

February, 2019

# 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

### 2018 was a great year at FUMC – Silsbee

2018 was a year of success and change at FUMC – Silsbee. On the success front, we received \$384,402.00 through pledges, non-pledged monies, rental of the Gulf Coast Center, and other financial gifts. Our expenses were \$342,402.00 so that means we cleared \$41,663!!! Now, does that mean we can stop giving? NO, because our ministries are on-going, new for 2019 and we have a debt of \$95,000 from our loan. We paid 59% on our 2018 apportionments which was a 32% increase from 2017.

The changes that we implemented in 2018 started with the formation of a Single Board/Church Council format of 10 members plus the pastor which meets monthly. We have secured additional security upgrades of cameras for all buildings and doors with our new computers having recording and improved reliability. All of the outside doors have been re-keyed for all of the buildings. The sanctuary lights have been replaced with new energy saving ones that are brighter. We are going to bring in an Audio/Visual company to look at our sanctuary and McDonough Hall equipment. On a personnel front, we hired Michelle Harrison to be our church and financial secretary and Cheryl Owens as our Director of Ministries. The new pictorial directory will be delivered before Easter.

On the downside, we lost 10 members due to death and 9 others to other churches or moves. We gained 8 new members of which 4 were from Profession of Faith. Our membership now stands at 660. We averaged 140 in worship for 2018. Sadly, we have too many members who have decided not to attend or are no longer members. We will be working in 2019 to determine the reasons why 520 members are missing. Financially, 48 individuals/families pledged \$160,316.00 for 2019. This is a decrease of 1 unit and \$47,325 from 2018. For most churches, they have to have a pledge amount of 75 to 80% for a budget. So far, we are only at 40% for 2019.

In conclusion, things are better in many ways for FUMC-Silsbee but we have several challenges that need to be faced so that our church can operate in the ministries that God is calling us to in 2019.

In Christ,

Pastor David

## Church Council Update

The Church Council met on September 25, 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** – The Council reviewed bids for work pertaining to increased security for our Church. The Council also expects to receive additional bids in the next few weeks. This is something that will continue to be discussed and acted on at each Council meeting. The Council is working diligently to implement increased security measures.

**Parsonage Inspection** – The annual inspection of the parsonage went very well. A signed copy of the completed inspection was turned into the Church Council. There are a few minor repairs that will need to be accomplished and a few, more significant repairs that were identified as areas that will need to be addressed in the future.

**The Building Use Policy** – The Building Use Policy is being reviewed and will be updated. Until that review is complete and the new policies are ready to be implemented, only members of First United Methodist Church Silsbee will be permitted to use our buildings.

**New Nominations Committee** – Volunteers are needed for this committee. Please contact the Church office if you would like to volunteer to serve on this vital committee.

### **Ministry Updates – David Green**

There will be a Fall Bible Study entitled Play List. It will be a six-week study that will be held in Craven's Hall on Sundays at 6:00 p.m.

As always, many more topics were discussed and many action items have been identified and will be followed up on. We are excited about the future of First United Methodist Church Silsbee! We encourage you to be involved, attend Church Council meetings and share your thoughts and concerns! With Christ guiding us and everyone working together as the Body of Christ, there is no limit to what can be accomplished. Please be in prayer for our Church and its leadership!!

Ephesians 3:20-21 -- Now to him who IS ABLE to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to HIS POWER that is at work WITHIN US, to HIM be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! AMEN.

Hey, church family, I've hit the ground running in my new position as Director of Ministries here at FUMC Silsbee. I'm so grateful for the opportunity God and you have given me and I look forward to serving.

In His Love,  
Cheryl Owens

### **In Loving Memory**

#### **Worship**

01/06 - 122  
01/13 - 111  
01/20 - 121

#### **Sunday School**

01/06 - 79  
01/13 - 70  
01/20 - 75

#### **Gifts**

01/06 - \$11875.00  
01/13 - \$6066.00  
01/20 - \$3463.00

#### **L T Hataway**

Marjorie Cassity  
Irene Redkey

#### **Jim Miller**

Marjorie Cassity

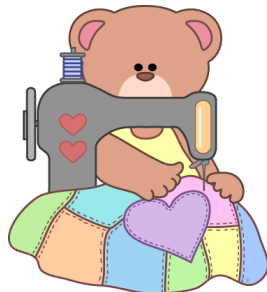
#### **Yvonne Neyland**

Marjorie Cassity  
Irene Redkey

#### **Roy Cash**

Marjorie Cassity

### **Sewing Machines Needed!!!!!!**



When CASA or CPS remove a child from their home, they pack their belongings in a black plastic bag. There is a group of 11 women that sew pretty fabric bags for the children to pack their belongings in. The women are in need of sewing machines, and several other items for this very special ministry.

If you have a sewing machine to donate, or could make a monetary donation, it would be greatly appreciated. It is so rewarding to know that a child feels special when they get their very own beautiful bag to put their belongings in.

Sewing machines and monetary donations can be dropped off at the church. For more information, you may contact Mrs. Jan Wilson at 409-656-7155.

### **FUMC – Silsbee to Celebrate**

#### **Boy Scout Sunday - February 10, 2019**



FUMC is proud of its rich and long heritage of supporting the Boy Scout ministry at our church. Since 1960 we have welcomed numerous Eagle Scouts, which is the highest ranking in scouting. Currently, our church offers meeting space and volunteers for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts. On Sunday, February 10, 2019 at the 11:00 AM service, our Boy Scouts will be recognized and participate in the leadership of worship. Come to worship on this special Sunday and be inspired by what you see and hear that is happening in our scouting ministries.

### **2019 Slogan – What’s Your Ministry?**



A new year has begun and with it signals a new beginning for the various and diverse ministries at FUMC – Silsbee. As we start this journey together, it is important to have a focus, a centering point which will drive and encourage our efforts through our church. In 2018, our slogan was We Can Make a Difference With God’s Help. Our Director of Music Ministries, Mark Wilson, has come up with the slogan which will guide us in 2019. In 2019, we will all be challenged and supported by the new slogan which is: **What’s Your Ministry? in 2019!** In the next Methogram, a list of ministry opportunities that happen Monday through Sunday will be published to help you find your area of ministry. As it says in Hymn #558 entitled “We Are the Church” verse 1: The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, the church is a people. May it be so with God’s blessing and guidance.

### **JOB OPENING**

#### **Office Assistant (Part-time) for the Southeast District, Texas Annual Conference**

#### **Office is located in downtown Beaumont**

The Office Assistant will be supervised by the District Administrative Assistant and will be accountable to both the DS and District Administrative Assistant in his/her duties. The position requires: Punctual support of office hours, which will be 12 to 15 hours per week. The hours and days will be determined at the time of a job offer and acceptance (Since the position is part-time, health insurance, pension, etc. are not available.) The position requires representing the district and the Annual Conference to the churches and pastors in a gracious and helpful Christian manner. The Office Assistant must be able to maintain confidentiality on appropriate matters relating to churches and pastors.

**To Apply, Submit Resume via:** email to [colbert@txumc.org](mailto:colbert@txumc.org) or US Mail to Southeast District, P. O. Box 4004, Beaumont, TX 77704

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT RESUME:** January 31, 2019

## February is Christian Care Center Month

(Christian Care Center provides assistance for the residents of Silsbee and Lumberton areas)

### Christian Care Center Provides:

Food  
Clothing  
Utility Assistance  
Dental Assistance  
Christmas Program  
Prescription Medication Assistance  
Attorney Assistance (1 Month Legal Aid)  
Food Stamp Application Assistance

### We Need Volunteers in the Following Areas

Pick-up food from HEB - Variable Days at 8:00 AM  
Interviewers  
Pantry Workers  
Clothing Workers

### **First United Methodist Church**

670 North 5th Street  
Silsbee Texas 77656

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

