

The First Methodist
MESSENGER

First Methodist Church of Pleasanton

May 2024

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Parting Thoughts.....

There are many things in life that require a commitment in order to achieve success: Marriage, parenting, education and employment. If you lack the necessary commitment, these investments don't produce the outcome you hoped for. This is true for the Christian faith as well. If you want to follow Jesus and be more like Him, then a significant commitment is absolutely necessary. Unless you are **All In**, you aren't really a disciple. Maybe an admirer, believer or observer, but not a true follower. If you believe that Jesus suffered, died and was resurrected by God for your salvation, then a commitment to follow Him is the only sufficient response.

On May 19th, our Junior Youth will make a commitment to be followers of Jesus Christ and to become confessing/confirmed members of First Methodist Church. This is a big step towards Christian maturity. However, they still have much to learn and need role models to show them how to be faithful disciples. They need YOU, mature Christians, to show them how to treat one another, how to serve the Lord, how to worship & pray, how to share their faith, how to be ambassadors of Christ, and how to be an active member of this Body of Christ.

My prayer is that YOU will be committed to being mentors and role models to FMC children and to a generation of young people who have yet to meet Jesus Christ.

The last two years has been one wild ride. Along the way, we have had our successes and learning opportunities. Lance and I are grateful for the chance to serve and learn here. May the Lord bless First Methodist Church and your future ministries to advance the Kingdom of God right here in Pleasanton, Texas.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Janet Tracy





First Methodist Church of Pleasanton Council Meeting (Overview)

First Methodist Church of Pleasanton Council Meeting Minutes (Overview), April 2, 2024

Attendees: Dan Barrow (Board Chair), Walt Franklin (Finance Chair), Joett Morrison (SPR Chair), David Smith (Nominations Chair), Jeff Barta (Trustee Chair), Jeff Petter (Lay Leader), Philip Tom (Member at Large), Pastor Janet Tracy, Mary Franklin (SPRC), Deborah Barrow

The meeting was called to order by Dan Barrow at 6:01pm.

Jeff Petter opened us in prayer and Dan Barrow gave a devotional.

The meeting minutes from the last church council meeting held on March 5, 2024, were reviewed. Walt Franklin made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Philip Tom seconded, motion passed. The March 5, 2024, church council minutes were also printed in the April 2024 church newsletter.

New Business:

Leslie Ricks is waiting on a proof from Next Level Signs for our new church logo sign. Once received the church council will review and approve.

Jeff Petter provided an update on the search for our new pastor. An ad for our new pastor search has been sent out to two sites and 6 seminaries with no response. To date we have received 15 resumes, 4 were interviewed, 2 declined to pursue their existing positions, 2 were going their 3rd interview either in person or via zoom. One pastor is from Canada and the other one is currently a missionary in Africa.

Jessica Tom sent a request via email to get approval to use the church van to transport sunshine kids to and from home on Wednesday evenings and possibly Sunday morning in the future. The church council unanimously said yes. Hank Read has taken the Safe Gatherings training and has agreed to be the van driver.

Walt Franklin presented the Finance report. Finance published the March 2024 income and expenses in the April 2024 newsletter. There was a new expense of \$1,950.00 to purchase a new hot water heater from Poth Plumbing for the parsonage approved by Jeff Barta.

Jeff Barta presented the Trustees report. There are bee nests in the large oak tree at the parsonage. Jeff Petter has a bee suit; he will investigate and determine the best way to take care of the nest after Pastor Tracy moves out of the parsonage. There are also limbs that need to be cut off from the oak tree at the parsonage as well. Philip Tom stated that we were looking into a new mowing crew. Jeff Barta is planning a Trustees meeting in April.

David Smith reported for the nominations committee. Haynes Aldrich has been asked to join the Trustees committee. There may be a need for Co-Chairs in the future for the Trustees committee.

Joett Morrison presented the SPRC report. SPRC will meet on April 30th at 6:00 p.m. to review our pastoral job description and our current pastoral agreement. SPRC will plan monthly meetings with our new pastor for a period of 6 months to a year.

Jeff Petter presented the Laity report. He repeated his previous recommendation that during this time of transition, we continue to boost up our Congregation Care Team during our transitions so that we may cover home/hospital visits and follow-up on homebound members etc.

Pastor Tracy gave her report, starting with Nights of Hope (NOH). She stated that 6 members of the night of hope will be staying at the parsonage. Janet and Lance Tracy plan to be moved out of the parsonage by April 18, 2024, so that the Parsonage can be made ready for the next pastor. Jeff Barta (Trustees) and Troy Dusek (SPRC) plan to do a walkthrough of the parsonage to determine any other issues that will need to be addressed. Evangelist (NOH) Darrell Ingram, Jr. will preach the service on April 7, 2024, Jeremy Garza will be in attendance as well. We will honor our graduating seniors on Sunday, April 28, 2024, with a potluck luncheon following the church service.

Walt Franklin made a motion for our next church council meeting to be held on May 7, 2024, at 6:00p.m. Joett Morrison seconded, motion passed. All members of the church are invited to attend the monthly council meetings.

David Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Walt Franklin seconded, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

David Smith closed us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joett Morrison



Celebrations!



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

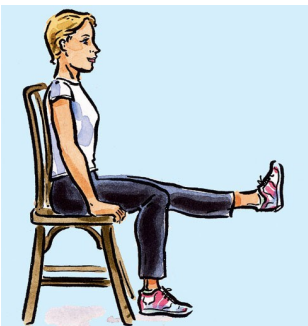
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 05/06 Natalie Read
- 05/07 Danny Morrison
Deborah Barrow
- 05/09 Amethyst Butschek
- 05/14 Aileene Oelkers
Curt Conroy
Fran Mayse
- 05/15 Dale Ray David
Emerson David
- 05/16 Sheryl Mills
- 05/17 Reagan Baca
Janna Poth
- 05/18 Jess Kemp
- 05/20 Jamesyn Poth
- 05/26 Robert Tom
- 05/30 Peggy McCampbell
- 05/29 Baker Livingston

- 05/18 Brandon and Marie Smith
- 05/25 Dale Ray & Nacona David
Roy and Sudie Halpin

Are we **missing your** name on the birthday/anniversary list? Please notify the Church Office at 830-569-2083 so we can update your records. We don't want to miss anyone!

Need a prayer? We have a prayer team for that. Staci, Leigh Ann and Leigh Ann Shearrer are happy to pray for you or your loved one. We believe in the power of prayer so leave a message at the church office, or fill out a prayer request card at church. They are at the entrance to the sanctuary.



Chair- Meet & Move Exercise

This is an hour of prayer, stretching, fellowship, strengthening and keeping our old bones moving in a positive direction.

Come join us! \$5 each and bring a towel.

Wednesday 10-11 am in the Fellowship



Please pray for the families of

Ned Gossett and Fran Mayse.



May Calendar of Events!

05/01	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry Sunshine Kids & Jr High Youth Confirmation Class
05/02-05/05		Brush Country Emmaus Men's Walk #5
05/03	7:00 a.m.	Prickly Pear Reunion Group
05/04	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Disciples for Christ Sunday School Class Saints and Sinners Sunday School Class Worship Service*
05/05	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. 2:30 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry Ladies Bible Study Boy Scouts-Fellowship Hall Monday Night Bible Study Piano Recital—Judy Hooge
05/07	10:00a.m.-12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	T.O.P.S. Church Council Meeting
05/08	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry Senior Box Pickup—FMC Sunshine Kids & Jr High Youth-Last Meeting
05/10-05/12		Junior/Senior Youth Retreat
05/10	7:00 a.m.	Prickly Pear Reunion Group
05/12		Happy Mother's Day
	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Disciples for Christ Sunday School Class Saints and Sinners Sunday School Class Worship Service*
05/13	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry Ladies Bible Study Monday Night Bible Study
05/14	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	T.O.P.S. RSVP DEADLINE FOR APPRECIATION DINNER
05/15	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry Senior Box Signup FMC Fellowship Hall Appreciation Dinner for Pastor Janet & Lance-Fellowship Hall
05/17	7:00 a.m.	Prickly Pear Reunion Group
05/19		Confirmation Sunday
	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Disciples for Christ Sunday School Class Saints and Sinners Sunday School Class Worship Service* - Confirmation Potluck Luncheon following service
05/20	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry Senor Box Signup FMC Fellowship Hall Ladies Bible Study Boy Scouts Monday Night Bible Study
05/21	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	T.O.P.S.
05/22	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry
05/23		McMullen County Graduation
05/24		Pleasanton High School Graduation Jourdanton High School Graduation
05/26	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Disciples for Christ Sunday School Class Saints and Sinners Sunday School Class Worship Service*
05/27		Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day
05/29	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Pantry
05/31	7:00 a.m.	Prickly Pear Reunion Group

Church News!

Faith in Finance

Here is a snapshot of the Deposits and Expenses received in March 2024.

Deposits-\$16,842.03

Expenses-\$18,259.08

Paid in March -

We had our quarterly insurance payment of \$4,534.50. Our renewal of our Sharefaith (website) - \$600.00

If you have any questions, please let us know!

Super Seniors

The Super Seniors had a great trip to the Wildseed Farm in Fredericksburg on April 11th. There were plenty of beautiful flowers to be seen and some great shopping! The next stop on the trip was the Circle E Candle shop.



The trip was capped off with a delicious lunch at the Altdorf Restaurant. It was a great time of fellowship! Special thanks to Pastor Janet for being our chauffeur and getting us back and forth safely through the crazy San Antonio traffic!

We will not meet in May but mark your calendars for Thursday, June 13th at 2:00 p.m. Lesley from Lesley's Flowers will be our special guest. We will be doing flower arrangements that we will get to take home to enjoy. We will send more information about it in the next few weeks.

Congregational Care Team

The Congregational Care Team strives to provide support to our church family. Please notify any team with any need we can assist with. Team members: Mary Carolyn Chambers, Joan Shearrer, Roxanne Wilson,,

Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry needs



Canned Meat * Canned Fruit * Cereal

Bring to church and leave in the boxes in the Narthex.



Thank You!

CHRISTIAN E D U C A T I O N

Saints and Sinners Sunday School Class

“Saints and Sinners” is an adult class that meets at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the classroom next to the church parlor. We use the Cokesbury Adult Bible Study series and always have a lively conversation and good fellowship. Fresh Coffee available. We meet year round, and any and all are welcome to join us. Facilitator, Dan Barrow.

Disciples of Christ Sunday School Class

This is an adult class for the young, mature, and old. We enjoy discussions about Bible passages and are eager to learn more about our Savior. We rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance. WHAT COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT? We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the classroom next to the Fellowship Hall Facilitator, Peggy McCampbell.

FMC Youth

Our year with the youth is winding down. Below are some important dates; if you have any questions, please reach out to Jessica at 210-382-3358.

May 8 : Last day for Sunshine Kids

May 10-12 : Sr/Jr Youth Retreat

May 19 : Confirmation, potluck lunch to follow

June 24 - 27 : Vacation Bible School (open to Pre-K through 5th grade (2024-2025 school year), older youth are encouraged to participate as volunteers.)

Thank you to everyone who has supported our youth by teaching, chaperoning, providing meals, etc. We are so grateful for the love our congregation has for our youth!



To register your child to attend or volunteer for VBS, text VBS to (830) 569-2083

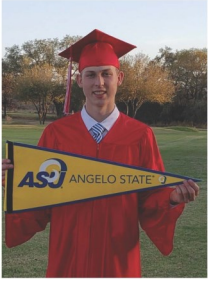
Class of 2024



Emree Adamitz
Pleasanton High School
Attending Texas Tech University
Pursuing Agribusiness



Chance Hehman
Pleasanton High School
Attending Howard Payne University
Playing football, pursuing
coaching/teaching with a degree in
Kinesiology



Chase Rankin
Jourdanton High School
Attending Angelo State University
in Spring 2025, pursuing Commercial
Aviation



Makenzie Richter
Pleasanton High School
Attending Baylor University
Pursuing Biology, pre-med track for
a career in Anesthesiology



McAda Rutherford
Pleasanton High School
Attending West Texas A&M University
Pursuing Plant, Soil, & Environmental
Science for a career in Rangeland
Management



William Trapp
Pleasanton High School
Attending Texas Tech University
Pursuing Business



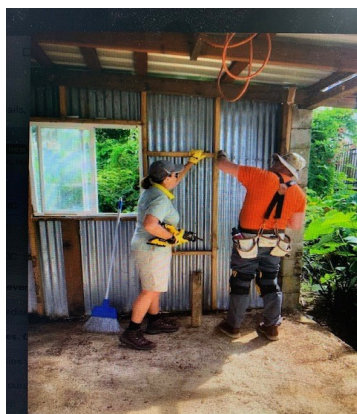
Kassidy Vickers
Pleasanton High School
Attending Texas A&M University
Pursuing Animal Science for a career
In Veterinary Medicine

UMCOR Sunday- Special Giving Opportunity

Hello Church Family-

I am reaching out to you about UMCOR. If you were able to be in Church recently, you heard me speak briefly about this. UMCOR stands for United Methodist Council on Relief. It encompasses ALL Methodists - First United, Global, Korean, Independent.. whatever your Methodist looks like. That being said, I serve with UMCOR as both an ERT (early response team) member and as the communications director for much of the state of Texas. So, I am very aware of the positive work that UMCOR does.

UMCOR provides relief for long and short term disaster recovery projects. The majority of aid is within the US and it's principalities. An example of a long term project would be the trip I was able to go on last November to Guam. Following a brutal battering of the rural part of the island by a typhoon, we were able to go in and rebuild walls/roofs, rewire electrical systems and provide more substantial housing for some of the indigenous people.



UMCOR also provides, much closer to home. In the last year, there were needs in Nixon (river flooding), Dilley (softball size hail), Lakehills/N. Texas (wildfires) and the ice storm damage of the hill country areas.



While all the labor is voluntary, UMCOR provides the materials. The nails and screws, the lumber and plywood, the mold spray and tarps...and a hundred other things, that enable us to be the hands and feet of Christ, for our neighbors.

If you would like to support this ministry, please know that 100% of your gift goes to these supplies, not administrative costs. Just mark your gift with UMCOR, drop it in the plate, mail it or Paypal works too!

If you have interest in any of the short or long term recovery opportunities, please reach out to me.

Blessings!

Leslie Ricks