

First United Methodist Church, McAllen

June 1, 2018

# The Messenger



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018



June 18-22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00AM to 12:00 Noon

For children 4 years through 5th grade by September 1, 2018

All children in PreK4 through 5th grade by September 1, 2018 are invited to join us for a wild and fun-packed ride at the Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School, June 18-22, 9am– 12pm. Through cool music, exciting science, creative crafts, fun recreation and memorable Bible stories, we will discover that life with God is an adventure full of wonder and surprise. We can trust God to be with us through it ALL! Register children online at [funmcmallen.com](http://funmcmallen.com). Offer your help by contacting Lee Ann Clemons, [laclemons@mcfirst.com](mailto:laclemons@mcfirst.com).

## Pastor's Perspective

The saying time flies when you are having fun is certainly an accurate description of life and ministry as part of the McFirst family. I am beginning the 10th year of my ministry as one of your pastors, yet it seems I just finished unpacking the last box a few weeks ago. Come to think of it, I did open a box recently that was sealed with tape from our move in 2009. Speaking on behalf of the Sanderford and Perales families, we are blessed and thankful to return to continue our ministry together with this wonderful church family and look forward to continued effective ministry.

Speaking of time flying, 2018 is almost half over. Summer is upon us and all indications are its going to be hot. 100 degree days have already been forecasted and experienced! This is a traveling congregation and I know many people are off to see family, go on vacation and experience a wide range of summer adventures. I ask everyone to remember each other in prayer and I pray God's continued blessing upon each of us.

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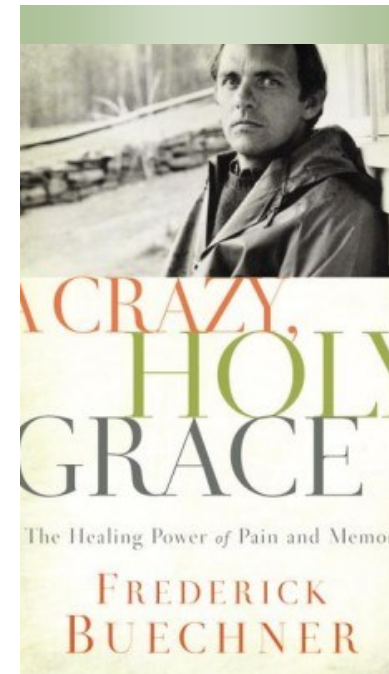


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### Worship Information

8:30 am—Traditional Worship
10:45 am—Contemporary Worship
11:00 am—Traditional Worship



## Woven Women Ministry

"A crazy, holy grace I have called it. Crazy because whoever could have predicted it? Who can ever foresee the crazy how and when and where of a grace that wells up out of the lostness and pain of the world and of our own inner worlds? And holy because these moments of grace come ultimately from farther away than Oz and deeper down than doom, holy because they heal and hallow."....Frederick Buechner

All women are invited to join in the four week study, A Crazy Holy Grace, based on the writings of Frederick Buechner. We will gather in the Koinonia Room at 6:00 pm every Thursday in July. Childcare will be provided. Books can be purchased in the church office, \$12.00 each.

*Who can ever foresee the crazy how and when and where of a grace that wells up out of the lostness and pain of the world and of our own inner worlds?*

## COMMUNION OFFERING & Service Opportunity



*Save the date:*  
**June 10—16, 2018**

## On Mission

First UMC has been blessed to host **Mission Service Project (MSP)** for many years! This year the dates for this ministry are June 10-16, 2018. This is an opportunity for high school youth to serve in God's mission, here in the Rio Grande Valley. The June Communion Offering will go to support First UMC Youth and the hosting of MSP this year.

MSP is also an opportunity for the First UMC Church Family to serve, as we host these young people and their sponsors. We hope you will prayerfully consider both your financial gift and gifts of service to this ministry! LOTS of volunteers will be needed to serve in one of several ways!

Please take a look at the list of places to serve on the "Upcoming Opportunities to Serve" BOARD at both church entrances! *See where you feel called to serve!*

You always welcome to call or e-mail Susan Hellums at (956-648-8509) or [shellums@mcfirst.com](mailto:shellums@mcfirst.com)

“Thank you to all those who participated in this past school years Friends in Faith Ministry! It really is so wonderful to hear from the youth at the reveal party just how knowing someone is there praying for them when receiving letters of hope lifts them up! We open opportunities for new relationships and in turn we are blessed to be a blessing! Look to sign up again or for the first time in August for the upcoming 2018-19 school year to anonymously pray for a youth. Send a note to them occasionally letting them know you are there. Again thank you for supporting our awesome youth!” Diane Bleibdrey



Youth Speak

We had a beautiful **Friends In Faith** Reveal Party this past month. There was plenty of food, picture taking, smiles, and lots of talking. The party exhibited the new friendships created through prayer and love we all share in Christ. I am very thankful for all that attended and made the FIF Ministry a very special one. Now the youth are out of school and ready to relax and enjoy a **summer** full of lazy days, said no youth ever. They’re ready for the summer to begin and go off to camps; educational, missional, fun, band, choir, and spiritual ones. These camps shape, teach, and help them to grow in many ways. Camps are not cheap or luxurious, yet they are priceless! Please keep the FUMC Youth Ministry in your prayers that money will not be an obstacle to attend camp and that God may overwhelm them with love and joy as another summer is part of their life experience and memories.

Important Dates

Mission Service Project

Sunday—Friday  
June 10th-15th

Vacation Bible School

Monday—Friday  
  
June 18th-22nd  
9AM-12PM  
Lunch to Follow

Youth Week

All youth are invited to participate  
  
July 8th-12th

RTC Youth Assembly Camp

July 15-21st  
  
For incoming 9th grade and outgoing 12th grade students  
  
Departing Sunday at 5PM and arriving Saturday at 7AM

Children’s M&M Camp

Monday—Friday  
July 23rd—27th

Youth Beach Bash Day

Saturday, July 28th  
7:30AM-3:30PM

Praise & Craze Youth Day Camp

August 6—9th

Please see our detailed calendar online at [www.fumcmcallen.com](http://www.fumcmcallen.com)

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You can read current and past issues of our newsletter, The Messenger, and listen to our sermons online at our website: [www.fumcmcallen.com](http://www.fumcmcallen.com)

Pastor’s Perspective, cont’d

In the midst of your journeys, remember the church in your prayers and in your giving. Giving to the ministries of the church does not come in 1/12 every month, but the ministry of the church continues throughout the summer. June brings Mission Service Project for our youth and VBS for our children. July contains Mission and Music Camp, Youth Week and camp for our youth in the mountains of New Mexico. Let’s come to the fall without having to make us a summer shortage in our giving. Regular, systematic giving is one of the keys to a growing, close relationship with Jesus Christ. As Paul said in 2 Corinthians 9:7-8: *Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.*

Have a blessed and safe summer. Thank you for all you do for Christ and his church. See you in worship and stay cool.  
  
Ricky

The Youth Ministry



On the last Sunday of April, eleven youth in the 8th grade confirmed their faith! The Confirmation Classes are not possible without the support and presence of the youth, adult mentors, parents, and our pastors. We are also very proud of graduating high school seniors that have been a blessing to the Youth Ministry, our church, and to our community. Praise be to God for blessing us with such amazing youth.

