

# Expressions of the Spirit



FIRST UMC PASADENA

JULY 2018

## Re-Launch of First UMC, Pasadena

When a ship or a rocket is first launched it is a great day of excitement and celebration. But often we forget about all the efforts to get ready prior to the launch day, as well as all the efforts needed to achieve its mission after launch day.

The same is true of a new church launch. There are many days and weeks and months of planning and preparation prior to the launch of a new church. It requires lots of people who are committed to insuring that the mission of the church is achieved.



Our Governing Board has determined that it is time to “Re-Launch” First UMC. It is time to rebuild and prepare our church for its future ministry in our community that is different from what it was when 7 faithful Christians started the church in 1896 and when the church moved to our current location on Fairmont Parkway in 1985.

Our Re-Launch Team began meeting on June 19 to re-launch our church with a focus on young adults and families with children and youth. We are examining and focusing our efforts on all aspects of the church including, but not limited to worship and worship times, hospitality, Children and Youth ministries, ministries with young adults and young families, our building, missions, outreach and other ministries.

The Re-Launch will take place no later than Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019. Please pray for our team and our church.

Faithfully,

Will Reed, Pastor

# New Worship Series

## Living in Ordinary Times

We are in the middle of the summer and it is hot in southeast Texas. For some, this is the time of summer doldrums. For others, it may be a time for vacations and summer trips. For many churches, some of the regularly scheduled programs and activities have taken a break.

In the church year, it is Ordinary Time. Many of us are taking a break, but yet God is still active in our lives. God still calls us to make disciples and transform the world. The work of God's people goes on. So for our mid-summer worship series we are being reminded that God calls us to remain active and focused on our mission as a church and as individuals. It may be Ordinary Time, but we are still called to "Get up, to move on, to dance and to claim that we belong to God's household." How do we live with enthusiasm and purpose during times that seem so ordinary and we find ourselves in the doldrums of life?

**Sunday, July 1** – *Living in Ordinary Times* – *Get Up*, Mark 5:21-43

**Sunday, July 8** – *Living in Ordinary Times* – *Move on*, Mark 6:1-13

**Sunday, July 15** – *Living in Ordinary Times* – *Dance*, 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

**Sunday, July 22** – *Living in Ordinary Times* – *Claim it*, Ephesians 2:11-22

## Back to School Fair at Cleveland Ripley Neighborhood Center

It's hard to believe summer is halfway over! Save the date for our annual collection of backpacks to support Cleveland Ripley Neighborhood Center's Back to School Fair. We have once again made a pledge to put together 300 backpacks to local children so they can start the school year off right. The event will be held on **Saturday, August 4** at Neighborhood Centers just down the street. Stay tuned for more information about how to help out that day. In the meantime, we are asking for your support in the collection of *new clear* backpacks with the following items inside:

- 1 package of black or blue pens
- 1 package of pencils
- 1 box of colored pencils
- 3 composition notebooks (or 3 spiral notebooks)
- 2 packs of notebook paper (wide ruled)
- 1 pencil pouch
- 3-5 folders



Donations can be brought to the church starting **Monday, July 2**, and left in Pastor Mireya's office. For more information please contact her at [MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org](mailto:MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org). We are looking forward to helping our community start the school year off well!

# Second Story at First is up and running!

We began receiving youth on May 21. The youth at Second Story at First have a structured schedule. They complete a variety of daily activities including life skill classes and group sessions, and also have some free time in which they watch tv, play video games, read, and rest.

Many have asked what the church can do to help.

1. **Pray.**
2. **Become a volunteer.** You can volunteer in a variety of ways: mentor, help with inventory, attend Second Story at First events/trips, host monthly birthday celebrations, assist at Thanksgiving and Christmas.
3. **Donate items.** Current needs are socks (size small), shorts (gym shorts, cargo shorts, etc.), twin sheets and pillowcases. Current "wants" to help keep the youth busy are: puzzles, age-appropriate books, art supplies, and games. Please give as if you were giving to your own child or grandchild.
4. **Donate snacks or provide a meal for the youth.** Second Story at First Director, Monte Cuba, is requesting that we only bring prepackaged snacks or food purchased from restaurants to assure proper cooking guidelines have been met.

Please be aware that as an Emergency Foster Care Shelter, we will constantly have a revolving door of youth. We will always be in need of donations. When youth arrive, they are given five sets of clothing and they take those with them when they leave. Please give and donate as you feel led. Tell your friends! Invite them to invite their own church families to join in as well.

It truly takes a village to raise children. If you would like to be part of the village taking care of those at Second Story at First, please contact Pastor Mireya at [MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org](mailto:MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org) or 281-487-8787 ext. 3004.

Thank you for your support of Second Story at First, and for being in ministry with these youth!!

## Painting Workshop: I Am the Bread of Life

The Worship Arts Department will host an acrylic pouring workshop on **Saturday, July 14 from 9:00 am-11:00 am in the Gym**. Jane Regner will teach participants how to mix and pour acrylic paint onto a canvas in coordination with our upcoming Worship Series, *Bread*. On multiple occasions, bread is a central theme found in scripture. We will go deeper into what this means in our own lives as we "pour" the Spirit onto our canvas. All materials and light breakfast items are included. Childcare is available upon request.

Sign up at the Ministry Center, or contact Colly at [CollyEnochs@FirstPasadena.org](mailto:CollyEnochs@FirstPasadena.org).

Cost: \$20 per person



Making Disciples - Transforming the World

Fellow Church Members and Friends,

A little over one year ago, we completed our Capital Campaign to reduce our debt. We achieved our goal of pledges over three years totaling at least \$1.5 million. To date almost \$1 million has been given to directly reduce our debt. Thank you! Your generosity has made an incredible difference in the spiritual and fiscal health of our church.

As a part of the Capital Campaign, we also asked the congregation to make an estimate of giving for our fiscal year of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Since that time, we have changed our fiscal year to the calendar year ending December 31, 2018. Our next fiscal year will begin January 1, 2019. Our request for your prayerful consideration is that you will continue giving through the end of 2018 at the same or a greater rate than your initial giving estimate that will end June 30, 2018. You will have an opportunity to make an estimate of giving for 2019 later in the Fall.

If you cannot continue your commitment through the end of 2018, please let Amanda Horton know. Amanda serves as our Business Manager and can be reached by phone at 218.487.8787, ext. 3005 or by email at [AmandaHorton@FirstPasadena.org](mailto:AmandaHorton@FirstPasadena.org).

Again, thank you for your generosity.

Faithfully,

Rev. William S. Reed, D.Min.  
Pastor

## Authorization of Direct Pay for the Ministry Budget

I/we \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize First UMC, Pasadena to draft

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month from the following bank account.

Bank name: \_\_\_\_\_ Please attach voided check from account to be drafted so bank information can be verified.

Routing # (9 digits): \_\_\_\_\_ Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

This authorization is to remain in force and effect until First UMC, Pasadena has received written notice from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and manner as to afford First UMC, Pasadena and depository a reasonable time to act on it. Payment will occur on the 1st or 15th day of each month.

(Please circle one)

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

# WHEN LOVE goes the second mile

## Capital Campaign Update Summary Report – June 2018

### DEBT

as of May 31, 2016	\$2,309,007
as of December 31, 2016	\$2,205,112
as of December 31, 2017	\$1,411,916

<b>Capital Campaign Commitments</b>	\$1.5 million (Note 1)
<b>Total Paid on Commitments through May 31, 2018</b>	\$ 960,554.91
<b>DEBT as of June 15, 2018</b>	\$1,260,167.82 (Note 2)
<b>REDUCTION in DEBT since May 31, 2016</b>	\$1,048,839.18 (Note 2)

**Note 1** - In addition to signed capital campaign commitments of \$1.42 million over three years (April 2017-March 2020), there are several church members and friends making regular contributions to debt reduction. We estimate that over three years these contributions will add over \$100,000 to our campaign for an anticipated total commitments and payments of over \$1.5 million.

**Note 2** - Through your generosity in helping reduce our debt, we have reduced the number of years it will take to pay off the debt. Also, you have saved the church an estimated \$250,000 in interest over the remaining life of the loan. Thus, it is highly possible that our church could be "debt free in '23."

# CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

[www.FirstPasadena.org](http://www.FirstPasadena.org)

PHONE: 281.487.8787 FAX: 281.998.1355

Office Hours: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm *Monday - Thursday*

**Society of St. Stephen Assistance Ministry** 281.487.1774 *Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm*

**First Friends Day School** 281.487.8170 *Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 6:00 pm*

**Christian Life Center** 281.487.2843

## PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Will Reed,  
Pastor, ext. 3006  
WillReed@FirstPasadena.org

Rev. Mireya Martínez,  
Pastor, Outreach and Discipleship , ext. 3004  
MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org

Rev. Ruben Olivares,  
Pastor, Hispanic Ministries , ext. 3008  
RubenOlivares@FirstPasadena.org

## DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP ARTS

Nicole Gray ext. 3011  
NicoleGray@FirstPasadena.org

## ORGANIST

Daniel Miner  
DanielMiner@FirstPasadena.org

## SPANISH WORSHIP LEADER

Rodney Rodriguez

## DIRECTOR, DISCIPLESHIP AND MANAGER, BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Casey Gray ext. 3030  
CaseyGray@FirstPasadena.org

## DIRECTOR, FIRST FRIENDS DAY SCHOOL

Penny Buckert ext. 3019  
PennyBuckert@FirstPasadena.org

## BUILDING MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Bryan Dudley ext. 3020  
BryanDudley@FirstPasadena.org

## BUSINESS MANAGER

Amanda Horton ext. 3005  
AmandaHorton@FirstPasadena.org

## COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Colly Enochs ext. 3001  
CollyEnochs@FirstPasadena.org

## DIRECTOR OF SOUND

Matt Pettit  
MattPettit@FirstPasadena.org

## MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Margie Kearns ext. 3046  
MargieKearns@FirstPasadena.org

## WEDDING COORDINATOR

Carol Wilson  
CarolWilson@FirstPasadena.org

# Meet our NEW Members



Please welcome Adam and Kelsi Bonneau  
and their sons, Logan and Trevor  
to our church family!



## Ongoing Ministries & Church Events

- Bus Ministry** *Sundays, 8:00 am Church Parking Lot*
- Traditional Worship** *Sundays, 8:30 am & 11:00 am Sanctuary*
- Contemporary Worship** *Sundays, 9:45 am Sanctuary*
- Contemplative Worship** *Sunday, July 15, 9:45 am Log Cabin*
- Sunday School for All Ages** *Sundays, 9:45 am (English) and 11:00 am (Spanish)*
- Spanish Worship Service** *Sundays, 12:30 pm Sanctuary*
- Grief Support Group** *Sundays, 2:00 pm Parlor*
- Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** *Sundays, 6:30 pm Fellowship Hall*
- First Fitness Exercise Class** *Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am Gym*
- Breakfast With Bill (Alcoholics Anonymous)**  
*Tuesday-Friday 7:00 am, Saturday 7:30 am Log Cabin*
- Un dia a la vez Al-Anon (Hispanic Al-Anon)**  
*Tuesday 6:00 pm and Saturday 10:00 am Room 226*
- Ladies Night Out Bible Study** *Tuesdays, 7:00 pm Room 208/210*
- Contemporary Praise Band Rehearsal** *Tuesdays, 7:00 pm Sanctuary*
- Levites Maintenance Ministry** *Wednesdays, 8:00 am Log Cabin*
- Hand bell Rehearsal** *Wednesdays, 5:30 pm Adult Wing*
- Choir Rehearsal** *Wednesdays, 7:00 pm Choir Room and Sanctuary*
- Spanish Prayer and Bible Study** *Wednesdays, 7:00 pm Parlor and Fellowship Hall*
- Spanish Service Rehearsal** *Wednesdays, 8:30 pm Sanctuary*
- Men's Prayer and Study Breakfast** *Thursdays, 7:00 am Fellowship Hall 4  
(Pappa York's Grill on July 5)*
- The Soul Circle** *First Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm Parlor*
- Spanish Youth Group** *Fridays, 7:00 pm Away*
- Spanish Women's Prayer Group** *Thursdays, 1:30 pm Parlor*
- Women's Al-Anon Meeting** *Saturdays, 11:00 am Cornell Conference Room*

## Ongoing Activities

- Strawberry Squares Square Dancing** *Mondays, 7:00 pm Log Cabin*
- Junior High Open Gym** *Tuesdays, 4:00 pm Gym*
- Boy Scout Troop #199** *Tuesdays, 7:00 pm Log Cabin*
- Prime Timers Luncheon** *Wednesday, July 11, 10:30 am Fellowship Hall*
- Senior High Open Gym** *Wednesdays, 4:00 pm Gym*
- Open Gym for all ages** *Thursdays, 4:00 pm Gym*
- Cub Scout Troop #199** *Wednesdays, 7:00 pm Log Cabin*

## Calendar of Events

- Sunday, July 1** Patriotic Salute and Picnic at 5:00 pm *Sanctuary / Fellowship Hall*
- Tuesday, July 10** Governing Board Meeting at 6:15 pm *Cornell Conference Room*
- Thursday, July 12** Society of St. Stephen Birthday Party at 6:00 pm *Cafe*
- Saturday, July 14** Painting Workshop: I Am the Bread of Life at 9:00 am *Gym*



## A Patriotic Salute

On **Sunday, July 1 at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary**, we will offer a patriotic salute to our country's independence and those who have fought to maintain our freedom. The evening will include some of your favorite "red, white and blue" melodies, heartfelt readings and a "Salute to the Armed Forces" for Veterans and those currently serving in the United States Military. Please come and honor our members that have selflessly given their time and lives for our freedom. If you are a current or past member of the Armed Forces, you will be invited to come forward as your service hymn is played. There will also be a hot dog picnic in the Fellowship Hall following the concert. Please bring your favorite dessert to share with at least 12 people and come ready to wave your flags!

Kitchen helpers are needed to prepare the meal, set-up the buffet, and clean-up. Volunteers can sign-up at the Ministry Center.

## U.M. ARMY Prayer Partners Needed

First UMC Pasadena will be sending a group of adult and youth volunteers to Henderson, TX to do mission work from July 15-21. We are asking for your help and prayer support!

We would love to send our people off with their very own "Prayer Bag" filled with goodies and personal notes (7) that they can read and enjoy at the end of a day of service work.

If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mireya at [MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org](mailto:MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org) and she will give you all the details, the name of your person, and a prayer bag to fill with goodies. Thank you, First UMC Pasadena Family!!!



Join the conversation!

**Like us on  
Facebook**

[facebook.com/FirstPasadena/](https://facebook.com/FirstPasadena/)

**Join the church text group!**