:</i> 4:00-5:00PM <i>Sr. High:</i> 6:30-8:00PM	3	4	5
6 <i>Bible Study:</i> 5:00-6:00PM	7	8	9 <i>Jr. High:</i> 4:00-5:00PM <i>Sr. High:</i> 6:30-8:00PM	10	11	12
13 <i>Bible Study:</i> 5:00-6:00PM	14	15	16 <i>Jr. High:</i> 4:00-5:00PM <i>Sr. High:</i> 6:30-8:00PM	17	18	19
20 <i>Bible Study:</i> 5:00-6:00PM	21	22	23 <i>Jr. High:</i> 4:00-5:00PM <i>Sr. High:</i> 6:30-8:00PM	24	25	26
27 <i>Bible Study:</i> 5:00-6:00PM	28	29	30 <i>Jr. High:</i> 4:00-5:00PM <i>Sr. High:</i> 6:30-8:00PM			

First United Methodist Church  
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***Mark your calendars and save the date!***



The banner features a portrait of Scott Davis on the left. To his right is a circular graphic of a strawberry with a swirl of white cream. The text 'Sweet Life!' is written in a large, elegant script font. Below it, 'DESSERT COMEDY THEATRE' and 'Featuring Scott Davis' are written in a smaller, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the banner, the text 'Tickets available now!' is written in a bold, yellow font with a black outline. Below that, the date and time 'Saturday • October 17, 2015 • 6:00 PM' are written in a large, bold, black font.

**Sweet Life!**  
DESSERT COMEDY THEATRE  
Featuring Scott Davis  
**Tickets available now!**  
**Saturday • October 17, 2015 • 6:00 PM**

***Call the church office for more info.***