

AN INVITATION TO ENTER INTO THE SEASON OF LENT 2020

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. The Lenten season is a time when observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ—his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial, and resurrection.

The significance of the 40-day period of Lent is based on two episodes of spiritual testing in the Bible: the 40 years of wilderness wanderings by the Israelites after the exodus from Egypt (Numbers 33:38 and Deuteronomy 1:3) and the Temptation of Jesus after he spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13).

Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Technically 46, as Sundays are not included in the count).

On Ash Wednesday February 26th at 7:00 p.m., we will have a service, where I will distribute ashes by lightly rubbing the sign of the cross with ashes onto your foreheads or on the back of your hand. This tradition is reflective of the Scripture that tells us that we are marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit when we accept and identify our lives with Christ. (Ephesians 1: 13-14). In the Bible, ashes are a symbol of repentance and death. We will be observing Ash Wednesday at the start of the Lenten season. As we gather we will seek repentance from sin as well as reflect on Jesus Christ's sacrificial death to set us free from sin and death.

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 205

Couples, Singles, with children, and child-less. Adults in the 30-40ish 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 108

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

The Friendship Sunday School Class, a diverse group of women who love the Lord, is currently studying a DVD series with Ray Vander Laan. “That the World May Know” takes us directly to the Holy Land and surrounding areas where the Bible stories began. Vander Laan has a unique way of taking us deeper into the Word in a historical context.

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 102

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 110

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!

All Aboard... VBS is Coming!

Alvin First United Methodist Church

VBS 2020

June 8-12

8:30am- Noon

Potty trained 3 year olds — entering 5th grade

Registration is Open, but limited!

Questions? Email Joanna at joannalawson@alvinmethodist.org



I can't KEEP CALM I'm planning VBS!

Vacation Bible School-spend 6 stressful months planning for one awesome week!
someecards



YOU HAVENT SIGNED UP FOR VBS?



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KITTEN ME!



"We already have enough volunteers" - said no Children's Director ever!



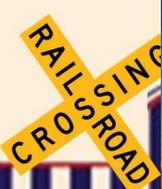
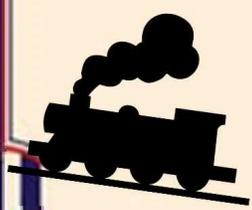
someecards user card

YOU DO THE GIVING... WE'LL DO THE SHOPPING!

This year, instead of asking you to hunt down our random requests for VBS supplies, we are wanting to order everything in bulk from Amazon. The benefits for this is we can insure all the items are correct, get bulk pricing, check expiration dates, and it prevents our volunteers from having to go searching for what's still missing. We also benefit from the Amazon Smile account- with every purchase, a donation is made to the church. Win-Win! We hope you still feel called to support VBS and help us reach the 300 kids we have come back every year! Find which item(s) you would like to sponsor in the hall outside the office, then attach your check/gift card to the item card and leave it with the church staff!
Thank You for the continued support of VBS!

VBS VOLUNTEER IMPORTANT DATES

- *February 23rd- 12:30pm- Fellowship Hall- Introduction Meeting.
We will go over theme, assignments, schedules and decorations
- *April 19th- 12:30pm- Fellowship Hall- Safe Sanctuary Training. Possible First Aid/ CPR class.
We will need to complete background checks & have safe sanctuary training for EVERY ADULT VOLUNTEER. We will have a sperate training for our youth volunteers at the same time.
- *May 17th- 12:30pm- Fellowship Hall- Final details prior to VBS, make sure everyone is on the same page.
- June 3rd- 8am-6pm- Decorating and setting up classrooms & Sanctuary.
- June 5th- 8am-3pm Decorating and setting up classrooms & Fellowship hall.
- June 7th- 12:30pm- 6pm- Set up hall way, and any finishing touches.
- June 8th- FIRST DAY OF VBS-
Please be at the church before 8am.
Classes begin at 8:30am this year, and conclude at 12.



I will see YOU at the volunteer meeting





United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month and we want to invite all women of our church and community to participate.

February 11th 9:30am Chapel

Our program will be our annual pledge service.

We would love to welcome new members. Spring plans include a bake sale at the children's Easter Hunt and sending our college students "finals survival boxes".



First United Methodist Women of Alvin

Hold Annual District Training

The United Methodist Women of First United Methodist in Alvin hosted the Houston South District Officer's Training Meeting on Saturday, January 17. Over 60 women attended from various Methodist churches.

The United Methodist Women's group is a mission oriented group of women which has existed for 150 years since the beginning of the Methodist church. It is an organization that has devoted itself to various national and international mission projects, this year some of which include: Hygiene kits to UMCOR, an international Methodist group for overseas relief; and support for regional women missionaries to women and youth in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Latin America. It also supports local mission needs, which this year included: food and hygiene items for Alvin High School homeless teens, survival kits for college kids getting ready for finals, and helping young members of the church go on mission trips to Mexico and Jamaica.

As the women gathered to register and visit, they were served brunch and then attended training classes for the office they will hold for 2020. Each officer received instruction in their leadership roles for the upcoming year. They were instructed by District Officers holding the same office. As the meeting came to a close, the women were treated to a hot soup and cracker luncheon with cookies and brownies for dessert.



We're Part of the Village Who Helps Feed the Disabled!

Our Alvin Methodist team delivers meals every 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday to family members who are no longer able to feed themselves. Some need permanent help while others just a week or two of recovery time after surgery or an illness. Dan & Jane Remington, Leeland & Judy Stracener, Lola Peters & Jean Slate, Barb McGaffey & Jim Siptak, Sarah Mills, and Paul Davis are our regular drivers. Our "subs" fill in when needed, and Ted Dunnam, Bob Webb, Mina & Lojo Rivera, Eva Leonard, Joanne Jonas & Marilyn Thomas are on that sub list right now. But we could use more!

We meet at the Presbyterian church just before 11 a.m. on those Fridays to pick up our meals and our Route sheets. There are 6 routes in and around Alvin, and those Route sheets have good directions (and so does the GPS on our smart phones). We have 10 "regulars" who've been driving their routes for a few years now. But we need **TWO MORE REGULARS**...one to go to the Memorial Garden Apartments with Sarah Mills and one to do Route 6 with Paul Davis.

Thank heavens for our subs! They're the guys and gals we can't do without who fill in when needed. **COULDN'T YOU BE A SUB?** Just let Jim Siptak or Barb McGaffey know if you'd like to spend an hour on one or more of those 3 Fridays a month. This small group would welcome you royally!

SCHOLARSHIPS



**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020**

**Get Your Scholarship Applications
in the CHURCH OFFICE or ONLINE @
www.alvinmethodist.org**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020

ASH
WEDNESDAY

February 26th 7pm

**SUPER FANTASTIC
YARD SALE**



**SAVE THE DATE!
MARCH 14TH
7AM – 1 PM**

**S
P
R
I
N
G

T
H
A
N
G**

Watch for heavy item pick-up & drop-off dates & times in Sunday school flyers and Sunday Bulletin announcements. And don't forget to volunteer to help in this year's community outreach. It's a lot of work, but it's fun!

CONTACTS are:

Brenda Mercer (832-279-2792) and Sandie Keienburg (281-731-6551)

SOUP KITCHEN



Saturday, March 21st 2020 at 10am

Please bring your Soups by 9am!

FED BY FAITH **Brown Bag Sunday**

Sunday, March 22, 2020

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Benefiting the Alvin Food Pantry

Celebrating 10 years of feeding bodies and nourishing souls!

Love Out Loud | John 3:16-18
First United Methodist Church

FUMC STUDENTS WILL BE APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FEBRUARY 2 TO MARCH 15, 2020

We have a bumper crop of 2020 graduating high school seniors—almost 30! Many of them will be applying for our college scholarships. Some of the 20 students who received FUMC scholarships last year will be applying for renewals too. It will be a challenge to meet these needs.

The Scholarship Committee will review the applications and meet March 29 to determine the number and value of scholarships we can 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.

We all know Education is valuable, so it is critical that we add some dollars to the FUMC Scholarship Fund before March 29. 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.

**Please add your tax-deductible donation
to the "FUMC Scholarship Fund"
Before March 29, 2020**

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

Children's Ministries: Joanna Lawson - joannalawson@alvinmethodist.org

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

Pre-School Director: Melissa Ward - melissaward@alvinmethodist.org

Pianist: Sheila Hernandez

First United Methodist Church • 611 West South St., Alvin, Texas, 77511 • 281-331-3482

Our Mission: To help people KNOW Christ, GROW in Christ, and GO to serve Christ.

