

The Rockport Beacon



July 2018 Newsletter

www.fumcrockport.org

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"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you."

The honest truth is that doing the usual routines of daily life and work are still extremely difficult to accomplish. Ask anyone who grieves, experiences stress, suffers illness, loves other people, and suffers injury from this world and you can find a story of someone who is not yet healed. The reality is that though we can acknowledge we are not healed, we can in the same breath claim we are whole.

While researching America's Prosperity Gospel movement, Kate Bowler, a Duke University Professor, was saddened by its implications — namely that God is present in people's triumphs but not their suffering, and that every aspect of life is either "your fault or your reward." When Bowler was diagnosed with stage IV cancer at age 35, the prosperity-minded messages of well-wishers made cancer seem like a punishment.

In her book, Everything Happens for a Reason (and Other Lies I've Loved), Bowler asks: "What would it mean for Christians to give up that little piece of the American Dream that says, 'You are limitless'? Everything is not possible. The mighty Kingdom of God is not yet here. What if rich did not have to mean wealthy, and whole did not have to mean healed? What if being people of 'the gospel' meant that we are simply people with good news? God is here. We are loved. It is enough." (newsletter.newsletter July 2018)

In these days of recovery from natural disaster and already in this uncertain time we call 'Hurricane Season', I sense that our faith community is not healed, but whole.

Like our VBS teaching has reminded us, it is living completely in trust that God goes through the suffering 'waters' with us that makes us truly whole. Wholeness is the experience of peace, joy, love, acceptance, and life's adventure with Christ. This wholeness in Christ is found mysteriously in the broken community and the Sabbath rest it provides. It is an amazing honor to witness the brokenness of our lives create a powerful witness to God's sustaining formidable grace.

Our adventure continues...We still await our sanctuary windows, the final repairs on recreational areas, the in-

crease in children and staff at FLT, and the new creating God is doing in our midst. Our leadership is seeking steps that will continue to move us toward transformation and faithful expression of our desire to broaden our reach in disciple-making. My prayer is that we will find those steps clearly marked with peace, patience, and joy.

Thank you to Dennis Richardson who shared what God put on his heart at our last Church Council meeting. We definitely are reminded that God calls us to add disciples to our ministry. Here is the verse on Dennis' heart:

*"Enlarge the site of your tent,
and stretch out the drapes of your dwellings;
don't hold back.
Lengthen your tent ropes
and strengthen your stakes."*

Isaiah 54:2 Common English Bible (CEB)

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Laura



Please note that Pastor Laura will be on vacation the week of July 2-5. In the case of a pastoral care emergency, please contact the church office at 361-729-1659.

Pastoral Emergency Contacts:

Rev. Gail Danforth, Ingleside UMC, will cover July 2-4.
Rev. Cliff Krcha, Odem UMC, will cover July 5-7th.

**Are you ready?
Hurricane Readiness Dinner**
Wednesday, July 18th
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



We invite you, our congregation, to join us for dinner and discussion about how we can best be prepared in the case of another storm emergency.



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.

July 1 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43

July 8 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

***Benevolent Bucket to Benefit Access Counseling**

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

July 15 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

July 22 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

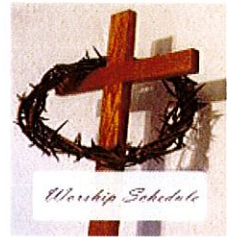
July 29 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

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

9:15a.m. - New Beginnings FH1
9:15a.m. - We Can Get Through Anything..... Rm 5
9:15a.m. - Cross Talk..... Rm 7

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Nursery (0-4 yrs).....Nursery
12:00 p.m. Youth GroupRec. Room

FH = Fellowship Hall

Methodist Men

Methodist Men will not meet in July. Please call or text Ed Hegen at 361-813-9298 with questions regarding this ministry.



CARING CARDS

Evening Social with a Purpose:

Thursday, July 19, 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.

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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 Communications.... x2575
Ouida Bliss Richardson, Music Ministries..... x2577
Kathy Wilson, RN, Wesley Nurse..... x2578
Alfredo Gonzales, Custodian..... x2501
Kimberly Head, First Learning Tree Director..... x2584



Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook!

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



Staff Changes

Staff Changes

We are giving God thanks for the life and ministries of Ouida Bliss Richardson and Wendy Bryan who have made decisions to resign and attend to other work and family commitments. Ouida's last Sunday will be July 29th and Wendy has turned leadership over to parents as of June 24th.

We will honor and recognize both of them in the July 29th Worship Services.





We have also moved Stefany Simmons into a new role as Director of Communications which includes continued work with outreach to First Learning Tree families.

The Director of Communications will facilitate the pathways of evangelism and hospitality. This director will be responsible for all multi-media communication and extending our

witness outside the walls of the church starting with First Learning Tree and beyond.

Objectives:

- Implement a communication strategy that grows our online presence and outreach to young families and young adults.
- Build and Strengthen the relationship with church and FLT families through communication and joint endeavors.
- Support the vision of FUMC Rockport, it's mission and membership (congregation) with integrity

Essential Functions and Responsibilities

- Design, create and publish Sunday worship bulletin and all written communication including monthly newsletter, Church Alive, and fliers in electronic and paper formats as needed.
- Maintain and update the church website and assist FLT web maintenance, Facebook page, and other social media outlets as developed.
- Develop and maintain streaming ministry for worship and sermon casting.

- Produce, duplicate, and mail all written mass communications in a timely fashion.
- Create information/advertisements for church events, both within the congregation and in the community.
- Create and maintain announcements slides for monitors and worship center when infrastructure for such is developed.
- Act as FLT families liaison and advocate for joint ministry ventures.
- Serve as Staff oversight for Care Portal and communicate needs to congregation
- Inform supervisor of any necessary information, issues, or concerns.
- Participate in a least one professional development event annually.



We're Hiring! FUMC is seeking to fill the following positions:

Administrative Assistant

FUMC Rockport is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant with office skills and interpersonal competency. Salary is based on experience. Applications are currently accepted. Please contact Rev. Laura Becker at 361-729-1659 or pastor@fumcrockport.org and place *Administrative Assistant Job* in the subject line. Application is online at www.fumcrockport.org.

Director of Music Ministry

FUMC Rockport is seeking a part-time Director of Music Ministry with responsibility for leading choir and worship music. Experience is preferred in music teaching and/or church music director. Salary range is commensurate with experience and academic preparation; Bachelor's degree in Music, Music Education, Religious Music or equivalent degree. The qualified candidate will work closely with existing staff throughout the week in planning services. Skills in piano, choral conducting and music leadership are required. The candidate should have a personal devotion to Jesus Christ, be positive, flexible and have an overarching view of the role of music in church worship. Employment Applications and mailing addresses can be found on our website www.fumcrockport.org. Send resume and application to Rev. Laura Becker at pastor@fumcrockport.org please put MUSIC DIR in subject line.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

3-Jul	Madeleine Huggins	15-Jul	Christin Becker
4-Jul	Megan Knostman (FLT)	15-Jul	Jason Diaz
5-Jul	Honey Shepherd	15-Jul	Manuel Rodriguez
5-Jul	Samuel Lochlan Spears	15-Jul	Mary Ann Swartz
6-Jul	Mary Rusk	15-Jul	Tami Webb
7-Jul	Alexandra Brown	18-Jul	Joseph Dylan Baker
9-Jul	Dottie Bennett	18-Jul	Vernelle Porter
9-Jul	Jama Brandon	19-Jul	Linda Yates
9-Jul	Jane Doss Briggs	20-Jul	Brent Hubbard
9-Jul	Don Dye	21-Jul	Diana Herzog (FLT)
9-Jul	Gloria McCurdy	22-Jul	Peggy Holt
9-Jul	Brandon Smith	23-Jul	Brian Degner
10-Jul	Gail Hanson	23-Jul	Terry Gardner
11-Jul	Taylor Daniels	24-Jul	Randy Degner
11-Jul	Carita Gould	25-Jul	Bronson Hamilton
11-Jul	Al Mitchell	26-Jul	Anne Lockwood
13-Jul	Paula Barre	26-Jul	Elsie Myers
13-Jul	Kimberley Flowers	26-Jul	Matthew Staton
13-Jul	Janet Gillis	27-Jul	Louise Scaling
13-Jul	Barbara Serota	28-Jul	Gene Springs
		29-Jul	Kimber McCrory
		29-Jul	Kai Riederer
		29-Jul	Corey Rose
		31-Jul	Noah Andrew Dominguez



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

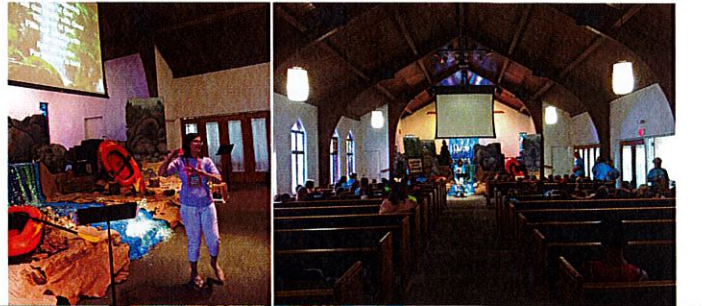
1-Jul	Rusty & Jennifer	Day
4-Jul	Max & Paulette	Kluge
6-Jul	Mike & Betsy	Pfister
6-Jul	Lemoine & Linda	Pitman
7-Jul	Greg & Jan	Burkhart
12-Jul	Nick and Kaitlyn	Jamison
13-Jul	Gary and Kay	Stone
16-Jul	Walter & Phyllis	Henshue
17-Jul	Michael & Dona	Popp
18-Jul	Lewis & Margy	Reese
18-Jul	Herb & Jan	Sutter
19-Jul	Richard & Rev. Carol	Pifer
26-Jul	Jim & Ann	Schick
30-Jul	Steve and Beverly	Johnson



THANK YOU!!!

To everyone who volunteered to help with Vacation Bible School last week! It was AWESOME!

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



Nurses Notes July 2018

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



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 July 10th, 10:00am

Do you or someone you care for have diabetes? Did you know that the risk of vision problems increase if you have diabetes? Join the Diabetic Support

Group on Tuesday July 10th at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall Room 3. Representatives from the Rockport Lion's Club will be with us to perform vision screenings.

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

May 1, 2018 to May 31, 2018

Clients	11
New Clients	1
New Clients Unable to Help	0
Forms Filed	11
Volunteer Hours	29.25

Estimated Cash Value of Medications

Saved for Clients:

1 month supply	\$ 5,043.00
3 month supply	\$ 15,129.00



June 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018

Clients	20
New Clients	4
New Clients Unable to Help	3
Forms Filed	14
Volunteer Hours	43.50

Estimated Cash Value of Medications

Saved for Clients:

1 month supply	\$ 4,172.00
3 month supply	\$ 12,516.00

Alzheimer's



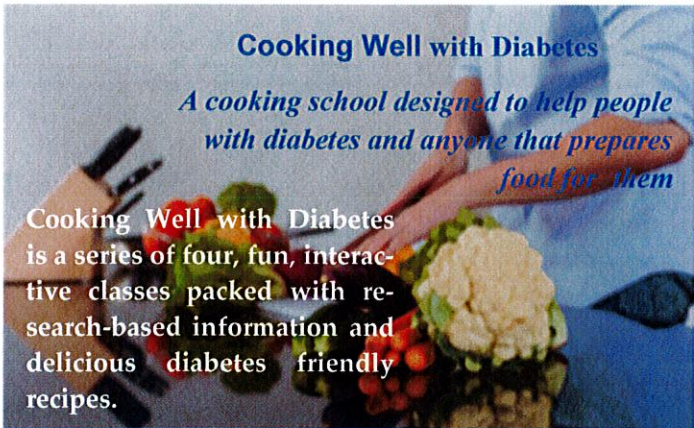
Rockport Alzheimer's Support Group

July 19th, 10:30 - 11:30am
3rd Thursdays of the Month

AIM Hospice Conference Room
703 E Concho
Rockport, TX
361-729-0507
aimhospicecoastal.org

alzheimer's  association®

Presented by: Alzheimer's Association of San Antonio & South Texas. Visit www.alz.org/sanantonio to learn more about caregiver programs and resources.



Cooking Well with Diabetes

A cooking school designed to help people with diabetes and anyone that prepares food for them

Cooking Well with Diabetes is a series of four, fun, interactive classes packed with research-based information and delicious diabetes friendly recipes.

Sessions Include...



July 30- Carbohydrate Foods

Recognizing carbohydrate in recipes and using sweeteners effectively

August 6- Make Recipes with Fat Better for You
Healthy fats & fat substitutions

August 13- Double Pleasure Side Dishes
Reducing sodium and increasing fiber

August 20- Celebrating Sensibly
Special event recipes that are healthy and delicious

10:30 AM-Noon

First United Methodist Church-Rockport

Kathy Wilson, RN-Wesley Nurse

801 E. Main St.

Rockport, Texas

361-729-1659

For more information on classes, please contact

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service-Aransas County

Bethany Hammond-County Extension Agent, FCH

Bethany.Hammond@ag.tamu.edu

361-790-0103

892 Airport Rd.

Rockport, Texas

<http://aransas.agrilife.org>

Texas A&MAgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Financially Faithful!

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



May's income** was \$25,839.64 with Castaway's income donation of \$8,000.00 for a total of \$33,839.64. Our expenses for May were \$36,925.61 for a net income of -\$3,085.97. Year to date net ordinary income is -\$6,742.41. 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.fumcrockport.org and give online.

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

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



**From the Director of
First Learning Tree...**

What an exciting time is this! We have successfully navigated the waters and expanded our reach to the community. We are approved for 4 additional classrooms and are already starting to open them. We should be fully operational in the annex by the end of July. This has increased our capacity in all of our age groups. We have been asked by community leaders to expand our service hours at FLT. It is surely needed in our area to cover our service industry personnel. So we are working on getting our programs stabilized from the expansion and make plans to service children into the evening. Our team is very excited about all the challenges and blessings we have been given during this season.

We just wrapped up a very successful VBS. We were able to bring approx. 70 children to VBS and supply 7 teachers to help serve during the adventure. It was a great example of the church and FLT coming together to serve and share the love of Christ. It has impacted our children as well as their families watching their faces light up as they sing songs about God's abundance on the river of life.

and get involved with our community.

Hebrews 10:24-25 ²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

There is no better way to encourage one another than to meet, break bread, and play together. So join us as we live out what we are called to do and spur one another on toward love!

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



FLT Family Day



Join us on 07/11/2018 @ 4:30pm – 5:30pm

-your child's participation is only with a family member-

Activities Music * Bobbing 4 Apples * Water Works Cupcake Walk * Carnival Games * Limbo	Free Food Hot Dogs * Snacks Cotton Candy * Drinks
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Community Resource Booths

- wear your water clothes & bring a towel -

*bring your lawn chairs when you attend

We are looking forward to our upcoming Splash Bash on July 11th, 2018 from 4:30pm-5:30pm. This event will be a great water event for the children combined with free food and community partners that will inform our families of all our community is offering. I would like to invite our church family to come enjoy this event with us. It is a great annual event and a time to introduce you to our Ministry



Nursery Updates:
The FUMC Nursery is now back in the Nursery Rooms on Sunday mornings!





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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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

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