

GROWING DEEPER TOGETHER

Your Grow team has been meeting and planning! We would love to have you join us in the Friendship Class (Sundays at 11), Women's Group (Tuesdays at 6), Pastor's Bible Study (Wednesdays at 6), and the First Thursday Potluck Lunch (first Thursdays at noon.) Children's Sunday School class is after Children's Place during Sunday morning worship.

Watch for more information on a Celebrate Recovery interest meeting soon! This program is for recovery from not only chemical substances, but any of life's hurts, hang-ups, and habits.

Grow/Deepen Team also discussed a Men's Ministry group and other small study groups. Is there a topic you want to study or an activity you would like to share with others? If you would like to start a group, contact Jan Helton or Ginny Haight.



Recent Trustee Efforts

For years we have suffered significant roof leaks in the Gathering Area, in the Family Center and the entrance into the Children's Wing. Thanks to the estate planning of the Knight Family plus the proceeds from the sale of the Drake Street Parsonage, the Trustees were able to repair all of the flat roof portions and drains of the church at the cost of \$94,000. The projected life of this work is 20 years. This is an example of the significance of our Foundation's efforts in estate planning to the long term viability of our beautiful facilities.

In recent years capital improvements in excess of \$1,000,000 were used to repair and upgrade:

- New Sanctuary lighting and electric system under the Sanctuary
- Replacement of Sanctuary heating and air conditioning
- Install drainage around the entire structure
- Enlarge and improve Day Care facilities
- Pave and improve parking and access in Courtyard

Please consider FUMC-Commerce in your long-term estate planning.



Go, Glow, Grow!

Moses and Jesus walked up the mountain hundreds of years apart. Yet they were in the presence of the same eternal and wondrous God. As are we!

Transfiguration Day was Sunday, February 27. It is when we tell the story of Jesus glowing on the mountain and God's voice from a cloud claiming and naming him: "This is my Son, the Beloved, with him I am well-pleased; listen to him!" We also refer to Moses making the same journey up the mountain of clouds centuries before. No doubt Moses and Jesus, each with their companions, walked up the arid mountains of the holy land and they probably used animals to carry supplies.

We too are invited to walk with Jesus this Lent and to know that he is walking beside us. We may invite Jesus to walk places with us. Walking with him to the places he would have us grow requires a lot more willingness. And listening.

The term "Spiritual Walk" is used to mean moving closer to Jesus in our heart and in our intentions. Lent begins with walking. With taking steps. We will practice our walk of faith and focus upon our own journey of faith. This kind of spiritual walking can be done either by actual steps with our feet or by walking in spirit through prayer. Somehow such spiritual walking seems richer when we walk together.

I look forward to worshipping with you and sharing the ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 2, at 6pm in the Family Center!

I seek to be with you every Sunday, here or online. See you in Church!

Actions:

- Read and compare Exodus 24:12-18 and Matthew 17:1-9 and come to the mountain.
- Begin or continue your walk with an Ash Wednesday Service remembrance.



F.I.S.H.--Lenten Mission

F.I.S.H., Hunt County Shared Ministries, has been designated our Lenten mission. This organization grew from the idea of Presbyterian minister, Bill Hunt, to join with the neighboring Lutheran church to meet the food and clothing needs in Hunt County. Located at 2805 King Street in Greenville, the facility is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am till noon. Currently it offers a wealth of services but F.I.S.H. continues to provide a number of services to address food insecurity.

The MARKS--Meals for At-Risk Kids-- program sends a backpack full of nutritious foods home with qualified kids every weekend to tide them over since they can't have breakfast or lunch at school. People may also "shop" the shelves at the facility. Monday, Wednesday and Friday anyone may drive by and pick up fresh produce and the 3rd Thursday of each month they may pick up a box of food supplied by the North Texas Food Bank. F.I.S.H. also supplies the groceries for Hunt County Shares at Thanksgiving and Christmas. People may also rent a plot in the community garden.

Over the years services have expanded to include payment for doctor's appointments, prescriptions and eye glasses. F.I.S.H. will help individuals to obtain Social Security cards so they can apply for jobs. During the pandemic Hunt County Shared Ministries has expanded its rent and utilities assistance to aid those who have fallen behind as a consequence of Covid. Your Lenten offering will help underwrite the \$100,000.00 spent on this effort and the \$60,000.00 spent each year on the MARKS program. All dollar bills and checks designated for Lent in the memo line will support F.I.S.H. If you give online, just click the Mission of the Month button.

Hunt County Shared Ministry was nicknamed F.I.S.H. in reference to the Biblical story of the loaves and fishes. Wally Jeffers, executive director, has created the acronym **Faithfully Instilling Shared Hope**. Let's join in this effort by making a generous donation.

Prayer List 2-28-22

Recent Concerns:

- The Leaders and People of Ukraine
- Frances & Mark Sartwell
- Linda Baron
- Jason & Ameris Grapa
- Richard Norton
- Mary Baker
- Family of Bill Peek
- Family of Janet Skauge
- Sharon Brown (named by the Webster family)
- Margie Hamlin (Linda King's mother)
- Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson)
- Julie (Janeen Kvanli's sister)

Continued Prayers (long term):

- ***Our world, country, & leaders***
- Reese & the Van Voorhis family
- Lavinia Atchley (Harriet Williams' aunt)
- Harold & Becky Coker
- Jack Gray
- Robert Jenkins (Tiffany Harrison's father)
- Mabel and Carl Little
- Brenda Mosley Longhoffer (Lisa McGuire's friend)
- Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents)
- Robert Seay
- Dudley Shaw (Robyn Elwell's brother-in-law)
- Christi Webster's friend with breast cancer
- Rev. Dennis Wilkinson

Austin:

- Ruby Vander Velde

Discovery Village Rehab:

- Virginia Collier

Draughn's/Country Home Estate:

- Mary Louise McMahan
- Jayne Williams

Legacy Oaks (Midlothian):

- Jerry & Sandy Hutton

Oak Manor:

- Helen Cole

Those serving in our military:

- 2nd Lieutenant Cameron Lehr
- Lt. Dan Barton
- Daniel Chamberlain
- Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
- Petty Officer 1st Class Patrick Stogner
- Col. Keith Williams
- Major Bob Farmer

March Birthdays

- 3/2 Ricky Dobbs
- 3/3 Dalton Borders
- 3/4 Mary Lou Heatherly
- 3/5 Mikaela Basden
- 3/7 Cole Bruister
- 3/8 Charles Webster
Gene Lockhart
- 3/9 Luann Huffman
- 3/14 Oliver Roberts
- 3/16 Daniel Stark
- 3/21 Kathleen Hooten
- 3/25 Pete Smith
Mike Roberts
Hurley Buford
- 3/26 Shelly Oats
- 3/29 Charlie Walker
Sally Walker
- 3/30 John Burkett
- 3/31 Anna Bruister

March Anniversaries

- 3/2 David & Luann Huffman
- 3/8 James & Geneva Teel
- 3/9 Mack & Mariann Andrews
- 3/17 Jim & Nell Brown
- 3/30 Jon & Mitzi Parker



Prayer Shawl
Yarn + Lunch!

The Prayer Shawl ladies have scheduled a field trip to Fiber Circle in Farmersville on March 4th. Meet at 10:30 in the church parking lot to travel together. We plan to replenish yarn for our projects and have lunch.

***Break-Fast Pancake Supper
& Ash Wednesday Service***

***The FUMC Connect Team invites you to
join us on Wednesday, March 2
in the Family Ministry Center.
Supper starts at 5pm, followed by
Worship at 6pm.***



Pre-K weekly chapel
with Pastor Sam.



Toddler 1 and
Mrs. Tiffany



Toddler 2 Valentine's
photo booth



The tooth fairy came in for a visit!



Preschool: National
Peanut Butter Day

In case of emergency pastoral care need,
please call or text Pastor Sam at 214-842-9252.

First United Methodist Church
1709 Highway 24
Commer, TX 75428
Pastor - Rev. Sam Caldwell