



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of Rockport

VISIT US ONLINE FUMCRockport.org

www.facebook.com/fumcrockport



Happy New Year!

Thank you for being wonderfully gracious, and a welcoming, hospitable church. I am extremely proud to serve with you, people of FUMC Rockport. You have a

reputation of doing good in the community, and I hear about your good work everywhere I go.

Stump the Pastor Sermon Series

As we head into the New Year, I invite you to request a sermon.

- ⇒ What do you want to learn about?
- ⇒ What questions do you have about God?

You are probably not the only one. Share with your neighbors and invite them to stump your pastor.

This is fun way to plan a sermon series. But it is also a way to invite seasonal visitors to come back and hear about topics that they are interested in.

Pastor Frank



Martial Arts Discipleship

beginning January 8, 2020

Pastor Frank will lead Martial Arts classes on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30pm. Anyone six years old and up is invited to participate. Lessons will include a warm up, a Bible lesson, and martial arts practice. You can try the class for free in Jan.

For students who wish to continue in Feb, there is a \$30 registration fee which will pay for uniforms, belts, supplies, and equipment for the class. We will also offer work scholarships for students unable to pay for lessons.

While there will be no charge for classes, there is a suggested donation of \$30 per month, payable to the church. Hope to see you there!

Our hope is to serve the community with something that is lacking in our community. And bring new people the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Church Photo Directory



Church Directory

It's time to make a new church directory! Please plan to get your picture taken... we really want to include you!

Lifetouch Photography dates:
January 29, 30, 31 & February 1

Important Dates

- Jan 1—New Year's Day - Office Closed
- Jan 8—Methodist Men
- Jan 8—Martial Arts @ 5:30 PM Begins
- Jan 8—Moving Mountains Bible Study Begins @ 5:30 PM
- Jan 16—Square Dancing begins
- Jan 29-Feb 1—Church Directory photos
- Feb 2—Chili Cook Off
- Feb 9—Safe Gatherings Training

For full church calendar, see www.fumcrockport.org/calendar

FUMC Rockport—January 2020



Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00 a.m. Worship
Weekly Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

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

**6:00 p.m. Saturday
Contemporary Worship**

Children are always welcome in worship here! Children's bulletins and other activities are available, and children's sermon is during the 10:30 a.m. service

ADULT CLASSES

9:15a.m. - New Beginnings.....FH1
The New Beginning class is currently studying with the focus on Hope and using Scripture to back this up. Teachers rotate. All are invited to attend this class.

9:15a.m. - Cross Talk.....Rm 6
The Cross Talk Class enjoys lively discussions on topics selected and led by our members. The class is well known for hearty exchanges of ideas and comments. There's always room for one more!

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Nursery.....Nursery
Our childcare staff lovingly cares for little ones ages infant to preschool while parents attend worship services and Sunday School.

FH = Fellowship Hall



Church Office Hours

Church offices closed New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

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.

January 1, 2020 - New Year's Day

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 Psalm 8
Revelation 21:1-6a Matthew 25:31-46

January 5, 2020 - Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7,
Ephesians 1:3-12 Matthew 2:1-12

January 12, 2020 - Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17

January 19, 2020 - 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

January 26, 2020 - 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

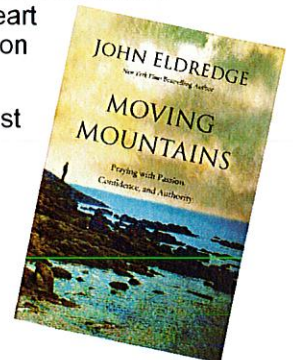
Moving Mountains Bible Study

Starts Jan 8th—Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m.

"We long to see God come through for us and those we love. But sometimes he doesn't, and where does that leave us? Are we doing something wrong? Does he not hear? How come some people's prayers seem more effective than others? Then we lose heart and give up on prayer—the very weapon God has given us to *not* lose heart.

When we discover that prayer is not just asking God to do something—prayer is *partnership* with God—new possibilities open before us."

<https://www.ransomedheart.com/movingmountains>



This monthly newsletter is published by the First United Methodist Church of Rockport, 801 E. Main Street, Rockport, TX 78382.

Send address changes to P. O. Box 1045, Rockport, TX 78381.



"Like" us on Facebook!

"First United Methodist Church of Rockport, TX"

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

Rev. Frank Baik, Senior Pastor x2248
Susan Jamison, Business Manager..... x2574
Stefany Simmons, Family Ministries..... x2575
Paul Klemm, Director of Music..... x2577
Karen Snyder, Administrative Assistant..... x2576
Kathy Wilson, RN, Wesley Nurse..... x2578
Alfredo Gonzales, Custodian..... x2501
Madaline Brown, First Learning Tree Director..... x2584

Get Connected



Methodist Men's Breakfast

Wednesday, January 8
7:00 a.m.
FUMC Fellowship Hall

Join us for fellowship and an inspirational message. All men are encouraged to come spend an hour with your brothers in Christ. Bring a friend.



Prayer Team

Mondays at 10:30 a.m. (Rm 4)

This dedicated group comes to the church to pray for prayer requests, church staff, ministries of the church, the community, and the world. Please come if you would like to join this group in prayer.

Prayer with Pastor Frank

Monday—Friday
8:30 a.m.
in the Sanctuary



Mid-Week Reflection with Pastor Frank

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.
Youth/ Rec Room

Pastor Frank invites you to join him for mid-week study and reflection. This is a discussion-based Bible Study of the UMC lectionary text. Reflections questions are shared each week in the church bulletins.



Living Water Bible Study (Spanish)

Sundays at 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Alfredo Gonzales leads a time of Bible Study and worship on Sunday evenings in Spanish.

Newsletter Deadline:

January 20th



Please send ministry information and glory sightings to Karen Snyder at ksnyder@fumcrockport.org.

Giving for His Glory


NOVEMBER 2019 CHURCH GIVING

**Giving:	\$32,087.81
Castaway's:	\$ 8,000.00
Market St Apartment Income	\$ 3,635.00
Total Income:	\$43,722.81
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>\$43,796.86</u>
NOV 2019 Net Income:	\$ 225.95

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

Year to date net income is (45,323.79). We continue to monitor expenses and keep them to a bare minimum but ask you to please keep your church and your church staff 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 to give online at www.fumcrockport.org.

Blessings, Susan Jamison, Business Manager



January Benevolent Bucket

Sunday, January 5th

Benevolent Bucket is a special offering taken up on the first Sundays of each month. **January Benevolent Bucket** will benefit Methodist Children's Home. On January 12th they will make a special presentation during worship.

2019 Benevolent Bucket Offerings

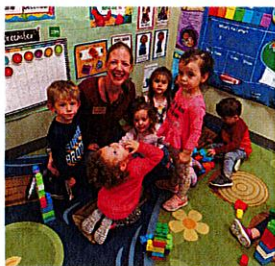
Month	Beneficiary	Amount
January	R-F Good Samaritans	\$142.50
February	UMARMY Youth Mission	\$397.00
March	UMCOR	\$165.30
April	R-F Good Samaritans	\$272.00
May	Prescription Assistance	\$188.00
June	Wesley Nurse Transportation	\$511.17
July	ACCESS Counseling	\$160.00
August	Emergency Assistance	\$96.00
September	Care Portal	\$2,198.00
October	Welcome Team	\$465.00
November	R-F Good Samaritans	\$203.00
December	Adult & Teen Challenge	\$113.00

Family Ministries

Back to Family Ministries!

I have truly enjoyed the past year and a half as Director of Communications, and I have learned so much. With God's help, I have been able to take our online presence to another level. A few accomplishments include a new updated church website; live streaming of worship services on Facebook; presence on Instagram (@fumcrokport); weekly emails using Mailchimp; a new YouTube Channel with sermons uploaded; FUMC Google page; and a new church logo!

God has now led me back into Family Ministries with a new excitement and a refreshed vision. I long to see FUMC Rockport grow and thrive in God's love and grace, and I believe we need the help of fresh young voices. How do we reach those fresh young voices? If I have learned anything from my previous experience in family ministries, it is that I cannot do this work alone. I need God's help, through your hands and feet!



Visiting Ms. Chrystal's class of 2-3 year olds at First Learning Tree.

The truth is that families are messy, and so is family ministry. God's love is bigger and stronger than any mess we encounter, and even the ones we create!

I have been watching you all, and I have seen that you love children. I have seen you give generously to CarePortal families. I have seen you bring treats for First Learning Tree teachers. I have seen you volunteer to help with the Pumpkin Patch and the Fall Festival. I have seen you adopt Angel Tree children whose parent is incarcerated. I have seen you sing Christmas Carols - multiple generations together blessing the nursing home residents with your joyful voices. You are open to being used by the Lord to bless children and families!

My vision is that each of us will seek and discover our gifts and serve the Lord with them. This is God's calling for each of us. Not everyone is called into children's or youth ministry, but I believe many of you are. Will you reach out to me and tell me what God has put in your heart?

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

Blessings Always,
Stefany Simmons
361-729-1659 x2575
ssimmons@fumcrokport.org

Safe Gatherings Training: 3 Steps



1. Register with Safe Gatherings

- Go to www.safegatherings.com
- Click the red "Get Started" button at the top of the page.
- Fill out the online application
- Safe Gatherings will go to work processing the background check and reaching out to the applicant's designated references.

2. Complete the Safe Gatherings online training course.

This is approximately an hour long presentation of information on safety guidelines and best practices. Persons will take a test at the end of this training.

3. Attend a TRUSTed con Confianza certification facilitated session.

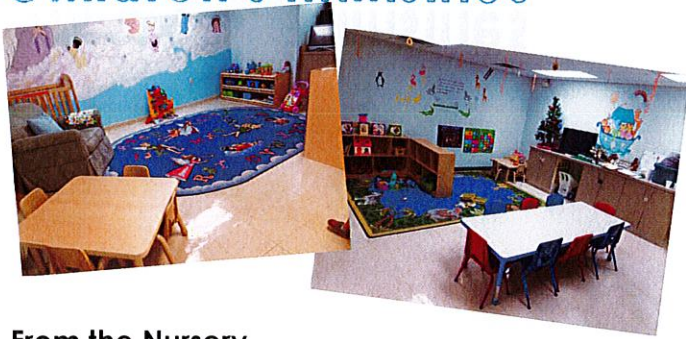
This is a 2 hour interactive experience that can be taken online via a webinar or in person via a scheduled workshop. **We will have a group session at FUMC Rockport on February 9th from 2:00-4:00 p.m.** For other training dates and times, check out: riotexas.org/safetrainings.

Upcoming Events for Children and Youth:

- ⇒ January 8th—Wednesday Night Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grades) 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Rec Room
- ⇒ January 24-26th—Youth Midwinter Retreat @ Camp Zephyr (6th-12th graders)
- ⇒ February 15th—Youth Gathering at the church—5:00-7:00 p.m. (includes contemporary worship service)
- ⇒ March 15th—Children's Worship Service—children and youth lead, serve, and sing!



Children's Ministries



From the Nursery...

Please come check out the nursery rooms. So much has changed! The nursery looks amazing and inviting!

Spanish Class for Ages 4-9

Wednesday nights

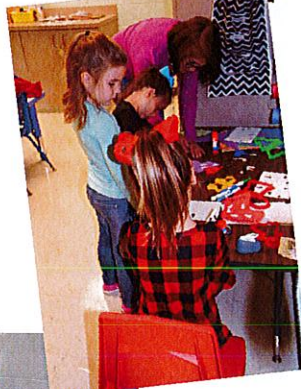
6:30-7:30 p.m.
in the nursery

On Wednesday nights during adult choir practice, the children have so much fun learning Spanish and about Spanish culture. Children sing songs in Spanish, learn numbers and colors, and do exciting crafts and projects!

Please help us in the nursery, if you can!

"Be the Change!"

Sheree Standefer,
Child Care Director
shereefumc@yahoo.com



Above pictures are of Mrs. Ellie and Ms. Alissa and our Spanish class children on Wednesday nights.

Growing in Christ

From the Director of First Learning Tree

Our learning theme for this month is choices, which is perfect with the new year approaching. We teach our children that they have choices in everything they do. You have options when eating, deciding what activity to do, or between making good and bad choices.

It occurred to me that there is a great lesson to teach the children to go with this theme....

"And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will surely die.'"

Genesis 2:16-17

When God created man, he gave him the ultimate choice in the Garden of Eden. That one choice had a significant consequence. New Years is a great time to make new choices. Adults call them New Year Resolutions. These choices can change our lives forever for better or worse. We went around and asked some of our children what their New Year "choices" are, and they had some great answers. Charlotte (age 3) said her New Year choice is to get a boat, Gavin (age 3) wants to ride in a fire truck, and Brady (age 3) wants to become a police officer. It's going to be a great year. Happy New Year from First Learning Tree.

God bless,

Madaline Brown, First Learning Tree Director



Wednesday Nights

beginning January 8th

- ⇒ 5:30-6:30 p.m. Martial Arts Class with Sensei Frank—ages 6 and up in the Fellowship Hall
- ⇒ 5:30-6:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship—6th-12th grades in the Rec Room
- ⇒ 5:30-6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study—*Moving Mountains: Praying with Passion, Confidence, and Authority* by John Eldredge, in the Conference Room.
- ⇒ 6:30-7:30 p.m. Children's Spanish Class with Mrs. Ellie—ages 4-9 yrs
- ⇒ 7:00-8:00 p.m.—Adult Choir Practice in the Choir Room
- ⇒ Child Care available for children ages 0-3 in the nursery

Health Ministries

December Flu Clinic: Thank you, Walgreens!

The flu shot clinic held at the church on December 9th was a great success. A total of 20 individuals received vaccinations that assists in protection for themselves and protection for those around all of us. A **HUGE** shout out to Walgreens for donating 14 flu vaccinations. Thank you Walgreens!!

Mobile Health Clinic

Monday, January 13th and 27th
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

If you or someone you know is uninsured or under insured and needs a primary care provider, the Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation Mobile Health Clinic comes to Rockport the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Please call 361-814-2001 to schedule an appointment.



Indoor Walking Classes

Mon / Tues / Fri

8:25-9:00 a.m. – 2 mile

9:00-9:25 a.m. – 1 mile

Mondays only at 9:25 a.m.–

Gentle Sitting Tai Chi



Diabetic Support Group

Tuesday, January 14th, 10:00 a.m.
Youth / Rec Room

January focus: Pending

A representative from the National

Kidney Foundation will be available for kidney screening and education. Hope you can join us! Contact Kathy Wilson, Wesley Nurse at 361-729-1659 for any questions.

Help Us Help You!

Help us help you by informing us of upcoming concerns such as hospital stays or surgeries that may require support from your church family. If you would like to be a part of helping your fellow church members, contact Kathy Wilson at 361-729-1659 or Kathy Daniels at 361-463-1217.

Come see your Wesley Nurse today!

Kathy Wilson, RN, Wesley Nurse
361-729-1659 / kwilson@mhm.org
www.fumcrockport.org/wesley-nurse

Thank You for your Generosity!

Due to the generosity of this church, other organizations and providers in Aransas County, monetary assistance provided to Wesley Nurse patients for the year 2019 totaled **\$8459.23**.

A few examples of the ways in which these services were provided included copayments for the Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation mobile clinic, dental appointments, radiology testing, food, propane, and vaccinations.

Thank you for all who assist and support this program.

Worried about Falling?

Do you have musculoskeletal health concerns?

Would you like to make your home less of a fall hazard?

Do you hate targeted exercise activities but are unmotivated to start?

Does life simply seem harder with everyday basic activities but you think it's okay because "you are dealing with it?"

Life can be better than that!!

Jeannie Coe, PhD, DPT, Physical Therapist, is offering her services as an orthopedic/geriatric/primary care/neurological, fall recovery issue specialist (everything but pediatric.. I only manage to make babies cry!! ... I do much better with adults!! ☺))

The 45 minute consultation is free. However if you would like to make a donation to the choir Trip to New York in May, that would be greatly appreciated.

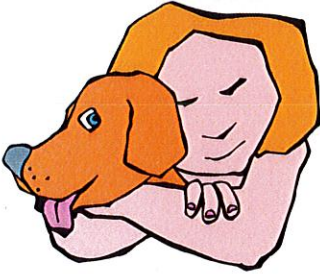
To schedule a free consultation at your home or at the church, please contact Jeannie Coe at 210-601-6132 or jbryancoe@mindspring.com.

Looking forward to helping you!

Jeannie



Take Care of You



Dog Owners: Less heart disease and longer life?

A canine companion provides unconditional love and encourages extra exercise. Could those benefits explain why dog owners are less likely to die of heart disease than people without dogs? Maybe,

say the authors of the largest-ever study of dog ownership and human health, published online November 17, 2017 by *Scientific Reports*.

The 12-year study included over 3.4 million Swedish adults ages 40 to 80. Using data from national health sources and dog ownership registries, researchers found that dog owners had a lower risk of death due to heart disease.

This benefit was especially evident in people who lived alone. Single dog owners had an 11% lower risk of having a heart attack and a 33% lower risk of dying during the study compared with single people who didn't own dogs. Dogs may ease stress, loneliness, and depression and inspire people to be more active and socially connected – all things that seem to foster heart health.

Other reasons might explain the findings, however. People who have the resources, time and physical ability to care for a dog might have characteristics that contribute to their personal health and longevity, the authors note.

Dog Owners: Less heart disease and longer life? (2018, February). *Harvard Heart Letter*, 28(6), 8–8.

Less of You to Love

November and December seem to be hall-months known for a few pounds weight gain, followed by January where the number one New Year's resolution is to lose weight. Then typically the NY resolution that people give up on first is losing weight. Have you tried the Grapefruit Diet, the Soup Diet, the Daniel Diet, Atkins, Keto, Nothing White Diet, or the _____ Diet?



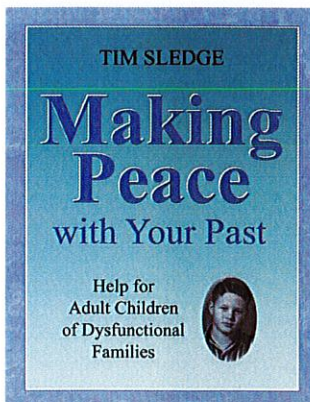
Are you tired of the whole DIET thing? Are you fed up (pun intended ☺) and frustrated? Are you beating yourself up because it seems you just can't lose weight... or even worse, beating yourself up because you have actually gained weight?? Have you just given up?

What we don't need is another diet! What we do need is to change our relationship with food. How do we do that? By sharing our common collective knowledge and supporting each other! The result? Healthier Living AND **Less of You to Love!!**

Here is an opportunity to get off the weight loss merry go around once and for all! **Here is the scoop:** The **Less of You to Love** group will meet weekly in January on Wednesday mornings at 12:06 for an hour. We'll look at what the Bible says about healthy living and move on from there!

- ⇒ This is **NOT** another diet!
- ⇒ There will be **NO** weigh-ins.
- ⇒ **No** weekly payment.
- ⇒ **No** measuring or weighing.
- ⇒ **No** special food or extra cooking. Eat the same things your family eats.
- ⇒ From the first meeting you will instantly **look 5 pounds smaller! (GUARANTEED!)**
- ⇒ This is an opportunity for us to support each other, provide some accountability and share our massive collective knowledge.
- ⇒ If you have to miss a week, there are **no** penalties except the loss of an hour of fellowship.
- ⇒ **No** shaming! IT is what it is...
- ⇒ We'll set our own agenda as we go...
- ⇒ It **WILL** be **FUN** and **UPLIFTING!**

Get ready and remember, there will be **Less of You to LOVE!!**



Save the Dates!

Mental Health Group

begins Thursday, February 27th
12:00-1:30 pm

Join Erica T. Garcia, PhD, LPC, MHM and Kathy Wilson, RN, Wesley Nurse for a 13-week series based on the book *"Making Peace with Your Past: Help for Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families"* by Tim Sledge. Books and study

materials to be provided by Methodist Healthcare Ministries. Participants commit to attend weekly group sessions from February 27 through May 21. Preregistration is required, and spots are limited. For more information call 361-658-9708.

Music News

Looking ahead, 2020 is going to be an exciting year for the choir. We are in the midst of planning our trip to New York. We have 15 members of the choir confirmed for the trip. We are also able to take friends and family (that will not be performing with us) along. If you are interested in traveling to New York and attending the concert as well as the Gala afterwards, please let Paul Klemm know as soon as possible. **I have to have those numbers turned in no later than January 20th.** If you'd just like more information about the trip, please don't hesitate to ask Paul, or any member of the choir.



Paul Klemm and Sandy Brandenstein performing music by artists such as: Frank Sinatra, Doris Day, Tony Bennett, Duke Ellington and many more.

Following the concert there will be a reception with a "Love Offering." All of the money from the love offering will go towards expenses for the Choir's Trip to New York.



Because the expense of traveling to New York is cost prohibitive for some of the members of the choir, we are hoping to find ways to defray costs. Hopefully the concerts will help a little. There will be a few more events planned to help with expenses, as we get a little closer, we'll let everyone know!

New Concert Series

Third Sunday of each month at 3:00 in the Sanctuary

Beginning in January the choir is going to host a series of concerts. The Concerts will be on the Third Sunday of each month at 3:00 in the Sanctuary. As of this moment we only have 3 of the concerts scheduled, but we should have a few more scheduled soon.

Our first concert will be on January 19th. It will feature

Come Sing With The Choir!

Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

If you've been thinking about joining the choir, now is a great time! Join us in New York! The Choir meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 8:00 in the Music Room. Just show up, we'll be sure to have a chair for you.

Everyone is welcome!

For more information, contact Paul Klemm at (361) 463-0712 or music@fumcrockport.org.

Calling All Rockport UMC Chili-Heads!! 10th Annual Chili Cook Off!!! Sunday, February 2, 2020

Fellowship Chili Meal following the Second Service
Entries must be turned in to kitchen NLT 10:15 to be judged
Judging for Chili

Chili Categories:

- REAL (No Bean) Chili
- Chili with Beans
- Hottest/Spiciest Chili
- Methodist Meek and Mild Chili
- Non-Traditional Chili.
- Youth Category for our younger Chili cooks

We will have a team of well qualified, experienced judges. Judging will be during second service. Winners announced during the Chili Dinner. Compete for Bragging Rights!! Perfect your Chili recipe now!! You could be a BIG winner!! Event is free but Love Offering will go the Choir trip to NYC in May!!

If you are NOT a chili-head, please bring a dessert to share. The church will provide drinks, chips, rice, and cornbread. Western wear- boots, jeans, spurs and hats are encouraged! Let your Texas Chili Lights Shine!! ☺

Serve the Lord with Gladness



Be a Greeter - Mobile Health Clinic

Monday, January 13th and 27th
9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to be greeters for the patients of the mobile health clinic. Morning and afternoon shifts available.

Welcome those visiting 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. Thank you for your support of this important outreach ministry.

Prescription Assistance

The Prescription Assistance Program is open on Monday afternoons from 1:00—4:00 p.m. Volunteers give their time to work with individuals who need assistance with affording their medications. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please come by one Monday afternoon or call the church office at 361-729-1659.

November 1 to November 30, 2019

Clients	4
New Clients	1
New Clients Unable to Help	1
Forms Filed	4
Volunteer Hours	54.75

Estimated Cash Value of Medications

Saved for Clients:



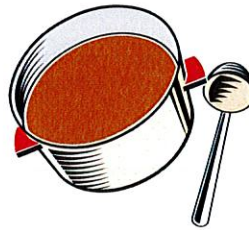
1 month supply	\$ 890.00
X 3 months supply	\$ 2,670.00

Castaways Thrift Shop

Support the ministries of FUMC Rockport by donating items to Castaways!

Please drop off your gently used clothing, furniture, toys, books, jewelry, household items or anything else that someone could use. Be sure to let them know you would like your donations to benefit the Methodist Church!

If you would like to help with sacking merchandise, picking up misplaced merchandise, rehangng clothes, boxing hangers and assisting customers, please call Annette at 361-790-6217. Any amount of time you can offer would be appreciated.



MISSING IN ACTION!
KITCHEN SOUP POTS
PLEASE COME HOME!
ASAP!
NO QUESTIONS ASKED :)

Community Table

2nd and 4th Tuesdays @ 4:30-6:00pm
First Presbyterian, 301 Hwy 35 North

Churches rotate hosting this community meal. All are invited to come and eat!

FUMC will host on Jan 14th. Volunteers are needed to cook, serve, clean tables, make tea and coffee, dishwashing, and clean up. Sign-up sheet will be available on the reception desk.

For questions, please contact Kris at 210-268-6855 or maxineroger2@yahoo.com or Joyce at (512) 716-9973 or drjoycempalmer@gmail.com. **Please note: Food handler permits are now required for ALL volunteers.**

If you need a permit you can go to:

www.aransascounty.org/envirohealth/foodsafety.php

Volunteers Needed!

Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans

507 S Ann St, Rockport, TX
Mon-Wed-Fri, 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Good Samaritans is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and is in need of volunteers, especially to help at the reception desk. Please call (361) 790-9828 if you are able to help. Good Samaritans is an organization established by volunteers, built by volunteers, and manned by volunteers. It has no employees. It exists to help citizens of *Aransas County*.

Save the date!

Early Response Team (ERT)

Training

Saturday, February 8, 2020
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM





TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND

Coming in 2022...

Glory Sightings



Power of Prayer

By Lynne Ruf

We can see God moving, when we stop our own moving. Our Pastor has given his time every morning to bow down and pray with us. Even when the church is closed on Fridays, he is at the altar. I confess I do not go every day. I have a hard time with any routine. I am not very disciplined. When I do go, it makes a difference in how my day goes. I believe the prayers for others at 8:30 AM in our church has changed lives...I believe those prayers can and will grow our church.

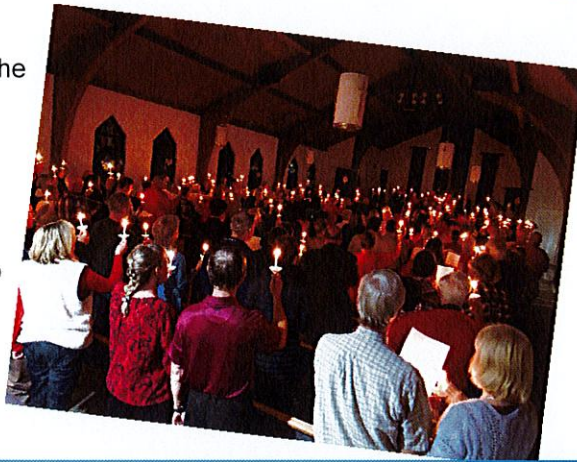
Come and verbally share your concerns or say nothing...There isn't a prescribed way of coming to prayer.

Are you grieving for the needs of your children? Are you dealing with an illness? Or are you filled with gratitude about what God has already done?

Invite God in to move you with this wonderful opportunity...new to our way of worshipping. Also, the Prayer Team meets at 10:30 AM on Mondays and anyone is welcome to join in.

Christmas Eve Service

What a joy and blessing to be able to worship together and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior!



Christmas Caroling at Gulf Pointe Plaza

A fantastic group of multiple generations came out to spread some holiday cheer for residents of Gulf Pointe Plaza on Saturday, December 14th. A fun time was had by all, and many of the residents even sang along!

Afterwards we enjoyed fellowship with hot cocoa and cookies in the Rec Room. Yum! Many thanks to Mrs. Ellie who led the children's songs, Dustin who played the guitar, all who participated, and those who provided goodies!



An Unexpected Blessing

The Financial Peace University class met on Sunday evenings for 9 weeks in the Fall of 2019. They collected a love offering at each class, and they planned to share it with a special person whom God would send at the end of the class. They planned to have a pizza party as a celebration of completing the class, and the pizza delivery person would be the person to receive this special gift.

What a surprise to this young man who received a generous tip of about \$200! Class members were blessed by the opportunity to give this gift, and they were especially thrilled when the young man shared that he had just recently completed Financial Peace University and was working on Baby Step #3!



JANUARY Birthdays

01/02 Michael Popp	01/17 Linda Hamilton
01/03 Alice Lindquist (FLT)	01/19 Walter Abbott
01/07 Carol Freeman	01/19 Kenneth Goodner
01/09 Niccolette Marshall (FLT)	01/19 Ernie Schertz
01/11 Wendy Bryan	01/19 Shawn Simmons
01/12 San Juana Tristan	01/20 Marion Halvorsen
01/13 Jon Rappard	01/23 Bruce Sanchez
01/13 Devin Ruiz	01/23 Daniel Hanson
01/13 Erika Ruvalcaba	01/24 Barbara Caldwell
01/14 Carolyn Allison	01/24 Lucia Fisher
01/15 Wayne Currie	01/25 Erica Burke
01/16 Kevin Carruth	01/26 Gracie Simmons
01/17 Joyce Dittmar	01/28 J.C. Morton
	01/31 Jeannine Larson

JANUARY Anniversaries

01/05 Les and Carol Freeman
01/08 Tim and Debbie Chapman
01/13 Neal and Courtney Shane
01/17 Pat and Dina Murphy
01/22 Kenneth and Barbara Helbling

Square Dancing

Mike & Iris Huddleson have returned, and are bringing back Square Dancing on Thursdays, January 16th - February 13th!

Come join the fun!

Intro to Square Dancing Class

Thursdays at 2:00-3:00pm, Fellowship Hall 2-3

No experience necessary. There will be a small fee to help cover expenses.

Main Stream and Plus Level Square Dancing

Thursdays at 7:00-9:00pm, Fellowship Hall 2-3
All Square Dancers welcome!



Caring Cards

Thursday, Jan 9 @ 1:00pm
Youth / Rec Rm

We make cards that are sent to people in our church each month to celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries.

Caring Cards needs more cards!

We are expanding our ministry opportunities to include:



† Kairos Outside weekends:

Women who have incarcerated partners have both emotional and financial pressures. For three days during Kairos Outside, they are encouraged by the knowledge that others care about them. Our cards can be part of the "Agape" given to them.

† Care Portal clients:

We can arm individuals in the Care Portal program with the knowledge that our efforts on their behalf are an extension of God's love.

Come join us in making cards on the second Thursday of each month @ 1 PM. If you are unable to attend and/or prefer to make cards at home, please consider making/donating cards for our ministry. If you have any questions, please call Lynne Ruf at 361

Grief Resources

Are you mourning a loss? Would you like to meet with others and work through your feelings?

AIM Hospice offers a Grief Group on Tuesdays 10:30-12pm. They are on recess in December, but will pick up again on Jan 7.

First Baptist Church is offering Grief Share, which is a 13-week class to share your grief and learn ways to grieve and make new choices that will heal your heart. Classes will be on Sundays at 4:00 pm starting on January 12, 2020 • 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

For more info you can call John and Sandy Turney, Care Group Leaders at 513-240-7224. Registration is \$10.00 and includes a workbook. Scholarships available

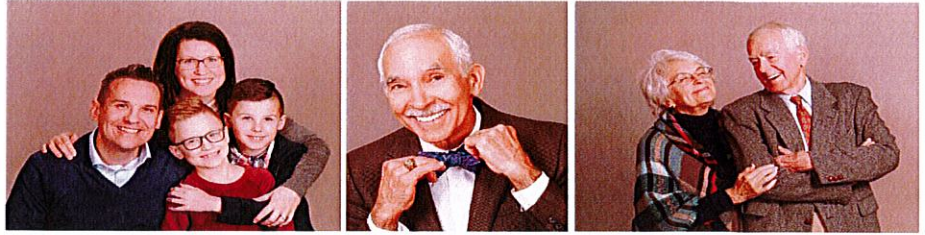




FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

of Rockport

Growing in Christ



Save the date

Be included in the new
First United Methodist Church directory.

Photography dates:
January 29, 30, 31 & February 1

Lifetouch

Dear Church, it's time to take pictures for a new Church Directory!

Please make an appointment to get your pictures taken! A link will be sent by email.

We could also use some volunteers to host, and make people comfortable during photography. And some computer savvy volunteers to help register people after services. If you're comfortable navigating the internet, please consider helping after services to get people photographed. Thank you in advance for your presence, help, and support.

**Grace and Peace,
Frank**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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