

# FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

## Newsletter

Vol. 1 Issue 5 · July 2025



### Pastoral Perspective

Folks,

June was an incredible month to be part of First Methodist, Texas! We dedicated the month to service, and our church family truly rose to the occasion. Thank you to everyone who gave their time, energy, resources, and prayers to make a difference. Watching people come together at the old PG Elementary School was nothing short of inspiring. From high schoolers and young adults, to empty-nesters and retirees, so many showed up to help create a space our children can call their own, and that speaks volumes about who we are as a church. Just as moving was seeing the donation bins outside the sanctuary fill up each week with hygiene products. Thanks to your generosity, Mary's Closet served a record number of people in June and will be well-equipped to serve even more in the months to come. The new Clinic also continues to prove its value every time the doors are open, sending multiple individuals to the ER just in time due to dangerously high blood pressure or blood sugar levels. We are a church filled with servant-hearted people, and the community is taking notice. Let's keep this spirit of love and service going strong!

Grace and Peace,

Greg Morgan



*Worship  
& Learn  
with Us*

Adult Sunday School

9:45 A.M.

Children's Sunday School

9:45 A.M.

in classrooms

Sunday Worship Services:

10:45 A.M.

in the sanctuary

\*Child care is available  
during the classrooms  
during Sunday Service\*

# COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

## Board of Trustees



Left to Right: Owen Dickeson, John Crisp, Kory Crews, Sharon Ward, Mark Mittelman, Daniel Warmack, Mary O'Farrell, Mark Smith, Michael White  
Not pictured: Jeff Prieskorn

### Board Functions & Responsibilities

*The Board of Trustees is responsible for:*

- overseeing the management of church physical assets
- maintenance of the facilities
- development of operational policies

### Recent & Current Business

- New chairs for sanctuary
- Insurance policies
- Clearing Summerhill property
- Door code policy
- Building use policy
- Plumbing and A/C repairs



# Service In Action

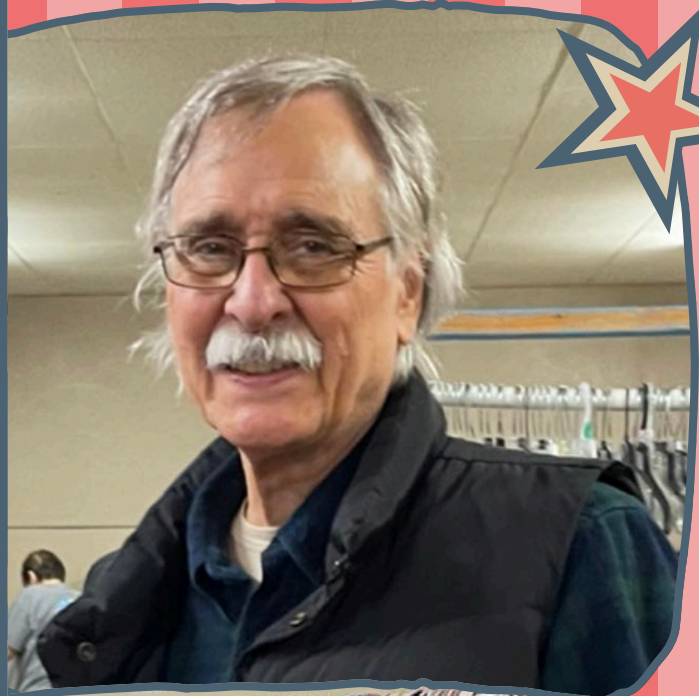


This hardworking group gathered to clean out the courtyard space at our new children's ministry location.





# Service In Action



These are a few of the friendly faces that serve every Tuesday in Mary's Closet.





# Service In Action



This crew unloaded, cleaned, and placed the beautiful new chairs in the sanctuary!





# Service In Action



This crew painted classrooms for the new children's ministry program!





# Service In Action



Freshly stocked hygiene pantry in Mary's Closet after a very successful churchwide collection!





# Service In Action

Volunteers at Mary Kay's Clinic are on a mission to make our community healthier on patient at a time!





# June Service Stats



Community  
members  
served in  
Mary's Closet

243



Community  
members  
served in  
Mary Kay's  
Clinic

58

Dump trucks  
filled at the  
courtyard  
clean up



4



New chairs  
unloaded and  
placed in the  
sanctuary

200



Gallons of  
paint used to  
paint new  
classrooms

20



Hygiene  
items  
collected  
during  
churchwide  
drive

867



# Mrs. Sarah's Welcome Breakfast





# Game Day Fun





# Baptism Announcement



*Louis James Crews*

son of Kory and Kelsey Crews

*June 29, 2025*

First Methodist Church  
Texarkana, Texas





# In Memorium



*Jim Upchurch*

James Homer Upchurch, 99, died June 30, 2025, at his home in Texarkana, Texas. Born April 26, 1926, in Stamps, Arkansas, he lived most of his adult life in Texarkana, Texas.

He attended Texarkana, Arkansas High School, Texarkana Junior College, and the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He joined the Navy in 1944 near the end of World War II and served in the Amphibious Corps aboard the USS Bollinger. He saw action in the Philippines, Okinawa, Iwo Jima and the Occupation of Japan and he was awarded a Battle Star.

James attended First Methodist Church most of his life where he was active in the choir and the board of directors. He was a member of the Diamond K Kiwanis Club and founded A-Tex Dental Laboratory.

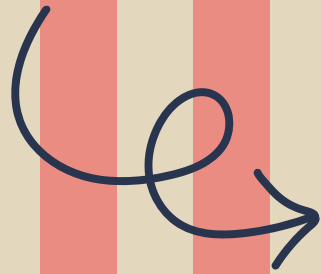
A memorial service is scheduled for July 12, 2025, at 2:00 pm at First Methodist Church, Texarkana, TX, with Rev. Greg Morgan officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to First Methodist Church, 401 State Line Ave, Texarkana, TX 75501.



# Member Spotlight

## MEET THE GRIFFINS!



**Q** Tell us a little about your family—who's who, and what are some of your favorite things to do?

Tyler and I have been married for 9 years. We are both born and raised in Texarkana. We both graduated from University of Arkansas. We have Turner, age 4, and Mills, 14 months old. As a family we love to go to our farm near Wamba and spend time, as well as take weekend trips to Lake DeGray!

**Q** What does faith look like in your home with young children? Any traditions, prayers, or bedtime routines you love?

We spend time praying together and talking about who in our lives needs prayer. We also like to talk about different Bible stories and how they can apply to our life!

**Q** What's one funny OR memorable moment your kids have had at church?

Turner knocked over the dominoes during Pastor Greg's Children's Sermon before it was time.





*Megan & Tyler*



*Turner & Mills*

**Q** What's your go-to family meal—either to cook at home or grab on the go?

Tyler is actually a great cook and enjoys cooking, but we also like grabbing pizza from Lost Pizza or Mexican Food from Loca Luna or Amigo Juan's!

**Q** Does your family have a favorite summer vacation spot?

We love our annual trip to 30A which is also where we got married. We look forward to it every year!

**Q** Do you guys have a bible verse or story that is special to your family?

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6



# *"The Rock"*

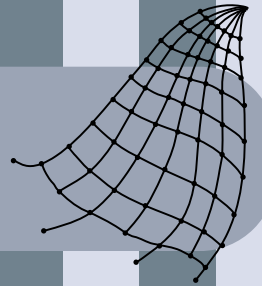
## Sermon Series

This series traces the spiritual journey of Peter, from the moment Jesus calls him off the fishing boat to the day he boldly proclaims the gospel before the Sanhedrin. Discipleship isn't instant; it's a process of learning to trust Jesus more deeply over time. Each week highlights a different stage in Peter's growth, helping us reflect on where we are in our own walk with Christ, and where He might be calling us next.

**July 20**

**Drop the Nets**

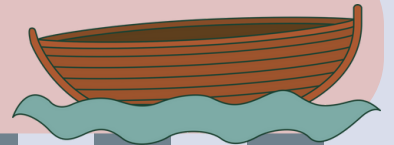
**Luke 5:1-11**



**July 27**

**Step out of the Boat**

**Matthew 14:22-33**



**August 3**

**Leave the Mountain**

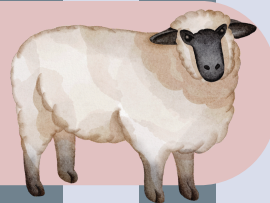
**Mark 9:2-8**



**August 10**

**Feed My Sheep**

**John 21:15-25**



**August 17**

**Stand Firm Like a Rock**

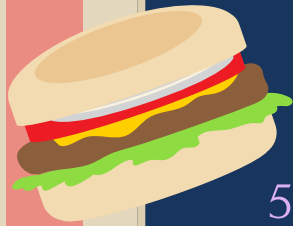
**Acts 4:1-22**





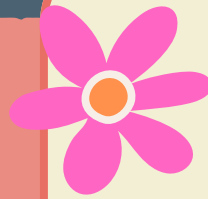
# Upcoming Events

## Churchwide *Cookout*



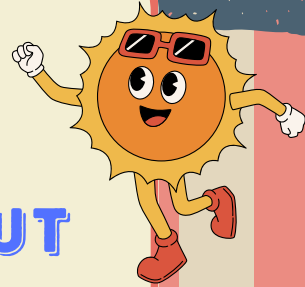
Sunday,  
July 13  
5:30-7:00 p.m

at the new Children's  
Ministry location:  
6500 Pleasant Grove Rd



## LIVE IT OUT

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**  
Children's Ministry  
beginning  
July 23



## Churchwide Meeting

JULY 27th

*Immediately after church*



# Celebrations



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

5 Hattie Ramage  
6 Kari Crabtree  
7 Colleen Dunbar  
10 Audrey Boehmke  
11 Will Sandefur  
12 John Ed Crisp  
Ronald Williams  
Ann Ainsley  
17 Mark Smith  
21 Aubrey McCulloch

22 Lisa Morgan  
Lori Mueller  
23 Turner Griffin  
Trip Dewolfe  
25 Marcie Hlavinka  
Sue Camp  
Jenni Hedrick  
Moody Miller  
26 Stan Griffin

