

Franklin United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 556 - 116 W. Decherd St.  
Franklin, Texas 77856



January 2020

Visit us on the web  
[www.umc-franklin.org](http://www.umc-franklin.org)

### Purpose Statement

Franklin United Methodist Church is a fellowship of believers who have come together as a family of faith. Together we have established the following purpose, vision, and mission statement:

**Purpose:**

Willing and ready to follow and serve Jesus Christ.

**Vision:**

Franklin UMC shares God's love, Christ's sacrifice, and our faith for the salvation of the world.

**Mission:**

We believe in Jesus Christ whom we follow, serve, and share.

**Key Verse:**

**“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” John 3:16-17**

# POLLY'S PONDERING

I am sure I have told you the story about the morning in sixth or seventh grade when our dog broke free from the leash and took off running. I was going to be late and for the first time in my life, I swore out loud. "Get back here you d\_\_\_ dog!" I am not sure what shocked me more, the fact that I thought those words, or the fact that they came out of my mouth. But I am equally as sure that I looked around to see if anyone had heard me. Now to understand the rest of my comments we must establish that while most of the world does not even consider d\_\_\_ a swear word. I did and still do. And I am sad to say that I have slipped and used that phrase more than once, but not often. And I don't think I had spoken it out loud again at all even up to my 10 year class reunion. It was there that I ran into a class mate, who said: "Oh I remember you; you're the girl who swore at her dog." Wow, what a way to be remembered.

The funny thing is that we sometimes do the same thing to ourselves. We take some mistake, some failure, some slip up and we degrade ourselves over it until we almost come to believe that we are not capable of much more. In other words, we allow ourselves to be defined by that one moment. This would make George Eliot very uncomfortable, if of course, he was still alive. I know he would not have liked us defining ourselves by our failures because of this phrase he is quoted as saying:

"It is never too late to be what you might have been."

Maybe that is why people are so drawn to the ideas of resolutions at New Years. They allow us to think about the people we want to be and make plans to work toward that goal.

So, if you want to be kinder practice small acts of kindness each day. Say please and thank you. Let people get in line before you. Open doors. Think before you speak – is what I am about to say helpful, is it thoughtful, is it meant for the good of others?

If you want to be stronger practice small act of repeated discipline. Walk every day, take the stairs instead of an elevator, wash the dishes by hand, lift weights – in other words push your self a little more each day and do it repeatedly. Or better yet, drop a bad habit and replace it with a healthy alternative.

If you want to be more forgiving you have to practice forgiveness. Stop thinking of yourself as a victim, most of what happens to you is not done intentionally. Show grace, sometimes people lash out when they are hurting, remember you have done that too! If you want to be more forgiving remember that God has extended it to you through Jesus Christ.

Gigi Graham Tchividjian put it this way:

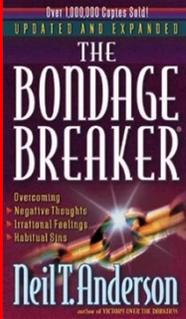
"Make the least of all that goes and the most of all that comes." Don't regret what is past. Cherish what you have. Look forward to all that is to come. And most important of all, rely moment by moment on Jesus Christ."

Maybe this year's resolution could include a closer look at the vows of membership – I promise to uphold the church through my prayers, my presence, my gifts, and my service. And if you can't think of any practical steps – just ask. Until then here are a few ideas:

Sunday morning small group attendance at 9am. Participation in choir, uke band, Youth group, Bible studies, watch your email for the prayer needs spoken each Sunday and pray specifically for them, work at the Clothes Closet and the Food Pantry, come up on Wednesday mornings to help take care of the church property maintenance, etc.

When Paul was speaking to the Philippians about setting a goal to strengthen faith and to know and follow Christ closer he wrote: "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

*Pastor Polly*



The Journey Sunday morning small group is beginning a new study on January 5th.

If you aren't already committed to a Sunday morning small group, come join us as we explore how to be set free to live fully as a child of God.

Some of the topics we'll cover:

- ◆ the battle for our minds and how to win it
- ◆ who we are in Christ and how God wants us to live
- ◆ how to recognize spiritual conflict and take thoughts captive
- ◆ how to heal damaged emotions
- ◆ what it means to forgive from the heart

**We meet in the Activity Building kitchen at 9:00 am Sunday mornings.**

For more information contact Mary Kamas 979-777-1038



What a blessing this Advent Season was for all of us at Franklin UMC! There were so many opportunities for us to prepare our hearts for the arrival of the Christ Child. Thank you to everyone who had a part in decorating the church, providing music, children's sermons, scripture readings and prayers.

The New Year is here! Welcome 2020 as we commemorate Epiphany on January 5 and look forward to a blessed year ahead of us.

*As always, if you have any ideas or suggestions, or would like to participate or volunteer to help the Worship Committee with these special opportunities of worship, please contact the church office and we will be happy to have your input and participation.*

## PRAYING PIECERS NEWS

We will be meeting on the 13th and 27th of the month. Come join us in the Activity Building Kitchen from 9am - Noon. We enjoy working on sewing, quilting and other various projects, while we fellowship and enjoy a potluck meal together.

If you don't have your own project to work on, we'd be happy to let you help in this wonderful outreach project.

*Happy stitching!  
Donna Otto*



### Music Note:



*Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.  
Psalm 95:1*

The Choir, Sunshine Strummers and even our youngest, newest Ukulele players, continue to praise Him with a joyful noise!

**The Choir and Ukulele players are taking a Winter Break from rehearsals until Wednesday, January 29 and from performing for the month of January—be sure to watch this space for upcoming performance dates.**

Mrs. Otto is continuing to book gigs for the Ukulele Band, so if you've never had the blessing of watching them perform, make plans to do so soon!



### Sunday Small Groups Begin at 9:00 am

- ARK** - Nursery, Pre-K & Kindergarten
- Kingdom Kids** - 1st thru 5th grades
- Credo Confirmation** - 6 thru 8th grades
- Fusion** - 9th thru 12th grades
- Journey** - Adult
- Home Builders** - Adult
- Wisdom** - Adult



## 2020 CHURCH DIRECTORY

**WANT IN?  
CALL THE CHURCH.**

## The FUMP CORNER



Happy New Year one and all! This is a time that many make resolutions to make some changes for the New Year. My prayer for the preschool is to count our many blessings (and we have many), to love one another more, and dig deeper into God's Word.

We ended 2019 with a packed sanctuary for our "Mismatched Christmas Program." The children and staff spent many hours rehearsing and rehearsing for our families and friends. It was so much fun.

January is Law Enforcement Appreciation month and Officer Lopez is already scheduled to visit our kiddos. This is a special time to teach the children how to call 911 for an EMERGENCY and to not be afraid of the police officers. Officer Lopez does an amazing job with the children and we are so proud to have him each year.

Please say a special prayer about an upcoming bid for the playground shade cover. God willing, and we know He is, the playground will get a new look to help protect our equipment and kiddos. It is such a blessing to minister to our FUMP families. I appreciate each and everyone at FUMC for your love, support and prayers.

In Christ,  
Sherry Buchanan, Director FUMP



THANK YOU!! TO ALL  
THAT HELPED MAKE  
THE SEASON A  
BLESSING FOR ALL!!

**Cookie  
Walk**



## FEAST OF SHARING



**Christmas  
Angels**



**Samaritan's  
Purse**



**Shoebbox  
project**

## Prayer Committee



Are you getting the weekly email of Prayer Request from Your Church Family? If you are not, please call the church office to confirm your email address. Also, always check the Prayer Request in this newsletter for others in need of prayer.

*Be joyful always; pray continually 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17*

# Youth

"Forget the former things;  
do not dwell on the past.  
See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland." (Isaiah 43:18-19)

Looking forward into 2020, I eagerly anticipate countless opportunities that God will bring for our youth to grow in faith and to enjoy life together.

A new group of youth leaders have been selected to serve on the 2020 Youth Council. I'm grateful to God for giving these youth the desire to serve Him and FUMYF.

President: Caitlyn Martin

VP Spiritual Development: Evelyn Huggins

VP Administration: Lexi Wetzler

Events Coordinator: Katlyn Phillips

Hospitality Officer: Luke Kamas

Middle school representatives: Anna Taylor & Cooper Huggins



Wed., Jan. 8th @ 5:00 pm: 2020 Youth Council will meet.

Wed., Jan. 15th: Ignite Youth Retreat forms are due

Feb.28 - Mar. 1, 2020: Ignite Youth Retreat (for 7th-12th graders) at Lakeview

Our youth have the opportunity to attend the UMC Texas Conference Ignite Retreat (Feb. 28 - Mar. 1) with youth from many other churches.

The cost of the weekend is \$135 (\$150 after Jan. 21st) per person if all forms, fees, and registrations are sent in by Jan. 21st. **However, due to generous donations to the FUMC Youth Program, Franklin UMC will contribute \$100 toward each FUMYF participant's cost, so each youth only needs to pay \$35 (if paid before Jan. 21st).**



Registration forms are available from me or in the church office. I will need the forms and \$35 (make checks out to Franklin UMC) returned to me by **Wed. Jan. 15th**, so I can complete all online registrations.

We will travel as a youth group together to and from the retreat. More specific information will be coming later.

In Christ's love,  
Mary

# 50th Anniversary

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

BY THE CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF

JOHN (CARTY) & DEBORAH HICKS

FOR A "COME AND GO"

RECEPTION TO CELEBRATE THEIR

50<sup>th</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

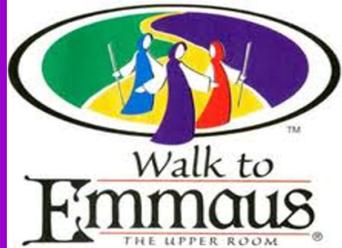
2:00 - 4:00 P.M.

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ACTIVITIES BUILDING

FRANKLIN, TEXAS

NO GIFTS PLEASE.



**SPRING WALK DATES MOVED UP**

**Upcoming Spiritual Retreats**

**Men's Walk Weekend: FEBRUARY 6-9**

**Women's Walk Weekend: FEBRUARY 20-23**

If you are interested in deepening your walk with Christ by attending one of these special weekends (Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon), please feel free to contact

Mary Kamas, Keith Kamas, Beth Vickers, Rex Vickers, or any Emmaus Community member for more information.

**Men's Day Breakers Reunion Group**  
Thursdays @ 6:30am in Kitchen

**Women's Rekindled Reunion Group**  
Wednesdays @ 7:00am in Kitchen

**Women's Awaken Reunion Group**  
Wednesdays @ 6:00pm in Education Building

## rightnow MEDIA

Over 10,000 free videos for you and your family



"The Netflix of Christian Bible Study"



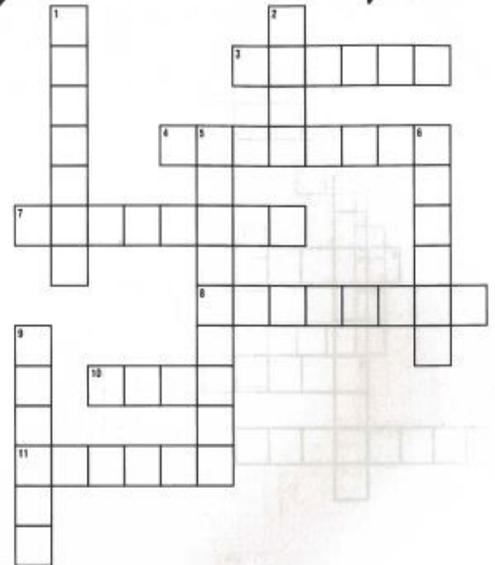
Click below to see a short video on how

**We Are All Onions**

This is just one of the **THOUSANDS** of resources available through your **RightNow Media** account.

## A Little Puzzle Fun!!

### John the Baptist



**ACROSS:**

- The river in which John the Baptist baptized Jesus (Matt. 3:13)
- The way John the Baptist was killed (Matt. 14:10)
- The daughter of this woman asked that John the Baptist be killed. (Matt. 14:6)
- The sin that John the Baptist accused Herod of doing (Matt. 14:3, Mark 6:18)
- The temporary affliction given Zacharias, John the Baptist's father, because of his disbelief (Luke 1:20)
- Jesus identified John the Baptist with this Old Testament prophet. (Matt. 11:14)

**DOWN:**

- The angel who told Zacharias of the birth of his son (Luke 1:19)
- The animal that descended upon Jesus after John the Baptist baptized him (Luke 3:22)
- John the Baptist's mother (Luke 1:24)
- John the Baptist lived here until his public appearance. (Luke 1:80)
- John the Baptist's father's occupation (Luke 1:5)

# PRAYER requests

To keep the prayer list as up-to-date as possible, please contact the church office with any changes to the specific need for each one on the list.

Stephanie Broadus

Madison Sexton Wilcox

The Stacey Family

Ginger Mareth

Mike Allen  
(Cynthia Hanks' Brother-in-Law)

Katherine Scasta

Barbara and Jim Eller

United Methodist Family of Faith

Tom and Bessie Fuller

Grady Harris

Tonya Boyette

Church family- We're excited to share that our church now has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

As a church staff, we're always looking for ways to help you develop and strengthen your faith. We believe that RightNow Media will be a tool to serve you as you live out your faith at home, at work and in your neighborhood. RightNow Media has videos for everyone—kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals—all aimed at helping you grow.

You should have already received an official invitation email to give you FREE access to RightNow Media. If you haven't received it yet, check your mail filter (because it came from RightNow's system, it may have gotten caught there).



## January Anniversaries

- 14th** Todd & Julie Neyland
- 24th** John "Carty" & Deborah Hicks
- 26th** Lewis Conner & Molly Dean
- 30th** Frank & Louise Cates

## Giving for Last Month

General Offering	\$	30,764.78
Building Fund	\$	13,972.25
Memorial-Designated~Other	\$	2,490.00



5th	
12th	Dianna Hutchison
19th	Olivia Campbell
26th	Julie Jarrell



Eric Michael (Air Force)  
Benjamin Standing (National Guard)  
PFC Joseph Pawley (Army)

## Ushers for January

Jodie Smith & Greg Stem

**Average Attendance**  
90

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1st	Andy Reed	22nd	Mary Beth Taylor
2nd	Mary Jane Magill	24th	Ben Zamzow
	Mickie Callaway	25th	Caitlyn Martin
7th	Kyle Hoegemeyer	26th	Tabitha Cloat
9th	Austin Corn	28th	Amy Neichoy
10th	Landon Vickers	30th	Stephanie Broadus
11th	John Kamas	31	Jim Hanks
15th	Sebie Harris		Samantha Harris
	Cooper Huggins		
19th	Maddie Nelson		
21st	Keith Zamzow		
	Jan Westerman		
	Raheem Green		
	Meghan Moran		

# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Regularly Scheduled Events listed below!			1 Happy New Year Church office on limited hours or closed.	2	3	4 Bereavement Meal for Debra Davis in Activity Center
5	6 MOPS 10am-12pm	7	8	9	10	11 Girl Scouts on campus
12 Finance/ Trustees Committee After Worship	13 Praying Piecers 9am-12pm	14	15	16	17	18 Emmaus Team Training
19	20 MOPS 10am-12pm	21	22	23	24	25
26 SPRC Committee After Worship Carty & Deborah Hicks 50th Anniversary Reception 2-4PM	27 Praying Piecers 9am-12pm	28	29	30	31	

Choir - Wednesdays 5:00pm-5:40pm	Girl Scouts - Wednesdays 4:30pm-6:00pm	Praying Piecers - Select Mondays
Clothes Closet Volunteer -  Mondays 3:00pm-5:00pm  Thursdays 9:00am-11:00am	Youth - Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:00pm  Men's Emmaus - Thursdays at 6:30am  Women's Emmaus - Wednesdays 7:00am & 6:00pm	Ukulele - Wednesdays 5:45pm-6:30pm  Beginner Lessons - Thursdays By Appt.

## Lectionary Reading for Weekly Worship

January 5	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
January 12	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalms 29	Acts 10:34-43	Matthew 3:13-17
January 19	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalms 40:1-11	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
January 26	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalms 27:1, 4-9	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23