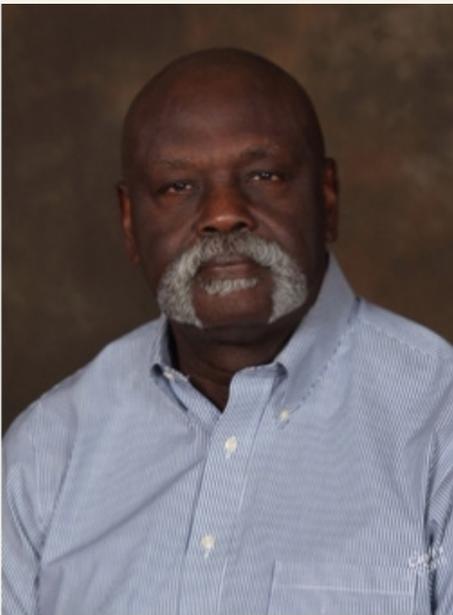


THE VOICE

July 18, 2017

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS WITH CHARLIE HAYNES



*Thursday, July 27
10-11:30 a.m.
In the Cook Foyer
All are welcome!*

Charlie's 25 year work anniversary will be July 27. Join us in celebrating him and his wonderful service over the last 25 years. We look forward to many more great years together! Thank you for all you do, Charlie.

One of my favorite moments was finding Charlie in the Parlor, one early morning he was polishing and vacuuming, but he took just a moment to play the piano and sing a hymn. Charlie plays well on the piano, and he has a fabulous voice. Not everyone knows that about him. But, I was fortunate to witness it for myself.

*Blessings to Charlie,
Debbie Hays*

Blessings to Charlie Haynes for his 25 years of service at First Methodist. It's always a joy to see Charlie's smiling face. God bless Charlie for his valuable ministry. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

Van and Bettie Craddock

Charlie is one of the most pleasant and agreeable people I have ever had the pleasure with which to work. Never complaining, Charlie always does what he says. My favorite expression of his, and I hear it often, is "just send 'em on down the hall" and he appears from nowhere and somehow finds them. Happy 25th Charlie. Congratulations.

*We love you!
Joan*



The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church of Longview
(903) 753-4463 | longviewfumc.org
400 N. Fredonia Street, Longview, Texas 75601

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Church News

A WORD FROM BECCA

Thank you so much for the warm welcome and reception into the family of FUMC Longview! I am so excited to be here and to be serving with y'all. It has definitely been a season of change in my life recently. In May I finished my coursework at Perkins School of Theology (one step closer to graduation!) and in June I got married, moved, and started a new appointment here. So, much that was a staple in my life was suddenly very different...including my last name! I am someone who likes things to be planned and then work the plan. I like to settle in somewhere, get cozy, and set down roots. I've already hung things on every wall of my office, although there is still plenty of settling in that I need to get to at the parsonage. So a season of such change held some challenges for me. But mostly it has held so much joy because of the things I know never change. As a United Methodist pastor moving around and having to settle in to a new place is part of the job description. This is only my third appointment but I think even the seasoned veterans would agree with me that each time you step into a new appointment you find so much grace and goodness waiting on you. God goes before and no matter how many changes come our way God has already gone ahead and carved a way forward.

I don't have to be scared or nervous because I didn't plan it all. I don't have to be anxious about the boxes that still need my attention. God is present and pouring out abundant love, grace, and mercy through every change. It fills me with such peace and joy to know there is nowhere I can go that God won't be there waiting for me. Psalm 139, one of my personal favorites, says "Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast." In a season of change, I thank God for each of you who have made it so easy to settle in by making me feel so loved and welcomed. And I am so grateful to serve, with you, a God who is present and loving in all things and places. May you feel the presence of the One who holds all things in His hands.

In Love,
Becca Newcomb

Wednesday Night Dinner

Wednesday Night Dinner now has been extended to be more accommodating for you and your family! Join us any time from 5–6:30 p.m. Don't have much time? We offer to-go boxes for anyone stopping by. Invite a friend and join us for dinner.

Wednesday, July 19: garden salad and trimmings, King Ranch chicken, fiesta corn with red beans, rolls, and baked caramel apples for dessert!

Wednesday, July 26: baked potato bar with trimming: butter, green onions, cheese, sour cream, bacon bits, shredded beef, and chili.....steamed broccoli and assorted dessert

RSVP by calling the church office at (903) 753-4463. If you have any food preferences such as gluten free, vegetarian, vegan, or sugar free, please let us know.

COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the month of July, many Sunday School classes join together for a month-long study. This combined class will meet during the regular Sunday School hour in Nicholson Chapel.

July 23

Becca Newcomb
Bible Lesson on Sharing Hope
Nicholson Chapel

July 30

Rev. Jay Jackson
Bible Lesson on Serving All
Nicholson Chapel

Bring your coffee and come and enjoy hearing the Pastor's teach on "Loving God, Sharing Hope and Serving All" as we live out our mission statement of being a Beacon of Hope for All.

Mary Collier taught on Isaiah 40:21–31 on Sunday, July 16. A few comments from the lesson included:

- Seek God with all of our heart, mind and soul
- Love God and love others
- Pray – even when you are not in church

Prayer

"Thou who art over us, Thou who art one of us, Thou who art: Give me a pure heart, that I may see thee; a humble heart, that I may hear thee; a heart of love, that I may serve thee; a heart of faith, that I may abide in thee. Amen."

We miss you when you are not with us in church, and we will continue to pray for you. We wish everyone a great summer, and enjoy vacations when possible—remember—you may take a vacation at home by giving yourself a break from your normal routine.

Blessings,
Mary Collier



ASBURY HOUSE GARAGE SALE DONATIONS NEEDED

The Annual Asbury House Garage Sale will be August 4 from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. and August 5 from 8 a.m.–Noon. This garage sale benefits the wonderful children at Asbury House Child Enrichment Center and would not be possible without your support. Please drop off your items at the storage container on the corner of Green St. and Whaley St. (No adult clothing, computers, or old TVs) every Tuesday & Thursday from 7–8 p.m., and Saturdays 4–5 p.m.

CONNECT WITH REV. JAY JACKSON ON FACEBOOK

Rev. Jay Jackson invites you to “like” his Facebook page for sermon updates, words of encouragement, and Longview FUMC happenings. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/Rev-Jay-Jackson-1574941392550010/> to connect with him.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The church library book sale will be 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Saturday, September 9 and 8 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Sunday, September 10. If you would like to donate books (any except encyclopedias), DVDs, or CDs for the sale, please take them to the church library workroom (located near the church office) at any time.

JESUS CALLING—TRUSTING IN CHRIST

Striving to Trust in Jesus

The Bible claims God is love and perfectly trustworthy. How do we seek to remove doubts and lean on God rather than the world or self?

Do you have a tendency to get anxious? How do you find your peace? Need a calm break during the heat of the summer? Come join us for Wednesday Night Dinner at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, and then attend communion followed by Trusting in Christ bible study in the Heritage Room at 6 p.m. For more info, please contact Mary Collier (903) 753-4463



THE FISH FRY IS COMING

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 22 at 4 p.m. Food, games, fishing, and much more. More information to come.

COTTAGE VISITS

While invitations are going out for the upcoming Cottage Visits, we want to also invite you to a few other opportunities to visit in a “cottage style” atmosphere with Rev. Jay Jackson and Rev. Becca Newcomb. There will be three dates available to meet in the Heritage Room following both late worship services on July 30, August 6, and August 20.

RECORD CROWD ENJOYS PATRIOTIC PIONEER PROGRAM



We did indeed fill the Faith Center for our July 13 Pioneer Fellowship! A record number of more than 200 attended, including approximately 180 served for lunch and 30-plus kiddos from School for Little Children who had been studying the 1940s. Ladies Liberty Show Troupe from Dallas entertained us with a wonderful '40s patriotic program, and Chef Debbie prepared a delicious beef brisket meal. Many thanks to the church staff and extra volunteers who helped make this event so successful!

We hope all of you who are retired – or of retirement age – will join us at 11 a.m. the second Thursday of each month for entertainment, food and fellowship and a birthday cake if it happens to be your birthday month!

Welcome Back From Belize!



BIG HOUSE—MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION

20 students and 6 adults are headed to Coldspring, TX, to serve one of the oldest Methodist churches in Texas (Built in 1848). This trip gives middle school students the introduction to engage in mission for others away from home. In this quaint community, we will be helping with yard work for the elderly, painting churches and homes, working in the mission resale shop, and anything else that will come our way. Coldspring UMC is hosting us, and we look forward to learning more about serving others, discovering more about ourselves, and intentionally walking with God in our life. The trip will culminate with worship with the members of Coldspring UMC. The dates are July 20–23.

BIBLE CAMP DISCOVERY

STUDENTS ENTERING KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE

THE BIBLE: GOD'S LOVE LETTER TO THE WORLD

Explore the Bible through the writings of Moses, David, Luke, and Paul.

9 a.m.–Noon, Monday–Wednesday, July 24–26

\$20 registration (scholarships available, [contact Rev. Nathan Firmin](#))

Monday and Tuesday are learning days, Wednesday is play Day.

Sign up today through July 15 by contacting [Rev. Nathan Firmin](#).

BIBLE EXPLORER CAMP

STUDENTS ENTERING 2ND & 3RD GRADE

WHERE DID WE GET THE BIBLE?

Discover how the Bible came to be, how it was put together, and who is in it.

9 a.m.–Noon, Monday–Wednesday, July 31–August 2

\$20 registration (scholarships available, [contact Rev. Nathan Firmin](#))

Monday and Tuesday are learning days, Wednesday is play Day.

Sign up today through July 15 by contacting [Rev. Nathan Firmin](#).

COME HEAR HOW GOD WAS AT WORK IN BELIZE

6 p.m. July 30 in Nicholson Chapel

The youth group has some amazing stories to share about their time in Belize. Come hear how God worked through our students during their trip. Refreshments to be served after.