



The Messenger

February 22, 2018

Upcoming Events

Shine On...



Grace Gingles and all of her wonderful kitchen helpers that provide a meal and a warm, inviting space for grieving families to be able to visit with each other and friends.

Susan Taylor for the beautiful altar decorations!

Easter Eggs

We are very excited to invite the community to our annual Easter Egg Hunt again this year. In order to prepare, we will begin collecting plastic Easter eggs and candy and other egg stuffers on Sunday, February 18th. We are planning to provide over 4000 eggs this year!



"Senior" Prom sponsored by Children's Ministry

Our children will be hosting a "senior" prom on Friday, March 16th, from 6:00 p.m-8:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center. Children's Ministry is inviting our adult church friends to come to a prom in their honor. This event is designed to allow our kids and older adults some time to interact with each other. Dressing fancy is not at all necessary but could be fun!

Kids will have the opportunity to help serve and entertain but also have some fun by joining in the dancing! If you have a child who would like to participate by serving at the prom, please contact Lori Cripple at (228) 324-3622.

Countdown to the 2018 Sampling Supper on Saturday, March 10

at 6 p.m. at Long Beach FUMC!

There'll be Delicious Food! Entertainment! Prizes! A Silent Auction!
This is a very important fundraiser for the Wesley Foundation campus ministry at USM in Long Beach and MGCCC-JD in Gulfport. Proceeds are vital to maintain a United Methodist presence on these two college campuses.

How You Can Help:

1. Buy a ticket for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students of all ages. Age 4 & younger are free.
2. If you know you won't be able to attend, cash donations are always appreciated.
3. Donate new and nearly new items for the Silent Auction.
4. Volunteer to cook a dish.

Everyone will be voting for **The Church With The Best Cooks** and I know our church has many excellent cooks.

There are only 16 days until this fun event! To purchase tickets, donate a silent auction item, and/or cook a dish call Janis Slade at 209-5268 or e-mail janisslade@aol.com.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to place an Easter Lily in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday in honor or memory of a loved one, pick up an order form located in the lobby and return it to the church office by Friday, March 9th. You may also place it in the offering plate. The cost is \$15.00 for each plant. You may pick up your Easter lily immediately following the 11:00 service.



Older Adult Kindred Spirits (OAKS)



OAKS (Older Adult Kindred Spirits) Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 28th at 11:30 a.m. in the Christian Life Center. The guest speaker is Blake Kaplan from the Sun Herald. He is the Executive Editor and Vice President. Please bring a potluck and join us.

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.

[Online Giving](#)

Weekly Updates and Events

Prayer Concerns...

PC & Dee Havens, Pat & James Holifield, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Chrissy Edwards, Randal Guthrie, Diane Saul, Barbara Ballanco, Kathy Reynolds, Cory Miller, John Harrison Doucet, Lois Jones, Barbara Barlow, Susan Molesworth, Janis Slade, Rev. Love Loftis, Patrick Kirkland, Connie Durham, Shayla Hosey, Pat Newcomb, Ricky Bullock, Dawn McGinn, Wayne Eason, Shorty & Sharon Haulk, Flora Holifield, Rosalie Allely, Dawn Rhoades, Chet Yates, Jo Holyfield, Roman Beets, Morgan Haley, Lyla Dubuisson, Sidney Labrake, Tommy Taylor, Mary Kerg,
& Martha Hart.

In Sympathy...

We would like to express our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of Jackie Branch, who passed away on Tuesday, February 13th.

In Memory...

Donations were given in memory of Ann Armstrong by Donna Joplin, Claudia Cuevas, Tommy & Jamie Carroll, Lewis & Dixie Alexander, Jim & Diane Miller, Gerald & Marilyn Leone, James & Diane Miller, United Methodist Men, and the Sonshiner Sunday school class.

A donation was given in memory of Linda Sample by Gerald and Marilyn Leone.

A donation was given in memory of Dot Hilton by Donna Joplin.

A donation was given in memory of Polly Mincher by Garnie Dubuisson.

A donation was given in memory of Scott Braswell by Lewis and Dixie Alexander.

Donations were given in memory of Jackie Branch by Dick and Mary Kinser and the Aldersgate Sunday school class.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 25th

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
3:30 p.m. Creative Ministries upstairs in Moore Hall (MH)
Youth Return from the Gathering

Monday, February 26th

6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting in the Library
6:30 p.m. Exchange Club Meeting

Tuesday, February 27th

9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Christian Life Center (CLC)

7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

Wednesday, February 28th

11:30 a.m. OAKS (Older Adult Kindred Spirits) Luncheon in the CLC

5:30 p.m. Heart and Soul for Youth

5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Sunday, March 4th

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

3:30 p.m. Creative Ministries upstairs in Moore Hall (MH)

5:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

Tuesday, March 6th

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

7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

Wednesday, March 7th

5:30 p.m. Heart and Soul for Youth

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

Saturday, March 10th

6:00 p.m. Wesley Foundation Sampling Supper in the CLC

Sundays Sermons and Scriptures

Main Campus Sanctuary
Rev. Jon Kaufman - Preacher

February 25th
Series: The Last Day
"In the Garden of Gethsemane"
Mark 14:26-42

March 4th
Series: The Last Day
"Jesus Condemned"
Mark 14:53, 55, 61-72

The Well USM Fleming Auditorium

Rev. Ben Barlow - Preacher

February 25th
Series: Along The Way
"Lazarus Raised from the Dead"
John 11:1-57

March 4th
Series: Along The Way
"Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem"
John 12:1-36



Dear Friends in Christ,

The story of the gospels in the New Testament is the story of God's love toward humanity wanting to be made known in Jesus Christ. The way God chose to show His love was to appear in the form of the Son, in Jesus the Christ. Jesus chose to begin the work of God's loving activity by calling disciples who would become like Jesus and eventually do what Jesus did. So Jesus taught his disciples the kingdom of God, which became for them a way of life.

Matthew's gospel relates to us the parting words of Jesus before he ascended. He told them, "Go and make disciples of all people, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

These words of Jesus inform us of our mission today which is to "Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." This is our mission as a church and for years Long Beach First UMC has lived faithfully into that mission.

But in recent years, as the culture and world has changed around us, we have discovered that the methods of making disciples that were once tried and true no longer make the impact that they once did.

This is why, last summer, I gathered a group together to be asking the question of how we can find new ways of making disciples of Jesus Christ? Through many meetings, much study, and prayer the team envisioned a plan to help Long Beach FUMC focus intently on our mission of making new disciples and helping all of us to grow as a disciple of Jesus.

Therefore, I am inviting you to a gathering time on Sunday March 18th at 3:00 pm in the Christian Life Center so that as leaders, teachers, and disciples of Jesus you will know where we are headed as a church. You are part of this church, the body of Christ at Long Beach FUMC and you are part of what God is doing in our

community to help people to encounter Jesus, to experience the love of Jesus in a community of faith, and to foster transformation in our lives. A question I have been asking is, "what would it look like if the whole church was unified around our mission of making disciples and what would it look like if we all traveled that road together?" I know that for many years God has had a calling on this church to make a difference in the lives of the community and I'm excited for what God is going to do next in our lives together. Praise be to God!

Love in Christ, Jon

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The Well Website
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