

FUMC Mexia Missions & Outreach*

Reaching out to help others is a wonderful expression of serving others as we seek to serve Jesus Christ. These ministries provide food for the hungry, emotional support, information and resources, basic essentials for the needy and homeless, compassion and kindness to all God's people in many different ways. **“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”.** Ephesians 2:10

Where is God calling you to serve? Please take a moment and look the opportunities of the First United Methodist Church, Mexia Mission and Outreach services. If you feel led to become a part in one or more of a ministry listed below you may call the contact person for that ministry or the church office. **Going beyond one’s personal duties to help others in need.**

God’s Gang; This outreach program is designed to bring children together in a caring, environment for after school program. Volunteers give of their time mentoring and interacting with the children. **Contact person Ann Neill**

Life House; This local outreach program is designed to give those recovering from a crisis in their life a Christian based residence. Members of the congregation give monthly financial support to maintain a safe healthy refuge. **Contact person Valaree Bailey-Hathaway**

God’s Gang Angel Tree; The Angel Tree attempts to bring some sunshine into the lives of children at Christmas time. The Angel Tree provides much needed clothing items, special needs gifts and other wished-for toys. Volunteers are asked to select a child’s name from our God’s Gang group. An outline of gift donations is provided with each child’s name. These gifts in truth give these children “food for the soul” and the hope for a brighter future and the reassurance that someone does care about them. **Contact Person Valerie Bolton**

Wednesday Evening Meal; Volunteers are asked to help prepare the evening meal for those attending our Wednesday night small study groups. **Contact person Sherry Miller 254-562-5567**

Honey Do’s; This outreach program helps others with minor home repairs that they can not do themselves. Volunteers will meet the first Saturday of each month to go out into the community helping others with minor home repairs. Those in need of minor repairs are asked to contact the church office 254-562-5567. **Contact person Sherry Miller 254-562-5567**

McCurdy Misson Trip; Travel with folks from across the Central Texas Conference to Northern New Mexico to serve God and God’s people at the McCurdy School, a United Methodist-related institution. The work varies from cleaning to building maintenance and repair. **Contact person Brad Brittain 254-562-5567**

Knit Wits; Members of our congregation knit prayer shawls, helmet liners and chemo hats for M.D. Anderson cancer patients that are given to those going through difficult times such as grief or illness. Knitting supplies welcomed. Volunteers of this ministry knit items for others. Meet Tuesday’s at 9:30 a.m. in the board room. **Contact person Charlotte Posey.**

Sunday School; Small groups are an integral part of growing in faith as you continue on your walk with Christ. We offer Sunday morning classes of all ages. **Contact person Sandy Imes**

Small-Group Bible Studies; Small group bible studies are held throughout the year. These 6-8 week studies are held on weeknights and/or weekday mornings and focus on various topics. **Contact person Sandy Imes**

Stephen's Ministry; Stephen Ministry provides trained volunteers who support and encourage individuals experiencing a life crisis such as death of a loved one, separation, divorce, loss of job, illness etc. A Stephen Minister meets regularly with the person and gives distinctively Christian care until the crisis subsides. **Contact person Pam Crider or Donna Williford**

Emmaus; The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servant hood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all". **Contact person Charles "Buba" Paul.**

Habitat for Humanity; Everyone has the right to live in a safe decent home. This outreach program works in building a partnership with those in need. Volunteers are asked to help with a variety of task during a home build. **Contact person Michael Bolton.**

Relay for Life; This national outreach program is a life changing event that gives everyone in communities a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember the loved ones lost and to fight back against the disease. Volunteers form into a team and take turns walking or running around the track. Donations are given to the American Cancer Society.

Letters from Dad; A men's ministry designed to encourage fathers to leave a legacy to their family through the written word. **Contact person Gary Watson 903-388-2469 garydonwatson@gmail.com**

Trunk or Treat; This night of family fun includes fun, trick or treating, games and more. Volunteers are asked to participate in the Halloween alternative of handing out candy to our community children. Members of the congregation gather with their vehicles in our church parking lot where candy is distributed to participating children

Heifer Project; Each Sunday children give spare change which provides farm animals for family's worldwide. **Contact person Bob Henry**

Disaster Relief; Volunteers are asked to donate money or items to the church when a disaster occurs. These items and money will go to the organization, area or country that has experienced a disaster.

Caritas; Volunteers are asked to donate their time. Duties may include sorting and hanging clothes, operating a cash register, cleaning and straightening shelves. Fund raising events will also be coordinated to help purchase food for the Caritas Food Pantry. Our whole congregation can respond together to the problem of hunger and poverty in our local community by giving clothing and non-perishable food items to this organization or any of the other local organizations. **Contact person Vicki Watson 903-388-2470 Watson@nctv.com**

LARAS House; This outreach program rescues unwanted, abused, abandoned and stray animals. The animals are rehabilitated, sprayed or neutered and then forever homes are found. Volunteers are asked to donate time in working with the animals or working at the new facility located on Hwy. 171. In 2010 their goal is to refurbish a trailer and begin construction of kennels. **Contact Person Jay Posey 903-644-5275.**

United Methodist Women; United Methodist Women (UMW) focus on world wide concerns and local needs through study, service, and prayer. Please join our fellowship either on third Mondays at 10:00 AM, in the board room and/or second Mondays at 7:00 PM in the library of the Fellowship Hall. **Contact Persons Bette Thetford, 254-562-2643 (Day Circle) or Sue Franks, 254-562-2589 (Night Circle).**

Kairos; This outreach ministry is to bring Christ's love and forgiveness to incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them.

New Members Dinner; An orientation for guests and new members to meet the people of the church and find out the various opportunities to get connected and involved.

*You may contact the First United Methodist Church office at 254-562-5567 for contact numbers