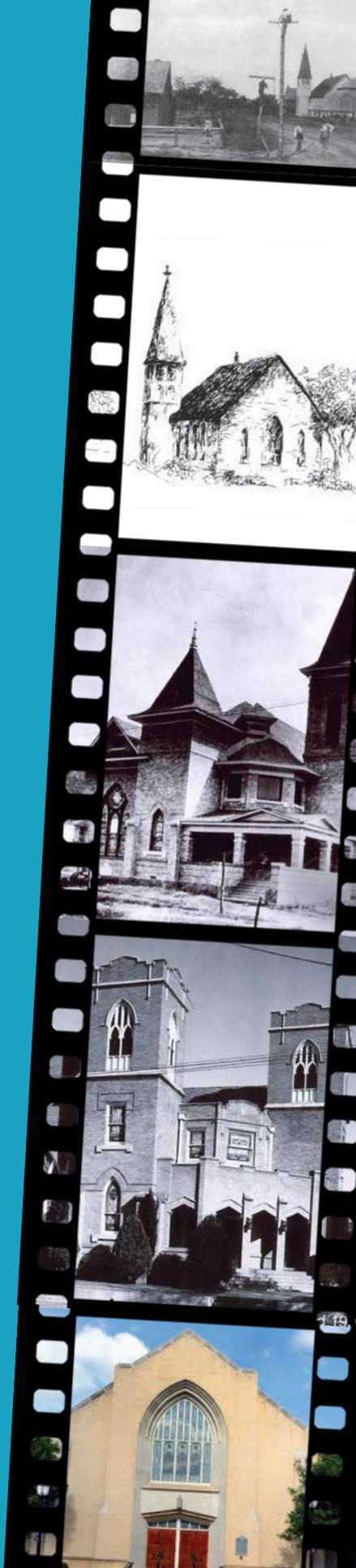


faith | SPRING 2018

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ARLINGTON

140 years

OF WORSHIPPING, LEARNING, AND SERVING
— 1878-2018 —



STAFF

Senior Pastor

Rev. Steve Langford

Associate Pastor of Discipleship

Rev. Kay Lancaster

Associate Pastor

Rev. Kevin Wilson

Parish Visitor For Pastoral Care

Sharla Martin

Director of Missions & Outreach

Michelle Clark

Director of Music & Worship

Sean Hale

Director of Youth Ministries

Michelle Freeman

Assistant Director of Youth Ministries

Brittany Wright

Director of Children's Ministries

Rachel Patman

Nursery and Preschool Coordinator

Becky Steimle

Director of Communications

Mary Gibson

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Martika Cook

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Kathy Martin

**Membership/Office Administrator
& Administrative Assistant to Senior Pastor**

Lori Davis

Building Superintendent

Miguel Galaviz

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Shawn Dickler

Director of Big Hope

Jill Regina

Dir. of Testament Youth Choir & Center313

Greg Haugen

Director of Children's Music

Janie Johnson

Director of Youth Orchestra,

Asst. Director of Chancel Orchestra

Arthur Busby

Senior Organist

Jamila Javadova-Spitzberg

Security

Lee Flowers



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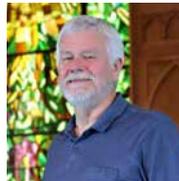


On TV

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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Senior Pastor



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Billie Liddell
Church Member



Kim Crawford
Church Member

Not Pictured:
Mark Simpson
Church Member

Celebrating 140 YEARS

1878-2018

The Lord takes care of the innocent,
 they will receive an inheritance that lasts forever.
 They will not be disgraced in hard times;
 in the future they will have more than enough.
 The righteous will die,
 but their enemies are like flowers in a field—
 they will disappear like smoke.



Do not borrow and never repay,
 for you are generous givers.
 The Lord blesses those who give,
 and they will possess the land.

Bible Journaling

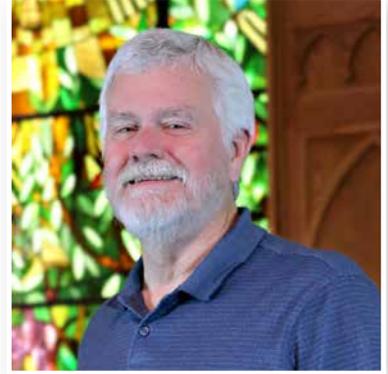


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FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY:

BY: REV. STEVE LANGFORD
Senior Pastor



The Kingdom is here, now! This truth was the central theme of Jesus' preaching. It has also been the theme of our sermon series leading us to Lent and Holy Week. Now, Holy Week and Easter loom before us as we once again celebrate the great spiritual realities portrayed in the death and resurrection of Jesus. The kingdom is here, now. We can experience the kingdom realities in our lives today. We can experience the abundance, joy, and peace of God's kind of life in the midst of the brokenness of our world.

After Easter, we will explore Paul's description of this resurrection life – the life of the kingdom - that is ours through the power of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) will be the theme of our post-Easter sermon series. During this series, we will celebrate as members of our confirmation class declare their choice to live as the followers of Jesus today. That celebration will be on Sunday, May 6. The Chancel Choir will lead worship on April 29 in the 11:00 sanctuary service, presenting Haydn's Lord Nelson's Mass.

Then we will celebrate FUMCA's 140th anniversary on Pentecost Sunday, May 20. This Heritage Sunday will be filled with special events and homecoming activities. Former pastors have been invited to preach during the services (stay tuned to who is preaching what service). Clergy who identify FUMCA as their home church will be invited to share the day with us. Those who grew

up in FUMCA along with former members will be invited to join us in thanking God for the life, witness, and ministry of FUMCA over 140 years.

But our focus is not just the past! As we give thanks to God for the life, witness, and ministry of FUMCA over the past 140 years, we will be exploring how to build upon that rich heritage to live into the future God has for us. A number of strategic task forces, each focusing upon a different area of our life together, are currently engaged in a discernment process in an effort to define what that future might look like and how to move into it. These task forces will bring their reports and recommendations to the church council for discussion, prioritization, and adoption.

And, then, just like that, we are into summer schedules and summer activities. What a great time to be a part of the life of FUMCA! Don't miss any of the special celebrations that are on the calendar... OR any of the weekly celebrations in worship. I trust I will see you in worship this Sunday.

I am grateful for the privilege of being your pastor as the Spirit leads us into the future God has for us. I am grateful for your love for God and this church, your willingness to explore the future God has for us, and your commitment to follow where the Spirit leads us.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Steve

SAVE THE DATE!

Celebrating

140 YEARS

1878-2018

SUNDAY, MAY 20

JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP FROM 11 AM-2 PM!

We're celebrating 140 years of worshiping, learning, and serving at First United Methodist Church of Arlington! Our celebration is on Sunday, May 20, which is the 140th day of the year (seriously!), as well as Heritage Sunday and Pentecost Sunday. Sounds like the perfect day for a celebration to us! Join us for a day of food, fun, and fellowship, as well as celebrating the community and connections we've made in Arlington over the past 140 years.

MAY 20 PREACHING SCHEDULE

8:15 am: Rev. Estee Valendy
9:30 am: Rev. Jarrod Johnston
11:00 am: Rev. Don Pike

Stay tuned for more details on our website at arlingtonmethodist.org/140

See you there!

Bible Journaling

BY: MICHELLE CLARK

Director of Missions and Outreach

What is Bible journaling?

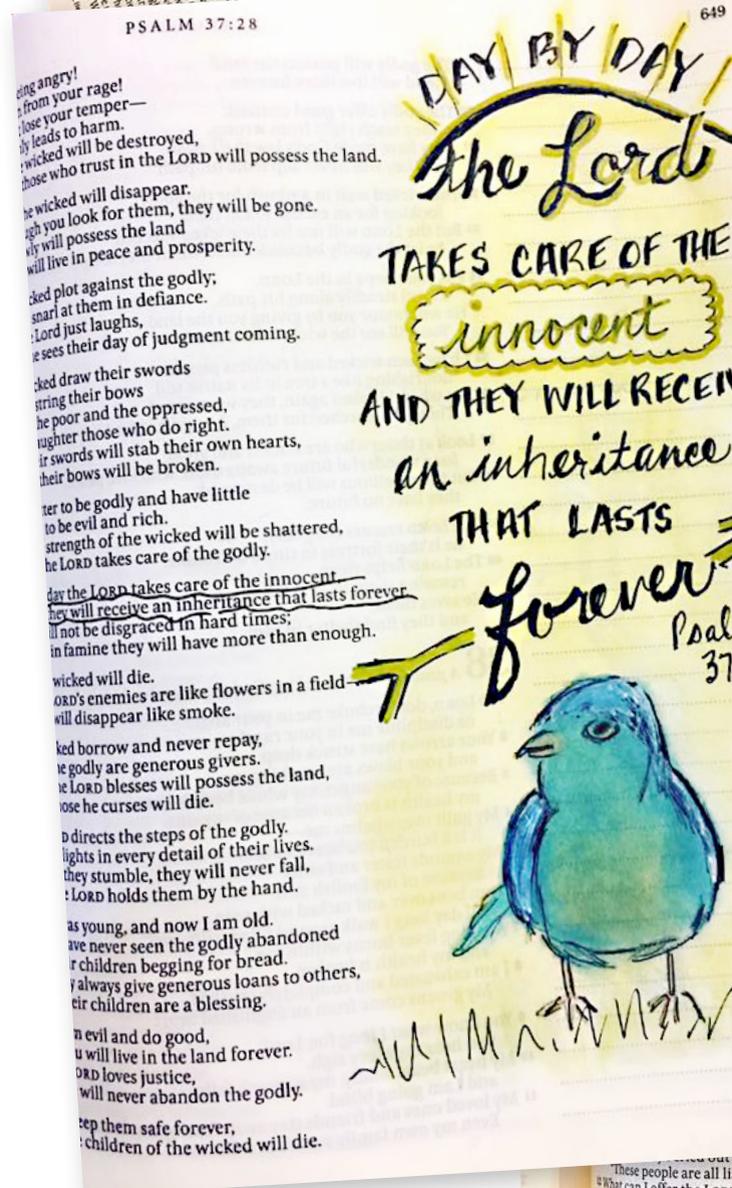
Bible journaling is simply the process of spending devotional time with God and recording the scriptural insights you receive from Him in your Bible. Listening to what God says to us, observing how He is interacting with us on a daily basis, and recording those things are at the heart of all Bible journaling.

Why engage in Bible journaling?

God reveals Himself in Scripture, and when we take the time to truly explore it, we discover more of Him—His love story of salvation and redemption through Christ. In our busy lives, it's easy to get stuck in a rut, quickly reading a passage and then moving on to the demands of the day. We know we need a fresh perspective and new eyes when we approach God's Word, but many of us just don't know where to begin. Bible journaling is all about reading and studying the Word and allowing yourself to be creative in the ways you memorize and record Scripture. The goal is to experience God in a new way!

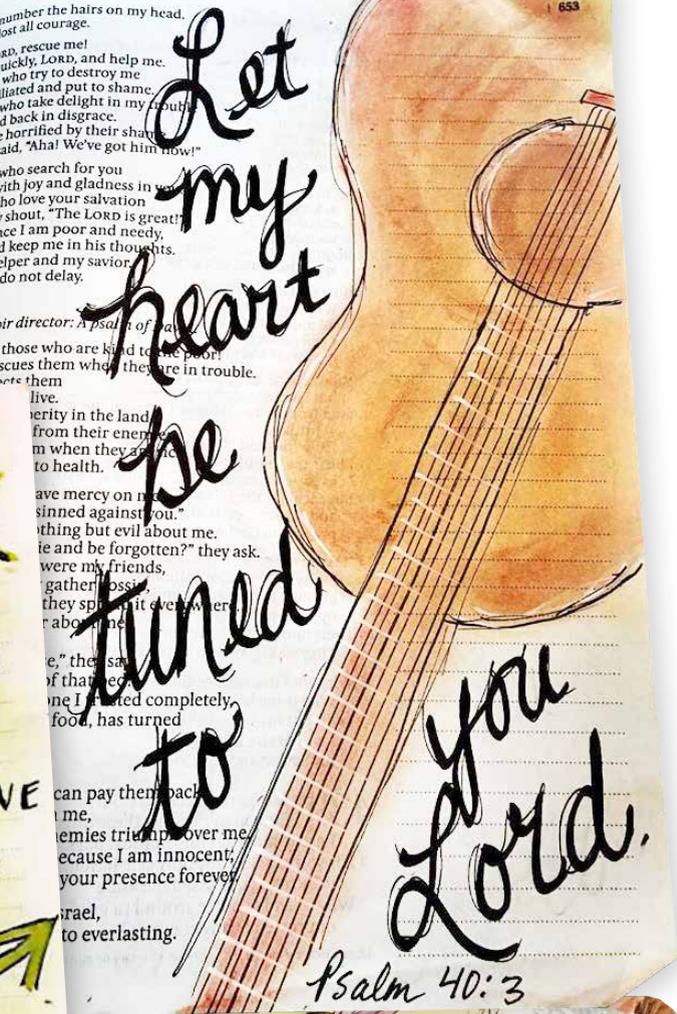
How do I start Bible journaling and WHERE?

Join a weekly group, led by FUMC of Arlington congregation member Betsy Eudy, that explains how to journal and how it can enrich your life, will demonstrate different techniques, and provide opportunities for you to share your story with others. At the organizing meeting, Betsy will discuss supply needs to get started.



Bible journal pages by church member, Betsy Eudy

If you are interested in trying this new spiritual discipline in your life, please contact Michelle Clark in the church office for more details mclark@arlingtonmethodist.org or (817) 274-2571.



Spring INTO Song!

BY: JANIE JOHNSON
Director of Children's Music

The Children's Choirs at FUMCA are off to a great start this spring semester! Rehearsals have resumed and dates have been scheduled to sing in worship. On March 4, the choirs took a "Field Trip" to Theatre Arlington at 2:00 pm to see "Shrek Jr.", the Youth Production which was very exciting! The tickets were paid for by a "Special Angel" in our congregation. It's never too late to join, so I invite all children K-6th grade to join choir and let's have fun together!

Other dates that the choirs sing are: Palm Sunday, March 25 (The choirs will ring hand chimes and sing) and Sunday, April 22.

Children's Choir helps train a child's voice in a small group setting. It also builds confidence in the young singer which helps them become stronger on their spiritual journey. Come check us out as the choirs meet every Sunday morning in Room 212 for K-2nd grade and Room 214 for 3-6th grade, 10:25-10:55 am.

This summer, Music Week is July 23-27 and Terrific Tuesdays begin June 12! Hope to see you soon!



Left: 2017 Christmas Pageant; Top: 2017 Children's Musical

140 minutes hours years

BY: MICHELLE CLARK
Director of Missions and Outreach

*Loving God means loving our neighbors.
FUMC Arlington is transforming lives and
equipping disciples through 140 minutes,
140 hours, 140 years of service*

What is it that attracts you to Jesus? For me, it's the fact that Jesus said that everyone God created is of worth. It is that during his time on earth that Jesus showed God's grace through his actions of feeding people, healing people, loving people from all walks of life, but in particular those that were marginalized. For someone to have a heart big enough for all is transforming because that means that we are ALL loved by God.

But being attracted to Jesus' compassion for others is not where the attraction stops. Jesus was setting an example and asking us to come along with him in loving people. Matter of fact, both the Old and New Testament refer numerous times to loving your neighbor as you love yourself. It is the

second most repeated commandment. So for me, Jesus wasn't asking me to like the idea of loving others, he was telling me that it is of great importance for me to actually do it if I am a follower of his. So, in 2018, the Mission Team and I would like to challenge each of you to grow in discipleship through service to others.

How do you begin?

- Pick an outreach that you have a passion for.
- Share with the mission team your plan on an "I am going to love my neighbor by _____" in the church office or hallway.
- Make your service a priority.

Where do I go from there?

- Offer to tell your story in an article for the magazine, during worship, in your small group or Sunday school class, or Bible study.
- Ask others to pray for you along the way and offer to pray for others in return.

What are some service ideas in Arlington?

- Work with the children at the **Life Shelter** with reading and evening activities while parents are in classes.
- Go on a short-term trip to the south Texas coast to help **rebuild after Hurricane Harvey** in 2017.



- Be a **lunch buddy at Webb Elementary** by eating, talking, ready, and encouraging an at-risk student.
- Help receive & sort food at **Arlington Charities.**
- Connect with the **Wesley Foundation student ministry** at the University of Texas at Arlington. Provide a meal for worship night, “adopt” a student not from this area, assist pastor with special projects.
- Bake cookies and make placemats for **Kairos Prison Ministry** that participate in four weekends per year at the men’s and women’s prisons.
- Assist at the **Christian Women’s Job Corps** by mentoring a participant, helping out in the office, leading or assisting in the classroom, helping with technology – there is something for everyone!
- Sing, play the piano, do crafts at a nearby nursing facility.
- Build with **Habitat for Humanity** or provide food for volunteers that are working to provide affordable housing to families in Tarrant, Johnson, and Erath counties.
- Partner with **Project Transformation** team at FUMC to provide meals or be a summer reading buddy for a week for struggling students trying to improve their reading.
- Be a **Clinic Day Volunteer at Justice for our Neighbors.** Do you have good people skills and an interest in meeting people from foreign lands? Can you provide a warm welcome while at the same time collecting very personal and confidential information? Help one or two times per month on a weekday for three or six hours (morning or afternoon... or both!) Days of Service: second Wednesday of the month at Genesis UMC in Fort Worth, second Thursday at Arapaho UMC and second Saturday at FUMC Grapevine.
- Drive for Meals on Wheels and connect with local elderly or disabled who need the nutrition and friendship.



Let Us Pray For You!

BY: RITA MARTIN
Church Member

Prayer has multiple dimensions. Sometimes it’s direct to God...just you and God... sharing your love and thoughts. And sometimes prayer is through someone else - Intercessory Prayer - when someone prays in your place.

The prayer team at First United Methodist Church of Arlington loves to pray for others and wants to partner with you in prayer. All we need is a request. It can be specific or general, scared or hopeful, searching or wondering. In order to make it more convenient to submit your prayer requests, we have placed several boxes marked “Love” around the church where you can drop a prayer request.

Beginning in March, there will be a box by the back doors of the Sanctuary, one on a table in front of the Sanctuary near the organ, another in the Great Hall for Revive worship and one in the parlor across from the church office.

You may still submit prayer requests in the church office, or by using the Get Connected card in the attendance folder and placing it in the offering plate. Online requests can be sent to prayer@arlingtonmethodist.org.

The prayer team honors your request confidentially for 30 days and you may submit your request as often as you’d like. Let us pray for you!

If you would like to learn more about the prayer ministry or receive the weekly prayer list by e-mail, please contact Sharla Martin at smartin@arlingtonmethodist.org.

dedicated 1956



M. P. MÖLLER, INC.

PIPE ORGAN ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS
HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND, U.S.A.

Richard J. Helms
3925 South Drive
Fort Worth, Texas
Wilson 8793

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
Arlington, Texas

Price of specification submitted by Richard Helms on
July 22, 1955 -- \$29,575 - 3-manual without chimes and vox humana
Chimes 600
Vox Humana 1,110
- \$31,315 - Total price

Three-manual with Great, Swell, and Pedal organs,
Choir organ prepared for, no Chimes or Vox Humana
\$23,975

Delivery made in 10-11 months

Price increase of 5% after October 1

Terms of payment - 10% upon signing of contract
25% when organ goes on erecting floor
Remainder upon acceptance of organ

Terms for credit - 10% upon signing of contract
25% when organ goes on erecting floor
15% when organ is accepted
50% payable over two-year period with 6% interest
carried by M. P. Moller, Inc.

ORGAN RESTORATION

Update

BY: SEAN HALE

Director of Music and Worship

As many of you know, we are in the middle of a three-phase project of the restoration of our organ. We are very close to completing phase two. The organ console will be taken to Dan Garland's shop where it will be gutted and the old parts of the console will be replaced. The organ will be out of the Sanctuary for approximately 8-10 weeks.

A new feature to the console is that it will be on a rolling platform. For years it has been stationary and unable to move, and thereby there were parts of the console that were impossible to repair or maintain due to the diagonal rail that divides the choir loft and the console. As part of this project, we are moving the diagonal rails towards the choir by about 3-4 inches to allow enough space for the organ. We are also cutting gothic arches into those panels that will match the architecture of our Sanctuary. This will provide a beautiful new feature as well as function, where the pianist and organist can hear the choir better, due to the sound being allowed to pass through the arches.

Jamila and I, as well as everyone else involved, are so thankful to the congregation for the massive support in raising the funds necessary to keep the organ functioning. It's been an incredible project to work on over the time that I have been here. Much diligence and generosity from a great number of people made this a reality. We pray that God guides us to be good stewards of this instrument to glorify God and make disciples throughout the world.



**ARLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH:
INSTALLING NEW PIPE ORGAN.**
Special to The News.
Fort Worth, Texas, Oct. 21.—A new \$1,800 pipe organ is being installed in the Methodist Church at Arlington. Church services that were to start Sunday in the new structure have been postponed until the first day in November. On that date they will be opened by the Rev. Alonzo Monk Jr.
The Methodist Church is an entirely new building, having been just completed at a cost of \$46,000.
The new pipe organ that is now being installed is a gift from Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Covington of Arlington.

From top: The 1955 contract for the current pipe organ after the original was destroyed in a fire; the choir with the original pipe organ; our Chancel choir in 2017; a newspaper clipping describing the installation of the original pipe organ



Church Organist Gives New Instrument "Test Run"

Mrs. Jack Patterson, organist for First Methodist Church for 20 years, realized a long-time dream this week as she was the first to play the beautiful new Moller pipe organ, installed in the sanctuary this week. Many of the various stops and special effects included in the organ came as a gift from members of the church. It will be used for the first time in services Sunday.

—Citizen Stafffoto



Dream Comes True for Mrs. Patterson . . .

First Methodist Congregation To Hear New Pipe Organ Sunday

The vibrant voice of the new Moller pipe organ will fill the sanctuary of First Methodist Church Sunday morning for the first service since installation of the new custom-built instrument was completed.

It will be a great day for members and particularly for Mrs. Jack Patterson, church organist since 1936. To her it will be the realization of a dream of many

down to the last stop. Construction began long before the church occupied its new sanctuary in February and installation has taken more than two weeks.

The three manual organ has 23 independent stops (1527 pipes) and includes 25 ranks of pipes, 7 pedal extensions of 12 pipes each, and a set of Deagan chimes, 25 bells. The organ pipes are installed in the loft at the left side

of the chancel and the console stands on the choir floor to the rear of the pulpit.

In addition to the regular services Sunday, Mrs. Patterson will play a 15-minute program preceding the evening service.

On the following Sunday, May 20, Helms, who lives in Fort Worth, will play the opening program at the church. His recital will begin at 4:00 p.m. with the



A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR PIPE ORGAN

The Church received Arlington's first pipe organ in 1919 as a memorial gift. The console and contents of the chamber were destroyed in a fire in 1954. Only two pipes were found intact. Fortunately, enough people in the congregation felt a new pipe organ was essential in rebuilding the Sanctuary. The first worship service in the new Sanctuary was held in January 1956. A new pipe organ was installed and used for the first time four months later. A dedicatory recital was held Sunday, May 20, 1956.

It wasn't until 20 years later that changes to the pipe organ were made. It was moved to a

location on the side of the choir loft during a renovation of the pulpit and choir loft. Other additions to the organ were made in 1978.

In 2000, a committee was formed to look into renovations to the pipe organ and established a fund to which gifts designated for much-needed repairs were placed.

.....
From top left: May 1956 newspaper article about the installation of the current pipe organ; The 1954 fire that destroyed the Sanctuary and pipe organ; the stained glass window that used to be over the choir loft; the current stained glass window in the Sanctuary; Longtime FUMCA organist Kathleen Smith before a recital



WE ARE A CHURCH FULL OF ADVOCATES

BY: JERRILYN WOODARD-ENTREKIN

Church Member, Advocates for Social Justice

Have you ever mentored a child through Big Hope? Served a meal at the Arlington Life Shelter? Worked with a Kairos team? Tutored a student at the Arlington Literacy Center? Donated clothing to Nu2U?

Do you volunteer with FUMCA's annual Book Carnival or Vacation Bible School? Perhaps you spend your First Fridays at our church providing respite care for families with special needs. Or maybe you've volunteered with youth in our community by coaching in community sports leagues or serving as a Girl Scout or Boy Scout leader.

All of these activities are forms of caring and sharing and advocating for social justice. Social justice has been part of the fabric of the United Methodist Church since the very beginning and continues to be an integral part of our mission and purpose today both at First United Methodist Church of Arlington, Texas and throughout our Christian denomination.

From UMC.org: "The United Methodist Church has a long history of concern for social justice. Wesley and the early Methodists expressed their opposition to societal ills such as slavery, smuggling, inhumane prison conditions, alcohol abuse, and child labor... By engaging in acts of compassion and justice – "works of mercy" such as visiting the sick and those in prison, feeding the hungry, advocating for the poor and

marginalized – we live out our love for God through service to our neighbor. 'Our love of God is always linked with love of our neighbor, a passion for justice and renewal in the life of the world' (Book of Discipline 2012, p.51)."

The United Methodist Church cares so deeply about issues of social justice that we have an agency tasked with helping the UMC advocate in this area! Again from UMC.org: "The United Methodist Board of Church and Society works to provide 'witness and action on issues of human well-being, justice, peace' through research, education and training." Additionally, United Methodist Women (UMW) lists as one of its five mission initiatives "Working for justice through service & advocacy."

Here at FUMCA we have a group that formed in 2014 specifically to bring awareness and education to our congregation and community about social justice issues. Maybe you have heard of us and maybe you have not. We call ourselves simply Advocates for Social Justice (ASJ). Our group is non-partisan, intergenerational, and welcoming to all. We don't all agree about everything nor do we expect those who attend our events to all be of one mind. But we DO all agree that social justice issues and the marginalized people most affected by them deserve our attention, prayerful consideration, and thoughtful engagement.

One of the great strengths of our group is our insistence upon following the guidelines of Holy Conferencing during our event discussions. Those guidelines are based on the scripture contained in Colossians 3:12-16a, 17 which begins: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

The Holy Conferencing Guidelines state: "We believe Christians can discuss important issues without the acrimonious debate and parliamentary maneuvering that can divide a group into contending factions. We see too many examples of that in secular society. We believe the Holy Spirit leads in all things, especially as we make decisions. We want to avoid making decisions in

a fashion that leaves some feeling like winners and others like losers. We can change the world through honest conversation on matters about which we are passionate."

Advocates for Social Justice recently held a 2018 planning retreat. As a result of that gathering, we are working on providing educational and awareness events in 2018 focused on at risk youth, interfaith understanding, immigration and human trafficking. We invite you to join us in this longstanding Methodist tradition of social justice as we all seek to learn and grow more in faith and service to our neighbors. We'd be delighted to have you join us when we have update & planning meetings as well. Invite your friends and come join us! You're more than welcome any time. We'd love to see you.

Upcoming events and planning retreats can be found online at arlingtonmethodist.org/ASJ

D-NOW 2018

BY: BRITTANY WRIGHT
Assistant Director of Youth Ministries

On January 12-14, our church hosted its annual Disciple Now event for the youth of the Arlington community. This year, our group was comprised of youth, our Amazing Grace class, and our confirmation class. D-Now 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 was one of the best we have had!

Our theme this year was "The Walk" which focused on Micah 6:8. The youth learned our call as Christians to "Act Justly, Love Mercy, and Walk Humbly with our God" and how that applies to our lives today.

We had worship led by Joseph Cisneroz during our evening worship sessions with the help (cont.)



of our youth band CrossFire on Sunday morning. This year we were blessed to have Rev. Don Petty, who is the pastor at Cahill UMC. Youth, confirmation, and Amazing Grace were given the opportunity to collect and bind new and used shoes for Soles for Souls. We were able to collect and deliver 507 pairs of shoes! 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.

View more D-Now photos on our Facebook page at facebook.com/FUMCArlington

Stay up-to-date with upcoming youth events and activities online at arlingtonmethodist.org/Youth

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

BY: RACHEL PATMAN
Director of Children's Ministries



Easter Egg Hunt:

March 31 | 4:00-6:00 pm
Children 6th grade and younger are invited to participate in our church's Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday, from 4:00-6:00 pm. Children will hunt eggs in designated areas of the children's playgrounds, with each age group having their own time and space. We will host other children's activities indoors, including: hot dogs, Easter Bunny photos, crafts and storytelling. Boxes will be located throughout the building to collect donations of plastic Easter Eggs filled with small toys or candy. Someone might even get to crack an egg on Ms. Rachel's head- so make plans to come and bring a friend!

Rolling River Rampage VBS:

June 25-29 | 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Vacation Bible School will be Monday-Friday from 9-12 in the morning. Children who are age 4 by June 1 through rising 6th graders are invited to attend. Nursery care will be provided for younger children if their parents/guardians are volunteering. Join us as we take the plunge, celebrating God's protection through rough waters!

Music Week

July 23-27: 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Come make a joyful noise as we prepare for the annual children's musical! From 9:00 am-12:00 pm each day, children entering grades 1-6 learn songs, choreography, and rehearse speaking parts, culminating in a musical presentation for parents, grandparents and the congregation! It will be a fabulous opportunity for our children to lead us in praising God!



These Things I Remember...

BY: BILLIE LIDDELL

Church Member, Historical Committee



Billie, in historical attire, speaking at the North Street grand opening in 2014

The blue velvet hat from Neiman's at Clark's baptism



- Joining the church when it was meeting in the Arlington Theatre right after the church sanctuary burned.

- Belonging to the United Methodist Women when everyone was called Mrs. and the membership was over 100.

- Our church had just two worship services.

- The Aldersgate Sunday school class started the popular spaghetti supper. The whole town attended the fun event and helped them pay for the Santees' Jeep. The Lamplighters continued it for many years, making serious mission money. What a big social event it was.

- Having our number 3 son, Clark, baptized. Dr. Brown was very formal during the ceremony but to my delight, Bro. Brim leaned over and kissed his head. My hat was blue velvet with feathers and came from Neiman's.

- Two of our sons were married in this church. One in 1974 and one in 1984.

- Our middle son, Jim, was a part of the youth revolution. He was hard to look at with his long hair and strange

wardrobe. He attended every youth event at our church - so was always in evidence.

- We had a school for creative living on Sunday evenings for adults and children. My husband, Bob, took a Cajun cooking class and learned to make bread pudding. It is still our Christmas dessert - now made by a grandson.

- The comfort of having the church's Prayer Ministry pray for our son during the years he battled M.S.

- The love and support I feel each Sunday as I come into my church.

- Two of our grandchildren attended our day school, ECYC. Carol, my granddaughter, was in the 2-year-old class that I taught.

- The friends and loved ones who attended Bob's funeral.

- Burr Reavis designing the wonderful covered walkways that connected our church and the beautiful stained glass windows he and his son, Brett, designed. (1976)

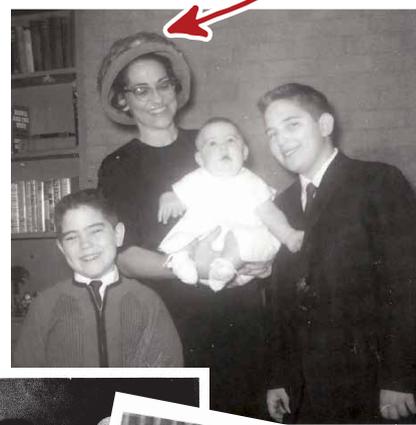
- Bill Workman's redesign of the Chancel area and his plan

for the beautiful Columbarium and memory wall. (2014)

- Building the historical archive of FUMC through the love and work of many.

- The opening of Gene Patrick Plaza on North St. with all the excitement. The hard work of Bart Thompson and his committee. (2014)

- The Book Carnival begun by Rita Martin and her library committee for the One Mile Mission. It exploded and was attended last June by 285 children who each received bags of books and a Bible.



Jim in his youth revolutionary days

A snapshot of some of the United Methodist Women

SMALL GROUP COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

ConneXions Community

BY: KIM CRAWFORD

Church Member, Church Council President

When and where does your small group meet?

Rotating members' houses in north Arlington and Dalworthington Gardens, ConneXions meets every other Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm and occasionally for social and outreach activities.

Who is your small group geared towards?

The common thread within our group is age and stage of life. Most of the members are between 45 and 55 years old and raising kids from late teens to college age.

How many people are in your small group community?

Our small group consists of 21 people, and we average 10-12 people each time we meet. When we first met, we discussed why each of us were interested in being in a small group and what did we want to get out of it. Many people indicated they were looking for a connection with a group of people, so we named our group "ConneXions".

What has your group been studying recently?

After studying several books together, we currently have a format of reading a Bible verse and answering discussion questions regarding the verse. It is always interesting to hear different perspectives on the verse and it does not put pressure on the members to prepare for the gathering, but rather focuses on relationships and spiritual support.

Is your group involved with One Mile Mission or other mission work?

After several months together, ConneXions decided that it would be an important next step to be in Christian service in the Arlington community. Because many of us have college-age children, it was a good fit for us to reach out to the Wesley Foundation at the University of Texas at Arlington and provide a meal(s) to the campus ministry.

The greatest strength of your small group is:

ConneXions is a casual and laidback group that is accepting of each other, even if we are in different stages of our spiritual growth or have differing beliefs. It is this openness that helps us grow in our faith together.

Tell us something interesting your small group has done recently:

For our Christmas get together, we ate dinner at Moni's and went to see *Plaid Tidings* at Theatre Arlington, which provided lots of laughter, especially when member Kim Crawford had to limbo on stage with the actors!



Describe your small group in three words:

Curious, active, and committed are words that can describe our group. Curious about God and each other, active at FUMC Arlington and in our families/communities, and committed to being disciples of our faith.

Anything else you'd like to share:

While adding one more activity to our calendars seemed daunting at first, the support of these Christian friendships has outweighed any reluctance to be part of a new spiritual group. We have each received blessings that keep us coming back for more!



Is there something special about your Sunday school class or Small Group Community that you would like to share? Email Mary Gibson at mgibson@arlingtonmethodist.org to nominate your group.

Chancel Choir PERFORMS HAYDN'S LORD NELSON MASS

BY: SEAN HALE
Director of Music and Worship

Two years ago, the Chancel Choir made the decision that when Easter comes earlier in the calendar year, we would put off our major musical project for choir and orchestra until after Easter. This allows the choir to have enough time to do our best in presenting quality worship music for Lent/Holy Week/Easter as well as provide another musical worship experience beyond Easter. This year, we will be doing Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* on **Sunday, April 29th in the 11:00 Sanctuary service**. It is known as the most famous and frequently used masses of his fourteen mass settings.

If you think of almost any great composer (Mozart, J.S. Bach, Beethoven, etc.), they all have multiple musical settings of Masses. The first settings of the ordinary texts of the Mass (*Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus* and *Agnus Dei*) were written in the 14th century. The text covers a lot of material in praise and adoration of the Trinity in the *Gloria*, an early version of the *Apostles' Creed* in the *Credo*, another song of praise and omnipotence of God in the *Sanctus*, and a celebration of Jesus as the lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world in the *Agnus Dei*.

Haydn himself entitled the mass, *Missa in Angustiis* (Mass in Troubled Times). The piece was written in 1797-1798 at a time in which Napoleon's forces had defeated the Austrian army in 4 major battles and was threatening to invade Vienna. Haydn himself had been confined to his room by doctors due to illness, so the title of "troubled times" is fitting. In September 1798, the piece was first presented and on or around that day the news of Lord Nelson defeating Napoleon at the Battle of the Nile reached Austria and dubbed the common title *Lord Nelson Mass*.

Haydn wrote at the bottom of all of his pieces of music, "Soli Deo Gloria," which means "To God alone be the glory". That faith, passion, and God-given brilliance is evident throughout this piece. It is still widely used in churches and concert halls throughout the world and we are so fortunate to have the singers, instrumentalists, and a congregation that is capable and excited to embark on this journey as we worship God by using Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*.

HAYDN'S LORD NELSON MASS
SUNDAY, APRIL 29 | 11 AM | SANCTUARY

The title "Spring Events" is written in a large, dark blue, cursive font. It is set against a background of a watercolor-style illustration of pink and light purple flowers with green leaves and stems, arranged in a horizontal band across the top of the page.

Spring Events

LENTEN STUDY: THE ANATOMY OF PEACE: RESOLVING THE HEART OF CONFLICT

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH MARCH 21

ROOM 151 | 10:00-11:00 AM OR 6:30-7:30 PM

All are invited to join Rev Kay Lancaster in this book study which addresses a way to transform personal, professional, and global conflicts in a way that inspires hope and inspires reconciliation. Morning and Evening groups will study the same chapters each week. Books are available in the church office.

LENTEN MEDITATION, PRAYER, AND COMMUNION SERVICE

WEDNESDAYS | 12:15 PM | CHAPEL

Each Wednesday during Lent, a time of meditation, prayer, and communion will be held in the Chapel.

AWAY WE GO

MARCH 15 | 10:30 AM-2:30 PM

Day trip to the Museum of Biblical Art in Dallas. \$25 per person covers the museum and lunch. Bus departs the church at 10:30 am. Reserve your spot in the church office.

PRAYER GATHERING

MARCH 21 | 1:00-2:00 PM | ROOM 203

You're invited to join others and pray for the needs of our church.

PICKER'S FELLOWSHIP

MARCH 21 | 6:30-8:30 PM | ROOM 100

All are invited to join our group of acoustic musicians on the third Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8:30 for some musical fellowship. Contact Dennis Lange through the church office for more information.

LENTEN PRAYER STUDY

THURSDAYS THROUGH MARCH 29

10:30 AM-12:00 PM | ROOM 203

A six week Lenten prayer journey to enrich our prayer life through journaling and different forms of prayer. Led by Emily Fairbanks & Sharla Martin. Childcare provided upon request.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

MARCH 29 | 7:00-8:00 PM | SANCTUARY

Join us for worship in the Sanctuary in remembrance of the Last Supper.

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

MARCH 30 | 7:00-8:00 PM | SANCTUARY

We will worship at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary as we remember the sacrifice and passion of Christ.

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 31 | 4:00-6:00 PM

Children and their families are invited to hunt Easter eggs, enjoy some hot dogs and visit the Easter bunny! Note: The egg hunt will be on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter, instead of Palm Sunday this year.

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 1 | 6:45, 8:15, 9:30, & 11:00 AM

FUMC of Arlington is the place to be this Easter Sunday! Traditional services are at 8:15, 9:30 & 11 am in the Sanctuary, Revive is at 11:00 am in the Great Hall, and La Jornada is at 9:30 am in the Chapel. Invite your friends and family to come celebrate with us! **This year on Easter Sunday, we will also have a 6:45 AM sunrise service with communion in the Prayer Garden.**

Debt Free by 2019!

We currently pay \$170,000 annually towards the debt. If we can raise, and apply, an additional \$70,000 to principal by December 31, 2018, we will be able to pay off the loan completely by that date. We can then begin Calendar Year 2019 debt free, having freed up \$170,000 annually to be used for programming, ministry, missions, and capital improvements. And, if we can raise more than \$70,000 in additional donations to debt reduction, we can pay the loan off that much sooner. Below is a list of benchmark dates for paying off the debt ahead of schedule.

- \$70,000 - December 31, 2018
- \$140,000 - July 1, 2018
- \$170,000 - May 20, 2018

For every \$12,500 that is raised, we take one month off the payoff date for the loan. Every gift matters. Each contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference and brings us closer to being debt free.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, APRIL 6-7 | GLEN LAKE CAMP
All Confirmands are invited to Glen Lake Camp for a weekend of faith and fun! We will explore our Confirmation vows with Pastor Steve and the campgrounds.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

APRIL 12 | 12:30-1:30 PM | PARLOR
A five-week support group for those who have suffered a loss. Led by Community Hospice of Texas.

HAYDN'S LORD NELSON MASS

APRIL 29 | 11:00 AM | SANCTUARY
The Chancel Choir and Orchestra will present Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass during the 11:00 am worship service. Invite friends as we worship together with this masterpiece in the Sanctuary!

CONFIRMATION BANQUET

MAY 5 | 6:00-8:30 PM | GREAT HALL
Confirmands and their families are invited to share a meal and celebrate our 6th graders!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

MAY 6 | 9:30 AM | SANCTUARY
Come and celebrate with us as our 6th graders confirm their intent to live as disciples of Jesus.

SPRING CREEK BBQ FUNDRAISER

MAY 7 | 11:00 AM-9:00 PM
The youth are having a fundraiser night at Spring Creek BBQ benefitting the 2018 Testament Choir Tour. Grab a bite to eat and support our youth at 3608 S Cooper St. Arlington, TX 76015 from 11 am-9 pm.

AWAY WE GO

MAY 8 | 10:30 AM-2:30 PM
A day trip to Historic Grapevine. \$25 pays for the trip including lunch. Bus departs the church at 10:30. Invite a friend and reserve your spot in the church office.

140TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

MAY 20 | 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
Join us for food, fun, and fellowship as we celebrate the 140th anniversary of our church. We're throwing a big party outside on Sunday, May 20, and we're inviting Arlington to come celebrate with us! Stay tuned for more information on activities and guest preachers, and how you can get involved.



For more information on debt reduction, contact Mary Lobban at 817-274-2571 or mlobban@arlingtonmethodist.org



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JOIN US ON

Easter

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

8:15, 9:30, & 11:00 AM

EGG HUNT:
SAT, MARCH 31 | 4-6 PM