

# July 2023 Newsletter



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FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
*of Rockport*

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What a joy it is to be in Rockport. I am so excited to get to work, learn more about your ministries and start building lasting relationships with all of you! I want to thank you for the warm welcome and all you did in preparation for my arrival here in Rockport.

It has been a busy start to my role as your pastor and I am blown away by the love and care our church family has expressed for this community! In my first few days here, I have seen the staff and members of this congregation step up to serve, love, pray for, feed and support each other and the community of Rockport in unbelievable ways. I am so proud to be your Pastor!

As we look to the future with excitement and some uncertainty, let us not forget that God has already paved our way. Jeremiah 29:11 tells us "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." The future of First United Methodist Church is bright! God has placed us all together for one purpose, to glorify His Kingdom and I'm so excited to be on this journey with all of you!!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Mel

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. Melissa Lind, Pastor.....x2248  
Patty Impens, Business Manager.....x2574  
Paul Klemm, Director of Music Ministries .....x2577  
Kathy Norland, Administrative Assistant.....x2575  
Alfredo Gonzales, Custodian.....x2501  
Madaline Brown, First Learning Tree Director.....x2584  
Geraldyn Matejcek, Wesley Health Nurse.....x2578

Choir News

Paul Klemm



It's almost time for Choir to resume. While there is never a bad time to come join the choir, this is probably the best time of the year! Everyone is starting off on an equal footing. The music will be new to everyone.

Don't read music? You don't need to!

Don't think you sing that well? I promise you're better than you think!

Don't have that much time? We'll take you whenever you can come!

Running out of excuses? GOOD! Come join the choir.

Not only do we have a great time with an awesome bunch of people, but we worship the Father through our song and our prayers. What could be better than that?

**The Choir meets at 6:30 every Wednesday night beginning on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

At our first rehearsal we will hand out the new Christmas Cantata and listen to it. If you're still on the fence about joining the choir, this is the perfect way to do it. Join us for the Christmas Cantata. We rehearse from 6:30 – 7:00 each Wednesday. Every year, there are several people that only stay for that part of the rehearsal. Come on out and dip your toes in the water. You're going to love it.





*Women in the Word*  
**Summer Speaker Series**  
**Wednesdays**

**Join us as we discover and study the favorite Bible stories of our speakers. All are welcome!**

**1:00 to 3:00 pm**  
**Fellowship Hall 2 & 3**



Join us on July 26th when **Pastor Parker Zimmerman**, an Associate Pastor currently serving at University UMC of the Rio Texas Annual Conference in San Antonio. Parker is a preacher and leader who has a passion for the Gospel and is creative in his service to Christ. This year Parker will be speaking on Peter and teaching more about his influence on our faith today.

Join us on August 9th when Rev Ross Talbert will give us an overview of the book of Nehemiah and his powerful story of the rebuilding of ancient Jerusalem's walls after the exile. Ross is a retired local pastor, currently working part time at First UMC Missouri City with responsibility for Discipleship, Missions and Care Ministries. This is Ross' first time to join us for our summer series and we are excited to welcome him to Rockport.



Join us on August 23rd when our new Senior Pastor, Melissa Lind, will be sharing the story from the book of Daniel. This promises to be interesting and a great chance to get to know Pastor Mel a little better. Please come and meet her and hear the story of the book of Daniel.

*If you have any questions please contact the church at 361-729-1659.*

## **Coastal Bend Emmaus**



**Renewing Christian Disciples, Strengthening Local Churches**

August 3<sup>rd</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup> there is a Women's Walk to Emmaus. The walk will be at the PAX Corpus Christi Retreat Center. Currently our church only has one pilgrim signed up for the walk. I know there are a lot more ladies that have expressed interest in going. Please see me if you'd like some more information or an application.

Let me take a moment to answer a few questions...

Although the walk is scheduled for August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, you should only miss one day of work. That is, Friday the 4<sup>th</sup>. The Walk will start on Thursday evening and will conclude Sunday afternoon. You will only be away from home for 3 nights.

The Walk to Emmaus is about worship. You will Laugh, Sing, Shout and maybe even cry a little as you build your relationship with Christ.

Everyone gets something different out of the Walk. It doesn't matter where you are in your faith. The Walk to Emmaus is designed for everyone from the newest follower of Jesus to Clergy that have never attended. There is always a place for you.

I can tell you that when I took my Walk to Emmaus, I was already firmly rooted in my faith. I learned just how much deeper my relationship with God could become. Take the Walk to Emmaus. You will be glad you did.

De Colores,

Paul

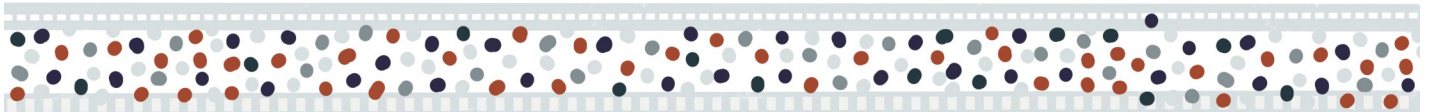


**Corpus Christi Hooks  
versus  
Frisco Roughriders**

**Friday, August 11th  
Game Time 7:05 pm  
Fireworks after the game!**

Tickets: \$10 each (Field Reserved Seats)  
(If we have a group of at least 20 people;  
otherwise \$18 each)

Sign up at the Reception Desk  
(We have 13 people signed up so far)  
*Payment due before tickets are ordered*



**Casting Crowns  
Concert**

**Grammy Award Winner**

**Multi-Platinum Christian Band**

**Sunday, October 22nd**

**7:00 pm**

**American Bank Center**

**Ticket Prices  
Start at \$49 each**



# MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



## United Methodist Men

**August 1st**

7:30 am ~ Bistro

Faith, Food & Fellowship

Contact Ed Hegen for more information



### Wednesday Rehearsals

Praise Band 5:30 pm  
Choir is on Summer Break  
until August 2nd

### Be part of the ExErCiZe craze!

#### Seniorcize Exercise Class

Tuesdays - 10:00 am  
And  
Thursdays - 10:00am

ED #13 & #14  
Instructor: Maggie Allen

Bring small hand weights



### Study Opportunities at FUMC-R

#### In person:

Cross Talk Sunday School Class  
New Sunday School Class

Disciple 2  
Disciple 4  
Lively Bible Study

Women in the Word Summer  
Series—July 12th & 26th

# FUMC Rockport-July 2023

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays:

7.05 Honey Shepherd  
7.05 Samuel L Spears  
7.06 Mary Rusk  
7.08 Ted Norland  
7.09 Dottie Bennett  
7.09 Jama Brandon  
7.09 Jane Doss Briggs  
7.10 Gail Hanson  
7.11 Carita Gould  
7.13 Paula Barre

### Anniversaries:

7.01 Rusty & Jennifer Day  
7.04 Max & Paulette Kluge Jr  
7.06 Mike & Betsy Pfister  
7.12 Nick & Kaitlyn Jamison  
7.13 Gary & Kay Stone  
7.18 Herb & Jan Sutter  
7.19 Richard & Carol Pifer  
7.26 Jim & Ann Schick  
7.30 Steve & Beverly Johnson



# FUMC Rockport-July 2023

## Giving for His Glory

### MAY 2023 FINANCE

#### Church

*Giving:	\$ 23,980.71
Castaway's:	\$ 10,000.00
Total Income:	\$ 33,980.71
Total Expenses	\$ 49,807.72

**APR Net Income(Loss) -\$15,528.01**

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

#### First Learning Tree

Income/Tuition	\$106,399.65
Regular Expenses	\$126,491.66

Grant Applied  
**Apr Net Income(Loss) -\$20,092.01**

#### Church & FLT Combined through May!

**Year-to-date Net Income(Loss) -\$69,143.04**

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

#### May 2023

Sales Total \$ 14,524.28

Admin Fee to Castaways -\$ 2,199.23

**Total deposit to FUMC \$ 12,325.05**

These funds were distributed as follows:

**\$10,000.00 to the FUMC General Fund**  
**\$0.00 to the Castaways Volunteers Mission Fund**  
**\$2,325.05 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	100.00
March	UMCOR Relief Fund	824.00
April	FUMC Rockport Emergency Assistance Fund	1,100.00
May	Native American Ministries Month	140.00
June	Peace with Justice Sunday	0.00
July	Undie Sunday	0.00
August	Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans	0.00
September	UM Student Day	0.00
October	World Communion	0.00
November	Harvest Sunday (Hunger)	0.00
December	UM Children's Home	0.00

### BENEVOLENT BUCKET—JULY 2023

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





# FUMC Rockport-July 2023

**AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 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)

## **Norland Notes**

To God be the glory for the great things He has done for Ted in the past few days. We are on day six of our what I like to call our secret mission.

Please understand if I am unable to respond quickly to your messages. God is busy working miracles for Ted. My job is to hold his hand and reassure him how much he is loved. To help Ted, I send out a list of specifics to pray for each day. Today we are asking God for a successful weaning from the sedation, no infections and removal of the breathing tube. We ask that you pray with us for these things.

Many of you want to visit Ted, but that is not allowed due to a high risk of infections. He will be in ICU for the foreseeable future according to his amazing medical team.

As difficult as it is for an old English teacher to say, there are truly no words to express our gratitude for the prayers and positive thoughts you are sending, plus all the help you've given us. We love and adore our church family, and you are the fulfillment of God's command to love our neighbors. Thank you so much for everything you are doing and will continue to do. I will update as I am able. Please keep those prayers coming our way.

Blessing to all of you,

Kathy Norland (Ted, Trax and Katie too!)

## **First United Methodist—Rockport Church Staff**

### **Pastor Melissa Lind**

Pastor  
[pastor@fumcrockport.org](mailto:pastor@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)

### **Patty Impens**

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

### **Paul Klemm**

Director of Music & Facilities  
[music@fumcrockport.org](mailto:music@fumcrockport.org)

### **Geralyn Matejcek**

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

### **Kathy Norland**

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

### **Ted Norland**

IT Manager  
[it.manager@fumcrockport.org](mailto:it.manager@fumcrockport.org)

### **Paul Villarreal**

Accompanist

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE



### SUNDAYS:

- 9:15 am Cross Talk Sunday School - Adult Class
- 9:15 am New Sunday School—Adult Class
- 10:45am Traditional Worship Service -  
Communion Weekly
- 6:00pm Living Water Worship (Spanish)



Serving the Rockport Community since 1870

- [www.fumcrockport.org/worship](http://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.*

### PRAYER:

Prayer requests can be sent to [www.fumcrockport.org/prayer](http://www.fumcrockport.org/prayer)

### SMALL GROUP AND BIBLE STUDIES:

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

New Sunday School Class, 9:15 am, FH 2

**Tue:** Disciple #2 with Stephanie Clark, 1:00-2:30 pm, Rec Room

**Wed:** Women In the Word Bible Study with Donna Hyde, Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00 pm, FH 2 & 3  
Lively Bible Study, 4:30 pm, FH 3

**Thu:** Disciple #4 with Richard Hyde, 1:00 pm, Banner Room



### GIVING:

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

*For the latest updates, check our website at [fumcrockport.org](http://fumcrockport.org)*



FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

*of Rockport*

Always Growing in Christ

## July 2023 Newsletter

### WORSHIP SERVICES:

9:00am	Contemporary Worship Service (Resumes in Sept)
9:15am	Cross Talk - Adult Sunday School
9:15am	New Sunday School Class
10:45am	Worship
6:00pm	Living Water Spanish Worship

***COME JOIN US!***

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