



THE Spire

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BEAUMONT NEWSLETTER • MARCH 2020

BIBLE READING PLAN

- 1 Matt 4:1-11
- 2 Josh 13:24-33
- 3 Josh 14:1-15
- 4 Josh 15:1-19
- 5 Josh 15:20-42
- 6 Josh 15:43-63
- 7 Selah**
- 8 John 3:1-17
- 9 Josh 16:1-10
- 10 Josh 17:1-18
- 11 Josh 18:1-10
- 12 Josh 18:11-27
- 13 Josh 19:1-9
- 14 Selah**
- 15 John 4:5-42
- 16 Josh 19:10-23
- 17 Josh 19:24-39
- 18 Josh 19:40-51
- 19 Josh 20:1-9
- 20 Josh 21:1-26
- 21 Selah**
- 22 John 9:1-41
- 23 Josh 21:27-45
- 24 Josh 22:1-9
- 25 Josh 22:10-34
- 26 Josh 23:1-16
- 27 Josh 24:1-15
- 28 Selah**
- 29 John 11:1-45
- 30 Josh 24:16-28
- 31 Josh 24:29-33



CONNECT FOR FULL POWER

Have you ever felt a longing for something, a nagging feeling inside that you can't really define? Life seems to be going ok until you finally stumble into God's plan and realize this is what you have been yearning for your entire life. Life is a series of choices that we make, and sometimes it is hard to know what your next move should be. Sometimes we take the wrong path, and God must work his plan back into our lives. I often wonder if God shakes his head and begins the mysterious series of events that will bring us back on course. I can't begin to understand how he works these events out to draw people from all walks of life together to become his body, his hands, and his feet.

Jayne Kugler made her way to us through a series of moves that have taken her from Beaumont to New Mexico, Washington, and finally back home to Beaumont. I hear the excitement in her voice as she talks about how it felt to walk into this church,

"It's about being part of God's community, with a place to share, learn, love, lift each other up, and be a friend."

among these people, and instantly know she belonged and was welcome here. I still laugh when I think about how excited Jayme was

Story and photography by Michelle Holland

STOUFFER'S

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

LENT

"We are only our truest selves when we completely trust God to be God and are completely content in our proper place." I just read that in some of my notes from time at St. Joseph's Abbey a couple of weeks ago. I was reading ahead in preparation for Lent. It made sense when

I wrote it. It makes sense now, but it also raises a number of other questions for me:

How do we trust God completely? How do we know our proper place? What is real contentedness? Is contentedness an excuse for mediocrity or laziness? I find helpful truth in the latter part of 1 Corinthians 13:8-12

⁸Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹²For now we see

in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known."

Paul reminds us that in this lifetime we are finite and God is infinite; that as much as we can know, understand, and learn much of God remains a sacred mystery. I find contentedness in the effort of striving to be and to become who God calls me to be. So in Lent, I keep the traditions of worship on Ash Wednesday, the Sundays in Lent, and the remembrances during Holy Week of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday; and of self-disciplined living by either giving up something so that I may spend more time praying or taking up a new avenue of serving others; sometimes both! I find activity/rest that deepens my love of God and of neighbor transforms life into a living Easter every day!

How will you keep Lent this year?

May Christ be our sufficiency,

P.J.

Rev. Jon Stouffer, Lead Pastor



PROVIDENCE PLACE SAN ANTONIO

Providence Place is a professional adoption agency fully licensed by the state of Texas and recognized as a pioneer in open adoption with a reputation for integrity. Providence Place Offers hope to individuals facing spiritually, emotional and physically challenging circumstances, so they may lead enriched, rewarding and satisfying lives. Providence Place supports young adults with disabilities, helping young families become better informed about child care, and provide a safe haven for women who have survived human trafficking, sexual assault and domestic violence.

COMMUNION RAIL OFFERING

Providence Place San Antonio
March 1

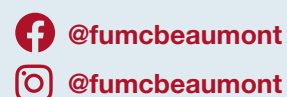
UMCOR
March 15

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep our entire First UMC Beaumont community in your prayers.

If you have a specific request, our prayer team would love to be praying with you. Email us – prayer@fumcbeaumont.org.

FIND US ONLINE



How will you keep Lent?



"I am going to attend the Sunday school collective and focus on learning more about Methodism."

-ANGIE CRUISE

"I will read my uncle's columns that he wrote as a Methodist minister in my daily meditation and prayer time."

-REBECCA WOODLAND



"I will not eat Girl Scout cookies for 40 days!"

-WILLIE CRUISE



"I will continue my practice of clean living."

-ROBERT MADDEN



... Connect for Full Power continued from front page

to stand by Pastor Jon and serve communion. She wants to be involved and to do everything she can to help. It is uplifting to feel her energy and that excitement about serving God. She is a regular on the sanding line at bed builds, a Kairos kitchen helper, and coach Jayme, who makes VBS recreation time so much fun.

Kids are her passion, and she does everything she can to encourage them and help build their self-esteem. She knows how important this is to a child because she experienced it firsthand. She knows what it is like for a child to endure the misery of adult problems. She started looking for a way to escape and found that with softball. She discovered encouragement and praise as a member of the team, finally a group to belong to. Still, something was missing, and life seemed like one enormous burden, and she was trying to carry them all by herself. This was too much to bear alone, so God stepped in. Jayme needed to come to terms with the past, pick herself up, and move forward. He got her attention one day when she drove under the influence and wrecked her car. She relates her burdens to the stuff that moves forward in the vehicle when you apply a hard brake. The odds and ends that come out from under the seat and the groceries in back, tipping and rolling before finally coming to rest. She compares these items to her cares and anxieties, and when they finally came to rest, she knew God would help her carry them. He did take these burdens, and she is proud to be 15 years sober.

Attending church is so much more than something to get done on a Sunday morning. It's about being part of God's community, with a place to share, learn, love, lift each other up, and be a friend. Jayme's story can remind us that a connection to God's community is not something to take for granted. And that we should stay excited about what God has done for us. Jayme told me she can finally say she has a church family, and Sundays recharge her battery, so she can make it through another week. Isn't life amazing when we let God work things out? How many more connections are out there, just waiting for us to find, and lead the way to a full circuit of power? ❤️



Loving THE City

Worship Together

Holy Thursday

SONGS FOR SACRED SUPPER
THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2020 - 7 P.M.

Good Friday

SONGS FOR SACRED REMEMBRANCE
FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2020 - 7 P.M.

Easter Day

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020

9:15-9:30 A.M. - COMMUNION - LONGE CHAPEL

9:30-10:40 A.M. - BREAKFAST, KIDS CRAFTS, EASTER PORTRAITS

10:15 A.M. - EASTER EGG HUNT

11 A.M. - WORSHIP SERVICE

Fifth Sunday

FAMILY CELEBRATION & POT-LUCK LUNCH

Beginning this March, on fifth Sundays, we're going to arrange worship leadership to include our younger followers of Christ. We will invite our children to stay with families for all of worship rather than have First Kids' Church in Longe Chapel. And we will have a covered-dish lunch for food, fellowship, and fun in Rothwell Hall following worship. Keep watching for food sign up pages in Sunday school packets and in the Narthex.

Ministries Moments

KAIROS KITCHEN

Kairos Kitchen is a ministry of our church that gives hungry people in our area an opportunity to meet in a Christian atmosphere, receive communion from one of our pastors, have access to a sympathetic, listening ear, as well as a hot meal provided for by volunteers. The next opportunity to serve is **March 28**. Come share your story.

Visit lovebeaumont.org/kairoskitchen to sign up to volunteer.

SOME OTHER PLACE

The next opportunity to serve is **March 20**.

JOB OPENING:

Special Programs Coordinator

Send resumes and questions to Paula O'Neill for it to be forwarded to the Some Other Place personnel committee.

SEAFARERS' CENTER OF BEAUMONT

Support the Seafarers' Center of Beaumont at this year's St. Patrick's Party – **Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.**, O'Hearns Pub at the Clifton Event Complex, 8727 Hwy 124, Beaumont, TX 77705. Festivities include a piano bar and sing-a-long with Thomas Cokinos, contests, Irish toasts, and a silent auction. There will also be a raffle for gold coins and an Irish Basket. Tickets are available for \$35 individually and \$60 for two. Raffle tickets are available for \$20. Seating is limited.

For more information, contact the Seafarers' Center of Beaumont – (409)-832-3292 or (808)-772-2960.
seafarerscenterofbeaumont.org

Email your "Loving the City" moments to
Erika@fumcbeaumont.org



**One
Grandparent
Can Make
a Difference ...**

THE LEGACY
COALITION
PRESENTS
**GRANDPARENTING
MATTERS!**
SEMINAR

Are you ready to "Grandparent on Purpose?" For some of you, this seminar will affirm the good things you are already doing with your grandkids. For others, it will shake your world and give you a brand new perspective on what it means to be an intentional Christian grandparent. Whether you are on one end of that spectrum or the other – or in the middle somewhere – you are going to be deeply impacted by the few hours of time you choose to invest.

Our desire is that you go away with new inspiration, encouragement, and tools to help you realize your potential to grandparent successfully. You will unlearn some things, and relearn others. Your passion for your grandkids will be kindled even higher, and you'll go away changed. More importantly, those precious grandchildren of yours will benefit, and they will never be the same because you have listened, learned, and grown in Biblical wisdom.

APRIL 25

Grandparenting Matters Seminar

Cathedral Church Beaumont

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Online Registration - \$30

GrandparentSeminarTexas.Eventbrite.com



UNITED YOUTH

We gathered together for a great time of bowling and fellowship last month. There was an outstanding turn out with 11 youth joining us! A big THANK YOU goes out to each and every person who organizes, funds, prepares and brings our dinner each time we meet.

The outing for **March 15th** is our Roll Bake day. We will meet early to eat and then travel to Some Other Place to begin making rolls, with our special recipe, to be sold as a Youth Fundraiser that goes to providing the funds used for our future outings and adventures.

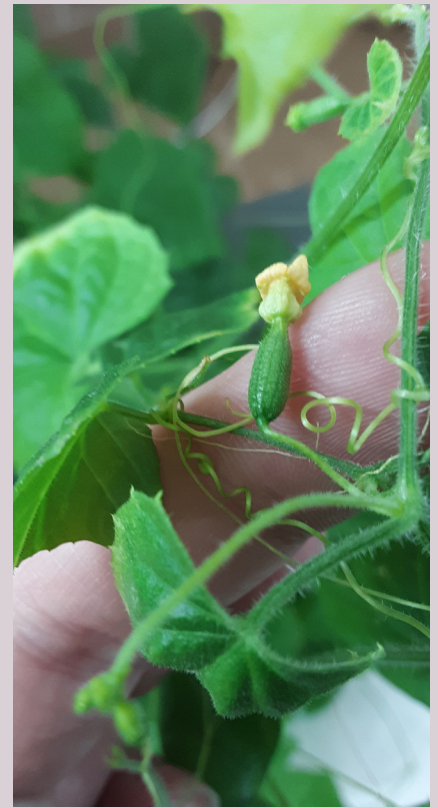


BED BUILD

During February's Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build, 65 volunteers built 48 beds. The majority of this month's volunteer power came from first time SHP volunteers, including Spindletop Rotary, Cintas Uniform Company, Woodville Lions Club, and SHP Houston chapter members.

SHP needs **bedding donations** to deliver over half of their already constructed beds. New twin size bed in a bag sets can be sent to, or dropped off at **1120 Ivy Lane, Beaumont 77706**.

Join SHP and First UMC for the next bed build – March 14, 8:15 a.m. - Noon. 2950 Milam St., Beaumont.



FIRST FRUITS

Over the last few weeks, the unpredictable weather wreaked havoc on outdoor plants. Traditional gardens continue to battle frost bitten edges and water soaked roots through the last weeks of winter. However, the First Fruits Tower Gardens inside First UMC are flourishing! Bright green leaves, rainbow stems and the sound of waterfalls greet visitors and members alike in our Welcome Center! We have two full towers in bloom with seedlings taking root, keeping our towers in a state of perpetual harvest. With a little investigating onlookers can spot the first tiny flowers of our indoor grown Cucamelon plants. Information about our First Fruits Initiative, Tower Garden growing system, and how to donate can be found in the Welcome Center, or by **contacting Stephanie Denham—stephanie@fumcbeaumont.org**

WEEKLY RHYTHMS

SUNDAYS

Prayer & Holy Communion Service
9:15 a.m. | Longe Chapel

Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

Family Worship Service
11 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Handbell Practice
5:45 p.m.

Chancel Choir Practice
7 p.m.

THURSDAYS

Lectionary Bible Study
1 p.m. | Church Library

RETIREMENT HOME SERVICES

Calder Woods
March 3 | 11 a.m.
April 7 | 11 a.m.

Collier Park
March 10 | 10:30 a.m.
April 14 | 10:30 a.m.

Pelican Bay
March 17 | 10:30 a.m.
April 21 | 10:30 a.m.

DO YOU HAVE UPCOMMING EVENTS?

Email event info and pictures to –
Erika@fumcbeaumont.org

to put your events in our weekly E-Blasts and
the monthly Spire.

April Spire Deadline for entry – March 23.

MARCH & APRIL DATES TO KNOW

MARCH 1
United Youth Group
5-7 p.m. | Youth Center Upstairs

MARCH 3
NEW - Ladies Bible Study Class
6:30 p.m. | 6204 Sheridan Oaks Drive
Contact Holly Stouffer if you are interested -
hlstouffer@gmail.com

MARCH 11
Wesley Foundation Work Day
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. | 4590 Cheek St., Beaumont
Lunch Provided | Please RSVP
leahbrandin@thewesleyfoundation.com

MARCH 14
**Sleep in Heavenly Peace
Bed Build**
8:15 a.m. - Noon
2950 Milam St., Beaumont

**Seafarers' Center -
St. Patrick's Party Benefit**
6 p.m. – 11 p.m.
O'Hearns Pub at the Clifton Event Complex
8727 Hwy 124 | Bmt., TX 77705.
Tickets and information at
(409)-832-3292 or (808)-772-2960
seafarerscenterofbeaumont.org

MARCH 15
United Youth Roll Bake
3 – 7pm
Baking dinner rolls at Some Other Place

MARCH 17
NEW - Ladies Bible Study Class
6:30 p.m. | 6204 Sheridan Oaks Drive

MARCH 20
Some Other Place Service Day
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

MARCH 24
UMW Becomers
6 p.m. | Liza Nelson's House
8498 Oak Meadow Drive

MARCH 27
Wesley Foundation Spring Feast
6 p.m. - 8 p.m. | 3810 N Major Drive
Tickets at First UMC Office - \$25

MARCH 28
Kairos Kitchen
5 p.m.

MARCH 29
Family Celebration & Pot Luck Lunch
Special 11 a.m. worship service inviting
children to stay the entire service.
Pot-Luck Lunch to immediately follow
Worship Service

APRIL 5
Palm Sunday
11 a.m. | Sanctuary
United Youth Group
5-7 p.m. | Youth Center Upstairs

APRIL 9
Holy Thursday
7 p.m.

APRIL 10
Good Friday
7 p.m.

APRIL 12
Easter Day
Communion | 9:15 – 9:30 a.m.
Breakfast, Kids Crafts, Easter Portraits
9:30-10:40 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt | 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service | 11 a.m.

APRIL 17
Some Other Place Service Day
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

APRIL 19
United Youth Geocache Hunt
5-7 p.m. | Downtown Beaumont

APRIL 25
Kairos Kitchen
5 p.m.
Grandparenting Matters Seminar
Cathedral Church Beaumont
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Online Registration - \$30
GrandparentSeminarTexas.Eventbrite.com

APRIL 28
UMW Becomers
6 p.m. | Location TBA



First United Methodist Church
701 Calder Ave.
Beaumont, Texas 77701



Loving THE CITY WITH THE *heart* OF *Christ*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BEAUMONT



Welcome Home

WORSHIP TOGETHER
SUNDAY AT 11 AM

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