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Office Hours

Mon– Thurs

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

*Happy
Birthday!*

Lewis Wayne
Shafer 10/24

Sally Messenger
10/25

Brandon
Thomason 10/26

Sam Damron 10/27

First United Methodist Church

10/20/2020

A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR

Question: Do you test God or are you putting God to the test? There is a difference.

In Malachi 3:6-12, the prophet writes, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." The LORD commands us to test his promises, but he wants us to do so as an act of faith.

The people were forgetting that it was God's grace that preserved their existence. They acted as if they did not know that they were breaking covenant with the LORD. So, the LORD uses the example of 'tithing' to drill home their unfaithfulness.

Here is the idea. Israel lost sight that they are who they are because the LORD never changed in his loving kindness toward them despite their repeated times of unfaithfulness. We are to remember that it is only through Jesus that we are sustained despite our unfaithfulness. The mention of tithes is not so much a "how to give to the church" plan, but a call to trust the Holy Trinity with all that you have--o make your best gift.

The LORD says to bring, test, and see if he is not overwhelmingly faithful. Can you trust God to bring your best financial gift so that we may do what we are called to do? Will you test God because you trust him with your existence. Having done so, will you see the great ministry of our church as a confirmation of his faithfulness. The Holy Trinity is the one and only promise keeping God. Let's trust him with everything that we could possibly offer, and then see the fruits of our faith-response.

Your friendly neighborhood local Methodist pastor,
Brooks

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are thrilled to announce that, thanks to six incredible volunteers who will be working together on a rotational basis, children's Sunday school will begin November 1st at 10:00 AM. Thank you to the incredible adults willing to pour into our First UMC kids! Praise the Lord!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It's that time again! We hope you'll join us in making Christmas a blessing for children around the globe. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to provide local churches who are our ministry partners around the world with shoebox gifts as a way to reach children in their communities. For many children, this is the first gift they will ever receive. More important than the items inside the shoebox, the gifts are an opportunity to share God's love—and the Good News of Jesus Christ—with children in need. In more than 100 receiving countries, shoebox gifts are used by local Christians as a strategy for evangelism, discipleship, and the multiplication of believers and churches in their communities. More important than the items inside the shoebox, the gifts are an opportunity to share God's love— and the Good News of Jesus Christ—with children in need.

You and your family can be a part by filling a box or boxes to be returned by November 15th. More information on great ideas for boxes to come in the following weeks. Please prayerfully consider participating in this beautiful outreach so that simple gifts—packed with love in Jesus' name— can deliver hope and joy to children all around the world.

OCC DROP-OFF LOCATION

Our church will serve as an Shoebox drop-off point for the surrounding communities. If you are interested in helping the week of November 15th, please contact Angela or Becky at the church office.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS

FOOD PANTRY

Jesus, we praise You for the incredible work that You do with the Food Pantry. We see Your provisions with food, volunteers, funding, and families who are served by the ministry. We acknowledge that all of it comes from You.

We pray for the continuance of the program with Your blessing. Pour out Your love on every hand and heart touched by the ministry. Empower and strengthen the volunteers and donors to know how to manage Your ministry well. God, we pray that every single recipient of the Food Pantry understand with divine knowledge the deep, deep love You have for them.

Amen

PRAYER CONCERNS

Love and condolences to the family of Claude Riley
Love and condolences to the family of Sandy Noble
Gary Ward of Lubbock, recent cancer diagnosis and long treatment journey
Carolyn Johnson
Kem Bales
Dr. Bruce Purdy
Gladys Black
Kearney Scoggin
Buck & Lynn Campbell
Lawrence Stovall, father of Terry Marricle
Larry & Berta Combs
Bonnie Carpenter
Mary Nell Bleeker
Margaret Burhman
Those affected by Coronavirus
Maurine Hooten
Barbara Blackman
Bettye Noble
Jo Jinks
Pat Nickels
J. W. Herington
Marshal Head
Sally Ellis
Leonardo Aviles
The Women Removing Barriers Sanctuary in Muleshoe for women and children
Winn Cantwell
Debbie Treider and her mother Joy Coston
Marjorie Morgan, mother of Pam Thomason
Lewis Wayne & Wanda Shafer
Deke Kendrick of Friona, Sally Messenger's Mother
Walter Marie Boness
Molly Anthony of Portales, mother of Mark Anthony
Wanda Cockerham
Randy Smith of Lazbuddie
Sandy & Royce Turner
America, our president, all of our governmental elected and appointed officials, and world leaders
Our Military and their families: Brad Henry (Navy), Judd Glover (Air Force), Treg Box (Marines),
Morgan Young (Army), Landon Leschper (Army)



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