

WEEKLY UPDATE

February 28, 2025

RHEA BULLOCK, PASTOR

WWW.FUMC-KAUFMAN.ORG

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM-FUMC-KAUFMAN

OFFICE PHONE 972-932-2838

EMAIL: OFFICE@FUMC-KAUFMAN.ORG

KAUFMAN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FROM OUR PASTOR:

I heard a story about a drunk man who fell asleep in a hotel lobby. While in his drunken stupor, some teenage pranksters rubbed limburger cheese on the man's upper lip. When he woke up, he smelled this terrible odor and said, "This hotel smells awful!" He went outside and still smelled the odor and he cried: "This neighborhood smells terrible." He walked a few blocks away. The stench was still there, and he said: "This city smells rotten!" Then, he ran outside the city limits trying to get away from this awful odor, but it was still there. In despair, the drunk man shouted: "This whole world stinks!"

Now we all have our own stuff, our own baggage, bias, and viewpoint. There's nothing wrong with that. It's true of every person. But sometimes we have to take a moment to notice when the stink is coming from us. And when it is, we can wash ourselves in the fountain of God's grace. We spend our lives learning, growing and failing and growing again, and through all that, grace can nurture us. The knowledge and understanding that God is delighted with us, even though we aren't always delightful. That God gives to us gifts we don't deserve and haven't earned.

We're fast approaching the season of Lent, a time when we turn to repentance as part of following Jesus, and as we repent of sin, more of that stink is washed from our souls, and we can be free to live and grow and thrive in God's grace.

See you Sunday!
Rhea



An Extravagant God

From 3-Minute Devotions (Daily Devotional), published by Barbour Publishing, Inc. Used by permission.

Change your life, not just your clothes. Come, come back to God, your God. And here's why: God is kind and merciful. He takes a deep breath and puts up with a lot, this most patient God, extravagant in His love. (Joel 2:13)

There are times when we are exhausted and discouraged and we allow our minds to roam to dark places. Despair and disappointment set in. A woe-is-me attitude prevails. How do we rise from the doldrums? How do we continue? We turn our faces toward the Lord God and know that He is in control.



Scripture tells us of God's mercy and loving-kindness. It speaks to us to come back to God. This doesn't necessarily mean a change of circumstances, but a change of heart. And this change is a choice we intentionally make. It's not necessary to be in a church building or revival tent. While many changes happen there, ours can be in our closet, our car, or our office. It can happen anywhere! We reach inwardly to the Highest and ask for His mercy. And scripture says...He is merciful.

Focusing on the negative...choosing despair...doesn't bring life. Voluntarily focusing on Jesus will. Praise Him for all your blessings. They are there, look for them! Some might be tiny, others magnificent. But they're all because of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is a most patient God and extravagant in His love to each of us!

Heavenly Father, I praise Your name. You are extravagant in Your love, filling me to overflowing! I am grateful for all you've done. In Jesus Holy name, Amen.

Love and Blessings to you all.

Karen Park

All are invited to our annual

Pancake Supper

in Fellowship Hall

March 5, 2025

Supper at 5:00

followed by

Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00

On the Menu

Your choice of regular, wheat, or Dave's Blueberry Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Fresh Fruit, Milk, Coffee, Juice



ASH WEDNESDAY



"Yet even now," declares the LORD,

"RETURN TO ME

with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."

Joel 2:12, ESV



Ash Wednesday Service

March 5, 6:00 p.m.



4th Annual

First United Methodist Church Ladies Tea

Saturday, April 12, 2:00 - 4:00

208 S. Houston St., Kaufman

Mothers, Daughters, Granddaughters, Aunts, Cousins, and Friends

RSVP to Carol
972.890.2806



3rd Grade

-- 4th and 5th grades also! --

BIBLE PRESENTATION

MARCH 30



A long standing tradition in the Methodist Church is the presentation of bibles to 3rd graders. Since we have not done this in a few years, this year we will present bibles to 4th and 5th graders also. If you have a child, 3rd grade or above, in your life that would like their own bible, please let Pam know before March 12th.

The children's bibles are being purchased by our Methodist Women.

Please email your favorite scriptures or bible stories, to Pam at office@fumc-kaufman.org. We will use your shared scripture to decorate the tables for our 5th Sunday luncheon following the worship service on March 30th. Some of children may be inspired by your favorites.



Embark on a Road Trip Adventure at VBC!



Join us for a journey where young travelers explore exciting destinations with the navigator and their pup, Scout! Through Bible stories, games, and challenges, they'll discover that God is always with them. Road Trip VBC is more than just fun—it's a journey of faith and friendship!



Kids will set their GPS to biblical truth, learning from Biblical heroes and our theme verse, Joshua 1:9: "The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Mark Your Calendars: June 24th - June 27th!

There's a place for everyone to help make this adventure possible! Whether you pass out flyers, donate items, decorate, sing, cook, teach, or drive the bus, your talents are needed and appreciated.

Interested in volunteering? Meet us after church this Sunday or scan the QR code to sign up.



Vacation Bible Camp

JUNE 24-27

*The LORD your God
is with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9*

SCAN TO SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP!



**INTEREST MEETING
Sunday, March 2
after worship service
Lunch Provided**

Let's create an unforgettable journey together!

RACHEL GROUP SOUP MINISTRY

Taste and see
that the Lord is good!
Share Your Light
Love Your Neighbor



IN MEMORY OF PASTOR STEPHEN COTTEN

"LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR. TAKE THEM SOUP!"

POWERED BY KAUFMAN BEE CLUB AND OTHER DONATIONS

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" - Matthew 22:37-39

The Rachel Group is excited to introduce a new ministry for our church. **From the Heart** is a soup ministry in memory of Pastor Stephen. We remember how he was always teaching us to "Love your neighbor - take them soup"

He told us how it is simple to show love to those people that God sends us. "Just be his hands and feet. Let the love of God flow from us to them."

From one of Stephen's sermons, "When we love each other our lives blossom with fruit. It's good to have fruity people at church! We need to have an orchard full of fruit! The fruit needs to look so sweet and smell so good that it makes you want to taste and see that the LORD is good. It takes small things to love those around us. When we do, it transforms us. The fire within us is rekindled. We get excited about what God is doing. Our mission is to share the love of Christ."

Our hope is that through this ministry we, Kaufman FUMC, can show love to our neighbors with something so simple and satisfying as soup.

The way it works: Quart jars of soup and ready-to-eat cakes are available for you to grab a jar from the shelf in Fellowship Hall to take to someone you plan to visit.

Do you know someone that is homebound, sick and needs nourishment, just home from the hospital, needs encouragement? Visit them - take them soup! Visiting someone that hasn't been to church in a while? Show them that we love them and have not forgot about them, take them cake! Do you have a friend that just needs to remember that someone cares? Take them soup or cake! Do you have a new neighbor? Invite them to church & take them soup!

From the Heart has already gone beyond our walls. The Kaufman sewing group is making and donating soup bowl cozies that can be used in the microwave when warming a bowl of soup. A local chef is coming to teach the Rachel group how to safely can soups using a pressure canner. Mary Terry and Pat Arellano have made beautiful greeting cards that are available to give to those you are visiting. The Kaufman Bee Club members are donating some of the funds for food and supplies. We welcome any contributions in Stephen's memory. We also have the support of Stephen's family.

We are grateful for everyone that has already put so much of their heart into this ministry. We are excited to see how many people will be blessed, both as givers and recipients.

"Know that you are God's Beloved! The love of God flows into your heart freely, therefore, it can flow out of your heart freely. Share it with the people around you by caring about them." - Pastor Stephen

If you have any questions about **From the Heart**, contact Pam Caffey or any member of the Rachel Group.



Sunday School

Where Bible Study and Fellowship Meet

All Classes begin at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday



Adult Sunday School meets in Adult Center.



Good Fellowship, Good Conversation, Good Friends, and Good Coffee.

Adult Sunday School
AGAPE CLASS
Fellowship Hall at 9:00



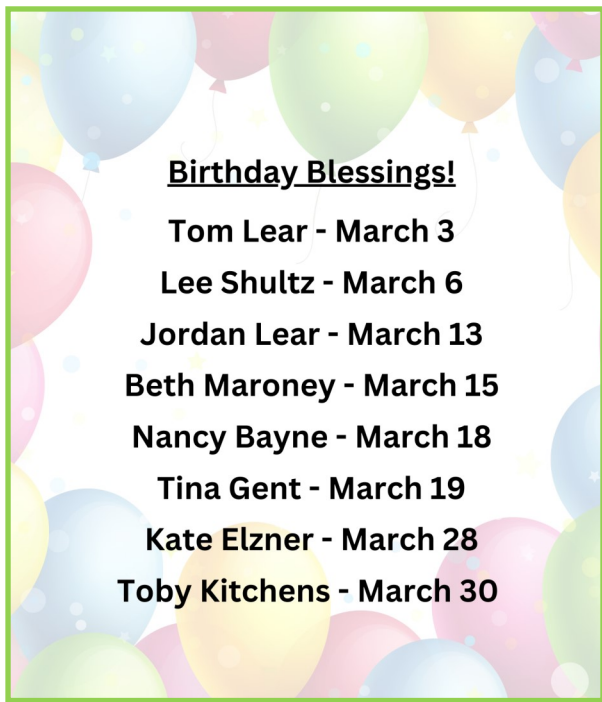
Mr. Mike is excited to lead our youth with biblical teaching, encouraging them to live into their growing faith, and mentor them as they seek to apply Christian values in their daily relationships.

Mike will bring the donuts!



Bring your children ages Pre-k through 5th grade to our weekly Sunday School Class in the Orange Room. With games, video, songs, activities, and bible lessons, Leslie, Robin, and Tana will help your kiddos learn what matters most is to Simply Love Jesus and each other.

1 John 4:7 'Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.'



Birthday Blessings!

- Tom Lear - March 3
- Lee Shultz - March 6
- Jordan Lear - March 13
- Beth Maroney - March 15
- Nancy Bayne - March 18
- Tina Gent - March 19
- Kate Elzner - March 28
- Toby Kitchens - March 30



NOW Backpack at OP Norman Jr. High
 At this time we have 18 students identified as in need for the service. Below is the list of things that are in need:
 Shampoo and Conditioner
 peanut butter
 tuna or chicken pouches
 small juices

The Leadership class and Mrs. Maly thank you so much for the generosity of the church. It helps out tremendously!

Senior Connect - Kaufman Meals on Wheels
 Partnering with Senior Connect, our church delivers a hot meal to our neighbors each **Wednesday** throughout the year.

If you would like to learn more about this ministry, please contact Pam Caffey.



First Fruits Sunday



The first Sunday of each month we receive donations of non-perishable foods to help restock the shelves at The Center.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 2

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 9:00 a.m. Children and Youth Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 VBC Recruitment Lunch

Tuesday, March 4

- 5:30 p.m. Kaufman Quilt Guild

Wednesday, March 5 Ash Wednesday

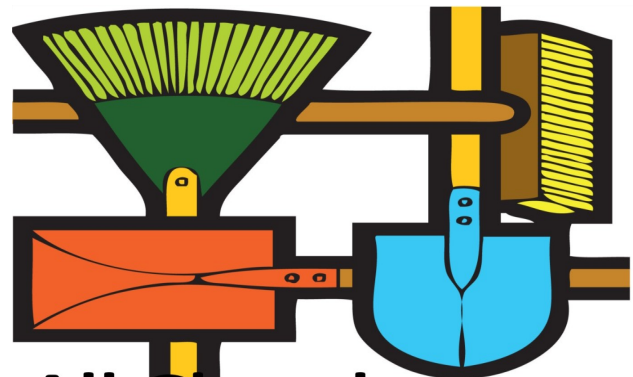
- 5:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper
- 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 7

- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts

Mark Your Calendars

- March 30 - 3rd Grade Bibles and 5th Sunday Lunch
- April 5 - All Church Spring Clean-up Day
- April 12 - Spring Tea
- May 4 - Graduation Sunday



**All Church
 Workday
 April 5**