



## Order Easter Lilies

It is time to order Easter lilies which will adorn the altar during Easter Sunday worship services, April 20th. The plants are given in honor or memory of loved ones.

Place your order by filling out an insert in the bulletin this Sunday and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to: FUMC, 4200 N. McColl Road, McAllen 78504.

You may also call the church office, 686-3784, to order. The plants are \$12.00 each and may be picked up following the 11 a.m. service Easter morning.

## Altar Flower Calendar

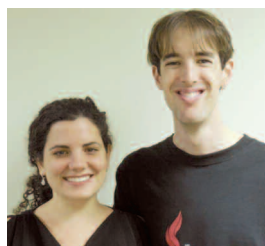
Please help us fill in the dates on the 2014 Flower Calendar. There are still several dates available. Call the church office to sign up for that special date to provide altar flowers to be given in memory or in honor of loved ones. Not only do the flowers add beauty to our services but also, those that are left are made into smaller arrangements and given to people in need. Consider being a part of this wonderful ministry.

## Church Family

*First United Methodist Church was pleased to welcome the following individuals and families into church membership:*

### Steven Foy & Caity Disanza

On Sunday, February 23, 2014  
Steven and Catherine's address is  
3301 N. K Center St, Mcallen, TX 78501



### Matthew Childers

On Sunday, February 23, 2014  
Matthew's address is  
121 E. Quamasia Ave, Apt #202,  
McAllen, TX 78504

### Rick & Melissa Huisman

On Sunday, February 23, 2014.  
Rick and Melissa's address is  
5409 Snowdrop Dr.,  
Edinburg, TX 78542  
Pictured are Rick and Melissa and their two sons Benjamin and Henry Thomas who were baptized on that day.



## Our Sympathy to.....

**Kay & Ricky Sanderford,**  
following the death of  
Kay's mother, **Evelyn Langston,**  
on Saturday, March 8, in San Antonio  
The Sanderford's address is  
1413 Ima, Edinbug, TX 78539.

**Amy Barrett and family**  
following the death  
of Amy's grandfather, **Don Kunze.**  
Amy's family address is  
5621 CR 1025, Celeste, TX 75423.

## Newsletter & Sunday Sermons

Our FUMC newsletter, The Messenger, and our weekly 9 & 11 a.m. sermons, are available on the website, [www.fumcmcallen.com](http://www.fumcmcallen.com).  
You can read current or past issues of the *Messenger* and listen to the sermons. You can also follow us on Facebook.  
You may also use the website to update your contact information. You will find this link on the home page. Your help in keeping our records current and up-to-date is very much appreciated.



## First United Methodist Church of McAllen

4200 N. McColl Road  
McAllen, Texas 78504

956-686-3784  
Fax 956-664-0204

[www.FUMCMcAllen.com](http://www.FUMCMcAllen.com)

Weekday Office Hours  
Monday - Thursday  
8:30 - 4:30  
Friday 8:30 - 2:00

## Worship at First Church

### Service Information

**8:30** Traditional Worship  
**9:00** Contemporary Worship  
**11:00** Traditional Worship

**9:45** Sunday School

*Nursery provided at all services.*

## Pastor's Perspective

Easter is late in the calendar this year. Not until April 20 will we gather to celebrate God's victory over death in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This year Holy Week begins on Passion/Palm Sunday April 13. This service will include palms and at the 11:00 a.m. service our Motet Choir will present the gospel story through song. This is also the day Jesus has one of his very last encounters before his death...two criminals crucified with him.

Monday through Thursday of Holy Week the church will gather in the Social Room to eat a meal together and hear a reflection on one of the lectionary texts assigned for that day. We will have a Holy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. On Good Friday, April 18th, the church will fast and worship will continue with a Good Friday service at 12:10 p.m.

I encourage you to participate in your own journey to the cross. Encounter Christ during Holy Week and stand close as Jesus fulfills his mission to open the door to God, to bridge the gap sin created between all creation and God. We have the opportunity to walk through that door, to cross over that bridge and experience life that is truly life – abundant and grace filled. We can encounter God. Do not allow this opportunity to pass you by.

Grace and peace, Ricky



Senior Pastor,  
Ricky Sanderford

## Holy Week/Easter Opportunities at FUMC

### Palm Sunday Worship Services

Sunday, April 13 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

On Palm Sunday we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the week before his death and resurrection. It marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday. The Bible reveals that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds greeted him by waving palm branches and covering his path with palm branches. Immediately following this great time of celebration in the ministry of Jesus, he begins his journey to the cross.

Before the 11:00 a.m. service all children are invited to meet outside at the entrance to the Fellowship Center foyer to receive palms and then process in together. The Motet Choir will provide special music this Sunday.

### Holy Week Luncheons

Monday, April 14 through Thursday, April 17

Join us at noon for a staff-led scriptural study in the Social Room. The study will be based on the daily lectionary Bible verses for Holy Week. A light lunch will be available for \$8.00 per plate. Please let us know by Friday, April 11 if you will be purchasing the lunches so that we are able to prepare adequately. Call the church office or email Debbra Stolley ([dstolley@mcfirst.com](mailto:dstolley@mcfirst.com)). You are also welcome to bring your lunch.

### Holy Thursday Worship Service

Thursday, April 17 7:00 p.m.

In the Fellowship Center

Holy Thursday, also called Maundy Thursday, is a service to commemorate Jesus' Last Supper and the beginning of our sacrament, the Lord's Supper. The word Maundy comes from the Latin mandatum, which means "commandment." At the Last Supper, Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34). This is the first of the three days of solemn remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus.

### Good Friday Worship Service

12:10 noon

In the Fellowship Center  
Good Friday is the day on which we commemorate the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross.

### Easter Sunday Worship Services

Join us in celebration  
of the Risen Christ!  
Sunday, April 20  
8:30-9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Encounter Sermon Series Continues  
"An Early Riser" *John 20:1-18*

Family photos will be taken at no charge in the Prayer Garden between services.

# Children's Ministry



Created By God Human Sexuality Class

For 4th and 5th graders

Friday, April 25 5:45-9:00 p.m. and  
Saturday, April 26 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
In the FUMC Social Room

\*Parents are required to participate on Friday, 5:45-7:15 p.m. and Saturday, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

The fee for the event is \$40.00, covering the cost of both student and parent books, meals and snacks, supplies, and leadership. Register for the class through the church office or by contacting Lee Ann Clemons at laclemons@mcfirst.com. Attendance space is limited to 25 children on a first come first serve basis, so sign up ASAP.

## Children Processing with Palms on Palm Sunday

April 13

All children are invited to meet outside at the entrance to the Fellowship Center foyer before the 11:00 a.m. service on April 13 to receive palms. They will process in waving their palm branches as the first hymn is sung. Parents are welcome to join us.



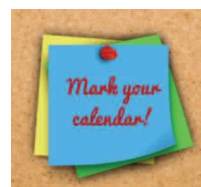
## Easter Celebration for Children

Wednesday, April 16 • 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Easter art activities, cookie decorating, egg hunt and refreshments

## Carnations for Moms

On Sunday, April 27th and May 4th the Kids on a Mission will be in the foyer selling carnations to celebrate moms. The flowers will be in arrangements in the Fellowship Center on Mother's Day, May 11. You may buy in honor (red) or in memory (white) of someone. The children will send a postcard to the person of your choice and, if you wish, you may take your flower(s) after the late service on Mother's Day. Flowers are \$5.00 each AND the proceeds will go directly to the Kids On a Mission summer projects.



## Vacation Bible School

July 7-11

## Missions/Music Camp

August 4-7

# Summer Fun Days 2014



FUMC Day School  
956-668-9009

Monday-Thursday  
June 2nd - August 14th  
(Closed June 30th-July 4th)  
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
18 months - Entering 2nd Grade

Call and see what the FUN is all about!

## Weekly Themes



June 2nd - Dinosaurs



June 9th - All-Star Sports

June 16th - Super Heroes



June 23rd - 4th of July

June 30th - \*CLOSED\*\*



July 7th - Outer Space

July 14th - Camping 101

July 21st - Pirates & Princesses

July 28th - Wacky Water Week

August 4th - All About Kites

August 11th - Pets



# Calendar of Events

First United Methodist Church  
4200 N. McColl Rd. • McAllen, TX  
956-686-3784

# APRIL 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
For calendar updates, visit <a href="http://fumcmcallen.com">fumcmcallen.com</a>		<b>1</b> 8:30a Morning Walking Class 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 12:00p Let Us Pray 6:30p MS Gentle Yoga 7:00p Lenten Bible Study	<b>2</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 10:00a Lenten Bible Study 12:00p Parenting Class/ 1:00p Cards/Boardgames 3:30p WOW 5:30p MYF Jr. High 5:30p Confirmation Class 7:30p Motet Choir	<b>3</b> 8:30a Walking with Wendy 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 7:00p Young Adult Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> WORSHIP 8:30, 9 & 11 am  9:45a Sunday School Classes for All Ages 9:45a Spanish Bible Study	<b>7</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 5:45p Back to the Bible w/Dr. Bob	<b>8</b> 8:30a Morning Walking Class 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 2:00p Parkinson's Support Group 6:30p MS Gentle Yoga 7:00p Lenten Bible Study	<b>9</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 10:00a Lenten Bible Study 12:00p Parenting Class/ 1:00p Cards/Boardgames 3:30p WOW 5:30p MYF Jr. High 5:30p Confirmation Class 7:30p Motet Choir	<b>10</b> 8:30a Walking with Wendy 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 7:00p Young Adult Bible Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  5:00p One Youth Gathering
<b>13</b> WORSHIP 8:30, 9 & 11 am PALM SUNDAY  9:45a Sunday School Classes for All Ages 9:45a Spanish Bible Study	<b>14</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 12:00p Holy Week Lunch & Bible Study 5:45p Back to the Bible w/Dr. Bob	<b>15</b> 8:30a Morning Walking Class 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 12:00p Holy Week Lunch & Bible Study 2:00p Alzheimer's Support Group 5:30p Autism Support Group 6:30p MS Gentle Yoga	<b>16</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 12:00p Holy Week Lunch & Bible Study 1:00p Cards/Boardgames 4:00p Children's Easter Celebration 5:30p MYF Jr. High 5:30p Confirmation Class 7:30p Motet Choir	<b>17</b> 8:30a Walking with Wendy 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 12:00p Holy Week Lunch & Bible Study 7:00p Holy Thursday Service 7:00p Young Adult Bible Study	<b>18</b>  12:10p Good Friday Service	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30, 9 & 11 am  9:45a Sunday School Classes for All Ages 9:45a Spanish Bible Study	<b>21</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 5:00p FUMC Food Pantry 5:45p Back to the Bible w/Dr. Bob	<b>22</b> 8:30a Morning Walking Class 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 6:30p MS Gentle Yoga	<b>23</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 10:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:00a Wednesday Morning Bible Study 1:00p Cards/Boardgames 3:30p WOW 5:30p MYF Jr. High 5:30p Confirmation Class 7:30p Motet Choir	<b>24</b> 8:30a Walking with Wendy 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 12:00p Brown Bag Bible Study 6:00p Created by God Leadership Training 7:00p Young Adult Bible Study	<b>25</b>  5:45p Created by God	<b>26</b>  9:00a Created by God
<b>27</b> WORSHIP 8:30, 9 & 11 am Confirmation Sunday  9:45a Sunday School Classes for All Ages 9:45a Spanish Bible Study 6:00p Sunday Night MYF	<b>28</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 5:45p Back to the Bible w/Dr. Bob	<b>29</b> 8:30a Morning Walking Class 10:00a Morning Movers Exercise Class 6:30p MS Gentle Yoga	<b>30</b> 10:00a Tai Chi 10:00a Wednesday Morning Bible Study 1:00p Cards/Boardgames 3:30p WOW 5:30p MYF Jr. High 7:30p Motet Choir	<b>SAVE THE DATE</b> Confirmation, April 27 Administrative Board Meeting, May 6 Topic Driven Concert, May 16th (for girls 6th-12th grade) Vacation Bible School - July 7-11 Annual Conference June 12-14 MSP June 15-21 Missions/Music Camp - August 4-7		



Methodist Youth Fellowship

April is jammed packed with camps, events, and special moments for our youth; it is a month of celebration and excitement for all!!

I would like to personally invite you to be part of the Youth Ministry and take part in some of these events. All are invited to host a very special event taking place April 12th – the ONE Youth Gathering. This event will be in need of many volunteers to make it a fun and successful event. Both of the SWTX and Rio Grande Conferences' YOUTH (soon to be Rio Texas Conference) will be here at our beloved FUMC McAllen Church to play, eat, take communion, and worship together!

We are getting close to the end of our Confirmation Classes for our ten 8th grade students that have been participating in this Spiritual Journey since February 5th. As part of this journey, both the students and their mentors will soon be experiencing "Peter's Walk". This experience will take place Wednesday, April 16th, from 5:30 to 8:00pm and will require over a dozen volunteers.

Please contact me if you would like more details on how you can be a part of either of these great events, via email at vdillon@mcfirst.com or via phone by calling me at the church office.

April at a Glance

- 2nd Youth Choir Rehearsal 5:00-5:30pm
- 2nd Confirmation Class: 8th graders & Mentors 5:30-8:00pm
- 2nd Wednesday Night MYF Junior High Only 5:30-8:00pm
- 4th-6th Youth Worship Conference in Corpus Christi
- 6th NO Sunday Night MYF
- 9th Youth Choir Rehearsal 5:00-5:30pm
- 9th Confirmation Class: 8th graders & Mentors 5:30-8:00pm
- 9th Wednesday Night MYF Junior High Only 5:30-8:00pm
- 12th ONE Youth Gathering 5:00-8pm
- 13th Sunday Night MYF Senior High Only 6:00-8:00pm
- 16th Youth Choir Rehearsal 5:0-5:30pm
- 16th PETER'S WALK for Confirmation Class 5:30-8:00pm
- 16th Wednesday Night MYF Junior High Only 5:30pm-8:00pm
- 20th Easter Sunday
- 20th NO Sunday Night MYF
- 23rd Youth Choir Rehearsal 5:00-5:30pm
- 23rd Confirmation Class: 8th graders & Mentors 5:30-8:00pm
- 27th Confirmation Sunday
- 30th Wednesday Night MYF Junior High Only 5:30-8:00pm

Save the Date: Friday, May 16th

FUMC McAllen hosting Girls Only Youth Topic Driven Concert by Julie Elias



WENDY'S WINDOW TO WELLNESS

by Wendy Schroeder, RN

Well, as all of you may know by now, that I retired last month! What an honor it was to serve at FUMC McAllen. I was always treated with respect and excitement by all of you. It really has been the experience of a lifetime.

I especially want to thank the staff for all the help they've given me over the last 5 years. I couldn't have done it without you. You're amazing! Our healthcare committee has been dedicated and supportive and I will miss working with you so much, but I know that the next Wesley Nurse will have the best of the best in all of you!

To all my exercise buddies (you know who you are), I'll really miss the friendships we made over the years, so don't be too surprised when I pop in to exercise with you in the future!

You have all meant so much to me and I'll always have you in my heart.

I want to mention the March Blood Drive and thank all of you who made it great. It was one of the most successful drives that we've ever had! Our next blood drive will be June 29, 2014. I hope to see all of you there!

Again, I want to thank all of you for the last 5 years. I'll miss you all so much, but I'm looking forward to spending more time with my family. Thank you for all your prayers and trusting me with your health!

Wendy



"Liquid Gold" Cooking Oil Collection

(Corn or Canola) For our Food Pantries 48 oz. bottles only please April 1 -May 4th Place in wooden bins THANK YOU!!



INSIDE-OUT SUNDAY, March 23rd, was a huge success with over 215 joining hands to serve in our community during this event. What a joyful and blessed day! THANK YOU to our hosts, leaders, and volunteers and THANK YOU to the agencies and ministries we went to serve! Our God is a sending God. We are blessed to be sent out to serve in God's name! To God be the GLORY!



### Sharing Our Story

by Veronica Dillon

*I have been asked to share the following report that I prepared for our last Administrative Board Meeting. Some things need to be shared in order to motivate, inspire, or remind us of where we are and where we should be or where we are heading!*



#### My Vision for MYF

Why do I always look like I'm in a hurry? It's not because I'm too busy, it's because I have an internal urgency that won't let me slow down. I read somewhere that from the time a child is born until they graduate from high school, there are only 940 weekends for them to attend church. I know right? It sounds like a lot, but it's not, especially when they only attend one or two hours per week to establish their Spiritual Journey. If a child is in kindergarten they only have 635 weekends left; in 3rd grade there are 468 left; in 5th grade there are 363 left; and in 9th grade there are only 206 Sundays left! It all happens too fast! And that is my urgency; to help our students discover and embrace a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. My vision for MYF is for them to graduate knowing three things: 1) They can trust God no matter what; 2) They need to make the wise choice – God first; and 3) They should treat others the way they want to be treated – with love and compassion. How can I possibly do that? By spending as much time with them on Sunday nights, Wednesday nights, weekend events, Sunday mornings, and at camps. I want to make sure they know that the Bible is the source of wisdom and truth and what they learn from it, it applies to their daily lives. And I also want for them to know that their Church Family and peers will be the most important relationships they will ever have.

My hope for MYF is to be able to equip them to reach UP, IN, and OUT just like Jesus did. He reached up to God, reached in to his disciples, and reached out to all the people in need. This is definitely a big task, but together it can be done, especially with the help of parents and grandparents. Parents and grandparents are the number one example that students notice and imitate. Together we can guide our students to get into a rhythm of love; love for Christ, love for our church, and love for others.

Our Youth Ministry is hungry for the truth; we just have to be available and present.

To God be the Honor and Glory,  
Veronica M. Dillon



### April Communion Offering *One Great Hour of Sharing*

One Great Hour of Sharing goes to support humanitarian relief and development through United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). This offering is essential to UMCOR! Gifts to this particular offering help pay for UMCOR's administrative costs. That helps us keep our promise that 100 percent of every other gift you make to a specific UMCOR project can be spent on that project and not on administrative costs.

UMCOR is a good steward of God's gifts. The specialized ministries, that of responding in disaster, fighting hunger, alleviating poverty, providing relief supplies around the world, and offering hospitality to immigrants and refugees, all assist the most vulnerable people whose need is greatest. Here in South Texas we have been the recipient of assistance from UMCOR many times, following hurricanes, floods and tornadoes. We have also received blankets, health kits, flood buckets, and other items as relief supplies!

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering, provides for those basic needs that make the rest of UMCOR's work possible. Without this offering so much of what UMCOR does to bring hope and healing to the world could not happen.

#### Let Us Pray...

When you don't know what to pray:  
Romans 8:26-27



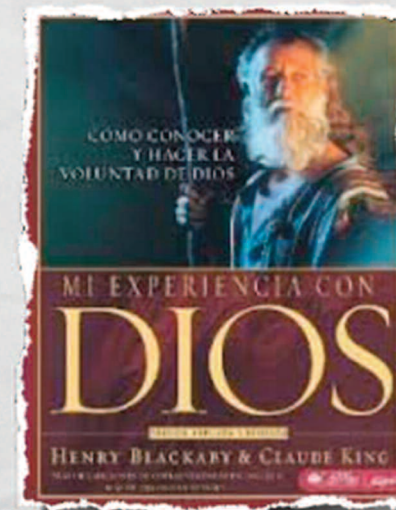
Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

**Let Us Pray at noon, Tuesday, April 1,  
in the Keystone Room.**

Don't worry; just be there whenever you can.  
Bring a friend and lunch, if you want.

## ESTUDIO DE BIBLIA EN ESPAÑOL

- Mi Experiencia Con Dios
- Las clases empiezan el 6 de abril
- Salon no. 209 de 9:45–10:45a.m.
- Dirigido por Adriana Petrides
- New Spanish Adult Bible Study ~ "Experiencing God" ~ Beginning April 6th ~ led by Adriana Petrides ~ Weekly on Sunday mornings in Rm 209 ~ 9:45–10:45 a.m.



FUMC McAllen ~ 4200 N. McColl Rd., McAllen, TX 78504



### Thank You!

A big thank you goes to Tina Scoggins, Carol Dearth, their pricing crew, the FUMC youth, and all who contributed time, energy, and items toward this year's Rummage Sale for Missions. More than \$4500 was raised to benefit the missions and outreach ministries of FUMC.



#### FEBRUARY FINANCIALS

	Year-to-Date				
	Feb 2014	Feb 2013	2014	2013	Budget thru Jan
Receipts	\$71,802	\$85,024	\$163,605	\$160,498	\$206,060
Disbursements	\$91,919	\$90,950	\$173,993	\$177,493	