

Pastor Ponderings - February 2019

Wondering Where God is Working (& How)

Friends,

Sinton FUMC finds herself in a new world. We have begun conversation about “What’s Next?” While we may not know the vision, God does, and I urge you to spend time in earnest prayer seeking direction for our church and community. When we met informally in December, several options were presented for study. These are by no means the only potential paths for being the Body of Christ. Some options needing prayer and research were:

1. Reducing the pastor’s support to a less than full-time appointment at Sinton
2. Requesting to combine to a 2 or 3 pt charge with other local Methodist Churches
3. Exploring how we can tap into funds at the Texas Methodist Foundation
4. Exploring the sale of the fenced lot behind the church
5. Exploring the idea of joining with other “like-minded” churches in Sinton and forming a “federated” church similar to Faith United in Woodsboro.

I just completed the Annual Report and want to share some great statistics about our ministries. We reached 2520 people in ministry during the year. This includes all the health ministries, the Pumpkin Patch, VBS, backpacks, food pantry support and the estimated number of families assisted by disaster recovery volunteers who stayed in our Volunteer Village. We provided a total of about 5300 nights in lodging for mission teams. Giving was up from \$107,000 to \$143,000, so we dipped into our savings far less than in 2017. Average worship attendance is 40. And we received 2 members through Profession of Faith & baptized 2 children!

Our church is not dead, nor are we in an immediate desperate financial situation. I want to emphasize that we are simply attempting to be good stewards of our resources and look to the future. PLEASE STOP TELLING FRIENDS THAT WE ARE CLOSE TO CLOSING DOWN! It’s not true!!! We know, however, that without substantial changes, the congregation cannot sustain a \$165,000 budget. Our Bishop has quoted studies many times that say a church needs an average of 125 people in worship to be able to afford an Elder. We’ll be meeting on February 17 after church for another informational only meeting. The only item of Business will be to adopt the 2019 Budget. All members are encouraged to come and learn more.

In the meantime, the Nominating Committee is still seeking a someone to serve as Council Chair. We intend to meet alternate months for regular meetings. The primary responsibility

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is to conduct meetings in a way that helps the council plan and implement our mission and ministries. If God lays it on your heart to offer your time and gift to serve as Council Chair, please contact me.

I urge everyone to attend the Community Connections public meeting at Butter Churn on Feb. 26th at 6 p.m. They are moving to provide a faith-based medical clinic and wellness center in Sinton. Perhaps, this is one way of 'being church' in our future.

Please pray for the United Methodist Church as the Special Session of General Conference gathers in St. Louis Feb. 23 – 26 to take up recommendations from the Council of Bishops "Way Forward Commission" concerning human sexuality (LGBTQ) issues and our official stance. I will be attending as an observer for my continuing education requirements.

As always, please call, text or email me if you have a pastoral care need. I can be reached at beth.tatum@yahoo.com, or 713-724-8873. I ask for your continued prayers & look forward to seeing each of you soon!

In Jesus' Joy & Justice,



Pastor Beth

Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

- 1 Thess 5:16-18

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

1/6	\$3,523
1/13	\$2,215
1/20	\$2,907
<u>1/27</u>	<u>\$1,078</u>
MTD	\$9,723

ATTENDANCE JANUARY 2019

JAN 6:	Worship -32 Sunday School-20
JAN 13:	Worship - 39 Sunday School- 16
JAN 20:	Worship – 50 Sunday School- 24
JAN 27:	Worship - 36 Sunday School- 15
AVE:	Worship – 39 (Thanks to NOMADS) Sunday School - 19



Prayer List:

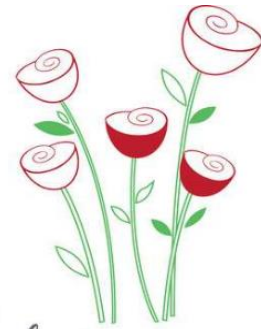
- **Kay Drawe**
- **Lisa Willis**
- **Nancy McLean**
- **Kelly Lynch**
- **Maxie Houser**
- **Jimmie Guthrie**
- **Karen Urban**
- Frances Baen
- Chase Marshall
- Mary Hunt (Anna's Mother)
- Karen Spiegel
- Carmen Benivedez
- Sliva Family
- Rebecca Donnelly
- Jaxxon (In Hospice)
- Laynie Houser
- Jeanette Hamilton
- Lupe Casanova
- Mallory & Mason Mayfield
- Lesley Mayfield
- Kason Black
- Ronda Threadgill
- Jackie Williams
- Tenley Threadgill
- Karen Urban
- Emma & David Hoffman
- Adam Hoffman
- Robert West
- Richard Lampert
- Ryan Shazer
- Greg Smith
- Jimmy Mauch
- Tom Allen

Military:

- Wesley Hartung
- Cameron Collier
- Kevin Campbell
- Jakob Unruh
- Tyler Scotten
- Brianna Monreal
- Chad Hutchins

Law Enforcement Personnel:

- Sinton Community
- United States
- Workers in Florida



In loving memory of

**January Memorials:
In Memory of Craig Chafin
By Robert & Susan Hunt**

Opportunities for Service

Money Counters for 2019:

Contact Bonnie Hartung for more information.
Sandra Coates, Anna Franklin, Linda Cox,
Kathy Wheeler & Bonnie Hartung

Greeter for February: Sandra Coates

Lay Readers:

- 2/3 Dana Allen
- 2/10 Denise Cluiss
- 2/17 Nina DuBose
- 2/24 Patrick Houser

Hospitality Refreshments

- 2/3 – Men's Group
- 2/10 Lee Hutchins
- 2/17 Denise Cluiss
- 2/24 Kerry DuBose



District Women's Retreat
February 8-10, 2019
Zephyr Encampment in Sandia,
TX

Tending the Heart

Keynote Speaker Kara Oliver
Registration/ Information Pamphlets
in the Narthex



Upcoming Events At

Zephyr

Tending the Heart Retreat February 8th -10th

UMYF Midwinter February 15th -17th

LOVE

Did you Know?

The word "love" appears 310 times in the King James Bible, 348 times in the New American Standard Bible, 551 times in the New International Version and 538 times in the New Revised Standard Version.

Food Handler Certification Classes

Offered by the San Patricio County Department of Health
313 N. Rachel Street
(across from the Sherriff's Dept)

FEBRUARY 18th at 6:15PM

The fee is \$5.00, payable at the time of the class.

**All church members certifications currently
on file are expired.**

Please plan to attend the course and give the church office a copy of the certification to keep on file.



FOOD SAFETY

Event is Free & Open to Public

Health Screenings

Business vendors

Health Information

Cooking Demonstration

Free Breakfast

Door Prizes

Sweet Heart Breakfast

February 14, 2019
8:30am - 10:30am
First United Methodist Church
405 West Sinton Street
Sinton, Texas 78387

Guest Speaker: Dr. Tara Burgess, DDS
Sinton Dental & Orthodontics
"Healthy Mouth ♥ Happy Heart"

Doors open at 8:00am
Lite Breakfast served at 8:30am

Free Health Screenings - fasting preferred

Sponsored by
First United Methodist Church Health Committee &
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension-San Patricio County

Contact information:
Kerry DuBose, RN, BSN, CCM
Wesley Nurse
361-364-2824 / kdubose@mhm.org
or
Kathy Farrow, MS, CFCS
County Extension Agent
Family and Community Health
361-587-3400 / k-farrow@tamu.edu

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION



Sweetheart's Dinner



\$17 per person
Your choice of 2 entrees, salad bar,
mashed potatoes, green beans,
dessert and drink.

Wednesday,
February 13, 2019
Back Street Cafe
5:30 pm
Silent Auction Items
for Youth Mission Trip 2020
Everyone welcome!
Please RSVP to Kathy Vanecek or
Church Office
Dutch Treat, by Sun. Feb 8

Nourish the Soul

UNSHAKEABLE LOVE DAILY READING PLAN

Reading Scripture and meditating in your quiet time is a way to hear God's Voice.
The Scriptures listed below are a starting point to help you understand
God's love as He transforms your heart and nourishes your soul.

Day 1	1 John 3:1
Day 2	Psalms 107:8
Day 3	Colossians 3:14
Day 4	1 Peter 4:8
Day 5	Proverbs 20:6
Day 6	1 John 3:18
Day 7	Romans 13:8-10
Day 8	Deuteronomy 7:9
Day 9	1 John 4:16-18
Day 10	Lamentations 3:22-24
Day 11	2 John 1:6
Day 12	Psalms 85:7
Day 13	1 Corinthians 13:13
Day 14	Romans 13:8
Day 15	John 3:16
Day 16	Romans 5:8
Day 17	Luke 6:35
Day 18	1 John 4:7
Day 19	Psalms 143:8
Day 20	John 15:9-10
Day 21	Proverbs 17:17
Day 22	1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Psalms 90:14

*Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.*

Day 23	Mark 12:29-31
Day 24	John 15:13
Day 25	1 Corinthians 3:1-3
Day 26	Ephesians 2:4-5
Day 27	Luke 6:27-31
Day 28	Ephesians 4:2-3
Day 29	1 Corinthians 16:14
Day 30	1 John 4:21



Note to Self

"Love yourself. It is important to stay positive
because beauty comes from the inside out."

~ Jenn Procke

February

2019

First United Methodist Church Sinton

1 John 4:12

No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Happy Birthday Jerry Vanecek	2
3 Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm	4	5	6	7 Happy Anniversary Jerry & Kathy Vanecek	8	9
10	11 UMW – 2:30	12	13 Sweetheart Dinner & Silent Auction Benefiting the Youth @ Back Street Café 5:30 pm Dutch Treat	14 Sweetheart Breakfast 8:30-10:30	15 UMYF Midwinter @ Zephyr	16 UMYF Midwinter @ Zephyr Happy Birthday Kash Wood
17 UMYF Midwinter @ Zephyr Called Church Council	18 Food Handler Class 6:15 pm	19	20	21	22 Pastor Out of Office for Continuing Ed thru 2/27	23 Special Session of UMC General Conference on "Way Forward" in St. Louis – thru 2/26
24	25	26 Community Connection Conversation- Butter Churn 6 pm, RSVP	27	28		



WOW! What a blessing it was to have the Nomads here from Jan. 7- 24! Listed below are all the projects they were able to complete in 12 Days while here. Thanks to Jerry & Kathy Vanecek for coordinating the projects. Thank you to Lynn Houser for coordinating lunches each day and to all who helped.



NOMADS 2019



Community Project
Built ramp for J. Villareal

Church Repairs

Replaced sanctuary ceiling lightbulbs, bulbs outside office door, bulbs in bathrooms, bulbs/ballasts of fluorescent light in office. Replaced 3 uncovered light fixtures in entryway Replaced 3 ballasts in Fellowship Hall/hallway
 Replaced sanctuary fan bulbs with dimmable bulbs Replaced hallway lights with bulbs from sanctuary fan lights
 Chipped & painted wall in room 4 Chipped & painted wall in room 5, Chipped & painted wall in hallway to side entrance Painted touchup on ceiling in room 1.
 Painted ceiling tiles outside office door
 Dug out trees from planters, Trimmed trees in front of church, Trimmed palm tree corner
 Disassembled then stored manger in craft/flower room
 Power washed planters/wall/sign at front of church
 Installed weather strip on bottom main sanctuary doors
 Repaired electrical outlet between closets in Fellowship Hall
 Moved camera at side entrance to view more area Checked water heater / cabinets in bathrooms for damage
 Window for room 8 caulked.
 Shampooed craft/flower room carpet/clean window molding
 Replaced craft/flower room ceiling tiles, Hung wreathes in flower room
 Repaired broken pew in Fellowship Hall
 Replaced deadlock on metal door
 Washed & Stained emergency outside stair case
 Repaired accordion door between sanctuary/Fellowship Hall
 Stretched carpet in Narthex
 Shampooed narthex carpet, Shampooed nurse's office carpet, Shampooed children's room carpet. Shampooed preschool room carpet. Shampooed library carpet.
 Replaced emergency escape upstairs door.
 Installed shelf for nurse's router
 Covered floor in Counselor room with carpet
 Tiles below bench in hallway glued down Replaced 2 set of blinds in room 5
 Replaced missing lights in kitchen & all light covers, Replaced all Fellowship Hall grid light covers, Replace bulb outside side entrance. Replaced kitchen grid light covers

Repaired toilet flush lever, Replaced two faucets & a toilet seat in bathrooms

Cleaned marquee sign

Repaired Advent candle holder

Took donated diapers to WIC

Clean and straighten "Nomads" closet in room 2

Clean and straighten shed below wood stairs

Parsonage

Installed bathtub ADA bar

Replaced locks/door knobs on front, back. Replaced utility room door and door knobs

Caulked breakfast window

Replaced utility room sink faucet & two shut off valves

Replaced 4 fence posts. Replaced 11 cedar picket fence boards

Installed weather stripping on front & back storm doors Replaced master bathroom light

Installed transition piece between carpet/laminate floor

Landscaped backyard, Trimmed trees / bushes, Picked up dog doo land mines, Repaired sprinkler heads

Installed rain gutters on front of house, Power washed exterior

Installed brick steps at side gate and under gutter drain

Replaced a few light bulbs

Fixed front and back screen doors

Community Connections is Coming!

A new non-profit founded in Sinton to bring healing to our community. Our very own Kerry Dubose, is leading the effort to provide wellness resources and support to the citizens of San Patricio county.

This is a ministry of healing: To empower the citizens of San Patricio County with the opportunity to achieve and maintain healthy lifestyles through health education, medically -supervised programs and resources, and facilities for spiritual, social, and physical activities.

Come support the Vision. Let FUMC Sinton be known as the church who cares about the abundant life. Meal sponsored by Methodist Healthcare Ministries.

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 6pm, Butter Churn, RSVP required.

Online Registration info : <https://goo.gl/fPsHKa>

For more information: Phone: 361.364.2824 E -mail: KDubose@mh.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
P. O. Box 276
Sinton, Texas 78387



Regular Activities

Christian Men's Fellowship: 1st Sunday, 8:30 am

Exercise Group: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10:00 am

Health & Wellness Support Group: Monday, 6:15 pm

Health Committee: 2nd Wednesday, 6:30 pm

RX Program: By Appointment (Diana Jimenz, 512-470-6222)

Sunday Worship Service: Every Sunday, 10:00 am

Sunday School for Adults & Children: Every Sunday, 9:00 am

United Methodist Women: 2nd Monday, 2:30 pm

United Methodist Youth Group: Every Wednesday, 6:30 pm

Walk & Get Fit: Monday-Thursday, 5:30 pm

Wesley Counselor: Thursday, 9 am-5 pm (by appointment Erica Garcia 658-9708)

Wesley Nurse Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, 8 am-6:30, Friday, 9 -11am