

The United Methodist Church of Frankston
P. O. Box 355
Frankston, TX 75763-0035

If you are not receiving the newsletter by email and wish to do so, or if you would no longer like to receive it by email, please call the church office at 903.876.2235 to correct the problem.



The United Methodist Messenger

"Making New Disciples Of Christ For The Transformation Of TheWorld"

Rev. Matt Thomas, Pastor

- Matthew 28:16-20

A heartfelt thanks to all of you for a meaningful past 6 months since Christina and I moved in to 359 Reagan Street. You have been welcoming and gracious, willing and committed. We end our year having journeyed with you to Bethlehem to celebrate God's greatest gift to the world. We are off to a great start and look forward to the new year of transformed lives through great ministry and worship. In the meantime, we are taking a respite and will do some much needed reflection on our ministry. We are on our way to Colorado for some rejuvenating rest. On the way, Christina has afforded me some time to write and reflect.

Christina and I were both overwhelmed by your generosity to us. We still have a hard time putting our minds around your love offering and kind gifts and expressions. We had the party of the year at the parsonage and couldn't believe the turnout. It was such a joyous night and we offer our sincerest thanks for all your gifts, food and receptivity to our ministry.

We are about to start a new year and no doubt there will be items, plans and resolutions we wish to see come to fruition. The Christmas message I gave throughout Advent that culminated on Christmas Eve was making room for Christ. New Year's requires more space, room and capacity for change. The biblical witness can be summed up by making room for the redeemer by living by faith. As we start a new year and continue on the journey of faith, we fast forward two years when the wise men come. For centuries, the church has designated this time as Epiphany. Jesus is a toddler still living in the House of Bread. Wise men come bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gifts have significance and tell the story of his calling, status as a king, and his death. But the wise men come. They come to Jesus. It's a long journey, perilous perhaps. Kings come bowing and present their gifts to the one true King.

In reflection, all of heaven and earth have pointed to a remote place called Bethlehem. Kings and shepherds alike have come to see. In the new year, we are invited to take the journey; to come see the savior. For the good tidings of great joy is for all people. Life and new starts and a new year can be very fruitful, if by faith we come to Jesus. Our most fruitful life, dreams imagined, strength for today, forgiveness extended, joy and love awakened can be realized in coming to Jesus. Let me conclude by suggesting following Jesus on your own won't be enough to ensure what can be realized. It takes real discipline and others to help us follow. You ask why attend worship and be a part of a small group? You and I will never be able to follow alone and live in to the future God desires for us without each other.

Have a Happy New Year and Joyful Epiphany,

Matt

JANUARY CALENDAR

- Jan 1 **New Year's Day – Church offices & FLC closed**
Jan 3 7:30 a.m. *First Friday Fresh Produce* for all
Jan 5 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Jan 5 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, fellowship hall
Jan 5 11 a.m. *Communion Epiphany Worship*, sanctuary
Jan 5 4 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets, Family Life Center
Jan 12 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Jan 12 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, fellowship hall
Jan 12 11 a.m. *Worship Service*, sanctuary
Jan 12 4 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets, Family Life Center
Jan 13 9 a.m. Stocking Rainbow House, FLC
Jan 13 Noon United Methodist Women meet, brown bag lunch, Family Life Center
Jan 15 5:30 p.m. Family Night Dinner, fellowship hall
Jan 15 6:30 p.m. Family Night children's activities & Bible study, church
Jan 15 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir practice, sanctuary
Jan 18 8 a.m. United Methodist Men hold breakfast meeting, Family Life Center
Jan 18 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Ministry planning meeting, Family Life Center
Jan 19 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Jan 19 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, fellowship hall
Jan 19 11 a.m. *Worship Service*, sanctuary
Jan 19 4 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets, Family Life Center
Jan 22 5:30 p.m. Family Night Dinner, fellowship hall
Jan 22 6:30 p.m. Family Night children's activities & Bible study, church
Jan 22 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir practice, sanctuary
Jan 26 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Jan 26 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time, fellowship hall
Jan 26 11 a.m. *Worship Service*, sanctuary
Jan 26 Noon *Covered Dish Lunch*, FLC
Jan 26 MINISTRY FAIR, Family Life Center
Jan 26 4 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets, Family Life Center
Jan 27 9 a.m. Stocking Rainbow House, FLC
Jan 28 9 a.m. – Noon *Rainbow House* distribution, Family Life Center
Jan 29 5:30 p.m. Family Night Dinner, fellowship hall
Jan 29 6:30 p.m. Family Night children's activities & Bible study, church
Jan 29 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir practice, sanctuary

MINISTRY FAIR SET

Each year, we are asked to volunteer to serve on a Ministry Team. This year is no exception, but we will be having a "Ministry Fair" following a covered dish lunch on January 26 in the Family Life Center.

At the Ministry Fair, each team will have a table set up with information about its purpose, so that we can more fully understand what it is that we are volunteering to do. The Ministry Teams are:

Education
Human Relations
Nurture
Marketing
Worship
Youth Ministry
Children's Ministry
Missions
Stewardship
Music
Acolytes
United Methodist Women
United Methodist Men

We will also have a "church directory" table set up to update your information and picture, if needed.

This event will be fun and definitely worthwhile, so mark your calendar now and plan to be there!



Following the Morning Service
JANUARY 26 - FAMILY LIFE CENTER

United Methodist Women thank all for generosity



Special thanks to everyone for your generosity, which helped provide 60 children with multiple gifts for a very happy Christmas as well as 25 senior citizens receiving Meals-On-Wheels who also received a Christmas bag of goodies, puzzle books, gloves, robes, pajamas, socks, toiletries, etc. Without your caring and giving this would not happen. Thanks again..

We'll begin the New Year with our meeting on Jan. 13 at noon in the Family Life Center.

Cathy Duncan

METHODIST SCARLET LADIES



To begin our New Year, we will wear our RED HATS to a NEW restaurant — JIMMY'S EGG. It is located at 6004 S. Broadway in Tyler. Several people had mentioned it, so I've tried it out and can't wait to go back! It's bright white building with bright orange shutters, and an equally bright interior.

They feature eggs cooked in every conceivable way, plus other breakfast favorites: pancakes, waffles, french toast, and cinnamon rolls.

Not interested in "breakfast"? You can choose from sandwiches, burgers, salads, pot roast, chopped steak, fried chicken – and the list goes on! Try to download or otherwise read a menu in advance, because it takes a while!

Let's meet there at 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 23rd. I'll need your reservations by Monday, Jan. 20, because I will call in our reservations early on Tuesday.

Dot Clark, 903.876.2925

RAINBOW HOUSE NEWS

The Rainbow House Food Pantry served 111 families, a total of 378 persons, on Tuesday, Dec. 17.



Of those served, 107 were senior adults ages 55 and older, 156 were adults ages 18-54, and 115 were children ages 17 and younger.

Our thanks to all those volunteers who helped serve the families, in December and in prior months. Thanks also to the individuals and groups who regularly donate food, clothing and money to help make it possible to serve those in need of help providing for their families. A very special thanks to the United Methodist Women who provided a ham for each family. Thanks also to Brookshire's Spring Market that sponsored donations of food and money. A special thanks to Ms. Kelly and the families of Lil' Indians Daycare for the crayons, pencils, and coloring/activity books that were given in the Christmas stockings to Rainbow Kids. The Christmas party for children and their families featured time with Santa, music, food and fun.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry for the Frankston area community, call 903.876.2235 and find out how you can volunteer or donate food or clothing items.

This is an excellent way to show your love for your neighbors and further God's mission.





We worship God with: Our Prayers

We Pray For... Family of Bert Newnham, Nancy Oliver's mother; **Georgia Haertling**, young granddaughter of Nancy Oliver, hospitalized with RSV, ear infection, & viral pneumonia; **Rosi Brown**, Kaitlin Tatum's mother, back surgery scheduled for Monday, Dec. 30; **Vicki Amundson**, recovering from back surgery; **Bryan Corn**, serious condition after auto accident; **Jayne Beddingfield**, fractured pelvis; **Terry Younger**, Suzette Martin's dad, complications from Parkinson's; **Berna Younger**, Suzette Martin's mother, prayers for strength and encouragement; **Dawn Webb**, Les & Marsha Langdon's daughter, eye surgery scheduled Dec. 31; **Barbara Maupin**, continued health concerns; **Kathy Clarkston**, continued chemotherapy; **Laurie Davlin**, hospitalized with ongoing health concerns; **Frances Gulihur**, friend of the Langdon's, hospitalized in serious condition; cancer patients and their families; Alzheimer's patients, their families and caregivers; all military personnel and their families; missionaries, nursing home residents and those who are shut in due to ill health; our world leaders; those who are struggling with addictive behavior; those persons in need, but unnamed, and for peace in our schools and peace among nations.

To request prayers, please contact the church office at 903.876.2235 or umcfrankston@umcfrankston.org.

Our Presence

Date	Sunday School	Worship
Dec. 1	37	70
Dec. 8	51	82
Dec. 15	53	112
Dec. 22	40	75
Dec. 24	NA	90
Dec. 29	NA	NA

Our Service



Jan. 5	Jonathan Green Noah Thomas
Jan. 12	Noah Green, Katie Hadash
Jan. 19	Max McGuffey, Jared Cook
Jan. 26	Briley Jimenez, John Riley Jimenez



Jan. 5	Dan Wicker & Randy Randle
Jan. 12	Lyle & Cathy Duncan
Jan. 19	Jerry & Jenny Beard
Jan. 26	James & Dianne Beard

Pray for our military

Maj. Alfredo Balderas
3013 Brook Highland Dr.
Birmingham, AL 35242

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

7 Doreen Sweeney
8 Al Cobb
13 Dottie Wegmet
16 Dale Clarkston
19 Kyle Tatum
25 John Beard
9 Eddie Moore
20 Jeremy Lade
30 Ronnie Higginbotham



STAFF SAYS "THANK YOU"

Each year, our congregation gives a Christmas gift to those of us on the staff and each year, we are overwhelmed by your generosity. This year was no exception. To say "Thank You" seems small and not nearly enough to show our appreciation, but we all do thank you for your thoughtfulness, friendship, and gifts. We are privileged to work for and with such a caring group of people.

May God bless all of you now and throughout the coming year.

