



THE MESSENGER

February 2018

Join Us for Consecration Sunday February 4

First United Methodist Church of McAllen

4200 N. McColl Road
McAllen, Texas 78504

956-686-3784
Fax 956-664-0204

www.FUMCMcAllen.com

Weekday Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8:30 - 4:30
Friday 8:30 - Noon

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.

Newsletter & Sunday Sermons

Our FUMC newsletter, The Messenger, and our weekly 9 & a.m. sermons, are available on the website. 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.

Any changes in your life? Married? Moved? Or Moving?

Please let us know so we can make changes on our mail out data base.



Pastor's Perspective

Lord, Our God, all this abundance that we have provided to build you a temple for your holy name comes from your hand and belongs to you. -1 Chronicles 29:16

King David utters these remarkable words upon receiving the offering from the people of the nation of Israel to build the temple. David recognizes that the earth and all therein is God's. We live in the abundance of God's rich provision. We live with a created need to express our gratitude for all God has done for us.

This is why an offering is included in our worship. We give an offering as a concrete way to say thank you in recognition of God's blessing poured out upon us. It helps to pay the light bill (and salaries of the staff of course!), but expressing our gratitude to God and our faith in God's provision is supremely important.

It is the tradition in this congregation to celebrate Consecration Sunday on the first Sunday of February. This is an opportunity as a grateful response to God and an act of worship to turn in an estimate of giving card for the year. You do this as you come forward to participate in Holy Communion. Returning an estimate of giving card helps our church practice stewardship with excellence, but most importantly it aids each person in their own stewardship. Filling out an estimate of giving card provides an opportunity to reflect on what God has done in your life and how you have been blessed by God. Then, your giving truly becomes an expression of thanks and an act of worship.

I invite you to join me and the leadership of our church in worship on Consecration Sunday, February 4. Thank you for your generosity and faithful stewardship.

Grace and peace, Ricky



Senior Pastor,
Ricky Sanderford

Children's Ministry



WOW – Word On Wednesday

For 3 yrs old through 5th graders by September 1, 2017
Every Wednesday afternoon, 3:30-5:30 pm
 3:30-4:00 pm Gathering on the Playground
 4:00-5:00 pm Bible Lesson Fun in Rooms 201 and 208
 5:00-5:30 Choir in Room 211

We started off 2018 with a fun-filled Epiphany Party, following the star along with three wisemen all the way to the Christ child, making sure to leave out our shoes filled with hay for the camels! It was a great way to start a year of learning and growing closer to God. The children are learning the joy of giving as they focus on those in need. They had their annual chili mix sale in January with the proceeds going to the Feeding Ministries of FUMC McAllen, including the FUMC Food Pantry, Emily's Meals, and Escandon Elementary. The children

love assembling the food for four families at Escandon and are so happy to contribute their donations from the sale of the chili mix to help in the purchase of the food. Let us know if you did not have a chance to buy a chili mix. We MAY still have some left.

Children's Choir

*Singing in the NEW Sanctuary
 on Dedication Sunday, March 25th!*

We will have one service that day with special music, including the Children's Choir. All children are invited to take part in this exciting opportunity to praise God with singing in the NEW SANCTUARY on Palm Sunday, March 25th! Join us for choir practices every Wednesday, 5:00-5:30 pm, in Room 211.



Families with 4th, 5th, and 6th graders...SAVE the DATE!!!
Friday, May 4th and Saturday, May 5th

Created By God Human Sexuality Class

Created by God is a study of human sexuality with a Christian foundation. It offers both parents and their children opportunities to learn, grow, and celebrate the fact that we have each been wonderfully created by God and are called to responsible living. In addition, participation in Created by God helps families better communicate about sexuality and other life issues now and in the future. Leading the study will be J'Nevelyn Lloyd, Director of Children's Ministry at Tarrytown United Methodist Church in Austin. The fee for the event is \$40.00. Register at fumcmcallen.com. Space is limited to 25 children for the class. If you have questions, contact Lee Ann Clemons, 686-3784. Also be aware that this event is open to all who are interested in a church-based study of sexuality— friends, neighbors, other family members, or persons from the community at large.

FUMC Day School Fall Registration 2018-2019

Registration for the 2018-2019 Fall school year will begin at 8:00am on Monday, Feb. 12th for currently enrolled students and their siblings.

On Friday, Feb. 16th we will open registration to our Church members and previous families.

On Tuesday, Feb. 20th we will open the remaining spaces to the public.

Please be sure to line up on the North side of the building. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis and spaces are limited. Therefore you may only register your children.

Don't forget about our full-day 3 and 4 year old program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call 956-668-9009 or just stop by the Day School office.



2018 Youth Events Save the Date and Join Us

Here we go! It is exciting to plan and look forward to all the newness this year is bringing for our church and for the Youth Ministry too. A lot of first times will be taking place this year, like having a youth team for Project Cornerstone. It will be the first time for our youth to come together in worship alongside Baptist Temple, at their One Weekend event. Also, another first will be this year's Confirmation Class, they will be the first class to confirm their faith at our new sanctuary.

I am looking forward to all of these changes and newness to take place, won't you join us and be a part of this too?

- FEB. 13 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5-6:30PM
- FEB. 14 – Ash Wednesday Service 6:05-7PM
- FEB. 17 – Project Cornerstone 8AM
- FEB. 23-24 One Weekend Event
- MARCH 15 – Spring Break Outing
- MARCH 29 – Holy Thursday Worship Service 7PM
- APRIL 14 – Inside Out
- APRIL 21 – One Youth Gathering
- APRIL 29 – Confirmation Sunday



CORNERSTONE/Texas Ramp Project MINISTRY

Friday a.m. & Saturday a.m.
 February 16 & 17, 2018



CORNERSTONE MINISTRY is a ministry that has evolved over the past 24 years into one that serves primarily physically disabled individuals and their families with wheelchair ramps and other assistance.

We will be partnering with the *Texas Ramp (TRP) Project*. We are excited about our partnership and the possibilities this brings to our ministry, church and surrounding communities. Last year, we successfully used this **model for building the ramps. It made it possible to build a ramp in about 4 hours! TRP will give us matching funds for the supplies for the ramps we build.**

PLEASE mark your calendar to join us the morning of Friday, February 16th and/or the morning of Saturday, February 17th! We hope you can join us.

There will be an Orientation and Planning Meeting to discuss the "new model" and what we will be doing. The date of this will be announced at a later time.

What we can do DEPENDS ON YOU!
We are Christians committed to serving GOD, in service to others.

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God." Ephesians 2:19-22



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



❖ TUESDAY

❖ FEB. 13th

❖ 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

❖ Social Room

❖ All are invited! Love offering will benefit the Better than a Backpack Care Kits for College Kids.

some Christians eating pancakes on that day? Shrove is the past tense of the word shrive, which means to gain absolution of sins by confession and repentance. Pancakes were traditionally eaten on the day before Ash Wednesday, because they were a way to use up the rich ingredients of eggs, milk, and sugar before the fasting, cleansing season of the 40 days of Lent. Many churches set aside Shrove Tuesday as a time to fellowship and feast on all-you-can-eat pancakes.

Bring your family and friends and come join us for fellowship and delicious pancakes on Tuesday, February 13th!

Mark your calendars for the Women's Lenten Study

led by Barbara Engelbrecht and based on the book..

"Paths to Prayer:

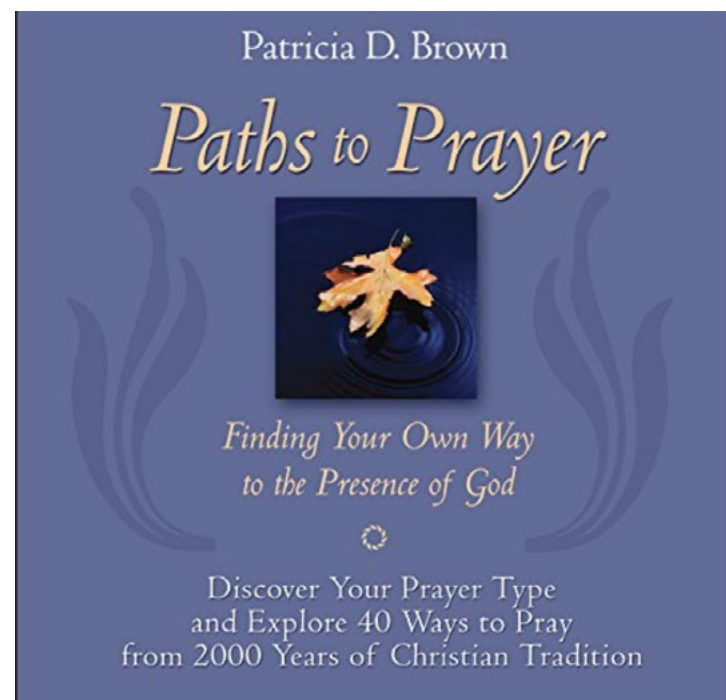
Finding Your Own Way to the Presence of God"

by United Methodist minister, Patricia D. Brown

Thursdays, February 22, March 1, 8, and 15

6:00 pm in the Social Room

"Paths to Prayer" offers a whole-person approach to prayer that takes into account each person's individuality and doesn't assume we all relate to God in the same way. This valuable guide contains a wealth of timeless spiritual prayer practices that Christians have used over the last 2000 years from cultures around the world. Join us as we draw closer to Christ through our prayer life this Lenten season. The books are \$18.00 and can be purchased in the church office.



Mark your calendars for these Holy Week Opportunities...



Special Music Collaboration

April 1st

9 & 11 a.m. Worship Service

No Communion

Lenten Opportunities at FUMC

As the Lenten season approaches we invite you to mark your calendars and plan to be a part of the opportunities available at FUMC to draw closer to Christ through study, worship, and fellowship.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season. During the 40 days of Lent, Christians reflect on Christ's life and death and the significance of that for all humanity. Lent is a time for repentance, prayer, fasting, and meditation. It is a time for re-evaluation, re-dedication, and discipline. The Lenten season culminates with Holy Week, which includes Maundy Thursday and Good Friday observances, followed by the Easter celebration. Following are the various opportunities for you to experience the Lenten season in spiritually significant ways at FUMC McAllen.

The Ash Wednesday Service includes the Imposition of Ashes.



February 14th

6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Center

Lenten Bible Study Wednesday Brown Bag

Six Weeks beginning February 21

12:00 noon in the Koinonia Room

Final Words from the Cross

by Adam Hamilton

In life and in death, Jesus' words were powerful and meaningful. Despite the serious effort and increased pain required for Jesus to speak as he hung on the cross, Jesus spoke seven "final words"—statements that have much to teach us about Jesus, his Father, and ourselves. Hamilton explores these final words as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross.

Each chapter begins with the biblical account followed by a first-person story as might have been told from the viewpoint of one of the characters at the cross. Then the chapter explores the meaning of Jesus' dying words for our lives today. Books are \$10.00 and may be purchased in the church office.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday Service

March 25th – 10:30 a.m.

Holy Thursday Service

March 29th – 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

March 30th – 12:15 p.m.



Pearls of Wellness Wisdom

By Perla Rivera, RN, Wesley Nurse

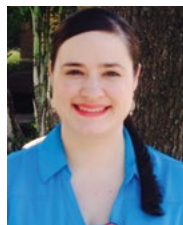
February brings about a reminder regarding our heart health as there are several Go Red campaigns throughout the nation. In the Word of God, Proverbs 4:23, reminds us to "Guard our heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life." We are to definitely guard our heart from bitterness, resentment and unforgiveness as well as in other ways including physically. What we eat, our level of activity are major determinants of our heart's health and effective function. It is crucial that we guard/protect our hearts in this aspect to improve the quality of our lives and to also honor God who created us. Here's a reminder as we recognize February to be American Heart Month to follow the American Health Association's "Life's Simple 7" to improve your heart health:

1. Eat a healthy diet that includes 4 ½ cups of fruits and vegetables a day, at least 3 servings of fiber-rich whole grains a day, at least two 3.5 ounce servings of fish a week (preferably oily fish), limiting sugar-sweetened drinks and eating less than 1500 mg of sodium a day.
 2. Maintain a healthy body weight.
 3. Take charge of your cholesterol knowing what the optimal levels are for good heart health. Use the rule of 50 or more (HDL), 100 or less (LDL), 150 or less (Triglycerides) and 200 or less (Total Cholesterol).
 4. Manage blood pressure.
 5. Keep blood sugar at healthy levels.
 6. Engage in regular physical activity, at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity activity weekly which will help strengthen your heart muscle, improve blood circulation, reduce feelings of stress, and help control body weight.
 7. Don't smoke.
- For more information, visit www.heart.org.

Remind yourself of this truth:

"For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13 (NLT)

Grace, Peace and blessings to you!



Perla Rivera, RN, is a Wesley Nurse with Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.. Methodist Healthcare Ministries' Wesley Nurse program is a faith-based, holistic health and wellness program committed to serving the least served through education, health promotion and collaboration with individual and community in achieving improved wellness through self-empowerment.

Learn more at www.mhm.org.

Administrative Board – 2018

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEMBERS (AT LARGE) 2018	2019	Effective January 2018 2020
Karen Valdez Adam Schach Becky Montgomery Michael Moore Ryan Meyer Glenda Jeffus	Rosalynn Vega Larry Hendrick Peter Astudillo Steve Manwell Art Cortez	Tony Micheletti Vanessa Wiesehan Ken Wilson Amie Gray Azalea Bendiks

MEMBERS BY VIRTUE OF POSITION (EX-OFFICIO)

CHAIRPERSON: Nicky Runnels
 VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thomas Davidson
 SEC'Y TO THE BD:
 CHURCH LAY LEADER: Steve Crain
 CHAIRPERSON PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS: Wayne Johnson
 CHURCH TREASURER: Ken Duke
 CHAIRPERSON OF TRUSTEES: Ronnie Tavarez
 CHAIRPERSON OF FINANCE: Julie Crowsey
 PLANNED GIVING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: Paul Moffitt
 LAY MEMBERS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE:
 Steve Crain Steven Foy Alternate: Tanya Perales
 District Delegate: Art Cortez District Delegate: Catherine DiSanza-

WORK AREA CHAIRPERSON: (Also members of the Administrative Board)

FELLOWSHIP: Nancy Hennig
 MISSIONS/SOCIAL CONCERNS: Terry Miller, Carol Dearth
 WORSHIP: Nancy Hennig, Stan Marley

COORDINATORS: (Also members of the Administrative Board)

CHILDREN MINISTRIES: Patty Summers, Lindsey Runnels
 YOUTH MINISTRIES: Eva Tavarez, Alissa Shirah
 SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: Stan Marley

(continued on back page)

CHURCH FAMILY

Our Sympathy to ...

The family of **Robert (Bob) Winston Geissler** who passed away at Doctor's Hospital at Renaissance in Edinburg, Texas, on Christmas Eve, 2017. Visitation was held at Kreidler Funeral Home on Saturday, January 6, 2018.

The family of **Becky & Gary Montgomery** following the death of Becky's sister, **Mary Ann Rodehaver** on January 11th. The Montgomery's address is 1608 Ulex, McAllen, TX 78504.

The family of **Dr. Marvin Tavarez** following his death on January 16th. A memorial service was held on Monday, January 22. Alice's address is 1713 Larkspur, McAllen, Tx 78501 and Ronnie & Eva's address is 1321 Fullerton, McAllen, TX 78504.



Calendar of Events

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

FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
For calendar updates, visit fumcmcallen.com .				1 Breakfast & Devotionals Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Disciple II Bible Study Women's Advent Study Young Adult Group	2	3 Know Your Ministry Workshop
4 Consecration Sunday Early Traditional Service New Spirit Worship Holy Grounds Fellowship Late Traditional Service	5 Tai Chi Exercise Class	6 Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Women's SEED Group Tuesday Noon Women's Group Co-ED SEED Group	7 Tai Chi Exercise Class WOW (Word On Wednesday) Children's Choir Truth Seekers Confirmation Classes 2018 Witness Band Rehearsal Motet Choir Rehearsal	8 Breakfast & Devotionals Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Disciple II Bible Study Special Needs Support Group Young Adult Group	9	10
11 Early Traditional Service New Spirit Worship Holy Grounds Fellowship Late Traditional Service Light Seekers	12 Tai Chi Exercise Class	13 Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Women's SEED Group Tuesday Noon Women's Group Parkinson Support Group Alzheimer's Support Group Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Co-ED SEED Group	14 Breakfast & Devotionals Tai Chi Exercise Class WOW (Word On Wednesday) Children's Choir Truth Seekers Confirmation Classes 2018 Witness Band Rehearsal Ash Wednesday Service Motet Choir Rehearsal	15 Breakfast & Devotionals Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Disciple II Bible Study Young Adult Group	16 Cornerstone/ Texas Ramp Project	17 Cornerstone/ Texas Ramp Project
18 Early Traditional Service New Spirit Worship Holy Grounds Fellowship Late Traditional Service	19 Tai Chi Exercise Class Manna Food Pantry at First UMC McAllen	20 Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Women's SEED Group Circle of Friends Tuesday Noon Women's Group Co-ED SEED Group	21 Tai Chi Exercise Class WOW (Word On Wednesday) Children's Choir Brown Bag Lenten Study Truth Seekers Confirmation Classes 2018 Witness Band Rehearsal Motet Choir Rehearsal	22 Breakfast & Devotionals Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Women's Lenten Study Disciple II Bible Study Young Adult Group	23	24
25 Early Traditional Service New Spirit Worship Holy Grounds Fellowship Late Traditional Service Light Seekers	26 Tai Chi Exercise Class	27 Morning Walkers Exercise Tai Chi Exercise Class Women's SEED Group Tuesday Noon Women's Group Co-ED SEED Group	28 Breakfast & Devotionals Tai Chi Exercise Class Prayer Shawl Ministry WOW (Word On Wednesday) Children's Choir Brown Bag Lenten Study Witness Band Rehearsal Motet Choir Rehearsal			



THE MESSENGER

February 2018

First United Methodist Church
4200 N. McColl Rd.
McAllen, TX 78504



Know Your Ministry Workshop

Saturday, February 3, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
FUMC McAllen

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CHAIRPERSON OF USHERS: Steve Alaniz
YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES:
Vincent Tavarez, Evie Shirah, Sydney Ramon, Stephen Dillon
ADULT EDUCATION: Judy Davidson

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND OFFICIALS

PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

2018	2019	2020
Paige Cisneros	Wayne Johnson, Chair	Mary Ann Garza
Bill Martin	Nelda Garza	Mike Summers
Jack Scoggins	Cherie Stiers	Barbara Wilkins

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

2018	2019	2020
Tom Hellums	Sara Meyer	Richard Walters
Joy Phenix	Don Sharp	Roger Stolley
Ronnie Tavarez, Chair	Gary Garcia	Deb Stark

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

Julie Crowsey, Chair	Steve Crain	Andy Browder
Thomas Davidson	Kirby Cavin	Paul Moffitt
Jim Miller	Chris Brasure	Bruce Leahy
Joyce Smithers	Gary Clemons	Hollis Rankin, III
Rodney Phenix	Billy Joe Day	R.T. Dixon
Robert Bonds	Jimmy Henderson	Wayne Johnson
Matt Kelly		
Ken Duke, Treasurer		
Roger Stolley, Trustee Representative		
Charlene Simmons, Finance/Business Administrator		

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS AND LAY LEADERSHIP:

Senior Pastor, Ricky Sanderford, Chair		
2018	2019	2020
Meldi Martinez	Deena Davidson	Barb Kelly
Mike Summer	Gary Clemons	Arianna Astudillo
Margie McKenna	Tracy Crain	Dolly Ramon
	Tina Scoggins	

Lay Leader, Steve Crain
Administrative Board Chair, Nicky Runnels

Building and Design Update

As you all can see, the new sanctuary continues to make significant progress. We are on schedule and beginning to enter the final stages toward a completed project. There are still decisions to be made related to interior finish out, furnishings, and final touches. However, everyone is on board and doing their part. The Building and Design Committee asks for your continued support in the form of prayer, input and catching up on your pledges. Mark your calendars for the New Sanctuary Dedication on March 25th. We will have one unified worship service at 10:30 a.m. with lunch to follow. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate our success and most importantly to give all of the glory to God!



PALM SUNDAY

New Sanctuary Dedication

March 25th

One Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
with Holy Communion

Lunch immediately following service