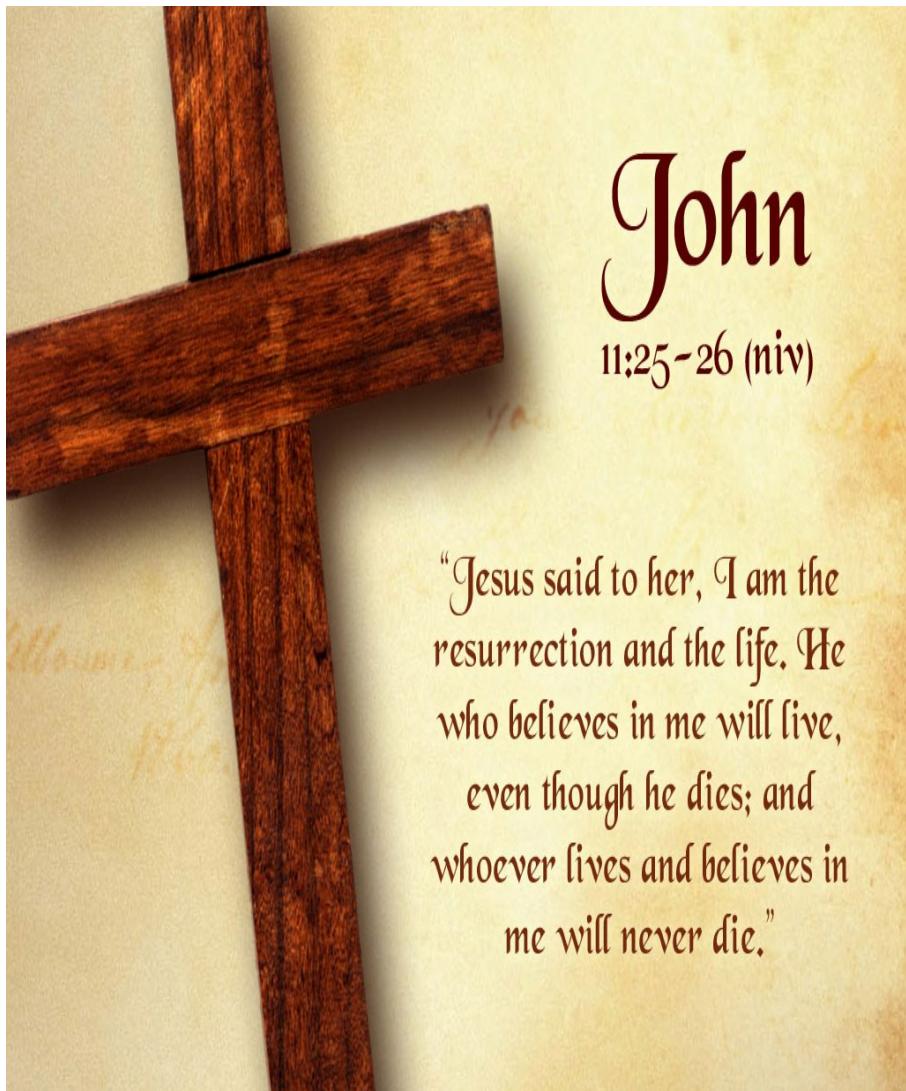


**APRIL
2017**



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mondays in April at 8:00 a.m. we will gather for prayer, a time of silence, listening and for God.

Don't miss the **State Historical Commission Quanah Parker State Traveling Exhibit** April 1 to May 15 at the Irion County Museum.

Lenten Soup Supper—During Lent there will be Soup Supper starting at 6:30 p.m.. Bring your favorite Soup to share and bring a friend. April 4 & April 11

The next **Barnhart Community Luncheon** will be Thursday, April 13 at 12 noon. Good Food! Good Neighbors!

There will be a **TENEBRAE Service on Friday, April 14 @ 7:00 p.m.** You are invited to come at 6:30 p.m. to go thru the **Stations of the Cross**. Volunteers are needed to read small portions of scripture.

There will be a **Community Sunrise Service** on Easter Sunday (April 16th) at 7:00 or so on the Courthouse lawn.

The next **Mertzon Community Luncheon** will be Tuesday, April 18 at 11:30 p.m. Come visit with your friends and neighbors while enjoying a delicious meal.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

MADE WITH LOVE AND PRAYER

The First United Methodist Church Prayer Shawl Ministry continues with their knitting and crocheting. The blankets and shawls that are completed are blessed by the congregation on the 1st Sunday of each month. Do you knit or crochet? Please come join these wonderful ladies as they continue with this ministry. Men are welcome too!!

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is being challenge with crocheting plastic mats for the homeless using plastic bags. If you have clean plastic bags please bring them.

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Ten Commandments—A new quilting class began February 2nd. This class will meets each Thursday from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. Contact Linda Billington for additional information.

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Beginning Cross Stitch Class each Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in Class Room 1, The first class will cost \$5.00 which covers supplies. Please contact Laurie Swepston for additional information.



FUMC Youth (Sr./Jr. High, PreK-6th Grade) meet on Wednesdays @ 5:30 pm. If you would like to assist in preparing/serving a meal, please place your name on the sign-up sheet. **The Youth will present a play "Case of the Empty Tomb" on April 9th, Palm Sunday.**

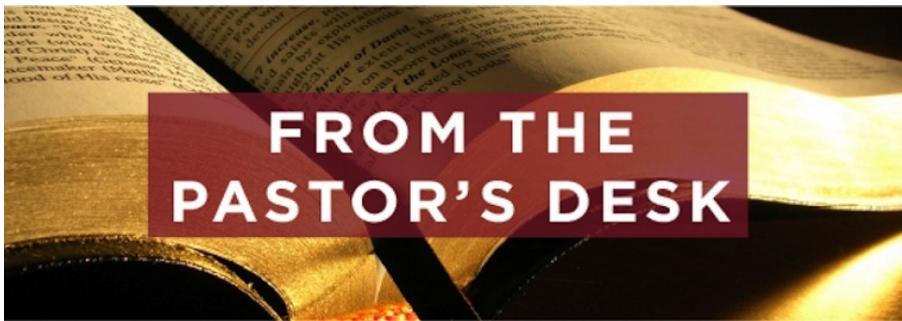
Thank you to every one who gives so generously of their time and energy to prepare meals for our Chrysalis Group and Wednesday evening Youth Groups.

EASTER BLESSINGS

May God bless you at Easter,
And keep you all year through.
May God give you all the faith it takes,
To make your dreams come true.
May His love and wisdom always help,
To guide you on your way.
May His light shine down upon you now,
To bless your Easter Day.

WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND JOYFUL EASTER





Good afternoon Church,

The Lenten Soup Suppers have gone very well. It has been a great time to visit, fellowship, and hear some amazing words from those who are giving our devotions. If you have not had a chance to be present at one of these, you have missed a great blessing. We have had opportunity to catch up with old friends and see some new ones.

The youth will be putting on a play for the congregation on April 9th, that is Palm Sunday. Come and help support our youth with your presence and participation in this production. They have been working very hard on props and their lines. It will be a great blessing to us. This production will help to prepare us for the coming Holy Week with a Good Friday service. Stations of the Cross in the Prayer Garden at 6:30 followed by a service at 7:00 pm. in the sanctuary.

We will have an Easter sunrise service at 7:00 or so in the Irion County Courthouse lawn.

Many maybe wondering about the progress of the roof. The color has been chosen and the metal has been ordered. Once all the materials come in it will take about 2 weeks to get the process started. We have been so blessed to have a contractor who is so conscientious and attentive to our needs. Within an hour or so after Debbie Thorp's call, men were here working on a way to protect the damaged part of the roof. The process is moving along and it will be accomplished. Our part is to be patient and wait, sometimes that is the hard part.

I serve an amazing congregation that has a huge heart. This is a quote from Adam Hamilton's book, *Creed*, "what if, when people think of our church, they don't think of the size of the congregation but instead the size of our heart and the way we serve the community?" This community of faith pushes out and demonstrates what it means to serve and love our community. You have a gigantic heart.

Blessings

Pastor Bun

FUMC WEEKLY SCHEDULE

United Methodist Women: Monday 9:30 am to 11:00 pm. Starting March 6 and continuing through April 10, "The Easter Experience". Ladies come join this Easter Bible Study.

Noon Bible Study Group: Monday Noon till 1:00 p.m. Currently studying Spiritual Gifts.

Chrysalis: Monday at Noon, Sign-up to furnish a meal

Walking by Faith: 9:00 am Tuesdays, Thursday & Fridays

Bible Study for All: Tuesdays 4 to 5:30 pm

AA/AI-A: Tuesdays & Sundays at 7:00 pm

Prayer: Wednesdays 7:00 am

Prayer Shawls: Wednesdays 1:00 pm

Choir Practice: Wednesdays 5:00 pm

Pre-K thru 12th Grade: Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 pm, Sign-up to bring meals

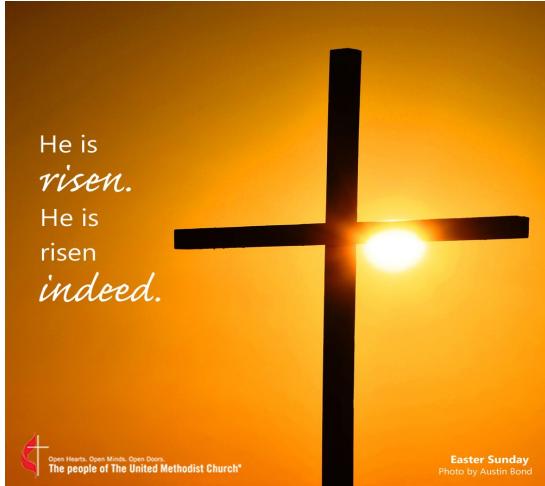
United Methodist Men: Thursdays 7:00 am

NA: Thursdays 7:00 pm

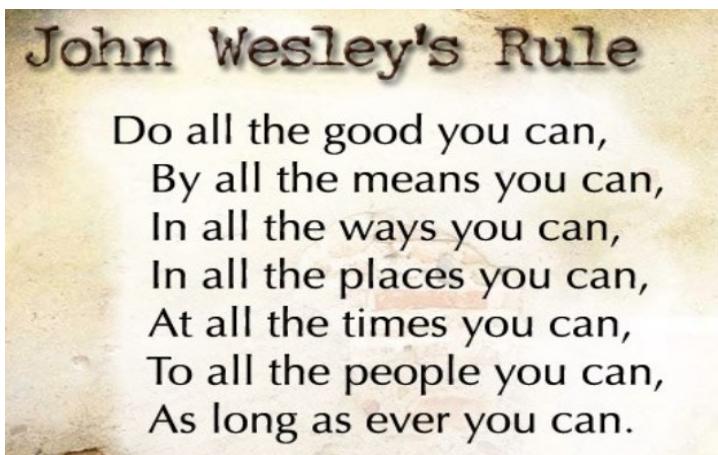
Women's Emmaus Reunion Group: Fridays 12:00-1:10 pm. Anyone who has attended a walk is welcome to come and participate. As they gather to offer support and prayers for one another in helping each other grow closer to Christ through fellowship and discipleship.

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING

CHALLENGE 90— Everyone who is involved in this challenge is encouraged to continue. Take time to read. There are a lot of conversations as people talk about what they have read. Join in the conversation. It's never too late! If you have all ready started the reading, **KEEP GOING!** I know the reading has been difficult. Psalms and then the prophets, it is a reflection of us today as it was 2000 years ago. **You are about to cross the finish line.**



What Biblical Story do you see our Church living out?



UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED

Men's Community Prayer Breakfast—There will not be a Community Prayer Breakfast during the month of April.

During the Month of April **FUMC will not hold Trustee's, Finance and Administrative Meetings**. Enjoy your Easter spending time with your family.

Arbor Terrace—Arbor Terrace is a nursing home in San Angelo that FUMC Mertzon adopted. Please come and join us for a good time as we sing and visit with the residents. The smiles you receive are well worth your time. Thursday, April 19 at 4:30 p.m.

Don Piper, Author of *90 Minutes in Heaven*, will tell his uncreditable true story of a man who died and came back to life. April 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the ICH School Auditorium. For additional information please contact the Mertzon First Baptist Church.

Irion County Food Pantry is Tuesday, April 25 at the Mertzon Community Center. Food items are gathered and sacked up beginning at 11:00 a.m. then handed out between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. Clothes will be available.

Christians in the Kitchen will be meeting on Tuesday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. Hamburgers and Fries are on this month's menu. Come Hungry! For additional information contact John Swepston.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 5th thru the 9th. A list of donated items needed has been placed on the table under the picture of Jesus. **Any help is greatly appreciated.**

Texas Mission of Mercy (TMOM) is coming to San Angelo on October 13 & 14. TMOM is a mobile dental clinic that serves uninsured or underinsured Texans with free, pain-relieving dental care in a mission setting. TMOM is a program of the Texas Dental Association Smiles Foundation. The goal for San Angelo TMOM is to treat 700-1,000 patients. About 250 volunteers are needed each day to make this event a success. **To register to volunteer, please visit www.tmomvolunteer.org.** For additional info for treatment or to volunteer, contact the Wesley Nurse-Teresa Whitley, RN at 325 763-3838.