

FEBRUARY 2025

FELLOWSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Connection Point Newsletter

“COME AND SEE.”

JOHN 1:39



A NOTE FROM PASTOR BILL

Senior Pastor

I am a worrier! I always have been. This is because I tend to focus so intently on the future. What do I worry about? Last November, I worried about whether we would make our budget—a worry shared by almost every pastor serving a congregation. I worried about how we would navigate the repair of a leaking roof and the enormous deductible the insurance company was mandating. Recently, I worried about freezing temperatures and how to prevent the fire suppression system from freezing and bursting, along with other pipes throughout our facility.

Maybe you're a lot like me—worried about your health, finances, family, politics, or a myriad of other reasons. We worry because we care. Sometimes, worry gets the best of us and overwhelms us. I remind myself that it's okay to be concerned, but it's important to have faith and trust in God to be with me through things I cannot control. Perhaps this is a helpful reminder for all of us.

Together, we made it through the year just fine and finished strong. Thank you for being the wonderful church family you are, allowing God to work in and through you. For the future that lies ahead, join me in putting our faith and trust in God. We may get overwhelmed at times by the constant onslaught of negative news and frustration in our world, but let's remind ourselves of Jesus' words in the face of the chaotic and violent storm that threatened their lives: "Peace! Be still!" (Mark 4:39). Let's be brave in Christ! God is with us!

“HOW YOU MADE ME IS AMAZING AND WONDERFUL. I PRAISE YOU FOR THAT. WHAT YOU HAVE DONE IS WONDERFUL. I KNOW THAT VERY WELL.”
PSALM 139:14

February promises to be a month full of connection, creativity and spiritual growth for Ark Kids! Fittingly, this month we will celebrate **LOVE** and work together to show love to our congregation (through serving Wednesday night dinner) and community (through our Valentine Rock Sale benefitting Roanoke Food Pantry). We also have fun events planned like **BINGO** night and old-fashioned Valentine card making!



Sunday Mornings

On Sunday mornings, our theme is "Made: Discover Who You're Meant to Be" and this month we have the chance to explore how God can use the ways we were created to make a difference. Join us from 10-11am for Children's Sunday School and during the 11am service for Children's Chat!

Weekly Lessons Include:

- February 2: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made
Psalm 139:1-14
- February 9: Moses and the Burning Bush
Exodus 3-4:15
- February 16: Lydia Acts 16:13-15
- February 23: Timothy 1 Timothy 4:12

February at **THE CLUBHOUSE** Wednesday Nights 6-7pm

We will again show love to our community by painting Valentine rocks during The Clubhouse. On February 12, during Wednesday night dinner, young artists will be available to personalize painted Valentine rocks for the congregation. Our proceeds will benefit the Roanoke Food Pantry. On February 19, we will join the youth in serving a nacho dinner to the congregation. We will close out the month with a fun bingo night (prizes included!) on February 26.

- February 5: Valentine Rock Painting
- February 12:
5:30-6pm, Valentine Rock Sale
6-7pm, Valentine Card Making
- February 19:
5-6pm, Youth and Kids Serve Wed Night Dinner
- February 26: Bingo Night



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Betsy Modrzejewski,
Director



Prayer Buddy Program:

Our prayer buddies have done a great job sending letters every month. On February 12, child prayer buddies will have the opportunity to make Valentine's cards for their buddy during The Clubhouse.

Prayer Buddy Schedule:

- 1st Sunday of Month: Adult Prayer Buddy Mails Letter in Mailbox
- 2nd Sunday of Month: Child Prayer Buddy Picks Up Letter from Bulletin Board
- 3rd Sunday of Month: Child Prayer Buddy Mails Letter in Mailbox
- 4th Sunday of Month: Adult Prayer Buddy Picks up Letter from Bulletin Board



YOUTH MINISTRY



Tyler Sweatt, Director

With the stunning backdrop of God's creation, our youth had the opportunity to step away from their daily routines and focus on their faith. Through engaging lessons, worship, and intentional discussions, they discovered how being deeply rooted in Christ strengthens them to grow in faith and bear fruit in their everyday lives.

Our theme verse, Colossians 2:6-7, guided our weekend: "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." This message came to life through activities and conversations that encouraged students to reflect on what keeps them connected to Christ and how they can live out their faith in practical ways.

From small group discussions to moments of reflection, the time spent together strengthened the sense of community within our group and reminded us of the importance of supporting one another in our walk with Christ.

We are so grateful for the prayers and support of our church family, which made this retreat possible. It's clear that God is at work in the hearts of our youth, and we look forward to seeing how the seeds planted during this retreat will continue to grow in the months ahead.

Thank you for being a congregation that invests in the next generation and encourages them to stay rooted in Christ. Please continue to pray for our students as they take the lessons learned at Sky Ranch and apply them to their daily lives.



**“SO THEN, JUST AS YOU RECEIVED CHRIST JESUS AS LORD, CONTINUE TO LIVE YOUR LIVES IN HIM, ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN HIM, STRENGTHENED IN THE FAITH AS YOU WERE TAUGHT, AND OVERFLOWING WITH THANKFULNESS.”
COLOSSIANS 2:6-7**



MUSIC MINISTRY

**Jason Chavarria,
Director**

We had a fantastic fall season, during which we proudly hosted two community-wide Christmas events, filling our sanctuary with new guests and visitors. In addition to enjoying the incredible voices of our Chancel Choir every Sunday, we also welcomed the Fort Worth Chorale, the Byron Nelson High School Choir, and a professional orchestra that accompanied our annual Christmas Cantata. Throughout the fall, our dedicated Fellowship Handbell Choir enhanced our Sunday worship, and our fantastic, small-but-mighty Kids' Choir beautifully ushered in the Christmas season on December 1st. Two meaningful and inspiring Christmas Eve services capped off a season filled with fellowship, holiness, and togetherness in Christ.



Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating a busy spring and Easter season filled with special musical offerings to celebrate this next holy season. Now is the perfect time to join any of our choirs! To start the season, the Chancel Choir will present beloved hymn arrangements ("oldies-but-goodies") alongside other beautiful pieces. We will begin the season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service on March 5, entering into a time of reflection. Special services on Palm Sunday and Good Friday will lead us to a triumphant Easter Sunday celebration of the Resurrection.



We hope you will join us for each of these special services, and if you're interested in becoming part of our music ministry, please reach out to Jason Chavarria, Director of Worship Arts, at jason@fumctc.com.



FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS PRESCHOOL

Barbara Rich Clark, Director

WELCOME to 2025!

Our preschoolers ended the year with a wonderful performance about the birth of Jesus. We sang and told the story of how Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem and how Mary gave birth in a manger. The children rejoiced about the news that Jesus was born to save the world and lead us with his love.

We also participated in collecting pajamas with Pajama -rama and presents for other children, (donated to Roanoke Food Pantry) and as each child brought them in, that child got to ring the bell and all their friends celebrated with them. What an amazing way to teach our students about sharing and taking care of others around them.



*Register
Now* **2025-2026**
School Year



Registration for currently enrolled students (and their siblings) began on January 22 and 23, 2025, with packets going home with students that day.

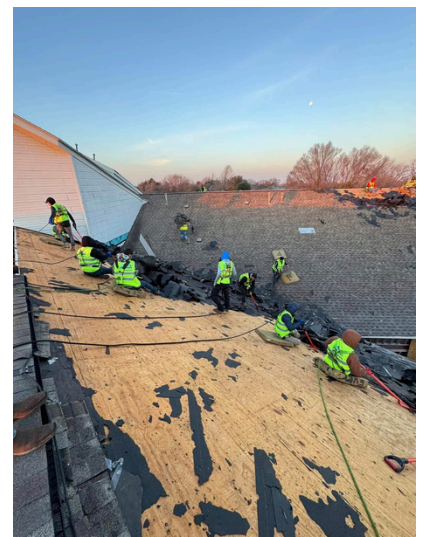
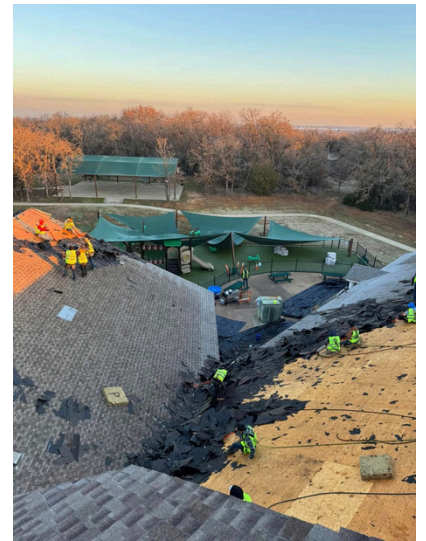
- **Registration packets for current students (and siblings) are due February 13, 2025.**
- Former students and church members can register their children on:
February 18, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
- Open enrollment for new students begins on:
February 26, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.





UNDER A STURDY ROOF: FELLOWSHIP'S NEW BEGINNING

We are excited to share that a new roof has been installed at Fellowship! Thanks to your generous support and donations, we were able to complete this important project in January. This was a huge undertaking, and we are thrilled to report that the job was completed in just 4 days! A big thank you to Palafox Construction for doing a terrific job with the installation, and to all the hard workers who helped finish the project so quickly. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Laurie Bordelon, who worked tirelessly with the insurance company and managed all the discussions with Palafox to ensure everything went smoothly. We're grateful to have our church under a good, sturdy roof, and we appreciate everyone who helped make this possible.



FEBRUARY EVENTS



CELEBRATING LOVE AND COMMUNITY

Fellowship Family Meals Are Back!

We're excited to announce that our Fellowship Family Meals are back, Wednesdays at 5:00 PM. Join us for a time of delicious food, great conversation, and deep community connections. Keep an eye out for our weekly themed dinners, which will be featured in the Week Ahead email—a great way to see what's coming up and stay connected with what's happening each week. Would you like to host a meal for a future Wednesday? Reach out to Veronica at veronica@fumctc.com to schedule your day to share a meal and create community.

Children's Ministry Valentine's Rock Sale – February 12th

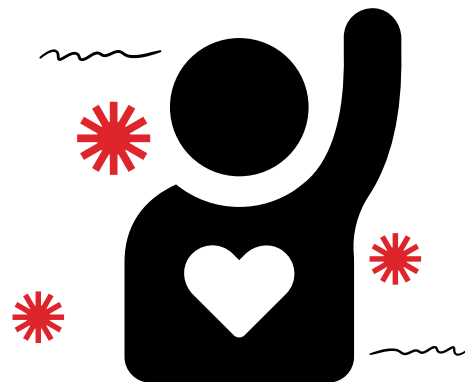
Mark your calendars for February 12th during our Wednesday Night Fellowship Meals for a special event hosted by our wonderful children! The Children's Ministry will be holding a Valentine's Rock Sale, 5:30pm-6pm, with all proceeds benefiting the Roanoke Food Pantry. This is a great opportunity to support the mission of our sweet children as they spread love and help those in need.

Join Us for Bible Studies This February!

Don't miss out on the opportunity to dive deeper into the Word of God this February! We're offering two powerful Bible study sessions:

- Wednesday Nights at 7:00 PM – Join Pastor Bill for an engaging study of the Book of Acts. It's a great chance to explore the early church and its growth through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Bible with Bob – Sundays at 5:30 PM. Join Bob for an in-depth Bible study where you can ask questions, grow in your faith, and connect with others in the community.

VOLUNTEER & FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITIES



Let's Pack Hope Together!

Join us for Snack Sack Packing Day on Sunday, February 2nd, following the 11 AM service in Legends Hall. This is a great opportunity to serve and make a difference in our community by packing snack bags for those in need. All ages are welcome to help!



Lend a Hand After Wednesday Dinner!

We're looking for volunteers to help with cleanup after Wednesday night dinners! The task involves resetting the room to prepare for Sunday's service. With everyone's help, we can make this a smooth and quick process. If you're interested in lending a hand, please reach out to Pastor Bill after dinner is served. Your support is greatly appreciated!



Roanoke Food Pantry Donations

This month's shopping list includes:

Canned Tomato Products

Spaghetti

Chef Boyardee

Rice (1lb bag)

Thank you for your generous contributions and continued support of this important mission.



CELEBRATING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS AT FELLOWSHIP

What a wonderful Christmas season it was at Fellowship! We hope everyone enjoyed and participated in the many activities and events, from the Trophy Club live nativity, to the beautiful musical presentations by the Fort Worth Chorale and the Byron Nelson High School Choir. Our "The Word Became Flesh" cantata was a highlight, and we also had a fun and festive Christmas sweater and hot cocoa service. The Teens Christmas Party was a blast, filled with laughter and holiday cheer. Of course, our Christmas Eve services provided a meaningful way to celebrate the season together. Thank you to all who made this time so special—what an incredible way to celebrate the birth of our Savior. We can't wait to do it all again next year!

