

February 22, 2017

# Methogram

“The mission of First United Methodist Church of Silsbee is to glorify God, make disciples, and transform lives in Christ”

## The View From Downtown

Dear Friends,

It seems like the Spring season is just around the corner. But, this being Texas, it could be 34 degrees or 84 degrees any day of the week.

When I think of Spring, I envision new life in budding trees, flowers in blossom, sunny days, and hoped-for mild temperatures. And, for those of you who are sports-minded, it means baseball.

I can remember the countless hours of practicing and playing from age 12 through my high school years. Since then, I have enjoyed watching the games on the high school and pro levels. The one ingredient that links the sport of baseball through all stages of play is the importance of “team”. A team functions at its best when the individual members put the interests and goals of the team ahead of any individual achievements. If you

think about it, a church is a lot like a team. In Matthew 20 verse 28, Jesus says, “Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” NIV translation. If we are to accomplish the ministries of First UMC, then the staff and all members need to work together. Ultimately, our focus is to offer the good news of healing and forgiveness by our Savior, Jesus.

With springtime on the horizon, may all of us form a team that helps First UMC become a vibrant and serving community of Christian believers.

In Christ,

*Pastor David*

## Blessing Bag Meals for the homeless

The Evangelism committee will be starting an outreach program providing meals for the homeless. This will be a sack lunch served at the park on E. Ave G (behind Gus’s Tire Shop).

We will be needing donations of lunch meat, cheese slices, salad dressing, bread, drinks, fruit, and money. If you are able to help with this, please contact Mickey Stanton.

Thank you!

### The Evangelism Ministry meets Monday Mornings at 11:00 a.m.

We invite anyone with a heart for prayer to meet with us on Monday.

We also pray that everyone is making prayer for our church a daily commitment.

Also, since Nancy retired, our church prayer chain is not as active. We are wanting to restart and update the prayer chain. Those wishing to be a part of our prayer chain can contact Mickey Stanton at 373-4303 as soon as possible.



We had a really good time on the 12th of February. The children's Sunday School classes went for a prayer walk through the church parking lots. We stopped to pray for the occupants of the vehicle and put a sticky note on the window. There were 21 children in Sunday School that day. Isn't that wonderful! The children all behaved very well and had a good time. We are planning to have an activity on the second Sunday of each month. The kids are going to enjoy next month's activity a lot. Ash Wednesday is coming soon. This is the beginning of the Lenten season of our church and it leads to Easter Sunday. There will be a special service on Ash Wednesday with the imposing of ashes and communion. I hope you will be there for this impressive service.

Oh boy, Spring Break!! I know that you are all looking forward to this. I pray that all of you have a safe and happy time.

On April 1st, boy I am looking forward to that day! That is the day of the 5k walk/run. I am walking in it, and I hope you and your families will get involved. It will raised money for youth activities, and that is such a good cause.

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is on the 9th of April, Palm Sunday. It will be at the home of the Voigtman family at 2:00 pm. Bring your baskets and get ready for fun and a few surprises. On Easter Sunday we will have a sunrise service on the lawn in front of McDonough Hall at 8:00 a.m. I didn't even know that the sun was out that early. After the service we will have the He is Risen breakfast for the whole church at 8:00 a.m.

On May 7th, we are planning a Talent Show to showcase all the many talents of our children and youth, so start practicing. It will be from 7:00 pm.—9:00 p.m. in McDonough Hall. On May 14th, the children will be serving breakfast to the mothers in our congregation. We will be serving from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., during Sunday School time. Treat your Mother or Grandmother to a special meal on her day. And on June 18th, we will have a Father's Day breakfast from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Our parents are very special to us and we need to treat them that way.

Church camp will be June 18-23. If you would like to attend, please get with me or Ben to register. Vacation Bible School is July 10-14, and we look forward to seeing you all there!

~Mrs. Glenda



Hello Everyone!!! For starters, I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped out during the soccer team dinner on Thursday, February 2nd. We

had a great turnout with 34 out of the 40 soccer players from the boys and girls soccer team coming to our church. I was amazed how the soccer boys devoured the pasta that we made for them!!! Teenage boys sure do have quite an appetite. I think it was a very successful event for our church and many of the players said thank you to me for putting the dinner together. Hopefully, we can have more events like this in the future.

Furthermore, confirmation classes started on Super Bowl Sunday. I really enjoy teaching the children more about the tenets of the Methodist faith and getting to see the responses the youth have about the different events in the Bible. God is making a huge impact in the lives of these youth at an early age.

Additionally, our church 5K race is just around the corner on Saturday, April 1st at 8:00 am. If you have not already signed up you can go online to [www.silsbeeumc.com/Youth5kRunForm](http://www.silsbeeumc.com/Youth5kRunForm) to register for the event. If you would like to volunteer to help at the race please email me at [youth@silsbeeumc.com](mailto:youth@silsbeeumc.com). We need people to help runners/walkers navigate the course, pass out water, and write down race numbers as people finish. If you would like a race t-shirt you will need to sign up by March 18th!!!

Lastly, if you have not already emailed me or Jennifer about your child attending Lakeview summer camp in Palestine, Texas from June 18 through the 23rd, then please let us know so that we can get an idea about how many youth will be attending camp this summer. The cost of the camp is 400 dollars with our church covering half of the cost of each student. I pray that everyone has a safe and fun next couple of weeks and see you in the next Methogram!!!

God Bless,  
Ben Schulz

# *In Loving Memory*

## Eldon Smith

James and Tonya Hawkins

## Tom Worthey

Ed and Sonia Cain

## JP White

Ed and Sonia Cain

## Barbara Faye Kaminski

Joyce McClung

<u>Worship</u>		<u>Gifts</u>	
02/05	151	02/05	\$9,612.64
02/12	182	02/12	\$5,308.20
02/19	171	02/19	\$11,133.34
<u>Sunday School</u>			
02/05	70		
02/12	93		
02/19	75		

## **First UMC celebrates 1st**

### **New Members of 2017**

First UMC is excited to welcome our first new members of 2017. At the 11:00 a.m. service on February 19th, First UMC welcomed Barbara Holbert, Scott and Susan Holbert, and Alicia Jaramillo of 2175 Hwy 327, Silsbee, TX, 77656. This grandmother, son and daughter in law, and granddaughter all join from other denominations. Please take the opportunity to welcome these folks to First UMC.

## **Lent Starts with Ash**

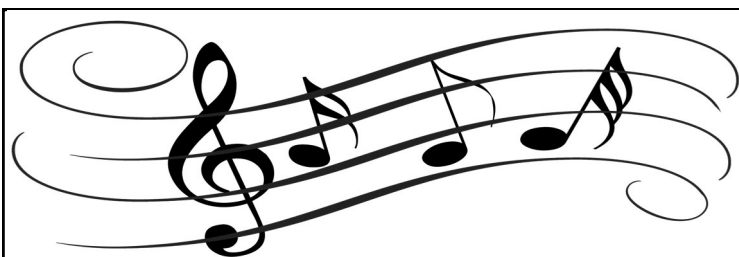
### **Wednesday on March 1st**

The Christian season of Lent is a 40 day preparation for celebrating Easter. Lent began as a time for fasting and preparation for baptism but now has become a time of penance by all Christians.

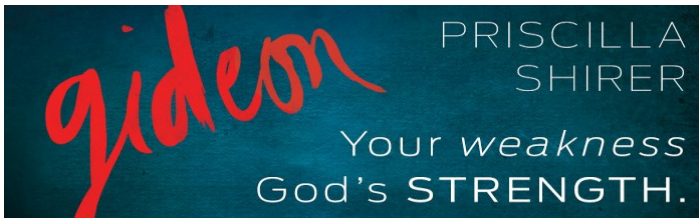
On Ash Wednesday, you are invited to a worship service where we will contemplate our own mortality and the confession of our sin before God. The imposition of ashes on the forehead is a sign of our mortality and repentance. Also, we will share Holy Communion together.

This year, First UMC will offer two opportunities to participate in this special day. From 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., Pastor David will offer the imposition of ashes outdoors in the parking area near the sanctuary. Then, at 7:00 p.m., we will have a service in the sanctuary with ashes, holy communion, preaching, prayers, and singing hymns.

We hope to see everyone either in the morning or evening of March 1.



Piano students of Jay Collier scored high at the area UIL contest on Saturday February 4 in Lumberton. The group consisted of five students, earning four I's and one II on Class I pieces. Those performing were Corben Johnson, Meaghan Bloodworth, Jacob Fisher, Jameslee Peppenhorst, and Carley Shutter.



We are just about to finish viewing the Belong Tour and I believe all the participants have been blessed by it. We are excited to announce a Bible Study opportunity in March.

We would like to invite any interested women to join us in a study beginning March 26, 2017 during the Sunday School hour (10:00 – 10:45 a.m.).

The study is entitled **Gideon: Your weakness. God's strength.** It is a 7 session women's Bible study by **Priscilla Shirer.** "When we hear the name Gideon, most of us think about his 300 soldiers or the fleece he laid out under the evening sky. But Gideon's story is so much bigger than that—bigger than any one man and his mark on Israel's history. Like everything else in the Bible, this is a story about God and His people. His love for them, as well as His strength operating in spite of their weakness—even through their weakness. And because God's people includes you and me, Gideon's story is also about us—our lives, our doubts, our struggles, and our possibilities as believers. From a

state of fear, weakness, and insecurity, Gideon emerged as Israel's hero, filled with God's presence and His passion for deliverance. This study will encourage you to recognize your weakness as the key that the Lord gives you to unlock the full experience of His strength in your life. In what ways do you feel insufficient? Those places create the greatest opportunity to experience the sufficiency of God. Instead of ignoring, neglecting, or trying to escape your weaknesses, see them as the gifts that they are, given specifically and strategically by God to unlock the door of God's strength."

If you are interested in joining us for this study, please contact Jennifer at the church office and RSVP. This study will be a DVD study and will allow time for group discussion. There is also a Bible study book that is available for purchase. The books are available at Lifeway for purchase in the amount of \$12.99.

They are also available for sale on Amazon for \$12.99. If you would like us to purchase a book for you, please let Jennifer know that when you RSVP and we will be happy to have you reimburse us for the cost of the book when we present it to you. Otherwise, feel free to obtain the copy on your own or share with a friend. Please watch for more information concerning the location of the class as it will depend on class size.

## First United Methodist Church

670 North 5th Street

Silsbee Texas 77656

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

