

507 W 2ND ST
P.O. BOX 505
MULESHOE, TX 79347
806-272-5517

Office Hours

Mon– Thurs

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

Friday

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

*Happy
Birthday!*

LeAnn Gallman
12/31

Tony Barrier 1/2

Linda Elder 1/3

Judy Griswold 1/4

Kem Bales 1/10

First United Methodist Church

1 / 5 / 2 0 2 1

A Word from Pastor Brooks

Did you make goals for 2021? In many ways, 2020 was a 'dumpster fire' of a year. Now, we enter 2021 expecting extended Corona related protocols. We have uncertainty about our great republic, and the ramifications of the final electoral process on January 6th will forever change the way of life of most Americans. We lost loved ones, and now our family and friends may be headed alone into the new year for the first time in decades. How do we respond as a church?

When you watch TV in the following weeks, the emphasis will fall on diets and exercise machines, new technologies, gym memberships, and exciting events. It is easy to get caught up in the fast-paced nature of our society. It is also tempting as a church to spend our time frantically working ourselves to the point of exhaustion, yet paying more attention to other people's business than our own, being so busy-minded that we convince ourselves we are too busy to work. Paul has different goals for the church in Thessalonica 4.11-12. Paul's goals are the following:

1. make it your desire to lead a quiet, peaceful, life ... just like we told you to do prior to this letter.
2. Don't meddle in other people's business.
3. Work with your hands.

Why? These instructions will help you win respect (credibility) in the eyes of your non-Christian neighbors and will allow you to be independent (of them and your family in Christ).

In summary, a sanctified life that wins people to Christ is a life of peace and love that does not draw attention to itself, rather, it points people to Christ. They see it, and they will want to know more about why we respond differently to the events of our world. We all have enough work to do on our own. Our business is our business. You do you. Mind your own business. Finally, don't think that the rest of us will be here to take care of you when you find yourself in a dire situation because you failed to be industrious and plan for the future. That is embarrassing. That is not the model we find in Christ! The outside world is watching. Work your butt off and let's become a community of independent families and individuals who come together when needed for the good of all. You've been doing this so well! Don't become complacent with your recent successes in the mission field. Remember, small churches are depending upon your help.

Are these your goals? Are these our goals? If not, consider Paul's perspective before you make your own plans. Paul has a pretty good track record.

Your friendly, local, Methodist pastor,

Brooks Morton

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS PRIORITIES

We spent the last half of 2020 lifting up others, praying for protection and provision for those in service to others, such as schools, emergency services, health care workers, and ministries outside the church. As we start off 2021, let's turn our prayer focus inward, asking the Lord to do a mighty work in our hearts, for what transformations of the heart occur within us will inevitably impact everything around us.

Father, we ask that you would bring to our attention anything on our priority list that isn't in alignment with Your plan for our lives. Give us the eyes to see our priorities through a lens of truth, and give us the courage to face any changes that you call us to make.

We confess that we want what we want, so please begin a new work in us so that we might want more of what You want for us. And let this start with our priorities.

We pray these things trusting that You want what is best for us and know what is best for us. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH IS STARTING BACK UP!

Youth will begin January 6th with a movie night! If you have air mattresses, floor pillows, or bean bags that you'd be willing to loan the youth for the movie night, please let Victoria know. And if you'd like to provide the meal, please let her know as well. We are thankful that the kids will be able to meet again. Please lift up the youth program in your prayers.

GRIEFSHARE

Sign up for Griefshare at griefshare.org. We invite anyone who is ready to face the next right step in the grieving process to join us on Monday evenings at 5:30 starting January 11th. This is not exclusive to our church, so if you know someone who would benefit from this program, please invite them to be a part. Brochures with additional details can be found in the foyer.

WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

Our Wednesday lunch group will start back up again on Wednesday, January 13th at noon in the Life Tree room. It's a great group of people and a great way to read the Bible with others. All are welcome.

MEN'S GROUP

Our men's Bible study will start back up on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM. All men are encouraged to attend this group of guys who are seeking to get in the Word and be in community with other believers.

Mondays at 5:30 PM
January 11 - April 5
507 W. 2nd Street

Workbook fee: \$15
Childcare is free
Register at griefshare.com
or call 806.272.5517



PRAYER CONCERNS

Love and condolences to the Chris Mardis family on the passing of his uncle, Pat Childers

Carolyn and Lawrence Stovall, parents of Terry Marricle

Ellen Ladd

Melba and Tom Bratcher

Janis Morrison's brother

Carolyn Johnson

Our community members currently fighting COVID

Kem Bales

Gladys Black

Kearney Scoggin

Buck & Lynn Campbell

Jeremy Combs

Bonnie Carpenter

Mary Nell Bleeker

Margaret Burhman

Maurine Hooten

Bettye Noble

Jo Jinks

Pat Nickels

J. W. Herington

Sally Ellis

Leonardo Aviles

Winn Cantwell

Debbie Treider and her mother Joy Coston

Marjorie Morgan, mother of Pam Thomason

Lewis Wayne & Wanda Shafer

Walter Marie Boness

Molly Anthony of Portales, mother of Mark Anthony

Wanda Cockerham

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)



PO Box 505

Muleshoe, TX 79347