

February 2024 Newsletter



Worshipping with the Rockport Community since 1870

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
of Rockport

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www.facebook.com/fumcrockport

Hafa Adai and greetings from Guam,

What a joy it is to be able to serve the people of Guam. I love mission work and mission trips! The work is hard but so rewarding and this trip to Guam has been my favorite mission trip so far. Guam is one of the most beautiful places I have ever been. I have found the Chamorro people to be the most gracious, humble, and hospital people and the culture and history to be fascinating. There are so many things to do here in Guam! We are enjoying the opportunity to snorkel, hike, sight see, and eat some amazing food.

I miss my time with you in Rockport but feel so blessed to be able to serve God's people of Guam and experience this beautiful inland that God has created. I want to thank you for giving me this opportunity! I can't wait to share with you my amazing experience upon my return.

Adios,
Pastor Mel



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First United Methodist Church of Rockport
FUMC Phone No. 361.729.1659

Rev Melissa Lind, Senior Pastor.....x2248
Patty Impens, Business Manager.....x2574
Paul Klemm, Director of Music Ministry.....x2577
Alfredo Gonzales, Custodian.....x2501
Madaline Brown, First Learning Tree Director.....x2584
Geraldyn Matejcek, Wesley Health Nurse.....x2578
Sarah Melton, Director of Children and Youth.....x2575



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A Note From our Castaway Volunteers:

Thank you for your generous donations to Castaways over the past few months.

We could surely use more help in sorting and pricing.

Join us between 8:30 and 3:00 on Thursdays as we manage the store and put merchandise out all day as it is priced.

We also need a jewelry and fine item counter monitor from 1:00 to 3:00 on Thursdays.

On Wednesday, January 31 please help in removing items from the store that were stocked in December.

Our area is men's and children's clothing and the outside cage area.



WACKY WEDNESDAY RETURNS!

Please make note that Wacky Wednesday returns in February on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 4:30 pm.

See Ellie Saenz for questions and information on volunteering!



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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MISSION/ CORE VALUES STATEMENT

OUR MISSION

What We Believe God Has Called Us to Do

Helping our children come to **KNOW** Jesus Christ, **GROW** to be like Him, and **GO** serve Him. Specifically, we believe that God has called us, in partnership with parents, to help our children:

- **KNOW** the Word of God deeply and the Lord Jesus personally
- **GROW** to be like Jesus together and
- **GO** serve Him in their homes, church, school and community.

OUR VALUES

How we believe God would have us accomplish the mission

Scripture— We commit to providing a solid biblical foundation for our children through study of God's Word and by challenging our children to think deeply and in context. Specifically, we will equip them to know and explain the authority of God's Word, who God is, and the message of the Gospel.

Prayer— We commit to praying both with and for our children so that they may come to **KNOW** Jesus Christ, **GROW** to be like Him, and **GO** serve Him. We will also teach our children how to pray and to trust God to meet their needs both great and small.

Family—We value learning together as the "family of God". To this end, we currently provide a multi-age learning environment in which children may learn to value one another as members of the body of Christ. We also commit to equipping each family to be involved in their child's spiritual growth.

Respect— We commit to promoting a culture of respect where we recognize that each child, teacher, and parent is a valued member of the body of Christ.

Love— We commit to valuing each child and the unique personalities God has given them and encouraging them to do the same with one another.

Serving Others— We commit to an atmosphere of service where we encourage and equip children to serve others in their families, in their schools, in our church, and in the community.





MUSIC NEWS

Has anyone been able to hear a difference in the choir lately? It's remarkable what several more bodies in the choir does for the sound. Each year we are blessed by some of our Winter Family coming to join us. This year is certainly no exception. Imagine what it would sound like if 10 more members of the congregation joined us? How about you come join us?

Most of the time when I ask someone to join us, I hear, "Oh, you don't want me to sing." "I couldn't carry a tune in a bucket." To those two, and all of other statements like them, I disagree. Everyone can sing. You don't have to sing as if you're with the Metropolitan Opera Company. Just come sing with us.

We have a great bunch of people. We get together one night a week, and we get to sing to the glory of God. What could be better than that? Come join us Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the Choir Room.

Ever wonder if you could make more of a positive difference in our Rockport community? The answer is a resounding "yes." Simply volunteer to help out with Community Table. All it takes is a food handler's license. Joyce Palmer (512.716.9973) and Chris Stumpf (210.268.6855) can answer all of your questions and even share a web sight where you can take the test on line. Passing is guaranteed!

LENT

Lent begins Wednesday Feb 14, 2024

There will be two services:

12:00pm and 6:00pm

Please plan to attend to begin our journey to Easter.



Happy February!

I feel like I blinked and January was over. I am looking forward to warmer weather and more sunshine.

My practice continues to grow. I have a lot of new clients as well as continuing to assist my current clients. I had 73 patient encounters for December and as of January 25, I have 81 encounters.

The Diabetic Education and Support Group continues to meet from 12 pm-1pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Recreation Room. This month we will meet on **February 13th**. Rebecca Lopez, pharmacist from Methodist Healthcare Ministries will bring the education portion of the meeting regarding new diabetic medications and other medication questions. Please spread the word to your friends, neighbors, and family members that are diabetic or pre-diabetic to join us. We have learned a lot from one another and the guest speakers.

Seniorcise chair exercise class is going strong and growing. Classes are held **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10:00 am – 11:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. This is a DVD-led class, and we have a lot of fun! Modifications are available for all fitness levels. After the exercise portion of class, we watch short educational videos related to stroke, high blood pressure, etc. These have been well received and we have learned a lot from them. Please join us and reach out to me if you have any questions.

It looks like February will be a busy month! The Aransas County Health Fair is on the **19th from 10 am-2 pm** at the Fulton Convention Center. I will have a booth and the Health Ministry Team will be helping me give information to the community regarding my practice and what all the church and MHM have to offer. Last year was a lot of fun.

We are also hosting a Food Handler's certification class on **February 27th at 5:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Call the church at 361-729-1659 to sign up for the class. For any questions reach out to Kris Stumpf or myself.

We are having Friends & Family CPR class in **February (possibly 2/16)** for staff, ushers, & class leaders. There will be a 2nd class open to church members scheduled for March. Please let me know if you are interested in attending the 2nd class. The class will last approximately 2 hours and you will learn chest compressions along with how to use the AED.

The Emergency food pantry continues to serve the community daily. It is nice that I have items here to deliver out into the community. I always refer clients to Good Sam's 1st, but I am thankful I can help when Good Sam's is closed. Joyce Palmer, Lore Norsworthy, & Raylene Whitaker are helping me keep it organized and clean. Thank you, ladies, for volunteering.

Please stop by the office soon and I will give you a tour.

I could use hygiene items including liquid body soap, shampoo, deodorant, razors, shave cream, and toothpaste. Also, I can use new or gently used men's shoes. Sizes 9-11 are most requested. Thank you all for keeping the pantry/closet well stocked.

The recipients are extremely gracious and blessed by your generosity.

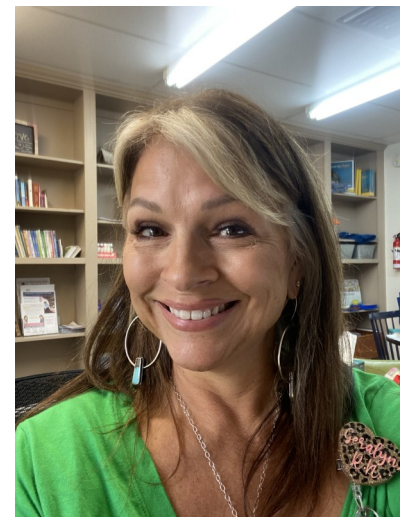
Do you know where the AED is located? Do you know what an AED is? Also, we have received a donation from Carolyn Neal for a LifeVac device. This device is to assist a choking person if the Heimlich maneuver is unsuccessful. Both items are in the hallway by the water fountains near the nursery. Stop by and familiarize yourself with the location of these lifesaving devices.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I am extremely grateful for the monetary donations that have been placed into the Wesley Nurse account through individual donations and the Benevolent Bucket. These help me tremendously to serve the members of our community.

As always, I am 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.

1 Peter 4:10: "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE DEFIBRILLATOR IS?



Wesley Nurse Pantry Clean Up! Thank you Joyce, Raylene and Lore!

BEFORE



AFTER

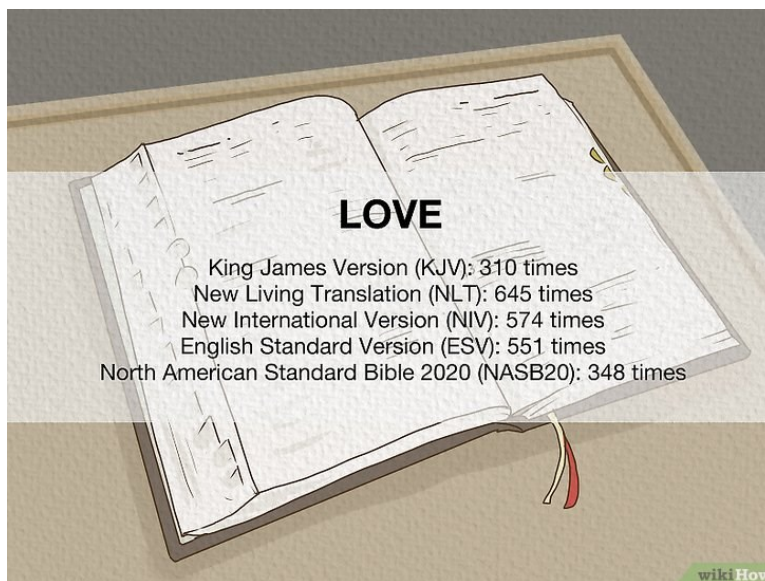


FEBRUARY IS THE LOVE MONTH

How Many Times Is The Word Love in the Bible?

There's no denying that the Bible is chock full of words—over 770,000 of them, in fact, depending on which translation you're reading! With so much text to sift through, it's only fair to wonder just how many of them discuss "love," a simple word that cuts straight to the heart of what it means to be a Christian. We've crunched the numbers and assembled all the data, so you can know everything you could possibly want to know about the frequency of words like "love" in the Bible. We've even thrown in some well-known Bible verses that feature this special word so you can see it in action.

- The word "love" can be found 310 times in the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible, while words like "Lord," "God," and "people" appear over 2,000 times.
- Many Bible verses feature the word "love," including the well-known "Love is patient, love is kind" verse from 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.
- The Bible references different kinds of love, including "agape" (unconditional love) and "philia" (affectionate, platonic love).



What is your favorite "LOVE" verse? Why not share it with someone you love?

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BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES—



BIRTHDAYS

Shawn Carruth (1)
Richard Bianchi (4)
Ellie Saenz (4)
Scarlett Shane (7)
Patsy Phemister (8)
Paulette Kluge (9)
Elle Shane (10)
Barbara Meador (17)

Joyce Palmer (17)
Kenneth Helbling (19)
Cheryl McIntyre (19)
Olive Smith (23)
Art Smith (23)
Alan Barre (25)
Ray Saenz (28)

ANNIVERSARIES

Dan & Kathy Daniels (11)
Arno & Betsy Penshorn (14)
Paul & Sandy Klemm (29)



Coastal Bend Emmaus



Renewing Christian Disciples, Strengthening Local Churches

Men's Walk to Emmaus

I've been talking about this one for a while. On February 1 - 4 we will hold a Men's Walk to

Emmaus at the Queen of Peace Retreat Center in Corpus Christi.

This can be a transformational weekend for you. You'll learn about God's Grace, and so much more through singing, and listening to talks given by your peers. There is great fellowship and food. It's an experience you won't forget.

We have decided to cap the number of pilgrims on this walk at 30. To date we are sitting at 26 pilgrims. If you have ever thought about going on a walk, now's the time. Don't let finances be the reason you don't go. The church will cover the expenses involved.

Ladies, there is a Ladies Walk to Emmaus Scheduled for June. So far we have 5 applications in hand for Pilgrims. Don't wait, sign up today for this walk. This is the only Ladies walk scheduled for 2024.

Please see me if you have any questions at all.

DeColores,
Paul Klemm

February 2024 Newsletter

On February 11th, 2024
after the 10:45am service
the Methodist Men will be serving a
Spaghetti Dinner!

Please Plan To Attend!



YUMMY!



Wednesday Rehearsals

Praise Band 5:30pm

Choir 6:30pm

Seniorize Exercise Class

Mondays - 10:00 am

Tuesdays - 10:00 am

Thursdays - 10:00 am

Fellowship Hall 1

Bring small hand weights

Water and a Friend

United Methodist Men

All males that attend this church are automatically members of this group. ***This means you!*** Welcome.

The Men's Group meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall. We enjoy sharing a light breakfast (unless someone contributes a hearty breakfast. LOL). There are many roles that men play in the church. We want to increase our presence and ignite our fellowship within the church and the outside community. **We are Proud to be Methodists.** Let's be visible and active.

Small Group Study Opportunities

In person:

Sunday

Cross Talk

Truth Seekers

Children & Youth

Monday

Disciple 1

Disciple 3

Wednesday

Lively Bible Study

Women in the Word

Thursday

The Thursday Disciple Group

Online:

Bible in One Year

App by Nicky Gumbel



Calling All Rockport UMC Chili-Heads!! 12th (Kinda Sorta) Annual Chili Cook Off!!!

Sunday, 25 February 2024

Fellowship Chili Meal following Second Service.

Entries must arrive already heated up!

Entries must be turned in to the kitchen NLT 10:15 to be judged
Judging Categories for our Chili Cook Off:

**REAL (No Bean) Chili
Chili with Beans
Hottest/Spiciest Chili
Methodist Meek and Mild Chili
Non-Traditional Chili**

We have a team of well qualified, experienced judges already lined up. Judging will be during second service. Winners announced during the Chili Dinner. Compete for Bragging Rights!! Perfect your Chili recipe now!! Give your Chili a Fun Name!! You could be a BIG winner!!

If you are not a Chili-Head/Chili Chef, please bring a dessert to share. The church will provide drinks, chips, rice, and cornbread. Western wear- boots, jeans and hats- is encouraged! Let your Texas Chili Lights Shine!! Invite your friends and neighbors!!

Look for more information and sign-up sheets on the Hospitality Desk in the Narthex.

10 Things You Didn't Know About Valentine's Day

1. Bishop Valentine went against Emperor Claudius II's wishes & did secret wedding ceremonies. For this, he was jailed & executed.



In the mid-19th century, people used the holiday as an opportunity to tell unwanted suitors to get lost. These were called "Vinegar Valentines".

2.

3. The holiday became more romanticized through the works of Chaucer & Shakespeare, and Feb. 14 was officially declared St. Valentine's Day.



In 1913, Hallmark Cards of Kansas City, Missouri, began mass producing valentines.

4.

5. Richard Cadbury produced the first box of chocolates for Valentine's Day in the late 1800s.



More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day.

6.

7. \$19.7 billion: Total amount that will be spent on Valentine's Day gifts.



\$681 million of that will be spent on pets!

8.

9. In addition to the U.S., Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, United Kingdom, France, Australia, Denmark & Italy.



Perhaps you'd prefer the way Finland does it: There, Valentine's Day is called Ystävänpäivä, which translates into "Friend's day".

10.

Giving for His Glory

DECEMBER 2023 FINANCE

Church

*Giving:	\$ 34,906.04
Castaway's:	\$ 5,252.51
Total Income:	\$ 40,158.55
Total Expenses	-\$ 37,155.78
Dec Net Income(Loss)	\$ 3002.77

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

First Learning Tree

Income/Tuition	\$94,042.59
Regular Expenses	-\$87,536.29
Grant Applied	\$56,077.95
Dec Net Income(Loss)	\$62,584.25

Church & FLT Combined through December Year-to-date Net Income(Loss) **-739.46**

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!

December 2023

Sales Total	\$ 10,160.11
Admin Fee to Castaways	-\$ 3,594.47
Total deposit to FUMC	\$ 6,565.64

These funds were distributed as follows:

\$5,252.51 to the FUMC General Fund
\$1,313.13 to the Castaways Volunteers Mission Fund
\$ 0.00 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	140.00
July	Undie Sunday	3,175.05
August	Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans	210.00
September	UM Student Day	140.00
October	World Communion	20.00
November	Harvest Sunday (Hunger)	0.00
December	UM Children's Home	310.00





WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS:

- 8:00am Contemporary Worship Service—Communion Every Sunday
- 9:15am Small Group Studies
- 10:45am Traditional Worship Service - Communion Monthly on First Sundays



Serving the Rockport Community since 1870

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

PRAYER:

- PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to www.fumcrookport.org/prayer

SMALL GROUP AND BIBLE STUDIES:

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

Truth Seekers 9:15am, FH 1

Children & Youth 9:15, Classroom next to Nursery

Mon: Disciple #1 with Maggie Allen, 10:00am Banner Room

Disciple #2 with Stephanie Clark, 1:00-3:00pm, Rec Room - Resumes Feb 12

Wed: Women In the Word Bible Study Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00pm, FH 2 & 3, Resumes Feb 14

Lively Bible Study, 4:30 pm, FH 2

Thu: The Thursday Disciple Group 1:00 pm, Banner Room—Resumes Feb 15

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



GIVING:

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

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MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15TH

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

HIRING

Someone who...

- LOVES JESUS
- LOVES CHILDREN
- MOTIVATED
- 18+ YEARS OLD

EMAIL
CHILDRENANDYOUTH
@FUMCROCKPORT.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION



Spring is Coming!



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