

St. Andrew's UMC

February 2024 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

I write this to you during the worldwide "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity." This occurs for us in the Northern Hemisphere every year from January 18th through January 25th. The theme for 2024 is "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).

At this point in my own walk with God, I question how well we do this as Christians -- how well we seek unity based on what we have in common. At times, the tension between denominations, faith traditions, worship preferences, doctrine, politics, and so on can be beyond heartbreaking. Many of us are guilty in ways at adding to that tension at times, myself included. I wonder how God feels about this. I would be so very saddened to see my children have such strife and tension. I am sure any loving parent would be.

The Good News is that we have an opportunity to change that. Today. Now. As I write this and as you read this. How do we do that? We follow this year's theme -- loving God and loving neighbor. We slow down where we can in life and recommit ourselves to prayer. We pray about the things we are unable to change today.

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which falls on February 14th (Valentine's Day) this year. Lent is a historic time of the Christian year when we turn our hearts back to God, seeking the Lord in a new way. This is a time to slow down where we can and quite simply, a time to talk with God in a deeper way. The season of Lent is forty days, not counting Sundays, leading up to Easter.

This year, ways that we can observe Lent and work toward Christian Unity would include attending an Ash Wednesday Service at either St. Andrew's UMC or Nolanville FUMC. Remember, we are sister churches and are all welcome in both places. Many of us from St. Andrew's and Nolanville have stepped out in faith to come across the walls of our own churches in order to build new relationships and explore where God is leading us. Great job!

On Tuesdays during Lent, I will be giving a short devotional on the subject of prayer at St. Andrew's during a Lenten Soup Lunch. All are welcome to attend and also invited to Bible Study beforehand and "games" after the lunch. More information is to come on these events.

Please join me this Lenten season in seeking God in a new way and looking for ways to come together as Christians, focusing on that which we have in common. This may lead us out of our comfort zones, but the reward will be well worth the cost. Happy February and Happy Lent, friends! Be blessed and keep up the good work, Church! Blessings, Pastor Terry

Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's fellowship group will meet in Fowler Hall on Monday evening, February 5th at 6 pm with a potluck dinner, devotional and fellowship. If you need additional information, please contact Pastor Terry. Please come and enjoy an evening of fellowship. All welcome.



Please join us for Ash Wednesday

Service on February 14th

11 am service at St. Andrew's Sanctuary

6 pm service at Nolanville FUMC

Prayers for John & Robert Marley & Family for their recent loss. Kristina Marley passed away January 9, 2024. She will surely be missed by all.



The communion offering for February 4th is for “Aldersgate Enrichment Center” in Brownwood. Their mission is to establish and maintain an innovative Christian community that provides opportunity in all aspects of life for adult persons with special needs regardless of race or religion. If you wish to donate to this mission, place donation in the pew envelopes and mark communion. If you donate by check, please make payable to St. Andrew’s UMC and make a note on the check for communion.



Please place Food Care donations in the container located in the narthex or drop off in the office. They are always in need of non-perishable items, and items such as soups, canned meat, pastas and canned vegetables. Thanks for helping with this mission!

Sunday School is at 9 am & 9:30 am on Sunday mornings, and church service starts at 10 :30 am. You can also watch the service live on Facebook starting at 10:30 am. Log in as follows: St Andrews United Methodist Church, Killeen, TX Facebook.

Rainbow Emmaus will meet February 8th with potluck starting at 6:30 pm, business and worship to follow. Remember to bring your worship book, cross and name tag. Meeting will be held at Nolanville FUMC.



Happy Birthday!		Happy Anniversary!	
Nikki Cashion	13th	Joe & Rosa None	12th
MaiLee Ann Leach	17th		
Helga Morgan	25th		
Terry Cashion	26th		

Sundays: Sunday School class starts at 9 am & one at 9:30 am, Church service starts at 10:30 am
Every Tuesday Game Day meets at 12:30 pm in Fowler Hall
UWIF will meet on Saturday, February 3rd, at 10 am in Fowler Hall—Call to Prayer & self-denial.
Tuesday Bible study starts at 10 am every Tuesday, now studying the Book of Leviticus
Men’s Fellowship Group will meet, Monday, February 5th at 6 pm, potluck, Fowler Hall
Rainbow Emmaus, FUMC Nolanville, 6:30 pm, February 8th
Ash Wednesday service –February 14th – 11 am St. Andrews & 6 pm Nolanville FUMC
Tuesday, February 20th & 27th—Lenten Soup Luncheon starting at 11:30 am



Come join us Tuesdays at 11:30 from February 20th through March 19th for a Lenten soup lunch and devotional.

There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board for five Tuesdays asking for four volunteers per week to each provide a pot of soup for lunch. The number of pots of soup may decrease during this time after we arrive at an average attendance.

Everyone is welcome to share a meal and devotional time with us Tuesdays at 11:30 am beginning February 20th through the Lenten season. You may want to consider attending the 10 am Bible Study on Tuesday, eat a soup lunch, and then afterwards stay for an afternoon of dominoes or bring your favorite game for Game Day!