



2021

"For the Love of Neighbor"

The first preaching series after celebrating the birth of Christ is entitled Follow Me. I think that it is a good reminder for us as Christians. Too often we get stuck in the celebrations of discipleship and forget about the work of being a follower of Christ.

This year at First United Methodist Church of Cuero we are going to have the theme of "For the Love of Neighbor." Christ in the gospel of Matthew tells us that loving God and loving neighbor are the two most important commandments. And for us to love someone we really have to move beyond just knowing their names. We need to understand and learn about who they are and what their life is like. So we are going to engage in as many different ways of learning about our neighbor as we can. We are going to watch films about our neighbor and read and study about our neighbors. Hopefully we will be able to have speakers come and give us insight into our neighbors. And most importantly we are going to engage in listening to the stories of our neighbor.

Stories are the best way to find out about who we all are. Hopefully as we listen to stories, we will find out that we have so much more in common with one another and that will help us take the steps toward one another and loving our neighbor.

Now none of this will be easy. Some of our neighbors are prickly. And others are just down right hard to love. But the one who's birth we celebrate is calling us to follow him. And to follow him means being like him in all respects. Christ loved those that the world deemed unlovable. Christ didn't let people live on the margins of society. Christ got in the thick of things and listened and loved. And 2021 is going to be our year to begin the process of being more like Christ.

There will be days that we will take steps back. But I am trusting in the grace and love of God Almighty that there will be more days of stepping forward and bringing our neighbors from the shadows and into our family.

Loving God and our neighbor is what we have been called to do. This is not easy or quick work. And it will require all of us to participate. But the benefits not only to the church but the world will be tremendous.

As we begin a new year, let us set our heart and mind and soul to learning about those who are our neighbors.

Christ's Peace, Pastor Jackie

POINSETTIAS The beautiful poinsettia flowers that have graced our sanctuary throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons were given in honor and memory of the following people:

In Memory of Wanda Reuss In Memory of Ruth Reuss Joe Reuss

In Memory of Allen Clint In Memory of A.J. Daigle Monica Clint & Mark Daigle

In Memory of Mr. Blair James In Memory of Mrs. Carey James Gail James

In Memory of O'Connor Family In Memory of Tony Castro Earl O'Connor

In Memory of Omie & PawPaw In Memory of Grandpa Mitch In Memory of Grandma Mary Rev. Wanda Ritchea Sarah Ritchea

In Memory of Bobbie Stiles In Memory of Jenny Ozment Rev. Wanda Ritchea

In Memory of Our Parents Wayne & Sonja Wolf

In Honor of the Birth of Jesus In Memory of Harry Henneke Dee Henneke In Memory Marianne Martin In Honor of Pam Zengerle In Honor of Jeanine Calliham Mildred & Stayton Weldon

In Memory of Kenya Griffin In Honor of Dorothy Griffin In Honor of Brian Griffin Rev. Jackie Freeman

In Honor of Our Children & Grandchildren In Honor of Jeanine Calliham In Honor of Sue Halbert In Honor of the Anniversary of Ray & Linda Sager Tom & Emily Cheatman

In Honor of My Family In Honor of the Workers who keep the Church Property in Good Repair In Honor of The Glory of God Jeanine Calliham

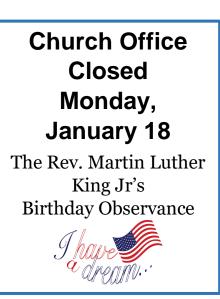
In Memory of Morgan Causey In Honor of Our Parents In Honor of Our Children & Grandson Charla & Bobby Jones

> In Memory of Don Cook In Memory of Chuck Wilson Sue Halbert Jan Wilson



January Schedule Worship Leaders

Date	Liturgist
1-3-2021	Pastor Jackie
1-10-2021	Bob Wood
1-17-2021	Tom Cheatham
1-24-2021	Mildred Weldon
1-31-2021	Bobby Jones



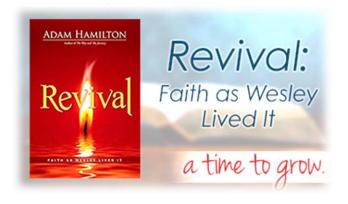
Group Studies

The church will be offering several opportunities for not only small group studies but an opportunity to learn about our neighbors and who they are.

- We will be offering a bible study on First Corinthians beginning on January 21st and continuing on Thursdays for seven weeks (the dates will be listed below). The class will be in-person in the fellowship hall beginning at 6:30 PM. Books will be given out at the first meeting. Meeting dates: January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 18, 25, March 4.
- We will be offering a study on Methodism written by Adam Hamilton entitled "Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It." This is a six week study that will be held on Wednesday evenings in the fellowship hall beginning at 6:30 PM starting on January 20th. Meeting dates: January 20, 27, February 3, 10, 24, March 3. We will not meet on Ash Wednesday.
- Beginning February 7th we will be offering Movie Nights on Sunday evenings. These will take place in the fellowship hall beginning at 6:00 PM. We will watch a movie and then have a brief discussion after the screening to talk about the implications of the movie and how they impact us as Christians and as members of the community. These will be open to the community at large.

Dates

Ruby Bridges
Emmanuel
Hidden Figures
MacFarland USA
Real Women Have Curves
Take the Lead
42
Selma
Harriet
The Tuskegee Airmen
Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Green Book



All in-person meetings will follow CDC guidelines until further notice. We will practice social distancing and masks will be required in the sanctuary & fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church for information.

 Sacred Spaces will resume on Tuesday January 12 and will continue every other Tuesday until the end of May. The dates are: Jan 12, 26, February 9, 23, March 9, 23, April 6, 20, May 4, 18. These will premiere on the FUMC YouTube Channel at 7:00 PM.



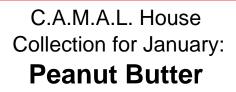
B.J. Drehr	7 th
Jackie Drehr	7 th
Sean Wolf	8 th
Stayton Weldon	12 th
Tori Jacoby	13 th
Betty Farris	15 th
Rose Mary Burk	17 th
Rowdy Haferkamp	18 th
Beverly Wagner	21 st
Katie Etlinger	28^{th}

 29^{th}

Rachelle Lemke



Bobby & Charla Jones	6 th
Kayla & Logan Pickett	16 th





_ First United Methodist Church 211 N. Clinton Street Cuero, FX 77954