



Do No Harm

Romans 12:1-2, 9-21

Dear Friends,

In 1959, Vince Lombardi, at the age of 45, became a head coach in the NFL for the first time in his life. The team, the Green Bay Packers, were coming off of a devastating season. They had won only two out of the last twelve games the season before. They were demoralized and suffered from a serious lack of confidence.

With a football in his hand, Lombardi walked into the locker room of defeated, humiliated men, knowing that he had his work cut out for him. As he stood there surveying that motley crew, he contemplated what he should say.

Finally, after a long period of silence, he held the pigskin out in front of him. He looked at it, and then he looked at them. Then he uttered one of the great one-liners of sports history: "Gentlemen, *this* is a football."

What was he saying? In only five words, Lombardi was saying, "We're going to start with the basics and make sure we're executing all the fundamentals." Sometimes, in all our striving and business and desire to live a Christian life, we can forget the fundamentals. The basics.

This Sunday we will begin a three-part series of sermons entitled "Three Simple Rules." In the early days of the Methodist Movement, John Wesley developed three rules for Methodists to follow. He was saying to them, in effect, "Ladies and gentlemen, *this* is the Christian life." These became known as The General Rules and remain part of our life as a Christian denomination to this day.

These three simple rules, put into contemporary language are:

- 1) **Do no harm**
- 2) **Do good of every possible sort**
- 3) **Stay in love with God**

In this series we will take one rule on each Sunday and consider what it means for us today. Each Sunday our scripture reading will be the same: Romans 12:1-2, 9-21. I encourage you to read this scripture every day during these three weeks as part of your devotional and prayer life. (See inside for text) In worship, we will be exploring some important questions for each of us to consider:

- ***What is most challenging about practicing the rule to do no harm?***
- ***What are some ways that people do harm without even knowing it?***
- ***What does the Bible have to say about doing no harm, especially to our enemies?***
- ***What one or two things can I do in the coming week in the interest of doing no harm and am I willing to commit to do those things?***

I look forward to seeing you Sunday as we return to some practical basics of Christian living.

Grace and Peace,

FUMC WEEKLY

WORSHIP

Traditional Worship
Dr. Tim Bruster
9:40 & 11:00 am | Sanctuary

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

eleven:eleven celebration
Charles Gaby, MA, LPC
11:11 am | Wesley Hall

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL READING:

Romans 12:1-2, 9-21

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God.

You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.

Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.

Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath. Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.

Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."

Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.

(Romans 12:1-2, 9-21 – The Message)

Congratulations Classes of 2013

*This year we're trying something new to honor both our newest church members, the **Confirmation Class of 2013**, and our **graduating seniors — the outgoing Class of 2013**. To make these milestones even more special, both for involved families and for our entire church family, we've created two new traditions that we hope will make these observances even more meaningful.*

Sunday | April 21 | 7:00 pm

We invite you to be part of our first ever evening **Service of Confirmation**. This hour-long Sanctuary event will honor this symbolic milestone in special ways including:

Stories from some of our clergy and staff members

who have offered to share their own transformational faith stories — and all the ways in which they've felt God moving and working in their lives.

A Symbolic Gathering

Each confirmand will bring from home a symbol of themselves and their life to be placed with the others at the altar. At the end of the service we will recognize and celebrate the breadth and depth of all the lives and experiences of our church's newest official members in this special altar collection and presentation.

Traditional Service of

Confirmation which recognizes and welcomes each of our 28 confirmands, both individually and as a class with prayers, scripture, music, a message and benediction.

Sunday | April 28 | 11:00 am

On the following Sunday we will first present the 2013 Confirmands to the congregation as a group, and then proceed into the next special addition to our usual Spring traditions, the recognition and honoring of our outgoing seniors as part of Senior Recognition Sunday in their own special ceremony.

By connecting these strands of the FUMC youth journey, we hope to create a unique experience in which our outgoing seniors welcome our newest youth — and our new confirmands, gathered as a group, honor and help send off our graduating seniors, adding new meaning and continuity to this important circle of our congregational life.

Whether or not you have a family member participating in either of these services, we hope you will make it part of your worship and celebration experience as we mark each of these important milestones as a faith community. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Mike Marshall (mmarshall@myfumc.org) at 817/339-2409.

◆ PROGRAMS AND EVENTS ◆

4.28 CALLED CHARGE CONFERENCE

There will be a called session of the Charge Conference on Sunday, April 28 immediately following the 11:00 service. The Charge Conference is composed of the members of the Board of Stewards and the clergy who are part of our congregation. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a recommendation from the Church Council to enter into partnership with the Annual Conference to start a new worshipping community (or "campus") of our congregation to expand our ministry in a new way to the W. 7th area to reach a population of young adults we are not currently reaching.

JOIN US FOR THE "SECOND MILE"

OUR "SECOND-MILE" Easter Offering is off to a wonderful start, and we are nearly halfway toward reaching our 2013 "second mile" goal of \$50,000. The Easter Offering represents a vital part of Jesus' ministry — to share God's love through our mission and outreach programs, including **First Street Methodist Mission, FUMC Outreach Ministries** (Crime Victims Council, Justice for Our Neighbors, **FUMC Methodist Justice Ministry, United Community Centers, and Habitat for Humanity**), **Central Texas Conference Church Growth and Development Shares Program, and Global Theological Education with the SMU Perkins School of Theology.** We will receive Easter Offerings throughout by the end of the Season of Easter on May 19. Offering envelopes are in the pew pockets in the Sanctuary (or you can simply designate "Easter Offering" on your check), or visit www.myfumc.org to give online.



XYZ (EXTRA YEARS OF ZEST)

Thursdays | 9:30 am - noon | Rm 224

Play dominoes, 42 and chicken foot, and enjoy lively conversation and great food with the XYZ Seniors. All are welcome to come and play! Questions? Contact Rev. Phyllis McDougal (pmcdougal@myfumc.org) at 817/339-5082.

4.11 – 4.14 UMC SINGLES RETREAT

Sponsored by the South Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and Tarrant Area Singles, the ReImagine Single Conference is an opportunity for those interested in discovering new insights into personal healing, fulfilling relations and how to reimagine the role of church in the lives of single adults. Those interested in developing or supporting singles ministries in their churches or communities are invited to attend and gain new insights into the challenges of and opportunities for connecting to single adults. The cost of the retreat is \$45; please make checks payable to UMC Singles and mail to Ellen Bauman, FUMC, 313 N. Center, Arlington, TX 76011. For more information, contact (EBauman@ArlingtonMethodist.org) at 817/274-2571 or Cindy Young (CYoung1952@ATT.net) at 817/924-9443.

4.18 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

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

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 spouses) invited; dress is business casual. RSVP Elaine Johnson at ejohnson@myfumc.org or Reverend Chuck Graff (cgraff@myfumc.org) at 817/339-5065 **by 4.15.**

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

9:45 am | Room 336

Join this new discussion-based class for young couples, led by Molly and Tom Hardgrove, to explore the essentials of building a solid foundation that will weather life's ups and downs. Contact Rev. Gena Anderson (ganderson@myfumc.org) at 817/339-5067.

4.23 UMW STYLE SHOW

4:00 – 6:00 pm | Ridglea Country Club For more information or to buy tickets, contact Anita McCrary (817) 596-0126 or Jenny Purcell (817) 291-1935.



4.26 – 4.27 LOCK-IN-N-OUT

Open to all current 6th – 12th graders, the Youth Lock-In-N-Out is designed for tons of fun! Cost is \$50; sign up by April 14. Contact Brenda Kegans (bkegans@myfumc.org) at 817/339-3888.

ATTN GRADUATING SENIORS!

Apply for two scholarships offered at FUMC. The deadline to apply is April 26, 2013. For more information contact Brenda Kegans (bkegans@myfumc.org) at 817/339-3888.



APRIL IS FOR

POTS/PANS/PLATES/GLASSES

Throughout April, please bring pots, pans, plates and glasses to the Mission during regular donation hours during the week (Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm) or to the Welcome Center on Sundays.



4.21 LISTENING TO DIVORCE

Sundays, 4.21-5.5 | 9:00 -10:30 am

Foundation Bldg. | Rm 370

A three-week series focusing on understanding, healing, and learning from the past to move into the future. Contact Marianne Wilson (mwilson@myfumc.org) at 817/339-5071.

SIGN UP BY 4.14

HIGHER LOVE WEEKEND:

BASIC TRAINING FOR THE HEART

Deadline for registration is April 14 for this relationship-changing experience at Stillwater Lodge in Glen Rose Texas June 7-9 led by Charles Gaby, MA, LPC. All inclusive cost is \$245 per person; registration limited to 20. Contact Marianne Wilson (mwilson@myfumc.org) at 817/ 339-5071.

SAVE THE DATES

More details coming soon!

6.9 KENDA CREASY DEAN will visit FUMC to lead an event and preach in both sanctuary worship services before serving as speaker for the 2013 Central Texas Annual Conference.

5.2 REGISTER FOR MISSION DAY CAMP, VBS & SACRAMENT SCHOOL

There will be registration tables in the garden for Day Camp, VBS, and Sacrament School from 9:30 am -12:30 pm.

OUTDOOR MINISTRY RETREAT

5.3 - 5.5 | Daingerfield State Park

Contact Rev. Chuck Graff (cgraff@myfumc.org) at 817/339-5065 about these or other outdoor opportunities.

5.6 COFFEE, POVERTY AND JESUS BOOK CLUB

6:00 – 7:30 | Room 231

Our May CPJ Book Club Selection is *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk* by Ben Fountain. The book is available for \$10 in the Adult Education Office. Questions? Contact Rev. Page Hines (phines@firststreetmission.org) at 817/339-8881.

6.7 - 6.9 HIGHER LOVE WEEKEND:

BASIC TRAINING FOR THE HEART

Contact Marianne Wilson (mwilson@myfumc.org) at 817/ 339-5071.

5.2 ROOM IN THE INN VOLUNTEER TRAINING

6:00 pm | Justin Building

Room in the Inn offers food and shelter on Thursday evenings to 12 homeless men during July and August. To participate, plan to attend the mandatory new volunteer training meeting. Volunteer opportunities range from preparing the Justin Building, driving our guests to and from the Day Resource Center, preparing meals, and visiting and staying overnight with our guests. To attend the training or if you are interested in volunteering but can't attend this mandatory training session, you must contact Rev. Page Hines (phines@firststreetmission.org) at 817/339-8881.

Welcome, FUMC CONNECT!

If you have not yet seen the new FUMC CONNECT magazine, we invite you to stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a copy — or take a look at it online (Go to <http://bit.ly/ZCr5fY> and download it if you'd like!) at . If you'd like to receive CONNECT by mail, please contact Lisa Helm (lhelm@myfumc.org) at 817/339-2403 to set up your mail subscription. Please be aware that although there is no charge for printed copies of FUMC WEEKLY NEWS and CONNECT magazine; however, donations welcome to help cover the costs of printing and postage for those who prefer print.

NEW MEMBERS



Meg and Steven Jones
Eli (17), Aaron (15)



Kelly and Clark Meador,
Hayden (4), Harper (13 mo.)

BAPTISMS



Adeline Claire Arbour
Daughter of
Laura and Neilson Arbour.

KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

James Van Hook

IN MEMORIAM

Bobbie Kilpatrick

TEACHERS & TOPICS

Classes Meeting on Sunday, April 14

- Aldersgate Couples** | Room 333 | 9:30 am
First Street Methodist Mission | Jason Moon
- Cana Disciples** | Room 332 | 9:30 am
- Covenant** | Room 331 at 9:30 am | Carl Stenger
- Creative Couples** | Room 321 | 9:45 am
- Downtown Singles** | Room 340-341 | 11:00 am
Your Memoirs | Claud Crowley
- Genesis Couples** | Room 351 | 9:45 am
- Good Neighbors** | Room 334 | 11:00 am | Rev. Linda McDermott
- 8:30 am In-Depth Bible Study** | Room 350 | Dr. Lamar Smith
All Month Study - *Jesus in Jerusalem*
- Inquirers** | Room 352 | 9:30 am
Formation of the New Testament | Rev. Gena Anderson
- Journey** | Room 230 | 10:00 am
Wired Word: Relating Biblical Teaching & Christian Beliefs to Current Events | Dr. Jim Riddlesperger
- Koinonia** | Room 224 | 9:30 am | Carrie & Ken Hinze
Kingdom Culture: *An Audience of One*
- Loyalty** | Room 334 | 9:30 am
Kenya Mission Trip | Nancy Tully, FUMC Director of Outreach
- New Horizon Singles** | Room 231 | 9:30 am
- New Passages** | Room 352 | 11:00 am
- Partners** | Room 320 | 9:30 am | Rev. Linda McDermott
- Sojourners** | Room 335 | 9:30 am | Karl Alexander
Moses (Part 2)
- Trinity Fellowship** | Room 340-341 | 9:30 am
- Twosome** | Room 154 | 9:30 am
- Veriditas** | Room 272F (Foundation Building) | 9:30 am
(All Month Study) *Wisdom of Native Americans* | Ann Dunkin
- Wesley Bible** | Room 350 | 9:30 am | Dr. Ron Ballard, Leader
- Young Couples** | Room 336 | 9:45 am | Molly and Tom Hardgrove
(All Month Study) *Seeking God Together*

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.