LA GRANGE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "LOVING GOD & LIVING GRACE"



La Grange First United Methodist Church P.O. Box 89 1215 Von Minden Road La Grange, Texas 78945

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Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage Paid La Grange TX 78945 Permit No. 52

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Time dated material.
Please deliver
as soon as possible.



Sages and Saints Fall Programs

Sept 12 -- Author Sammy Smith

Oct 10 -- Stuart and Dianne Raef-Bluegrass, Gospel and Hymns

Nov 8 -- Mary Ann Hatfield's "Salute to our Veterans"

Dec 12 -- "White Elephant Gift Exchange"

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

The following items have been found in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall. If any of these items belong to you, they can be picked up in the office.

- Brown & Tan Bible
- ♦ Sage Green Ladies Lace Jacket
- ♦ Silver Necklace with Amethyst Stone
- ♦ Child's 2T Ivory Hooded Sweater
- Set of 2 keys with a Walgreens Reward Card & Ken Stoepel Mercury Tag
- ♦ Silver Horseshoe Earring With Crystal Stones
- ♦ Gold Hummingbird Brooch with different colored rhinestones
- ♦ Various jackets, coats and scarves that were left in the Fellowship Hall
- Single key with red plastic top found in the Narthex



August 2019 LIGHTSHINE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LA GRANGE

PASTOR'S PONDERING

Have you ever thought about the importance of shaking another person's hand? Why do we do it? Where did this ritual originate? Apparently, the custom of handshaking originated in primitive times. People would carry their weapons in their right hands, and when a person would extend an empty right hand, it was a sign of peace. Over the centuries the act of shaking hands prevented a person from holding a sword or other weapon and eventually led to a common practice of greeting. Shaking hands shows that two people do not want to be enemies but rather desire friendship and fellowship.

How many hands do you shake in a day? How many times do you extend the right hand of friendship in your daily life? How many times do you receive it? We shake hands out of routine, often not really realizing its origin or the deeper meaning behind the act. The simple act of handshaking speaks of our common need as human beings to love and to be loved. We need friendship and we need fellowship because the Lord our God did not create us to be alone.

Our Creator made us to be in fellowship: both with Him through Jesus Christ and with our neighbors. How did Jesus summarize the Law of God? Love God and love your neighbor. That is fellowship. And fellowship always begins with our relationship with God and then extends to our neighbors. Now I know that the primary purpose of Sunday morning is to worship God, but there is another element to our time together and that is fellowship. In 1 John chapter 1 it reads, "We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete."

The Greek word for fellowship is, KOINONIA, which means "to share in common." What we share in common as Christians is of course our faith in Jesus Christ. That faith makes us the family of God, and one of the wonderful things about being a Christian is that a Christian life never has to be a lonely life. The Bible describes the Body of Christ as having many members; as a vine that has many branches; as a temple that has many stones; as a family that has many children. We gather on Sunday to worship God and to grow in faith but also to remember that no one person has to go through life alone. We are created to have fellowship.

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INSPIRING READS

Pastor's Pondering

Choir Notes by Nancy Hajek

Important Dates to Remember

Single Board Meeting

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Prayer Shawl Ministries

Methodist Men—Blue Hills Round Top Bar-B-Que

August Calendar

United Methodist Men

Youth Group

Annual Conference Report

Sages & Saints

Lost And Found

Remember...there is no substitute for our deep need for fellowship. So come to Church on Sunday morning with the knowledge that we all need to give and receive the right hand of fellowship. Shake as many hands as you can on Sunday. Maybe offer a hug. And let's enjoy our Lord and have some good fellowship.

VISITATIONS: I would like to visit with each individual and family in the church as a way of getting to know everyone. You can help me accomplish this by setting up a time to have lunch or to schedule a time to visit in my office or in your home (it's your choice). I have created a simple, online scheduler you can use to set up a time, or Donna in the church office can assist. I look forward to visiting with you!

Online scheduler: https://visitwithandy.as.me

In Christ's Service.

Andy

CHOIR NOTES BY NANCY HAJEK

Music greetings! WOW!! August is here!! Is anyone else thinking how it got here so soon? If you happen to glance over at the handbell storage cabinet and notice the bells not there, don't panic. I've taken them to Kerrville to be serviced so that they are sounding in tune and balanced and will look shiny and new once again. They are ready for pick-up. I just have to have a day available to pick them up!

Chancel Choir will begin August 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, so if you've ever thought about joining the choir, you are welcome to join us for that and try us on for size!!

Glory Tones will resume rehearsals Wednesday, September 4 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our newly serviced bells should be back, I will have organized all of our new music to ring, and we should ready to go. I can't wait.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Nancy

Important Dates To Remember

July 29—August 3, 2019—9:00 am—11:30 am—Vacation Bible School

August 4, 2019—Nursing Home Worship Service Care Inn: 3:30—4:00 pm

Monument Hill: 4:15—4:45 pm

August 15, 2019—Public School Starts Today!

August 19. 2019—Single Board Meeting—5:30 pm—Room #15

August 19, 2019—Deadline to submit September Lightshine Newsletter articles



SINGLE BOARD MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019 5:30PM

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

THEME: We Make the Path by Walking stems from the realization "though the Church is not always of one mind, we make the path by walking in the spirit of hope, peace, connection, and with a focused commitment to the needs of our communities and the world around us."

Bishop's Message: Who are we?

352 churches

111,778 members

42,152 Average Worship Attendance

80.95% Anglo

12.59% Hispanic

3.58% African

2.88% Other

74 counties served

We are the only bilingual UMC Conference in the United Sates

450 miles of South Texas border with Mexico

Strategic Priorities in Addressing Mission Fields:

- 1. Strengthening congregations and multiplying faith communities
- 2. Clergy and lay leadership development
- 3. Reaching next generations
- 4. Serving our unique bilingual multicultural mission field
- 5. Missions, service, and justice ministries

GENERAL CONFERENCE 2020

- Rio Texas Delegation will serve from election till we elect the next one for HC 2024
- Legislation deadline early fall
- Delegations meetings start in the fall through April
- General Conference: Minneapolis, MN May 5-15, 2020
- Work with Conference Leadership and other Delegations
- Study books of legislation material
- Election of Bishops to Jurisdictional Conference-interviews next spring
- Jurisdictional Conference: The Woodlands, TX. July 13-16, 2020

ELECTED LAY DELEGATES

ELECTED CLERGY DELEGATES General: **Turisdictional:** General: **Turisdictional:** Jay Brim Carol Loeb Laura Merrill Paul Lynd Escamilla Rachel Wright Cynthia Johnson James Patrick Amerson Abigail Herrera Charles McCarity Kercida McClain Wilson Pruitt Raquel Feagins Ralph Thompson Iris Chavis **Taylor Fuerst** Amelia Beasley

ALTERNATE CLERGY DELEGATES

ALTERNATE LAY DELEGATES

Priscilla Patterson Russell Miller Aislinn Deviney Liliana Padilla Patricia Stewart Michael Mumme **Abby Gutierrez** Tom Deviney



Our Methodist Men's group would like to keep the congregation informed with what we have planned for our monthly meetings. The following organizations will be program presenters:

AUGUST 2019: Kids With Cancer

YOUTH GROUP













**Copies of LGFUMC Financials & Single Board Minutes are available upon request.

Please contact Eva Gregory in the Church Office.**

Happy Birthday

Brenda Lasswell	Aug. 3	Corey Golan	Aug. 12	Pam Nolen	Aug. 23
Deborah Ledbetter	Aug. 3	Kolby Karstedt	Aug. 12	Dillon Van Dressar	Aug. 23
Orvel Hill	Aug. 5	Jim Otto	Aug. 13	Caramel Homer	Aug. 24
Bobby Hajek	Aug. 6	Georgia Burton	Aug. 14	Jean McHenry	Aug. 24
Colin Basquette	Aug. 7	Beatrice Burton	Aug. 14	Tom Buscher	Aug. 25
Larry Fleck	Aug. 7	Ernest Keeney	Aug. 15	Ellen Hardin	Aug. 27
Verta Brown	Aug. 8	Mary Ann Hatfield	Aug. 17	Patsy Hess	Aug. 27
Charles Katz	Aug. 8	David Pace	Aug. 17	Bill Pieratt	Aug. 27
Donald Wilson	Aug. 8	Betty Keeney	Aug. 18	Madison Lambert	Aug. 28
Pat Schmidt	Aug. 10	Jon Ballard	Aug. 21	Skylar Gray	Aug. 29
Michele Schramm	Aug. 10	Donella Cernosek	Aug. 21	Rickie Fleck	Aug. 30
Ann Baker	Aug. 11	Dan Teas	Aug. 21	Michael Hall	Aug. 30
Rickey Fleck	Aug. 11	Aubrey Wallace	Aug. 22	Shelby Scallan	Aug. 30
Jerry Hess	Aug. 11	James Kahlden	Aug. 23		

Happy Anniversary

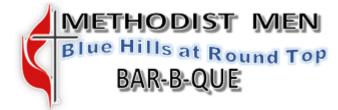
Dick & Patty Ingalls	Aug. 1		
Mark & Annette Cooper	Aug. 4	Jerry & Patsy Hess	Aug. 15
Bobby & Nancy Hajek	Aug. 6	Larry & Carol Russell	Aug. 16
Patrick & Kathleen Wilder	Aug. 6	Tim & Amy Evans	Aug. 18
Paul & Jeanette Faist	Aug. 8	Bill & Margie Hill	Aug. 22

Prayer Shawl Ministries

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is responding to a request from Fayette County to prepare small blankets to be distributed during the Car Seat Event they will have next April 2020. Blankets can be knitted, crocheted, or made of fleece or flannel. Please contact Diana Wilson at the email below if you would like to help.



diana@offln.com



An initial sign-up sheet for working at the Blue Hills Round Top Methodist Men Bar-B-Que will be sent out August 24-25th.

