

# April 2023 Newsletter



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH *of Rockport*

VISIT US ONLINE [FUMCRockport.org](http://FUMCRockport.org)

[www.facebook.com/fumcrockport](http://www.facebook.com/fumcrockport)

Dear Church, As you know, I am moving on in June. I wanted to share my resignation letter which details some of my struggles with this decision. Grace and Peace, Pastor Frank

Dear Bishop Robert Schnase, and Rev. Laura Brewster,

Thank you for being shining examples of integrity, and love during a very turbulent time in the church. I continue to be impressed with Christ in you, and the grace I see in you. What we do in trying times shows our true character, and I have found you both to be exceptional.

You are busy people, and I've tried to help by not causing grief, and staying out of your way. But last week I was convicted that paying apportionments, and staying out of the way are not enough. I'm sorry for neglecting you in prayer, and not being more encouraging. I commit to pray for you, and the next pastor of Rockport FUMC daily at least till June 2023. May the Lord renew your joy and strength, protect you from evil, and bless and prosper your inner being, and your work and ministries. God guard you, your families, and deliver you from evil. And may God build the church to be. Amen.

I was impressed to pray for you while attending the GMC Annual Conference. I was there as a guest to see if they were my people, or if I continue to seek another denomination. I felt my heart warmed and I will be applying to transfer my ordination to the GMC effective **June 30, 2023**.

I plan to apply for mobilization through the Army Reserve and serve full-time as an Army Chaplain starting around June. I will work with the new pastor, and the SPRC for a smooth transfer. And will remain endorsed through UMEA until endorsed by another Endorsing agency.

This is a decision made with many tears. My grandparents were among the first converts in Korea through Methodist missionary Henry Appenzeller. My grandmother and my mother went to the girl's school he founded. My Father retired in the Cal-Pac Conference after a lifetime of service as an

This monthly newsletter is published by  
**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**  
**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  
Geraldyn Matejcek, Wesley Health Nurse.....x2578

## FUMC Rockport-April 2023

Elder and is a strong advocate for staying with the UMC.

I was baptized, certified, discontinued, recertified, commissioned, and ordained in the UMC. I struggled to be ordained for 14 years, but persisted because my conscience would not allow me to teach Calvinism. Becoming an Elder in full connection is my crowning achievement, and now I lay it down after only 8 years of appointed service.

For years, I managed to focus on the good. Our reputation of being full of grace, and the hands and feet of Jesus. I downplayed our reputation of being doctrinally lax and confused. In fact, I celebrated the big tent. That we could have liberty and charity in non- essentials. Sure most UMC pastors (including me) can't evangelize to save their lives, but we embody love and good works.

But it's clear we are divided in basics like heaven and hell, and Salvation through Christ alone. I'm sure you've heard it too, "There may be other ways," Is a common refrain among UMC pastors. The first time I heard it was from a Seminary professor. Since then, half the elders I've talked to about salvation are not sure or comfortable with Jesus' exclusivity. I'm not so naïve to believe there will be doubts in any church, but I think those teaching Seminary should embrace the exclusive claims of Jesus Christ such as, "No one comes to the Father but by me." All these pastors said the right things before the ordination board. Can we not do something about what they are saying today? The UMC still has some firebrands, and I am thankful for those who have formed me. For times when my heart was warmed at Annual Conference, and services. For the moving of the Holy Spirit at services and retreats.

I believe in going on to perfection personally, and the church can too. I long to be part of a reform and holiness movement, like I read about in the discipline. I desire a body with this same longing. Of my three children, all of them want to affirm their friends who are gay, bi, or trans. I pray my kids will continue to worship and devote themselves to God through a Wesleyan church. But I also pray that they will love Jesus more than relationships, comfort, or easy lifestyle. That they will deny their flesh and see God's redemption. That loving rebuke will be part of their friendships. Last year, my youngest graduated HS. She is my baby, and I enjoy having her in our home. But our goal is not to live under the same roof for the rest of our lives. My hope is that she will grow up and be self-sustaining. Get her own place, build her own family and life. But we will always be family. I will always love her. Similarly I feel like it's time for me to move out of the UMC, but we will always be family. We have one Abba. There will be reunions, meals, cooperation, and joint ministry. Thank you for your blessing and freedom to seek my own path. And the grace with which you handled the fracture of our conference.

I disagree with my kids, and love them. I also disagree with the UMC and love you. I love your heart for embracing those hurt by the church, and am grateful that you will share Good News with a generation increasingly distant from the knowledge of God.

I am in your service and will do what I can to advance the mission till June, and I hope we will have partnerships later. I continue to affirm that all people are created in God's image, and there is no one that is beyond the reach of Jesus' redeeming blood. Thank you for hearing me out.

Very Respectfully,  
Frank Baik, Pastor  
FUMC Rockport  
Chaplain (CPT) USAR  
Chaplain Rockport Police Dept  
408-464-6696



**WESTWARD ROAD**  
*On Tour*

**April 1st, 5:00**

**First United Methodist Church**  
801 E. Main St Rockport, TX

**Free, Family Friendly Show**

**For more information go to:**  
[www.fumcrockport.org/music](http://www.fumcrockport.org/music)  
**Or [www.westwardroad.com](http://www.westwardroad.com)**

**A Love Offering will be taken**

[WWW.WESTWARDROAD.COM](http://WWW.WESTWARDROAD.COM)  
[WWW.BANDSINTOWN.COM/WESTWARDROAD](http://WWW.BANDSINTOWN.COM/WESTWARDROAD)

## FUMC Rockport-April 2023

### Attendance in Worship Services

|          | <u>January</u> | <u>February</u> | <u>March</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 9:00 am  | 97             | 107             | 108          | <b>312</b>   |
| 10:45 am | 490            | 443             | 346          | <b>1279</b>  |
| Online   | 125            | 95              | 88           | <b>308</b>   |
| Ash Wed  | n/a            | 57              | n/a          | <b>57</b>    |
| Total    | 712            | 702             | 542          | <b>1956</b>  |

### Social Media Update



The What's Happening Next Week email of March 22nd was opened **218** times, which is a **70%** open rate! Plus, we reached over 2000 people on Facebook in March. Be sure to follow our Facebook page at

*First United Methodist Church of Rockport, Tx*

### Subscribe to the Church's Emails



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

1. Log onto the church's website at [www.fumcrokport.org](http://www.fumcrokport.org)
2. Click on

#### **Subscribe to our Newsletter**

3. Complete the online form
- You may unsubscribe at any time.*

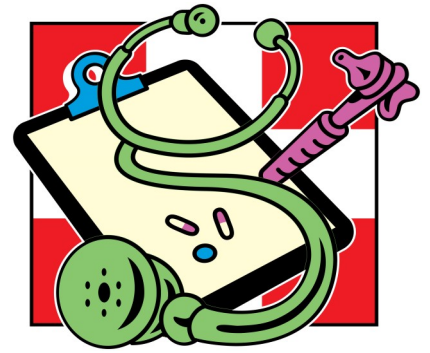
---

## FUMC Rockport-April 2023

---

Hi Church Friends,

Who is excited about Spring? I sure am. I love this season of the year when everything is turning green and blooming. I also love the longer days and enjoy spending more time outdoors in the evenings.



I have decided that during the Lenten season instead of giving up something, I am going to add something. I have decided to keep a thankfulness/gratefulness journal. I am choosing to focus on one thing I am grateful for each day. I pray about it when I wake up and then I focus on it and continue praying about it throughout the day. I am also taking time each day to practice self-care. This is so important for our mental well being along with our physical health. What are you doing for Lent? I would love to hear about your journey.

The Diabetic Support and Education Group kicked off it's first monthly meeting in March. Going forward, we will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at noon in the Recreation Room. Thank you, Lynne Ruf, for attending and representing the Health Ministry Team. I loved your input! The Sinton Wesley Nurse, Megan, along with our Community Based Counselor, Kimberly, were also in attendance. We had five participants and I look forward to growing this ministry for the congregation and the community. Please feel free to join us any time.

My practice is continuing to grow. I had 39 patient encounters in February. As of mid-March, I have 30 patient encounters. I am seeing a great need for prescription assistance, doctor's co-pays, transportation (aka gas), diapers, and food is always a concern. I continue to see a rise in the homeless population. Sadly, there just aren't enough services for the homeless in our community. I am praying for the homeless and searching for ways to better serve them.

Rice, beans, peanut butter, and pop top canned goods are always needed by the food pantries in town including Good Sam's and New Beginnings Church. Please feel free to drop your donations off to me and I can deliver them. Another need is men's gently worn clothing and shoes.

I am always open for your input and ideas that will better help me serve the community and congregation. Thank you all so much for your continued support and prayers. They are appreciated more than you know.

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under Heaven”  
Ecclesiastes 3:1

**Geralyn Matejcek, *Wesley Health Nurse***



## United Methodist Men

1st Tuesday of each month

7:30 am ~ Bistro

Faith, Food & Fellowship

Contact Ed Hegen for more information.



### Wednesday Rehearsals

Praise Band 5:30 pm

Choir 6:30 pm

Join us for musical F-U-N!



Join us as we pray for the  
Men's Walk to Emmaus  
April 27th—30th



## Study Opportunities at FUMC-R

### In person:

Cross Talk Sunday School  
Disciple 2  
Disciple 4  
Lively Bible Study  
Women in the Word: Isaiah

### Online:

Bible in One Year  
App by Nicky Gumbel

# FUMC Rockport-April 2023

## Birthdays:

4.1 Bob Meador  
4.5 Paul Bearden  
4.5 Pat Speck  
4.9 Renee Hale  
4.16 Teresa Taylor  
4.20 Kevin Jamison  
4.30 Mike McLaughlin

## Anniversaries:

4.11 Bob and Adeline Dunlap  
4.17 Mark and Wendy Bryan  
4.19 Ray and Ellie Saenz



## A Sneak Peak at the United Methodist Church Lectionary for April

### 2nd

Matthew 21:1-11  
Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

### 9th

Acts 10:34-43; Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24  
Colossians 3:1-4; Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18; Matthew 28:1-10

### 16th

Acts 2:14a; 22-32  
Psalms 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

### 23rd

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

### 30th

Acts 2:42-27  
Psalms 23  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

## *April Showers*

You gave abundant **showers**, O God; you refreshed your weary inheritance.

~ *Psalms 68:9*

May He be like rain falling on a mown field, like **showers** watering the earth.

# FUMC Rockport-April 2023

## Giving for His Glory

### FEBRUARY 2023 FINANCE

#### Church

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| *Giving:              | \$ 23,732.09    |
| Castaway's:           | \$ 10,000.00    |
| Total Income:         | \$ 33,732.09    |
| Total Expenses        | \$ 33,406.99    |
| <b>Feb Net Income</b> | <b>\$325.10</b> |

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

#### First Learning Tree

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Income/Tuition              | \$ 70,139.10         |
| Regular Expenses            | \$ 89,549.75         |
| Grant Applied               |                      |
| <b>Feb Net Income(Loss)</b> | <b>-\$ 19,410.65</b> |

#### Church & FLT Combined through January

**Year-to-date** Net Income(Loss) **-\$ 18,022.60**

If you are traveling please consider going to our church website to give online at [www.fumcrokport.org](http://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!

#### **February 2023**

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sales Total                  | \$ 16,546.14        |
| Admin Fee to Castaways       | -\$ 2,223.07        |
| <b>Total deposit to FUMC</b> | <b>\$ 14,323.07</b> |

These funds were distributed as follows:

**\$10,000.00 to the FUMC General Fund**  
**\$2,864.61 to the Castaways Volunteers Mission Fund**  
**\$1,458.46 to the FUMC Capital Reserve Fund**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CASTAWAYS VOLUNTEERS!!**

### **2023 BENEVOLENT BUCKET OFFERINGS**

|           |   |        |
|-----------|---|--------|
| January   | Wesley Health Nurse                     | 120.00 |
| February  | Community Table                         | 0.00   |
| March     | UMCOR Relief Fund                       |        |
| April     | FUMC Rockport Emergency Assistance Fund |        |
| May       | Native American Ministries Month        |        |
| June      | Peace with Justice Sunday               |        |
| July      | Undie Sunday                            |        |
| August    | Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans         |        |
| September | UM Student Day                          |        |
| October   | World Communion                         |        |
| November  | Harvest Sunday (Hunger)                 |        |
| December  | UM Children's Home                      |        |

### **BENEVOLENT BUCKET—APRIL 2023**

Benevolent Bucket is a special offering taken each month. The Benevolent Bucket this month is designated for the **Church Emergency Assistance Fund**. Please drop your donations into the baskets at the Altar or the Church Office any day this month. Thank you for blessing others!





# April 2023

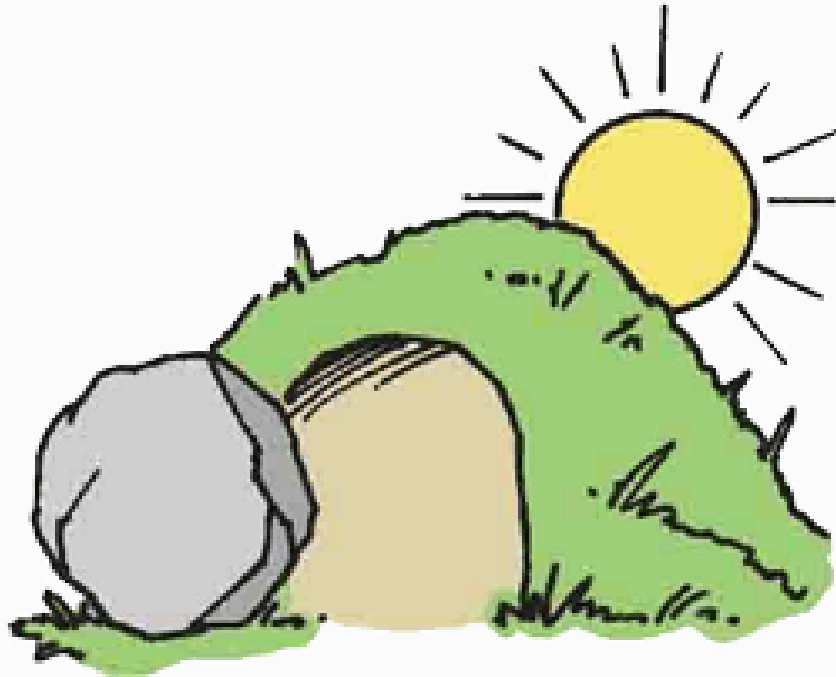
| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
|  |   |   |   |   |   | 1<br>Westward Road<br>Concert +Potluck<br>Dinner ★ |
| <b>Palm Sunday</b> 2<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Cross Talk SS<br>Traditional Worship<br>Living Water Worship<br><i>Wear Emmaus Crosses</i> | 3<br>FB Prayer<br>Exercise Ball Class<br>Disciple 2<br>Staff Meeting                      | 4<br>FB Prayer<br>UMM<br>Prayer Team<br>Community Table                 | 5<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>FLT Chapel<br>Lively Bible Study<br>Praise Band & Choir  | 6<br>Jujitsu<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>Disciple 4<br>Lions Club            | 7<br><b>Good Friday</b><br>FB Prayer<br>Church Office Closed<br>Good Friday Service | 8  |
| <b>Easter Sunday</b> 9<br>Sunrise Worship at the Beach<br>Cross Talk SS<br>Traditional Worship<br>Living Water Worship                     | 10<br>FB Prayer<br>Church Office Closed   | 11<br>FB Prayer<br>Prayer Team<br>PEO Meeting<br>Diabetic Support Group | 12<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>FLT Chapel<br>Lively Bible Study<br>Praise Band & Choir | 13<br>Jujitsu<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>Allegro Women's Club<br>Disciple 4 | 14<br>FB Prayer<br>Church Office Closed   | 15   |
| 16<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Cross Talk SS<br>Traditional Worship<br>Living Water Worship   | 17<br>FB Prayer<br>Exercise Ball Class<br>Disciple 2<br>Staff Meeting                     | 18<br>FB Prayer<br>Prayer Team<br>Community Table<br>Jujitsu            | 19<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>FLT Chapel<br>Lively Bible Study<br>Praise Band & Choir | 20<br>Jujitsu<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>Disciple 4<br>Lions Club           | 21<br>FB Prayer<br>Church Office Closed   | 22   |
| 23<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Cross Talk SS<br>Traditional Worship<br>Living Water Worship   | 24<br>FB Prayer<br>Exercise Ball Class<br>Disciple 2<br>Staff Meeting<br>Trustees Meeting | 25<br>FB Prayer<br>Prayer Team<br>Jujitsu                               | 26<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>FLT Chapel<br>Lively Bible Study<br>Praise Band & Choir | 27<br>Men's Walk to Emmaus<br>Jujitsu<br>FB Prayer<br>Castaways<br>Disciple 4 | 28<br>Men's Walk to Emmaus<br>FB Prayer<br>Church Office Closed                     | 29<br>Men's Walk to Emmaus                         |
| 30<br>Men's Walk to Emmaus<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Cross Talk SS<br>Traditional Worship<br>Living Water Worship                         |   |   |   |   |   |  |

**MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 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](mailto:admin@fumcrockport.org)



## First United Methodist—Rockport Church Staff

**The Reverend Frank Baik**  
Senior Pastor  
[Facilitiespastor@fumcrockport.org](mailto:Facilitiespastor@fumcrockport.org)

**Madeline Brown**  
Director of First Learning Tree  
[info@fltree.org](mailto:info@fltree.org)

**Alfredo Gonzalez**  
Custodian  
[maintenance@fumcrockport.org](mailto:maintenance@fumcrockport.org)

**Linda Hamilton**  
Accompanist

**Patty Impens**  
Business Manager  
[fumc@fumcrockport.org](mailto:fumc@fumcrockport.org)



**Geralyn Matejcek**  
Wesley Health Nurse  
[gmatejcek@mhm.org](mailto:gmatejcek@mhm.org)

**Paul Klemm**  
Director of Music &  
[music@fumcrockport.org](mailto:music@fumcrockport.org)

**Kathy Norland**  
Administrative Assistant  
[admin@fumcrockport.org](mailto:admin@fumcrockport.org)

**Ted Norland**  
IT Manager  
[tnorland@fumcrockport.org](mailto:tnorland@fumcrockport.org)

**Christy Linsley**  
Children's Church Leader

**Cassidy Sanchez**  
**Patty Torres**  
Nursery Care

## 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.fumcrokport.org/worship](http://www.fumcrokport.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.fumcrokport.org](http://www.fumcrokport.org)*

### PRAYER:

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

### SMALL GROUP AND BIBLE STUDIES:

- Sun:** Cross Talk, 9:15am, Rec Room  
**Tue:** 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  
Lively Bible Study with Pastor Frank, 4:30 pm, Bistro  
**Thu:** Disciple #4 with Richard Hyde, 1:00 pm, Banner Room

*Sign up for Small Group Bible Studies @ [www.fumcrokport.org/bible-study](http://www.fumcrokport.org/bible-study)*



### GIVING:

- Give online at [fumcrokport.org/give](http://fumcrokport.org/give)
- Mail to PO Box 1045, Rockport TX 78381



FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

*of Rockport*

Always Growing in Christ

## April 2023 Newsletter

### WORSHIP SERVICES:

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 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  
P.O. BOX 1045  
801 EAST MAIN  
ROCKPORT, TEXAS 78381-1045  
(361) 729-1659  
[www.fumcrockport.org](http://www.fumcrockport.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church®**