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



**First United Methodist Church**  
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*Open Hearts, Open Doors, Open Minds*

**MARCH NEWSLETTER**

**PASTOR'S COLUMN**

I ran across these rules for driving in Boston and thought that I would share some of them.

1. Never get in the way of a car that needs extensive body work.
2. Always look both ways when running a red light.
3. Honk your horn the instant the light changes.
4. If a pedestrian ahead of you steps in the road, speed up loudly and chase him back up on the curb.

This tongue-in-cheek list gets me to thinking, though, about Christian discipleship and if there are any rules for it. Here is my short list of rules for Christian disciples.

1. Follow Jesus. "Follow me," Jesus said as he called his disciples. The Greek grammar is important to note. Jesus uses the imperative tense or what we would call a "command." Following Jesus means picking one leader and one direction. Too often we make rules about what one has to believe about Jesus before one can follow him. I prefer to focus on actually following Jesus and imitating Jesus. You may know about Jesus or consider Jesus, but to be a Christian disciple, you will say "yes" to the command to follow Jesus. Put it in gear and push down on the accelerator and follow Jesus, even if that means exiting the easy road.
2. Come. That is the invitation Christian disciples give to others. Yes, Christian disciples follow Jesus, but they also look for opportunities to share the joy they have discovered in following. Picking up hitchhikers and stopping for stranded pedestrians is dangerous on any road except the road of Christian discipleship. God's Spirit will empower you and inspire you at a moment's notice to invite others to join you on your journey of following Jesus.
3. See. The early followers of Jesus saw amazing things like miraculous healings, exorcisms, the transfiguration and even a restoration to life. Later on, Jesus would say, "Very truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will do the works that I do, and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father." So those who accept the challenge of following Jesus and the invitation to "come and see" have the opportunity to do great things in the Kingdom of God.

PASTOR CAL

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

BETTY JEAN SALKINS	OLETA HERRING	JACKSON MOREHART
JEAN HAYWORTH	SUZI COODY	DORIS KENDRICK
JIM KENDRICK	MARSHA GIPSON	RONNIE PENDLETON
JAN LEDBETTER	JACK BROWN	

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

SEARCY YARBROUGH-*pancreatic cancer. Brother-in-law of Bobby and Elaine Goswick.*  
 JACK ROGERS-*great-nephew of Sue Lodor. Chemo for an aggressive form of cancer in his eye.*  
 DR. DWIGHT NICHOLS  
 EVA LATHAM  
 TED HELMS-*Todd Tidwell's uncle diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.*  
 PAULA LEE-*Heather Ezell's mother.*  
 ANDY CHANNER AND FAMILY  
 DON AND SHERRY NELSON-*Church of Christ minister and his wife*  
 COBY MEINZER-*cousin of Juana Ash. He is having serious health problems.*  
 ARLIS WRIGHT-*co-worker of Joey Venekamp. He is having hip problems.*  
 VERN BUSE-*brother to Linda Venekamp's son-in-law*  
 BONITA LOWRIE-*in hospice care. Aunt of Lisa Langford.*  
 ASHLIE ESQUITIN-*21 year old with cancer which has spread. She is the granddaughter of a college classmate of Linda Harris.*  
 RaLYNN REOME-*The Underwood's great-niece is now home from the hospital weighing 4.5 lbs.*  
 NICOLETTE BOAZ-*Annette Boaz' granddaughter. Severe concussion.*  
 NANCY RAMER-*lung and liver issues. Robert Burchett's aunt.*  
 BILLIE JEAN WHITE-*Jaclyn Morehart and Jay White's grandmother*  
 MICHAEL McFAUL-*undergoing testing*  
 JENNIE EASTER NAVARRO-*migraines*  
 BLANTON LANGFORD-*RSV. Son of Matthew and Angela Langford*  
 PEGGY ISCLAW

**OUR SERVICE MEN**

AUSTIN BURKHALTER-*Scott Air Force Base, Illinois grandson of Larry and Jinger Mahan*  
 MICAH CLAY-*Navy, Cypress, Texas-son of J.R. and Julia Clay.*  
 ARIC HOLLY-*Fort Worth Naval Air Station. Son of Sherry Strickland.*  
 ZACHARY KARL-*deployed to Afghanistan. Grandson of Elaine and Bobby Goswick.*  
 PFC DIEHLAN KEY-*deployed to Korea. Son of Michael and Nickie Leveridge. Grandson of Mike and Rosa Leveridge.*  
 MAJOR JEFF MATSLER-*deployed to Afghanistan*  
 SHANE MONROE-*stationed in Kansas*  
 ROBERT RICHARDSON-*Fort Hood, son-in-law of Rick and Sharon Pendleton*

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**



- 01-JULIA CLAY
- 05-JAY WHITE
- 05-SHARON WIMBERLEY
- 06-LANCE ADAMS
- 06-JAMES CLAY III
- 06-JUDY HART
- 08-MARSHA GIPSON
- 08-DANNY WILSON
- 09-BLAKE POWER
- 11-JANICE SMITH
- 13-JHNATHIN HAY
- 13-TERRY STRICKLAND
- 14-FRANKIE SLOAN
- 16-LINDA HARRIS
- 16-RONALD McINTIRE
- 16-JERRY TOLAND
- 19-TERRY LANGFORD
- 19-KYLEE WILLIS
- 20-BABE CRIDER
- 21-KEVIN NOWELL
- 22-KRISTA BROWER
- 23-BETH BYERLY
- 24-SHANNON ROBERTS
- 25-STEPHANIE WRIGHT
- 27-DON EPPERSON
- 29-LEVI LECHNER
- 29-ROSA LEVERIDGE
- 30-BLAKE PATTERSON



**McMurry Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Retired Bishop Don Solomon, Bishop in residence at McMurry University, will come and share with us next Sunday during the 10:45 am service. Bishop Solomon will share about McMurry University and bring us up to date about the life of the closest United Methodist College to Breckenridge. Hope you will plan to be here to get to know the Bishop and hear him share about the opportunities that McMurry offers to its neighbors.

Cal

Dear Church Family,  
Words cannot express my gratitude for your love for my mom, Doris Hogan. She enjoyed attending church and loved each one of you. I appreciate all your prayers, cards, concerns and visits during her illness and passing. Also, thanks for the luncheon.  
May each of you be truly blessed.  
Love,  
Jane Ann, Jim, Haley and Anthony Pichler

*God, Girls & Giggles*

**Ladies Night Out  
Saturday, March 7th  
Call the church office if you have questions.**

**EASTER LILIES**

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND ORDERS FOR  
EASTER LILIES WILL BEGIN SOON.  
ORDER BLANKS WILL BE IN  
BULLETIN.