

FELLOWSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Connection Point Newsletter

“COME AND SEE.”

JOHN 1:39



A NOTE FROM PASTOR BILL

Senior Pastor



October is here! Fall is here. Of course, we Texans don't really know what that means. At times, we pride ourselves in being able to experience all 4 seasons in a single day! Fall is always a wonderful time of reflection for me. Recently, I found myself in the Gospel of Matthew and reflected on a verse that was responsible for calling me into ministry. It's also a verse that I heard my grandfather mention. Matthew 9: 37 says, "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'" What my grandfather meant by saying this verse, and what I experienced in my calling to ordained ministry, is that when I see the need, I pray about that need, I ask God to send people to meet that need, while accepting the call of God to respond to that need. The photo that is shown here is a photo of my grandfather and me. I wore a hat like his. I wore boots like his. I tried as best as I could to walk in his footsteps. They were such very large footsteps. I wanted to be like him and to live in the world like him. It is because of him that I am a pastor today. I mention this because October is that month that invites us to pause and reflect on the journey we have inherited from generations past. We remember with fondness the life-lessons imparted to us. We remember the deep legacy of so many that took this church from First Methodist of Roanoke to Fellowship United Methodist Church. As we move through the month of October, let's use this time to reflect on the prayers of so many, "Lord, send more laborers into your harvest," as we respond to their call. Let's remember the rich legacy left to us as we try to walk in their footsteps. As we remember, let us also celebrate their legacy. Let's prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate All Saints Sunday on the first Sunday of November.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bill



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**Betsy Modrzejewski,
Director**

October promises to be a month filled with well-loved traditions (Trunk-or-Treat), engaging music (Children's Choir launch), and reunions (Prayer Buddy Ministry kickoff). Last month during The Clubhouse, kids raised \$200 for the Roanoke Food Pantry with a painted rock sale! *We are learning early about the importance of using our gifts to help others.* This month we will welcome the changing of the seasons by making lanterns and going on a Lantern Walk.

**"GOD'S POWER HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING WE NEED TO LEAD A GODLY LIFE."
-2 PETER 1:3**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Children's Choir Rehearsals:
October 16, 23, November 6, 13
6:15-6:45pm

Trunk or Treat:
October 30
6:00-6:30pm

The Clubhouse
Wednesdays
6:00-7:00pm

OCTOBER 2024 ISSUE TWO

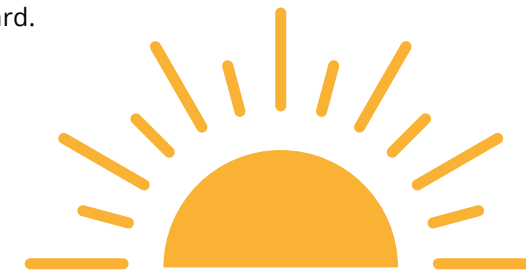
THE CLUBHOUSE
Wednesdays 6-7PM

This Month

- Lantern Making
October 2
- Playground Fun
October 9, 16
- Lantern Walk
October 23
- Trunk-or-Treat
October 30

COVER STORY
Jump into Fall Fun!

On Sunday mornings, our theme is **"Live Bright"** and we'll be exploring the connection between self-control and God's character. Our conversations will center around how to choose to do the right thing even when it is hard.





YOUTH MINISTRY

Tyler Sweatt, Director

"LET NO ONE DESPISE YOUR YOUTH, BUT SET THE BELIEVERS AN EXAMPLE IN SPEECH AND CONDUCT, IN LOVE, IN FAITH, IN PURITY." -1 TIMOTHY 4:12



We are excited to announce that four of our youth are beginning a significant and transformative journey in their faith—Confirmation. Over the next several months, Jayleigh Barnett, Oliver Carnahan, Alyssa Crofoot, and Jake Melvin will embark on a time of exploration, learning, and deepening their relationship with God, as they prepare to make a public profession of their faith and commitment to Christ.

Confirmation is more than a rite of passage. It is an opportunity for these young people to discover what it means to be a follower of Jesus, to learn about the rich heritage of the United Methodist Church, and to discern how God is calling them to serve and love others. It is a journey filled with questions, conversations, and moments of growth as they engage with their faith in a meaningful way.

As they begin this journey, we, as their church family, have a unique and powerful role to play. We are called to walk alongside them, providing encouragement, support, and, most importantly, prayer. We ask that you join us in praying for Jayleigh, Oliver, Alyssa, and Jake as they start this process. Pray that they may feel God's presence guiding them, that their hearts and minds will be open to new insights and understanding, and that they will experience the love and support of our entire church community.

We also invite you to support them in tangible ways. Take a moment to introduce yourself, share your own experiences of faith, and offer a word of encouragement. Let's show them that they are not alone on this path, but surrounded by a family of believers who care deeply about their spiritual growth. May we all be reminded of our own faith journey and the ways in which God has shaped and guided us through the support of others. Let us come together as a community to nurture, encourage, and celebrate these confirmands as they begin this sacred journey.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Jason Chavarria,
Director

I am so proud of our Music Ministry ensembles, and I look forward to presenting beautiful music to the Glory of God. We strive to provide meaningful musical offerings every Sunday, and we thank you for your support and appreciation.

Children's Choir:

Children's Choir is back starting October 16th from 6:15PM-6:45PM! Children in grades 3, 4, and 5 are invited to rehearse on October 16th, October 23rd, November 6th, and November 23rd in the choir room. We'll sing for worship on December 1st, the first Sunday of Advent.

Handbell Choir:

Rehearses every Sunday from 4:00- 5:00 PM in the Choir room. This fun group will play for worship about once a month and would love to welcome new members.

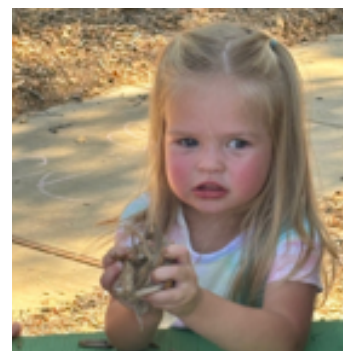
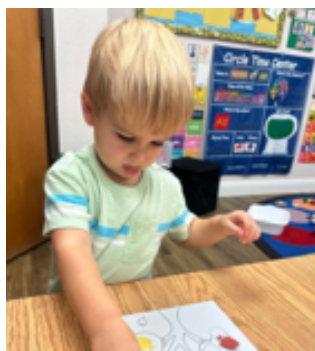


Chancel Choir:

Rehearses every Wednesday from 7:00PM-8:30PM in the Choir Room. We are already working on Christmas music, preparing a beautiful and cinematic Christmas cantata called "And the Word Became Flesh," to be presented in worship on Sunday, December 15th. The music we are singing this fall is uplifting and inspiring, so if you've ever been interested in joining the choir, come and join us!



"O SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG; SING TO THE LORD, ALL THE EARTH!"
PSALM 96:1



FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS PRESCHOOL

Barbara Rich Clark, Director

The school year has begun with smiling faces and warm welcomes. We added a 2 /12 year old class and several new staff members. We welcome Mrs. Amber Giersch, Mrs. Rachel Perez, Mrs. Lenna Gonzalez and Ms. Violet Novak to the staff for 2024. Our returning staff members are excited to have these wonderful ladies and all their talents with us this year.

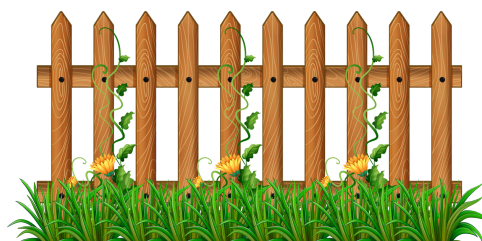
Our students went right to work reviewing what they knew and learning more about what makes them special. **As God is a central part of our day here at Fellowship,** we start every morning with Praise, a simple 10 minute meeting with the kids and teachers, welcoming God into our hearts and thanking him for his love.

We have spent the last few weeks learning about apples, bears, community helpers and dinosaurs. Our classes have started a spinach growing contest to see who can grow the best looking spinach plant as we learned about dirt and diggers during "D" week.

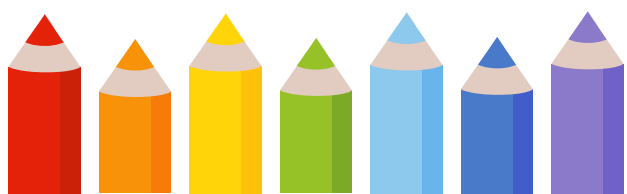
During Discovery Day, our special Friday program, we learned about knights, castles and catapults. We talked about the "knight's Code" and God's Laws for us. The kids got to build a castle, paint a stained glass window and we knighted in the Fellowship Discovery Day clan. We made Robinhood stew from what we foraged from outside and used paper towel rolls to make fire breathing dragons. **All in all, a very exciting day.**



As we plan ahead for the coming months, we are in need and want to reach out to you for some assistance. **Our outdoor learning area is in need of pumpkins to explore.** Any size or shape will be a welcome addition. Just drop them off to the preschool or give them to Tina (down the preschool hallway) during church and we will take care of the rest. The kids are looking forward to carving, measuring, painting and seeing what happens when we plant those seeds.



Is your fence being redone? **Let us have those old fence pickets for an upcoming Christmas project.** Rather than let them hang out in the backyard or go to the dump, we can repurpose them and the kids can make a beautiful craft from them.



OCTOBER EVENTS



FALL CHURCH PROGRAMING

Our Fall program is in full swing, and we invite you to be a part of it! Don't miss out on our Family Dinners, our engaging programming for children and youth, along with vibrant adult and children's choirs that welcome everyone to join in. Plus, our Sunday and weekday Bible studies offer a chance for deeper exploration of faith. There's something for everyone, come and see!

Chili Cook-Off

Join us for our Annual Chili Cook-Off on October 31st from 5 PM to 6 PM! Bring your best chili recipe for a chance to win 1st or 2nd place, with our winners receiving exciting prizes! It's a fantastic way to enjoy good food and great company, so don't miss out! Reserve your spot by October 23rd, please email **Veronica** at **veronica@fumctc.com**. We can't wait to see what tasty creations you'll bring!

Trunk-or-Treat

Join us for our Annual Trunk or Treat on October 30th at 6 PM! Bring the whole family in costume for a night of festive fun. To help make this event a success, we kindly ask for candy donations. Please drop off your contributions by October 28th at the church office or place them in the basket located in the Narthex. We're excited to see you there— let's make it one to remember!

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

9:00 AM Modern Worship, Legends Hall
11:00 Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
10: 00 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Chancel Choir
5:30 PM Bible with Bob, Room 108 & 109

MONDAY

10:00 AM-11:00 AM-Creative Christian Women, Room 110

TUESDAY

7:00 AM-Men's Bible Study, Dove Creek Cafe
8:30 AM- Men's Bible Study, Breakfast Club 51

WEDNESDAY

5:00 PM-6:00 PM-Family Fellowship Dinner, Legends Hall
5:00 PM-7:00 PM-The Hangout (youth)
6:00 PM-7:00 PM- Bible Study with Pastor Bill, The Gospel of Matthew, Room 110
6:00 PM-7:00 PM- The Clubhouse (children)
7:00PM-8:30 PM- Chancel Choir



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Join Us for Snack Sack Packing Days!

Did you know that Fellowship UMC provides weekly snack sacks for four local schools, averaging to about 115 bags each week? That totals around 460 bags per month! As you can imagine, this is a significant undertaking, and we are seeking volunteers to help pack these snack sacks. This is an excellent opportunity for the whole family to participate and experience a sense of community. **Our “packing day” will take place the first Sunday of each month after the 11 AM service in Legends Hall, starting October 6th.** If you’d like to support this initiative financially, you can do so by check or through an online donation—just be sure to specify that your donation is for "snack sacks."

Thank you for your support!



Join Us for Trunk or Treat: Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to set up trunks and distribute candy for our Annual Trunk or Treat on October 30th at 6 PM! Whether you prefer elaborate decorations or something simple, we welcome your creativity and spirit. You can either bring your own treats or let the church provide some for you. Join us for an evening of fun, filled with children’s costumes and smiling faces—you won’t want to miss it! To reserve your spot, please contact **Betsy** at betsy@fumctc.com by October 25th. Your participation will make this event truly special for our community!



Join Our Welcoming Team: Become an Usher or Greeter

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to serve as ushers and greeters for our Sunday services! These roles are essential in creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for both our members and visitors. As an usher or greeter, your commitment involves serving just one Sunday per month, arriving 15 minutes early, and attending a brief one-hour orientation session each year. If you’re interested in joining this important team, please reach out to **Ken Kolsti** at kkolsti@att.net or **Nancy Kolsti** at nkolsti@att.net. Your support helps foster a vibrant community!

