

The Connection Point

October 2023 - Vol. 1, No. 10



Help Support Kairos Prison Ministry # 32 at Mountainview Women's Unit in Gatesville Nov. 2-5
 "I was in prison and you visited me." Matthew 25:36

<p>PRAYER Commit to pray before and during the weekend of November 2-5</p>	<p>BAKE COOKIES Every Inmate gets a dozen of cookies.</p>	<p>KAIROS Team Members: Pastor Liz & Linda Lindsay</p>	<p>BUY A MEAL TICKET(S) Pay for a meal for the Participants or Team Members</p>	<p>SUPPORT FINANCIALLY Donate Money Agape to Support the Weekend</p>
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Information and Forms are on Bookshelf in the Narthex
 If you have questions, ask Pastor Liz or call @ 512-799-4146 or email liz.klar@att.net

Help bring Christ's love and forgiveness to incarcerated women, their families and those who work with them. Help them prepare for the ongoing Christian Community of Kairos inside the prison and then help them transition to become a productive citizen by helping them transition to the outside world. You can be a part of this ministry by:

- Prayer...commit to pray before and during the weekend of November 2-5, 2023.
- Bake cookies...make sure you get the guidelines for making the cookies.
- Sponsor a meal (s) for the woman inmate or the team member going in.
- Donate money agape to the weekend.

"I was in prison, and you visited me." Matthew 25:36

For more information, please contact Rev. Liz Klar: liz@fumctc.com

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Upcoming Events:

Trunk or Treat & Chilli Cookoff
Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023

Dallas Recorder Society Concert
Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023
4pm in the Sanctuary

A Note from Pastor Bill

Can you feel the excitement? Can you feel the energy at Fellowship United Methodist Church? It is contagious! We have started our Fall programming in a huge way. We have new ministries developing and new partnerships we are cultivating in our community. It is truly exciting!

People often ask me what it means to be a Methodist? There is so much in this question that would fill pages and pages, way too much to include in this newsletter. One of the core pillars of our Wesleyan identity and Methodist theology can be summed up in Jesus' own words. When asked by the religious leaders what is the greatest of all the commandments from what we now call the Old Testament, Jesus responded this way in Mark 12: 30, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

There we have it! Very succinct! Simple! Straight-forward! Yet, this insight, so profound and simple, is so very hard to live in our daily lives. Why? Because it requires so much from us to be able to "love God" and "love our neighbor." We must do so much work in our lives to be able to live this kind of love that it seems overwhelming. Isn't it humbling that something so very simple can be so very difficult?

I am excited to introduce you to a new ministry at Fellowship called Holy Moments. I hope and pray this will be our next step in our hospitality and fellowship. It is an idea that seems so very easy, so simplistic, yet so very difficult to do. See the pattern? Holy Moments invites each of us to be intentional in the way we live each moment of our lives. When problems come our way, such as that pesky round-a-bout experience, we have a decision to make — make that next moment a holy moment or an unholy moment. If we are intentional, choosing to make more moments holy

moments instead of unholy moments, we can change the world. In a profound way, intentionally creating Holy Moments helps us live into "loving God" and "loving our neighbor," fulfilling what Jesus has taught and inspired us to do.



I am so very blessed to partner with Jen Morgan, our beloved church member, Trophy Club mom and resident, author, and motivational speaker, to help bring you Holy Moments. What can you do to engage in this Holy Moments movement? First, pick up your copy of Holy Moments in the church narthex. The cost for these books is \$5 for two books. Read one for yourself and then give the second one away to someone you feel needs it, which is basically everyone!

What can you expect in the months to come?

- Jen will be conducting some Holy Moments gatherings online to help explore the book.
- An Advent worship series featuring Holy Moments is coming soon.
- A section on our website will be created and devoted to the Holy Moments movement at Fellowship.
- Our social media will be leveraging Holy Moments.
- Discussions will continue to form at Fellowship surrounding Holy Moments.
- We will be collecting and sharing Holy Moments stories.
- A children's emphasis is being developed by Betsy that will feature Holy Moments.

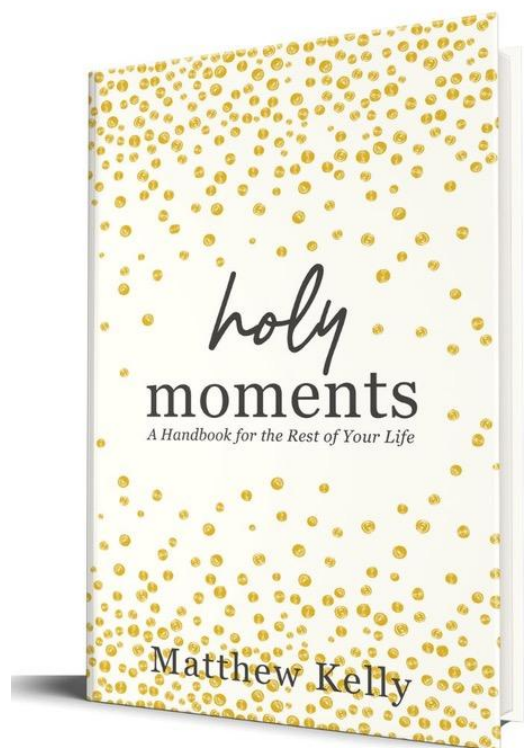
This is just a few things we are putting together in the weeks and months to come as we hope and pray Holy

Moments makes a home here at Fellowship UMC and helps shape the way we intentionally live into Jesus' command to us, "love for God and love for our Neighbor." I invite you to share your Holy Moments and share on social media using the hashtag #holymomentsmovementtc. This is not only for us at Fellowship, but we are inviting all of our community to join with us.

For now, just become acquainted with the Holy Moments book. Read what is written and see how this simple idea can impact your life. I hope and pray that this simplistic idea will help you live into Jesus' very simplistic and profound command to love God and love our neighbor.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bill



Holy Moments

IS HERE!

PICK UP YOUR COPY TODAY.

#HOLYMOMENTSMOUMENTTC



Music Ministry

When In Our Music God is Glorified

by Scott Scheetz

Recently, I've talked a lot about one of my favorite hymn writers, Charles Wesley. He wrote 51 of the hymns in our hymnal including and certainly not limited to: "And Can It Be", "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today", "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling", "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing, and the carol "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing". But what about hymns that deal with the modern world? After all, Charles Wesley died over 200 years ago in 1788.

There are several modern hymn writers in our hymnal including Timothy Dudley-Smith, Fred Pratt Green, Natalie Sleeth, Fred Kaan, Erik Routley, Jaroslav Vajda, and Brian Wren. Most of these hymn writers emerged from England in the mid 1960s. Their hymns discuss and acknowledge rising social concerns, reflect the impact of science and technology on nature, and name the church as the servant and its people as the hands and feet of Christ in a hurting world. Fred Pratt Green is one of the more prolific hymn writers of the modern era, writing over 300 hymns, 18 of which are included in our hymnal.

Green was born in Liverpool, England in 1903 and studied at Rydal, the Methodist Public School, a place for which he would later be commissioned to write a hymn for its 100th anniversary celebration in 1985. He was ordained to the Methodist ministry in 1928. Green wrote his first hymn, "God Lit a Flame in Bethlehem" that same year.

His ministry continued around England, and in 1944 he moved to London where he encountered Fallon Webb. The two became quick friends as both had a passion for poetry. Webb proposed that they should both write a poem, and a week later, they would critique each other's work. This poem-writing friendship continued for almost 20 years. Green's poetry extended outside of hymn writing, as he contributed poems to many

publications including *The New Yorker* and *The Listener*.

He retired in 1969 and began to write hymns extensively, including many for hymnal supplements and commissioned texts for specific occasions

Green's hymn writing comes from a time when there had been a dormant period of hymn writing in the Methodist church. Since Charles Wesley's time, there had not been much new hymnody, and a need was felt to express the ideas of a modern and changing church. Global awareness was more present. The world and the church were dealing with issues regarding race, sexuality, and gender as well as a heightened awareness of the world and nature. Writers like Fred Pratt Green, Fred Kaan, and Brian Wren stepped forward to fill this void. Many regard Fred Pratt Green as Charles Wesley's spiritual successor in the world of hymn-writing.

One of the primary themes in Green's hymn writing is an attentiveness to human need paired with a strong sense of calling and mission to help those in need. These ideas are very Wesleyan in thought and most likely an influence from Green's father, a retired Wesleyan minister. These themes can be prominently seen in one of Green's earlier hymns from 1968, "When the Church of Jesus" which is found in our hymnals as number 592. The first verse immediately reminds us that our attention should be on those outside of our doors and in our community

*When the Church of Jesus
Shuts its outer door,
Lest the roar of traffic
Drown the voice of prayer:
May our prayers, Lord, make us
Ten times more aware
That the World we banish
Is our Christian care.*



Another common theme is an awareness of creation and our impact on the natural world. This can be seen in the hymn “For the Fruits of His Creation” (UMH 92). This beloved harvest season hymn offers praise and thanks for a bountiful harvest while also reminding and directing our attention to caring for other needs.

My favorite of Green’s hymns is “When In Our Music God is Glorified” (UMH 68). This beautiful hymn of praise is full of reminders of creation, unity, mission, and scripture and celebrates the Judeo-Christian tradition of sacred song.

*When in our music God is glorified,
And adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia!*

*How often, making music, we have found
A new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!*

We are reminded in the first two stanzas that our praise and adoration is for God and the beauty of making music together as a community. When our voices join together in song on a Sunday morning, a Wednesday evening, or anytime of day, we hear a harmony more beautiful than any one person could produce. The word Alleluia is an interjection in the Hebrew language, used as an expression of gratitude to God.

*So has the church in liturgy and song,
In faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in every tongue, Alleluia!*

*And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
When utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!*

*Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always Alleluia!*

This hymn pairs perfectly with so many Psalms of praise and music. In addition, the final stanza is a paraphrase of Psalm 150.

Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

*Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord.
Praise ye the Lord.*

The repetition of “Alleluia” at the conclusion of each stanza points to the limitation of words to express gratitude and thanks to God for all that He has done. Words cannot express our gratitude and joy for the gift of creation, creativity, and His grace through Christ’s death on the cross. In those moments where words fail us, may God give us faith to always sing Alleluia!

Soli Deo gloria

Music at Fellowship

A concert series for the community



This concert series is free to the public and made possible by your generosity and the hard work of our talented musicians. The goal of this concert series is to elevate the arts scene in our area, provide community outreach, and provide funding for our choral scholar program through your generous donations.

Our Choral Scholar program with Byron Nelson High School is for students who are interested in vocal or choral music as a career. Students gain experience, musical development, and performance practice while strengthening and anchoring the adult choir.

I am excited to announce that in addition to featuring our own Sanctuary Choir, this season's concert series will be featuring several local Dallas-Fort Worth musicians including DFW Brass and the Dallas Recorder Society!

Sunday, October 29th at 4:00pm

The Dallas Recorder Society

Did you know that recorders can be more than just plastic instruments that elementary school students learn? Come hear some world class musicians perform beautiful music and bring your children too! They will be so excited to hear and see instruments that they have played or will be learning soon!

Sunday, December 10th at 4:00pm

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Come and hear our wonderfully talented Sanctuary Choir lead us in a service of music and scripture that tells the story of the birth of Christ. This is a meaningful, exciting, beautiful way to prepare for the joy of Christmas!

Youth Ministry



Dear Church Family,

In this month's newsletter, we want to highlight an important step in the faith journey of some of our young members. Mira Modrzejewski, Claire Kizer, Caroline Kizer, Georgia Vermillion, Amelia Grossman, and Lillie Grace Dennie are beginning their confirmation journey in the United Methodist Church.

This isn't just a ceremony—it's a deep dive into a closer relationship with God and a commitment to understand Jesus' teachings. Confirmation is both a challenge and a gift. Like Jesus' disciples, they'll have questions, face doubts, and have moments of deep understanding. As their church family, it's our role to be there for them. Please keep Mira, Claire, Caroline, Georgia, Amelia, and Lillie Grace in your thoughts and prayers. Trust that the Holy Spirit will guide them and ignite their passion for God's Word.

Remember, they're not on this journey alone. We stand with them, showcasing God's enduring love and supporting their commitment. When you see them around, share a word of encouragement, maybe a story of your own faith journey, and envelop them in prayer. It strengthens not just their faith but our unity as a Christ-centered community. I hope that their path is filled with blessings, insights, and a growing love for God. Let's all unite in supporting them in this significant chapter of their lives.

In Christ's enduring love,
Tyler Sweatt and Ginger Dennie

Children's Ministry

Prayer Buddies

Thanks to Dale Coleman for building a mailbox for our prayer buddy program. It is remarkable! Prayer buddies can mail letters to their assigned buddy for the next couple of weeks. Buddies will pick up their mail on the third Sunday of every month (This month: October 22).



Fellowship Moms Connect

Fellowship Moms had such a wonderful evening together making Freezer Meals in September. It was a joy to prepare meals in the company of other moms. Each mom went home with 10 homemade freezer meals. Cooking is more fun with friends. The newly



formed Fellowship Moms Connect group will have monthly activities so pick up a flier on the shelves outside the children's wing to see what's to come!

Adventures in Drama

The kids of Fellowship are so creative! We have enjoyed acting out characters and environments on Wednesday nights. Improvisation games are a big hit with this quick thinking group of kids!



Drama Ministry Team

Every week, the Drama Ministry Team meets on Wednesday nights to rehearse for Sunday morning Children's Chat performances. It's a joy to watch them bring the bible story of the week to life for the Preschool-Second graders!



Children's Choir

The Children's Choir received rave reviews for their performance with the Adult Choir on September 17. Well done! Mark your calendars, they will be singing again on Sunday, November 5! You don't want to miss it!



Mark Your Calendar:

October 8, 2-3 PM:

Fellowship Families Connect: Popsicles and Play!
National Play Outside Day is the first weekend of every month so let's gather together for some outside fun. Drive to the back of the church and meet us at the playground. We will have popsicles and enjoy an hour of good old fashioned playing outside. Bring a friend!

October 11:

ARK KIDS will host the Wed night meal.

October 18, 10am:

Fellowship Moms Connect: Coffee Chat
Let's grab a cup of coffee together and chat. Meet at Sip Stir Coffee House in Westlake at 10am.

October 18, 5pm: Trunk or Treat & Chili Cookoff

October 22: 11am: Children's Choir Sing
12pm: Acolyte Training

October 29, 4pm:

Dallas Recorder Society Concert

Did you know that recorders can be more than just plastic instruments that elementary school students learn? Come hear some world class musicians perform beautiful music and bring your children too! They will be so excited to hear and see instruments that they have played or will be learning soon!

Music at Fellowship

A concert series for the community

Fellowship Friends Preschool



Welcome to Fall!

by Barbra Rich-Clark

We are off to a great start. Our staff and students are enjoying the reintroduction of morning Praise. A small, 10 minute gathering where the children and staff Praise God for the gifts of the day, we celebrate birthdays and learn to echo a prayer. What a wonderful way to start our day and bring joy to our lives.

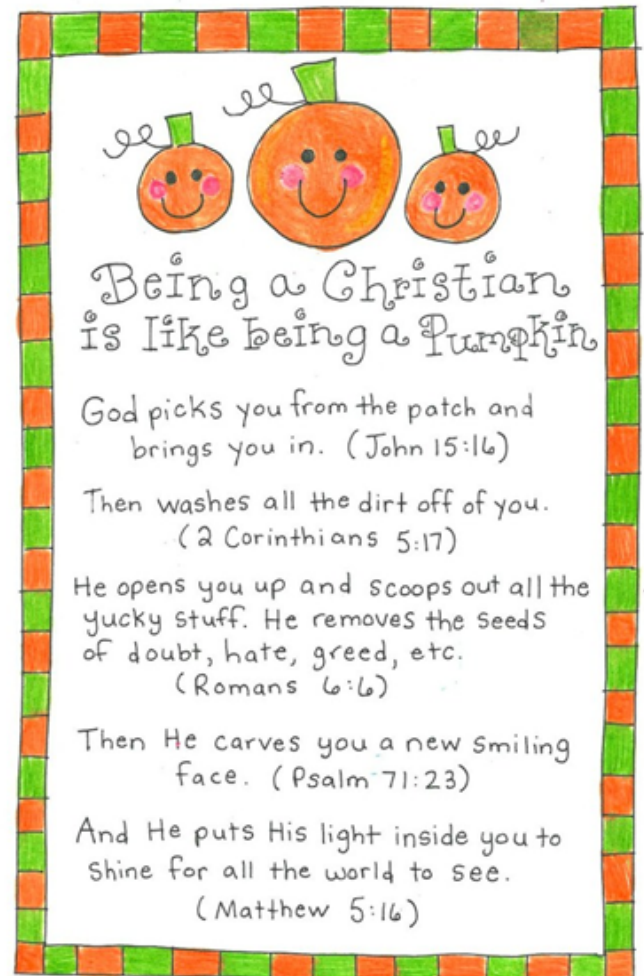
Events in September included: Apple day, Picture day, Vision and Hearing screening and Super Hero day, a celebration of community helpers. What a great way to begin our year.

Keep me as the apple of your eye - Psalm 17:8

October will be just as busy. We Have Firemen coming for a visit; we get to explore the fire truck and learn about their role in our community. We will learn about how pumpkins grow and explore them inside and out. Are you interested in helping out, our classes are collecting pumpkins to help in our science experiments, please consider donating a pumpkin to our classrooms. Pumpkins can be placed on the center island in the preschool wing and we will distribute them to the classes.

Donations of pumpkins need to be made before October 22. Thank you so much.

Our students have been enjoying the break in weather and using our playground daily. The Outdoor learning center is looking great



Happy Home Fairy

A Note from Pastor Bob

To reiterate, I have written the last three months about tools for Biblical scholarship. We have discussed Bible Atlases, buying a Bible, and how to pick a Concordance. I have been using an acronym (or mnemonic) of **ABCCD** so we are more than halfway through our exploration, and I hope to finish with this column.

The second “C” refers to a Biblical Commentary. These tools are for you to be able to read and study the Holy Scriptures. Commentaries will help you find meaning in the scriptures you are reading beyond the objective nature of our obtaining any knowledge. The Bible is an incredibly interesting topic. Some people will find the scripture verses and read the commentary on it before reading the actual verses. Others become curious about the information and seek to broaden their understanding both of the Bible and the culture surrounding the scripture we receive.

One should probably pay attention to the dates of publication of and commentary for the reasons I mentioned in the other columns I have written. Biblical scholarship really blossomed as the scholarship was released from examination and study of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Therefore, if you buy a commentary after @1991 you will be getting the newest understanding of the Biblical material. I used to have several commentaries but now have only one I use and one for an “older” perspective.

I have the entire library of The New Interpreter’s Bible which is a mixture of tools for me to use in my Bible study. They do have a One Volume Commentary you may find online or in Half Priced Books for your use (versus the full 12-volume set of the Bible). However, many modern Bibles have extensive footnotes that will provide you ample information to explore the Bible verses you are researching. Commentaries have other



articles and information you may delight in discovering. So, Commentaries are great information sources, but you may only need one, not multiple volumes.

Moving on to the last part of our mnemonic the “D” stands for a good Bible Dictionary. Again, the one I use is the five volume The New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible. It has a tremendous number of entries. A year ago, I was reading an article in the Biblical Archaeology Review that mentioned a couple of pools that Herod built that I had never heard of before. Having toured many parts of the Middle East, I was surprised that I had never heard of these pools. None of my typical sources revealed them to me...but I looked up Herod in the dictionary and found out where these pools were. So, one has to be creative to use all the tools we have to study both the scriptures and the geography and topography of the land.

To get a dictionary the same parameters apply. For current information, pay attention to publication dates. I have had people give me their dictionaries from grandparents who have passed...but using an old dictionary opens up another world for us. Perhaps the information is not “current” but it informed people of those generations past and thus let’s us see how our knowledge may have changed!

These five tools will help in your search for intellectual and spiritual enlightenment from the scriptures we use in devotions and in worship. Of course, your pastors are available for consultation about any of these tools...when you are ready, please contact us. YIC, Bob

P.S. If you have read these columns and would like to see a discussion about a specific topic, please contact me and hopefully it will be a topic others might enjoy reading about, too.

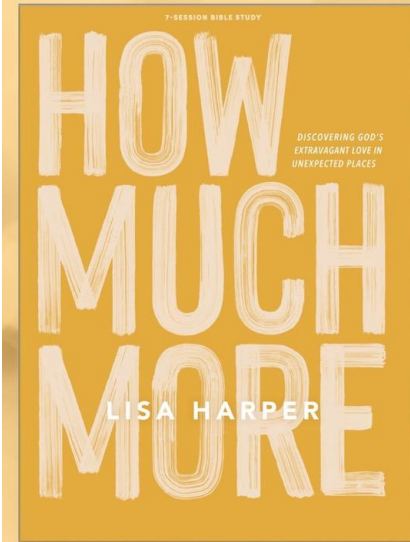
Adult Ministry

Maybe your head knows that God is always good, but your heart's not so sure. Or perhaps while reading Scripture, you've wondered if our Creator Redeemer went through a personality change—from strictly enforcing the rules in the Old Testament to loving the outcast in the New.

In this 7-session Bible study, you'll discover divine love in the often overlooked and misunderstood passages. And you'll be delighted to find that Jehovah of the Old

Testament is the same redemptive and compassionate God we see through Jesus Christ in the New Testament. God has always been and will always be for us!


Even though it started the last week of September, you haven't missed out! Come Join Angela Newell on Sundays from 5 - 6:30 pm, in room 110.



Women's Bible Study
Beginning September 24th

LED BY
ANGELA NEWELL

SUNDAYS
5 - 6:30 PM
ROOM 110



TO SUPPORT 2024 MISSION ACTIVITIES

CCW CHRISTMAS MARKET

Come & Shop for
Christmas gifts

NOVEMBER 12
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
IN THE NARTHEX

- shawls,
- lap blankets,
- quilts,
- ornaments
- painted bags &
- much more



Upcoming Wednesday Night Dinners

Come for food and Fellowship in Legends Hall every Wednesday Night during the school year. Dinner is served from 5:00-6:30.

October 4th - BBQ Potluck

Come bring your favorite BBQ or side dish and share it with others!

October 11th

Hosted by Children's and Youth Ministries

October 18th - Chili Cook Off and Trunk-or-Treat!

Come bring your best chili to be judged by those there and then join in some fall fun as we have a trunk-or-treat around our campus! There will be 1st and 2nd place prizes for the best chili!

October 25th - Soup and Salad Potluck

Come bring your favorite soups and salads and share them with others!

November 1st

Hosted by our safety team

November 8th - Finger Food & Appetizer Potluck

Come bring your favorite finger foods or appetizers and share it with others!

November 15th - Thanksgiving Feast!

November 22nd - **NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES** - Happy Thanksgiving!

Missions Opportunities



Please contact Karen, our office administrator (karen@fumctc.com | 817.430.1500) for information or ways to connect and serve

Snack Sack Donations

Food donations for children at Lakeview and Medlin schools. Please contact Ginger Dennie for more info at ginger@fumctc.com

Desserts for the Roanoke Senior Center

FUMC has partnered with the Roanoke Senior Center and provides desserts the 2nd Wednesday of each month. If you would like to partake, please donate desserts to the Roanoke Senior Center by 10:45 am on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Roanoke Food Pantry Donations

This partnership helps those in need right here in our own community. Please see the back page for this month's needs.

Pop Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House

The pop tabs go to help fund the Ronald McDonald House in Dallas. This 13 bedroom house provides housing for traveling families who have a sick child being treated at a nearby hospital. Pop tabs are being collected on the Missions Bookcase in the narthex.



How you can help serve our community needs!
Purchase any of the items below:

CANNED FRUIT

**CANNED VEGETABLES (NO PEAS, CORN, OR
GREEN BEANS)**

CANNED CHILI

PANCAKE MIX & SYRUP

Bring them to church and place them in the labeled bins in the narthex. Deliveries will be made to the Roanoke Food Pantry throughout the week.

Thank you for your generosity!

Recurring Weekly Events:

Sunday

- 9:00 am Modern Worship
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship
- 4:00-6:00 pm Middle School Youth Group
- 6:00-8:00 pm High School Youth Group

Monday

- 10:00 am Creative Christian Women

Tuesday

- 6:45 am Men's Bible Study (at Dove Creek Cafe)
- 8:30 am Men's Bible Study (at Dove Creek Cafe)
- 7:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday (August -May)

- 5:00-6:30 pm Wednesday Night Dinner
- 5:30-6:15 pm Children's Bible Study
- 6:00-7:00 pm Adult Bible Study
- 6:15-7:00 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 6:15-7:00 pm Children's Drama Team
- 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal