

The Rockport Beacon

A Publication of the First United Methodist Church of Rockport



June 2018 Newsletter

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²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions. Luke 14:25-33

The above scripture is typically given the subtitle "The Cost of Discipleship". Jesus is confronting a crowd that is following with intrigue, curiosity, try anything despair, and likely hope in a better tomorrow. Jesus' reaction is perplexing, especially, to our modern tendency toward doing things that increase our 'likeability' and 'viral' potential. Is there anything more offensive than telling a crowd to give up their family to follow?

Jesus is speaking a truth about discipleship. It is costly. 'Carry the cross' kind of costly. Discipleship has the end result in mind before starting. The images of building a tower or fighting an epic battle connects us to costly endeavors that will often involve the reality of death. Jesus' words challenge us to be intelligent, mindful, strategic, and clear about the decisions we make. Especially, decisions connected to our discipleship to Christ.

In May we had the pleasure of witnessing two baptisms, Mardell Dominguez and Cody Wyatt. We joined in affirmations of our commitment to nurture them in faith. It was a feel good moment. Did we count the cost? Have we thought about what it will take to follow through with this commitment in detail? Will it require a death on our part? Death to plans and schedules? Death to expectations defined from preconceived notions and experiences? Death to relationships that are harmful? Death to familial ties? Death to an old vision for an updated one?

For Jesus' followers, death is part of the cost. The stakes are high. The end result is raising mature disciples of Christ and it will take some cross bearing effort from us all. One particular effort for our congregation is to step with grace into the expansion of First Learning Tree. On Tuesday evening, the Governing Church Council approved a proposal to take steps toward making the education building into additional classrooms. This is an effort to address a need for more regulated childcare presented by the Aransas County Childcare Coalition.

The Governing Church Council is stepping in faith and counting the cost. I'm so grateful for the many ways I see folks take stake in the ministry of God's church. I appreciate the time that is set aside for simple but essential tasks that help give order and care to the life of this local congregation: For those who study the Bible, for teachers and mentors, for paperwork professionals, for cards sent in love, for organizers and sorters, for repurposing of stuff, for bulletins folded with care, for sound, lights, and air that enhance our space, for warm greeters who smile, for generous gifts, for leaders holding meetings and guiding decisions, O God of All, thank you.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Laura

An online search for "advertising fails" reveals some hilarious and cringe-worthy signs. Often the "fail" is due to an ad's placement. For example, a billboard about childhood obesity appears next to one for a fast-food restaurant, and a promotion for *The Walking Dead* is posted near a mortuary.



As Christ's ambassadors on earth (see 2 Corinthians 5:20), we serve as walking, talking billboards for Jesus and our faith. Despite our sinfulness — and often "cringe-worthiness" — Jesus lives in us, whom he created to do good works (see Ephesians 2:10).

Even though we will never be perfect billboards for Jesus, let's not cover up our message. Instead, let's embrace the privilege of being salt and light (see Matthew 5:13-16), proclaiming the gospel in a dark world.

www.newsletternewsletter.com/



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.

June 3 - Second Sunday after Pentecost

***Benevolent Bucket to Benefit**

Wesley Nurse Emergency Assistance Funds

1 Samuel 3:1-20

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854)

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Mark 2:23-3:6

June 10 - Third Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 8:4-20 (11:14-15)

Psalm 138 (UMH 853)

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

June 17 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalm 20 or Psalm 72 (UMH 795)

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13), 14-17

Mark 4:26-34

June 24 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49

Psalm 9:9-20 (UMH 744)

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

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..... TBD

9:15a.m. - New Beginnings FH1

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Nursery (0-4 yrs).....FH3

12:00 p.m. Youth Group Rec. 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
June 13th & 20th**

Ouida ♪

Ouida Bliss Richardson
Director of Music Ministries

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**First United Methodist Church of Rockport
Phone No. 361-729-1659**

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

Rev. Laura Hewett Becker, Senior Pastor x2248
Susan Jamison, Business Manager..... x2574
Stefany Simmons, Director of Family Ministries. x2575
Ouida Bliss Richardson, Music Ministries..... x2577
Kathy Wilson, RN, Wesley Nurse..... x2578
Alfredo Gonzales, Custodian..... x2501
Kimberly Head, First Learning Tree Director..... x2584
Wendy Bryan, Youth Director..... x2580

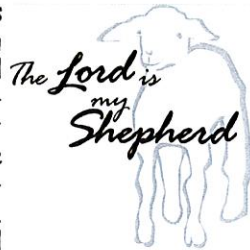


**Be sure to "Like" us on
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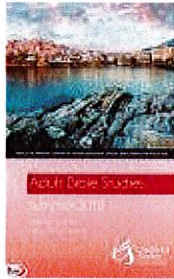
**"First United Methodist Church
Rockport, TX "**



9:00 a.m. - Cross Talk Adult Class, The Cross Talk Class meets at 9:15 and will engage in exploring elements of the 23rd Psalm found in the New Testament based primarily on Mark 6. We will start another Bible study later. The class is known for its good discussions led by various members. Adults of all ages are encouraged to attend.



9:15 a.m. - New Beginnings Adult Class, meets in Fellowship Hall 1. The New Beginning adult class will be using Scripture as it would relate to our lives today. All are invited to attend. This summer, our lessons focus on justice as presented in the New Testament. Justice is portrayed as a primary characteristic of God's nature. Human beings are called to emulate God's justice toward one another. We will be using Scripture from Matthew, Luke, Romans, 2 Corinthians, and Colossians. As always we try to see how the Scripture relates to our present life. All adults are invited to attend and student books are provided. If you have any questions, please call Chester Barre at 361-729-6285.



9:15 a.m. - We Can Get Through Anything Starting June 17th. Meets in the Fellowship Hall Room 3. This adult class meets for Bible study, prayer, and encouraging each other. All are welcome!

Restoration Updates

Kneelers have been ordered and are on their way!

Stained Glass Windows: We have entered into a contract for the Stained Glass Windows, and we are hopeful that they will be installed by the end of July!



Methodist Men's Breakfast Wednesday, June 6, 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.

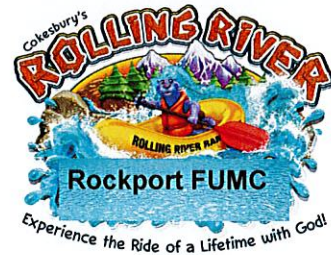
CARING CARDS

Evening Social with a Purpose:
Thursday, June 21, 6:00 p.m.
Room 5



Calling all "scrapbookers" or anyone who would enjoy making greeting cards. Please join us for snacks, fellowship, and crafting. You don't need to bring any materials. Please sign up on the reception desk or call Lynne Ruf at 361-816-5912.

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

Castaways Updates



	13-Jun	Morgan Hedgcoth
	13-Jun	Lauretta Purifoy
	14-Jun	Sylvia Owen
2-Jun		Jennifer Gibbs
3-Jun		Barbara Day
4-Jun		Will Larson
4-Jun		Ann Morgan
4-Jun		Erik Elliott
5-Jun		Lloyd Morin
6-Jun		Marsha Charles
6-Jun		Jerry Neel
6-Jun		Betsy Penshorn
7-Jun		Makayla Reed
7-Jun		Ann Murrah
8-Jun		Skip Timmer
8-Jun		Lewis R. Hott
9-Jun		Melinda Poole
10-Jun		Brett Daniels
11-Jun		Annette Fowler
11-Jun		Drexel Riley
11-Jun		Arno Penshorn
12-Jun		Gary Stone

Castaways volunteers are doing well processing your donations and preparing them for sale. Thank you for supporting this mission which benefits the operation of the church and contributes to other outreach projects. There is, however, a way you can further help. Please place your donated items in non-returnable bags or containers. Asking for your containers back makes it difficult for us to properly process the items. Things get broken when we arrive to work and your nice things are on the floor, having been dumped to give you back your container. Also, we cannot sell dirty, broken or worn out things, so please plan to discard them elsewhere. Thank you for helping us be more productive. Meanwhile, we are looking for a jewelry counter clerk from 11-1 pm May 31, June 7 and 14.

Thank you, Annette
361-790-6217





3-Jun	Dennis & Ouida Richardson
4-Jun	Tom & Barbara Serota
4-Jun	Daniel & Gail Hanson
6-Jun	Pat & Lovelyn Hughes
7-Jun	Bob & Lynne Ruf
10-Jun	Ray & Peggy Berry
11-Jun	Ed & Barbara Caldwell
11-Jun	Joe & Kathy Wilson
16-Jun	A.D. & Gwen Hall
17-Jun	Daryl & Virginia Crockett
25-Jun	Wayne & Judy Currie
29-Jun	Richard & Lucia Fisher
29-Jun	Manning & Kim Chapman

Office Angels

Would you enjoy serving your church a few hours by answering the phones and assisting the church staff with administrative tasks? Weekly volunteers are needed, as well as subs who can fill in when available. Jesus needs YOU! Please call the church at 361-729-1659.





Nurses Notes June 2018

New Summer Hours:

Wesley Nurse: Monday - Thursday 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

New Summer Walking class hours:

Avoid the heat and walk in the comfort of A/C!

Monday/Thursday

8:25-9:00 a.m. 2 mile walk

9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. - 1 mile walk

Tuesday/Thursday

11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. - 1 mile walk



CPR/AED class:

Rescheduled for Wednesday June 20th at 5:30 p.m. Sign up at receptionist desk or call Kathy Wilson at 361-729-1659 to register.

Health Screenings:

Wesley Nurse will be available at Good Samaritans on Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. for health screenings and education.

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 Support Group:

Tuesday June 12th, 10:00

Our topic this month will be Portion Control – Come try your luck with estimating portion sizing. Learn about Humor and Diabetes



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
April 1, 2018 to April 30, 2018



Clients	20
New Clients	6
New Clients Unable to Help	1
Forms Filed	18
Volunteer Hours	61.25

Estimated Cash Value of Medications

Saved for Clients:

1 month supply	\$ 5,526.00
3 month supply	\$ 16,578.00

Texans Recovering Together continues to host Community-wide post Harvey meeting at Aransas County Library on Tuesdays from 5-7 p.m. for support and resources.





From the Director of First Learning Tree...

At First Learning Tree, we are excited about summer and we're going to have a bunch of fun!



Here is a run-down of our summer adventures.

- ◊ Zootopia - June 4th - 15th: Life is truly a zoo during this unit all about animals.
- ◊ Art Expo - June 18th - 29th: Here's a unit budding artists are sure to enjoy.
- ◊ Patriotic Week - July 2nd - 6th: All things 4th of July
- ◊ Wild, Wild West - July 9 - 20th: Get ready for a wild ride into the Old West, a time when fortunes were made.
- ◊ Splash Bash = July 11
- ◊ Splish! Splash! - July 23 - Aug 3rd: During this unit, children invited to dive in & discover the versatility & importance of the amazing liquid that covers two thirds of the Earth - water!
- ◊ It's a Pirates Life for Me - Aug 6th - 17th: Ahoy Matey - Come Along as we explore the seven seas, learn pirate talk, and enjoy the pirate life.
- ◊ Harvey Remembrance Week - Aug 20th - 24th: Remembrance Walk / August 23rd
- ◊ Other Plans = Library Time and Movies and Aquarium Education Center, Aquarium Coming, Pirate Pride Event, Maritime Museum Activities

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



FLT will be expanding its services due to the high demand for childcare in the area. We were approached by Community Leaders to see if we could help the community. After some thought, planning, and church board proposal, it has been decided that we will offer services to more children and families at this time. Please be on the watch for changes and expansion. Our goal is Quality Christian Education for more of the community and developing relationships with families as we continue to recover from the Hurricane.

FLT has been nominated for the award of Non-Profit Chamber Member of the Year. We are excited to attend the upcoming dinner and share in the nomination. Prayers to all nominated and Best wishes to whomever may be the winner.

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



News from the Church Nursery!

We will be moving back into the Nursery Rooms this month! First Learning Tree and FUMC Childcare Staff are ready and excited to care for your children ages 0-4 on Sunday Mornings!



Financially Faithful!

'Discipleship is a faith response governing our lives; Stewardship is a life response governing our actions'....

April's income** was \$28,687.38 with Castaway's income donation of \$8,000.00 for a total of \$36,687.38. Our expenses for April were \$33,832.31 for a net income of \$2,855.07. Year to date net ordinary income is - \$3,656.24. We are well within our expected expenses for the year and hope to continue to make up the small deficit as we maintain our faithful stewardship. Summer always proves to be challenging in this area of our ministry but as always we will continue to keep an eye on expenses to maintain fiscal responsibility.

The final billing from Restoration Management Company for hurricane remediation and repairs is \$1,651,945.60. That does not include the loss of contents at this time. The Actual Cash Value of contents lost, inventoried just after the storm, is \$115,517.91 with the Replacement Value of \$190,140.84. More contents have been submitted to the insurance company for evaluation and payment with figures to be determined. As the replaced items are reconciled to the inventoried list, we will receive the difference remaining for the Replacement Value. Those processes are still active. Church Mutual Insurance Co. has been faithful to their responsibility of processing our claim and continue to work with us to make us whole again. I share my mantra for this whole experience...'This is a marathon...not a sprint!'

Please keep your church in your prayers and consider how you can answer God's call to stewardship of your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Our church and community are blessed by all you have to offer. If you are traveling, you can go to our church website www.fumcrokport.org and give online.

In His Service,
Susan Jamison
Business Manager
fumc@fumcrokport.org

****Income** consists of Identified giving, Sunday School offerings and unidentified giving (cash received when we pass the offering plates)

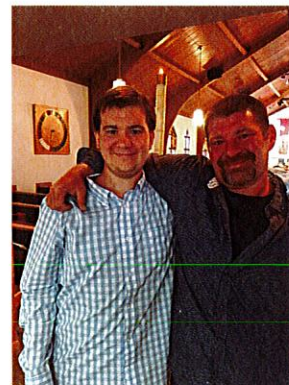
Financial Giving Opportunity

A generous donor has offered to match up to \$4,000 to accommodate two of our Church entrances with Automated Control Doors! Please pray about your contribution to help facilitate this helpful addition to our church building. You are a blessing to God and His people! If you have any questions, please call the church office at 361-729-1659.



We praise God for these beautiful celebrations that took place on Sunday, May 20th!

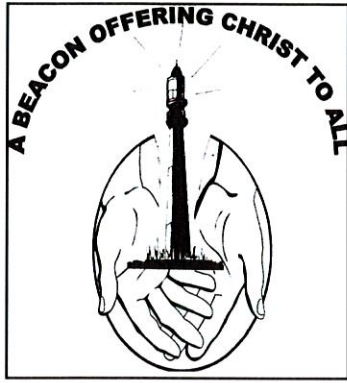
Mardell Dominguez, daughter of Rachel Klemm and Arnaldo Dominguez, was baptized on Sunday, May 20th



Cody Wyatt was baptized on Sunday, May 20th

Michael Becker, Josie Tucker, Erica Burke, and Spencer Carruth at the High School Senior Graduation Celebration on Sunday, May 20th





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

Mission Statement

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
P.O. BOX 1045
801 EAST MAIN
ROCKPORT, TEXAS 78381-1045
(361) 729-1659
www.fumcrokport.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

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