



# The Messenger

April 19, 2018

## Upcoming Events

### Shine On...



Jerry Bowlin and Bob Rhoades for the back breaking work of bricking the posts to our new entrance into the Christian Life Center.



## United Methodist Women Activities

### Spring UMW Rummage/Bake Sale

Now is the time to start gathering your "unwanted treasures" for the Spring Sale which will be **Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Christian Life Center and Moore Hall.** All proceeds go to supporting 16 of our local ministries.

**Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** UMM and Volunteers will set-up tables, etc. for Sale at 3:00 pm

Donations may be delivered:

**Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> --Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bring donations to CLC.**

Donations will be sorted and priced from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>–Get ready for sale.** No donations accepted.

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> --Sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Clean-up 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Important Note:

1. Due to environmental regulations for disposing of TV's, we will accept only flat screen TV's and computer monitors, i.e. LED, LCD, and plasma screens.
2. No magazines will be accepted.

**For more information or questions, please contact Joyce St. John at 865-0051 or email [dstjohn788@aol.com](mailto:dstjohn788@aol.com).**



LONG BEACH FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
YOUTH PROGRAM  
*cake auction*  
SUNDAY, APRIL 22ND AT BOTH CAMPUSES  
THE WELL & MAIN CAMPUS CLC  
BID ON A DESSERT & HELP SEND  
OUR YOUTH TO SUMMER CAMP!  
WANT TO PROVIDE A CAKE OR  
DESSERT FOR THE SILENT AUCTION?  
CONTACT SUSAN TAYLOR  
OR ELIZABETH LUKES



### **Vacation Bible School is Coming!**

Get ready to GO FISH at Vacation Bible School this summer! VBS will be July 8th-12th from 5:30-8:00 p.m. We are already signing up volunteers for this incredible week of fun! We have opportunities that range from group leaders to kitchen volunteers. We would like to have all of our volunteers signed up by June so go ahead and mark your calendars and let Lori Cripple know how you would like to serve our kids and our community during this week. For questions about the different opportunities, contact Lori at (228)324-3622 or [lcripple@hotmail.com](mailto:lcripple@hotmail.com).



### **Volunteer Appreciation Lunch**

We love our volunteers! We love the way you serve and give of yourselves and show Jesus to those around you. We want to celebrate the ministry you've accomplished this year by showing our thanks through food! Please join us for lunch on **Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Rich and Carla Haney, 20159 Lovers Lane** in Long Beach. Everything will be provided for you. Please come and enjoy some great food and fellowship!

**Older Adult Kindred Spirits (OAKS)**



The upcoming OAKS meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 25th with registration at 11:30 and our potluck lunch at 11:45. The program this month is being presented by David Reed who is an avid bird watcher. He will talk about and show pictures of the birds commonly seen flying along the shoreline so that you can identify them the next time you head to our beautiful shore. Come and join us for an enjoyable time of food and fellowship.

### Summer Mission Trip Opportunity



This summer in partnership with First United Methodist Church Vidor, TX, our youth ministry will be hosting a week long mission camp in Vidor, TX. This community was devastated last summer due to Hurricane Harvey.

There will be many ways to serve. We will need youth and adult volunteers to help with meals, worship, work sites, and camp logistics. There will be an informational meeting for students, parents, and any adults willing to serve. The camp will take place June 25 - 30. The camp is open to students entering 7th - exiting 12th grade. Cost of the camp for each camper will be \$175. This will cover all meals and t-shirt. Please save these important dates and consider serving with us.

March 21, 2018- Informational Meeting in Heritage Hall @5:30pm  
May 27 - 30, 2018- Planning Trip to Vidor FUMC  
June 21- 25- Camp Set up and Prep Vidor FUMC  
June 25-30- Week of Camp @ Vidor FUMC

### Holy Land Trip

Our church has planned a trip to the Holy Land in Israel for February 13 - 22, 2019. We will explore Jerusalem, Galilee, Bethlehem, Jericho and more. It will be a powerful to walk the ground where Jesus walked. If you are interested, please call the church office for more information at 228-863-9619.



### Online Giving

Just a reminder, you can go to our website at [fumclb.org](http://fumclb.org) and click on the Online Giving tab to make giving quick and easy.

[Online Giving](#)

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## Weekly Updates and Events



PC & Dee Havens, Pat & James Holifield, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Chrissy Edwards, Randal Guthrie, Diane Saul, Barbara Ballanco, Kathy Reynolds, Lois Jones, Barbara Barlow, Susan Molesworth, Janis Slade, Patrick Kirkland, Connie Durham, Shayla Hosey, Pat Newcomb, Ricky Bullock, Dawn McGinn, Wayne Eason, Shorty & Sharon Haulk, Flora Holifield, Dawn Rhoades, Catherine Yates, Jo Holyfield, Tommye Taylor, Louise Ray, Norma Napier, Tina Botte, Mary Kinser, Martha Owen, Anne Ladner, Jim Hamilton, Jeri Hayward, Cynthia Smith, & Martha Hart



Laford Michael Bracewell was baptized on April 1, 2018. He is the son of Chad and Keri Bracewell.



Following Jesus is a big and important step and six of our students are taking that step with the process of confirmation. Join us on April 29th at the 8:30 service at the Main Campus for the confirmation service for Will Davis, Jackson Harris, Aidan Lindsey, Will Long, Mallorie Rishel, and Katelyn Schroeder. There will be a reception for them after worship in the Christian Life Center sponsored by the United Methodist Women where all are invited to greet these students and their families.

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## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, April 22nd

- 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)

### Monday, April 23rd

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class (CLC)
- 6:00 p.m. Exchange Club Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. SPRC Meeting in the Library

### Tuesday, April 24th

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Christian Life Center (CLC)
- 7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

### Wednesday, April 25th

- 11:30 a.m. OAKS Luncheon in the CLC
- 5:30 p.m. Heart and Soul for Youth
- 6:00 p.m. Handbells in the choir room

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

**Thursday, April 26th**

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class (CLC)  
5:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Library

**Sunday, April 29th**

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship  
9:30 a.m. Confirmation Reception in the CLC  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Morning Worship  
11:00 a.m. Worship @ The Well - Fleming Auditorium USM  
12:30 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at Rich and Carla Haney's home  
3:00 p.m. Set-up for UMW Rummage/Bake Sale in CLC and Moore Hall  
3:30 p.m. Creative Ministries upstairs in Moore Hall (MH)  
5:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

**Monday, April 30th**

9:00 a.m. Set-up for UMW Rummage/Bake Sale in CLC and Moore Hall  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in Youth Hall

**Tuesday, May 1st**

9:00 a.m. Set-up for UMW Rummage/Bake Sale in CLC and Moore Hall  
9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC  
7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

**Wednesday, May 2nd**

9:00 a.m. Set-up for UMW Rummage/Bake Sale in CLC and Moore Hall  
5:30 p.m. Heart and Soul for Youth  
6:00 p.m. Handbells in the choir room  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

**Thursday, May 3rd**

9:00 a.m. Set-up for UMW Rummage/Bake Sale in CLC and Moore Hall  
9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in Youth Hall  
5:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study in the Library

**Friday, May 4th**

9:00 a.m. Set-up for UMW Rummage/Bake Sale in CLC and Moore Hall

**Saturday, May 5th**

8:00-1:00 p.m. Spring UMW Rummage/Bake Sale in CLC and Moore Hall  
1-3:00 p.m. Clean-up UMW Rummage/Bake Sale

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## **Sundays Sermons and Scriptures**

Main Campus Sanctuary  
Rev. Jon Kaufman - Preacher

The Well USM Fleming Auditorium  
Rev. Ben Barlow - Preacher

**We have begun a new sermon series at the Main Campus and The Well titled "Growing Disciples". You are invited to join us as we talk about what it means to follow Jesus and grow as His disciple.**

April 22nd  
"A Life Opening To Jesus"  
Matthew 7:7-11

April 29th  
"A Life Obeying Jesus"  
John 15:1-17

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Growth. My family is approaching a date that marks a time of transition for us - our daughter Lauren is graduating from high school in a month. It seems such a short time ago that she was a toddler just beginning in life and now she is growing into a beautiful young woman inside and out.

She has grown from a little girl who needed to be held, fed, clothes changed - who explored the world, discovering new things everyday, and who asked all the why questions. She grew into an adolescent and young lady, who began to learn about life, making good choices, and found more independence. As a high school senior, she is maturing into a young woman I believe is ready to go to college and to make wise choices and to follow her heart finding her vocation and expanding her wings. Yes, it all makes me sad to experience this transition a second time but that is also tinged with joy for who she is growing into being and to remember that as her parents, it is our role to help her to become all she can be.

Growing through the life stages is part of life as a human being, but similar to what it's like as we grow as followers of Jesus. When we first encounter Jesus, we explore what He is like and what following him might mean for us. Then we take that step of deciding to follow Jesus - beginning to journey with Him. Next, we begin to grow by discovering what following him means and we learn the stories of the faith in scripture and we grow into talking with God through prayer. Then, we grow into maturing disciples of Jesus who strive to make choices and live a life that honors God. We also look for ways to help others along in their faith journey. Along the way we ask ourselves "what is the next step God is calling me to take with him?"

As a church, as we are exploring discipleship and following Jesus more closely, I invite you to take time to look at where you are in following Jesus and ask God to help you see and to take the next step in your journey of faith in which he is calling. It is all part of growing into disciples of Jesus who Love like Jesus, Live like Jesus, and Serve like Jesus. Let's take these steps together.

Love in Christ, Jon

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### **Our Mission**

Make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### **Our Vision**

To be a church that makes disciples that Live Like Jesus, Love Like Jesus, and Serve Like Jesus.