


First United Methodist Church, McAllen

The Messenger

October 2018



First United Methodist Church
McAllen
LOVE GOD. SHARE JESUS. GROW FAITH.



WEDNESDAY
OCT. 31
5:00-7:00 p.m.

- Free Games & Candy
- Friendly Family Fun
- Fun Food – cash only

The time is NOW to get ready for Trunk or Treat, the annual fall celebration at FUMC for the entire community. Fun is in the air for all ages and we want YOU to join us! Come test out your

climbing skills on the climbing wall, take a fun hayride, listen to our awesome praise bands and enjoy yummy hot dogs and turkey legs. Check out your throwing ability for missions at the dunking booth. There will be games for children of all ages, a blow-up slide and obstacle course, Halloween photos will be taken and much, much more! Everyone can be involved in making this a great outreach event for the community. Offer your help by providing a trunk for handing out candy to the children, donating candy or prizes, setting up, sponsoring or leading a game for the children, cleaning up, wrapping food to sell, and MORE! Offer your help by contacting Allen Gray or stop by the Fellowship Center foyer on October 7th and sign-up to serve during Trunk or Treat.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors, and join us for the Annual

Pastor’s Perspective

Our journey continues...

It has been a journey overflowing with God’s blessings and grace and gifts; a journey that has given us a church home where God’s light and love shines brightly through its people; a journey of service and stewardship and of honoring and remembering the past by insuring and inspiring the future.

It is at First United Methodist where we constantly strive to Love God, Share Jesus and Grow Faith. This faith community helps feed the hungry, put shoes on children, and works for adequate shelter for the poor and vulnerable. Here we offer opportunities for youth and children to grow in their faith and discipleship.

Our journey continues...

To God be the glory! It is in our beautiful sanctuary where we celebrate new life through baptism and affirm our faith in confirmation, where we gather to pray and hear the Good News and are fed at God’s table, where couples come to declare their love in marriage, and where we say good bye to loved ones and friends as they move on to God’s eternal embrace.

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Worship Information

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



Children’s Ministry— Children’s Choir Singing God’s Praises—October 14th


Every Wednesday, 5:00-5:30 pm, Kinder through 8th graders join Alissa and Bo Shirah as they lead the Children’s Choir in praising God through music. This energetic, joyful group sings several times throughout the year during worship services and presents an annual Christmas musical each December. In the summer they join together for Mission and Music Camp to learn a musical and go out into the community to

serve and sing to others. At the end of the week they present their musical in the sanctuary and enjoy refreshments with family and friends.

Mark your calendars to be present in worship on October 14th when the children will sing during the 10:45 and 11:00 am services.

So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
Genesis 1:21

Share. Encourage. Exhort. Disciple.



SEED GROUPS
Growing Together in Christ

WOMEN'S SEED GROUP

Tuesdays @ 12pm

Koinonia Room

For more info on Women's Seed Groups, please call Tanya Perales at (956) 605-8186

CO-ED SEED GROUP

Tuesdays @ 6pm

Koinonia Room

For more info on Co-Ed Seed Groups, please call Gary Montgomery at (956) 682-8950

Bring Your Pets and Join us for the Second Annual Blessing of the Animals



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 14th
5:00-6:00 p.m.
Church Lawn




All pets and families are invited!



Youth Speak

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. **And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**” -

 **S.O.S.** SERVE OUR SCHOOLS with Jesus! And so that is what the Youth Ministry t into our community and share His light by sharing verywhere they go! They share their gifts and talents and allow God’s name to be glorified. I applaud them for being so brave and not worrying about being ‘politically correct’ or worried about what their friends will say. The youth have had such a positive impact on others in the community. They’re remembered by the prayers they prayed and the songs they sang making others want to sing and praise our Lord and Savior too!
All glory be to God for blessing our youth with the strength, courage, gifts and abilities to glorify His name.


**WED.
OCT. 24th
McAllen
Memorial
Stadium**
2155 N. Bicentennial Blvd.



See You At the Pole 2018 at IB Lamar HS & Morris Middle School

Important Dates

Women’s Ministry Trip

Friday, October 6th
San Antonio

Serve Our Schools

Saturday, October 13th
8AM—12PM
Rayburn Elementary

Children’s Sabbath Choir

Sunday, October 14th

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 14th
5:00-6:00PM

Trunk or Treat

Wednesday, October 31st
5:00-7:00PM

Thanksgiving Baskets

Sunday, November 18th
1:00PM

Please see our detailed calendar
online at www.fumcmcallen.com

Pastor’s Perspective, cont’d

The generosity, faithfulness, dedication and devotion of FUMC’s mem- bers have made it possible to worship in a sanctuary enjoying the glori- ous sounds of an organ, and to appreciate the beauty of a central stained glass window reminding us the story of our salvation in Jesus. Add to that new and inviting nursery space and music rehearsal space and we have a center for worship that is elegant in its simplicity and in its func- tion.

Since we began taking the necessary steps toward the construction of a sanctuary over three years ago 75 families totaling almost 200 people have become members plus many more who are active participants in the life and ministry of our church.

Our journey continues...

In 2002, part of a vision was realized when FUMC relocated to its pre- sent site and worship began in the Fellowship Center (Phase One of a Master Site Plan.) The complete vision for our new church site includ- ed a sanctuary. After years of prayer and tireless service and sacrifice by so many, we held worship in the sanctuary on March 25 of this year. But, to stand still is not God’s call upon his people and if we don’t move forward we will have failed to honor the legacy of those who sac- rificed before us.

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Church, McAllen

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Online Information:

You can read current and past
issues of our newsletter, The Mes-
senger, and listen to our sermons
online at our website:
www.fumcmcallen.com

Our journey continues...

We will owe a debt after the Harvesting the Fruit capital campaign finishes in March 2019. The exact amount will not be known until the current campaign is complete, but it will be over \$1.5 million. This is a debt that needs to be erased before the current leg of our journey is complete. If we were to make monthly payments on our debt over the next 15 years we would pay out as much as \$200,000.00 annually in mort- gage payments. This includes over \$1 million in interest payments alone. By wiping out the debt over the next three years we will save significant dollars which could be used to support the ever growing ministries of our church. Ministries that help connect people to the love of God in Jesus Christ.

So now is not the time to look back on what has been accomplished, which is much, but to look forward to what needs to be done, and to move forward in the ever-present shadow of God’s love and grace.

To pay off the debt your Administrative Board voted to once again engage Horizon Stewardship to lead us in a debt reduction campaign. We will be working on the campaign this fall into the first six weeks of 2019. The first thing we’ll be doing over the next few weeks is putting together a leadership team to help with the campaign.

Throughout FUMC’s history, our members have always answered our challenges with the understanding that “we exist for God’s purposes for the world, not for ourselves, and believe that, with God, all things are possible.” God has always provided and God will continue to provide.

Our journey continues...

And as it does, remember the words of King David spoken to his son Solomon:
“Be strong and courageous,” David said to his son Solomon. “Get to work. Don’t be afraid or discouraged, because the Lord God, my God, is with you. He’ll neither let you down nor leave you before all the work for the service of the Lord’s temple is done.” (1Chronicles 20:28)

Grace and peace,
Ricky