

September 26, 2018

# 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,

In our complicated world, one of the most requested and sought after gifts is the gift of “security”. According to the online source called Wiktionary, “security is a condition of not being threatened, especially physically, psychologically, emotionally, or financially.” Security is often sought by money, rules, laws, regulations, and freedom. However, if we are honest with ourselves, security as the world views it is never 100% guaranteed. Jesus, in the gospel of John, has some encouraging words for believers. John 16 verse 33 says “I’ve said these things to you so that you will have peace in me. In the world you will have distress. But be encouraged! I have conquered the world.”

When security issues cause you anxiety, I hope this poem from Chicken Soup for the Christian Family Soup will comfort you:

### **When I Say I Am a Christian**

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I’m not shouting, “I am saved!”  
I’m whispering, “I was lost”  
That’s why I chose His way.”

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I don’t speak of this with pride  
I’m confessing that I stumble  
needing God to be my guide.

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I’m not trying to be strong  
I’m professing that I’m weak  
and pray for strength to carry on.

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I’m not bragging of success  
I’m admitting that I’ve failed  
and cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I don’t think I know it all  
I submit to my confusion  
asking humbly to be taught.

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I’m not claiming to be perfect  
My flaws are too visible  
but God believes I’m worth it.

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I still feel the sting of pain  
I have my share of heartaches  
which is why I seek His name.

When I say, “I am a Christian”  
I do not wish to judge  
I have no authority  
I only know I’m loved.

Living through Christ,

*Pastor David*

### **Church Council Seeking Members for Nominations Committee**

The Church Council is seeking six church members to serve on the Nominations Committee for 2019. The main responsibility would be to nominate future Council members. If you are interested in helping out with this committee, please contact Bill Voigtman.

**Worship**

09/02	140
09/09	153
09/16	159
09/23	153

**Sunday School**

09/02	78
09/09	97
09/16	86
09/23	83

**Gifts**

09/02	\$8,045.00
09/09	\$7,538.50
09/16	\$4,291.00
09/23	\$2,996.00

**Stewardship 2019 at First UMC**

As we enter the time of autumn, we are once again reminded of the need and importance of stewardship for the ministries of our church. The theme for our 2019 campaign is SEW– Share, Encourage, and Welcome. Our theme verse will be Luke 6:38 which says “Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion– packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing– will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return”.

Our stewardship focus will be three Sundays in October. On October 14, Sharing will be found in Genesis 14:17-20. On October 21, Encouraging will be found in II Corinthians 9:6-15. Finally, on October 28, we will learn about Welcoming from I Peter 4:7-11.

On October 28, we will bring our stewardship cards to worship and present them to our Lord. May all of us be praying about how God can use us to bless our church and many others through the ministries of our church.

*In Loving Memory*

**Robert Neyland**

Charles and Susie Watts

Irene Redkey

**Sharon Boothman**

Will Neyland

Yvonne Neyland

**Pastor and Wife to  
attend Small Church  
Pastor's Retreat.**

David and Anita will attend the Small Church Pastor's Retreat at Mo-Ranch in Hunt Texas from October 15 to October 18. This conference will allow time for rest, renewal, and study. Please pray for our pastors during this time away.



Sunday, October 14, at 10:00 am in the Dauphin Room, all deer hunters will gather for breakfast and a presentation by a local game warden regarding the deer season conditions and rules. An offering will be received to support the Game Warden program in Texas. Everyone is encouraged to wear camo. A gift will be given to each hunter present. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, October 1st.

# COUNCIL MINUTES

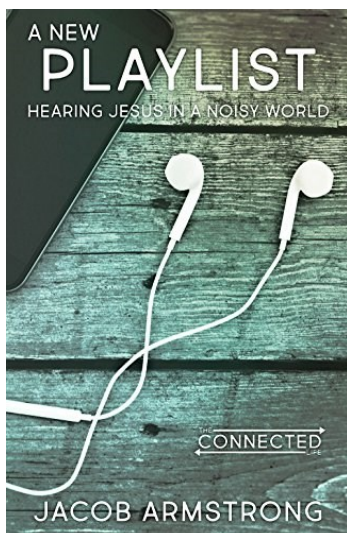
The Church Council met on August 22, 2018. Below is a summary of a few of the many topics discussed at this meeting. A copy of the minutes can be picked up in the Church office or can be sent at your request via email.

**Safety/Security** – An update on the changes being made to increase the safety and security of our Church and those in attendance. Members can expect to see some changes on our campus in the coming months reflecting some of the increased security measures that will be in place. Volunteers are still needed to help as it relates to the area of security. Please contact the church office if you are willing to help in this area.

**Church Website** – The information on our church’s website has been updated. A big thank you to Darlene Hart for updating this information for us. Please visit [www.silsbeeumc.com](http://www.silsbeeumc.com) and check it out. The Council is looking into the possibility of completely revamping the Church website in the future!

**Charge Conference** – The Charge Conference will be held in the Dauphin Room on October 7, 2018 from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you there.

As always, many more topics were discussed and many action items have been identified and will be followed up on. Please be in prayer for our Church and its leadership!! You are encouraged to be involved and share your ideas and thoughts. You are important to the process!



## **New Fall Bible Study to Begin October 7**

Once again, First UMC is glad to offer a group Bible Study called “A New Playlist-Hearing Jesus in a Noisy World” by Pastor Jacob Armstrong. This six-week study will begin on Sunday, October 7 at 6:30 pm in Cravens Hall. The cost for a student book is \$11 and books will be available starting September 30.

This Course will be held on six consecutive Sundays which are October 7, 14, 21, 28, November 4, and November 11



## **Items Needed for Shoebox Ministry**

1. Small Trucks or Cars– September 30
2. Small Dolls - October 7
3. Small Balls- October 14
4. Socks-October 21
5. Toothbrushes, Hairbrush, or Combs- October 28
6. Small Bars of Soap– November 4

We will gather on Sunday, November 11 after the 11:00 am Worship Service to pack the shoeboxes.

## **Annual Charge Conference to be held October 7**

On Sunday, October 7, First UMC Silsbee will be joined by our District Superintendent, Rev. Alicia Coltzer Besser, and churches from Kountze, Warren, and Wildwood at 5:00 pm in McDonough Hall for the 2018 Charge Conference. Refreshments will be served and various reports will be presented. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

### **First United Methodist Church**

670 North 5th Street  
Silsbee Texas 77656

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

