



Happy New Year!

Pastor Cathie Evins

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

We belong to a God who continually offers us hope and love and forgiveness. These things don't depend on how deserving we are, or what our circumstances are. Rather, they flow naturally from God's abundant grace and mercy toward us. As we begin 2021 together, I offer you this prayer for each of us and for our church:

Prayer for Grace and Favor in the New Year God, as we begin this New Year, we ask that

you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed. We pray that others will take notice of your goodness and cannot help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. May we as individuals and as a church, reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FUMC Children's Ministry News:

We want to wish everyone a Happy New Year!! We are so Blessed that our Sunday School is thriving, the children are enjoying choir, and we had a wonderful Christmas Pageant. The next goal of our Children's Ministry Team is to start a Midweek Program. We hope to start a Midweek Program during the Lenten Season. A GREAT big THANK YOU to the families who donated gifts to the grandparents that we adopted from Nesbit Living and Recovery Center. They were so happy to receive their gifts.

Monthly Memory Verse for January:

Luke 16:10a

Suppose you can be trusted with something very little.

Then you can also be trusted with something very large.

Monthly Life Application:

Responsibility-Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you.

The Basic Truth:

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



The Sunday school children had fun wrapping gifts for Nesbit Living & Recovery Center.



*The Scroll is a monthly publication of FUMC, Seguin.
The next deadline will be January 15.
Articles may be submitted to office@fumcseguin.com*



**Pastor Ray
Perales**

To the Renewed,

A new year is upon us, a simple passing from one moment to another, seemingly no different than the passing from one day, nor even one minute, to the next, and yet it is so much more significant. We do not make New Month resolutions, nor certainly New Day resolutions. Sure, we can promise to have a better day than the one before, but New Year's Resolutions seems to be so much more impactful, to carry more gravity in our lives. There is a sense of officiality in them.

Being resolute means being determined, purposeful, and unwavering in one's actions. A resolution, therefore, must meet these same criteria. It must, first of all, have a purpose. Some of the most common resolutions, perhaps even the most common, concern physical health. We resolve to exercise more (or even to begin at all), or eat healthier, or something to this effect. We want to have improved health, whether to have a better quality of life or a greater life expectancy or perhaps both.

We determine what that resolution looks like. It might mean taking up a specific diet or refraining from certain foods. It could mean making it to the gym or even simply walking daily for a specific amount of time or distance. The point is, it is considered beforehand, prior to the first of the year, and deemed capable of helping us achieve our purpose.

Finally, it is unchanging. It is true that we

should always allow for change, and I feel that this is the case even with a new year's resolution. The details of the resolution are not as important as the purpose or goal, the very reason that the resolution was made in the first place. If the method is not yielding the desired result, then it holds that the method should be changed. Remaining stuck in the method undermines the purpose, which is at the heart of the resolution.

What about a spiritual resolution? How can we grow in spiritual health? If we are intentional about doing so, then how do we measure spirituality? We do so in prayer, in Scripture, and in worship. Take up a Bible in a year plan. If that seems like too much, read a chapter each day, or perhaps a book of the Bible each month. Pray daily. If you have a strong habit of prayer, how can you continue to grow? Ideas include prayer journals, praying the hours, or you might even lead a prayer group that meets regularly.

What is important is that we grow in our faith. The Church cannot be lazy in our discipleship. A life with Christ is a life changed. A heart that belongs to Christ is a heart that is changed. So long as we are in this world, however, that change should always continue, shaping us into a greater likeness of the image of our Savior.

In God's Spirit,
Pastor Ray



Memorials Gifts

In memory of:

Gene Bachman

From:

Susan Brannan

In memory of:

Bonnie Bartels

From:

Susan Brannan, Paulist Sunday School Class,
John & Janet Hudson

In memory of:

Paul & June Holman

From:

Susan Brannan, Sally Swope

In memory of:

Violet Lillie

From:

Steve & Sherry Baker, Kellie Raske, Stan &
Susan Casto

In memory of:

Bill Lowe

From:

Susan Brannan

In memory of:

John Nash, Jr.

From:

Cathy Wensinger

In memory of:

John Nash, III

From:

Cathy Wensinger, Craig & Pamela Sagebiel,
Susan Brannan, John & Janet Hudson

In memory of:

Wally Parrish

From:

Susan Brannan

In memory of:

Frances Wegner

From:

Susan Brannan, John & Janet Hudson

In memory of:

Lydia Woehler

From:

First United Bank, Susan Brannan, Paulist
Sunday School Class

Year-to-Date Financial Report November, 2020

Donations	\$713,291.00
Expenses	\$723,044.00
Expenses Exceed Donations by:	
	\$9,753.00

Checking Account Balance	
Beg. Balance as of 1/1	\$52,710.00
End. Balance as of 11/30	\$42,957.00



Wednesday Youth to Thrive
 5:30 - 5:45 pm Games, Hanging Out
 5:45 - 6:15 pm Dinner
 6:15 - 7:00 pm Devotional

Pastor Melissa Lind
 Associate Pastor for Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Well we made it through 2020!! What a year it was and our life has been turned upside down and backwards. So much has changed due to what we have gone through this past year and the uncertainty of what life will look like day to day is so hard to deal with. But one thing is certain, God is the same yesterday, today and forever. We can count on the fact that God has not changed and that as we rest in the Holy One we will face these uncertain times knowing the worries of the world are not ours, but God's.

We had all hoped that by the time we had reached 2021 we would have a better handle on this pandemic and that we would begin to see some normalcy. We do have hope in the vaccines and a better understanding on how to protect ourselves from this virus. But life is not back to normal and it looks like we will have to continue to endure life with COVID-19 a little longer.

The programing at the church has had to change due to the circumstances we are living with. We want everyone to stay safe and

healthy. Sometimes this means that we can't do the events we want in the way we want and that's hard to deal with. If we are creative, work together at a distance and think outside the box we can continue to enjoy worship and fellowship together. With that said I am asking that you please be patient and flexible with the 2021 programing here at the church. We will be moving forward with plans for a wonderful year, but we may have to cancel or change events and programing as we move forward.

I am reminded of the patience, flexibility and understanding we need to possess in this time of COVID with a devotion from "Jesus Calling." "If you live on the surface of life by focusing on ever-changing phenomena, you will find yourself echoing the words of Solomon: 'Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless!'" If we can live in collaboration with God we will find our way forward.

Grace and Peace,
 Pastor Mel



Fun was to be had at the Youth to Thrive Christmas Party!! We enjoyed great food, friends and fellowship. We also welcomed 3 new friends to our Wednesday nights fun.



Dawn Lewis (above) joined the church on November 8.

Lupita Hoepner and children Stephanie and Antonio joined the church on November 29.





Habitat for Humanity Update

As we see 2020 come to a close, the volunteers from the GVHFH want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New year. We are nearing the end of the build on Shannon St. We are down to the final few finishes touches, an appraisal, and final Certificate of Occupancy. Of course, those final touches seem to take a lot of time to complete. Regardless, we expect that Angel, Jessie, and their family will be moving into their new home shortly.

For 2021, we'll be starting a slightly new process. We will be partnering with the San Antonio Habitat for Humanity folks as we work to move from building 2 houses a year to 3 (maybe 4) houses built each year. This last house was completed in about 5 months. So we do plan to move the builds along a little faster.

Reminder, if you're interested in volunteering, please contact Robin Roark (512-695-3125 or TXRoarks@yahoo.com). No prior home building skills needed and no tools needed. We'll be glad to help you learn and we have all the tools needed.

And of course, there are always opportunities to shop, donate, or volunteer at the GVHFH Re-Store at 256 W. Court St. The Re-Store hours are Tue-Sat from 10:00am to 5:00pm. If you have some good stuff you need to get rid of - think about donating to the GVHFH. Give them a call (830-401-0422) and they will even schedule a time to come pick it up for you.

Texas Ramps Project

As we approach the end of the year, our builds have slowed down a little bit. Even the State TRP office has noted a reduction in the number of requests. But we still had one ramp to build and also one other ramp to pre-build for the 1st Baptist Church build team.

We are pretty sure the ramp that the FUMC team built on Nov 20 will go down as the shortest ramp we will likely ever build – just 11 feet long. But we also learned a very important lesson in the process. It really doesn't matter whether the drop out the front door is 7 inches or 7 feet. If you are in a wheel chair both are equally inaccessible without a ramp. So it was with our latest ramp - the drop out the door was a little over 6 inches, but it meant that Mr Day was not able to get in or out of his house without significant assistance.

The build day was on Friday, Nov 20. It was quite the foggy morning as we drove out to his property, but the team all showed up with no problems encountered. This was out in the country, so our primary greeting as we pulled into his yard was from the cattle in the pastures on either side of his house. Mr Day did meet us at the door about 30 minutes into our build process – and stayed to watch us the rest of the time.

The only issues we ran into with the build was that the space between the two porch posts was only 46 inches. So we had to do a little extra engineering to squeeze a 48" wide ramp into a 46" gap - just a little extra saw work to notch out around the post. At the end, Mr Day now has a 4 foot landing at the door and a 7' long gradual slope leading up to that landing. He can now easily roll in and out of his house.

Reminder, if you're interested in volunteering either at the warehouse or going out to build the ramps, please contact Robin Roark (512-695-3125 or TXRoarks@yahoo.com). No prior ramp building skills needed and no tools needed. We'll be glad to help you learn and we have all the tools on hand.



Home-In-A-Week

Step #2 for the 2021 Home-In-A-Week build was accomplished on Dec 4th at the Dripping Springs United Methodist Church. The 4 Musketeers from Seguin FUMC (Eric, Tom, Robin, & Betty) made the trek over to assist with cutting/assembling the floor boxes and interior walls. The drive over was wet with fairly constant drizzle. But the rain stopped for the pre-build and stayed at bay for about 3 hours. As we got in the truck to come back to Seguin, the rain started again. So we were blessed with dry weather to get the work done, but also blessed with some much needed moisture.

Next up is the pre-build here in Seguin. You are welcome to come join in the fun for a couple hour project that Saturday morning. Jan 9th – Seguin – 1st United Methodist Church. We will be assembling the exterior walls – framing them and adding the siding. Start time is 9:00AM in the Church parking lot. We are all wearing masks and practicing social distancing during these projects.

Then we are off to the Rio Grande Valley to build a Home-In-A-Week: Jan 16-22, 2021 – Donna, Texas

If you want to learn more, here are two web links. The face book page also has a time-lapse of last year's build. In a few minutes you can watch the house being built in 6 days.

<https://www.facebook.com/Home-in-a-Week-464684690319887/>

<https://homeinaweek.org/>



January

Saturday - January 2

8:00a Habitat Workday

Sunday - January 3

7:00a UMM Breakfast, CLC

8:00a Worship, Sanctuary

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship, Sanctuary

10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC

Monday - January 4

6:00p Mom's Bible Study, Doss Home

Tuesday - January 5

9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Rm 200

6:30p Missions Team Mtg, HH

Wednesday - January 6

5:30p Youth to Thrive, CLC

Thursday - January 7

6:30p Safety Team Mtg, HH

Sunday - January 10

8:00a Worship, Sanctuary

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship, Sanctuary

10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC

Monday - January 11

10:00a My Healthy Child Diaper Program

6:00p Mom's Bible Study, Doss Home

Tuesday - January 12

9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Rm 200

6:30p SPRC Mtg, HH

Wednesday - January 13

5:30p Youth to Thrive, CLC

Sunday - January 17

8:00a Worship, Sanctuary

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship, Sanctuary

10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC

Monday - January 18

6:00p Mom's Bible Study, Doss Home

Tuesday - January 19

9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Rm 200

6:30p Finance Mtg, HH

Wednesday - January 20

5:30p Youth to Thrive, CLC

Thursday - January 21

6:30p Board of Trustees Mtg, HH

7:00p PFLAG

Sunday - January 24

8:00a Worship, Sanctuary

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship, Sanctuary

10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC

Monday - January 25

6:00p Mom's Bible Study, Doss Home

Tuesday - January 26

9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Rm 200

6:30p Church Council, HH

Wednesday - January 27

5:30p Youth to Thrive, CLC

Sunday - January 31

8:00a Worship, Sanctuary

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship, Sanctuary

10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC

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