

A FUN AND FAITH-FILLED PLACE TO BELONG

First United Methodist Church is a congregation with a great heritage of mission and ministry. Although our congregation is well over 180 years old our spirit is new and vital. Our ministry is particularly directed toward children, youth and young adults. We also have a vital ministry to senior adults.

We are very glad that you have visited our church. There is a place for you at First United Methodist Church. Please prayerfully consider making FUMC your church home. The information provided in this packet will be helpful as you explore the many avenues for worship, education, fellowship and service.

Grace and Peace,

Chris Harrison

AN EXCITING PLACE TO PARTICIPATE

The First United Methodist Church of Bay City offers you many opportunities to join with members of the church family for fellowship and fun, learning through Christian studies, and service to the community.

We have special group activities available for children, youth, and adults, singles, families, and seniors. We have a wonderful nursery. No matter what your age or interests, we have something you will enjoy and a place where you will feel at home. Join us in our journey of faith.

From our wide range of singing and bell choirs to our Bible study classes, you're sure to find the perfect place in which to participate.

A PLACE OF PASSIONATE WORSHIP

Sunday Morning The Cross Road Contemporary Worship.....8:30 am in the Chapel

Sunday School (All Ages and Interests).....9:40 am in Various Buildings

Sunday Morning Traditional Worship.....10:50 am in the Sanctuary

(Nursery and child care available for all services)

Coming soon, beginning April 15, Sunday Evening Contemporary Worship from 7:00 to 8:00 pm

A PLACE OF PROFOUND SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

Thank you for choosing to be a part of our worship community. In addition to our worship experience we offer spiritual growth through Bible studies, service opportunities, and our Sunday School program for all ages at 9:40 a.m.

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Currently our adult Bible study groups meet on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am and on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. We are studying through the Gospel According to Luke and allowing God's living word to transform our lives through understanding and response.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Below is a description of our various classes which meet at 9:40 am on Sunday mornings in various locations. Refer to campus map which follows for locations (C:chapel, Y:youth building, L:Le Tulle building). Please see our Greeters for additional assistance.

FAMILY OF FAITH - This class is comprised of a diverse group of adults. The focus is on the Old and New Testament scriptures as they are applied to today's life experiences. This class is taught on a rotating basis by a variety of leaders. - C:201

FRIENDSHIP - The focus is on various books of the Bible alternating between the Old and New Testament. This is a mixed class of single and married ladies and gentlemen. The teachers are Gayle Simons and Emil Sliva. - C:Parlor

SUZANNA WESLEY - This is a group of single and married ladies, and they are currently using the Cokesbury Adult Bible Study Series. Suzy Thompson is the leader with various other fill-in teachers. - L:110

WESLEY CLASS - This class is made up of senior adult men using the Cokesbury Adult Bible Series. The teachers are Eddie Jecmenek and Craig Estlinbaum - L:Wesley Hall

FELLOWSHIP - This class is comprised of senior adult ladies with the curriculum of the Cokesbury Adult Bible Series taught by Mike Wade and Lamar Evans. - Y:101

GOOD NEWS - This class is presently studying the Cokesbury Adult Bible Study Series. Married couples and singles are welcome. Virginia Whiddon is the teacher. - S: Classroom beside choir rehearsal room

EXCITING NEW MINISTRY

Young Adults Class – Meeting to discuss life and how to incorporate our Christian faith into the complexities of relationships, singleness, marriages, children, careers, and more. Class mentors are Brent & Kelli Batchelor and Laura Harrison – C:200

(C = Chapel Building, L = LeTulle Building, Y = Youth Building, S = Sanctuary)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

In our Children's programs we strive to nurture each individual by providing age appropriate opportunities for spiritual growth, both personally and as a family unit. We feel that it is through a unity of spirit between church and home that our children will grow in their relationship to Christ.

NURSERY

CRIB NURSERY (Birth to walking) - A loving Christian atmosphere is provided during Sunday School, worship and other functions. - L:103

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

ONE TO THREE-YEAR OLDS – This group of children learn about the love of God and are blessed as God's Word is shared through Bible lessons, crafts and age appropriate activities - L:105

FOUR-YEAR OLDS, KINDERGARTEN, FIRST-THIRD GRADES - Children will be motivated to build their Bible knowledge by learning to apply the scriptures to their lives. The children assemble for singing, share happy and sad moments, meet visitors, welcome new members, recognize birthdays, and then divide into groups for Bible stories, games, and age appropriate activities. - L:202

FOURTH - FIFTH GRADES - The focus is on the Bible because not only is it a book about God's Word in history, but the Bible continues to influence all ages of God's people. - L:205

SUNSHINE AND RAINBOWS PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES

Sunshine and Rainbows Academy is a Christian preschool serving children ages two, three and four. The half-day, nine month program emphasizes development of the total child, striving to enrich each child's individual abilities. Special theme units, hands-on math and science activities and a strong literature based language arts programs are taught. Chapel services, fine arts program, specialized in-class guests, and field trips round out this fun-filled curriculum.

For information and an enrollment application, contact Kelli Batchelor, School Director, at the school office, located in room 209 of the LeTulle Building, or call 979-245-2801.

“Give your child a great beginning, where love and learning go together.”

YOUTH MINISTRIES

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:40 am on Sunday mornings

CONFIRMATION – In Confirmation we will be exploring many of the essential dimensions of what it means to lead a Christian life and know where to place our faith. We will be learning through fun, fellowship, food, and faith-filled lessons and discussions. Our goal is to give our students the opportunity to embrace their Christian faith for themselves and allow it to have a deep impact in their lives. - Y:208

SEVENTH - TWELFTH GRADES - Our goal is to teach students to depend on the Word of God as the driving force for life change. College students are welcome when home visiting! - Y: main room

ADDITIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship). Sunday 5pm – 7pm for sixth thru twelfth grade. Fun & Fellowship + Faith Building Activities. And did we mention a meal? Lots to eat, lots of games, lots of friends to meet and lots of life changing lessons to grow through.
- Youth Mission Projects (Sr. High UMARMY, Jr. High BIG HOUSE, Local Service Projects).
- Boy Scouts
- Concerts and Youth Rally involvement
- Social Events (aka parties, lock-ins, bonfires, etc)
- Spiritual Retreats

For more exciting information, call the church office. (979) 245-4627

MISSION MINISTRIES

We are blessed to have many from our church serve and give their time to many charitable organizations and youth programs in our community (ie: Salvation Army, Association for Retarded Citizens, Little League, Babe Ruth League, Girls Softball, Women's Crisis Center, and many more.

Some of the other Mission Ministries of our church are:

- * Women's Crisis Center: Donate food, clothes, baby items, and personal care items.
- * School: Donate school supplies.
- * Seaman's Center in Galveston: Donate Christmas boxes for the seamen.
- * Nazareth United Methodist: Contribute in many ways to this church.
- * Salvation Army food pantry: Individuals and groups donate food and a group of men from our church purchase food at the food bank and restock the pantry.
- * Youth Work Programs: Many youth and adults participate in Big House, UM Army and College UM Army in distant cities, as well as host programs in our church.
- * Thanksgiving: Groups and individuals contribute baskets of food for needy families or give money for food baskets. (ex: Family Of Faith Class participates as a team with HEB for their Holiday Shopping Spree)
- * Christmas: Groups and individuals contribute food baskets and gifts for the needy or donate money for food baskets.
- * Medical Bridges: Youth and adults have participated in this program.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- Congregational care which reaches out to our elderly members in relational fashion
- Bible Studies
- Weekly nursing home worship services
- Hospital and nursing home visits by pastor and congregational care team
- Pastoral home visits
- Walk To Emmaus

MUSIC MINISTRIES

The FUMC Music Ministry offers all ages many opportunities for the worship and celebration of God through music. Members and friends of FUMC can participate in musical ensembles for worship services and other departmental programs.

It is often easy for the individual to shy away from musical opportunities and “let someone else do it.” If you have received the gift of talent, nurture it and return it to God. The Music Ministry of FUMC can provide an invaluable source of artistic and spiritual enrichment in your life. Join us in our ministry.

Chancel Choir. Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. This adult choir sings every Sunday in the 10:50 a.m. worship service. The Choir sings music that is challenging, yet varied in style; including, traditional, classical, gospel, contemporary, etc.

Director: Linda Burgess. Accompanist: Susan Parish.

CrossRoad Praise Team. Monday, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. A diverse & dedicated group of musicians and vocalists which help lead in the contemporary worship service Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Children’s Choirs’ -- The Children’s Choirs at FUMC offer an opportunity for children to discover that music is fun. Rehearsals include musical games, activities and lots of singing. Children’s Choirs sing about once a month in a worship service. Director: Norma Seifert. Accompanist: Susan Parish.

Praise Ringers: Wednesday, 5:15 p.m. Adult handbell choir that plays about once a month in a worship service. Director: Linda Burgess

Sacred Expressions: A liturgical dance group that participates in worship, using the art of dance to bring glory to God. Director: Annette Isaacson

For more information contact the church office at (979) 245-4627

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Two United Methodist women's circles:

- 1) Ruth Group meets first Thursday of each month from 9:30 am to 11:00 a.m. in the homes of different members, with light refreshments served.

- 2) Lydia Group meets first Thursday of each month from 12:00n to 1:00pm in the Youth Building and members bring a brown bag lunch.

Ladies Retreats are sometimes held in the springtime, from Friday evenings to Sunday noon with special guest speakers conducting programs.

Sister's Bible Study is a once-a-week series of studies relevant to Christian women's spiritual enrichment.

CHURCH STAFF

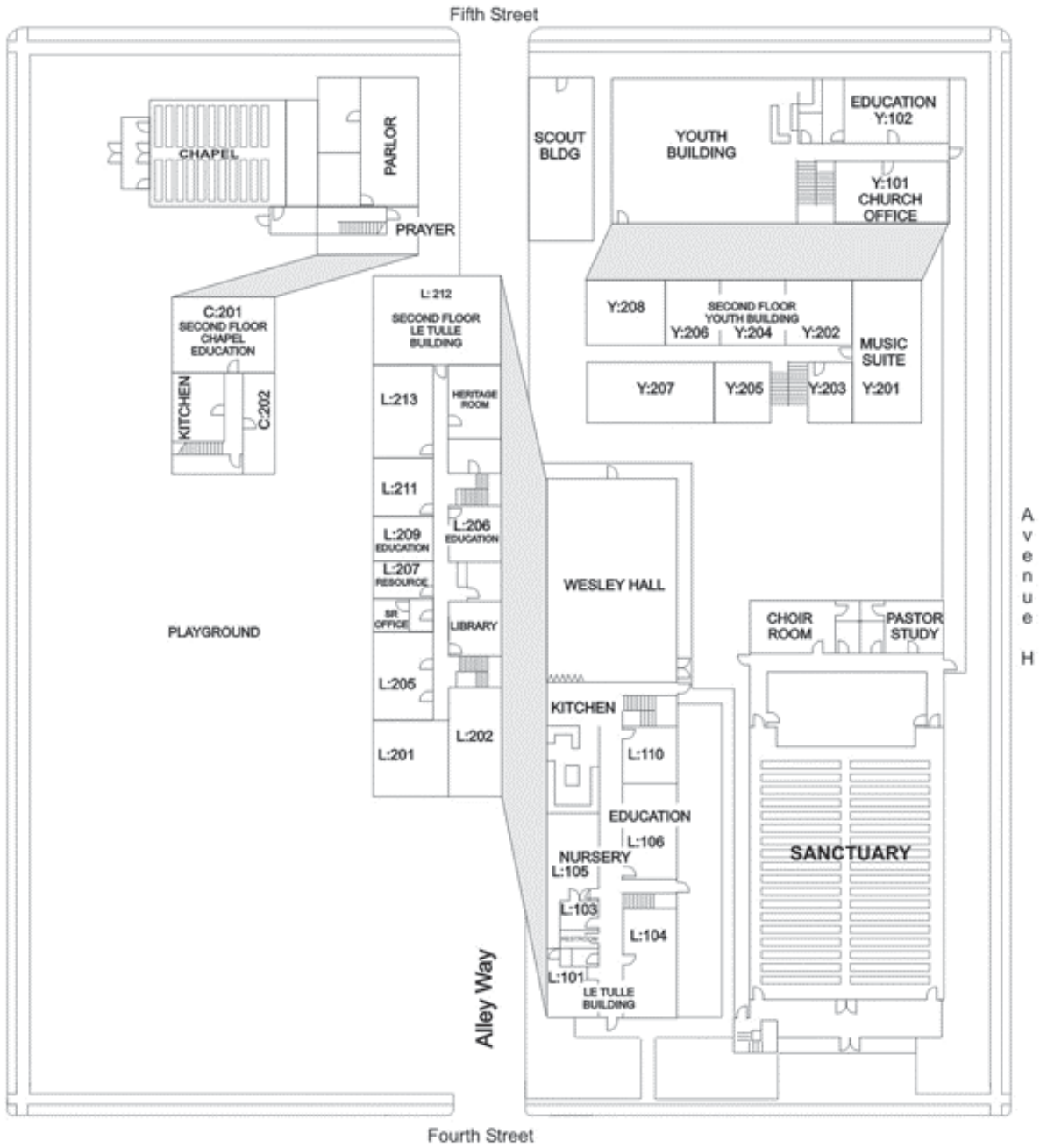
Rev. Chris Harrison.....Pastor
Linda BurgessChancel Choir & Bell Choir Director
Susan Parish.....Pianist & Praise Team Leader
Sandy Boyer..... Administrative Secretary
Terry Hernandez.....Custodian
Linda Silvas Child Care Attendant

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First United Methodist Church Layout



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