



“Like Clay in a Potter’s Hands” | Jeremiah 18:1-6

Are we able to trust God enough to place our lives in God’s hands and to yield our lives to God as clay in the hands of a potter?

**FUMC WEEKLY
THIS SUNDAY**

WORSHIP

Sanctuary Worship | Dr. Tim Bruster
“Like Clay in a Potter’s Hands”
Jeremiah 18:1-6
9:30 and 11:00 am | Sanctuary

Chapel Communion Service
Dr. Len Delony
10:30 – 11:00 am
Leonard Memorial Chapel

DiscipleChurch
Rev. Brooks Harrington
8:30 am | Leonard Memorial Chapel

Radius Youth Worship
Ms. Casey Langley
“Let Go. Let God.” | Jeremiah 18:1-6
9:30 - 10:50 am | Justin Youth Building

Nontraditional Worship
eleven:eleven celebration
“Giving from the Growing Place”
Mr. Charles Gaby, MA, LPC
11:11 am | Wesley Hall

Don’t forget to

SPRING FORWARD!

Yes, it’s that time again. On Saturday night, be sure to set your clocks forward one hour.

Have you ever watched a potter throwing pottery? As the lump of clay spins on the wheel, it responds immediately to the slightest movements of the hands of the potter.

It is fascinating to watch. One of these days I’m going to take a pottery class and try it out. I’m sure it is much more difficult than it looks, but it looks so therapeutic and relaxing to me.

In our scripture text for Sunday, we hear the young prophet Jeremiah tell of his experience in the potter’s house. The word of the Lord came to him and prompted him to “go down to the potter’s house” and watch and wait for a word from the Lord.

The potter’s house was an important place because in Jeremiah’s day, you couldn’t cook a meal, carry water from a well, store food, light a lamp, or any number of others necessary activities unless you went down to the potter’s house. God’s message to Jeremiah was, in effect, “If you want to understand who I am, Jeremiah, you have to go down to the potter’s house.”

So, Jeremiah went and found the potter at work at his wheel. He watched as the potter reached into his container of clay, pulled out a lump of it, sprinkled it with water, and began to pound it on the wheel.

He watched as the potter twisted it, pulled it apart, and pushed it together. He watched as the potter pounded the clay, rolled it out again and, wetting his hands, started the wheel turning with his feet. From that round lump of clay, a beautiful, useful vessel started to emerge, shaped by the careful and skillful hands of the potter. I can picture Jeremiah, standing there watching the spinning clay and meditating on what was going on in his world.

After watching for a while, Jeremiah realized that’s what God’s been doing with us all along. God, like a potter at his wheel, is at work in his world, shaping, forming, stretching, pushing, pulling us into shape. As he watched and meditated, the word of God came to Jeremiah: “Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter had done? Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.”

Jeremiah realized that just as the potter can take old clay and make a new thing, the people of God can be remade, even in their brokenness — if with repentance and willingness to be shaped they will

yield themselves to the strong, skillful hands of the Potter. In this passage, God was calling the people to allow their lives to be shaped by God’s grace, God’s love and God’s will, much as a potter creates a useful vessel from soft and formable clay. And God continues to work in our lives like a potter shaping a vessel on the wheel.

Like a potter at the wheel, God takes hold of our lives and smoothes and presses out the flaws and imperfections that can weaken us and make us less fit for the kiln—those fiery times in our lives that have the possibility of making us stronger. Sometimes the Potter presses hard — and we feel the pressure more keenly; sometimes we experience the gentler, healing and shaping touch of the Master’s hands. Sometimes the shaping can be rough, as if the vessel will be destroyed when, in fact, the it is made stronger to face the fire.

Irenaeus, the Father of the Church of the Second Century, wrote these words which challenge us even today: “If, then, you are the work of God, await the hand of your Maker, who fashions everything in due course...Keep your heart soft and pliable for Him; retain the form in which the Artist fashioned you, having moisture in yourself, lest, becoming hard, you should lose the marks of His fingers.... But should you prove hardened and reject His artistic work and prove ingrate for being made human, with your ingratitude you have also lost His art and your life. For to make is the property of God, but to be made is that of humanity.”

Will you trust God with your life...like clay in a potter’s hands? Consider the words of the hymn:

Have thine own way!

Thou art the potter;

I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after thy will,

While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Can these words be your prayer this week?

Grace and Peace,

◆ LENT 2013 ◆

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 10

Sanctuary Worship | Dr. Tim Bruster

“Like Clay in a Potter’s Hands”

Jeremiah 18:1-6

9:30 and 11:00 am | Sanctuary

DiscipleChurch

Rev. Brooks Harrington

8:30 am | Leonard Memorial Chapel

Radius Youth Worship

Ms. Casey Langley

“Let Go. Let God.” | Jeremiah 18:1-6

9:30 – 10:50 am | Justin Building

Nontraditional Worship

eleven:eleven celebration

“Giving from the Growing Place”

Mr. Charles Gaby, MA LPC

11:11 am | Wesley Hall

Adult Study Series

Dr. Lamar Smith

“Jesus’ Last Journey: From Capernaum to the Cross”

Sundays, 2.17 – 3.24

8:30 – 9:20 am | Room 350

Dr. Daxton “Chip” Stewart

“A Thoughtful Faith:

The Art of Writing”

Sundays, 2.17 - 3.10

6:30 – 8:00 pm | Room 154

Mosaic Mondays | Ms. Tina McIntire

Mondays, 2.18 - 3.18

6:30 – 8:30 pm | Wesley Hall

Dr. Mike Marshall

“Strength for the Broken Places”

Wednesdays, 2.20 – 3.27

11:00 am - 12:00 pm | Room 350

Centering Prayer

Wednesdays | Room 147

7:00 – 7:45 am | Dr. Mitzi Ellington

8:30 – 9:00 am | Dr. Len Delony

Lectio Divina or “Sacred Reading”

Wednesdays | 9:00 - 9:30 am

Room 147 | Dr. Len Delony

Intercessory Prayer

Wednesdays | 9:30 – 10:00 am

Room 147 | Dr. Len Delony

Noontime Reflections

Wednesdays through March 27

Noon to 1:00 pm

Join us in the Chapel for an oasis of quiet reflection each Wednesday of Lent in this come-and-go contemplative worship experience. Be sure to grab lunch before or after from the nearby food truck!

MAKE YOUR HOLY WEEK PLANS NOW

Prepare yourself for Easter as you never have before with TWO UNIQUE WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Maundy Thursday

Experience communion in the style and manner Jesus did as he shared his Last Supper with his Disciples on the night before he died.

Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Thursday, March 28 | 7:00 pm

Simultaneous Children’s Service

“What Does Maundy Mean?” | Room 204

Mr. Mark Burrows

Deepen Your Connection with the debut performance of “Return to Me: Stations of the Cross,” a specially-commissioned Good Friday choral piece composed by Taylor Davis, Director of Music and Worship Arts, with lyrics by Dr. Terry York, DMA, Associate Professor of Christian Ministry and Church Music at Baylor University.

Good Friday

Before the service

Enjoy a light supper and Q&A discussion with Dr. Terry York 6:00 - 6:45 pm in Wesley Hall and learn how this piece connects scripture with social contexts.

Good Friday Service of Darkness

Friday, March 29 | 7:00 pm | Sanctuary

Simultaneous Children’s Service in

“Why Do We Call it Good?” | Rm 204

Mr. Mark Burrows

FUMC Welcomes Dr. Jim Fleming



We are delighted to welcome James Fleming, Ed.D. as our special guest speaker.

As an extremely popular and informative scholar of Biblical archaeology, history, and interpretations, Dr. Fleming

brings to our Lenten experience his unique ability to illustrate and bring Biblical texts to life. With a lively and entertaining style of delivery and thought-provoking style of weaving together old and recent discoveries, Dr. Fleming’s presentations will provide a fascinating and meaningful frame of reference for our continuing faith journeys as he walks us through the days of Holy Week.

Holy Week: “The Passion of Christ”

Sunday, March 17 | Sanctuary Worship

“The Journey to Jerusalem”

9:30 am and 11:00 am | Sanctuary

Sunday, March 17 | Special Presentation

“Palm Sunday and Messianic Expectation”

6:30 - 8:30 pm | Wesley Hall

Monday, March 18 | Special Presentation

“The Last Supper” | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | Wesley Hall

“The Death of Jesus and ‘The Jews’” | 6:30 - 8:30 pm Wesley Hall

Tuesday, March 19 | Special Presentation

“The Crucifixion as Passover” | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Wesley Hall

“Meaning from the Cross” | 6:30 - 8:30 pm | Wesley Hall

Dr. Fleming’s lecture is funded by the FUMC Goosetree Lectures.

◆ PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ◆

ALMOST CHRISTIAN BOOK GROUP

Wednesdays April 3 – May 8

12:00-1:00 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm | 154

Casey Langley, Director of Youth Ministries, will lead a discussion group on *Almost Christian: What the Faith of our Teenagers is Telling the American Church*, by Kenda Creasy Dean, an ordained UMC pastor and Professor of Youth, Church and Culture at Princeton Theological Seminary. Her book responds to the National Study of Youth and Religion and considers what role the church and parents can play in teenagers beginning to live more authentically Christian lives. Books in the Adult Education Office for \$18.

SAVE THE DATE: Kenda Creasy Dean will visit FUMC on June 9 to lead an event and preach in both sanctuary worship services before serving as speaker for the 2013 Central Texas Annual Conference.

ADULT

4.2 UMW DINNER AND SPEAKER

6:00 pm | Wesley Hall

All are welcome at the UMW dinner and lecture with Dr. Alyce McKenzie, professor of Preaching and Worship, SMU Perkins School of Theology. Cost of dinner is \$10; reservations required. Contact johnyeb1220@yahoo.com.

4.23 UMW TEA & STYLE SHOW

4:00 - 6:00 pm | Ridglea Country Club

Individual tickets are available for \$40 in the Welcome Center every Sunday through the end of March.

4.18 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

6:00-7:30 p.m. | Wesley Hall

All Ushers, Greeters (Blue Shirt Team, Welcome Center, and special events), Television Ministry, First Friends, Docents, Congregational Care, Donation Counters, Parish Nurses, Library and Archive, Front Desk and Office volunteers (and spouse) are invited; dress is business casual. RSVP Elaine Johnson at ejohnson@myfumc.org or Reverend Chuck Graff (cgraff@myfumc.org) at 817-339/5065 no later than Monday, April 15.

OUTDOOR MINISTRY

Mineral Wells State Park Retreat

4.5 – 4.7 Friday through Sunday,

Daingerfield State Park Retreat

5.3 – 5.5 Friday through Sunday,

Contact Reverend Chuck Graff (cgraff@myfumc.org) at 817/339-5065 for more details and reservations or attend the information meeting Sunday, March 17, from 10:30-10:55 am in Room 154.

MISSION

MARCH MEANS DIAPER SUNDAYS!

Throughout March bring diapers — any size — to the Mission during regular donation hours or to the Welcome Center on Sundays.

COFFE POVERTY & JESUS BOOK CLUB

Next CPJ Book Club selection is *Long Halftime Walk* by Billy Lynn. This 2102 National Book Award finalist for fiction is slated for adaptation into a screenplay; now available in the adult education office for \$10. Next book club meeting is May 6.

CENTER FOR CREATIVE TRANSFORMATION

3.31.13 eleven:eleven easter festival

10:00 am - 2:00 pm | burnett park
Musical guests Elizabeth Wills, Sara Hickman and special guests surround this special time of worship, entertainment and family-style fun!

YOUTH

3.17 – 4.14 FIGHTING PENGUINS BASKETBALL

Sunday Afternoons | Justin Bldg.

Come and cheer for the liveliest roundball since the Harlem Globetrotters:

March 17 | 12:30 & 2:30

March 24 | 1:30 & 2:30

April 7 | 3:30

3.10 SPRING BREAK!

This Sunday only RADIUS meets as usual; all other youth programming resumes on March 17.

4.26 – 4.27 | LOCK IN-N-OUT

Open to all current 6th-12th graders, the Youth Lock in/out is designed to have tons of fun! Meet at the Justin at 8:00 pm, depart for activities around town (like broomball, bowling, Urban Air and eating), and return to the Justin for movies, free time, games, and worship. Pick-up at 8:00 am the next morning. Cost is \$50; sign up by April 14. Contact Brenda Kegans (bkegans@myfumc.org) 817/339-3888.

CHILDREN

3.30 EASTER EGG HUNT

10:00 am – 1:00 pm | Lyle Lodge

7179 Peden Road, Azle, Texas 76020

Join your church family for Easter fun — and be sure to bring your Easter basket! EasySlider Food Truck serving up complimentary sliders! Contact Nikki McInnis (nmcinnis@myfumc.org) at 817/339-5086.

PRE-SCHOOL DATES FOR EASTER:

3.27 & 28 | Easter Egg Hunts & Parties

3.28 & 4.1 | No School

SAVE THE DATE:

4.8 PRESCHOOL AND PARENTS' DAY OUT ANNUAL AUCTION

Joe T. Garcia's | 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

3.27 MARCH GOOD BOOK CLUB

6:15 – 7:15 pm | Children's Wing

The theme for this month's Book Club is Reach In with a special emphasis on identity and self-concept/self-improvement. Selected books:

Kindergarten and Younger – *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae, illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees.

1st – 3rd Grade – *Bad Kitty Meets the Baby* by Nick Bruel

3rd grade and older – *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

Parents – School Counselor Shelia Lashley will be back to explore how parents can raise children to have a healthy self-concept that doesn't cross over into self-absorption.

TEACHERS & TOPICS - MARCH 2013

Aldersgate Couples I Room 333 at 9:30 am

- 10. Assembling Hygiene Kits at First Street Methodist Mission

Cana Disciples I Room 332 at 9:30 am

Covenant I Room 331 at 9:30 am

Creative Couples I Room 321 at 9:45 am

- 10. Lenten Studies, Class Discussion
- 17. Lenten Studies, Class Discussion
- 24. Lenten Studies, Class Discussion
- 31. Not Meeting

Downtown Singles I Room 340-341 at 10:50 am

- 10. TBA
- 17. Rev. Phyllis McDougal
- 24. Anxiety, Mike Stedman
- 31. Not Meeting, Attending worship together in the Sanctuary.

Genesis Couples I Room 351 at 9:45 am

Good Neighbors I Room 334 at 11:00 am

8:30 a.m. In-Depth Bible Study I Room 350

- (Dr. Lamar Smith, Teacher)
- 2.17 – 3.24 "Jesus' Last Journey: From Capernaum to the Cross"

Inquirers I Room 352 at 9:30 am

- 10. Art and Architecture of Synagogues, Lynn Millstone
- 17. Looking at Poverty Through Scriptures, Rev. Phyllis McDougal
- 24. Gaye Fuller
- 31. Not meeting

Journey I Room 230 at 10:00 am

- 10. Radical Renovation – Love, Darcy Deupree
- 17. Radical Renovation – Reconciliation, Matthew Roth
- 24. Radical Renovation – Sacrifice, Dr. Jim Riddlesperger
- 31. Radical Renovation – Hope (and Class Easter Brunch)

Koinonia I Room 224 at 9:30 a.m.

- Carrie & Ken Hinze, leading the class in March
- 10. Travels in Mexico

Loyalty I Room 334 at 9:30 a.m.

- 10. Mental Health Alliance, Patsy Thomas
- 17. Kimbell Museum
- 24. Melinda Smoot, FUMC Director of Communications
- 31. "The Patience and Perseverance of God", Larry Eason

New Horizon Singles I Room 231 at 9:30 a.m.

- 10. We Are All in This Together, Philip Hennen
- 17. What Do United Methodists Believe?, Dr. Lamar Smith
- 24. San Miguel and Living in Mexico, Bill Fisher
- 31. The ABCs of FUMC, Barry Hudson

New Passages I Room 352 at 11:00 am

Partners I Room 320 at 9:45 a.m.

- 10, 17 & 24. "How the Bible Came to Be", Mike Malloy
- 31. Not Meeting

Sojourners I Room 335 at 9:30 a.m. – Jane and Brendan Furnish

- 10. & 17. Carl Stenger
- 24. New Book, Laurie Cockrell
- 31. TBA

Trinity Fellowship I Room 340-341 at 9:30 am

- 2.17 – 3.24 Book Study "The Way" by Rev. Adam Hamilton
- 31. Class Brunch

Twosome I Room 154 at 9:30 am

- 10. Bliss Dodd
- 17. Karl Alexander
- 24. Karl Alexander
- 31. Not Meeting

Veriditas I Room 272F (Foundation Building) 9:30 a.m.

- (All Month Study)
- "Wisdom of the NATIVE AMERICANS" by Kent Nerburn, Beverly Fletcher and Ann Dunkin
- 10. Chap. 19 – Chief Joseph
- 17. Chapter 20 – Chief Seattle

Wesley Bible I Room 350 at 9:30 am - Dr. Ron Ballard, Teacher

NOTE: If the class you are interested in does not list topics or teachers for this month, we did not receive the information prior to deadline.
ADULT CLASSES: Please contact Gayle Ammerman (Gammerman@MyFUMC.org) at 817/339-5091 with your **April** study topics by **March 4**.

HOSPITALIZED

Bobbie Hartman
 Marsha Williams
 Billy Joe Pendley
 Jean Webb
 Ed Baker

DEATHS

Bill Ayres,
 Geraldine Hart
 Nancy Lee Muse
 Bass, Ken Norland
 Antonio Morelli

BIRTHS

Cora Metta Collier

NEW MEMBERS



*Christopher Robinett and
Allison McMahon*



*Saori and Curtis Matthews Paxton (age 8),
and Gayson (age 7).*

**Pick up a copy of the 2013 Lent Brochure
 in the Welcome Center, the Narthex,
 the Chapel or Wesley Hall for a full description and calendar of all the
 Lenten activities at FUMC.**