



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**DECEMBER, 2020**

ALICE COLE-02  
ANDREW CONNALLY-03  
ROGER TONNE-03  
MORGAN HASH-07  
JACKY WALKER-07  
ROBERT BURCHETT-08  
LAURA HAMILTON-09  
HAYDEN FULGHAM-10  
EILEEN SPEER-10  
HOLDEN WHITE-10  
JUANA ASH-11  
MALEYA WILLIS-11  
KEVIN SMITH-13  
JANE ASHER-15  
DEEDRA BOAZ-15  
RANCE RUSSEL-15  
ANDY BYERLY-16  
GARY GLICK-17  
NICOLE HART-17  
MARY EDWARDS-24  
J.R. COODY IV-25  
JEFF CRIDER-25  
JILL FLINCHUM-25  
TOM SMITH-25  
SHEILA TONNE-26  
JIM DEMSON-27  
COLT MORRISON-27  
KARLISSA BROWER-29  
NICHOLAS SPEER-29  
DONNA WADE-30  
JOHN JONES-31  
DECEMBER OWEN-31

**PRAY FOR**  
**OUR SERVICE MEN AND**  
**WOMEN**  
**AND THE UNITED**  
**STATES OF AMERICA**

AUSTIN BURKHALTER-  
*grandson of Larry and Jinger Mahan*  
MICAH CLAY-*son of J.R. and Julia Clay.*  
NICK CORDOVA-*son of Ray and Merry Pendleton*  
GUY CRAIG-*son of Bob Meason, grandson of Ruth and Bob Green, and nephew of Guyla and Wayne White*  
JASON GRAHAM-*cousin of Melissa Trammel*  
ZACHARY KARL-*Fort Hood, son of Perry and Debbie Karl, grandson of Elaine Goswick.*  
JACKSON LEVERIDGE-*Coast Guard, Duluth, Minnesota, grandson of Steve & Linda Leveridge*  
JOSH LEVERIDGE-*Fort Bragg, NC, grandson of Steve & Linda Leveridge*  
MAJOR JEFF MATSLER

Ladies,  
Please join us for fellowship and a "MASK EXCHANGE 😊!" at 2:00 pm on December 13 in the FUMC Fellowship Hall! Bring a wrapped mask and a snack to share! See you there!

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

RAYMOND PENDLETON  
RICK PENDLETON SUE BARRIER  
WALT CLEAVENGER, BETH, TIM  
AND ANDY BYERLY  
CONNIE ALLEN SUSAN PENDLETON  
ROGER TONNE LINDA HARRIS  
SUSAN PENDLETON CORLEY WHITE  
JIM BOB & SUZI COODY

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

SCOTTY LINDLEY-Covid  
MISTY WILLIAMS DENBOW-health issues, friend of Sharon Rogers.  
GLENDA HASSER-kidney problems after surgery; Elaine Goswick's sister  
JEFF REGISTER-brother-in-law of Lisa Langford, husband of her sister, Jodie  
BOBBY ANDERSON-health issues  
RUTH TAYLOR-health issues  
RANDY WHITLEY-cancer  
DENNIS STEPHENS-health issues  
SHEILA BREWSTER-sister-in-law of Sheila & Roger Tonne  
EASTON RILEY-9-yr-old boy with health issues, friend of Debbie & Jim Rummage  
SKEETER RAYBURN-cancer, friend of Jim & Debbie Rummage  
DOROTHY TONNE  
HARTLEY HEARNE-3 yr. old with leukemia. Granddaughter of Ginger Dittmar's friend  
JULIO VENEGAS-diagnosed with cancer, friend of James & Donna Wade  
LINK LOWRANCE-health issues

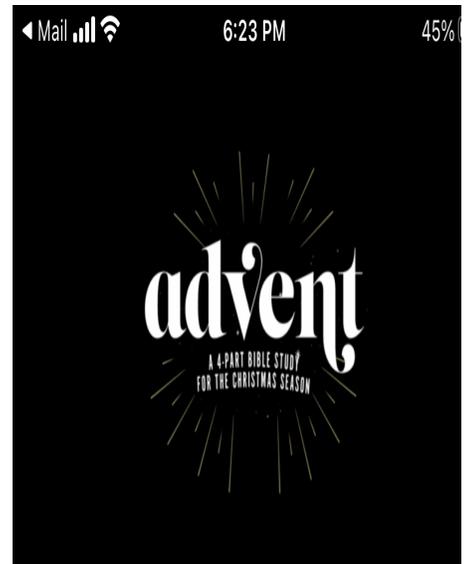
**CONDOLENCES**

Christian condolences are extended to Lisa Langford and family on the death of her uncle, Mickey Taylor. The funeral was held in Pittsburg, Texas on Nov. 18, 2020.

Dear Methodist Church Family,  
I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for hosting our family before, the funeral. We loved the church so much and all of you hold a special place in our hearts. Our family has felt the love, prayers and support everyday and we are so grateful. All of you are a blessing in life.  
Love,  
Leslie Vick and family

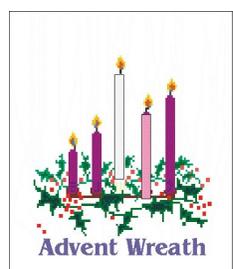
Our church will continue to share the love of Jesus as Trustees and Administrative Council voted to continue allowing groups to use our facilities.

**Elaine will have the church office open until 12 o'clock December 31st to get your pledges in to be counted for 2020.**



**Advent Trailer**  
Advent

The Christmas story, or Advent, is more than a sentimental myth or a quiet manger scene we use to decorate our living rooms. The Christmas story is the good news of God entering into our darkness. Join J.D. Greear in this four-session series as he takes a deeper look at Jesus as Emmanuel, our Wonderful Counselor, the Everlasting Father, and the great I Am. When you know Jesus, you will realize Christmas is more than a nice story—the arrival of Jesus changes everything.



**First United Methodist Church**  
419 West Walker  
Breckenridge, Texas 76424

**Non-Profit Organization**  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## **THE PASTOR'S COLUMN**

**DECEMBER, 2020**

### **CHRISTMAS**

**Christmas is the “Christ –Mass” and is thus the Celebration of Jesus Christ. Keeping Jesus the Christ as “the reason for the Season” and being a public witness and prayerful servant of Jesus Christ is inherent in any proper affirmation of the season. Otherwise it is just a nice Winter holiday. This being said, a superficial demand that others accept our loud and vociferous proclamation that “Jesus is the reason for the season” needs to be supported by substantial understanding and response to the Claims, Character and Content of Jesus’ ministry. In other words, For Christians, Christmas should be less about the baby and more about the Lord and Savior. As the Christmas carol re-written by the Rock group Jethro Tull reminds us, “Once in David’s royal City stood a lonely cattle shed; where a mother held her baby. You would do well to remember the things he later said.”**

#### **THE CLAIMS OF JESUS CHRIST**

Jesus answered... “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me....” John 14:9-11

#### **THE CHARACTER OF JESUS CHRIST**

When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:24-28

#### **THE CONTENT OF JESUS’ CHRIST MINISTRY**

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Luke 4: 16-19

#### **OUR RESPONSE**

Again, Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” John 20:21  
“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16

**Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God; who shows us God the Father’s heart through coming to us, serving us, giving His life for us and showing us the way, truth and life of divine love and grace. Jesus calls us to a purpose of gracious, loving servant-hood that brings goodness and grace into our world and to our neighbors through our good works. Jesus sends us into the world as expressions of His light and love even as He is the expression of the divine Father’s love. This is what the “Christ Mass” means. It means to celebrate the Claims and Character of Jesus Christ by following the Content of His servant example in ministry.**

**It is sweet and joyful to sing the babe in the manger honored and worshipped by Shepherds and Wise men. These are good and blessed activities to engage in. It is good to light the lights and decorate the trees and to say “Merry Christmas” and “Happy Holy Days” as glad greetings in the public square. Christmas is a season of “Good News of Great Joy”. But, most of all Christmas –“the Christ Mass” is a time to consider Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and pray and seek to follow His example through our words and actions. This year, to celebrate the baby, spend some time considering the man the baby became and pray God to show all of us how to follow.**

**Happy Christ-Mass!!!**

**Bro. David**