

# faith | SPRING 2015

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ARLINGTON

## ALL ABOUT LENT, EASTER & BEYOND

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

*Growing in our relationship with God*

**5789 MILE  
MISSION**

*Get involved!*



# STAFF

**Senior Pastor**

*Rev. David N. Mosser*

**Senior Associate Pastor**

*Rev. Brian A. Young*

**Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation**

*Rev. Kay Lancaster*

**Associate Pastor of Communications & Young Adult Ministries**

*Rev. Jarrod Johnston*

**Associate Pastor of Evangelism Ministries**

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**Mission & Outreach Coordinator**

*Michelle Clark*

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*Sean Hale*

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*Mary Gibson*

**Children's Ministries**

*Kelsi Lucas*

*Blair Parsons*

**Director of Big Hope**

*Jill Regina*

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**Administrative Assistant for Youth Ministries**

**Asst. Director of Chancel Choir, Organist**

*John Williams*

**Dir. of Testament Youth Choir & Center313**

*Greg Haugen*

**Director of Children's Music**

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**Asst. Director of Chancel Orchestra**

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**Senior Organist**

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**TV & Video Productions Dir.**

*Martika Cook*

**Technical Services Coordinator**

*Roger Stephens*

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*Kathy Martin*

**Administrative Assistant**

*Judy Amthauer*

**Membership/Office Administrator**

**& Administrative Assistant to Senior Pastor**

*Elizabeth Givens*

**Director of ECYC**

*Pat Shelton*

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*Margaret Herms*

**Security**

*Lee Flowers*



## STAY CONNECTED

We post the most recent pictures, news and sermons to share with our members. Connect with us for your daily bit of community.



FUMCArlington



@FUMCArlington



### Latest Sermons

*Traditional*

arlington**methodist.org/**  
Traditional

*Contemporary*

arlington**methodist.org/**  
Contemporary



### Blogs

**One Mile Mosser**

By: Rev. David N. Mosser  
OneMileMosser.com



### On TV

Our television broadcast is currently unavailable. Contact the church office for DVDs of the worship service at 817-274-2571.

# CONTRIBUTORS



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Mary Gibson  
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## CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK



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# 5789 MILE MISSION

By: Michelle Clark  
Mission & Outreach Coordinator

*Outside of major cities in Liberia, there is no electricity, running water, sewage, or land lines, and little infrastructure with unpaid police.*



## FINANCIAL GIVING IDEAS:

1. Organize a small group or bible study to make a donation or do a mission project to raise money for the cause.
2. Individually sponsor the school at one of the following levels:

\$10	BAG OF CEMENT
\$25	DOOR
\$50	TOOLS
\$100	CHALKBOARD
\$250	FLOORING
\$500	ROOF
\$1000	SOLAR GENERATING SYSTEM
\$???	OTHER

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

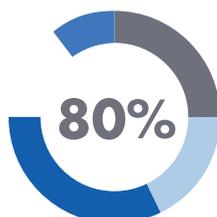
1. Pray for the project and the people of Liberia.
2. Sponsor part of the building by providing a financial donation.
3. Volunteer for a work team in Fall of 2015.



LITERACY RATE



AVG. EARNINGS



UNEMPLOYMENT

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**BLOG** [newhopeacademy.blogspot.com](http://newhopeacademy.blogspot.com)

**FACEBOOK** New Hope Elementary School Liberia

**POWER FROM THE SON** [powerfromtheson.com](http://powerfromtheson.com)



In a country where just a little over 40% of school age children have the ability to attend classes, this quote from Nelson Mandela has never rung more true: “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

No one knew this better than Bennie Dee Warner, former Vice President of Liberia and a United Methodist Bishop. Born in a remote village of Liberia where residents could not read or write, Warner decided at age 15 that he wanted to change the course of his life and go to school. He walked almost 200 miles to the nearest school and arrived without any tuition money. They gave him work as a janitor and mowing lawns so he could stay. It was during his education that he received the gospel of John, learned about God, and became a Christian.

Mr. Warner became a minister in the United Methodist Church of Liberia and was elected to bishop, which allowed him to share the gospel of Christ with his countrymen. Later in life, he was nominated and appointed the Vice President of the Republic of Liberia, an office he held until 1980. While fulfilling his duties as bishop, he travelled to the United States for UMC General Conference and while here, a military coup took over his country, slaughtered the administration, and prevented him from returning to Liberia.

A 14 year civil war followed the hostile takeover, which resulted in a great loss of life, maimed and displaced citizens, and the destruction of buildings, including many schools. Liberia’s new democratically elected President, Ellen Johnson Serleaf, is dedicated to universal education of all Liberia’s citizens and the elimination of illiteracy as a means to rebuild her country and restore peace and economic growth.

Bishop Warner’s story weaves back into Liberia, even though he cannot return and has served as a pastor in the United States for 30 years after he fled his country. He has stayed in communication with his family and the people of Liberia and wants to see his country rebuilt in every aspect, knowing that education is the key to their success. His family donated land

for Bishop Warner to build a school that will serve fourteen or more remote villages from the area where he was born, for the children who have been without a school since the civil war.

Partnering with churches in the Oklahoma Conference and other supporters, Bishop Warner has broken ground on the Kaymah H. Warner New Hope Academy, securing the foundation, some walls, and a water well. But there is still much to do including the roof, flooring, walls, electricity, and furniture. Collaboration between faith communities is needed to assist the Bishop and village in completing this school for the marginalized children of rural Liberia.

First United Methodist Church of Arlington heard the call and is partnering with Power From the Son, a non-profit volunteer organization that brings electricity to third world countries, to help complete the building alongside the Liberian village members. Under the leadership of Steve Vincent, Power From the Son has received a \$125,000 grant from the Hesta Stewart Christian Foundation to begin the completion project. FUMCA will begin raising additional donations and recruiting members for two work teams to go and finish the school in the fall of 2015. Together as Christians and humanitarians, we become the hands and feet of Christ as we organize ourselves to establish and provide quality, affordable education to needy and forgotten children in a remote village of Liberia. Join us!



Kaymah H. Warner New Hope Academy is located in the Mambah-Kabah District in Lower Margibi county, just 25 miles northeast of Monrovia, the capital of Liberia. The land was donated by the Warner family and the school will be operated under the auspices of the Department of Education and Ministry of the Liberia Annual Conference of the United Methodist church.



CELEBRATING  
*Holy Week*

By: Rev. Jarrod Johnston  
*Assoc. Pastor of Communications & Young Adult Ministries*

Our 2015 Holy Week at First United Methodist Church of Arlington is full of rich events of worship and fellowship for the whole family. As we head towards Easter morning, God gives us a lot to wonder about in the worshipping community. Whether you make it to one thing, or everything, we pray that God speaks to you during this holy time set apart to remember what Christ has done for the world.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 29

### Palm Sunday Picnic and Egg Hunt

Come join the fun and games at a picnic with our church family after Sunday school and Palm Sunday worship. We hope to see you and your family there!

#### Why do we celebrate Palm Sunday?

Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week in the Christian calendar. It celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem the week before his death and resurrection, where he was greeted by crowds waving palm fronds. During this week, we face the conflict, injustice, pain, suffering, death, and grief leading to and surrounding the crucifixion and death of Jesus.\*

## TUESDAY, MARCH 31

### Upper Room Communion

First, gather in the Sanctuary and then groups of twelve will go to the Banquet Room for an intimate time of Holy Communion. Come and go, all are welcome.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 2

### Maundy Thursday Worship Service

A service of Holy Communion in which we remember that first night that Christ gave us the open table.

#### Why do we celebrate Maundy Thursday?

Maundy Thursday is an alternate name for Holy Thursday, the first of the three days of solemn remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment." As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34). This is why services on this night generally include the washing of feet or other acts of physical care as an integral part of the celebration.

While John's gospel does not record the institution of the Lord's Supper among the events of this night, the other gospels do. Christians therefore keep this night with celebrations both at the basin (footwashing) and at the Lord's Table (Holy Communion).\*

## FRIDAY, APRIL 3

### Good Friday Worship Service

The Chancel Choir and Chancel Orchestra will present three crucifixion movements from Handel's *Messiah* as well as anthems by the composer, Dan Forrest.

#### Why do we celebrate Good Friday?

The source of our term for the Friday before Easter, "Good Friday," is not clear. It may be a corruption of the English phrase "God's Friday," according to Professor Laurence Hull Stookey in *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church*. It is a day that proclaims God's purpose of loving and redeeming the world through the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is a day that is good because God was drawing the world to God's self in Christ. As seen in John's gospel, particularly, God was in control. God was not making the best of a bad situation, but was working out God's intention for the world — winning salvation for all people. We call it "good" because we look backward at the crucifixion through the lens of Easter!\*

## SATURDAY, APRIL 4

### Blessing of the Animals

Bring your pets to the Blessing of the Animals! From 10 am-noon bring your animals either on a leash or in a crate/container to the lawn across from the Sanctuary. Sponsored by Way of the Child.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 5

### Easter Sunday

Invite your friends and family to join us in celebrating Easter at one of our worship services!

\*Information From [umc.org](http://umc.org)

Learn more about our Lent and Easter events at the back of this issue or online at [arlingtonmethodist.org](http://arlingtonmethodist.org)



# GOOD FRIDAY

## WORSHIP SERVICE

By: Sean Hale

*Director of Music and Worship*

### GOOD FRIDAY TRADITION

As is the tradition here at FUMC of Arlington, the Chancel Choir and Orchestra will be presenting a collection of music for the Good Friday service on April 3rd at 7:00 in the Sanctuary. This year the choir and orchestra will do three crucifixion movements from Handel's Messiah as well as anthems by the composer, Dan Forrest.

### HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Most people think of the Messiah at Christmas time, but the work as a whole has three parts. The first of which is the Christmas portion while the final two cover Jesus' death and resurrection. There is some beautiful music in the second and third parts of Messiah and we are excited to be singing three of them.

### DAN FORREST

The Dan Forrest pieces will be contrasting in nature to the Messiah, but I believe the pairing of this music will be profound. The texts of the Forrest anthems detail both the sacrifice of Jesus and our response to the sacrifice of Christ in our own lives. I hope you will be able to come and worship on Good Friday as we reflect on God's sacrifice.



# STAY TUNED:

## UPCOMING SERMON SERIES

By: Rev. Jarrod Johnston  
*Assoc. Pastor of Communications & Young Adult Ministries*

### EASTER SEASON WORSHIP SERIES

## COUNTER-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

The first church of Jesus, the Acts Church, was a revolutionary community. Not only was it founded on the teachings of Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit, but it was a community set apart entirely for the glory of God. Yet, it was still in the world – in the world, but sharing in values that were not of the world around it. It was a counter-cultural community, anointed by God to spread the good news of God’s love to the nations. What would that first church say to our church today?

#### APRIL 12

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

**“Counter-Cultural Community”**

Acts 4:32-35

#### APRIL 19

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**“Turning to God”**

Acts 3:12-19

#### APRIL 26

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**“Fearing Rejection”**

Acts 4:5-12

#### MAY 3

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**“Wherever You Go”**

Acts 8:26-40

#### MAY 10

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**“For the World”**

Acts 10:44-48

### PENTECOST SERMON SERIES

## TO BE CONTINUED...

The end of the Easter season leads to the celebration of Pentecost – the revealing of the Holy Spirit in the community of believers, calling all of us to be a part of God’s Kingdom. The Kingdom is still being built up here on earth, the church is still growing – God isn’t finished with it, or us, yet. A Kingdom, a church, to be continued...

#### MAY 17

ASCENSION SUNDAY

**“Up and Away”**

Acts 1:1-11

#### MAY 24

PENTECOST SUNDAY

**“Signs and Wonders”**

Acts 2:1-21

#### MAY 31

TRINITY SUNDAY

**“Born From Above”**

John 3:1-17

Learn more about our sermon series online  
at [arlingtonmethodist.org/sermonseries](http://arlingtonmethodist.org/sermonseries)

# SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

By: Rev. Kay Lancaster  
*Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation*

Spiritual practices are those activities which help us grow in relationship to God. They are the practices that form our relationship with the divine. The practices which are being highlighted in the Lenten sermon series and study, *Soul Feast: Food for the Journey*, are: Spiritual Reading, Hospitality, Prayer, Sabbath Time, Worship, Fasting, and Self-Examination, Confession, and Awareness.

The effectiveness of any spiritual practice would be determined as to whether or not the practice helped make room for serving God and being in aware of God's presence in one's day to day life. On Easter Sunday, as we celebrate new life in Christ, our sermon series will conclude with a look at how we take our experiences with the spiritual practices and develop a Rule of Life in which we are continually growing and forming our relationship with God.



## SPIRITUAL READING

Spiritual reading includes reading the Bible or other articles, magazines, and books about the spiritual journey. It is suggested that materials not only be read, but meditated upon. Practices such as Lectio Divina are suggested in order for the reader to consider what message God has for them through the words of the Bible or other spiritual reading.



## HOSPITALITY

Christian Hospitality is the essence of why God created us. We are to be in a relationship with God as well as with others. Are we hospitable to the presence of God? How do we welcome and show hospitality in our home, workplace, neighborhood, community, and church? Our hospitality is grounded in God's hospitality to us in Christ. As we learn to receive God's hospitality to us, we become more hospitable to God and to one another.



## PRAYER

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Prayer is to be in communication and communion with God, which includes listening as well as speaking. There are many approaches to how we communicate with God. Prayer expresses our relationship with God. Prayer is also a way that we can intercede for others. We express every emotion through our prayers to God.



## SABBATH TIME

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Sabbath means “to cease”. Resting in the presence of God requires that we trust in God. As we spend time away from worldly pressures to be renewed in the presence of God, our knowledge of God increases, thus increasing the trust we have in God. Allowing for Sabbath time and retreat as part of our regular rhythm helps to insure that we are being renewed and formed in our relationship with God.



## WORSHIP

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Worship is the work of all the faithful who gather to praise, honor, and glorify God. We offer our will, strength, and gifts in gratitude for who God is and what God has done for us. Part of this practice is in the preparation of the individual for worship prior to and upon entering the space. Worshipping as a community of faith builds up the body of Christ and each member of the body.



## FASTING

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Fasting has been a significant spiritual practice in virtually every religion. The purpose of fasting is to express personal repentance for sin or to prepare inwardly for receiving the necessary strength and grace to complete a mission of faithful service in God’s name (as Jesus did for 40 days before beginning his ministry in Galilee). John Wesley was a strong advocate of fasting. One can fast from anything that might separate them from God, such as social media, technology, gossip, as well as from food or drink.



## SELF-EXAMINATION, CONFESSION & AWARENESS

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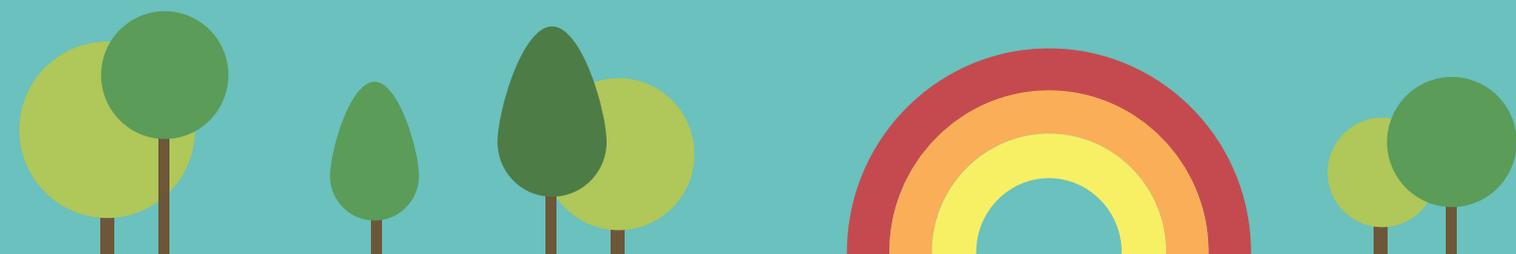
Examination of Conscience is a time when “a soul comes under the gaze of God and... is pierced to the quick and becomes conscious of the things that must be forgiven and put right before it can continue to love One whose care has been so constant” (Douglas Steere). With practice, examination of consciousness teaches us how to discern the movements of the Spirit in our heart. We begin to see more clearly what is of God and what is not. It prepares us to make choices and life decisions in accord with God’s intentions for us.

# 2015 Summer Camps



By: Kelsi Lucas & Blair Parsons  
*Children's Ministries*

*It seems crazy* that it's already time to start thinking about summer camps and activities. Although it seems like summer was just here, at First United Methodist Church of Arlington, we are already gearing up for our children's summer festivities. We are always trying to improve the camps we've hosted and are open to hosting new camps in the future.



## WHAT CAMPS DO WE OFFER?

Although we host a variety of camps each summer, our two biggest are Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Music Week.

This year's VBS, **G-Force: God's Love in Action**, will take place July 27-31 from 9 am-12 pm. Our church will come alive with movement and kid-friendly transportation such as skateboards, running shoes, roller blades, bikes, and so much more!

**Music Week**, a week-long camp for children entering 1st-6th grades, will be held July 13-17. Kids will spend the week preparing for our children's musical, which will be on Friday, July 17 at 7 pm.

In preparation for Music Week, those entering 4th-6th grades can take part in our **Terrific Tuesdays** program. Kids will meet each Tuesday (starting the week of June 9th through July 7th) to learn songs, choreography and speaking parts for the musical.

In addition to these camps, we will have **art, cooking, sports, and science camps** offered throughout the summer. Be on the lookout for dates and cost!

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

We are fortunate to offer a variety of camps, all of which are open to church members, visitors, and our community. Though each camp is age-specific, we offer many camps throughout the summer so kids of all ages can participate.

## HOW CAN I SIGN MY KIDS UP?

We will open official registration for all summer camps during the Palm Sunday Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt on March 29. We will also offer registration online at [arlingtonmethodist.org](http://arlingtonmethodist.org) and in the church office. Children will not be considered fully registered until the camp is paid for and a medical release has been completed.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Much of the work at the church cannot be done without our driven volunteers. There are many different ways you can help including teaching, assisting a teacher, or donating supplies.



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For more information on summer camp opportunities or to apply to be a volunteer, contact Kelsi Lucas or Blair Parsons.  
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For a complete list of camps and pricing, visit [arlingtonmethodist.org/Summer](http://arlingtonmethodist.org/Summer)  
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# NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH STAFF



**Mary Gibson**  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Gibson, our new Director of Communications, graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Communication from the University of Texas at Arlington. Her previous experience includes time working in the printing and photography industries, as well as freelance work for a variety of clients. She lives in Arlington with her dog and a bunch of plants.

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**Tika Cook**

MEDIA PRODUCTIONS DIRECTOR

Tika Cook is a recent graduate from Texas Wesleyan University with a Bachelors in Mass Communication Broadcast Journalism. She graduated in December of 2014 and was appointed Golden Sheers for her academic achievement, leadership ability and all-around versatility. Tika is currently working as the Media Productions Director for First United Methodist Church of Arlington. With her background in video production, she will provide support for various functions within the technical services department. Tika is a bright, driven, new addition to our team.



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**Elizabeth Givens**

MEMBERSHIP/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR &  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. TO SENIOR PASTOR

On January 1, Elizabeth Givens assumed a new role as the Membership and Office Administrator, as well as Administrative Assistant to Dr. Mosser. She will miss working with the children of our church, but is excited about the position and the opportunity to serve our staff and congregation.



## Blair Parsons

### NURSERY & PREK MINISTRIES

Born and raised in Texarkana, Texas, Blair Parsons moved to DFW in 2009. She went to Cosmetology school at the Toni & Guy Hairdressing Academy in Dallas and then worked in their salon in Allen, TX. After the 2012 birth of their son Jefferson, Blair and Matt moved to Arlington and searched for a church with great children's ministries. They joined FUMCA last May, and have been involved in various programs in the church since. Blair assumed the role of Nursery and PreK Ministries Assistant in January 2015. She looks forward to working with the Nursery & PreK kids, and for all of the Children's Ministries events and camps coming up this spring and summer!



## Kelsi Lucas

### ELEMENTARY MINISTRIES

Originally from Arlington, Texas, Kelsi Lucas grew up in a small town west of Fort Worth. She recently graduated with a Bachelor's of Arts in Psychology from the University of Texas at Arlington just up the road. She is currently working on her Master's Degree in Counseling at Dallas Baptist University. She has recently taken the role of Elementary Ministries and Special Needs Assistant here at FUMC Arlington. She has experience working with children and a passion to help others! She is currently working to coordinate events for the Children's Ministries and helping with the needs of the amazing Sunday school class volunteers.



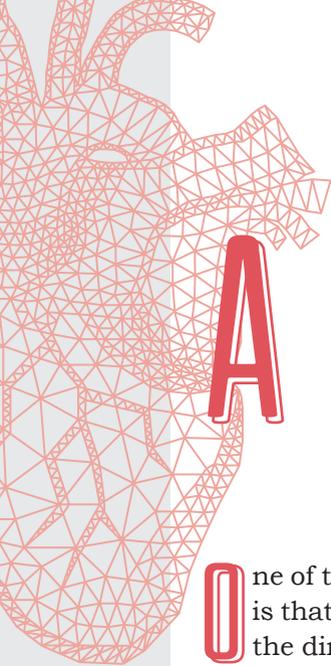
## Jamila Javadova-Spitzberg

### ORGANIST

Jamila Javadova-Spitzberg is an internationally performing musician-organist. She is the first musician of her country, Azerbaijan, to hold a Doctor Of Musical Arts degree in organ performance (UNT). Her music making is intense, expressive and artistic with fine taste and articulation. Dr. Javadova-Spitzberg's concert venues include countries of the former USSR; Europe, including the Netherlands, Germany, England; and the United States.

Currently, she is a Lecturer at the University of Texas at Dallas. In the past, she has held a variety of teaching positions at prestigious institutions around the world. As a church organist, Jamila Javadova-Spitzberg has held positions at churches in Manama (Bahrain), Amsterdam, The Hague (The Netherlands), Lewisville, Corsicana, Dallas and in 2014 she accepted a position at the First United Methodist Church in Arlington.





# A VITAL ORGAN[IST]

By: Sean Hale

*Director of Music and Worship*

One of the most essential roles in the church is that of the organist. Many may think that the director of music, or song leader, is the one that keeps the hymn or liturgical singing together, but truly it is the organist that does this. With music being a key ingredient to worship, the organist has a great responsibility and opportunity to lead people in singing. This includes choosing registrations, picking tempos and introductions that are easy for the congregation to sing with, listening for congregational singing and adjusting as needed, as well as paying attention when the pastor says, “we will sing the first and last verse” of a five verse hymn. Not to mention the organist must figure out how to fit the length of pieces to the order of service and watch for Communion to finish to know when to stop playing even if in the middle of a piece (and occasionally this means improvising until the Communion or Offering is completed if the piece is not long enough). It is a thankless job that can often go unnoticed.

FUMC Arlington has been incredibly blessed to have had some amazing organists in our midst. Kathleen Smith, John Williams, and Jamila Javadova-Spitzberg have been a remarkable group of sound musicianship and leadership for our congregation. This past August, we celebrated the unbelievable dedication and gift Kathleen has given to our church as organist for over five decades. At her retirement luncheon we heard from many people who have been touched by her playing. Kathleen is a unique combination of talent and skill as an organist as well as a wonderful human being.

She plays with heart and an understanding of the role of organist in the scheme of worship. The music department of FUMCA will forever have Kathleen Smith’s fingerprints on it as she has been the most crucial cog to shaping what it is today.

Another incredible leader in the music department is John Williams who stepped in as the interim organist for the 9:30 and 11:00 services while also continuing as the organist for the 8:15 service and the Testament Youth Choir. All of this was added to his plate while he was still the principal of Boren Elementary School in Mansfield. His work and dedication to the church have been inspiring to witness!

Our newest addition to the music department is Jamila Javadova-Spitzberg. She has seamlessly stepped in and done a remarkable job. She brings a wealth of knowledge and skill to our music staff and is a wonderful person to be around. She is also an extraordinary baker! Jamila is an adjunct professor at UT Dallas and is an active organ recitalist that performs internationally. If you haven’t had a chance, I highly recommend sticking around to listen to her closing voluntary on Sundays. They are always remarkable and a joy to listen to.

It is truly a blessing to be able to work with these three fantastic organists. Perhaps the most incredible part, however, is that they are all three a joy to be around. Count your blessings here at FUMCA because we are unusually blessed with these vital organists!



## DISCIPLE NOW 2015

By: Joseph Bradley  
*Director of Youth Ministries*



**O**n January 16-18, our church hosted its annual Disciple Now event for the youth of the Arlington community. This event regularly brings over one hundred youth from the Arlington area and gives them the opportunity to worship, fellowship, and serve together. This is by far one of our most popular youth events of the year and this year certainly did not disappoint.

Our theme this year was “Imagination” and focused on Ephesians 3:20-21: “Not 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 glory in the church and in Jesus Christ throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

Youth were led through the weekend by their college-aged leaders, who were comprised of former youth from this church as well as college students who are active in the UTA Wesley Foundation. These young people acted as shepherds for the weekend, helping to lead bible studies as well as fellowshiping with our young people all weekend long.

Center 313 and the UTA Wesley Band helped to lead our evening sessions, with the help of both of our youth bands CrossFire and The Youth Band (T.Y.B). This year we were blessed to have Rev. Joseph Nader, UTA Wesley Campus Minister, speak on our theme. Youth and Amazing Grace were also given the opportunity to make fleece blankets for Scottish Rite Children’s Hospital in Dallas and to make medical kits for U.M.C.O.R. as a part of the mission portion of our weekend. The youth also participated in a prayer and reflection walk and recreational time, as well as other fun and meaningful activities in and around the church.

None of this would have been possible without help from the many volunteers that stepped up to make this weekend happen for our youth. Along with thanking our volunteers we would also like to thank our church family as a whole for all of the support that they show this wonderful ministry throughout the year.

### »»WHAT’S UP NEXT

March 15-26 we will be having our annual Stock Sale fundraiser which helps to fund all of our summer youth activities such as our mission trips and our Testament Choir Tour. We pray for your continued support through prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

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# NEW MEMBERS & BAPTISMS

NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY

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Ben Loya



Cody Meglio



Kathryn DeDamos



Tom Martin



Barbara Bowers



Matt and Robyn Talton  
with Alyssa



Cal Scott



Edward and Vince  
Castillo



Robert Casey Jones



Sarah Brace



Steve Trolinger and  
Mariam Wossum



Michael Barrett



Scott and Jackie Bowden



Eloise Marie Van Rooyen  
Baptism 12-21-14



Jackson Brewer Camp  
Baptism 12-21-14



Chidinma Esther Eze  
Baptism 12-28-14



Eloise Catherine Johnston  
Baptism 1-11-15

# LENT EVENTS

## **SERVICE OF HEALING & WHOLENESS**

SUN, MARCH 22

4:00–5:00 PM | CHAPEL

A time of quiet meditation, prayer and singing for those seeking healing from a loss.

## **PALM SUNDAY PICNIC & EGG HUNT**

SUN, MARCH 29

11:00 AM–1:30 PM

Come join the fun and games at a picnic with our church family after Sunday school and Palm Sunday worship. We hope to see you and your family there!

## **UPPER ROOM COMMUNION**

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

7:00–8:00 PM | SANCTUARY

Come and go from 7:00-8:00 pm; families welcome; gather in the Sanctuary and then groups of 12 will go to the Banquet Room for an intimate time of Holy Communion gathered around tables in groups of 12. All are welcome.

## **HOLY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

THURS, APRIL 2

7:00 PM | SANCTUARY

A service of Holy Communion where we remember that first night that Christ gave us the open table.

## **GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

FRI, APRIL 3

7:00 PM | SANCTUARY

The Chancel Choir and Chancel Orchestra will present three crucifixion movements from Handel's Messiah as well as anthems by the composer, Dan Forrest.

## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

SAT, APRIL 4 | 10:00 AM-12 PM

LAWN ACROSS FROM THE SANCTUARY

Blessing of the Animals sponsored by Way of the Child class participants. Bring your pet(s) either on a leash or in a crate/container to the lawn located across from the Sanctuary.

## **EASTER SUNDAY**

SUN, APRIL 5 | SANCTUARY & GREAT HALL

Traditional Services

8:15, 9:30, 11:00 am | Sanctuary

Celebration Service

11:00 am | Great Hall

El Servicio la Jornada

9:30 am | Chapel





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A large, colorful graphic for an Easter event. On the left, a white bunny's face and ears are visible. In the center, there is a circular arrangement of colorful Easter eggs (yellow, blue, red) and various flowers (blue, yellow, red) with green leaves. The text "Palm Sunday" is written in a large, elegant script font, with "PICNIC & EGG HUNT" in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. To the right, a red banner contains the date "MARCH 29" and the time "11:00 AM - 1:30 PM". Below the banner, it says "Free hot dogs, burgers & children's activities!" and "EGG HUNT AT 12:30 PM".

*Palm Sunday*  
PICNIC & EGG HUNT

MARCH 29  
11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Free hot dogs, burgers  
& children's activities!

EGG HUNT AT 12:30 PM