

September 2015

First United Methodist Church of Gainesville

Rev. Don Yeager, Pastor
Worship Services
8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45



Rev. Don Yeager
Pastor

Inside this Issue

<i>Prayer Requests</i>	2
<i>Missions and Ministry</i>	2
<i>Children's Ministries</i>	3
<i>Student and Family Ministries</i>	4
<i>Student and Family Ministries</i>	5
<i>Church News</i>	6 & 7

CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED
ON LABOR DAY

The church office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. We hope everyone has a wonderful and safe holiday!



"BELIEVE"

I heard someone say something on the radio recently about the relationship between belief and behavior that I am still thinking about. They said that for the person who is not a follower of Jesus Christ, their behavior shapes their beliefs. This person does things that they know they probably shouldn't be doing, but as those behaviors become a habit, they come to believe that what they are doing is okay.

On the other hand, for the Christ-follower, our core beliefs shape our behavior. We begin with what we believe about God, the world, and ourselves, and our behavior grows out of those beliefs. Even when we do something we know isn't right, we realize deep down inside that we are going against our belief system.

As I said, I'm still thinking about this. In some ways it sounds too simplistic, but it does ring true in my experience. I know that if I do something that's not really good for me, I can convince myself that it's all right. But if I start with what I believe to be true, I will know that the negative behavior is something I really shouldn't be doing and it helps me avoid it.

All this is to say that it is very important that we examine our core beliefs as Christians so that we know what we believe and why we believe it, and how it shapes our character and actions. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please join us this fall on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at the church for the new study, "Believe." We will look at what Christians believe and how those beliefs can draw us closer to Christ. Please see the article in this issue of the *Informer* for more information about the class.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Don'.

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS...



Prayer Concerns: John Pierpont, Joybell Schalk, Dorothy Proffer, Don Estes, Pam Pierpont, Brad Chrustawka, Carl Dunlap, Kelli Duggan's mother, Marlene Duggan, Bill Hawke, Debbie Poore, Larry Noland, Margaret Bewley, Carmen Hawkins, Grace Melton.

Sympathy to: the family of Dr. James Graham.

Congratulations to: Blair and Amy Brown for the birth of their son, Rhodes Lafayette Brown, born on July 29.

Ongoing Concerns: Wilbur Smith, Katie Brinkley, Sara Billie Tyler, Bob Brown, Eddie Morris, Peggy Robins, Marge Priest, Kathleen Heffley, Jane Dudley, Kristin Hatton, Joanna & Taylor Williamson, Misty Beaver, Avery Flowers, Sharon Williams, Sam Meeks, Mia Delarosa, Betty Bennett, William Mote, Jacey Schmidt, Velia Hernandez, Pat Peale, Rod Miller, Karla Denny, Chelsea Taft, Allen Pierce, Pal Hildebrand, Nancy Williams, Harold "Bud" Sutton, Jerry McWilliams, Gloria Pierpont, Walter Boeko Jr., Kelly Dill, Becky Haines, Evalyn Jones, William Cowdrey, Madison Clark.

Military Personnel: Alisa Davis, Ben Davis, Jerry Horn, Bradlee Brackeen, Stephen Ruzicka, Jason Brown, Craig Fiske, Josh McMullin, Jacob Freeman, Kelsea Stafford Louisiana, John Enderby, James Embrey, Tim Deater, Aaron Krewson.

CHURCH MEETINGS-AUGUST

Sept. 1	5:30 pm	Trustees meeting
	7:00 pm	Staff-Parish Relations Committee
Sept. 15	7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee meeting

SEPTEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING FOR AGAPE QUILTERS

The September Communion offering on Sept. 6 will help support the Agape Quilters in our ministry of making quilts for those who are hospitalized, homebound, or in care facilities. We are inviting the congregation to add a Prayer to the Prayer Quilts on display. Look for hanging threads on the quilts and tie a knot as you pray for the future recipient. Thank you so much for your continued caring. The group meets the second Wednesday each month at the church. All are welcomed.

SEPTEMBER 2015 WORSHIP

Sept. 6 Sermon:	"Playing Favorites" (James 2:1-10) <i>Holy Communion</i>
Sept. 13 Sermon:	"Taming the Tongue" (James 3:1-12)
Sept. 20 Sermon:	"True Wisdom" (James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a)
Sept. 27 Sermon:	"Does Prayer Really Work?" (James 5:13-20)



Up Coming Programs and Events

(COW registration and release forms are available in the church office/website)

- **September Events:**
 - 6 **All Church Event:** Lake Day 1-4pm at Lake Kiowa
 - 9 **COW starts:** K—5th grade have volunteers to shepherd and lead their classes. Looking for an adult volunteer to lead 1st grade or the class will be split. If you feel called to work with children, please contact Greta at 940-665-3926.
 - 26/27 Overnight "Camp Bible" at Bridgeport.
- **October Events:**
 - 18 Children sing in 10:45 Worship Service
 - 25 Fall Fest (an all-church event)

Jesus Urges Giving (JUG)

For the month of July, the children raised \$46.22 during Sunday Worship for:

Habitat for Humanity

Put another candle on the Birthday cake you're another year old today, HOORAY!

9/2	Autumn Hedrick	9/17	Brody Balda
9/10	Walker Boyet	9/17	Miriam Jolly
9/10	Penn Morris	9/21	Arianna Perez
9/10	Sarah Sluder	9/25	Willy Cowdrey
9/14	Macey Hawkins		



SUNDAY SUMMER SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT

The children learned how fish, llamas, pigs, and rabbits are used by Heifer International to not only feed impoverished families, but to help them start small businesses that help their neighbors and the community. The children raised \$112.00 during the project. Fantastic job kids!



Parent's Night Out Pictures (7/31/2015)



MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS FOR COW MUST BE NOTARIZED

FALL FEST

October 25 from 5-7 p.m.

This is an All-Church event and is open to the community. Please invite your family and friends to enjoy chili & hotdogs, delicious, strange punch, carnival games, face painting and balloon animals, cake walk, and costume contest. Everyone (including adults) are invited come in costume.

CAMP BIBLE IN SEPT.

Camp Bible is an overnight, fun-filled camp packed with learning at Bridgeport Camp (9/26-27). Children in 3-5th grade are invited to attend. Partial scholarships are available through the church. Please contact Greta Cuellar at 940-665-3926 for more information.

Miss Kathleen is Back!

Miss Kathleen soothes Journee during Parent's Night Out. They became good friends by the end of the night.

Welcome back! We really missed you during your illness.





MUSIC MINISTRIES

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GAINESVILLE, TX



A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome to FUMC! I am enjoying getting to know so many wonderful new friends, and working in new ways with long-time friends. As we continue our ministries together, I look forward to what we can do to share the love of God through music and worship!

In His Praise,

Susan



Whether you're a singer or a ringer, the choirs are always ready to welcome new members! If you have any questions about how to get started, talk to Susan or one of the current members.

We'd love to have you!



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

6:10-7:10 HANDBELL REHEARSAL

7:15-8:15 CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL

C.O.W. Music!

4:00 Sonshine Choir (grades K-2)

5:00 Disciple Choir (grades 3-5)

Starting Sept. 9

Save the date: This year's Festival of Christmas Music will be on December 13!

Youth – Grades 6-12

Do you like to sing? Ring bells? Play a drum or percussion instrument? Play some other instrument? Then we've got a place for you!!

We are working on forming a youth praise band, and want to include what you love to do!

Let Susan know what your favorite way is to praise and worship with music! You can email her at music.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com!

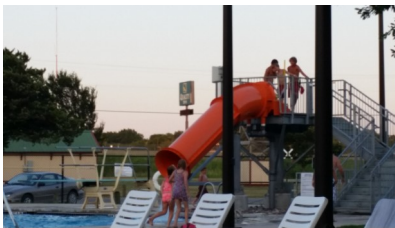


STUDENT & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Contact Bill Mauldin at students.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com

www.firstumcgainesvilletx.com.

Student ministry will have a youth and parent meeting Sunday Aug 30th at 1:30 pm in the fellowship hall. We will be signing up parents to bring snack supper, discussing fall programming, getting updated release forms, and providing adults with background checks and ministry safe information. There will be no UMY that day. There will also be no UMY the following Sunday due to Lake Day 2015 at lake Kiowa 1-4pm. Wednesday studies for middle and high school begin September 9th.



AGAPE QUILTERS



130 + Prayer QUILTS have been given to church family members over the past three years! All because of your generosity, Agape Quilts comforted many. To date, we have made about 150 Prayer Quilts! When made aware of Church members who are facing long-term physical or emotional challenges like physical rehab, surgery, tragic losses, they are presented a Prayer Quilt that has been prayed upon by Agape Quilters and the FUMC Prayer Group. Newborns are also blessed with a quilt.

Agape meets the second Wednesday each month. We welcome anyone who would like to join us. If you can not sew or quilt, we can teach. If you like putting colors together, we need you. For more information contact the church or Towana Stafford, 940-665-8451. I must give special thanks to the ladies who have been hands-on for this ministry. And thank you FUMC Family for making Agape a success. If you have received a quilt and would like to, please bring it to Communion Sunday in September. Towana Stafford

THANK YOU

Thank you for the cards, calls, prayers and emails received after my surgery. Also, a special thanks to the Agape Quilters for a very special blanket. Your thoughts and prayers have me on the road to recovery. Steve Boyer

Thank you for all you do.
In Christian Love, Don Estes

VISTO depends on both monetary and food donations to serve those in need. For a complete list of food items please pick up a flyer from the Mission Corner. For more info contact VISTO at 668-6403.

SERVICE SATURDAY AND HEALTH KITS

Thank you for making Service Saturday a success. Thanks to the help of 30 "Saturday Helpers," we packed 150 health kits, tied quilt knots, scrubbed the bathroom, set up Soles for Souls displays in the sanctuary, worked at Second Time Around and the church parsonage. Thank you for donating money and items for the kits. We needed to send \$1 for each kit so UMCOR can add toothpaste to each kit, and your donations helped pay for the postage. Several Sunday School classes paid for this. To the person who bought items from Amazon.com, we could not have finished the kits without your help. Thank you to those who set up the room, bought and prepared the food. Pastor Don packed 180 kits (150 from Saturday and 30 from the VBS children). We sent 3 boxes off to UMCOR where they will be used all over the world for people who need help because of disasters of many kinds. All of you were and are the hands and feet of Jesus, as you help others.

Thank You from the FUMC Mission Team

FALL FEST ISN'T JUST FOR KIDS...

The annual Fall Fest is scheduled for Sunday, October 25, from 5-7 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to invite family and friends, and to dress up for the costume contest – a highlight of the evening. We will also have our chili cook-off contest. This year a face painter and balloon artist will delight the children. Anyone wishing to donate candy for this event may drop off bags of individually wrapped candy to the office. Please look for sign-up sheets to enter the chili cook-off in October. Hope to see many of you there!

GWEN'S GROUP

A planning meeting for places to visit for 2015-2016 will be held Sunday, September 13, following the 10:45 Service of Worship in the church parlor. Anyone 50+ young is invited to come to the meeting and join the activities as able.

FINANCIALS

Financial Highlights*

	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD July</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Percent of Budget</u>
Income	\$50,015	\$470,773		
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>\$60,634</u>	<u>\$516,246</u>	\$757,031	68.19%
Subtotal Over/ (Under)	(\$10,619)	(\$45,473)		
<u>Debt reduction gift</u>	<u>\$12,500</u>	<u>\$ 87,500</u>		
Over/(Under)	(\$1,881)	\$ 42,027		

Note Payable*--Sanctuary Restoration \$172,884 *Balances from First State Bank

Note Payable*--Phase I & II Building \$697,787

*The Finance Committee has made a commitment to complete financial transparency to church members. If you wish to see additional detail, please contact either Ron Underwood, Finance Committee Chairman, or Mary Jarvis, Financial Administrator.

KATIE BRINKLEY TO PRESENT ZAMBIA PROGRAM ON SEPT. 20



On Sunday, Sept. 20, during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:30 a.m.), Katie Brinkley will present a program in Fellowship Center about her May 2015 trip to Zambia with the "Prosthetic Promises" mission that provides Zambian men, women, and children with prosthetic limbs and eyes. All Sunday School classes are invited to make this your lesson for that day. It will be a blessing. You can read more about the trip and see pictures and videos at Katie's blog: brinkleysonamission.blogspot.com

SOLES FOR SOULS

Thank you for the donations for "Soles for Souls." Thanks to you, we donated over 50 pairs shoes to Edison, Chalmers, and Callisburg schools. We also received over \$2000 for gift cards. Thanks to VISTO, Boys and Girls Club, and Head Start, we were able to give these cards to children who needed shoes. We hope you saw the article in the Gainesville paper about our FUMC Soles for Souls annual back to school fund drive. It is posted on the Missions Bulletin Board (near the kitchen).

Thank you from the Mission Team

"BELIEVE" STUDY TO BEGIN ON SEPT. 9

How do you Think, Act, and Be like Jesus? Join us for "Believe: Living the Story of the Bible to Become Like Jesus," a new 30-session study of the big truths of Scripture by Randy Frazee. We will look at ten core Beliefs of the Christian Faith, ten Core Practices of a Jesus-Follower, and ten Core Virtues of someone who is becoming more like Jesus.

"Believe" will be led by Pastor Don Yeager and will meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., beginning on Sept. 9. The cost is \$30 per person for materials, which include a book of Bible readings for each week's session and a personal study guide. The class sessions will last about an hour to an hour and 15 minutes each week. Each session will include a short video presentation and discussion of the week's topic, based on Scripture.

You can sign up at the table outside the church office or call (940-665-3926) or email (pastor.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com) Pastor Don for more information.

TABLETOP TREASURES

*A Time to Remember
and A Look to the Future*

Tabletop Treasures 2015



The United Methodist Women celebrate 25 years of Tabletop Treasures. This yearly fundraiser will take place on Monday, October 12, with the Preview Party from 5-7 p.m. and on Tuesday, October 13, for the Luncheon from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Over \$7000.00 was raised and

distributed to many local charities and to UMCOR from last year's event. The theme this year is "A Time to Remember – A Look to the Future". Anyone wishing to create a table or re-create a table that they have done before may contact Kendal Balda. Groups wishing to reserve a table for lunch may contact Jane Dobson. Please call the church office for contact numbers. Tickets will be available soon; \$7.00 for Preview Party, \$15.00 for Luncheon.

First United Methodist Church

9/2015

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 146
Gainesville, TX 76240

214 S. Denton Street
Gainesville, Texas 76240

Phone: 940-665-3926

Fax: 940-665-4372

office.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

www.firstumcgainesvilletx.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

«First Name» «Last Name»

«Address»

«City», «State» «Zip Code»



The Mission of First
United Methodist Church
is to know Christ and
make Him known.

Your Church Staff

Rev. Don Yeager, Pastor
Mary Jarvis, Finance Administrator
Bill Mauldin, Dir. Student /Family Ministry
Susan Beall: Music Ministries Director

Greta Cuellar, Christian Education Director
Jean Smelcer, Church Office Administrator
Melodye McLeroy, Church Accompanist
Connie Hoberer, The Learning Tree Director

Staff E-mail Addresses:

Don Yeager: pastor.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com
Mary Jarvis: finance.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com
Bill Mauldin: students.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com

Susan Beall: music.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com
Greta Cuellar: christianed.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com
Jean Smelcer: office.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com

Informer Article Deadline

All articles and information for **Oct 2015** issue of "The Informer" need to be submitted no later than Monday September 22. you may drop off your information to the church office or e-mail to office.fumcgainesvilletx@gmail.com

Second Time Around

**105 S. Denton Street
Gainesville, Texas 76240**
Monday / Tuesday / Thursday / Friday
10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
665-7939
Volunteers welcome!