

# The FIRST LOOK

## NEWSLETTER

First United Methodist Church

January 2017 Edition



### A Word from the Senior Pastor

Dr. Jerome Brimmage

*"In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more." Psalm 72*

Joy to the World, the Lord has come! After the waiting and preparing of Advent, we get a chance to sing a song of excitement and enthusiasm to celebrate the coming of Christ. Joy to the World!

Christmas Eve and Christmas Worship was filled with singing, communion, and candlelight. There was genuine and authentic worship as we gathered for the various worship experiences.

Now we look forward to a wonderful 2017. Perhaps you have set some goals or resolutions for the year. The most fruitful goal for a person's life has to do with Spiritual Growth. This year, I want to invite you to set a goal to be in worship every week, find a small group to walk in faith with you, and find a place to serve Jesus.

These Spiritual Growth goals will help set the compass for your life to be charted on a preferred future with hope. Together, we will be living out the song: Joy to the World, The Lord has come!

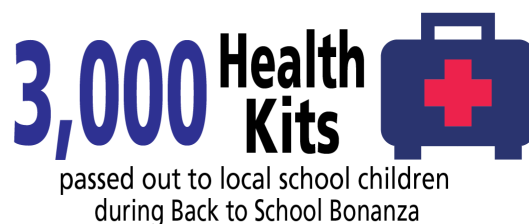
*"Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds. Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen and Amen." Psalm 72:18-19 NIV*

May God Bless in you 2017!

See you in worship Sunday morning!

Pastor Jerome

## 2016 YEAR IN REVIEW





Hi Wonderful First UMC family,

Can I just say thank you! As a guest in a new place, I have not felt estranged for even a moment. Thank you for your warm and welcoming greeting filled with support and encouragement.

The most common phrase I've heard so far has been "you will love Lufkin." You know the elementary school writing rule is show -don't tell. I absolutely can't wait to see this beautiful town! Would you show me your favorites spots? Allow me to ask you about yourself?

Would you have lunch (or coffee, or chicken nuggets, or dinner, or run an errand, or....) with me? That goes for you too small groups!? While I would like to attend, I would not want to interrupt the amazing devotion and atmosphere you all share in seeking our gracious God! Let's get together another time if you'll have me!

*Pastor Laura*

## Baptisms



**Jeffrey, Presley,  
and James Cook**  
were baptized  
December 11, 2016 in the  
Contemporary Worship  
Service at 11 AM.

## Mission Trips to Haiti

There are two trips to Haiti scheduled for 2017. The first trip will be March 11-18, 2017. The second trip is scheduled for the summer break. The dates for the summer trip will be finalized by mid January. FUMC Lufkin has been the lead church in the Texas Annual Conference for water filter training and distribution program in Haiti the past four years. The 2017 trips will solely focus on the water program.

We will be taking applications for the March trip until January 11, 2017. The cost for the trip will be \$700 plus airfare. Airfare during this time of year averages \$850. Review of applications and final determination of participants will be made by Dr. Ernest Boamah and Bob Ford. Applications are available at the church office or by contacting Bob Ford at [bford@lufkinfirst.com](mailto:bford@lufkinfirst.com).



## Leadership Huddle | Jan. 22

The time and energy you spend in service at FUMC matters and is making a difference in our community. To help us to continue work together as team, we will have a Leadership Huddle on Sunday, January 22 from 12-3 PM. This gathering is to discuss how we do ministry in our church and to plan for 2017. We will go over important and helpful information such as: how to schedule an event and how to get it publicized, policies, procedures, schedules, and more! We will eat lunch together and have discussions before we break out into our groups to plan for a great year. We will also have a time of worship and communion to start our year off remembering that we serve to bring God glory and shine God's light throughout our community. Nursery will be provided. For more information, or to reserve your spot for the training, please contact Umeko Ivy in the church office at [uivy@lufkinfirst.com](mailto:uivy@lufkinfirst.com).

## East District Leadership Training | Jan. 28

FUMC Lufkin will host the East District Leadership Training on Saturday, January 28 from 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM. This training event is open to all church members and is designed to help give you the tools to grow our church's ministries outside our campus. Cost is \$10 and covers your lunch. Nursery will be provided. You may register the morning of the training or at [www.lufkinfirst.com](http://www.lufkinfirst.com). For more information, please contact Umeko Ivy in the church office at [uivy@lufkinfirst.com](mailto:uivy@lufkinfirst.com).

# Family

# film

# night

**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
— LOVING GOD, LOVING NEIGHBOR —

**Friday,  
January 20  
7 PM  
CLC Gym**

## Family Film Night | Jan. 20

If you like popcorn, drinks, and movies, then you don't want to miss Family Film Night! Join us on Friday, January 20 at 7 PM in the CLC Gym to watch Secret Life of Pets together. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs. Nursery will be provided. Please contact Sarah Scott at [sscott@lufkinfirst.com](mailto:sscott@lufkinfirst.com) for more information.

# Spring Semester Bible Studies Begin January 22



## SPRING SEMESTER STUDIES AT FUMC

### **FINANCIAL PEACE by Dave Ramsey**

In this nine-week class, you will learn practical steps to beat debt, take control of your money, build wealth, give generously, and secure your family's future. Led by Pastor Jerome and Leslie Brimmage, this class will begin on Sunday, January 22 from 5:30-7:00 PM in the Youth and Worship Building. To register for this class, please visit [www.lufkinfirst.com](http://www.lufkinfirst.com).

### **THE LEGACY JOURNEY by Dave Ramsey**

What does the Bible really say about money? How much does God expect you to give to others? How much is "enough"? In this study, Dave Ramsey takes you deep into God's Word, revealing His perspective on wealth, your personal and family legacy, and how He wants to use you to further His kingdom. Led by Steve and Joy Killam, this class will be Monday nights from 6:30-8:00 PM beginning January 23 in the Youth and Worship building. To register for this class, please visit [www.lufkinfirst.com](http://www.lufkinfirst.com).

### **HALF TRUTHS by Adam Hamilton**

Everything happens for a reason. God helps those who help themselves. Love the sinner, hate the sin. These are simple phrases we hear often that sound Christian, like something you would find in the Bible. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways. Join Carolee Brink as she leads this class in searching for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés to the message and ministry of Jesus. Class will begin Sunday, January 22 from 5:30-7:00 PM in the Youth and Worship Building.

### **MOMENTUM - New Young Adult Ministry**

Momentum - the deliberate motion toward spiritual depth. A long journey is only completed if we are willing to take each step. Together we will build momentum through each other's strengths, study and encouragement. Led by Chris Caraway and Jeff Bates, this class will meet Sunday morning during the Sunday school hour beginning Sunday, January 22 in the conference room. For more information, contact Laura Campbell at [lcampbell@lufkinfirst.com](mailto:lcampbell@lufkinfirst.com).

### **SPRING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES**

Monday Morning Bible Study - Begins January 23 in Y103 at 9AM

Topic: The Gospel of Mark by Lisa Harper

Monday Night Bible Study - Begins January 23 in Allen Parlor at 6 PM

Topic: All Things New by Kelly Minter

Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Begins January 24 in Y103 at 10 AM

Topic: Seamless by Angie Smith

For more information, contact Carolee Brink at [cbrink@lufkinfirst.com](mailto:cbrink@lufkinfirst.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Solid Rock Ringers Resumes Sunday, Jan. 8**

Our Solid Rock Ringers will kick off a new semester of learning and performing hand chimes together on Sunday, January 8 at 4 PM in the Youth and Worship Building Cry Room. Interested in playing? Contact Sarah Scott for more information.

### **Cocoa & Bingo | Sunday, Jan. 8**

Join us on Sunday, January 8 in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 PM for a church wide fellowship and celebration as we begin a new year together, playing bingo and drinking hot cocoa! There will be prizes, popcorn, and lots of fun to be had! Childcare will be provided.

### **It's Bunco Time! | Tuesday, Jan. 17**

Join us for an evening of fun on Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 PM in the CLC game room. The nursery will be open for the evening. If you have questions, or would like to sign up, please contact Carolee Brink at [cbrink@lufkinfirst.com](mailto:cbrink@lufkinfirst.com).

### **Children's/Youth Parent Meeting Wednesday, Jan. 18**

There will be a meeting for the parents of children and youth at FUMC on Wednesday, January 18 at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. You will hear all the great things coming up for the spring! Childcare will be provided. For more information, please contact Lisa Gill or Sarah Scott.

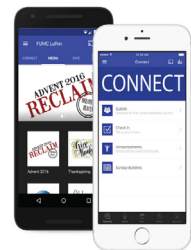
### **Coffee with the Pastors | Sunday, Jan. 29**

Have questions about the Christian faith? The United Methodist Church? Or how to connect with our church family? We would love to meet with you and answer questions over a cup of coffee. Join Pastor Jerome and Pastor Laura on Sunday, January 29 at 9:50 AM in Hebrew's Cafe.



The FUMC Lufkin App

Available in App Stores





# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



— LOVING GOD, LOVING NEIGHBOR —

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## Upcoming Events

### Youth Wednesday Nights | Jan. 11

Youth Wednesday Nights will resume January 11 with a game night! Join us in the CLC from 6-8 PM. Dinner will be provided.

### Sundays beginning January 22 | 5:30-7:00 PM | Y & W Center

All students are invited to join us this January as we kick off new Bible studies! Middle School students will be led by Marty and Elisa Harris. Over the semester, students will be studying the Fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians.

High School students will be led by Lisa Gill. Over the semester, students will be having discussions about topics like following Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and prayer. Basic, a series of short films with Francis Chan, will challenge us to honestly answer the questions: What is Church? Who is it for? Is it broken? Can it be better? For more information on either Bible study, please contact Lisa Gill.

### Mid-Winter 2017 iGnite | February 24-26

All students 7th-12th grade are invited to join us for a weekend of worship, discussion, games, and lots of outdoor fun! This awesome conference-wide event will be hosted at Forest Glen in Huntsville, a Christian camp located in the middle of the Sam Houston Forest. Cost is \$130. Financial assistance is available. For questions about the retreat, or if you need help with the cost, please contact Lisa Gill at lgill@lufkinfirst.com.

## Now Enrolling!

Christian child care for  
children ages six weeks  
to five years



## My Growing Place

A Childcare Ministry of First United Methodist Church



Our goal for each child is to delight in learning and to grow emotionally, socially, and academically. We pledge to nurture each child's unique gifts and provide a safe and stimulating environment.

We are committed to providing each child with a strong foundation rooted in Christ. Each of our classrooms offer age appropriate, hands-on curriculum, aimed toward teaching our children academic fundamentals and basic social skills. Children are encouraged to learn through dramatic play, music, art, language skill builders, math manipulatives, and open ended centers. From pre-k all the way down to infants, our teachers do their best to provide fun and stimulating activities on a day-to-day basis.

**Open from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm year round**

Full Day Curriculum | Now Open Year Round | Tomé Catered Lunches

**[www.lufkinfirst.com/mygrowingplace](http://www.lufkinfirst.com/mygrowingplace)**

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**805 E. Denman Ave.  
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