

connect

fall 2013

Connect with People • Connect with Purpose • Connect with God

First United Methodist Church of Hurst



Following JESUS
Changing LIVES

*Believing we can
change the world
one story at a time*



From our Senior Pastor: Rev. Philip Rhodes

Welcome to the inaugural issue of **Connect**. This publication is just one of the communication strategies we have developed over the past few months since the monthly newspaper option is no longer available to us through the *United Methodist Reporter*. It is our plan to publish this type of magazine quarterly, each with a different theme, depending on the time of year. The theme of this issue is: *Following Jesus. Changing Lives: Believing We Can Change the World One Story at a Time.*

As I sit to write this piece, I am reminded of the conversations I have had about what I should write. I've been asked to ponder questions like, "What is your vision?" and "Where, as a church, are we heading as we look to the next year?" or "What is your goal in writing this piece?" Those are big questions!

I confess that they all hurt my head a little. Yet the more I ponder these questions, and the more I think about the theme of this issue, the clearer my answers become to all of these questions.

I have a vision of this community

of faith growing into deeper relationship with Jesus and learning where we will follow him next.

I have a vision of even more lives being changed in 2014 because of our faithful witness to Jesus the Christ.

I have a vision of a church that actually does believe we can change the world, one encounter at a time, a church made up of people who understand that the encounters we have with all people offer an opportunity for invitation.

This vision ... dream ... goal — call it whatever you will — is the reason I give. I wouldn't give my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, or my witness to something I didn't believe in.

I give because I believe in Jesus, but I give to First United Methodist Church of Hurst because I believe that YOU, TOO, believe in Jesus, and that we are partners in God's plan to change the world!

In the next few pages you will find stories of lives that have been changed in Jesus' name through the ministries of the First United



Methodist Church of Hurst. In these pages you will find out what we, as a community of faith, have accomplished together so far in 2013. In these pages you will see an invitation to consider your financial commitment to God for our ministry together in 2014.

On October 6, 2013, I will make my giving commitment for 2014. It reflects what I believe — about God and about you. **What do you believe?**



IN THIS ISSUE

My Story

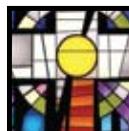
Rosalie Musau Kahuongo.....	8-9	Abby Pursley.....	14
Philip Durrett.....	10-11	Karen Wilkinson.....	14
Rev. Donna McKee.....	12	Harry McFadin.....	15
Katy Ramey.....	12	Amanda McCranor.....	15
Larry Tubbs.....	13	Henry Joyner.....	15
Abbie Arelleno.....	14	Julie Newton.....	15

By the Numbers	4-7
----------------------	-----

New Members/Baptisms	18-19
----------------------------	-------

Events	16-17
--------------	-------

Opportunities to Serve.....	20
-----------------------------	----



First United Methodist Church of Hurst

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This new publication is named

connect

and our purpose as a church is to ...

Connect with People • Connect with Purpose • Connect with God

What does this mean?

Connect with People



Have you found your small group, Sunday School class, or Bible study? Not only will this deepen your faith, it's a great way to make those personal connections that you will look forward to each week. In doing this we keep these promises: prayers, presence, and witness.

Connect with Purpose



Have you found your place to serve and be in ministry? God has a unique call for each of us. FUMC Hurst has many opportunities for each of us to serve others. In doing this we keep these promises: service, witness, and presence.

Connect with God



Worship is central to our lives as Christians. In worship, we rehearse how it is that we live our lives. It prepares us to be Jesus' disciples in the world. Make worship a priority in your life. Worship happens weekly as people of God meet together, pray together, give together, and sing together. The key word here is 'together.' In doing this we keep these promises: prayers, presence, gifts, and witness.

Following JESUS | By the Changing LIVES | NUMBERS

When new members join our church, we renew our vows to uphold the church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

At this time of year, we prayerfully consider our financial commitments, and remember why it is that we give:

- **We give** to First United Methodist because we belong to this church.
- **We give** so that our church's ministries will continue to be a place of promise for our children, students, adults, and those in our community.
- **We give** to First United Methodist because we believe giving is a spiritual discipline that makes a real difference in our lives.
- **We give** because we believe our gifts make a difference in the lives of others.
- **We give** because we believe in God's intentional will to change our lives and the world.

In this issue of *Connect*, you will find a 2014 Giving Commitment Card.

You can make your 2014 commitment in one of the following ways:

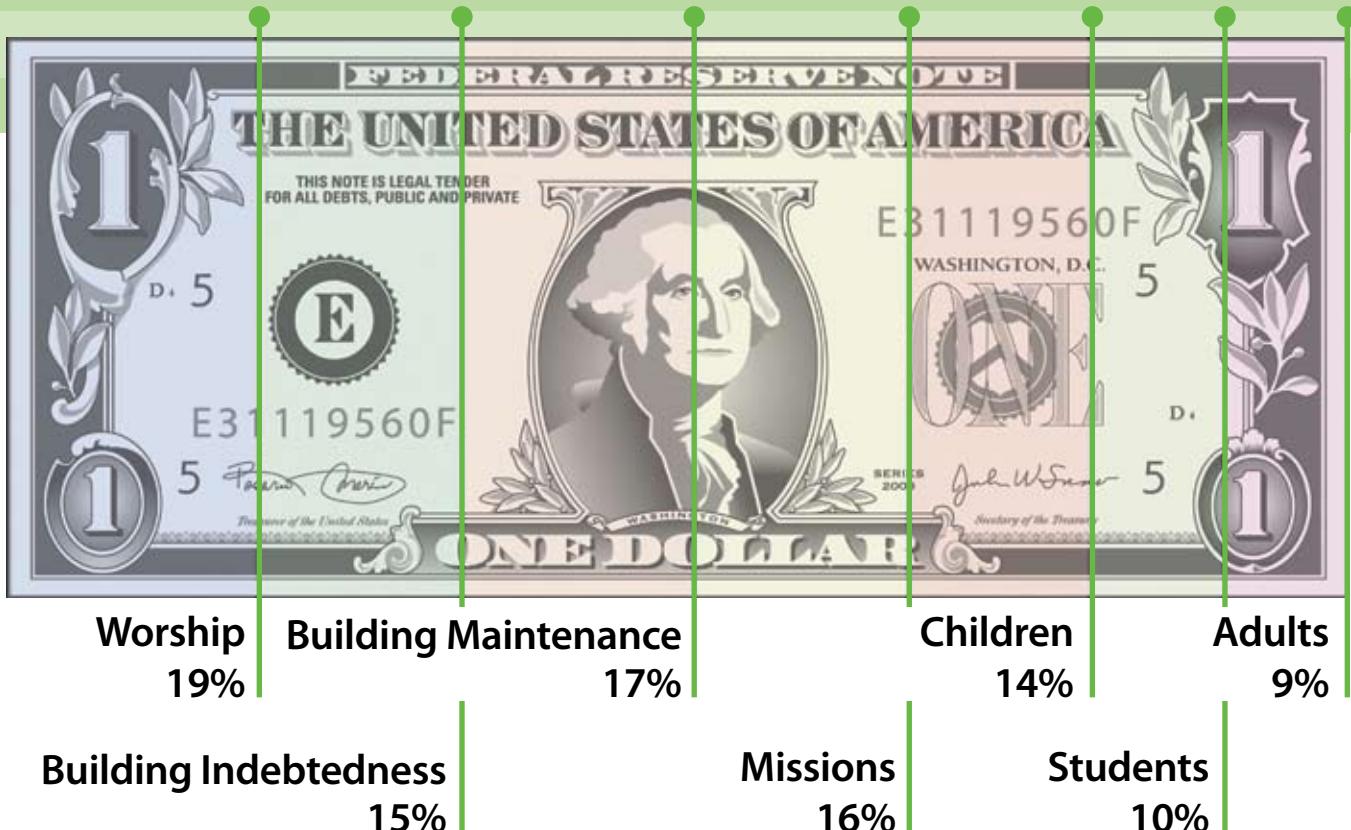
- Complete the enclosed commitment card and mail it to the church in the provided envelope.
- Complete a commitment card located in the pew pocket and drop it into the offering plate on Sunday.
- Online, go www.fumchurst.org and click *Give Online* and *Make Your 2014 Giving Commitment*.

Giving electronically is easy and helpful to the church. On the back of your commitment card, you are given an opportunity to sign up for recurring monthly gifts via credit card or bank draft from your checking account. You can also sign up for a recurring gifts online at www.fumchurst.org. Many members find these methods of giving to be very convenient. If you have questions, please contact Business Manager Kevin Campbell, kcampbell@fumchurst.org or 817.282.7384, x12.

What has our giving accomplished in the past year?

Offered more than 200 worship services ● Engaged 798 adults, youth, and children in *Unbinding Your Heart* groups ● Began a ministry with African Immigrants which has grown to a group of more than 35 ● Provided three Festival of Carols concerts for a combined audience of 3,500 ● Fed more than 1,100 local families for Thanksgiving ● Provided supplies and support for three Adopt-A-Schools ● Welcomed more than 300 people to worship in our church for the first time ● Educated more than 100 children (ages six months to four years) in Day School ● Supported 24 volunteer Stephen Ministers providing lay pastoral care to our church and community ● Engaged more than 70 students from 10+ high schools, even more junior high and middle schools, and seven different school districts in Sunday school, Sunday Youth Groups, and Wednesday night worship — and renovated Anderson Center to provide a space for youth activities ● Offered visitation to more than 65 home-centered members through Caring Friends Ministry and Flower Ministry ● Provided the Mobile Food Pantry, feeding 1,400 neighbors each month ● Gave \$52,000 in support of local families through Mission Central ● Provided more than \$300,000 for missions

Our 2014 budget is \$2,665,939:



**Staff salaries are allocated to each ministry area.*

What lies ahead in 2014?

We will continue FUMC Hurst's growth of ministry and mission together. • For the first time in six years, our church is fully staffed. Fully funding the budget will allow us to maintain the excellent staff we now have in place. • A Block Party and Family Swim Night provided opportunities to welcome and share fellowship with our neighbors. A fully funded budget will allow us to expand our community outreach. • In early October, 17 volunteers will travel to Panama to work in mission. Three additional trips are planned for 2014. Funding the budget will provide funding to expand local and global missions.

Will you think and pray about your 2014 commitment to First United Methodist Church?

Come worship! The next few weeks, we will look at stories of changed lives that continue to transform the world.

Following JESUS Changing LIVES

*Believing we can
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one story at a time*

September 21/22: The Tormented Man's Tale

September 28/29: The Brave Woman's Gift

**October 5/6: Commitment Sunday:
The Bureaucrat's Boldness**

Listen to sermons online: www.fumchurst.org/sermons



8,206 Meals packaged by our children for Kids Against Hunger on August 25.



2,168 Families have been served breakfast at the Mobile Food Pantry since April — that's more than 5,000 breakfasts served!

Following JESUS | By the Changing LIVES | NUMBERS



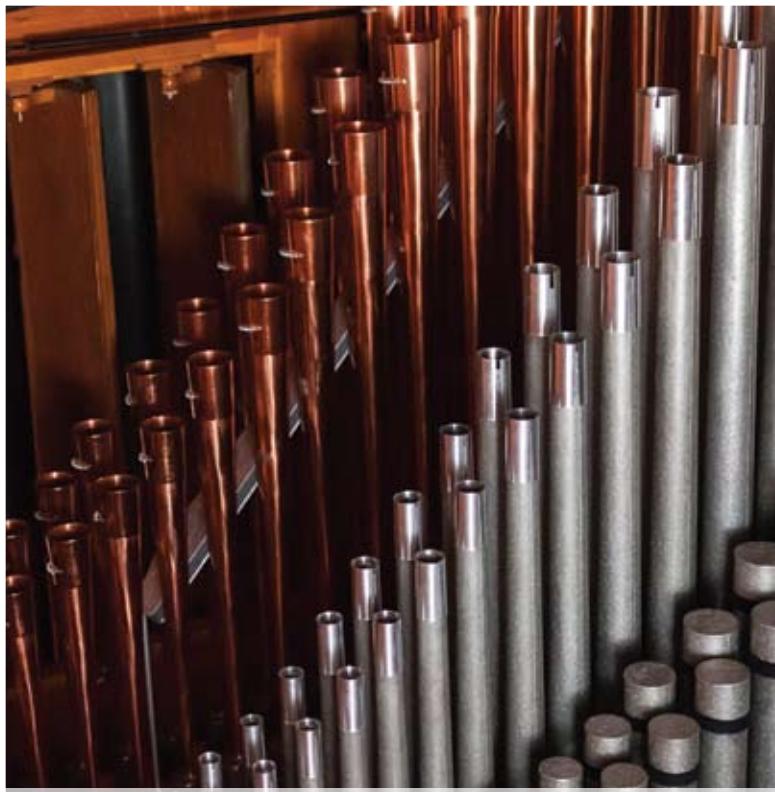
212 Children who are not members of FUMC Hurst were welcomed to the VBS Everywhere Fun Fair in June.



3 Schools are now Adopt-A-School partners with FUMC Hurst: Bellaire and Harrison Lane elementary schools and Hurst Junior High.



563 Pounds of produce have been grown in the Village Garden and donated to Mission Central's Food Pantry.



2,638 Pipes resonate with sound from our new pipe organ, the Casavant Opus 2495 Pipe Organ.



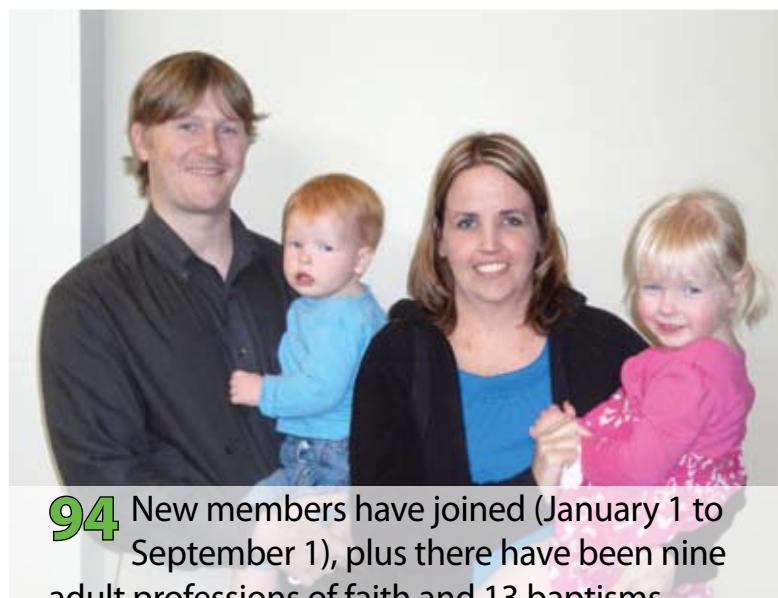
2,800 Collective hours of work was given by 78 students serving in mission this summer in San Antonio and Birmingham, Ala.



17 Volunteers from FUMC Hurst and College Avenue UMC in Manhattan, Kan., will travel to Panama in October to serve with missionaries David and Cindy Ceballos.



180 Meals have been provided by Soup Sisters this year. The group meets monthly to cook soups and casseroles, muffins and desserts for the freezer — ready for delivery to members in need.



94 New members have joined (January 1 to September 1), plus there have been nine adult professions of faith and 13 baptisms.



Stitching together a new life

Rosalie Musau

Kahuongo shares

how FUMC Hurst

has helped her

begin a new life

as a tailor

in America



Rosalie Musau Kahuongo was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and came to the United States in 2011. Following, she tells the story of how she joined our community of faith.

After my father's death in

1987, my plan was to go live in Europe. But one day God told me in a dream not to go to Europe and that He would show me where to go.

In 2011, I was issued a visa through the US program called Diversity Visa (DV) and I decided to settle in Texas.

In Congo I was told that the American government would provide me with a free apartment, a job, cash each month, a car, and medical aid. But I found that this is not true.

When I arrived at DFW, I did not know where to go. Fortunately, I had a telephone number of Elysee, a woman that I knew in Congo who was living in Euless. She picked me up at the airport and welcomed me into her home.

At the beginning, things were not easy for me. I was thrown into a system where I was lost and confused. Because I did not know the English language, I did not know how to apply for a job. Life was very tough for me, as I did not know where to request help. I had no family or close friends around me. I was frustrated and considered returning to Congo.

One day I was taken to Catholic Charities to ask for help. But the people at Catholic charities told me they could not help me because of my status in this country. They only help refugees, but not the people with green cards like me. On our way back home, the lady who gave me a ride to Catholic Charities suggested that we pass by Mission Central to ask for help. There, they gave me food and they told me about the food pantry program at First United Methodist Church every second Friday of each month.

Two weeks after, I came to FUMC Hurst to get some food. I was well served. But what amazed me was the friendliness and hospitality of the people of this church who were distributing

food. After giving me the food they invited me to come to church on Sunday.

I asked many questions about this church and I was told it is a Christian church with open hearts. I hesitated to come to this church, thinking that it was a church for only whites and black people are not welcomed. But when I came here I saw that it was a church of Christ for all people of God, despite their origin or background. I liked the church, the people and the worship service, even though I did not speak English language.

The next Sunday, I came back and I was again welcomed, and invited to go to "Point of Grace," a Sunday School class.

I really saw the wonders of God through the generosity of the members of this class. They became friends and assisted me in different ways.

They provided me with furniture for my apartment and clothes. They gave me rides to go shopping or to go to the hospital. Most importantly, they gave me a sewing machine to make clothes for clients (as I am a tailor) so that I could have an income.

From that time, my life has been changed through this church. No more confusion, no more sorrows, no more frustration, no more isolation or loneliness.

I have been blessed to be a member of this church. Thanks be to God as the church has developed a specific ministry for African Immigrants to respond to our pastoral, spiritual, social, and other needs. We have a minister who knows our culture and



"My life has been changed through this church.

**No more confusion,
no more sorrows,
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or loneliness."**



assists us morally and spiritually, and helps us to understand the worship and the preaching in our French language every Sunday. We have our Sunday School Class for French-speaking people where we study the Bible and have opportunities to grow in our Christian faith.

This church has facilitated our integration into a community of faith without asking us to form our own church for African people.

This church has become for me, and other newcomers from Africa, a place where we feel safe to worship in Christian community.

I am no longer lost and confused. God has changed my life through First United Methodist Church of Hurst. *Praise the Lord!*

... "the connections between
music, worship, and life happen
... whether or not
we ask for them" ...



MY STORY: Philip Durrett

I began visiting FUMC Hurst a few months after graduating from college. Before I knew it, I had been visiting for about a year. Mike McKee called me one night and did that thing where he asks you a couple of questions and then you start spilling all kinds of details about your life.

I told him I grew up singing in children's and youth choirs and I enjoy the more "traditional" music in worship – even though I don't really sit around listening to it at home. I told him that was the main reason I decided to visit FUMC for the first time. Dr. McKee brought up the idea of visiting choir rehearsal. I didn't have any real intention of joining up, though the choir and organ had been some of my favorite elements of worshiping at FUMC Hurst.

Dr. McKee must have then asked Greg Shapley to call, because Greg called me within a couple of days to invite me to choir rehearsal. It was good timing, too, because they were about to start working on Christmas music. I love Christmas music!

I've enjoyed singing in the Chancel Choir for about seven years now. I appreciate the fact that I wouldn't know most of the people if it weren't for choir. I like that there are as many reasons people have for joining and singing in choir as there are choir members.

Plenty of people in choir have musical backgrounds, but there are also plenty of people who



don't. It really doesn't matter. The part that seems to matter most is that we all have a mutual interest in sharing music with God, with each other, and with the church.

The music we experience at church will weave through our whole lives in ways we can't know or expect.

I remember going to a Festival of Carols concert the year before I joined Chancel Choir. The choir was performing Vivaldi's "Gloria." It brought back fond memories of performing those same songs when I was a high schooler in youth choir.

As I was reflecting on those memories, the fire alarm went off for no apparent reason. Waiting outside for the fire department's all-clear was another memory I'll always associate with Vivaldi's "Gloria." As weird as it may seem, I think that's great!

That night, the music

and the concert were briefly overshadowed by the threat of a fire, but everyone who was there, either enjoying or performing in the program had a bizarre, unplanned moment of fellowship outside our church building.

The connections between music, worship and life are going to happen whether or not we ask for them.

Being a part of the choir fits my strengths and interests. It makes me an active participant and leader during worship, and that's fulfilling for me. Those who aren't in choir are still a part of the music. Singing along with hymns, bringing a child to children's choirs, inviting friends to Festival of Carols: these are just a few ways we play a part in, and give to, the ministry of our church. The music is what first brought me to FUMC Hurst, and I'm glad I can be a part of it along with every other member and attendee of our church.

Giver's Remorse? There's No Such Thing!

MY STORY: Rev. Donna McKee Minister of Christian Formation

The older I get, the more I suffer from "buyer's remorse." It doesn't matter what I've bought, how long I've thought about it, or the amount of the purchase — more and more I'm haunted by feelings of remorse.

Do I really need this? Could I have gotten a better deal? Do I have a coupon for this in my junk drawer? These days, more often than not, I have buyer's remorse.

The interesting thing is that never — NEVER — have I experienced "givers remorse."

Never have I given my time on Friday morning at the Mobile Food Pantry and driven away at noon thinking, "I really regret spending my morning talking and praying with persons who are in need. That was a waste of time!"

Never have I regretted writing a check so a youth can go on a mission trip or a child could have new school supplies. I've come to see that there is no such thing as "giver's remorse."

Last year at the Harvest Festival auction, I found myself bidding on the Searching Together Sunday School Class Shrimp Boil. My dad had passed

away six months before and left me some money that I wanted to give to missions. What better way to give to missions and honor my dad than by throwing my own family shrimp boil, right?

As the bidding went up, so did my blood pressure. I had bought things in auctions before, but this time the bids were going up really fast and in the excitement of the moment, I just kept going — until the auctioneer pointed straight at me and said, "SOLD!" My only thought was, "This better be good shrimp!"

I'm here to tell you that it was good shrimp — actually the best shrimp and the best party I've ever thrown! It didn't matter how much it cost, it was given in honor of my dad — one of the most generous people I will ever know. He loved shrimp, and would have LOVED the big family bash. It didn't matter how



much it cost, it was given to help people who needed the money more than I do. No regret, no remorse.

When we give — each time we give — whether "our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, or our witness" — we are changed, we are unbound, we are set free from ourselves a little more.

When we give, when we are recklessly generous using no common sense, we are one in the Spirit of the One who gave everything! **No regret, no remorse!**

MY STORY: Katie Ramey: Our decision to join FUMC Hurst focused on our soon-to-be teenage sons. We found that FUMC had a commitment to youth. All four of our boys attended youth group and special events, and participated in mission trips. Without a strong youth program to build foundations in faith, service, and worship, our sons would not have had the experiences which allowed them to grow their faith and to help others. We have been blessed that our sons were a part of FUMC Hurst.

“We came looking for help raising our children. What we found was the face of God.”

MY STORY: Larry Tubbs, *Finance Committee Chair*

I've been a member of FUMC Hurst since 2005. We came looking for a preschool for our daughter, Emily. At the time, my wife Lori was pregnant with our other daughter, Sophia, and Emily was firmly in the “terrible twos.” We needed a safe place for Emily that prepared her for kindergarten both scholastically and morally.

We found that, and so much more inside the doors of First Hurst.

We were so warmly welcomed by the Day School staff, and so inspired by the effect the Day School was having on Emily, that we decided to start attending Sunday worship services.

Soon after, we found ourselves becoming more and more active. We joined the Logos Sunday School class, participated in Disciple Bible Studies, volunteered in Children's ministry, and Lori even joined the Day School staff for a few years.

Through this involvement, we started to get a sense for how God is acting through the church and its ministries, and how we could be a part of it — how we were called to be part of it.

We discovered we were members of something bigger than ourselves, or our biological family. We found ourselves changed.



Jesus the Christ had claimed us as his Children. We found that we were given an opportunity to be the presence of the Christ in this world, and we decided to take it, and in doing so, found our lives transformed.

Now the focus of our lives has shifted. We are less driven by personal goals and desires, and more driven by what God wants for us, and through our action,

what God wants for the world. Oddly, this has resulted in a much more enjoyable life for all of us.

We now find ourselves fully committed to the vision of creating Disciples of Jesus the Christ for the transformation of the world, and work to live into that vision each and every day.

We came looking for help raising our children. What we found was the face of God.

Following JESUS Changing LIVES

*Believing we can
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What's Your Story?

MY STORY: Abbie Arellano: Since having our daughter almost two years ago, we are blessed with the family we have found at FUMC Hurst. Members of the church have brought us meals, babysat, welcomed us into their homes, and supported and encouraged us along the way. Each week when we enter the atrium, people stop to greet us and talk with Jillian. This church is definitely the family we didn't have when we moved here five years ago. We are blessed to have people in our lives who are not only serving the poor and feeding the hungry, but encouraging our child to do the same by modeling Christ's love to her. Through the love we have experienced at FUMC Hurst, our family will continue to support this church with our financial gifts, as well as by giving our time and being the family that others who come through the doors are looking for.



MY STORY: Abby Pursley: Growing up in this church has been the best thing that's happened to me. At first, I didn't think I liked giving up my Sundays to go to church, or even Wednesday nights once I got into high school. Then I realized that these people are my "go to" people and my life is so much better with them. In middle school, I started choosing softball over church, and would miss almost every Sunday for a practice, or tournament, or even just sleep to recover from the games on Saturday. Once I came back, and saw how excited everyone was to have me back, and

how close everyone was, I realized that this is where I needed to be. From confirmation, to our first night in youth group, to now, our Sunday School class has grown closer and closer. No matter what my week has been, I know that the people in youth group will always be there for me and will always be able to put a smile on my face. My Sunday School class and the youth group are more than just a group of friends I get to see twice a week, they are my family. This church has been a place of comfort, a place of welcoming, and a place of fun. Without this church, I would not be who I am today. This church has given me a place where I feel comfortable being who I am and a place to call "home". I wouldn't trade the relationships I've made here for anything in the world. First United Methodist Hurst has been a huge part of my life and I am so thankful for everyone here and for all the lessons I have learned over the years.

MY STORY: Karen Wilkinson: I believe that First United Methodist Church has expanded my view of what Christianity can mean to me and to others. It is reassuring to see that a church can be vital and relevant without having to conform to a stereotypical mega new church blueprint. Direction seems purposeful, organic and sincere. I also believe that this direction drives the mission-centric feeling that I get from this church. Success breeds success and I want to be a part of that. It's also important to me that we support foreign missions, but also are a genuine part of the diverse neighborhood around us.





MY STORY: Harry McFadin: Being a member of FUMC Hurst has allowed me to experience new ways to give, serve and learn. I've had opportunities to serve on committees, work at Mission Central, attend a youth mission trip, participate in Disciple Bible study, help with the Thanksgiving basket project, and contribute to other missions via regular and special offerings. I've also had the privilege of being taught both in the classroom and by the witness and example of some amazing teachers and leaders. Through my experiences in this church, I am reminded that I am loved, that I can be an example and leader for others, and that it is our job to reach out to strangers and neighbors alike to serve them and share the love of Christ.



MY STORY: Amanda McCranor: This church has provided us with a support system and a comforting place. We helped create a Sunday School class for young couples – this has been one way for us to be more connected and give back to the church. Throughout the past 18 months, our appropriately named class – Journey – has guided us further in our spiritual journey. We are grateful for the strong impact that our class and the church has had on our lives. FUMC Hurst is a place where we are enhancing our relationship with Christ through the many opportunities of service, learning, and fellowship. With our church we hope to spread Christ's love and support to visitors of the church, and the community – just as others did for us when we were just "visitors."



MY STORY: Henry Joyner: A retired minister once asked me, "Why do you do what you do in the church?" It occurred to me that the real reason I am here and committed to this faith community is because in this place I have come to understand that God loves me – no conditions, no questions asked. I know God loves me because I feel it in my heart as I sit in worship. I know God loves me because He speaks to my head through Bible study, Sunday School lessons and sermons. I know God loves me because the mission work of this congregation compels me to love my neighbor the way God loves each of us. I know God loves me because I have seen that love and the light of His face in all of you that share this community with my family. What we do together in this place matters in each of our stories – in each of our spiritual journeys of response to God's grace. As Betsy and I think about our commitment to the ministries of this church in the coming year we find a lot of good reasons for our giving. But our gifts aren't simply our way of supporting the operation of this church. Our giving has become a life transforming experience for us because we see it as our response to both God's love for us and our love for all of you.



MY STORY: Julie Newton: In 2008 my husband was hit by a car and spent a week in the hospital. During that time we had daily visits and phone calls from clergy and Sunday School class members. I could never repay the people in this church for the prayers and support they provided to our family during what was a very difficult time. It gave me the opportunity to experience first hand the love of the church and the way in which people can come

together and make a difference in someone's life. I want to contribute to the impact made by this church, which is felt by myself, my family, its congregation and the surrounding community.

More stories online: www.fumchurst.org/mystory

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 21 (Saturday)

Harvest Festival

Kickball Tournament

8 a.m. • Donna Park Elementary

Come join us for a new and exciting way to raise money for missions! Space is limited — sign up early. \$75 per team (7-10 players per team).

■ www.fumchurst.org/current

September 22 (Sunday)

Blood Drive

8 a.m.–12 p.m. • Fellowship Hall

Donating blood saves lives and adds credits to the church's life plan, which gives church members credits toward transfusion costs.

September 22 OR 29 (Sunday)

Writing Workshop

5 p.m. • W205

First UMC Hurst is developing an Advent Devotional Guide. If you're interested in contributing, come to this writing workshop. All ages are invited. Joe and Liz Motley are facilitators.

■ www.fumchurst.org/current



September 28 (Saturday)

Harvest Festival

10 a.m.–2 p.m. • Fellowship Hall

Don't miss our largest annual fundraiser for missions. Join us for kids' activities, lunch, and Silent and Live Auctions.

■ www.fumchurst.org/harvest



October 11 (Friday)

Mobile Food Pantry

8 a.m.–12 p.m. • Fellowship Hall

October 11–13 (Friday–Sunday)

Jr. High Retreat to Sky Ranch

The Jr. High will have a weekend of fun including zip lines, obstacle courses, water slides, the Blob, and so much more!

■ www.fumchurst.org/youth

October 13-19

Panama Mission Trip

A team of 17, led by Rev. Clint Jones and Nita Turpin, will work with United Methodist Missionaries David and Cindy Ceballos to construct a multi-purpose building. The team asks your prayers as they go as God's servants and ambassadors of FUMC Hurst.

October 19 (Saturday)

Harvest Festival Garage Sale

8 a.m.–3 p.m. • Parking Lot

Look in your garage, attic, and closets for items to donate for this Harvest Festival Garage Sale benefitting missions! Drop off items at the Scout Building October 12–18.

■ www.fumchurst.org/current

October 20 (Sunday)

Voices of Triumph:

A Concert of Choirs & Organ

7 p.m.; Sanctuary

This free Hurst Series event features the Chancel Choir of FUMC Hurst and guest choirs from around the area.

October 27 (Sunday)

Trunk or Treat

4–6 p.m. • Parking Lot

Members of the congregation, young and old alike, come park their decorated cars as costumed children from the church and community "trunk or treat" for candy. A hot dog dinner, carnival games, and prizes round out this fun event.

■ www.fumchurst.org/current

October 28 (Monday)

Administrative Board Meeting

7 p.m. • Fellowship Hall

Child care provided.

November 3 (Sunday)

Annual Charge Conference

Administrative Board Members are encouraged to attend.
3-4:30 p.m.; Trinity UMC, 1200 W. Green Oaks Blvd, Arlington.

November 8 (Friday)
Mobile Food Pantry
8 a.m.–12 p.m. • Fellowship Hall

November 10 (Sunday)
Honoring Our Veterans
11 a.m. worship

During worship, we will celebrate the sacrifices veterans have made, and conclude the morning with a recognition lunch. Veterans, be our guests for lunch!

November 26 (Tuesday)
Thanksgiving Worship
7 p.m. • Sanctuary

This ecumenical service for the local community celebrates Thanksgiving.
www.fumchurst.org/current

November 27–29
(Wednesday–Friday)
Church Office closed.

December 1 (Sunday)
Advent Begins
www.fumchurst.org/advent

December 8 and 9
(Sunday and Monday)
Festival of Carols:
A Christmas Tradition!

December 15 (Sunday)
Advent Organ Concert
Yoon-mi Lim, Organist
7 p.m.; Sanctuary

WORSHIP



Sunday Mornings
All services of worship are of a traditional style with familiar hymns and meaningful liturgy. Sunday morning worship takes place in the Sanctuary at:
8:30 a.m. • 9:45 a.m. • 11 a.m.

Saturday Evenings: Genesis
An alternative to our traditional worship, Genesis features acoustic guitar in an intimate setting. The Genesis service takes place in the Fellowship Hall Saturdays at 6 p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS

MISSION

Mobile Food Pantry: Second Friday of each month, 8 a.m. to noon. Volunteers needed: email Larry Jenkins, lejwfj@att.net.

Joyful Creations Prayer Shawl Ministry: 9:30–11:30 a.m. Thursday, W120. New members welcome.

YOUTH

Youth Groups (Gr. 7–12), 6–8 p.m. Sunday; Dinner, \$3

Sr. High Worship (Gr. 9–12), 7 p.m. Wednesday

MUSIC

Adult Choirs:
Chancel Choir: 7 p.m. Wednesday
Chapel Choir: 6 p.m. Sunday
Revelation Ringers: 5 p.m. Sunday

Youth Choir:

Celebration Singers (Gr. 6–12):
5 p.m. Sundays

Children's Choirs:

Joy & Praise (K–5): 8:30 a.m. Sunday
Promises (age 3–4): in Sunday School

Joyful Noise (Gr. K–2):

11 a.m. Sunday
Covenant Singers (Gr. 3–5):
11 a.m. Sunday

RECOVERY MINISTRIES

A.A. & AL-ANON, every Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Recovery House.

A.A. & AL-ANON, every Sunday, 6:30 p.m., Recovery House.

CARING & SUPPORT

Grief Support Group: Second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in W122. Contact Rev. Donna McKee.

Caring Christian Mothers: First Friday of every month, 9:30 a.m., Parlor.

Welcome our Newest Members

June 2–September 1



Nancy Hall



Jessica Haney



Kelly Howard



Brittany Heminway



Walter Martz



Blandine Mputu



Megan Rex



Ray Tate



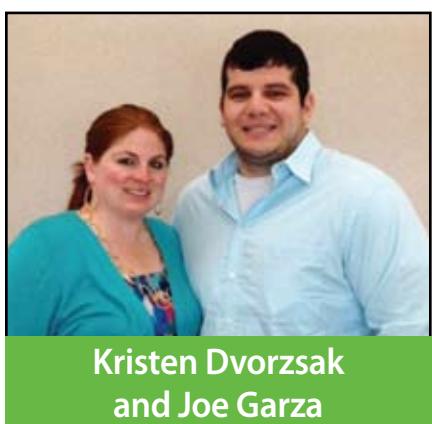
Dorothy VanHooser



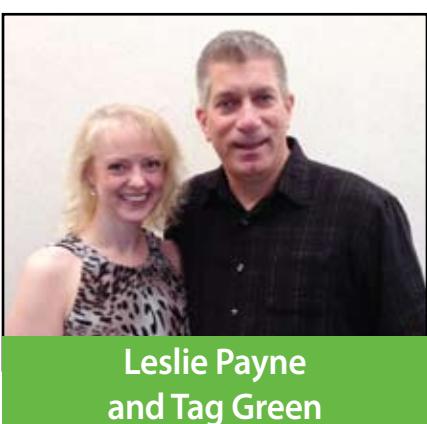
Beverly Wood



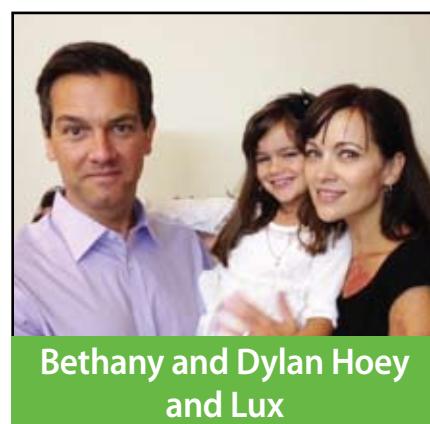
Don & Monica Fridge,
and Isabel



Kristen Dvorzsak
and Joe Garza



Leslie Payne
and Tag Green



Bethany and Dylan Hoey
and Lux



Steve and Lynn Mallard

Not pictured:
David and Lesli Lambert

Celebrating Your Baptism



Madison Gwaltney,
daughter of
Krista and Aaron Gwaltney



Raegan Wren, daughter of
Rhean and Jerry Wren, with
sister Sydney

Not pictured: **A.J. Bukasa, son of Marthe Ntambue and Bols Badibanga**

■ **Prayer Requests** can be placed in a Prayer Request box (throughout the building) or in the offering plate. If you are interested in being a part of the Prayer Ministry, please contact Rev. Donna McKee, x 38 or dmckee@fumchurst.org.

■ **Do you receive the weekly e-mail news?** Sign up online or text "fumchurst" to 22828 to receive information in your inbox each week about upcoming events.

■ **Memorials and honorariums** are a wonderful way to remember and honor friends and loved ones. Make a gift online: www.fumchurst.org/online-giving/ Listing of current memorials/honorariums: www.fumchurst.org/gifts

Rev. Philip Rhodes
Senior Pastor

Rev. Holly Dittrich
Minister to Children and Their Families

Rev. Greg Shapley
Minister of Music and Worship

Rev. Donna McKee
Minister of Christian Formation

Rev. Matt Ybañez
Minister to Youth and Their Families

Rev. Clint Jones
Minister of Missions and Evangelism

Rev. Joseph Kazadi • *Director of Ministries with African Immigrants*

Dr. Yoon-Mi Lim
Interim Organist / Artist-in-Residence

Lynn Carter • *Administrative Director*

Kevin Campbell • *Business Manager*

Sandra Hill • *Director of Welcoming Ministries / Wedding Coordinator*

Missy Matthews
Communications Director

Cathy Cartmill
Director of Encore! Ministries

Serin Yates • *Day School Director*

Wade Robertson
Building Superintendent

Beckie Bright • *Membership Assistant*

Sherry Herrington
Program Assistant

Carrie Weaver • *Program Assistant*

Rachelle Bates
Assistant Day School Director

Beth Stuyck
Assistant Children's Director

Candace Jaynes
Assistant Youth Director

Hermelinda Hernandez
Custodial Supervisor

Sarah Valentino
Children's Music Coordinator

David and Cindy Ceballos
Missionaries



First United Methodist Church of Hurst

P O Box 1461 • 521 W. Pipeline Road • Hurst, TX 76053

817.282.7384 • www.fumchurst.org

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

It is through mission outreach that we exemplify the spirit of Christian love to those in our own local community and around the world. Through such giving, God changes not only the lives of others, but our lives as well.

Following are some upcoming opportunities for service within our congregation and community.

Mobile Food Pantry

Volunteer to serve our neighbors in need, helping distribute food. Volunteers are needed each month, 8 a.m. to noon; contact Larry Jenkins, lejwfj@att.net.

community. How can you help?

Donate candy, or volunteer to host a trunk: contact Rev. Holly Dittrich, hdittrich@fumchurst.org



Thanksgiving Bag Mission

We're hoping to fill 1,200+ bags for neighbors in need. Volunteer to shop for items or to deliver bags to local families. Contact Rev. Clint Jones, cjones@fumchurst.org



Festival of Carols

Each year we welcome more than 3,000 from our community into our church home. How will you help with our radical welcome? We need volunteers to bake cookies for the receptions following the concerts, and to serve as reception hosts, greeters, and ushers. Contact Sandra Hill, shill@fumchurst.org.

Trunk or Treat

We will welcome hundreds of children from our church and