



The Messenger

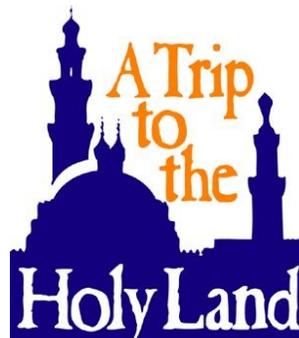
February 20, 2020

Upcoming Events



Shine On...

The Hosting Committee for giving our kitchen a good scrubbing this week.



There has been interest in another trip to the Holy Land in February or March 2021. If you are interested or would like more information, contact the church office at 228-863-9619.

Respite Ministry

Our church council recently decided to begin a process toward a new ministry focused on caring for persons and family members who are living with Dementia and Alzheimer's in their lives. If you sense God calling you to this kind of ministry, then you can respond and find out more information by calling the church office at 228-863-9619.

It's time to think about our summer trip to Camp Wesley Pines!

Both our older elementary group (students entering 4th-6th grade) and our junior high group (students entering 7th-9th grade) will travel to Wesley Pines on the same week of June 15th-19th. Registration is now open online through the Wesley Pines website, <https://wesleypines.weebly.com>, with a discount for those who register before Feb. 29th. If your child is interested in attending Wesley Pines, please contact Lori Cripple to find out the details! (If there are any younger elementary kids who will be entering 1st-3rd grade who are interested in going to Camp Wesley Pines, the dates are June 1st-3rd or June 22nd-24th.)



Ash Wednesday service will be held in the sanctuary at the main campus on February 26, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.



Married People's Retreat Night

On February 28th from 6:00-9:00 p.m., we are having a **Married People's Retreat Night** for husbands and wives (or those soon to be!) in the Christian Life Center at the main campus. Whether you've been married 40 years or about to walk down the aisle, this night is for you! We'll play some fun games, eat some good food, and learn some helpful ways to grow our marriage. This is a free event, and childcare

will be provided on site. Registration forms are in the lobby at the main campus and at the Well. If you have questions, please contact Lori Cripple at (228)324-3622 or lcripple@hotmail.com.



Cake Auction

There will be a cake auction fundraiser on Sunday, March 15th, at both campuses. Proceeds from the auction will go towards the summer youth trip to Big Stuf. Big Stuf is a camp rooted in worship that has been life-changing for many of our students. Please mark this date on your calendar to win some delicious treats and invest in our youth!



Pancake Breakfast

On Tuesday, March 17th, the junior class of LBHS will be taking the ACT. Students' ACT scores can be crucial when it comes to scholarship money, and it can open the door to college for some students who might not otherwise be able to financially afford it. We are partnering with the high school to provide them a pancake breakfast before the test. We want to encourage these students, but also fill their bellies so they can concentrate! If you would like to cook, serve, clean up, and cheer for the juniors taking the test, please let Lori Cripple know!



United Methodist Women News and Activities

Circle Meetings:

Polly Mincher March 10th 9:30 a.m. Good News Class Trudy Newland Circle

One March 16th 6:30 p.m. @ The home of Betsy Bullard

Program: Call to Prayer

Flowers: Circle 1

March 4th Executive Board Meeting 9 a.m. @ The home of Joyce St. John

March 6-7th Spiritual Growth Retreat @ Camp Wesley Pines

March 17th Mission Study: Mark

Leader: Glenda Hull

Where: Christian Life Center 9:00 a.m. to Noon

All women of the Church are invited to participate in the UMW and their activities. For more information contact Joyce St. John at 865-0051.

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



PC Havens, Wanda Lee Corley, Kayne Troutman, Debbie Knight, Wanda Miller, Chrissy Edwards, Lois Jones, Ron Durham, Connie Durham, Janis Slade, Pat Newcomb, Shayla Hosey, Shorty Haulk, Dawn Rhoades, Jo Holyfield, Cathy Yates, Marie Ward, Wanda Stevens, Ricky Bullock, John French, Chuck Cruthirds, Patricia Badeaux, Hank Viehmann, Sharon Pierce, Dave Blazick, Charlie Gibson, Sherry Alley, Peggy Rowell, Andrew Beets, Alice Krass, Jack Bullock, Conrad Johnson, Adeline Humphrys, Dorothy Tingo, Lynn Jordan Beck, Cory Miller, Spencer Humphrey, Betty O'Brien, Vernona Murphy, Pam Upton, Jennifer Caldwell, Isabella Bullock, Sally Wilson, Lane Tucker, Judy Kovac, and Charlie & Ann Munter

*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office.



A donation was given in memory of Helen Hackney by Bob & Carolyn Rhoades



We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to Wanda Miller and family at the death of her husband, Jim Miller.

We would like to extend our Christian love and sympathy to Rick & Martha Hackney and family at the death of Rick's mother, Helen Hackney.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 23rd

- 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
- 3:30 p.m. Creative Ministries upstairs in Moore Hall
- 5:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

Monday, February 24th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in the CLC

Tuesday, February 25th

OFFICE CLOSED

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC
- 10:00 a.m. AARP Tax Service in Moore Hall

Wednesday, February 26th

- 11:45 a.m. O.A.K.S. Luncheon in the CLC
- 5:30 p.m. Heart and Soul for Youth
- 5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice in choir room
- 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
- 7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

Thursday, February 27th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in the CLC
- 4:00 p.m. Bible Study in the Library

Sunday, March 1st

- 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
- 3:30 p.m. Creative Ministries upstairs in Moore Hall
- 5:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)

Monday, March 2nd

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in the Youth Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting in the Library

Tuesday, March 3rd

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study in the CLC
- 10:00 a.m. AARP tax Service in Moore Hall

Wednesday, March 4th

- 5:30 p.m. Heart and Soul for Youth
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice in choir room
- 7:00 p.m. Well Band Practice

Thursday, March 5th

- 9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes Exercise Class in the CLC

Sunday Sermons and Scriptures

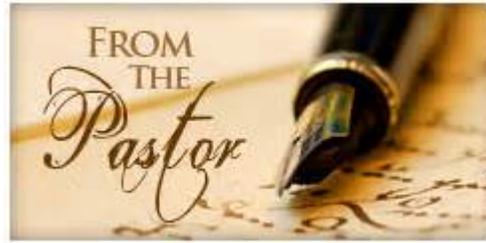
Main Campus Sanctuary
Rev. Jon Kaufman - Preacher

February 23rd
"That's Amazing"
Matthew 17:1-9

March 1st
"I Surrender"
Matthew 4:1-11

The Well USM Fleming Auditorium
Rev. Ben Barlow - Preacher

February 23rd
"Love is: Unconditional"
Romans 5:6-11



The Cross. As we approach the season of Lent this year, I have been drawn to something Jesus said about the cross found in Luke 9:23. He said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."

In this passage, two things stand out to me, or more specifically, two verbs do. The first is "take up." Jesus is on his way to the cross because he loves us in the deepest way possible - sacrificially. He takes up his own cross because of love and because he knows that through the cross, we will experience redemption and life. He takes up his cross because he can see that it will give life to the world. His invitation to each of us is to also "take up" our cross. The question though is what does our cross look like? My guess is that our cross is not going to look like His cross made of wood. Our cross will take on whatever is sacrificial for us. It could look like taking on some loving task that is rooted in love - sacrificial love. To follow Jesus who exemplifies sacrificial love, it will involve sacrifice on our part.

The second verb is "deny" specifically, "deny yourself." To me this word is about letting go. To follow Jesus means that there are going to be times that we need to let go of things, attitudes, ways of thinking, or destructive behaviors that end up being self-serving or good things that can be an obstacle for following Jesus. The first disciples of Jesus left their nets, their fathers, and their tax tables to follow him.

During this season of Lent, I want to invite you to consider what you need to let go of in order to take something up that will allow you to experience the life that Jesus has in mind for all of us. Maybe it's letting go of something you don't like about yourself so that you can take up something that will give you life. Maybe you need to deepen your prayer life, or immerse yourself in scripture, or to a new level of giving. Whatever it is, take time to invest in your life by "letting go" and "taking up" and in doing so, find life.

Love in Christ, Jon

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Church Website
www.fumclb.org

The Well Website
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Rev. Jon Kaufman, Senior Pastor
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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.