

PRAYER CONCERNS

BETTY BREWER
 RICK & SHARON PENDLETON
 DORIS KENDRICK-Wisteria Place, Abilene
 LINDSAY & BLAKE JOHNSON & FAMILY
 CONNIE ALLEN

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

WILL ROOT-6th month old in Hawaii. Beth Morris friend.
 BOB PATTERSON-Lisa Langford's dad
 LaNELL TRAMMEL
 KAYLEE REEVES ROBERTSON
 SUE BARRIER-Ridgemar Rehab
 MARILYN THORNTON PAL-sister of Kay Thornton Smith, beginning chemo and radiation
 DONNA GANDY ROGERS
 BRENDA RILEY-health issues. Friend of Susan Pendleton.
 BILLY PATTESON-husband of Kathy Duncan Patteson, brother-in-law of Charlette Duncan. Diagnosed with Stage 3 lung cancer.
 LINDA SCOGGINS-cousin of Susan Pendleton
 DEBRA WILLIAMSON-cousin of Susan Pendleton
 SHEILA BREWSTER-sister-in-law of Sheila and Roger Tonne.
 JOSH ALLEN-health issues. Son of Sherry Copeland Duggan.
 CORDELIA REDMAN-recovery after surgery. Barbara Collinsworth's mother.
 JENNIFER BROWN-35 yr. old, step-daughter of Kathryn Hart's sister, Sheryl. Diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer.
 BONNYE ISENHOWER-friend of Sharon Toland.
 MAVIS MITCHELL-dialysis. Sue Lodor's sister-in-law
 JACK ROGERS-great-great-nephew of Sue Lodor
 COBY MEINZER-cousin of Juana Ash. Diagnosed with ALS.

**8TH ANNUAL
 GOD, GIRLS & GIGGLES**

is coming Saturday, April 8th, 2017
 at 6:00 p.m.
 at the First United Methodist Church,
 419 W. Walker Street here in Breckenridge.

Our speaker will be LORI DeVILLEZ of Round Rock, Texas, founder and executive director of the Austin Pregnancy Resource Center and author, among other activities, who will be speaking on SEEING GOD IN THE MOMENT.

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PLAN NOW to decorate a table and invite your friends and family to enjoy a fun-filled ladies' night out! You may have as many as 6 to 8 people at your table. There will be a great dinner catered by Brenda Smock, door prizes, a table contest, and lots of fun. We are hoping to have a style show during dinner of area clothing stores. Doors will open at 6:00 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm and the speaker around 7:00 to 7:15 pm. The ticket prices will be \$15 per person and will be available from Elaine in the church office at 254-559-8208. Deadline for reservations will be Sunday, March 26th. Tables may be decorated beginning on Friday, April 7th all day and in the morning of Saturday, April 8th.

LADIES, DON'T MISS THIS FUN EVENT!

OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

BRECK BATES-San Diego, son of Cheri Bates, grandson of Sandy Broyles.
AUSTIN BURKHALTER-grandson of Larry and Jinger Mahan
MICAH CLAY- Cypress, Texas-son of J.R. and Julia Clay.
NICK CORDOVA- Okinawa, son of Ray and Merry Pendleton.
GUY CRAIG-Saudi Arabia, son of Connie and Bob Meason, grandson of Ruth and Bob Green and nephew of Guyla and Wayne White.
JASON GRAHAM-Fort Hood, cousin of Melissa Trammel.
ZACHARY KARL-Fort Hood, son of Perry and Debbie Karl and grandson of Elaine and Bobby Goswick.
ADAM HAYWORTH-Hawaii, son of Patti Hayworth Reid. Grandson of Jean Hayworth.
MAJOR JEFF MATSLER

**ADULT McCURDY MISSION TRIP
 JUNE 24TH – JULY 1ST**

The time for the annual McCurdy Mission Trip will be here before we know it! Please call Gena at 214-399-9754 or the church office 559-8208 if you are interested in going on this fun trip to help others who are less fortunate than us! You will work hard helping get the campus in shape for all the new ministries taking place to reach the children and parents in the area surrounding Espanola, NM, plus you will have a great place to stay, great meals, and time for some sightseeing and relaxation. Who could ask for a better trip?!!

If this sounds like something you would enjoy, let us know you are interested. The cost is \$262.50 per person, plus evening meals and meals traveling there and back and is due to the church office by June 5th. Your fee takes care of your housing plus your breakfasts and lunches Monday through Friday.

Never been on a mission trip before and are a little nervous? This one is a great place to start as it is a perfect balance of mission work and relaxation in the mountains of New Mexico. Take the challenge and join us for a wonderful week experience!!

Call us soon and let us know you want to go as we need to fill out paperwork and make sure you are safe-sanctuary trained and background check is in order in case you are needed to help with children's summer school while there. This is a fairly new requirement due to the nature of our world these days.

Looking forward to getting a great group of people to go this year!! We have 15 slots just waiting to be filled!

**BOX TOPS, CAMPBELL'S LABELS
 & TYSON UPDATES**

Thank you for your support of McCurdy Ministries through the Labels for Education Program. Our goal is to accumulate 1.6 million points before this programs ends at the end of the 2016-17 school year. All UPCs now MUST HAVE THE "Labels for Education" wording or logo to be valid. Campbell's is gradually reducing the number of products with the "Labels for Education" wording.

McCurdy Ministries continues to help McCurdy Charter School through coordination, clipping, counting and submitting the Box Tops for Education you submit each month.

Our Budget Contributions and Expenses through February 2017

BUDGET	January 2017	February 2017
Balance last Month	\$0.00	\$5,011.07
Budget Income this month	\$24,706.82	\$14,092.02
SF Transfer to Budget	\$0.00	\$658.64
Budget Expenses this month	\$19,695.75	\$24,024.96
Balance in Budget Account	\$5,011.07	(\$4,263.23)

First United Methodist Church
419 West Walker
Breckenridge, Texas 76424

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



PASTOR'S COLUMN
APRIL, 2017

“Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” I Peter 5:8

The famous Christian author and apologist, C.S. Lewis, wrote a fictional book which looked at temptation from a unique point of view, namely that of a minor demon, named Screwtape. Screwtape was assigned to a Christian man, and his job was to use any means available to turn him away from spiritual growth and then toward evil. Numerous pearls of wisdom can be found in this book like the following words of advice concerning sin given to Screwtape from his supervising, superior devil, named Wormwood. “It does not matter how small the sins are provided that their cumulative effect is to edge the man away from the light and into the Nothing. Murder is no better than cards if cards can do the trick. Indeed the safest road to Hell is the gradual one – the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts.”

How true are these words for many Christians. Usually, it is what might be called the “soft sins” that often derail a Christian from following Christ and growing in faith. Like a small tug boat that is little compared the large ship, yet it nudges and tugs the ship ever so slowly to go in a particular direction. These soft sins, like anger, jealousy, envy, deceptions, untruthfulness and annoyances can build up and tug at a heart ever so slightly nudging the person off the path of following Christ whole-heartedly.

What sins might be tugging at your heart? What temptations are ever so slightly nudging you off the path of following Christ each day. It is important to ask yourself some questions like this during Lent. Lent calls us to be aware of “the safest road to Hell.” What is your “gentle slope,” or your “soft underfoot?” It is wise to be aware of the temptations you face so that these don’t catch you unaware. Richard Rohr, in his book *Simplicity: The Freedom of Letting Go*, identifies three demons that everyone must face. First, is the compulsion to be successful. Second, is the compulsion to be right. Thirdly, is the compulsion to be powerful, to have everything under control.

See you Sunday where we stay on track and grow closer to Jesus.

