



Spring Has Sprung! Pastor Cathe Evins

“See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land.” (Song of Solomon 2:11-12)

I have always loved Spring! I love the return of warmer weather, the longer evenings of daylight, and the beauty of new growth everywhere. God’s creation literally blossoms with new life each Spring, and to me it is a symbol of resurrection. Even though the trees look gray and lifeless in the wintertime, we know that they are still very much alive. In Spring, that hidden life breaks forth gloriously into brand new life!

So it is with you and me. By faith in Jesus Christ, we have been given the Spirit of Christ and we literally carry that life of Christ within us. When our mortal bodies die, the life of Christ in us does not die, because it is eternal and immortal. And as we say in our Apostles

Creed, “I believe in the resurrection of the body.....”. We will have gloriously new and immortal bodies in heaven, and the life that makes that possible is already hidden deep within us, thanks be to God!

I see that same principle at work in our church. Though our church seemed closed and dark and inactive throughout much of last year due to the pandemic, we were still very much alive. Worship continued in different formats, giving continued in different formats, and the Lord was still praised gloriously through all of it. And now....we are seeing those signs of new life blossoming in our church! Worship attendance is increasing gradually, Sunday School attendance is increasing gradually, and I’m so thankful for these blessings of brand new life in our life together here at FUMC. Truly, Spring has sprung.....thanks be to God!

Love in Christ, Pastor Cathe



Missions Fundraiser

The missions team is hosting a rummage sale on April 17 in the church parking lot on Austin Street from 9 AM to 2 PM. Booth Vendors are needed. Booth spaces may be purchased for \$30 with an additional \$10 refundable deposit to be paid separately as cash or check. Booth applications can be filled out online

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1rMg5flk9cFN4es_kQF95hyJ9e_Mdu-WZOLDJQfVMOGqE/viewform?edit_requested=true

If you are interested in volunteering for this event or have a garage sale item you would like to donate, please contact the missions team at missions.fumcseguin@gmail.com

The Scroll is a monthly publication of FUMC, Seguin.

The next deadline will be April 23.

Articles may be submitted to office@fumcseguin.com



Pastor Ray Perales

People of the Resurrection, Easter brings us a sense of hope, of renewal. Even the season of Spring lends to this, as we see images of new life all around us. As we are venturing through this time of Lent, however, I would like to draw attention to Good Friday, specifically to Christ's trial and the selection of Barabbas by the crowd.

Here is why this is important: the crowd did not choose Barabbas. Rather, they chose "not Jesus." This is the mistake of the human race. We can choose Jesus, or we can choose anything else. This is what makes following God difficult. Some might say it is the restrictions placed on us by Christian discipleship, but in truth, we are more free in Christ than we are outside of Christ. Outside of a relationship with God, we live in bondage, which is diametrically opposed to freedom.

How many times each day do we "choose Barabbas"? We opt to do the other thing (any other thing) that does not involve obedience to God. Establish a habit of prayer? I don't have time because of reason X, Y, or Z. Read Scripture everyday? I need to get to work. Have a time of family prayer? I think I'll binge watch a new series on Netflix. The many reasons we have might make sense. They may even be noble endeavors. Still, they are not in compliance with the will and purpose of God.

I believe that we choose "not Jesus" because we are afraid of what that will mean for our lives. Jesus just might inconvenience us. Heaven forbid! Even worse, God might judge us. Jesus is going to judge us regardless, however. In fact, judgment is more severe when

we reject Christ, and so choosing to ignore or reject Christ is not to our benefit. It is also worth saying that God is still in the judgment business. In fact it is solely God's purview, regardless of what certain news anchors may believe.

As we celebrate Easter, then, let us choose Jesus. Let us choose to follow Jesus, to obey Jesus, and to live like Jesus. I've mentioned Palm Sunday Christians and Good Friday Christians, those who followed the crowd, for good or for ill. Instead, let us be Easter Christians, the People of the Resurrection, the Children of God.

In Resurrection Power,
Pastor Ray



Pastor Melissa Lind

As many of you may know, God blessed me with a house that is right across from the church. (Thank you to the amazing and very patient men from the Safety Team for getting me moved in) This little house has brought me so much joy! As I sit on my front porch writing this article with my dogs, looking at the church reminded of all of you and watching the kids run, squeal, and play on the playground my heart is filled with the most amazing sense of peace!! My time with all of you here in Seguin has been an amazing journey.

This journey that began almost 4 years ago has not always been an easy one. When I moved to Seguin, I was going through some major life changing events. Not only was I taking a leap of faith with a new carrier path as a pastor, but I was also going through a divorce, moving to a new town, and becoming an empty nester. My children did not fully support my decision to become a pastor and I knew no one in Seguin. As I look back at those days, all I can remember was this overwhelming sense of peace. I was so nervous and at the same time felt God's amazing Peace. I know this was what God wanted me to do even though I really had not grasped the full realm of what I was taking on. Pastor Cathe and I were just



Wednesday Youth to Thrive

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

reflecting on just how much I needed to learn when I first started and just how much I have learned in my time with you. You have been so very patient and supportive with me, allowing me to grow as a pastor and person. I have made mistakes, not always being the best at juggling my time or communicating very well. But as a congregation you have allowed me to learn from my mistakes, working through all my challenges. I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your love, encouragement, and support. I give praise to God for the blessings of this amazing appointment and beautiful congregation. Thanks be to God.

The blessings I feel remind me that we are so blessed with a God who gives and gives and gives. When Christ died for us on the cross, He held nothing back. Because giving is inherent to God's very nature, God is searching for people who can and want to receive His blessings in full measure. God wants an intimate relationship with each and every one of us, but we must be receptive and attentive to the relationship God wants with us. By opening up and allowing God to fill us with His abundant riches and directing our gaze, searching for our Lord we will find a glorious gift of His perfect Peace and I am so very grateful for this peace. God is truly an awesome God! My prayer for you is that you will feel God's glorious and perfect Peace.

Many Blessings,
Pastor Mel

**Year-to-Date Financial Report
February, 2021**

Donations	\$197,890.00
Expenses	\$131,068.00
Donations Exceed Expenses by:	\$66,822.00
Checking Account Balance	
Beg. Balance as of 1/1	\$64,294.00
End. Balance as of 2/28	\$131,116.00



Weekday School

Children from the Weekday School Llama class get ready for an Easter Egg hunt.



Champions for Courageous Children

The Guadalupe County Children’s Advocacy Center (GCCAC) is conducting a fund-raising effort now through April. You are invited to participate in the Champions for Courageous Children campaign. For more information or to donate, visit www.gccac.net and click on Champions for Courageous children and you will then see a link to make a donation, join or form a team and/or spread the word of this campaign to those in your network of friends and associates.

Children’s Ministry News

Thank you so much for letting your children sing in church on Palm Sunday. They did a great job singing and helping Pastor Ray pass out the cross palms. We love to see the children participating in our services.

Monthly Memory Verse for April:

Romans 14:19

So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another.

Monthly Life Application for April:

Peace – Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.

The Basic Truth for April:

I can trust God no matter what.

Blessings,

Michelle, Veronica, and Kiana



Habitat for Humanity Update

The house at 427 Riley is coming along at a fast pace now that the weather is cooperating a little better. We started March with a slab and some sticks standing up, meaning we had the frame and roof trusses in place. But we ended the month with the siding/roofing installed on the exterior and the insulation and sheetrock installed on the interior. We even got some of the painting done before the end of the month. So the house is moving along at a great pace and should be completed by early May.

If you're interested in volunteering to help at the job site, please contact Robin Roark at 512-695-3125 or TXRoarks@yahoo.com. Our work time is generally 8:00am - noon each Thursday and Saturday. You are also welcome to come help out for one day, a few days here and there, or each workday. No prior home building skills 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.



THE TEXAS RAMP PROJECT
Building Freedom for the Homebound

Texas Ramps Project Update

As noted last month, we had received a request to build a ramp for the La Trinidad United Methodist Church. So in March we obtained the materials and built the ramp. On the morning of March 12th, 8 FUMC members arrived at the La Trinidad UMC to build a ramp to the Wesley House. We were also greeted by several ladies that brought breakfast tacos, doughnuts, and coffee for the build team. The ramp was roughly 47 feet long and now provides them easy access from the parking lot into the front door of the House.

After we finished the ramp that morning, a few of us returned to the FUMC warehouse to prepare another ramp. This one was for a ramp that the team from Friedens United Church of Christ was building the next day. Their ramp was planned to be about 22 feet long and was being built for a family in Luling.

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 or no tools needed. We'll be glad to help you learn and we have all the tools on hand.

