

January 2023 Newsletter



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
of Rockport

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www.facebook.com/fumcrockport

Pastor's Corner

In a quiet moment years ago, I felt God say to me, "Don't get paid by the church." That's a big ask for a pastor. It was confusing as I also felt called by God to ministry and doors were opening. I am strange, but serving the church as Pastor for me is a dream job. I love serving the Lord, and leading the congregation, ministering to individuals and groups. I love praying for people and to see transformation of lives. I was created for this.

I tried to honor both the call to ministry and not to take money from the church by applying for Army Chaplaincy. I was not able to go full-time because I was too old (43) when I was finally approved for ministry as a Probationary Elder. And once I was appointed as a pastor, I had commitments to the church body. It's always a bad time to leave a church. Especially when the denomination is going through turbulent times. I always thought we need to get through the rough spot before I can move.

So that message from God has been on the back burner. I interpreted that message as not doing ministry as a job but as a passion, a joy, and privilege out of the overflow of my relationship with God. Not to take from the church, but to give back. To sacrifice for the body of Christ. But at this time, I am finally being obedient to that call to leaving paid church ministry when my appointment ends in June 2023. I will be applying/volunteering for an assignment with the Army, and expect to be a pilgrim for the next ten years. I pray I can bring renewal wherever I go as the early Circuit riders.

Continued on Page 2

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801 E. Main Street, Rockport, TX 78382.

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



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First United Methodist Church of Rockport, TX

First United Methodist Church of Rockport
FUMC Phone No. 361.729.1659

Rev. Frank Baik, Senior Pastor.....x2248
Patty Impens, Business Manager.....x2574
Paul Klemm, Director of Music Ministry.....x2577
Kathy Norland, Administrative Assistant.....x2575
Alfredo Gonzales, Custodian.....x2501
Madaline Brown, First Learning Tree Director.....x2584

FUMC Rockport-January 2023

I am planning to transfer my membership to the Global Methodist Church, or another denomination. I've already let District Superintendent Laura Brewster and the Staff Parish Relations Committee know. Since I will no longer be eligible to be the pastor of this church, this makes it a good time to transition to a new mission.

Meanwhile I am praying for the UMC, especially FUMC Rockport and its future. I pray that God will bring you a great preacher and leader, and that you will be stirred up to be ministers of the Gospel and to follow Jesus more closely.

For the next five to six months, my priority will be discipleship and training so that the ministry will be strong when I am not in the building. Now is the time to step up. Everyone has his or her own calling, but I must be faithful to my own. You be faithful to yours. Let me conclude with some of my favorite words from the Bible:

Romans 14:1-4

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. ² One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³ The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. ⁴ Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

I encourage you to read the whole chapter. It's a picture of a divided congregation, who can't agree on who or what is right. But Paul gives instructions to do whatever you do in faith, and the assurance that God will make us all stand by Grace in the end.

Thanks be to God.

Pastor Frank



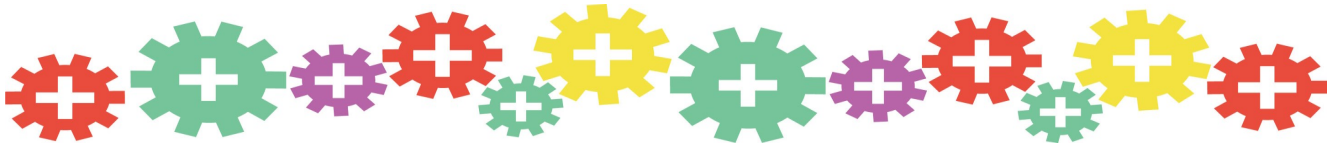
Invitation to 3 Big Questions for Teens and Adults

Pastor Frank is doing a 60 day devotional with teens. And a book study with Adults on the 3 big questions that everyone needs answers for to make sense of life. Pastor Frank invites every teen to participate. Please encourage them to join the study!

The 3 big questions are:

Who am I?
Where do I fit?
What difference can I make?

This 60-day devotional breaks down those big questions into manageable pieces and helps teenagers embrace God's best answers for them. Backed by Scripture and informed by years of conversations with teens, this book does more than help teenagers figure out what to do with their lives; it will help them understand what their life means to the world.



For Parents, Caretakers, and Grandparents,

Young people struggle to find satisfying and life-giving answers to these questions on their own. They need caring adults willing to lean in with empathy, practice listening, and gently point them in the direction of better answers: that they are enough because of Jesus, they belong with God's people, and they are invited into God's greater story.

Ask for your copy, so you can be prepared to listen to and guide young people at critical life stages.

Pastor Frank

9 Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

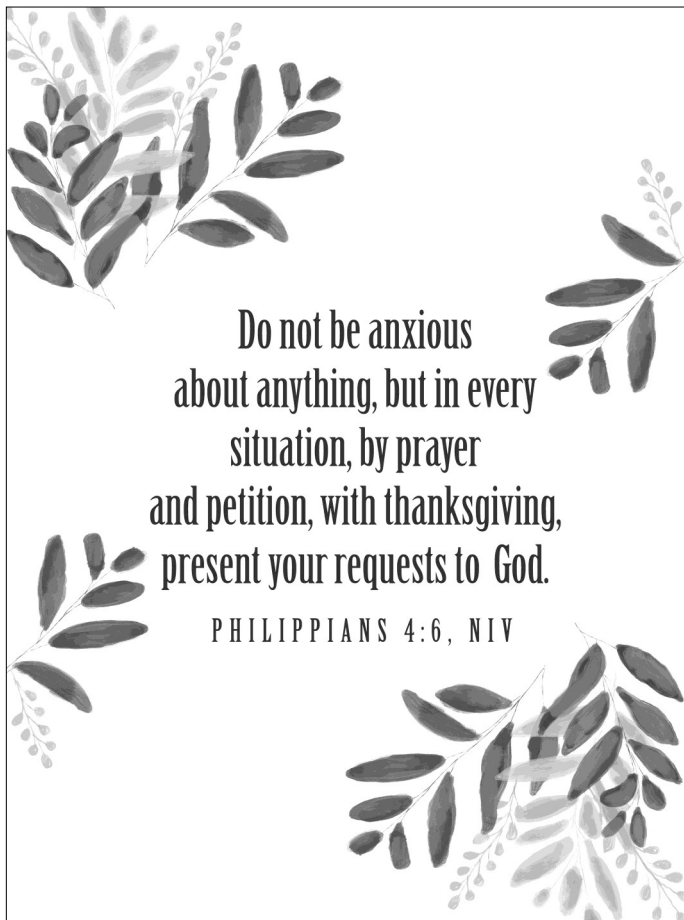
Deuteronomy 7:9 (NIV)

Discernment Task Force

Richard Hyde

The Church Council voted in November to create a committee to review and collect information about the disaffiliation issue in the Methodist church and its potential impact on FUMC Rockport. The goal is not to make any recommendations but to develop a base of information that the congregation could use if any decisions were discussed about disaffiliation. With many questions and few answers, we feel that it is important for the congregation to all have the same information. We may have different opinions and viewpoints on a personal level, but we need to ensure that at the end of the day we are trying to follow God's will and do what is best for the congregation of FUMC Rockport.

The first meeting of the task force will be January 10, 2023, at 5 pm at the church in the Rec Room. We will be assigning folks to research the issues that we can identify such as financial, legal and impacts to FLT. Also, what are the core issues, what other options exist and what do they stand for. The product will hopefully be a report that consolidates all this information. If you are interested in the issue and helping, please join us. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Richard Hyde at 832-649-0665 or email rw.hyde60@gmail.com.



Subscribe to the Church's Emails

If you wish to subscribe to the church's emails, such as What's Happening This Week, general information or the monthly newsletters, please do the following:

-> Log onto the church's website at www.fumcrockport.org

-> Click on

Subscribe to our Newsletter

-> Complete the online form

This will allow you to subscribe to the church's email mailing list.

You may unsubscribe at any time.

Music Ministries Update

Paul Klemm



First, I'd like to say that there are no words to express how proud I am of the Chancel Choir. It's true, we worked on the Cantata for a long time, but it's more than that. They did everything I asked of them. The effect is a performance that they (and I) will always be proud of.

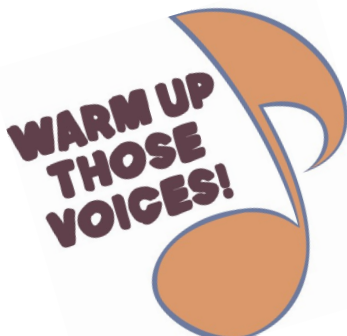
If you have ever considered joining the Chancel Choir, now is the best time! We will resume rehearsals on January 4th at 6:30 and continue every Wednesday. At our first rehearsal, we will begin working on new music for the coming season. Please don't feel intimidated about joining us. There are no professional musicians in the choir. Many of the choir members don't even read music. You don't have to have the best voice, or the best sense of pitch. We can work through all those things. What we are looking for is someone that is willing to join us, have fun, and worship God through our music.

This year for Lent, we are not going to present a Cantata. We will do something large and (hopefully) spectacular, but at this moment I haven't completely decided what that will be. So come and join us. The more people in the choir, the less intimidating, and easier it becomes.

Beginning in January I am planning on teaching **Introductory Music Classes** again. These classes are not a ploy to get you to join the choir (although we would be delighted). The classes are simply about learning the rudiments of music. Tentatively I am planning on the class starting the second week of January. If you are interested, please let me know so that I can order a book for you. I'd also like to know when the best time to offer the class will be.

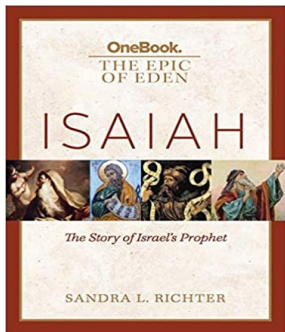
I wish all of you a Happy and Joyous New Year!

Paul



Women In The Word

Donna Hyde



The women will be starting another study by Dr. Sandra Richter, entitled *The Epic of Eden: Isaiah*. Often named the fifth gospel, the book of the prophet Isaiah has more to say about Israel's coming Messiah than any other Old Testament book. Brilliant, courageous, uncompromising, this prophet declared that the year of the LORD had come and God's people needed to either step up, or stand down. Indeed, when Isaiah spoke, kings trembled.

But too often, when Isaiah speaks today, God's people have trouble hearing. Why? We often miss the larger context. In *The Epic of Eden: Isaiah*, Dr. Sandra Richter takes participants back to the eighth century BCE. This ten-week study explains Israel's religion and economy, explores the definition and role of the prophets, and helps us to apply the message of this great champion of the faith to our lives today.

Several have already signed up for the class, but if you have not and want to join us, please contact Donna Hyde at 832.457.2279 (call or text) or email Donna-hyde@att.net. Books are \$22 and all are welcome. You will want me to order the book for you because of the cost. If you prefer to order your own book, you can go to Seedbed.com and order. Or you can go to Amazon, but it is \$42 from there. I have just enough books for those who have already signed up, but another order can be placed if you contact me before the end of the year. The class begins January 11th at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall 2 & 3. This is a ten week study.

I hope you will consider joining this great group of ladies and this wonderful author for a life changing experience of the book of Isaiah.

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved,
a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who
correctly handles the word of truth.*

2 Timothy 2:15 NIV

Church Leadership 2023

The next two pages of this newsletter contain the names of those serving in church leadership positions for 2023. Thank you to those who volunteer their time to ensure the business of the church runs properly and to the glory of God.

FUMC Rockport-January 2023

FUMC Rockport 2023 Lay Leadership Teams

Church Council: Chair Ed Hegen					
		<i>Members at Large</i>	<i>Trustees</i>	<i>Finance</i>	<i>SPRC</i>
Class of 2023		John Peirce	John Peirce	Richard Hyde	Doris Owens
Class of 2024		Dustin Barre (Trustee)	Ted Norland	Ray Saenz	Kay Stone
			Christy Linsley		Sherry Peirce
Class of 2025		Stephanie Clark	Bill Neal	TommyTompkins	John Gay
Members due to leadership roles and offices:					
Secretary		Kathy Norland			
Treasurers		Mary John Hoffman	Susan Jamison		
Lay Leader		Debbie Chapman			
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference			Debbie Chapman		
District Delegation			Susan Jamison		
Alternate Delegates			Ed Hegen	Mike McLaughlin	
Youth/Young Adult Member					
District Youth Delegate					
Lay Leadership Committee: Co-Chairs			Frank Baik	Lay Leader	
Class of 2023		John Gay			
Class of 2024		Maggie Allen	Lynne Ruf		
Class of 2025		Stephanie Clark			
FUMC Foundation: Chair			Vacant		
Ex-Officio		Pastor	Treasurer	Trustee Chair	Finance Chair
Staff Liaison:		Patty Impens			
Advisors:		Ginger Gay	Sue Weir		
At Large Members:					
Class of 2023		Shawn Carruth			
Class of 2024		Kathy Norland			
Class of 2025		Christy Linsley	Maggie Allen		
Health Ministry Team: Chair			Kathy Daniels		
Wesley Health Nurse			Geralyn Matejcek		
Church Members at Large:					
Class of 2023		Jeannie Coe			
Class of 2024		Vacant			
Class of 2025		Vacant			
Community Agencies Representative:			Brenda Coates		
Legacy Ministries: Ongoing and seeking new servant volunteers					
Good Samaritans Center is our local assistance agency. Servants are trained by Good Samaritans for the purpose of distributing food, processing requests and counseling those in need about local resources.					
FUMC-R Board Representative to Good Samaritans:			Jane Doss Briggs		

Updated 12.13.22
K Norland

FUMC Rockport-January 2023

FUMC Rockport 2023 Lay Leadership Teams

Castaways:	Chair	Annette Hegen	(Seeking new chair)	
Prescription Assistance: Chair Judy Goodner		2nd & 4th Monday 1:00-3:00 pm		
Members:	Pastor, Lay Leader/Council Chair, Business Manager			
Members at Large:	Ray Saenz	Nellie Symm-Gruender		
	Betty J Ohlhauser	Emmanuel Adeyoju		
Community Table: Team Leader Kris Stumpf		Team: All those willing to serve		
Worship Ministry: Chair: Donna Hyde				
Team:	Jeannie Coe (Music)	Barbara Serota	Dustin Barre (Tech Team)	
Staff Members:	Pastor Frank Baik	Paul Klemm	Linda Hamilton	
Staff Liaison:	Pastor Frank Baik			
Team includes worship leaders, Director of Music, Accompanist, Lay Leader, Head Usher, Acolyte Coordinators, Reader Coordinators, Technology Coordinator, Altar Guild, Communion Stewards				
Card Ministry:		Coordinator Gail Hanson		
Prayer Team:		Leader Lynne Ruf		
Members:	Sue Weir	Dave Rusk	Mary Rusk	Jeannie Coe
Visitation Ministry Team:		Leader Barbs Meador		
Staff Liaison:	Pastor Frank Baik	Visitation	Stephens Ministers	
	Communion			
Witness Team:		Vacant		
Staff Liaison:	Pastor Frank Baik			
Members:	John Gay	Debbie Chapman	Cassidy Sanchez	
Staff Parish Relations Committee:		Chair Doris Owens		
Members:	Kay Stone	Sherry Peirce	John Gay	
Missions: Chair Mike McLaughlin				
Finance Committee: Chair Richard Hyde		2024	2025	
Staff:	Ray Saenz	Ray Saenz	Tommy Tompkins	
	Patty Impens			
Trustees: Chair				
	2023 John Peirce			
	2024 Ted Norland			
	2025 Bill Neal	Christy Linsley		

*Updated 12.13.22
K Norland*

First Learning Tree

December was a fun month, and we cannot wait for the new year. God bless everyone, and Happy New Year from First Learning Tree!

Madaline Brown
Director



**Merry Christmas
from the Students & Staff
at First Learning Tree!**

First Learning Tree



**Christmas is for family
and friends!**



First Learning Tree



Singing at a local nursing home

A visit with Santa

Crazy Christmas Sweater Day



Church Office Updates

Business Office Update

Patty Impens

Happy New Year from your FUMC-R Business Office! As we begin a new year, please allow me to remind you of the ways you can tithe to the church.

To give online, log on to fumcrockport.org and scroll down to the Give Online button. Click on it and follow the instructions provided. You determine how much and how often you give. Please include the fee if paying by card so the church may benefit from the full amount of your gift. Other ways to give include checks and cash. Checks may be given in person or by mail. Please place cash in the envelopes provided in the pews and fill out the front of the envelope each time.

Thank you for your continuing support of the ministries of FUMC-R. Your generosity makes it possible for us to reach others with the good news of Jesus!

Technology Update

Ted Norland

The process of getting the new server ready is ongoing. Currently, the data is being moved from the PC server to the new server. This involves taking the new server and loading it with all of the church's data and software. We have more internal and external security by ownership of a proper server.

Additionally, work is being done on network infrastructure. This provides for all of the staff to be on the same network. Internet for the office and the kitchen area is now fully operational. Work continues for technology for First Learning Tree. A new computer in the FLT reception desk area is installed and being utilized. Happy New Year from the IT guy!

Did you know?



The What's Happening email of December 14th was opened **224** times, which is a 70% open rate!

Be sure to read the most up-to-date news in this weekly email send each Wednesday.

FUMC Rockport-January 2023

Birthdays:

Christine Baik (1)
Wendy Bryan (11)
Jon Rappard (13)
Wayne Currie (15)
Kevin Carruth (16)
Linda Hamilton (17)
Lin Turner (17)
Ken Goodner (19)
Ernie Schertz (19)
Daniel Hanson (23)
Bruce Sanchez (23)
Lucia Fisher (24)
JC Morton (28)

Anniversaries:

Tim & Debbie Chapman (8)
Neal & Courtney Shane (13)
Pat & Dina Murphy (17)
Ken & Barbara Helbling (22)



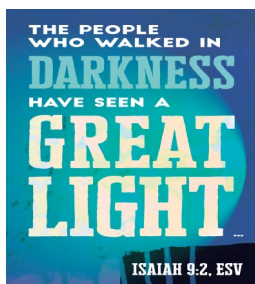
A Sneak Peak at the United Methodist Church Liturgy for January

1st

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

15th

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalms 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42



8th

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

22nd

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

29th

Micah 6:1-8
Psalms 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Cross Talk Sunday School

9:00 am—Rec Room

Current Study

Understanding the Bible
Adam Hamilton

See John & Ginger Gay for
more information

ADULT
Sunday School

FUMC Rockport-January 2023

Giving for His Glory

NOVEMBER 2022 FINANCE

Church

*Giving:	\$ 23,364.06
Castaway's:	\$ 8,000.00
Market St Apartment Income	\$ 0.00
Total Income:	<u>\$ 31,364.06</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 35,285.46

Nov Net Income - \$ 3,921.40

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

First Learning Tree

Income/Tuition	\$ 82,139.66
Regular Expenses	\$ <u>78,681.03</u>
Grant Applied	
Nov Net Income	<u>\$ 3,458.63</u>

Church & FLT Combined through November
Year-to-date Net Income -\$ 462.77

If you are traveling please consider going to our church website to give online at www.fumcrokport.org.

*Thank you for participating in the work for Christ!
 Your gifts are honored and you are blessed by celebrating the gifts you have been given...Please contact the church office if you have any questions in regards to Stewardship or your offerings.*

Blessings,

Patty Impens

CASTAWAYS METHODIST VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU UNITED Methodist Volunteers!!
 Your hard work and commitment are a huge support to the ministries of FUMC Rockport...help by joining this team and be blessed as you work together for God!

November 2022

Sales Total	\$ 15,107.74
Admin Fee to Castaways	-\$ 1,955.06
Total deposit to FUMC	<u>\$ 13,152.68</u>

These funds were distributed as follows:

\$8,000.00 to the FUMC General Fund
\$2,630.54 to the Castaways Volunteers Mission Fund
\$2,522.14 to the FUMC Capital Reserve Fund

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CASTAWAYS VOLUNTEERS!!

2023 BENEVOLENT BUCKET OFFERINGS

UMJanuary	UMC Human Relations Sunday	\$0.00
February	UMCOR—Denver Fires	\$ 140.00
March	UMCOR Relief Funds	\$ 158.00
April	FUMC Rockport Emergency Assistance Fund	\$457.00
	SPECIAL EASTER giving to Afghan Refugee Assistance	\$98.00
May	Native American Ministries Month	\$76.00
June	Peace with Justice Sunday	\$27.00
July	Undie Sunday	\$3,273.00
August	Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans	\$70.00
September	UM Student Day	\$45.00
October	World Communion	\$111.55
November	Harvest Sunday (Hunger)	\$140.00
December	UM Children's Home	

BENEVOLENT BUCKET—JANUARY 2023

Benevolent Bucket is a special offering taken each month. In January, the Benevolent Bucket is designated for the **Wesley Nurse**. Please drop your donations into the baskets at the Altar or turn them into the Church Office any Sunday this month. Thank you for blessing others!





January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
New Year's Day 1 Traditional Worship Living Water Worship	2 <i>Church Offices Closed</i>	3 FB Prayer Prayer Team Community Table	4 FB Prayer Castaways FLT Chapel Lively Bible Study Praise Band & Choir	5 FB Prayer Castaways Disciple 3 Lions Club Marital Arts Discipleship	6 FB Prayer Church Offices Closed	7
8 Contemporary Worship Cross Talk SS Traditional Worship Living Water Worship	9 FB Prayer Yoga Class Staff Meeting	10 FB Prayer Prayer Team Disciple 1	11 FB Prayer Castaways FLT Chapel Lively Bible Study Praise Band & Choir	12 FB Prayer Castaways Allegro Women's Club Mtg Disciple 3 Lions Club MAD	13	14
15 Contemporary Worship Cross Talk SS Traditional Worship Living Water Worship	16 MLK Day FB Prayer Yoga Class Staff Meeting	17 FB Prayer Prayer Team Disciple 1 Community Table Disciple 2	18 FB Prayer Castaways FLT Chapel Lively Bible Study Praise Band & Choir	19 FB Prayer Castaways Disciple 3 Lions Club MAD	20	21 Men's Walk to Emmaus Training
22 Contemporary Worship Cross Talk SS Traditional Worship Living Water Worship	23 FB Prayer Yoga Class Staff Meeting	24 FB Prayer Prayer Team Disciple 1 Disciple 2	25 FB Prayer Castaways FLT Chapel Lively Bible Study Praise Band & Choir	26 FB Prayer Castaways Disciple 3 Marital Arts Discipleship	27	28
29 Contemporary Worship Cross Talk SS Traditional Worship Living Water Worship	30 FB Prayer Yoga Class Staff Meeting	31 FB Prayer Prayer Team Disciple 1 Disciple 2				Benevolent Bucket -> Wesley Health Nurse

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023

HAS GOD DONE SOMETHING AMAZING IN YOUR LIFE?

Others would benefit from reading about it—You can share your testimony in the newsletter!

Email to: admin@fumcrockport.org

*Happy New
Year
From the
FUMC-R
Staff!*



First United Methodist—Rockport Church Staff

The Reverend Frank Baik
Senior Pastor
Facilitiespastor@fumcrockport.org

Madeline Brown
Director of First Learning Tree
info@fltree.org

Alfredo Gonzalez
Custodian
maintenance@fumcrockport.org

Linda Hamilton
Accompanist

Patty Impens
Business Manager
fumc@fumcrockport.org



Paul Klemm
Director of Music &
music@fumcrockport.org

Kathy Norland
Administrative Assistant
admin@fumcrockport.org

Ted Norland
IT Manager
tnorland@fumcrockport.org

Christy Linsley
Children's Church Leader

Cassidy Sanchez
Patty Torres
Nursery Care

FUMC Rockport-January 2023

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



SUNDAYS:

- 9:00am Contemporary Worship Service—Communion Every Sunday
- 9:15am Cross Talk - Adult Sunday School
- 10:45am Traditional Worship Service - Communion Monthly on First Sundays
- 6:00pm Living Water Worship (Spanish)

- www.fumcrockport.org/worship
- Facebook: First United Methodist Church Rockport Tx
- Instagram: FUMCrockport

*Let us know you're worshipping with us from home by filling out the online Friendship Card.
You can find the link on our home page @ www.fumcrockport.org*

PRAYER:

- PRAYER WITH PASTOR FRANK:
Mon-Thur @ 8:30 AM: In-person in the Sanctuary or on facebook.com/fumcrockport
Fri @ 8:30 AM on facebook.com/fumcrockport
- PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to www.fumcrockport.org/prayer

SMALL GROUP AND BIBLE STUDIES:

Sun: Cross Talk, 9:15am, Rec Room

Tue: Disciple 1 with Maggie Allen, 1:00-2:30pm, Banner Room
Disciple 2 with Stephanie Clark, 1:00-2:30pm, Rec Room

Wed: Women In the Word Bible Study with Donna Hyde, Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00pm, (FH 2 & 3)

Thu: Disciple #3 with Richard Hyde, 1pm, Banner Room

Sign up for Small Group Bible Studies @ www.fumcrockport.org/bible-study



GIVING:

- Give online at fumcrockport.org/give
- Mail to PO Box 1045, Rockport TX 78381



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

of Rockport

Always Growing in Christ

January 2023 Newsletter

WORSHIP SERVICES AT:

9:00am	Contemporary Worship Service
9:15am	Cross Talk - Adult Sunday School
10:45am	Worship (Communion every First Sunday)
6:00pm	Living Water Spanish Worship

COME JOIN US!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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ROCKPORT, TEXAS 78381-1045
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www.fumcrockport.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®