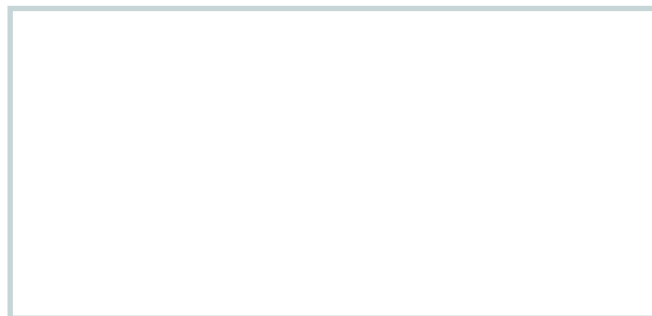




July 2021



Visit us on the web
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

For You were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.” Galatians 5:13

John (not my husband) was one of a group of young men at the university. They spent a lot of time in places like bars and such and not near enough time in the classroom. I guess you would say they were living “eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die.”

There was another group of young men at that same university. They spent a great deal of time in the classroom, but far more time in one of those “holy club” groups. They attended Bible studies. They did community service, visiting hospitals and prisons, and they prayed and attended accountability groups. They were laughed at. Jokes flowed freely about these young men, especially by the group that was hanging out at the bars. But occasionally there were young men like John who would say to themselves, “I wish I had what they have.”

One of the young men in “holy club” was a poet and singer by the name of Charles, another was the head of the group, John (also not my husband lol), and another was George.

It is amazing to me that this story does not take place today. But in fact happened sometime around 1732, when George Whitefield, a Calvinist, joined with Charles Wesley and John Wesley in a disciplined approach to their faith that was called the Holy Club. There on Oxford University these three great men of faith began a friendship that would shape their faith for the rest of their life.

On July 4, in 1946 (214 years after the incident I spoke of above) John F. Kennedy, who was a congressional nominee and a lieutenant in the Navy Reserve spoke at an Independence Day Celebration in Boston. The speech began “ The informing spirit of the American character has always been a deep religious sense. Throughout the years, down to the present, a devotion to fundamental religious principles has characterized American thought and action.”

In 1960 (the year I was born) Kennedy returned to this thought during a presidential campaign speech at the Mormon Tabernacle when addressing the Cold War as “a struggle for supremacy between two conflicting ideologies; freedom under God versus ruthless, Godless tyranny.”

After winning he addressed freedom and faith once again at his inaugural address (1-20-1961): “The same revolutionary beliefs for which our forebearers fought are still at issue around the globe - the belief that the rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God.”

Now you might be asking: “Why connect this with a story about the Holy Club?” From as far back as I am aware John Wesley linked faith and freedom, with thought and action. He believed you worked out your salvation. In other words the saving grace given to us freely at the cross, where Jesus’ faith and actions combined in justifying grace, as a sufficient atonement for our sins and a promise of eternal life for all those who believe in him, lead not only to faith but a faith that produced good works for the glory of God. Faith in action.

Sunday we will once again celebrate freedom here in the United States. As Christians I am imploring us all to use the freedom we have been given, especially the freedom of religion, to move us to action. Visiting the sick, ministering to those who are held captive physically, emotionally, or spiritually, and caring for those in need. How we do that will be as individual and unique as each of us. But the outcome will be a movement of people who will be seen as those that have purpose and conviction, inspiring some to say “I wish I had what they have.” and be drawn to the God, who both calls and enables us to put our faith into action.

Let’s not waste the freedom we have been given. There is so much that can be accomplished for the sake of the Gospel when we do and there is too much loss at stake if we don’t!

Pastor Polly



Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor, invites children to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Kids will take on the role of brave Knights and begin their quest each session by opening the King's Book. They'll explore Old and New Testament stories and discover different pieces of protective armor—the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, the Shoes of Peace, the Shield of Faith, and the Helmet of Salvation—at work in the lives of familiar Bible characters, and explore how that armor works in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

The Community VBS will be July 12-16 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. We welcome ages 3 years—5th grade. Registration forms are available in the church office or online at VBS. For questions call 979-828-3355.

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We try our hardest to control our health, our income, our influence. Time alone will prove that we're all weak. Out of control. But the power of the gospel rests in the truth that we don't have to be in control. God is. We don't save ourselves. He saves us. We don't design our destiny.

We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall. (Prov. 16:33, NLT).

Can you add one day to your life by worrying? Jesus says, "Nope." Spend today focused on proclaiming the gospel—that's where real power lies.

Our Weakness is God's Power Play

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SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, August 29

Church's Annual



Franklin, TX Food Pantry

FOOD PANTRY WORKDAY JULY 17

The Franklin Food Pantry gives food to approximately 100

families each month. Nearly 200 families qualify for food assistance. Area churches are responsible for distributing the food one Saturday morning every 9 weeks. **Our next scheduled work day is July 17.**

Please join us from about 8:45 to noon to help distribute food to your neighbors in need. Just in case you do not know, the Food Pantry is located at 201 South Calvert Street here in Franklin. If you have any questions you can contact Laura Corn at 979-204-8593.

The FUMP CORNER

School may be out for the summer but preparations are underway for next school year. Misty and I have picked a curriculum called "*Heroes of the Bible.*" The children walk through both the Old and New Testaments while learning that God uses ordinary men, women and children to do extraordinary things.

Interviews for new staff will be in July. Please be in prayer that God brings the people who will fit into our FUMP Family. Also pray for our Preschool Board to make the decisions that only God wants. Much love and blessings to all.

In Christ,
Sherry Buchanan, Director FUMP





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.

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| Furman Richards | All those suffering during the pandemic | Tonya Boyette |
| Sherry Killingsworth
Cynthia Hanks' friend | Family of Julia Ann Michael | Trooper Chad Walker Family |
| Elizabeth Reinhardt | Grady Harris family | |



Summer is here and life is slowly getting back to normal. Please pray for our upcoming Vacation Bible School July 12-16. July is a month of celebration and we have so much to celebrate this year.

July 4 – Come celebrate the birth of our nation in a specially planned service that will include a PowerPoint presentation set to “God Bless America.”

God bless our church and our congregation as we recover from the pandemic and move through the summer enjoying vacations, family gatherings and fellowship with each other once again.

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 would be happy to have your input and participation. --Deborah Hicks



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

Giving for Last Month		
General Offering	\$	21,973.31
Building Fund	\$	3,465.00
Memorial- Designated~Other	\$	1,052.00

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1st	Cadie Martin	15th	Louise Cates
	James Buckner		Lee Ann Scasta
2nd	Mac Mareth	16th	Rylie McKinney
4th	Hanna Westerman		Mason Corn
5th	Elizabeth Reinhardt	17th	Cade Rue
	Frank Cates	20th	Carlee Thompson
	Justin Frieda	22nd	Barbara Eller
	Tessa Frieda		John Harris
7th	Kevin Foltermann		Maloree Neichoy
	David Bailey	23rd	Toni Baxter
8th	Jill Foltermann	24th	Molly Dean
	Keith Kamas	27th	Kylie Caubarreaux
	Sissy Rawson	28th	Sadie Buckner
	Lloyd Scasta	29th	Hap Campbell
9th	Melvin Bailey		Karlie Kissinger
	Thad Allen		Addie Nelson
	Andrew Moran		Drew Neyland
10th	Bo Campbell		Marie Stem
	Aaron Huggins	30th	Brenda Davis
11th	Teri Wygle		
14th	Cynthia Hobart		
	Evelyn Huggins		



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

5th	Scott & Amy Huggins
6th	Howard & Sandra Hoegemeyer
28th	Roye & Meghan Moran

