



# FIRST THOUGHTS FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

January  
20  
25

BAY CITY, TX

phone: 979-245-4627

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<https://www.facebook.com/fmcbaycitytx>



A Word With Pastor Chris



## FMC STAFF

Rev. Christopher McNeill	Pastor
Erika Ramos	Administrative Secretary
Susan Parish	Praise Team Leader
Gena Herrera	Chancel Choir Director
Rebecca Sansing	Praise Ringers Director
Mike Byrn	Pianist/Organist
Lynsey Curtner	Sunshine & Rainbows Director
Lynsey Curtner	Director of Family Ministries
Mandi Ressman	Youth Ministry Assistant/ Um Army Coordinator

Contact FMC at any time, 24 hours a day, to let the church office know of hospitalizations, births, deaths, illnesses, or other concerns.

## God Keeps Doing New Things

*How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in him. Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ. -Ephesians 1: 3-5a*

In one of their comic strips, Calvin and Hobbes are talking about the New Year. Calvin says, "I'm getting disillusioned with these New Years. They don't seem very new at all. Each New Year is just like the old year. Here another year has gone by and everything's still the same. There's still pollution and war and stupidity and greed. Things haven't changed. I say what kind of future is this? I thought things were supposed to improve. I thought the future was supposed to be better."

Hobbes replies, "The problem with the future is that it keeps turning into the present."

Two workers were talking: "Did you know Jones has 30 years experience?" The other said, "No, he doesn't have 30 years experience; He has one year, 30 times." The future kept turning into the present for him. This is not God's will for us.

Check out what Paul writes to us---He had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, adopted into His family. It sounds like God does not want us to lead hum-drum lives, and God definitely doesn't want us to live the same year but with a different number at the end.

God says in Revelation 21:5: "See I am making everything new." He said practically the same thing through Isaiah the prophet, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing" (Isaiah 43:18-19). But we have to be open to whatever new thing God is going to do.

Football changed in 1906 because the forward pass was then allowed. Before that, games tended to be low scoring because the guys were getting "3 yards and a cloud of dust." Most teams just stuck with the old way, but St. Louis University stated doing the "new thing" - passing. In the first season they outscored their opponents 402-11...

*God's new things are always good because we can trust Him. Happy New Years! - Pastor Chris*

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**February Newsletter Deadline :**  
**January 27th**

The church will be looking for a secretary. If you know anyone please let Pastor Chris or the church office know.

# Three WAYS to GIVE at

First Methodist Church

2300 Ave H  
Bay City, Tx 77414  
979-245-4627

Visit [fmcbaycity.com](http://fmcbaycity.com)  
for more information.



## Mobile Giving

Use the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement App to give on your mobile device. Search First Methodist Church, select your amount and enter payment method.



## Drop Off In-Person

Visit our church office or use the offering basket at our service.

### Date

### Worship

### Offering

Date	Worship	Offering
12/1	76	\$6,537
12/8	117	\$1,589
12/15	121	\$2,184
12/22	110	\$2,701.65
12/29	TBD	TBD



## Online Giving

Scan the QR code to give online.



**Attendance and Offering for the month of December**



Thank you to everyone for helping decorate the church, hanging of the greens, and purchasing poinsettias to help beautify our church.

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD: CINDY CARROLL & ALLYSON WRIGHT



*Altar Flowers*

Please call or email the church office to place your order!

## **Make Church Service and Discipleship A Doable New Year's Resolution**

**As 2025 unfolds, a bright pink handout should appear in every single setting found within our church campus. Admittedly, it probably hosts some omissions. But overall, it contains a fairly comprehensive menu of the tasks, duties and responsibilities that make it possible for us to freely and comfortably worship with fellow believers.**

**For the 20 percent who faithfully and cheerfully contribute their time, energy and talents, it is just a printed reminder of the meaningful contributions they make to maintain our sacred goals and tangibly show their love for Christ and our neighbors. To the other 80% of us, it reveals an exciting array of opportunities to SERVE Our Risen Savior and that all need more 'worker bees'.**

**As I recall, Jesus proclaimed He came to serve...not to be served! And, I'm pretty sure He expects us (His 'enlightened' disciples) to follow His example! So, thoughtfully review this service listing, get involved and you too will abundantly experience the joy of serving our church family and our beautiful community with care, compassion and much love. If you desire more details regarding what a job that interests you involves, contact the leader listed on the pink sheet or me.**

**W.R. 'Willie' Younger  
FMC Missions Chairman  
979-240-4872**



Let's make it Christmas all year long! We are expanding our Operation Christmas Child mission to an ongoing all-year-long event! Each month, we'll collect specific items to go in our OCC shoeboxes. At the end of the year when it's time to pack boxes, we'll have all the items we need. In January, we'll collect socks (all sizes) and stuffed animals. Remember they must fit in a shoebox. So look for the bins in the sanctuary and start shopping for socks and stuffed animals. I wonder what February's shopping list will look like?!



We think you'd all agree that there's something special 'in the air' when we worship together in the chapel space - it's cozy and sweet. With that thought in mind, your leadership has come to the consensus that, beginning in January, instead of only 5th Sundays, we will worship in the chapel on the last Sunday of EVERY month! There will be plenty of communication - email, announcements, church newsletter calendar, Facebook posts, and signage - to remind everyone to head to the chapel on those Sundays. Along with 'last Sundays' in the chapel, we'd like to revitalize our 'Coffee Angels' ministry. If you'd like to be in the rotation to prepare and clean up a pot of coffee, make sure we have sweetener, creamers, stir sticks, and cups for these Sundays, please contact Pastor Chris or Susan Parish. The coffee pot can be prepped and set up on Saturday - the praise team will plug it in when we arrive early for rehearsal on Sunday morning. We hope you're as excited as we are about our Chapel Church services starting on Sunday, January 26!

# Welcome & Worship Center!

Welcoming new members and visitors with information and guidance for our church's programs and activities here at FMC is very important to us.

If you would like to volunteer to man our new welcome center, please add your name to the sign-up sheet located in the Narthex.

## ADULT MINISTRIES

We believe that true Christian community is about more than attending a Sunday gathering. We love worshipping together, but it is important to us that you are known outside of just Sundays.

*We believe sustained life-change happens best in small groups.*

We have groups for every age and stage of life. We want you to have a relational home with a group of people who follow Jesus together, whether that is through a class, a small group, or a Bible study.

### Programming

FRIENDSHIP CLASS: Sundays 9AM (in the Parlor)

GOOD NEWS CLASS: Sundays 9AM

FAMILY OF FAITH: Tuesdays 5:30PM-6:30PM  
**WILL RESUME AFTER SUMMER BREAK**

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: Tuesdays 10AM (seasonal)

## MISSIONS

We will mobilize people and resources both in our city and aboard to glorify God, share the gospel, and help those in need.

There is so much that God has put on our hearts to pursue, and we believe we have been given everything we need to accomplish all of it.

### Ongoing Opportunities

FOOD VOUCHER MINISTRY  
Every 3rd Thursday 8:30AM-10AM

HARVEST HOUSE FOOD PANTRY

PRISON MINISTRY

## WORSHIP SERVICES

**SUNDAY**  
**10:00 AM**  
**FAMILY WORSHIP**  
**IN THE**  
**SANCTUARY**

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING SUNDAY?**

## MUSIC

The Music Ministry of First Methodist Church is mission-minded, striving to take the gospel of Jesus into our community and the world. Worship is our response of love to the God who first loved us. If you or your children love to use your talents to make a joyful noise to the Lord, consider joining one our choirs.

### Weekly Programming

PRAISE TEAM : Sundays 8:30AM  
(Singers, Band, Tech Team)

CHANCEL CHOIR : Wednesdays 7PM

PRAISE RINGERS HANDBELL CHOIR : August - May  
Wednesdays 5:30PM



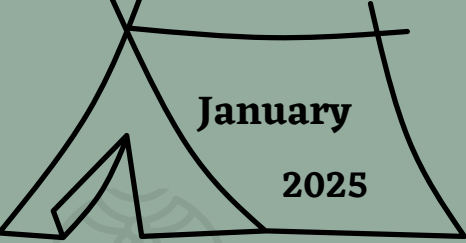
Children and Youth ministries focuses on laying a Biblical foundation , planting seeds of faith, and digging deep into God's word. We believe that faith formation happens both in the church and in the home, and want to come alongside parents to equip and empower them to be leaders in their child's spiritual journey!

### Children and Youth Ministries

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Sundays 10AM  
(except 1st Sundays) 4yr old's through 5th graders welcomed -

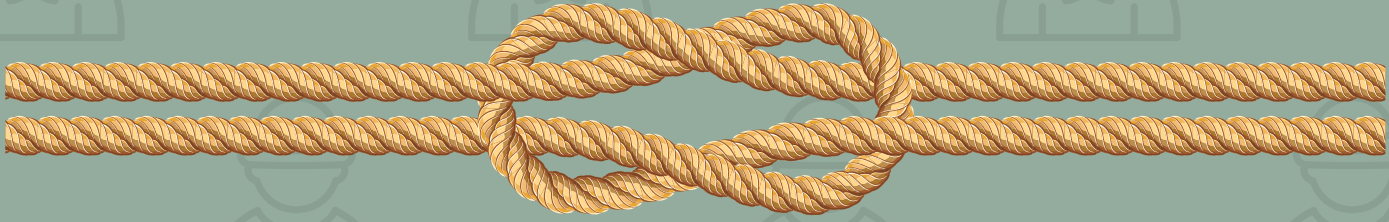
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP CLASSES: Every 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sunday @5PM. Ages 6th-12th Grade @ 5-6:30PM. We will meet in Wesley Hall for dinner, but pick up will be from the Youth Bldg. -





# SCOUT

NEWS



## Welcome to 2025

\*\*\*\*\*

### CUB PACK 4545

The pack participated in the Lighted Christmas Parade, helped place Wreaths at Veterans Grave Sites during Wreaths Across America and helped pass out Christmas boxes in December. The pack will be having Pinewood Derby Workshops the first weekend in January and the Pinewood Derby January 18.

Den meetings are held on most Monday nights in the Chapel Building from 5 – 7 pm.

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### TROOP 45 for BOYS

The troop did the Luminaries for the rescheduled Lighted Christmas Parade December 12th and participated in the Flag Ceremony and assisted in placing wreaths on Veterans graves for the Wreaths Across America Ceremony on December 14th.

The troop meets on Wednesday nights from 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

### TROOP 145 for GIRLS

The troop will have attended Sam Houston Area Council’s Winter Camp at Camp Strake up near Coldspring, TX the week between Christmas and New Years to earn Merit Badges and learn camping skills.

The troop meets on Thursday nights from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

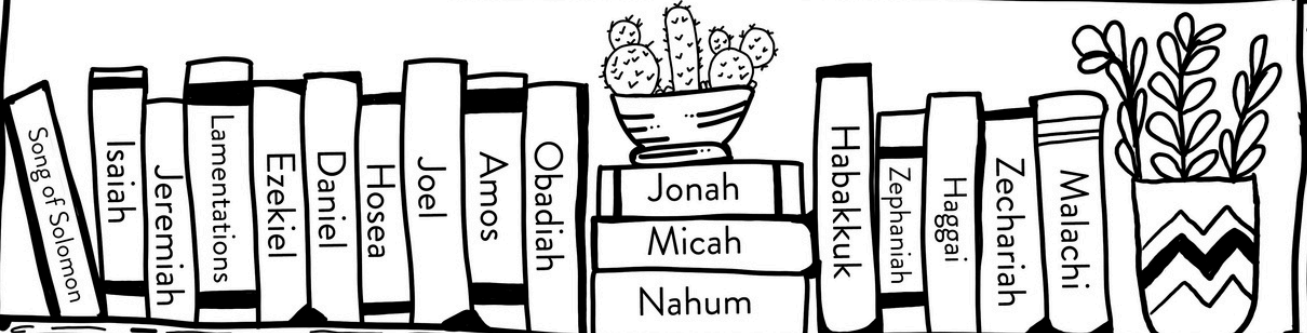
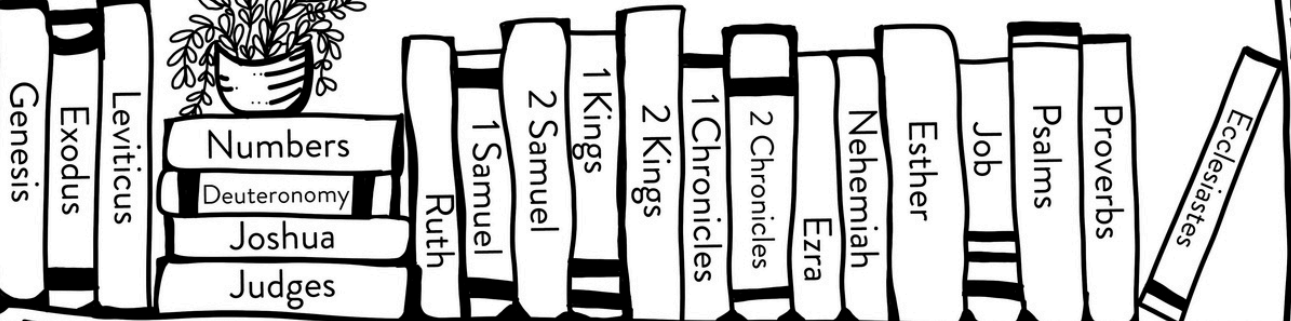
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The Troops are usually meeting in Wesley Hall during Youth Building Kitchen Reconstruction. They also do some activities outside in Eagle Way alley, the Courtyard, and /or in the Scout Hut.

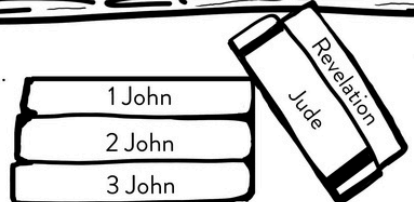
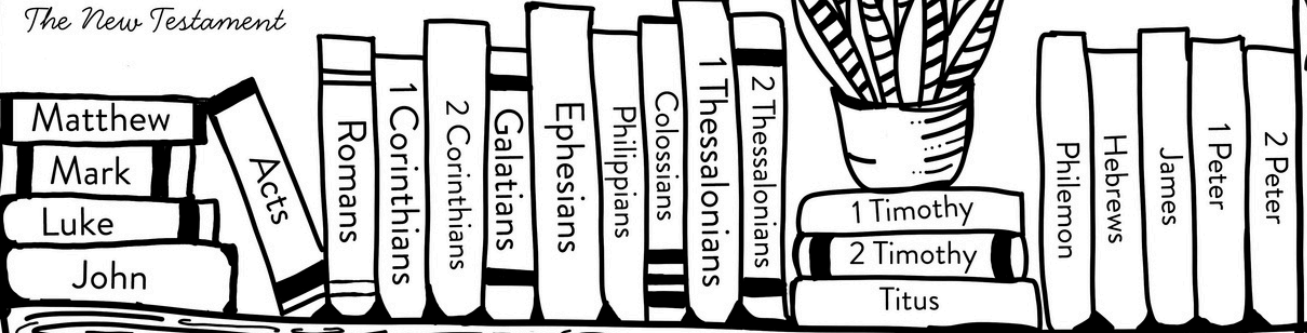


# BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

## The Old Testament



## The New Testament



# january

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Anniversary      Date

Glenn & Karma Chambliss	03
Shea & Jordon Krauskopf	04
Danny & Pam McCasland	05
Jesse & Gena Herrera	15
Tim & Sue Hall	23
Steve & Donna Reis	24

### Birthday      Date      Birthday      Date

ASHLEY CLAYTON	01	FRAN BAKER	23
TAYLOR JANISE	01	CINDY DOWDY	23
GARLAN HINMAN	02	SHELBY ESTLINBAUM	23
SARA JUDKINS	07	CAROLYN THAMES	24
THERESA KNEBEL	07	MARK ISAACSON	25
SHIRLEY MCGEHEARTY	08	HELEN SNEARY	25
ALLISON ROHAN	09	BRYAN HUTSON	26
SAVANNAH FOSTER	10	JOURNIE HOWARD-SANSING	27
REBECCA HUTSON	10	DANNY SHINDLER	30
JULIUS BYRN	12	LACEY BYRN	31
REAGAN CURTNER	12		
SUSAN SALIDIVAR	12		
ALLYSON WRIGHT	14		
DONNA YOUNGER	14		
STEVE WILSON	17		
ELLIE CURTNER	19		
NELL GIBBENS	19		
GENA HERRERA	21		
DANE SIMONS	22		

Happy Birthday

WANT TO BE INCLUDED...?  
 IF WE DON'T HAVE YOUR BIRTH DATE OR ANNIVERSARY ON FILE, WE'D LOVE TO INCLUDE YOU IN OUR CELEBRATORY WISHES!  
 CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 245-4627 OR EMAIL:OFFICE@FMCBAYCITY.COM

## Pray For

Israel  
 Louise Teutsch  
 Mary Ellen Reynolds  
 Simon Desoto  
 Audry Griggs  
 Michelle Poirrier  
 B.J. Reynal  
 Deborah Machicek  
 Steve Sliva  
 George Adams  
 John Wells  
 Barry Fry

Judy Pennington  
 Taylor Smith  
 Diana Ruiz  
 Collin Gann  
 Melissa Foster's dad  
 Greg - Terry & Michelle's friend  
 John Greenway  
 Eleanor May & Family  
 Don Storey  
 Ty Pressley and his family  
 Donna Rice  
 Ira Rose

~Please provide updates for Prayer Concerns when you are aware of them~





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 CHURCH CLOSED OFFICE	2	3 CHURCH CLOSED OFFICE	4
5 Communion 10am - Worship	6 5:30pm - Cub Scout 6pm - Trustee Meeting	7 10am - Bible Study	8 5:30pm - Bells 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - Troop 45	9 6am- Reunion Meeting 7:30pm - Troop 145	10 CHURCH CLOSED OFFICE	11
12 Second Sunday Luncheon 10am - Worship 5pm-Youth	13 5:30pm - Cub Scout	14 10am - Bible Study 6:30pm - Pack 4545 Committee Meeting	15 5:30pm - Bells 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - Troop 45	16 Food Voucher 8am-10:30am 6am- Reunion Meeting 6:30pm-Pack 4545 Meeting 7:30pm - Troop 145	17 CHURCH CLOSED OFFICE	18
19 10am - Worship 5pm-Youth	20 Church Council Meeting ~ 6pm 5:30pm - Cub Scout	21 10am - Bible Study	22 5:30pm - Bells 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - Troop 45	23 6am- Reunion Meeting 7:30pm - Troop 145	24 CHURCH CLOSED OFFICE	25
26 10am - Worship in Chapel	27 Newsletter Deadline 5:30pm - Cub Scout	28 10am - Bible Study	29 5:30pm - Bells 7pm - Choir 7:30pm - Troop 45	30 6am- Reunion Meeting 7:30pm - Troop 145	31 CHURCH CLOSED OFFICE	



*grow in grace*

CHANGE SERVICES REQUESTED

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH  
2300 Avenue H  
Bay City, TX 77414