

The Rockport Beacon

A Publication of the First United Methodist Church of Rockport



May 2018 Newsletter

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While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. – Luke 24: 36b-48

Friends, this is a season of new creation. The sightings of Jesus after his Resurrection cause a tension. This tension created by Jesus' death and resurrection is similar to the tension we have been living through recovery since Hurricane Harvey, the death of loved ones, significant health issues, financial uncertainty, and home stability. Disbelief and wonder are on the tips of our tongues: "How can this be?" "This is too much Lord!" "What are we going to do next?" "Is this for real?" "It's too good to be true!" "From where did this strange peace come?"

What I love about Jesus' response to our anxious questions is the way he sets a basic pattern for us to navigate these moments of being created new. For those who seek new life in the midst of disbelief and wonder Jesus uses the perfect question of distraction, "have you anything here to eat?" It refocuses the gathered on serving, it draws us to assess their resources for offerings, and it invites us to share space with his presence. Jesus in one simple question set up an environment for 'belonging' that encourages openness to understanding scripture.

Paul Rock writes in Preaching the Common Lectionary: While the opening of the Scripture and the teaching are vitally important, they come after the fear has been dispelled and belonging has been established and a meal is shared. Recall what Christ instructs us to share until he comes again; it is not a lecture or an anthem or confession, but a meal. To repeat, regularly, the act of invitation of drawing together, of sharing food, of pausing long enough to lean in and touch and taste and be fed and filled together. Eating together is an essential part of Christian behavior, right up there with caring for the poor and gathering for worship.

Our strength does not come from our certainty. Our faith is not about etiquette. It's about community. It's about identity. It's about grace. And when we've touch grace and tasted community,

we can be witnesses, even while we continue to wonder, in Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth.

I believe God is recreating our community for greater 'Belonging' and it will require us to draw strength and courage from the basic model that Jesus gave us for a faith community. So I invite you to ponder, "who do we need to invite to the table? Who needs to find a place to belong so that they can sit in Jesus' presence? Are there ways we can increase our readiness for the one who asks, do you have something to eat?"

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Laura

Also, please be in prayer as the Community Table leaders, coordinators, volunteers gather to discern the next steps of its ministry. The supper and conversation will be Tuesday, May 8th at 6pm.

*Join us as we
Celebrate our 2018 Graduating Seniors!*
Graduation Celebration

Paraiso Café
Sunday, May 20th
Youth Room (Room 6)
9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.





Lectionary Readings

Our worship life is organized around the Revised Common Lectionary—a system of reading through the entire Bible in a 3-year cycle. You are invited and encouraged to use these scripture passages in your devotional time.

May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter -Holy Communion

Benevolent Bucket to Benefit Vacation Bible School

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98 (UMH 818)
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 13 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98 (UMH 818)
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 20 - Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826)
Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 27 - Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29 (UMH 761)
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

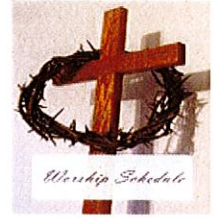
Office Angels

Would you enjoy serving your church a few hours a week by answering the phones and assisting the church staff with administrative tasks? Call the church at 361-729-1659.

Sunday Morning Schedule:

8:00 a.m. Worship
Weekly Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. Worship
Monthly Holy Communion
First Sunday



Children are always welcome in worship here! Children's bulletins and other activities are available in the Family Area, located inside the Live Oak entrance.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00a.m. - Cross Talk..... Rm 11
9:15a.m. - New Beginnings FH1
9:15a.m. - You'll Get Through This Rm 14

CHILDREN & YOUTH

8:00 a.m. Nursery (0-4 yrs).....FH3
9:15 a.m. Sunday School (3-12 yrs).....FH3
10:15 a.m. Nursery (0-4 yrs).....FH3
12:00 p.m. Youth GroupRec. Room

FH = Fellowship Hall

♪ Choir Notes ♪

*With a voice of singing
declare ye this and let it be heard: Alleluia!*

**Choir Practice
Wednesdays at 6:30pm**

Ouida ♪

Ouida Bliss Richardson
Director of Music Ministries

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Send address changes to *The Rockport Beacon*, P. O. Box 1045, Rockport, Texas 78381.

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Phone No. 361-729-1659**

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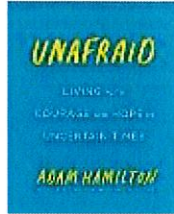


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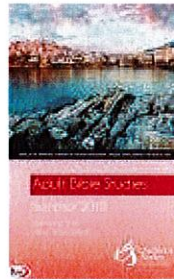
**"First United Methodist Church
Rockport, TX "**



9:00 a.m. - Cross Talk Adult Class, Room 11, Ed. Wing. The Cross Talk Class continues its exploration of fear, worry, and anxiety, examining scientific and biblical approaches. We use Adam Hamilton's latest publication and DVD entitled "Unafraid." Come and worry with us!



9:15 a.m. - New Beginnings Adult Class, meets in Fellowship Hall 1. This spring, our lessons focus on ways God's people have acknowledged the greatness of their God. The quarter begins with guidance for following God. Then, with Easter, the quarter turns to ways Jesus provided a channel for giving God glory and honor. The quarter concludes with a look at times when the Hebrew people sang praises to God. The student book writer is Michelle Morris. The writer for the teacher book is Clara Welch. If you have any questions, please call Chester Barre at 361-729-6285.



9:15 a.m. - "You'll Get Through This" by Max Lucado. April 8 - May 13. Meets in the Education Wing, Rm 14. 6-week study facilitated by Art and Valerie Smith. With the compassion of a pastor, the heart of a storyteller, and the joy of one who has seen what God can do, Max explores the story of Joseph and the truth of Genesis 50:20. What Satan intends for evil, God redeems for good.



Restoration Updates



Stained Glass Windows:
We have submitted the contract for the Stained Glass Windows, and we are hopeful that they will be installed this summer!

Pews: New pews have been installed! Join us on Sunday morning so you can try them out!



Vacation Bible School



June 25-29 ~ 9:00am-12:00pm
Entering PreK-5th grade (Ages 4-11)

- Bible Stories
- Music
- Science
- Arts & Crafts
- Snack & Recreation
- Mission Project



"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2

Pre-register online at RRR.CokesburyVBS/firstumcrockport or in person at the church office.

Youth and Adult Volunteers Wanted!

Contact Ouida at church or by email oidab110@aol.com

Kick-Off Party!

Sunday, May 20th at 12:00pm



We invite all who want to help with this event! This will be a fun time of introducing you to the program, doing a little bit of training, and getting excited about what God will do through this VBS!

Methodist Men's Breakfast

Wednesday, May 2, 7:00 a.m.



Methodist Men will meet in the Church Fellowship Hall. Make plans to attend this fellowship group. Please call or text Ed Hegen at 361-813-9298 so we know how many for coffee, breakfast and fellowship.

2nd Saturday Fellowship

Saturday, May 12, 8:00 a.m.

The Methodist Men invite men of all ages to join us for coffee, breakfast, and fellowship. Breakfast will be at 8:00 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. Following breakfast, we invite you to join us for a service project for a couple hours if you can. If you can't stay the whole time, just come for breakfast and fellowship. Hope to see you there!



May 01	Jerry Sanchez	May 15	Olivia Briand
May 03	Kim Hall	May 16	Phyllis Colvin
May 03	Richard Martin	May 16	A.D. Hall
May 03	Sam Schertz	May 16	Margy Reese
May 04	Zachary Morgan	May 17	Jeanette Morris
May 06	Debbie Chapman	May 18	Kathy Abbott
May 06	Victoria Jamison	May 19	Rob Coe
May 07	Beverly Garis	May 19	Nathan Freund
May 07	Karl Hattman	May 19	Laurel Thomas
May 07	Steve Miller	May 21	Chuck Naiser
May 09	Jane Shanlever	May 21	Jerrica Soliz
May 11	Sue Iverson	May 22	Mary John Hoffman
May 11	Mary Rappard	May 23	Tonya Amerine
May 12	Kaitlyn Carruth	May 24	Judith Herndon
May 12	Brady Hattman	May 24	V. Jean McIntire
May 12	Stephen Feyen	May 27	Pat Koenig
May 13	Henry Feyen	May 29	Chrystal Perez
May 13	Henry Feyen	May 29	Cheryl Picarazzi
		May 30	Jay Tarkington
		May 31	Susie Black
		May 31	Lee Jamison DuBose



4-May	Edward & Marsha	Charles
4-May	Jim & Evelyn	Charles
5-May	Walter & Kathy	Abbott
6-May	Beth & Tony	Constantino
7-May	Al & Shirley	Mitchell
13-May	Dale & Norma	Vickers
18-May	Jerry & Tana	Neel
19-May	Lewis R.	Hott
23-May	Jason Diaz &	Kristin Adams
25-May	Doug & Elaine	Hinchcliff
25-May	Sam & Ernie	Schertz
25-May	Mary	Ware



Monday, May 28, 2018
IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL
DAY, THE CHURCH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED.

Washing Hands and Prayer



“What mind-bogglingly easy practice could we tackle more assiduously to save the lives of the people we serve? The most obvious answer is prayer. If doctors ought to wash their hands carefully, slowly, getting under every fingernail and up every elbow every time, we ought to pray. At length, not in a hurry, around every problem, every uncertainty, every time we engage with someone who has come to us. Without it infection sets in. The ailment gets passed from person to person, and is terribly hard to get rid of.”

by: Jason Byassee, Butler Chair in Homiletics and Biblical Hermeneutics, Vancouver School of Theology. January 13, 2009. www.faithandleadership.com

Ladies! You're Invited!

**MOTHER
DAUGHTER
SISTER
FRIEND
CELEBRATION**

May 10th, @ 6:30pm
Dinner & Inspiration

Hosted by: 1st United Methodist Church,
The Rock Church, & First Learning Tree

FESTIVITIES INCLUDE

Food: Macaroni Bar, Drinks, Dessert
 Entertainment: Music, Inspirational
 Speaker & Time to be Refreshed

We need to know if you are coming.

RSVP
 361.729.0883

Who to Bring?
Friends, Moms, Sisters, & Children
 Nursery provided for children two &
 under. Three and up will join us.

TO BE HELD @

1st United Methodist Church
 Fellowship Hall
 801 East Main Street
 Rockport, Texas 78382

Nurses Notes May 2018

Dear All,

A huge thank you goes out to everyone that donated to the Aransas and San Patricio County Child Protective Services Blessings Closet. The Easter Egg Tree clothing drive was a huge success, and is all because of the generosity of this congregation. Thank you again.



News from the Salvation Army: They have a program that is designed to assist households in Hurricane Harvey affected counties with new furniture (from JCPenney) and mattresses (from Mattress Firm) at discounted prices. There are qualifications established by the Salvation Army to determine eligibility. This also includes a cash stipend based on eligibility. Note this program is based on loss, not based on income. If you, or someone you know, is in need of replacement appliances (stoves, refrigerators, etc) or mattresses damaged by the storm, please contact myself for a copy of the application. Good Samaritan's Food Pantry also has the application available.

There will be a Friends and Family CPR/AED session held on Wednesday, May 30th at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall Room 2. If you would like to have more information about providing community CPR, this class is for you. Please note, this does not include a card/certification from American Red Cross or American Heart Association. There is a sign-up sheet available on the receptionist desk in the front Narthex. Please note that class size will be limited to eight to ensure appropriate instruction.

May is National Stroke Awareness Month. A person experiencing a stroke can be treated if people have acted FAST - 80% of strokes can also be prevented. When in doubt, ask the simple questions below:

- FAST** is the acronym for things to check in a possible stroke victim:
- **F - Face** / Does the face droop on one side when the person smiles?
 - **A - Arm** / After raising both arms, does one of the arms drift downwards?
 - **S - Speech** / After repeating a simple phrase, does the persons speech sound slurred or strange?
 - **T - Time** / If any or all of the above are observed call for 9-1-1 and ask for medical assistance.

Blessings and good health to all,
Kathy Wilson, RN
 Wesley Nurse

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul."
 3 John 1:2

Diabetic Education
 Tuesday, May 15th
 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Fellowship Hall 1&2



The Coastal Bend Health Education Center at Texas A&M Corpus Christi will be holding their all-day Diabetic Education Class on Tues, May 15. Call Kathy Wilson, Wesley Nurse at 361-729-1659 or the Health Education Center at 866-524-1408 to enroll.



Volunteers Needed!
Mobile Health Clinic

If you are interested in being a part of this outreach ministry, we are asking for volunteers to be greeters for the patients of the mobile health clinic. You are needed to welcome those coming to the mobile clinic, get them a cup of coffee, or water, or direct them to Prescription Assistance. Please contact Kathy Wilson, Wesley Nurse, if you would like to help out in this way. There will also be a sign-up sheet at the receptionist's desk. Thank you for your support of this important outreach ministry.

Prescription Assistance
Monthly Report
March 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018



Clients	15
New Clients	6
New Clients Unable to Help	4
Forms Filed	16
Volunteer Hours	61.00

Estimated Cash Value of Medications
 Saved for Clients:

1 month supply	\$ 7,406.00
3 month supply	\$ 22,218.00



From the Director of
First Learning Tree...

FLT is Wrapping Up the School Year with a BANG! Can you believe that this school year end is only 1 month away? And of course, we have saved the best for this last month.

We have more children than ever before and already have enrollments for the summer to surpass previous summers. We are serving the community through children and families in a HUGE fashion. So, to keep you up to date....we closed our SPRING Fundraiser on 4/25/1018. It has been an exciting time and although we didn't reach the amount we wanted, we do have the capacity to purchase some of the technology equipment that we need at FLT.

So, here are the happenings for May @ FLT....

May 7-11: Teacher Appreciation Week

- 7th: Popcorn and Pickles Day - Let's have a POPPIN' good time! & PUCKER-UP for some pickles! We will have popcorn & pickles available for the teachers on this day.
- 8th: Ice Cream Sundaes - The Ice Cream Cart will be making rounds to the classrooms for self-serve sundaes for all the teachers.
- 9th: Fiesta Day - We are going to be dancing the Salsa & eating Chips & Queso today. If you want to sponsor this day, contact Ms. Danielle.
- 10th: Cupcake Day - We are looking for some bakers out there. Contact Ms. Danielle if you are our Cupcake Chef! (we would like 4 dozen cupcakes)
- 11th: Tailgate Party - Gonna provide a Tail Gate Lunch for the teachers today. Contact Ms. Danielle if you want to sign-up to provide a food item, outdoor chairs, and yard games. This will happen on the FLT porch from 11am - 3pm.

We also have teacher buckets that you can put in a little treat and we are seeking donation to give each teacher a gift on Friday. If you feel inspired to be a part of these appreciation events, we would love to have you!



The FUMC Nursery is OPEN!
First Learning Tree has partnered
with FUMC and the Nursery is open
and ready to care for our children
ages 0-4 on Sunday
mornings in Fellowship Hall Rm 3.

Nursery

May 10 @ 6:30pm: Mother Daughter Sister Friend Celebration - We are celebrating all things girl! Please join us in the First UMC Fellowship Hall, and leave with an uplifting message and a charge to be the Best Girl You Can Be for Christ!

May 19: Our Teachers will be in training this Saturday to learn about PFA for Children. This training is about Psychological First Aid for Children after a Disaster. It will be a great benefit to us and our community. This training is being brought by Americares.

May 21-25 Daily from 3pm-6pm: Scholastic Book Fair (Paws for Books). We will be having a book fair to give all the kids some summer reading material. On Wednesday, we will have a special engagement for families at Pick-Up Time. It will be Chili Dog Day. Come on by and have a Chili Dog with us and pick up some books for the children in your life.

May 28: FLT is closed for Memorial Day

May 31: End of the Year Picnic from 1pm - 3pm. We will be celebrating and having a picnic (hopefully on our newly finished playgrounds).

You don't want to miss out on all the happenings here at FLT. We are so excited to be a part of First UMC and share the Love of Jesus to our community. Come and get involved!

Kimberly Head
Center Director
First Learning Tree
801 East Main Street
Rockport, Tx 78382
361.729.0883



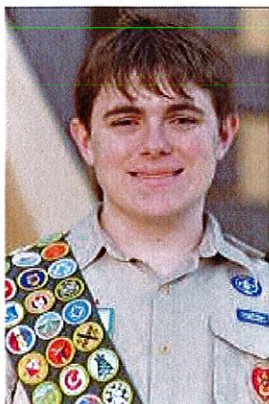
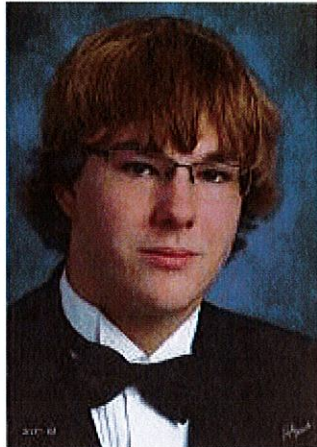
Congratulations to our 2018 Graduating Seniors!



Josephine Tucker – From running the hallways to walking the aisles as if it were a runway, this child of God has graced us with the voice of an angel, a heart of a servant, and a spirit that holds us accountable to our actions. Josie has participated on many levels at

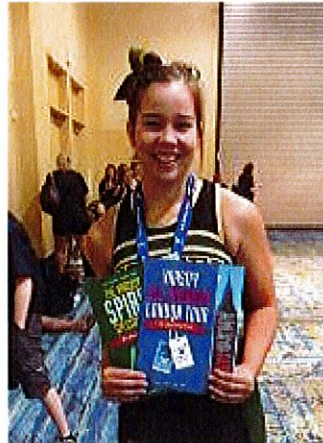
VBS, Summer Camps, Mid-Winter, Basic, UMARMY, and our Costa Rica Mission Trip. Josie graduates this year and heads off to the United State Army.

Michael Becker – Quiet and unassuming this young man keeps us surprised with his insight and vision. Michael has graced our church grounds with his Eagle Scout project landscaping our post-Harvey grounds at First Learning Tree. Michaels talents also keep us tuned in during various services as he works in the sound booth. Michael has been active with Summer Camps, Mid-Winter, BASIC, UMARMY, and our Costa Rica Mission Trip.



Spencer Carruth – Spencer has a talent for showing a global perspective to our everyday life in Rockport. During the hurricane, Spence kept communication positive, information, and factual on social networks and kept us connected even though we were miles apart. Active in Boy Scouts, UIL Academics, and music, often gracing us with his saxophone, Spencer has been active in VBS, UMARMY,

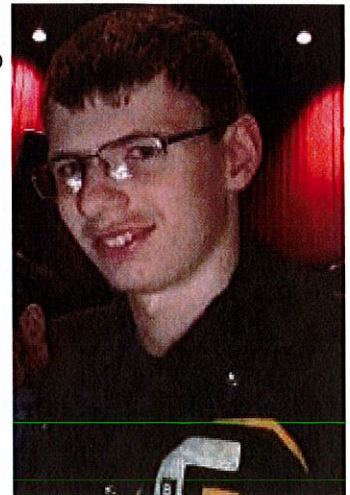
working in our sound booth, and our Costa Rica Mission Trip. Spencer heads to Texas Tech in the fall.



Erica Burke – This headstrong cheerleader leads us in worship, in relationships, and in love through her participation, honesty, frankness, and her grace. Erica, outside of high school cheerleading, academics, and youth group activities, has also been active as an All American Cheerleader, traveling and performing in Houston, Orlando, and

most recently London. Self-taught on the ukulele, Erica leads worship with our group in song. Erica has been active with VBS, Summer Camps, Mid-Winter, UMARMY, Delegate to annual conference, Youth Advisory Board, and our Costa Rica Mission Trip.

Micah Whetsell – Micah, relatively new to our group has heart of a servant, and a voice that commands attention. Although he doesn't speak often, when he does it is because he definitely has something to say. His thoughtful words and demeanor show his respect to whomever is in the room and the love of Christ within him. Micah is an accomplished musician, participated in various mission trips prior to joining our group, and active in our Costa Rica Mission Trip.





A Publication of the First United Methodist Church of Rockport

The Rockport Beacon

"Let Your Light So Shine..." Matthew 5:16

Mission Statement

*Growing Families in Christ
through Nurture, Outreach, and Witness.*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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The people of The United Methodist Church™