



A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church

The Voice

Rev. Cassie Wade, Pastor
Rev. Ricky Harrison, Associate Pastor
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Issue 7 of 12
July 1, 2019

Children: Ashley Craven
Youth: Patrick Steil
Secretary: Ann Piña
Administrator: Bonnie Wohlleben



Hello Church,

I was excited to learn of my appointment as your Senior Pastor beginning in July 2019. Ministry is a second career for me; one that I believe for which God has prepared me throughout my life. Though I recognized a call to ministry at a young age, I chose to raise a family before pursuing full-time ordained ministry. While I raised that family, I worked in the technology industry and grew in my love for God and neighbor by teaching and leading others in the local church.

I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree from University of Texas at Dallas and a Master of Divinity degree from Perkins School of Theology, SMU. Besides my lay leadership in the local church, I have also served Holy Covenant UMC in Carrollton as an Intern Pastor, FUMC Sherman as an Associate Pastor, and am currently serving as the Pastor of FUMC Jacksboro.

My husband of nearly 40 years, Kelly, is my partner in life and ministry. Kelly is a graduate of Texas A&M University and an engineering consultant in the Oil and Gas industry. He is called to servant ministry and serves faithfully alongside me. Both of us were raised in small towns and enjoy our life in county seat communities.

We have two grown daughters and three grandchildren. Amber and her husband, Arturo, live in Carrollton and they are the parents of four years old Parker. Amber is a firefighter and Arturo is a police officer. Our younger daughter, Tori, is an insurance agent in Frisco. She is the mother of Jonathan (13) and Sophia (7). Together, we enjoy finding fun in the chaos of life.

Kelly and I like to drink coffee in the morning watching the wild life while camping in our RV. I enjoy spending time with friends and grandkids, quilting, and walking along side others as they grow in their love for God and neighbor. Kelly enjoys hunting his golf ball in the rough and watching Premier League Soccer (he a Manchester City fan). We both look forward to getting to know each of you and your passions in life.

I hold you in my prayers as you celebrate with Brian and Melissa the successful ministry that you have had together. I am eager to learn what God has in store for us as we continue to be the presence of Christ in Wise County.

In Christ,

Rev. Cassie Wade





Church Office Closed

Thursday, July 4

Vespers

Sunday, July 7
6:00 p.m., Paradise UMC

Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, July 9
6:00 p.m., Room 209

Church-Wide Luncheon

Sunday, July 14
12:00 p.m., Room 100

Vespers

Sunday, July 14
6:00 p.m., Bridgeport UMC

Staff Meeting

Thursday, July 18
12:00 p.m., Room 209

Vespers

Sunday, July 21
6:00 p.m., Boyd UMC

Methodist Men's Breakfast

Saturday, July 27
7:00 a.m., Room 100

Vespers

Sunday, July 28
6:00 p.m., Chico UMC

Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 30
6:00 p.m., Room 209



CHURCH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

D. J. Lockhart, Irene Griffith, Tiffany Day,
Christopher Cabellero, Mildred Terrell,
Noah Smith, Tim Woodruff, Gary Barfield, Madolyn Congdon,
Family of Molena Carson, Wylodene Weatherford, Family of Anthony
Liotto, Cathy Sides, "Child" Forbus, Ron Lambert, Sandra Page,
Barbie Sanders, James Grisham, Family of Abby Bramlett

In the Military:

Jake Logue, Kolin Rottner, Keygun Beaver, Bryce Dudley,
Joshua VanNoy, Nathan Darington, Matthew Roberson,
Chris Hammond



- 2 - Johnnie Pettigrew
- 4 - Liz Dudley, Jim Henderson, Montana Strempe
- 5 - Joe Lambert
- 6 - Amberly Johnson, Matthew Leaton, Cameron Potts,
Stacey Sandford
- 7 - Lillie Hunt, Brent Williams
- 8 - Laura Highlander
- 9 - Mason Edwards, Hannah Milliman
- 10 - Tobi Cullop, Melrose Short
- 11 - Charlotte Boland, Bauer Kaylakie, Bobby Terrell
- 12 - Susan Anderson, Anna Hooe, Wanda Stone
- 13 - Lindsay Bond, Michelle Buckley, Tori Shrull
- 15 - Holt Garner, David Lunday, Daniel Smyers,
Michael Smyers
- 18 - Fred Jones
- 19 - Kristi Lunday, Mary Elsie Watson
- 20 - Norma Miller
- 21 - Tony Brazeal, Pam Shrull
- 23 - Russell Edwards, Randy Meharg
- 24 - Stevie Martin
- 25 - Karen Alsip, Sara Swanson, Zoe Woodruff
- 26 - Blake Bosworth
- 27 - Carolyn Bastian, Buster Chandler, Drew Robinson
- 28 - Kalyb Beaver, Kenneth Hunt, Dan Stack
- 29 - Penny Holt, Sally Rieger
- 31 - Noah Holt

FUMC Mission Statement

*"Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the world."*



OUTREACH

Donations for WARM
Peanut Butter & Jelly

Sunday Refreshments
Seekers Class

Guest Follow Up
Mardell Schaible

Care Corp
Wanda Stone, Notifier
Shirley Peterson, Virginia Renfro,
Murvelle Chandler, Jennifer Garrett



To my church family,

Thank you for the
'Wesleyan Study Bible' and

the book 'Exodus: God, Slavery and Freedom'. To all those who put together and helped with the senior breakfast, it was much appreciated. The interest and support I have received as I advance through my aviation training has been a huge help.

Thank you,
Ryan Haycock

Dress Comfortably for Summer!

While we do not have a dress code, we know some are reluctant to dress more comfortably during the hottest part of the year without permission. So here is an invitation for anyone who may be a little reluctant to do so on their own: **DRESS COMFORTABLY** in July and August! It is ok to leave your dress clothes in the closet. Come and be comfortable as we "dress down" for the rest of the summer!



The Chancel Choir will enjoy a well deserved vacation during the month of July, and give the Sunday School Classes a chance to lead the church in song.



July Choir Schedule



July 7 - Seekers, Upper Room, Unnamed, and Open Doors

July 14 - Cross & Flame and Life Builders

July 21 - Youth Sunday

July 28 - Men's Class & Character Builders



July 7th

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Barbara Haley

Communion Servers:

Thomas Laird, Asa Johnson, Ronnie Walker

Acolyte: Ben Bond

10:50 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Greg Johnson

Communion Servers:

Jim Henderson, Sherry Henderson, Sally Rieger

Acolytes:

Counters: Terry Huston

July 14th

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Virginia Caraway

Communion Servers:

Marcy Perkins, Sharon Meyer, Jamie Walther

Acolyte: Trey Milliman

10:50 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Trumanell Maples

Acolytes: Tucker Hammons & Abby Reeves

Counters: Gary Cocanougher & Terry Huston

July 21st

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Youth

Acolyte:

10: 50 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Youth

Acolyte: Alissa Butler

Counters: Thom Lambert & Fred Renfro

July 28th

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Penny Holt

Communion Servers:

Cliff Vick, Loretta Vick, Virginia Caraway

Acolyte: Audree & Zachary Knox

10: 50 a.m. Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Jennifer Featherston

Acolyte: Lane Craven

Counters: Annette Stephens & Mason Woodruff

July Communion Set Up: Life Builders Class



Friends,

Your kindness, generosity, and love have overwhelmed us once again! This church is amazing and you are simply a joy to have served. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness and treasure our friendships with each of you. May God continue to richly bless you and all who come into your presence.

Your friends,

Brian and Melissa Bosworth

FUMC Financials Update

As of 6/25/019

Giving to General Operating Fund

Year to Date: 307,686

Average Weekly Gifts: 12,307

Weekly Budget Need: 13,154

Continue the Vision Pledge

(Original pledge drive)

Total Pledged: 350,898

Pledge Balance Not Received: 16,957

See the Vision Pledge

(Current pledge drive)

Total Pledged: 316,630

Pledge Balance Not received: 48,785

Total Building Note Balance Due: 14,174



We only have \$14,174 due on the building note. Outstanding pledge balances total \$65,742.

ALL gifts made towards the building fund, INCLUDING your pledge payments, will be matched dollar for dollar (up to 80k) by an anonymous donor until September 1st!

We can put our money to work, dollar for dollar and eliminate our debt! Together, we can do this! Together We Can Pay It Off!



STRASNICE UMC VISIT

The Czech Committee would like to extend an invitation to Sunday school classes, church groups and the entire congregation to participate in fellowship with the 5 members from our sister church in Stracnice.

We are hoping for some volunteers to sponsor meals or events. Sign-up sheets and itineraries are available in the Narthex. They will be staying at the Murphree's and all are welcome to join in visiting and fellowship any time during their stay.

If you have any questions, or wish to volunteer, contact Kurrie Murphree at 940-627-4465

STRASNICE UMC MISSION TEAM ARRIVAL

The Czech Committee invites all members of the congregation to join with us in welcoming members of our partner church from Prague, Czech Republic, to Texas when they arrive at DFW. The Strasnice Mission Team will be arriving at Terminal E on Delta Flight 3402 on Friday, July 5 at 9:36 PM.

The Team will be visiting us July 5 -17 to accompany our Youth on their Mission Trip July 7-12 to assist in Hurricane Harvey recovery projects in the Galveston area. Upon return from Galveston, the group plans to travel to West Texas on July 17th and on to Phoenix, AZ for sightseeing before returning to Prague on July 22nd.

The group consists of their pastor, Filip Gartner and his daughter, Anna; Martina Zdarska, a member of their congregation and an English teacher in Prague; and Alzbeta (Elizabeth) Opocenska and her brother, Hynek.

So please join us at DFW in giving a big ole Texas welcome to our Czech visitors.



Decatur Kids



July Happenings



Promotion Sunday



August 11th
Late service

WOW! What an amazing time we had at VBS...
To Mars and BEYOND!

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers that made this event possible.

Blessing of the Backpacks
August 11th



8:30 & 10:50 Service

Includes Blessing of Educators and Staff



We have 6 children attending camp at Camp Bridgeport July 22-26. Please keep those kiddos in your prayers as they dig deeper into an amazing week long experience of faith.

PRESCHOOL

Changes are happening all over the place and that is no exception for the preschool. Our loved Director, Bonnie Hubbard has decided to step down to spend more time with her littles. She has been an amazing director that has gone above and beyond, she will be missed by students, parents, and teachers. However, the new director position is being filled by the current 3's teacher, Amber Terrell, and the 2's teacher, Katie

Lowe. We are excited to be able to work together to fill her shoes. As these changes and transitions occur we ask for your prayers in God's guidance as we start our new positions and school year. We are excited for what God has in store for everyone!

We are in need of people that love children and want to see them grow and learn. If you are interested in becoming a sub for the preschool and are willing to be Ministry Safe Trained please email with any questions (preschool@decaturmethodist.org) and Bonnie will have sub packets in the church office to be filled out and returned.

Katie Lowe & Amber Terrell, Co-Directors



Update from the Youth Department!

We had a fantastic school year and averaged about 15 youth showing up for Wednesday night and Sunday Night activities. Here are some highlights of the of the year and June activities!

Pool Party @ Steil's - had 21 kids show up!

Rough Rider Game - was a beautiful evening of fun and baseball

Decatur Cares - had 14-16 youth show up to serve!

Ricky's Ordination - 7 youth attended this wonderful event! Congrats Pastor Ricky!

Whataburger Wednesday

OK City Memorial & Horseback Riding - 7 youth went and had a meaningful and fun day!

VBS Volunteers - Like 12 youth showed up to help out!

Dinner & Movie - We watched "I Can Only Imagine" - beautiful story about the #1 Christian song ever!



Coming up!

- Pool Party @ Holts
- Ice Skating at the Galleria Mall
- Mission Trip will be July 7-12

We will travel to the Bolivar Peninsula near Galveston and will be helping families that are STILL recovering from Hurricane Harvey. Please pray that God continue to add his blessing to this highlight of the year. We have 21 youth and 8 adults going on this Trip! God is blessing this trip!!!!

The place where you are standing is Holy Ground...
Decatur Youth Mission Trip 2019

May begins my third year here in this church and as the Youth Pastor. I continue to be blessed with the most meaningful work that I do. Thank you Church for your love and support and encouragement! Together we are raising a strong next generation!

Patrick Steil





Food is Sacred

There's something intrinsically sacred about food, especially when shared with other people. After the Israelites are freed from slavery in Egypt, they complain to Moses about empty stomachs and parched throats, so God provides water, manna bread, and quail (what a feast!). Elijah, wandering through the same wilderness, meets a widow with a child literally starving to death. The widow invites Elijah into her home to share the very last bits of bread she has, and God shows up with enough bread to fill the stomach of the widow and her child for the rest of their long lives. Jesus, a wandering vagabond, always relied heavily on the radical hospitality of strangers. He would invite himself over to the homes of tax collectors like Levi and Zacchaeus, sharing with them the abundant Bread of Life as they broke bread together. The very last thing Jesus did before he was arrested and crucified? Share a meal with his disciples. The first thing he did after the resurrection? Meet them for breakfast on the beachfront. To put it simply – wherever and whenever the table is set, God always shows up.

Sacred things continue to happen with food here in our community.

Over the last year we've opened our parking lot to host the Decatur Cares Mobile Food Pantry, helping provide fresh produce to our neighbors experiencing food insecurity here in Wise County. Every first Saturday of the month, our otherwise empty parking lot is transformed into a fresh produce market where people who are hungry find nutritious food to feed themselves and their children. If you pay close attention, you'll catch a glimpse of God showing up here!

Since May we've partnered with the Wise County Committee on Aging (Meals on Wheels) to host Lunches for Senior Adults. Each Tuesday seniors from across Wise County share a meal & fellowship with our Decatur Methodist family. Beginning in July, we'll also partner with Decatur Cares to host the July Summer Feeding Program – providing hot lunches for around 100 elementary children each week in addition to sending their parents home with bags full of groceries to help supplement the absence of cafeteria meals available to these children during the school year. In each plate of food, God is showing up!

Our Dinner Groups continue to thrive as strangers & acquaintances become friends across dining room tables throughout Wise County. Children have found new playmates, people have found new neighbors, and in each and every meal, God has shown up!

Throughout the summer, Pecan Street Mission is again hosting Dinner Church gatherings. We've invited our friends and neighbors from all walks of life to gather together in a family-friendly worship setting designed around...you guessed it...dinner tables! As we break bread together, God will be at work knitting us together as the broken body of Christ. Through sharing conversations on life & faith with strangers who become friends, each and every meal we expect God to show up!

This summer, anytime you find yourself sharing food with someone, remember to keep an eye out for God! Whether you're gathered with family in the dining room, neighbors at the grill, coworkers in the break room, strangers at a restaurant, or with the Body of Christ at the communion table, remember that food is so very sacred. Whenever and wherever the table is set, God always shows up.

In Christ,
Ricky Harrison

"Make New Friends, but Keep the Old. One is Silver and the Other is Gold"

Sunday, July 14th, 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

There will be a good old Methodist pot luck to honor our new pastor and her family as well as our guests from the Czech Republic.

Bring your favorite side dish or dessert and join us for a wonderful time.

First United Methodist Church
104 South Miller Street
Post Office Box 302
Decatur, Texas 76234-0302



THIS NEWSLETTER CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR

YOU!



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Newsletter

DEADLINE!

Monday, July 22 at 1:00 p.m.



Thursday, July 25

8:30 a.m.—Character Builders Classroom



Together We Can Pay It Off!

Any money received by the church which is designated for the Building Fund WILL BE MATCHED by an anonymous donor. What's the catch? This opportunity is only available until September 1.

**We can put our money to work, dollar for dollar and eliminate our debt!
Together, we can do this!**

FUMC Decatur in ACTION!



2019 NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2019 Annual Conference Musings

What a beautiful thing it is to be part of our connectional Methodist family. I am honored and appreciate the gift of attending our North Texas Annual Conference each year. It's a time to renew, refresh and connect. This year's event was held in the beautiful Christ United Methodist Church in Plano. Their sanctuary is home to several breathtaking stained glass windows that were made by Foster Stained Glass in Bryan, TX, the same company that lovingly restored our priceless stained glass windows several years ago.

A lot occurs in those 2.5 days: opening worship service, a remembrance of clergy & spouses that have died this past year, commissioning of young adults that are serving the district this summer, a service of baptismal renewal, electing general, jurisdictional and alternate conference delegates, "get to know" ordination videos, voting on budgets & resolutions and the most memorable service of commissioning & ordination. What a joy to experience this with our own Ricky Harrison, along with 32 other ordained elders, deacons & provisional member commissions. Bishop McKee mentioned this was the largest class in over 20 years in our Northwest District. Our future looks bright. Ricky was also elected to the jurisdictional conference as a delegate. Give him a high five for his hard work and accomplishments.

The One Church plan was presented and overwhelmingly adopted by the conference. This resolution provides a generous unity that gives conferences, churches, and pastors the flexibility to uniquely reach their missional context without disbanding the connectional nature of the United Methodist Church.

Not only is the business of the church discussed & decided during the conference, but choirs from several congregations combine to create majestic music. Rev Victor E. Casad District Superintendent for East District said it perfectly "The music at both evening services was transcendent, coming pretty close – in my human imagination – to what the heavenly host will sound like". Adam Hamilton has said worship should be planned with the expectation that God will be present and something profound will happen.

I urge you all to avail yourself to an opening worship and or a service of ordination and commissioning. You won't be disappointed. Mark your calendars: Next year will be held at St. Andrew United Methodist Church in Plano from May 31-June 2. Hope to see you there.

Submitted by; Cheryl Renfro

In an effort to make things a little easier for Rev. Cassie Wade, beginning Sunday, July 14 we are asking everyone attending Sunday service to wear a name tag for a couple of weeks . We will have name tags and pens by all entrances.

Please take a moment and put one on.

THANK YOU!



2019 Summer Schedule

- July 7 • Host Church: Paradise UMC, Preaching: Mike Miller
- July 14 • Host Church: Bridgeport UMC, Preaching: Veronica Greanead
- July 21 • Host Church: Boyd UMC, Preaching: Ricky Harrison
- July 28 • Host Church: Chico UMC, Preaching: Chad Mogus



Every Sunday morning for the last 10 years the Peets, along with a few members of other area churches, have gone to the Decatur Medical Lodge to provide God's love and touch to His older children. We sing classic Christian Gospel hymns to a guitar accompaniment, read a psalm, and one or two bible passages, present a 15-20 minute message, link hands and recite the Lord's Prayer together. We love to see other family members join their loved ones on Sunday morning at their "church". We would welcome any and all that would like to join us to be God's hands and heart for these folks. We start around 8:45, and generally wrap up in an hour. You only need the ability to smile. Come join us!

Decatur Medical Lodge, 701 Bennett Rd, Decatur, TX 76234

Contact: David Peet at mail@davidpeet.com or (214) 287-0009



Celebration for
 Brian & Melissa Bosworth
 Sunday, June 23

