

MESSENGER

First Methodist Church of Pleasanton

January 2024

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Annual Church Meeting

First Methodist Church will hold its **Annual Church Meeting** on February 4th after the worship service.

Committees and ministry teams will each give a brief report on their progress during the past year. **All are welcome to attend.**

Church Contact Information

First Methodist Church
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Office Hours:
 Monday—Thursday
 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Time of transition.....

I have prayerfully made the decision to leave First Methodist Church in May of 2024. Now that you have made it through the disaffiliation process, it is time for FMC to look for a new pastor. A search team is forming and will be working on that process. I will be available for all of my duties through May 19th. My goal is to get our teens through confirmation prior to my departure. Lance and I have appreciated the many caring and supportive souls in this church. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct your paths in the future.

-Pastor Janet

Have you heard of Nights of Hope for Atascosa?

Our Church Council has voted to support Nights of Hope for Atascosa, an interdenominational, evangelical event. It's goal is to share the good news with the unchurched in Atascosa County. This is a great opportunity to join with other churches to be about the Great Commission.

March 22, 23 & 24 in the evening.

To learn more go to

www.nightsofhopeatascosa.org





First Methodist Church of Pleasanton Council Meeting (Overview)

Minutes (Overview), January 3, 2024

Attendees: Staci Barta (Board Chair), Walt Franklin (Finance Chair), Jeff Barta (Trustee Chair), Joett Morrison (SPR Chair), David Smith (Nominations Chair), Jeff Petter (Lay Leader), Phillip Tom (Member at Large), Dan Barrow (Interim Chair), Pastor Janet Tracy

The meeting was called to order by Staci Barta at 6:02pm with a devotional and prayer.

The meeting minutes from the last church council meeting held on November 28, 2023 were printed in the December 2023 church newsletter. Joett Morrison also passed out copies of the minutes for review.

New Business:

The Church Council needs to set a date to hold our First Methodist Church of Pleasanton Annual Meeting. Dan Barrow made a motion to hold the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 4, 2024 following the worship service, Phillip Tom seconded. Motion passed. Jeff Petter made a motion set the following Agenda for the Annual meeting; Call meeting to order, welcome and prayer, nominations for recording secretary, List of Church Council members, Vote on all Church Council members (new Council chair leads the meeting), List of committees and members, review of Committee Reports, Finance chair report, SPRC chair report, Trustee chair report, Nominations chair report, Pastor report – summary of year, membership report, lay leader report on new church doctrine, closing prayer, adjourn the meeting. Phillip Tom seconded. Motion passed.

Jeremy Garza will preach the message on Sunday, January 21st. After the service he will make a presentation to the congregation on his Nights of Hope three-day event to be held, on March 22-24, 2024 (Palm Sunday weekend) at the Pleasanton River Park and how the church and individuals can volunteer to help with the event. We will have a basket in the narthex if anyone would like to give a love offering to support the event. On January 4th at 7pm an organizational meeting for Nights of Hope will be held in the fellowship hall.

David Smith presented on the nominations committee. Dan Barrow has been nominated to become the new Church Council Chair to be voted on at the Annual meeting on February 4, 2024. David Smith along with all of the council members thanked Staci Barta for her dedicated service during her tenure as our council chair.

Walt Franklin presented the Finance committee update. Our CPA has recommended we use his Summary Bylaws of First Methodist Church EIN:93-1494994 and a Conflict-of-Interest Policy to finalize our 501c3 filing. David Smith made a motion to accept the Summary Bylaws of First Methodist Church EIN:93-1494994 and a Conflict-of-Interest Policy as written, Phillip Tom seconded, motion passed.

Jeff Barta presented the update from Trustees. Jeff Barta needs security system codes. Pastor Tracy will get him the codes. Jeff Barta stated that there is more work to be done and would schedule another workday when he has an opportunity. David Smith asked Jeff Barta to consider his Trustee Chair replacement from the members of the Trustee Committee. Jeff Barta will discuss it with the Trustee committee and get back to him.

Joett Morrison presented the update from the SPRC committee. After much prayer and consideration, Pastor Tracy has presented her letter of resignation dated January 3, 2024. She is willing to continue her role as our Pastor until Sunday, May 19th (Pentecost Sunday) which is the graduation of the confirmation class. We thanked Pastor Tracy for her service to our church and for her dedication during our disaffiliation process. We will pray for our church and Pastor Tracy as we both move forward.

David Smith recommended that we form a new pastoral search committee to find our new pastor. The committee needs to prepare a well-defined job description including human resources expectations. The church council will serve as the final decision. The search committee will consist of 5 members (2 church council members and 3 laity members). Walt Franklin made a motion to nominate David Smith and Jeff Petter to represent the church council on the new pastoral search committee, Joett Morrison Seconded, motion passed.

Walt Franklin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jeff Petter seconded, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm. Dan Barrow closed us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Joett Morrison



Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- 01/04 Terri Raney
- 01/06 JD Smith
Steve Franklin
- 01/07 Jan Ricks
- 01/09 Rachel Black
Bailey Burkholder
- 01/11 Chance Dusek
- 01/15 Mary Franklin
- 01/18 Ken Trapp, Jr.
- 01/21 Brandon Smith
Emma Smith
Tucker Fair
- 01/25 Chuck Black
- 01/31 Patsy Bailey

01/14 Randall & Tannah Tolbirt

Are we missing your name on the birthday/anniversary list? Please notify the Church Office at 830-569-2083 so we can update your records. We don't want to miss anyone!



Need a prayer? We have a prayer team for that. Staci, Leigh Ann and Pastor Janet are happy to pray for you or your loved one. We believe in the power of prayer so leave a message at the church office, or fill out a prayer request card at church. They are at the entrance to the sanctuary.

January 2024

01/01		Happy New Year! Church Office Closed Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry Closed
01/02	10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Meet & Move-FMC
01/03	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry
01/04	9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.	Meet & Move-All Saints Episcopal
01/05	7:00 a.m.	Prickly Pear Reunion Group
01/07	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Saints & Sinners Sunday School Class Disciples of Christ Sunday School Class Worship Service* - Holy Communion
01/08-01/13		Atascosa County Livestock Show
01/09	10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Meet & Move-FMC (Now on Wednesday only)
01/10	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry Senior Box Distribution-FMC Meet & Move—FMC
01/12	7:00 A.M.	Prickly Pear Reunion Group
01/14	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Saints & Sinners Sunday School Class Disciples of Christ Sunday School Class Worship Service*
01/15		Church Office Closed
	6:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts
01/17	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry Meet & Move-FMC
01/18	9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.	Meet & Move-All Saints Episcopal
01/19	7:00 a.m.	Prickly Pear Reunion Group
01/20	5:30 p.m.	Family Game Night
01/21	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Saints & Sinners Sunday School Class Disciples of Christ Sunday School Class Worship Service* Guest Speaker: Mr. Jeremy Garza
01/22	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry
01/24	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 10:00a.m.-12:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry Meet & Move-FMC Sunshine Kids and Junior High Youth Confirmation Class Begins
01/25-01/27		McMullen County Livestock Show
01/27	8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Brush Country Emmaus Walk #5 Team Mtg.
01/28	9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Saints & Sinners Sunday School Class Disciples of Christ Sunday School Class Worship Service*
01/29	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry
01/31	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry Meet & Move-FMC Sunshine Kids and Junior High Youth Confirmation Class

Confirmation Begins January 24, 2024

7th grade through High School invited
We will meet every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Students will eat dinner with Sunshine Kids at 5:45
Confirmands will join the church on May 19th.
Please let Pastor Janet know ASAP if your child will be attending.

Church News!



Family Game Night

**Saturday, January 20th at
5:30pm**

Bring finger foods to share.

Come join us for the fun!

Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry needs



Canned Meat * Canned Fruit * Cereal

**Bring to church and leave in the
boxes in the Narthex.**

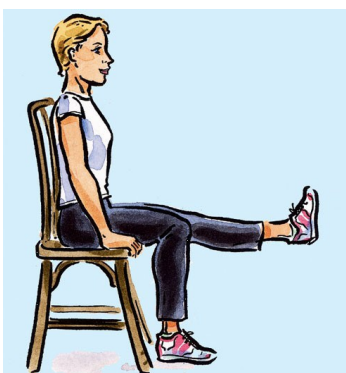


Thank You!



**Bountiful Blessing Needs
Your Extra
Deer and Hog Meat.**

**It's time to donate last years
stash of frozen meat.**



**Chair-
Meet & Move Exercise Class**

**This is an hour of prayer, stretching, fellow-
ship, strengthening and keeping our old
bones moving in a positive direction.**

Come join us! \$5 each and bring a towel.

Wednesday 10-11 am in the Fellowship Hall

Led by Christi Kinsel

Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School welcome children to join us in the classroom after Children's Time to explore the Bible in a fun, easy lesson. Jill Petter is leading the way and looking for others to join her. Volunteers will have lessons prepared and laid out for them ahead of time. No preparation needed! We will even have the TV tuned to the YouTube channel so you won't have to miss out on the sermon! This is a great way to get to know our youth! To sign up contact Jill Petter at 432-553-4086.

CHRISTIAN E D U C A T I O N

Saints and Sinners Sunday School Class

“Saints and Sinners” is an adult class that meets at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the classroom next to the church parlor. We use the Cokesbury Adult Bible Study series and always have a lively conversation and good fellowship. Fresh Coffee available. We meet year round, and any and all are welcome to join us. Facilitator, Dan Barrow.

Disciples of Christ Sunday School Class

This is an adult class for the young, mature, and old. We enjoy discussions about Bible passages and are eager to learn more about our Savior. We rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance. WHAT COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT? We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the classroom next to the Fellowship Hall. Facilitator, Peggy McCampbell

Monday Night Bible Study

Join us as we take a virtual tour of Rome through an in-depth study of Romans. Monday nights, 7:00 to 8:30pm. Classroom next to Fellowship Hall. We enjoy good fellowship and digging deep into scripture. Leigh Ann Shearrer will facilitate this study. All are welcome.

Women’s Bible Study

The Monday Women’s Bible Study is going to read the Bible in chronological order during 2024. If you would like to join us, we meet on Mondays from 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. in the classroom by the Fellowship Hall. We will begin January 8th. The books can be ordered from Amazon. You can use your Bible, you don’t need to order a special one. If you have questions, contact Denise Petter at 830-570-1700.

Sunshine Kids and Junior Youth

The Youth Education Team is looking forward to 2024 with your kids! Sunshine Kids will resume on January 24th. We also have the opportunity for youth in grades 6-12 to attend Revive Winter Retreat Feb 16 -18. If your child would like to attend, please be sure to let Jessica know via text to 210-382-3358. To learn more about Revive Winter Retreat, please visit...

[Revive Winter Retreat - Revive \(revivetexas.org\)](https://www.revivetexas.org)

February 24th will be all hands on deck for our Jr and Sr Youth to help serve at the Women’s Luncheon. Jr and Sr Youth are needed to serve plates from 10:30am-12:30pm. This is the largest fundraiser for our youth and we are grateful to the First Methodist Women for planning this fundraiser.

This year’s Youth Retreat for Jr and Sr Youth will be May 10-12. We have reserved housing in Leakey and are making plans. We have instituted a points system for youth to earn their way on the trip. This information has been shared with them already, but if there are any questions, please feel free to ask.

We are always open to having more volunteers working with our youth, so please do not hesitate to let us know if you would like to join us. You can join us on an irregular or regular basis.

Yours in service,
Jessica, Guy, Janna, Sheryl, Jill



Faith in Finance

Here we are, Church Family, another year gone by. It's been a year of change and growth for us, but then every year is kinda like that! Walt and I want to thank you for your generosity throughout this past year. Some expenses were unknown, some things went up, some things went away. It was all a sign of our church's faith, that we persevered through together as a church family.

As we enter 2024, it will no doubt present it's own set of unique challenges. But, together we can continue to do God's work here at 1st Methodist Pleasanton.

Happy New Year!
Leslie Ricks

Wesley Nurse News

Blessing Church This is a permanent law for you, to purify the people of Israel from their sins, making them right with the Lord once each year." - Leviticus 16:34 In the Chinese culture, the New Year is the time dedicated to finish with the old and to start with the new. Their traditions include visiting friends and family to re-establish relationships, cleaning the house to prepare for the coming year, stocking cupboards with household provisions, settling all old debts, and putting forth their best behavior. All these activities are to make the new year better and healthier. What are you going to do for your health this year? Are you going to keep all your old habits and ignore healthier ones? For example, have you considered limiting your meals at fast-food restaurants? Can you develop healthier choices at the grocery store? Will you improve your exercise habits by walking or joining a health club? Have you considered the health benefits of practicing self-care and a well-balanced lifestyle? Any and all of these will guide you to a healthier life. Once you decide to make an improvement, you must first choose what area to change then make the commitment to see that change occur. Many of us take the first step of making the promise to change our behavior or habit but find it difficult to take the actual steps and then follow through on the lifestyle change. To be successful when making the commitment to alter behavior you need to have dedication, strategy, and action. Until you have a plan and begin to follow it, change is only a verbal statement. The New Year is a good time to look at your life and determine what you need to change or improve. Start the year by considering your health. Make healthier choices, eat healthier, exercise more, prevent disease, or minimize complications to your current health. Focusing on the future and a well-balanced life will help you participate more fully in the love and joy of your family. "You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you." - Isaiah 26:3

In His Service, Your Wesley Nurse, Linda Harper, BSN, RN