

FUMC Newsletter



First United Methodist Church • Alvin, Texas
Our Mission: To help people KNOW Christ,
GROW in Christ, and GO to serve Christ.



February 2019

Dear Church,

Chuck Swindoll tells a true story about a kindergarten teacher who was determining how much religious training her new students had. While talking with one little boy, to whom the story of Jesus was obviously brand new, she began relating his death on the cross. When asked what a cross was, she picked up some sticks, and fashioning a crude one, she explained that Jesus was actually nailed to that cross, and then he died. The little boy, with eyes downcast, quietly acknowledged, “Oh, that’s too bad.” In the very next breath, however, the teacher related that Christ rose again and that He came back to life. And the young boy’s little eyes got as big as saucers. He lit up and exclaimed, “Totally awesome!”

As we all go through the season of lent we tend to feel like the little kindergarten student. We go through the passion narratives in the Bible and are saddened and disturbed by the brutality. Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday services remind us of the pain of the cross. We experience the “sacrificial lamb” that just happens to be our friend, our mentor, and our savior. Our sins and shortcomings feel all the more painful and we tend to beat ourselves up. Then comes the “Totally Awesome” Easter celebration where we can celebrate victory over sin and death. The ebb and flow of the Christian year can be painful but you cannot truly celebrate Easter without understanding the sacrifice. By Jesus’ stripes we are made whole, by Jesus blood are we made clean, by Jesus’ resurrection power we experience victory.

As we begin our journey through the 40 days of lent, beginning this Ash Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., I would like to encourage you to experience the fullness of this season by fasting, prayer, Scripture reading, self-examination, and communal worship.

The Lenten sermon series is as follows:

March 6 Ash Wednesday Service focusing on sin, confession, repentance and mortality. (Joel 2:12-13)

1. March 10 The Mouth of Christ (Deuteronomy 8:1-10 Luke 4:1-4)
2. March 17 Jesus' lament over Jerusalem and his determination to die in the Holy City of God (Luke 13:31-35)
3. March 24 Where was God? (Luke 13:1-5)
4. March 31 Unconditional Love Luke (15: 1-3, 11-32)
5. April 7 Am I prepared for death? (John 12.1-11)

Palm Sunday April 14 Where Will You be Standing? (Luke 19: 28-40 (38?))

Easter Sunday April 21 What Are You Looking For? (John 20:15)

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mike

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES



Looking for a place to study Gods word? Here is a brief description of our Sunday school classes:

Young Adult Fellowship– Room 207

Couples, Singles, with children, and child-less. Adults in the 20-40ish age range who want to have a place to go when you just don't fit in! We have monthly get togethers to bond and grow as a group.

Agape -Room 107

A class for adults of all ages, married or single. Lecture format using biblical texts for study. Worship, singing and special projects are also parts of this class.

Faith Messengers- Room 110

Bible study discussion led by class members who take volunteer turns in leadership. Primarily men and women over 70, this class also participates in meeting special church needs as they arise.

Friendship -Room 106

A diverse class of both married and widowed women. Studies the quarterly *Adult Bible Study* series through both lecture and discussion. Supports church activities with funds and service.

Hallelujah -Room 105

For mentally challenged adults. Reading and discussing Bible stories, snacks, fellowship and singing are all parts of this class.

Open Door– Room 108

A discussion class for adults that look at how one's behaviors and expectations are shaped by God's word from a practical perspective. An emphasis on supporting service to one's community in various ways is a natural extension of this group's core beliefs.

Keeping Holy Time- Room 128

A discussion Bible study that takes a systematic approach to Scripture either by studying the weekly passages of the Revised Common Lectionary, or various DVD driven short term studies.

Men's Bible Class -Room 109

Men's lecture and discussion utilizing DVD's. Primarily seniors, but welcome men of any age. Each week's class opens with gospel hymn singing accompanied on the piano.

Questers -Room 102

Most class members are "boomer" adults in middle age with grown children. Teachers rotate in leading Bible study discussions in which all are encouraged to participate. The class has a number of service projects and social gatherings through the year.

Seekers -Room 127

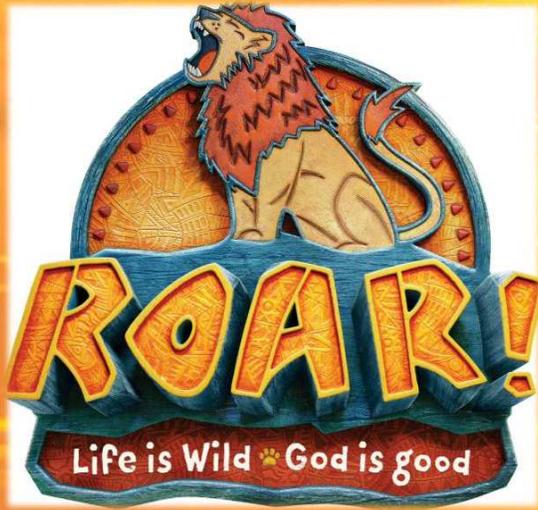
A discussion class for contemporary couples and singles, primarily ages 55-65. Bible study and life application come together as the class seeks to grow in faith and to develop and nurture relationships. Service and fellowship are also parts of the Seekers' community.

New Hope -Room 101

Primarily single women, but all are welcome. An investigative study of biblical books and topics in discussion format.

We also have classes available for Children of all ages from babies thru High School!

SAVED THE DATE



VBS 2019

JUNE 10-14

9AM-NOON

QUESTIONS? EMAIL JOANNA AT JOANNALAWSON@ALVINMETHODISTORG



When?

Saturday, March 16th, from 7 to 1



Anything to Eat?

Yeah! BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwiches with all the fixin's, chips & a drink for only \$8.

What Else?

Clothes, Shoes, Decor, Furniture, Tools, Toys & Games, Art, Electronics, Small Appliances & lots more!

Oh, you're talking about that big yard sale?

Yeah. **SPRING THANG**

I've got some bedroom furniture I'd like to get rid of.

Jennifer Mercer is coordinating big item pick-ups. Just call or TEXT her at 713-204-1101 or Brenda Mercer at 832-279-2792 to arrange a time.

I'll probably have some clothes & small stuff to take too. Can I take that up to the church myself?

- You can bring anything to the "barn" behind the church on SATURDAYS, FEBRUARY 16, 23, MARCH 2nd & 9th 9 AM to 12 NOON
- You can bring your clothes & small stuff up to the Fellowship Hall beginning 12 noon on Sunday, March 10th and on Monday, March 11 & Tuesday, March 12.
- **NO DONATIONS AFTER TUESDAY, MARCH 12.** Too much to lay out and price before the big sale on Saturday.

FUMC STUDENTS WILL BE APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FEBRUARY 10 TO MARCH 24, 2019

It's that time again, when graduating seniors and some of the 18 students who received FUMC scholarships last year will be picking up applications for 2019 scholarships.

The Scholarship Committee will review the applications and meet April 7 to determine the number and value of scholarships to award this year. Scholarship amounts depend on the balances available in the scholarship endowments and the FUMC Scholarship Fund. We'd like to encourage you to contribute to the "FUMC Scholarship Fund" so that we can award a broader range of scholarships, which would include community college, technical and baccalaureate degrees.

Since we all value Education, it is critical that we add some dollars to the FUMC Scholarship Fund. If by check, all you need to do is write "FUMC Scholarship" on the memo line. If by cash, put it in an envelope and write "FUMC Scholarship" on it, drop it in the collection plate or give it to Roxann Corona, our Finance Director, who will deposit it in the right account for you. And, of course, you'll see your donation on your year-end financial statement, because it's tax-deductible.

These donations can also be made in memory or in honor of a loved one. We will send acknowledgements to the family or individual if you attach a note with name and address of who should receive the acknowledgement.

Your Scholarship Committee thanks you!
Dan Remington, Chairman

**Please add your tax-deductible donation
to the "FUMC Scholarship Fund"
Before April 7, 2019**

SCHOLARSHIPS



**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 10, 2019
Get Your Scholarship Applications
in the CHURCH OFFICE or ONLINE @
www.alvinmethodist.org**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019**

STRONG VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !

SUNDAY, MARCH 10th

12 Noon

To help move TABLES to East Wing rooms & hallways, move & set up clothing racks from the attic, & help bring all the Spring Thang items from the Barn into the Church.

PIZZA & DRINKS for ALL March 10 VOLUNTEERS

* * *

ALSO SUNDAY, MARCH 16th

1:00 pm

To help with heavy moving.





The Alvin Community Food Pantry thanks you for your generous donation. This has been a very busy year, God has blessed us in so many ways. In 2018 we fed 7,056 Families (that is 24,184 individuals) Again, many thanks for your support, God's blessings to all!

Regards,
Jackie Dann Knippel
Director

LOL Item of the month: Tea Bags & Hot Chocolate

Bring these items any day in the month of February and put them in the shopping cart outside the office.

Feeding Souls Soup Kitchen

What's Easier Than Cooking a Pot of Soup or some Mac 'n Cheese and Filling 2 or 3 Quart Cups (or more) for the Soup Kitchen?

Just Pick Up the One-Quart Plastic Cups & lids in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen. Label each cup with the name of the soup (or meal) it contains. You can bring your cups to the Church **ANY TIME!**



Put them in the **FREEZER** if made more than 3 days before the Soup Kitchen

Saturday

Put them in the refrigerator if made 3 days or less before the Soup Kitchen

Saturday -OR-

Drop them off the Saturday of the Soup Kitchen beginning at 9:00 am

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

Alvin First UMC Ministers:

The Congregation

Alvin First UMC Staff:

Pastor: Mike Mayhugh - mikemayhugh@alvinmethodist.org

Lay Leader: N. A. Keithley

Director of Church Operations: Roxann Corona - roxanncorona@alvinmethodist.org

Director of Music Ministries: Jason Bass— jasonbass@alvinmethodist.org

Director of Youth Ministries: Travis White - traviswhite@alvinmethodist.org

Director of Christian Education: Lisa Mayhugh - lisamayhugh@alvinmethodist.org

Administrative Assistant to Programs: Joanna Lawson - joannalawson@alvinmethodist.org

Administrative Assistant to Operations: Sarah Woods— sarahwoods@alvinmethodist.org

Pre-School/Mother's Day Out: Melissa Ward - melissaward@alvinmethodist.org

Pianist: Sheila Hernandez

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