

The Messenger

December 20, 2017

Merry Christmas From All of the Staff

Rev. Jon Kaufman
Rev. Ben Barlow
Lori Cripple
Alice Lonthair
Melissa McLellan
Mandy Long
Jane Cockrell
Tammy Clinkscales
Perri Haley
Alissa Draime
Allyson Tilley
Jessica Johnson
Amber Johnson



Upcoming Events

Shine On...



Tammy Clinkscales and Perri Haley for all their hard work!

Key Cards

Please be sure to update your key cards as they will expire at the end of the year.



Christmas Eve - December 24th Schedule All Are Welcome

10:00 a.m. Sanctuary and The Well services

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Lunch in Christian Life Center

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight service (Well band and children's choir)

6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight service (Chancel choir)

Community Outreach Christmas Eve Luncheon

Long Beach First United Methodist Church will be hosting its 8th annual community-wide Christmas Eve luncheon. Lunch will be served from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Christian Life



Center. **All are welcome and please bring a dish to share.** If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Amanda Wood via email, aeswood@gmail.com or phone, 228-547-9514.

2018 Annual Leadership Training for the Seashore District

Join us on Sunday, January 7th from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Trinity UMC located at 5007 Lawson Ave in Gulfport for our annual leadership training workshops. Workshops to be offered are:

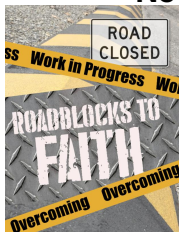
PPRC/Clergy Excellence - Rev. Dr. Larry Hilliard
Finance - Mr. David Stotts
Lay Leader - Mrs. Vera Thomas
Trustees - Mr. Ed Jones
Safe Sanctuaries - Rev. Vickie White
Edinting Membership roles - Rev. Dayna Goff

Open Table Ministry

Open Table Ministry met at Feed My Sheep on Saturday, December 9th. 100 meals were provided to 75 people and the rest was given as seconds, 4 of those were children. We gave out 21 blessing bags, 30 treat bags given by the Youth Group from Gulf Coast Church. We had an abundance of clothes, shoes, hats, undergarments, belts, blankets, towels and tarps and canvas chairs. 100 cloth carry bags were donated by Terri Omehmichen through her husband's job. We served 4 hams (ministry funds), one donated by Gulf Coast Church, baked beans (Glady McCardle), macaroni and cheese (Terri Oehmichen and Christy Welch), fruit salad (Linda and Edwin Chambers), peach cobbler (Dale and Tennin Wolfe), mashed potatoes (John and Barbara Fales), stuffed eggs (Perri and Aiden Haley), 20 Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and rolls (Keelia, Charlie, Rene Bienemy), Cranberry relish (Carolyn and William Owen), Rice casserole (Teri Rigelsberger and Maura Basic), Cookies (Maura Basic and Gulf Coast Church), Corn (Shirley and Bill Gay), water (Ministry funds).

Volunteers included Christy Welch, Dale Wolfe, Terri Oehmichen, Teri Rigelsberger, Maura Basic, Ivan Basic, Terry and Glenda Hull, Keelia Bienemy, Charlie Bienemy, Rene Bienemy, Jennice Chandler, Charlotte Elisburg, Donnie Stewart, Sandra Wrinkler, Perri and Aiden Haley, Teresa Burton, Shirley Gay, Jeanie and Andrew Woodall.

New Sermon Series starting January 7th Main Campus



Jesus invites us on a journey to begin, to grow, and to mature in faith. But along the way we will encounter roadblocks to overcome. Join us in worship as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus and his disciples in the gospels of Mark and John as they encounter and overcome Roadblocks to Faith.

January 7 - Overcoming the Roadblock of Sin
January 14 - Overcoming the Roadblock of Judging Others
January 21 - Overcoming the Roadblock of Judging Ourselves
January 28 - Overcoming the Roadblock of Evil
February 4 - Overcoming the Roadblock of Loneliness
February 11 - Strategies for Overcoming Roadblocks of Faith

Online Giving

Just a reminder, you can go to our website at fumclb.org and click on the Online Giving tab to make giving quick and easy.

Weekly Updates and Events

Prayer Concerns...

PC & Dee Havens, Pat & James Holfield, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Chrissy Edwards, Jackie Branch, Jan Flynn, Sandra Gibson, Randal Guthrie, Diane Saul, Barbara Ballanco, Kathy Reynolds, Cory Miller, John Harrison Doucet, Lois Jones, Barbara Barlow, Susan Molesworth, Jeremy Smith, Janis Slade, Rev. Love Loftis, Patrick Kirkland, Carl & Doris Flethrich, Rev. Ron & Connie Durham, Carol Hill, Shayla Hosey, Pat Newcomb, Bonnie Long, Jeri Allen, Karen Samuelson, Ricky Bullock, Butch Borzik, Dawn McGinn, Wayne Eason, Shorty Haulk, Peter Psikogios, Marilyn Fayard, Diane Johnson, Ann Armstrong, Flora Holifield, Yvonne Lutenbacher, Roy Burke, Lyla Dubuisson, Kristy Green, Penny Denmark, Dawn Rhoades, Martha Hart, Morgan Haley, Norma Napier, & Mary Kerg.

In Sympathy...

We would like to express our Christian love and sympathy to Hal Hilton and family at the death of his mother, Dorothy Hilton.

In Memory...

A donation was given in memory of H. R. Anderson by Richard and Grace Gingles.

Donations were given in memory of Linda Sample by Richard & Grace Gingles, Claudia Cuevas, Donna Joplin, Jim & Rebecca Collins, Jim & Diane Miller, and UMW Circle 1.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 24th

10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship

10:00 a.m. Worship @ The Well - Fleming Auditorium USM

11:00 a.m. Christmas Eve Luncheon in the Christian Life Center (CLC)

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Well Band and Children's Choir)

6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Chancel Choir)

Monday, December 25th

Merry Christmas!

Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26th

Office Closed

Wednesday, December 27th

Office Closed

Thursday, December 28th

Office Closes at Noon

Friday, December 29th

Office Closes at Noon

Sunday, December 31st

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship

11:00 a.m. Worship @ The Well - Fleming Auditorium USM

Monday, January 1st

Happy New Year!

Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2nd

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC

Sundays Sermons and Scriptures

Main Campus Sanctuary
Rev. Jon Kaufman - Preacher



December 24th
Series: Unwrapping the Gifts of Christmas "Gift of Love"
1 John 4:7-12

December 31st - Rev. Ron Durham
"All In the Family"
Luke 2:22-40

The Well USM Fleming Auditorium
Rev. Ben Barlow - Preacher

December 24th

Series: Songs of Christmas
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
John 1

December 31st - Lori Cripple
Series: Songs of Christmas
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"



Christmas Eve - December 24th Schedule

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Busy. Not the word I wanted to write about this week but it's the word that came to mind. This season of Christmas is supposed to be about all being calm and bright, but at times it doesn't feel that way. I'm busy thinking about and preparing gifts to give. I think about the Christmas parties that we have and the special worship services for which we are preparing. I think about the things that I need to (maybe more of a want to) get done before the end of the year. I think about the Dr. visits to make and then there is the food and the goodies to prepare (but don't tell the Dr. about the goodies please).

When I think about the busy, it's tempting to feel overwhelmed but that's when I remember the one that Christmas is all about - Jesus. It's amazing how Jesus can transform all the busy, not making it go away, but putting it into perspective. The reality is that any season, any week, can become busy which is not a bad thing in and of itself. But the danger is that we lose the important things of life amidst the business. So this Christmas, if you experience the business and find yourself yearning for calm, then remember Jesus who invited us to trust the loving Father, to drink from the cup of grace when things don't go the way you planned, and to hear the angels again when they sang to the shepherds - "a savior has been born for you, Christ the Lord." Merry Christmas! Jon

First United Methodist Church
208 Pine Street
Corner of Church Ave. and Pine Street
(228) 863-9619
Church email: fumclb@cableone.net

Church Website
www.fumclb.org

The Well Website
www.thewellongbeach.org

Rev. Jon Kaufman, Senior Pastor
662-279-4993
Email address: jon.kaufman@fumclb.org

Rev. Ben Barlow, Associate Pastor
228-806-2787
email address: ben@thewellongbeach.org