

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

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The United Methodist Messenger

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

Rev. Matt Thomas, Pastor

- Matthew 28:16-20

Tables and Trees

Since we arrived at the end of June, we have been overwhelmed by your love and deep care for each other and the community abroad, including our family. In every sense of the word it's like being with family. You go out of your way to make each person feel like and included in the family. That is an enormous strength for our congregation.

I know many of you are planning, cleaning, preparing and going to be sitting down having a wonderful Thanksgiving at the end of the week. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas is a short span of time and filled with precious and memorable times. In between the two big days and around the table and tree that adorn your home, I would love for you to consider some space for an idea or two.

Space and capacity adorned the stable in Bethlehem centuries ago and is the hallmark of our faith tradition. At the center of the dark and dirty space was the Christ child. Why a stable? Apparently, there was no room in the inn. Most of us have heard that story more times than we can count and get the idea that life is more meaningful when we make room for Christ and his people. Tables and trees are fuller when space is made. What we discover is our lives become spacious and abundantly fuller when our inns are opened to the Christ.

Consider the story from a sociological perspective. When we back out of the story and look at it from the star, what is glaring is the desperate need of humanity. What is noticeable under the heavenly light is that the world didn't want God. His very presence challenged governments and religious authority and hierarchical statuses. The "no room in the inn" represents the idea of the creation not wanting the Creator. You might could say there was no space made for Jesus. The good news of the story, and in fact, our lives, is God makes space and gives us capacity for the Christ.

Around your full tables and adorned trees, between Thanksgiving and Christmas, space is requested for the greatest capacity of life. When the reservation is made, you will be pleasantly surprised at how full your inn becomes when the Christ is at the table and the greatest gift of your Christmas tree.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas my Spacious friends.
Matt

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Dec. 1 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 Dec. 1 11 a.m. *Communion Worship Service*, sanctuary
 Dec. 1 No Youth Activities today
 Dec. 2 9 a.m. Stocking Rainbow House, FLC
 Dec. 2 *Giving Tree gifts* due at Family Life Center
 Dec. 4 5:45 p.m. Family Night Meal, fellowship hall
 Dec. 4 6:30 p.m. Family Night children's activities, Bible Study
 Dec. 4 7:30 p.m. Choir practice, sanctuary
 Dec. 6 7:30 a.m. *First Friday Fresh Produce* for all
 Dec. 6 9 a.m. – Noon *Christmas Truck Food Drive*, Spring Market
 Dec. 6 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Blood Drive, Family Life Center
 Dec. 8 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 Dec. 8 11 a.m. *Worship Service*, sanctuary
 Dec. 8 4:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets, Family Life Center
 Dec. 9 9 a.m. Rainbow Clients choose gifts for children, Family Life Center
 Dec. 10 2 p.m. United Methodist Women meet & wrap gifts for Meals-On-Wheels recipients
 Dec. 11 5:45 p.m. Family Night Meal, fellowship hall
 Dec. 11 6:30 p.m. Family Night activities
 Dec. 11 7:30 p.m. Choir practice, sanctuary
 Dec. 12 2 p.m. Nurture Team meets to wrap gifts for shut-in members
 Dec. 14 8 a.m. United Methodist Men breakfast meeting, Family Life Center
 Dec. 15 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 Dec. 15 11 a.m. *The Sounds of Christmas Worship Service*, sanctuary
 Dec. 15 4:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets, Family Life Center
 Dec. 16 9 a.m. Stocking Rainbow House, FLC
 Dec. 16 Reservation deadline for Red Hat lunch
 Dec. 17 9 a.m. – Noon Rainbow House food and clothes distribution, Family Life Center
 Dec. 18 5:45 p.m. Family Night Christmas Feast
 Dec. 18 6:30 p.m. Family Night ch
 Dec. 18 7:30 p.m. Choir practice, sanctuary
 Dec. 20 10 a.m. – Noon Rainbow Kids Christmas party, Family Life Center
 Dec. 22 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 Dec. 22 11 a.m. *Worship Service*, sanctuary
 Dec. 22 No Youth Activities today
 Dec. 24 & 25 Church offices and Family Life Center are closed for Christmas
 Dec. 24 6:30 p.m. *Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion service*, sanctuary
 Dec. 29 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 Dec. 29 11 a.m. *Worship Service*, Greg Martin, guest preacher, sanctuary
 Dec. 29 No Youth Activities today



**BLOOD
DRIVE**

**DECEMBER 6
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Family Life Center**

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH

It is crazy how fast time flies! Here we go diving head first into December. With Thanksgiving in the rearview mirror and Christmas in sight, I want to share with you some of exciting things coming up for the UMYF. A youth Christmas party is in the planning stages for Sunday, December 15. I would like to encourage the parents of our youth to join us for a time of celebration and fellowship. Please mark your calendar. We will not be meeting on December 22 or 29, but I do hope to plan a special outing for one day during the Christmas break from school. Sunday night meetings will resume on 01/05/20.

Summer may seem far away, but UMARMY will be here before we know it. I have already attended one brainstorming session for UMARMY and camp dates are open for registration. These camps change lives. Not just the lives of those we serve, but the lives of our youth as well. I know that none of our youth have ever attended UMARMY before. I will be reaching out to youth families very soon to provide information and to look at dates.

I pray that everyone has a truly blessed month of December. It is such a special time of the year, but it can also be a stressful time of year. Do not let travel, shopping, cleaning, cooking, or anything else rob you of the joy of celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ! And should you find yourself struggling to find that joy, remember that your church family is here and loves you.

Greg Martin

Methodist Scarlet Ladies

On December 19, the Methodist Scarlet Ladies will become Santa Claus and his elves for our December luncheon, as the recommended headwear will be Santa caps or elf hats! We will meet at 11:30 a.m. at Catfish King in Jacksonville.



After lunch, those of us on the Nurture Team will deliver a Christmas gift sack to one of our church members who lives in a nursing home in Jacksonville. All are welcome to join us, as the residents there really get a kick out of seeing us in our Christmas “costumes”!

Let's have a good turn-out and share some Christmas spirit! Reservations to me, please, by Monday, December 16. Thanks!

Dot Clark 903.876.2925

The United Methodist Women wish to thank everyone who purchased “Harvest Dinner Dressing” during our recent sale. We hope you all enjoyed it. The money raised will go toward various mission projects.

Beautiful red poinsettias will once again grace our sanctuary on Dec. 15 and Dec. 22. If you would like to purchase one or more as a memorial or to honor someone, please call Jennie at the church office — (903) 876-2235 — to do so. The price per plant is \$10.00 and the poinsettia will be ready for you to take it home after the service on Dec. 22. Please reserve your plants by Dec. 9.



SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 6 — 9 a.m. - Noon

The Christmas Truck

Collecting food, toys and \$\$\$ on Spring Market parking lot, benefitting Rainbow House.



Dec. 14 — 4:30 p.m.

Country Christmas Sing-Along

Sponsored by Brushy Creek UMC, Brushy Creek Arbor



Dec. 16 — 11 a.m.

The Sounds of Christmas



Worship Service presented by the Chancel Choir & Friends



Dec. 18 – 5:45 p.m.

Family Night Christmas Feast

Followed by regular Wednesday night activities. Fellowship hall.

Dec. 24 — 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service

Bring your family and friends and celebrate Christ's birth.



Jesus is the
REASON
for the
Season

We worship God with:



Our Prayers

We Pray For... **Kellie Warner**, Randy Randle's niece, recovering from kidney donation; **Bill**, kidney recipient; **Barbara Maupin**, ongoing medical issues; **Louise Lade**, ongoing health concerns; **Kathy Clarkston**, undergoing chemotherapy; **Darrell Daughtery**, John Bizzell's brother-in-law, under hospice care for cancer; **Agnes Petrie**, recovering from his replacement surgery; **Laurie Davlin**, Dot Clark's daughter ongoing medical concerns; **Frances Gulihur**, friend of the Langdons, serious health condition: **Donna Kay Gandy**, Lela Miller's daughter, recurring cancer; **Those persons affected by wildfires; Those touched by violence;** cancer patients and their families; Alzheimer's patients, their caregivers and families; 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 updates, please contact the church office at 903.876.2235 or umcfrankston@umcfrankston.org

Our Presence

Date	Sunday School	Worship
Nov. 3	NA	88
Nov. 10	NA	72
Nov. 17	NA	83
Nov. 24	NA	62

Our Service



Dec. 1	Jonathan Green Katie Hadish
Dec. 8	Noah Green, John Riley Jimenez
Dec. 15	Erika Hubert, Jaren Cook
Dec. 22	Max McGuffey, Katie Hadish
Dec. 29	Gavin Lade, Ethan Lade

Pray for our military

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

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



2	K. W. Locke
3	Susanne Alsobrook
7	Bob Maupin
10	Kaylynn Frink, Adrian Minter
20	Lyle Duncan, Frank Duncan
23	Dan Wicker
26	Les Langdon
30	Diane Whitehurst

Call (903) 876-2235 if we miss your birthday.

"Super Smoker" gifted by Montgomery Methodist Men Cookers

Our United Methodist Men will be launching their new mission with this great smoker, tested by Pastor Matt, Eddie Milham, and Carl House (not pictured).



Lighting the Advent Wreath and Serving as Ushers

Dec. 1	— Sam and Beverly Robertson
Dec. 8	— Carl and Cris House
Dec. 15	— Mike and Karla Dennis
Dec. 22	— John and Rhonda Bizzell
Dec. 24	— Al and Kathi Alvizo
Dec. 29	— Paul and Brenda Higginbotham



RAINBOW HOUSE FOOD PANTRY

Getting Ready For the Holidays!



Frankston Scouts held food drive.



FISD Elementary School PALS sponsored food drive.



GETTING READY continued...



The Christmas Truck will be ready on
December 6 at Spring Market!
9 a.m. - Noon

Brookshire's Spring Market "Spirit
of Christmas" Food Drive brings in
more food.



THANKS FOR HELPING OTHERS HAVE A GOOD THANKSGIVING
AND CHRISTMAS!