

First United Methodist Church  
2600 East Main Street  
Gatesville, TX 76528  
(254) 865-2520

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# First United Methodist SPOTLIGHT Gatesville May 2017

The mission of our church is to raise up disciples of Christ through love, service, and example.

## My Word How shocking!!!

The Smyth's were proud of their family heritage, beginning with their ancestors who had come to America on the Mayflower. They decided to compile a family history. It would be a legacy for their children and grandchildren. They hired a fine author to tell the story of the Smyth family but a problem arose when it was learned that Great-uncle George, was executed in the electric chair. The author said he could handle the story tactfully.

When the book came out, it said "Great-uncle George occupied a chair of applied electronics at an important government institution. He was attached to his position by the strongest of ties, and his death came as a great shock."

What is revealed about a family whose reputation is based on their ancestors' fame or infamy? What difference should that make about how much we admire them? John the Baptist was tired of people claiming favorable status with the Lord simply because they could trace their roots back to Abraham. He frequently lectured them on such attitudes pointing out that their argument won't hold water when it comes to judgement.

*"Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham." Luke 3:8*

Of course the ancient Jews don't hold a monopoly on such outlandish claims. The modern day corollary might well be, 'We have Christ as our ancestor.' John the Baptist probably wouldn't accept that as an excuse for avoiding repentance either. Millions of people call themselves Christians but not everyone is a true follower of Christ. There is a big difference between 'saying' you believe in Christ and 'living' like you believe in Christ.

The good news is that you are neither condemned nor extolled by your past relations. The better news is that if you live with Christ as your example, future generations won't have to rewrite your history.

I'll see you in church this Sunday,

Rev. Gene Gurley

**May 7, 2017**  
**South District Conference**  
**First UMC, Temple**  
**Family Life Center**  
**4:30 p.m.**

Immediately following will be a  
celebration for  
Barbara and Clifton Howard

We will depart  
FUMC-Gatesville  
at 3:30 p.m.

We have an immediate opening for a Nursery Supervisor. The candidate must have a heart for children and be available for several hours on Sunday morning, and Wednesday evening. In this job cleanliness is next to Godliness in importance. For complete details contact Michael Grace or the church office.



## Attendance

### April 2

Sunday School	54
8:30am Worship	34
10:30am Worship	60

### April 9

Sunday School	54
8:30am Worship	36
10:30am Worship	94

### April 16

Sunday School	49
8:30am Worship	50
10:30am Worship	250

### April 23

Sunday School	63
8:30am Worship	44
10:30am Worship	89

### April 30

Sunday School	56
8:30am Worship	48
10:30am Worship	89

## SENIOR RECOGNITION DINNER

**Sunday, May 21st**, our students who are graduating from high school and their families will be honored with a dinner in the Family Life Center following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. We have seven young people graduating this year. Church members are asked to provide salads and vegetables for the dinner. Brisket and ham, bread, desserts and drinks are provided by the United Methodist Women.



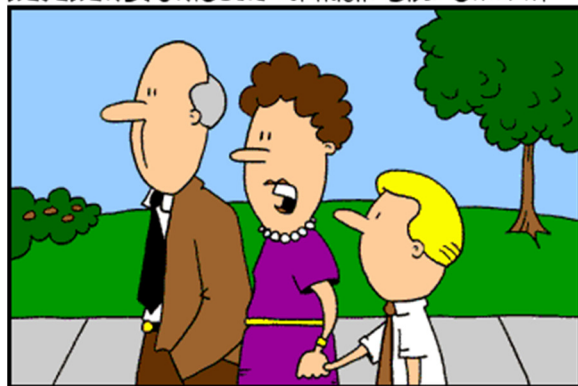
## COVERED IN LOVE

We're growing our Rainbow Room blanket mission! Blankets are made from no-sew, blanket kits. We are getting requests from child welfare offices outside of our county. In the words of John Wesley, "The world is my parish." Please come to the church for a blanket Work Day on **Saturday, 5/6, 10:00-2:00** in the Banquet Room. We will have lots of fun and snack on Pastor Gurley's chicken salad. If you would like to work on blankets at home, or make a donation, please contact Ann Gurley. Home: 254-865-2524, Cell: 817-454-5361.



**Harvest Festival  
November 4, 2017**

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



YOUR FATHER HAS AGREED TO STAY AWAKE IN CHURCH TODAY SINCE IT IS MOTHER'S DAY ... IT WOULD BE NICE IF YOU WOULD DO THE OPPOSITE FOR ONCE



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women will meet **Tuesday, May 9, at 5:30** in the Banquet Room. Mary Anne Leib will present the program "The Early Church, St. Paul and Beyond" and "The Church Interprets the Bible" from our program book "The Bible and Human Sexuality." Hostesses are Linda Klontz and Rhonda Mohler. All women of the church are invited.



## Liturgists

### May 7

8:30 R. Jones  
10:30 M. A. Leib

### May 14

8:30 V. Riddle  
10:30 R. Sweazea

### May 21

8:30 A. Daze  
10:30 G. Sadler

### May 28

8:30 L. Klontz  
10:30 H. Theaker

## Birthdays

1 Katelyn Brown  
1 Dylan Hartmann  
1 Everett Seymour  
3 Melinda Ivy  
4 Hayden Kemp  
6 Amy Daze  
6 Ray Martin  
7 John Daniel  
7 Guyann Miles  
12 David Lovelace  
12 Larry Roberts  
13 Natalie Fast  
14 Ray Hartmann  
14 Ruth Jones  
15 Nellie Sheldon  
15 Jayme Palady  
15 Tom Sweazea  
16 Ron Decker  
16 Anne Ramminger  
17 Lynn Hopkins  
17 Kurt Snively  
19 Crystal Jeffcoat  
23 Marie Pruitt  
23 Stella Wiegrefe  
25 Jane Majusiak  
27 William Farrell  
27 Craig McCoy  
29 Dee Ann Roberts  
29 Lyon Wood  
31 Sandra Sherwood

## Military

Brandon Durham  
Shane Clark  
Tom Cushing  
John Decker  
Dylan Hartmann  
Robert Miller  
Larrett McCoy  
Matt Mohler  
Joe Patterson  
Anthony Pemberton  
Fredrick Ralls  
Stephan Sowders  
Jeron Tarpley  
Eric Ward

## Prayer Concerns

Angie Alhf  
Susan Archie  
Karen Arnold  
Charlotte Azen  
Tristen Campbell  
Bobby Cole  
John Daniel  
Cindy Gerdel  
Linda Hayes  
Phyllis Head  
Kip Huertz  
Charla Huse  
Deborah Jones  
Peyton Jones  
Stanley Jones  
Jane & Dennis Krumlauf  
Savana Lewis  
Ollie Loggins  
Jacquie Machura  
David McAlphine  
Tammy McHargue  
Lilly Paxton  
Michael Prosser  
Joyce Pruitt  
Karen Reaves  
Tookie Schamber  
Casey Shirley  
Stan Sugg  
Tom Theaker  
Linda Ussery  
Mr. & Mrs. Wagner  
Tina Whites  
Ilene Whitte  
Jeff Wright  
Our President  
Our Pastor

## Memorials

### HORACE KNIGHT

Bill & Ollie Loggins

### JACK NICHOLS

Ronnie & Sharon Sullins  
Bill & Ollie Loggins

### JEFF DAVIS

Betty Brown  
Carol Snith  
Billy Barton  
Tom & Helen Theaker

### JEANNE COHAGAN

Betty Brown

### PAUL MAXWELL

Pat (Miller) Henson

### NATHILE IVY

Ken & Velva Riddle  
Donnie & Patsy Smart  
Betty Brown  
Corinne Erwin  
Joyce & Charles Talbott

## Get Well

### JOYCE EDWARDS

Kenneth & Velva Riddle  
Donnie & Patsy Smart

### JOYCE PRUITT

Kenneth & Velva Riddle  
Donnie & Patsy Smart

## Thank You

Thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl given to the family after mother's death. Knowing this shawl was sent and offered with prayers of strength, healing and love, I will see it as the physical reminder that we are not alone now or ever will be because of the love of God. I thank you and your church family who are not satisfied in just wishing well, but in taking action to show it.

## The Family of Nathile Ivy

## Thank You

The beautiful prayer shawl lifted my spirit when Pastor Gene brought it to the hospital. Knowing that you had prayed for my recovery brought comfort and peace. To each of you, I say "Thanks". This ministry really brings a ray of sunshine when one is not feeling their best. God be with you.

## Nellie Sheldon

Thank you for coming to visit me and keeping me in your prayers.

## Linda Hays

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my entire church family for the beautiful prayer shawl and all the prayers and get well wishes I received while in the hospital and continue to receive at home.

## Joyce Pruitt

## OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Please welcome **Roy and Linda Hayes** to our church family.





**K-3 Sunday School & 4-6 Sunday School**

Mrs. Jennifer & Mrs. Jennifer / Mrs. Amanda & Mrs. Jackie

**Bible stories each week:**

May 7 – Achan’s Sin and the Defeat of Ai (Joshua 7-8)

May 14 – Joshua’s Final Encouragement (Joshua 23:1 – 24:28)

May 21 – The First Judges (Judges 3:7 – 31)

May 28 – Deborah and Barak (Judges 4-5)

**(4y-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) CHILDREN’S CHURCH**

Jennifer Wood & Ashton Gribble

**Bible Stories each week:**

May 7 – Jesus Ascends to be with God. (Acts 1:9)

May 14 – Mother’s Day (Exodus 20:12)

May 21 – Like a Spring of Water (Isaiah 58:11)

May 28 – Encouraging the Faith (Romans 1:12)

**Wednesday Word**

**April Menu**

Dinner is served at 5:30 \$3 Adults

\$2 Kids 12 & under

(\$8 family cap)

**May 3 – Doug Peevey & Wilma Wall**

Breakfast casserole, biscuits & gravy and fruit.

**May 10 -- Nathaniel Wood**

Tacos with all the fixings and dessert.

**May 17 – Gaye, Ann & DeDe**

Chicken spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic toast and trifle.

**May 24 – Pastor Gene**

Stuffed bell peppers, mashed potatoes, carrots, salad and cake.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO JANE HARVEY**

Jane is our new Children’s Education Director. Jane will work with Jennifer Wood to learn her new duties, focusing on Vacation Bible School and Ministry Safe Recertification. Please welcome Jane as she begins her new job.



**(K-6) WEDNESDAY WORD**

Mrs. Linda, Mrs. Mary & Mrs. Jennifer We need YOU!

**Bible Story:** The Battle of Jericho May 3 – Art & Games!

May 10 – Drama & Cooking!

May 17 – Science & Video!

May 24 – Movie & Game night! Let’s have an end of the year fun night!

Bring a friend and bring a favorite board / card game.

**Wednesday Word**

**April Mini Mission! Success!**

Thank you all for your donations to Gatesville’s 100% No Kill Shelter! The kids were able to deliver LOTS of much needed supplies! We also delivered a plywood sign we painted for their annual rummage sale!



**GATESVILLE FITNESS CENTER**



It’s time to renew your fitness center membership. Please see Barb in the office. Deadline for signing up is May 22nd.

**Six-month membership dues are:**  
**\$ 69.00 Individual and**  
**\$ 132.00 Family**

**Upcoming Events**



**May 18** Game Night @ Dairy Queen—6:30 p.m.



**JUNE 4 PICNIC**

It is time to pull out the ice cream freezers again and welcome summer back. On the first Sunday in June, Family Ministries and the Children’s Education Department will host a cookout behind the church, next to the garage. They will provide hot dogs and burgers. Members are asked to bring the side dishes and desserts. Families are also invited to bring horseshoes, kites, whiffle ball and Frisbees. Food and fun will begin at 11:45.



**SAGER BROWN MISSION TRIP**



Sager Brown Depot is the hub of UMCOR’s relief supply operations. Every year volunteers prepare more than \$6 million in Emergency Relief Supplies to be shipped across the US and around the world in times of disaster. You can help with this important work by registering now for a week long mission trip taking place in September. FUMC Killeen has invited other area churches to join them on this mission trip. The cost is \$230 and interested people need to contact Ken Smith at 254-634-6363 by June 1, 2017.



**NURSERY SUPERVISOR NEEDED**

Beginning May 1st, Jane Harvey transitioned into her new role as the Children’s Education Director. This leaves an immediate opening for her old position as Nursery Supervisor. If you have a heart for small children and are available on Sunday mornings and an occasional weekday to watch and teach the children, call the church office at 865-2520.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Beginning this May, anyone can make a payment to the church by credit card or check on line. This will make it easier to pay your monthly tithe, purchase flowers at Christmas and Easter or make a memorial gift from home. A link will soon be available on our web page or the URL address will be in the flashlight. We are working through Vanco Payment Solutions to collect the charges and credit them to our account. All transactions are handled through a secure internet connection. The account is being set up as of this time and will be available soon.





**Wednesday  
Evenings  
5:30 p.m.**



**WEDNESDAY WORD**

We meet Wednesday's beginning with the meal at 5:30. UMYF starts at 6 and ends at 7:30. HS and Jr Hi are going to split into small groups for lessons and discussion. Join us. Bring a friend.

# MAY 2017

**CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT**

Recently, the Board of Trustees has been in conversation about improving the curb appeal of the church, especially as it faces Main Street. In March we had a Church Work Day, when the members got together to clean up and make minor repairs on the building. Now we are planning two major projects that will have a lasting impact on the beautification of the building.

The first is the **Columns Restoration Project**. The façade (it looks like a column) with the descending doves, in front of the sanctuary, will be power washed and the blocks will be re-grouted. New flood lights have already been installed that have done a lot to call attention to the building at night. The column on the right side of the sanctuary with the large aluminum cross, will be given a fresh stucco finish, covering the oxidation from the cross. New flood lights have been purchased and will be installed to light it up at night.

The second project is a new **landscape master plan**. Old shrubbery and tired looking plants will be removed and replaced. Additionally, the irrigation system will be upgraded. The finished project will be much more attractive and colorful. The first of three phases will begin later this summer and early fall as a low flower garden is planted in front of the street sign. The plants in front of the sanctuary façade and air conditioning units will also be replaced. You have probably also noticed that four new oaks were planted last fall to replace four trees that died of oak wilt. They are already doing a lot to enhance the beauty of the campus,

The project will be funded by contributions from the members much the same way we financed the Sunday School class room and bath room renovations. Look for landscape plans and pictures in the foyer in the coming weeks.

**NEWS FROM PANAMA**

We participate in supporting Methodist missionaries Cindy and David Ceballos. Progress is being made in all of their ministries! The church has consistent weekly services and the highest Sunday attendance so far this year was 117. Kitchen construction is almost finished and they are cooking on the new stove. Painting will begin after the first floor ceiling is installed. Four medical outreach teams have treated the indigenous and marginalized population. And an environmental program is addressing respiratory ailments with the chimney stove building project. We hope to see Cindy and David during their US trip this fall. Please pray for the Ceballos's and all missionaries.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 6:30 AA	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 5:30 <i>Wednesday Word</i> 5:30 UMY 6:00 <i>Prayer and Bible Study</i> 6:00 <i>Choir</i> 6:30 AA	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:30 AA	<b>6</b> 10:00 <i>Making blankets for the Rainbow Room</i>
<b>7</b> 8:30 <i>Worship</i> 9:30 SS 10:30 <i>Worship</i> 2:30 <i>Hillside</i> 4:00 <i>Oaks</i> 4:30 <i>South Dist. Conf. Temple</i>	<b>8</b> 6:30 AA	<b>9</b> 5:30 <i>United Methodist Women</i>	<b>10</b> 5:30 <i>Wednesday Word</i> 5:30 UMY 6:00 <i>Prayer and Bible Study</i> 6:00 <i>Choir</i> 6:30 AA	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:30 AA	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <i>Mother's Day</i> 8:30 <i>Worship</i> 9:30 SS 10:30 <i>Worship</i>	<b>15</b> 6:30 AA	<b>16</b> <i>Private Event National Society Banquet</i>	<b>17</b> 5:30 <i>Wednesday Word</i> 5:30 UMY 6:00 <i>Prayer and Bible Study</i> 6:00 <i>Choir</i> 6:30 AA	<b>18</b> 6:30 <i>C A F E Game Night @ DQ</i>	<b>19</b> 6:30 AA	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8:30 <i>Worship</i> 9:30 SS 10:30 <i>Worship</i> 12:00 <i>Senior Recognition Dinner</i>	<b>22</b> 6:30 AA	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:30 <i>Wednesday Word</i> 5:30 UMY 6:00 <i>Prayer and Bible Study</i> 6:00 <i>Choir</i> 6:30 AA	<b>25</b> 6:00 <i>Let's Grow Learning Center Graduation</i>	<b>26</b> 6:30 AA	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 <i>Worship</i> 9:30 SS 10:30 <i>Worship</i>	<b>29</b> <i>Memorial Day Church Office Closed</i> 6:30 AA	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:30 AA			