

September 2026 Newsletter



Worshipping with the Rockport Community since 1870

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
of Rockport

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"Love is a verb of which God is the object" this quote is by Lysurgus M. Starkey, Jr. And is an expression of love in action! As Christians, we are called to love one another through our actions. 1 John 4:8 reminds us "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." The more we love one another, the more God is present in our life and circumstances. We must even love those that are a challenge in our life, those we do not understand, and those that often times feel unlovable. How do you express God's love?

I want to thank everyone for the love and support you have shown me As I completed my course of study. I am grateful to be done and look forward to the next season of my life as a pastor.

I also wanted to extend gratitude to Alfredo for many years of service to this congregation. He has been given a wonderful opportunity to work for the Rockport Fulton ISD receiving benefits that he was not getting here at the church. It is a wonderful opportunity and we are so happy for him and his family. With that said he will no longer be the custodian here at the church. He is still employed by the church and will continue to do custodial work at FLT. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he embarks on this amazing endeavor.

Blessings,

Pastor Melissa Lind



This monthly newsletter is published by
First United Methodist Church of Rockport,
801 Main Street, Rockport, TX 78382.

Send address changes to:
P.O. Box 1045, Rockport, TX 78381

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First United Methodist Church of Rockport

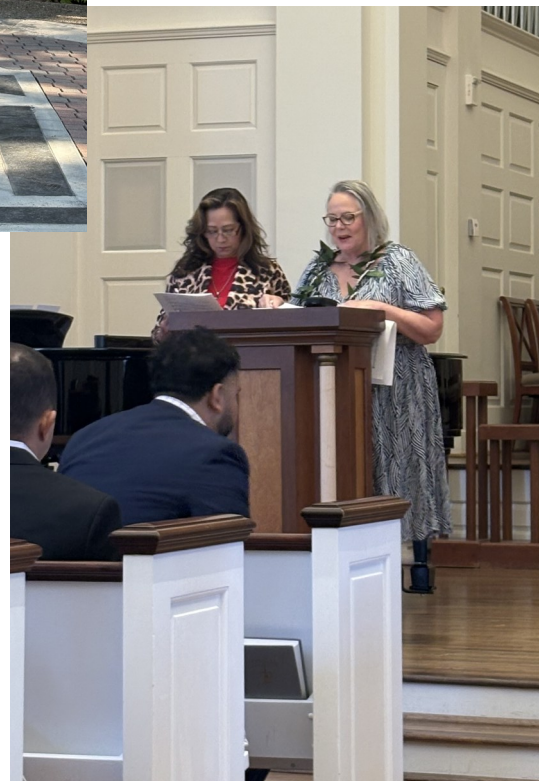
FUMC Phone No. 361.729.1659

Staff Extension Numbers

Rev Melissa Lind, Senior Pastor.....	x2248
Josh Moses	x2575
Gabby Galvan Business Manager.....	x2574
Pam Jaschke Administrative Assistant	x2576
Madaline Brown, First Learning Tree Director.....	x2584
Geralyn Matejcek, Wesley Health Nurse.....	x2578
Valerie Goodrum, Director of Children& Youth.....	x2579

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Pastor Mel's Graduation





Anniversaries

Jake & Donna Meyer, September 3rd, 60 Years

Alan & Paula Barre, September 28th, 41 Years



Birthdays

Alfredo Gonzales, September 6th

Audry St. Peter, September 10th

Alyssa Graham, September 10th

Jeanne Coe, September 11th

Jean Gould, September 11th

David Murrah, September 13th

Tom Serota, September 19th

Michelle Brock, September 20th

John Gay, September 21st

Annette Hegen, September 23rd

Ginger Gay, September 25th

First Learning Tree

Happy Fall Y'all! It's finally here. Pumpkin season. But first, we have some fun events coming up. First, is our "Grandparents' Day" celebration when grandparents will join us for a special craft creation with their grandchild. This is an endearing time to spend together and we cannot wait. The following week, we are closed for "Staff Development Day" when we train for "active shooter" and "stop the bleed." These are important to ensure the safety of our school and students. Our next fun event is "Community Helper Week," and we will have guest speakers here to talk to our children about their important work. Thank you to all of our community helpers for all you do. Finally, drum roll please..... the pumpkins are arriving on September 26 at 4:00 p.m.. As you know, this is our only fundraiser of the year, and we need your help. Please consider helping us by unloading pumpkins, passing out water, decorating, delegating set up, selling, and so much more. We cannot do this without you, so let's go!



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Hello everyone,

As we settle into our school routine and prepare for fall, I would like to start planning for next year's Vacation Bible School (VBS). Our theme will be "Diving into the Deep Deep Love of Jesus," featuring an underwater adventure. We are tentatively aiming for the third week in June. Volunteer registration is now open, so please reach out if you can help in any capacity.

August was a busy month as summer wound down and school began. We are still planning our outing and lock-in for the boys, which we will schedule once the weather cools down. Additionally, we hope to present our Bible characters this month. If anyone is available to help sew costumes, your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

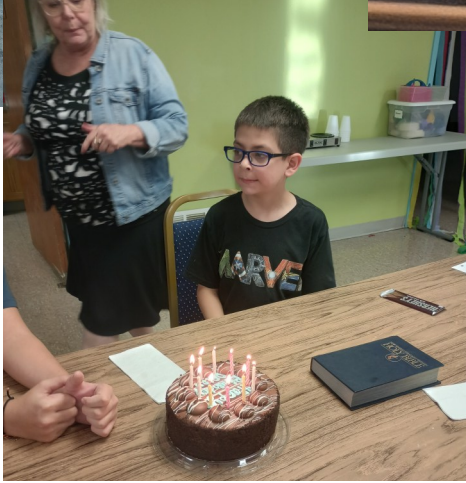
Thank you all for everything you do for our youth. You are welcome to join us anytime.

Best regards,

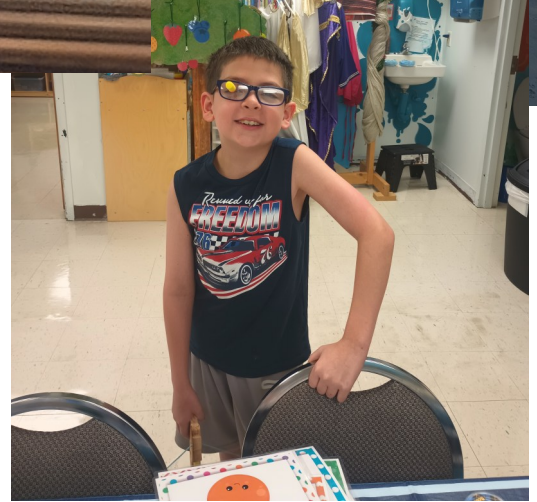
Valerie Goodrum
Children and Youth Ministries Director



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Children & Youth



CROSS TALK SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Cross Talk Class enjoyed a summer break and is back! This group, known for its lively discussions, is led by various members on a wide range of subjects. This year we're abandoning our usual routine of having written and DVD material provided by trained authorities and instead will use biblical foundations chosen to encourage conversations, discussions, questions, and ongoing thinking. The group meets in the Rec Room at 9:15 for fellowship and friendship with the topic presentation and commentary at 9:30. The subject for the following week will be published for everyone's advanced consideration. The Cross Talk Class will have its first gathering on Sept 15, the first Sunday after the Labor Day week-end. John Gay will lead on the topic of "God in People's Lives---from the Old Testament to Today."

The group is like family and welcomes new faces to join in the fun.

Castaways

Summertime has been great for us donation-wise. However, we could surely use your help sorting and pricing the things you and fellow Methodist supporters have so generously contributed. Please let us know when you can help. Our newest volunteer is Kathy Wilson, former FUMC Wesley Nurse. We love her work ethic and cheerful attitude and welcome her to our industrious team. Our Thursday shoppers are extremely loyal and appreciate learning how the proceeds from their yellow tag purchases are used. We often include that info in our announcements. Please consider helping out at the store. Regular volunteers have appointments, travel and emergencies which causes absences that you can fill. Would you consider donating an hour or two here and there to help out? Thank you, Annette Hegen

VOLUNTEER *opportunities*



Ever wonder if you could make more of a positive difference in our Rockport community? The answer is a resounding “yes.” Simply volunteer to help out with Community Table. All it takes is a food handler’s license.

Kris Stumpf (210.268.6855) can answer all of your questions and even share a website where you can take the test on line.

Passing is guaranteed!





PRAYER TEAM

This team is dedicated to lifting up our church, congregation & community in prayer throughout the week. If you have a prayer request for yourself or a loved one, or if you feel called to join this important ministry, you can find information on how to participate in our bulletin or on our website. We believe that united prayer can do amazing things, and we look forward to seeing how God works through this team.

For more information contact Doris Owens:

at 361-463-8666 or at rockportfumcprayerteam@gmail.com





Wesley Nurse News Flash

September 2026

Dear Church Family and Friends,

I am continuing to see many patients each month for different needs. I had 65 patient encounters in July and have close to 80 so far for August. The expectation is 65 encounters per month with a focus on individuals aged 18-64 under or uninsured.



Patient Spotlight: I recently had a single mother come to me to ask for women's personal items, and it turned into so much more! When I met KK, she was working as a private caregiver. She had completed her cosmetology courses but needed to take her practical exam. With the help of donations from local cosmetologists and the Wesley Nurse funds, we assisted KK with purchasing the items she needed for her exam. These items totaled up to around \$350.00. I assisted her with fuel to get to Austin for the test. KK passed her boards and is officially a licensed cosmetologist. She put in a lot of hard work as a single mother to start her career. I am so proud of her! She does continue to do private sitting while building her clientele for hair services. She is a success story!

WN Food Pantry & Closet: Our emergency food pantry and closet serves many individuals each month. These community members feel welcomed and experience the love of Jesus through a hot meal, a cup of coffee, and a welcoming smile. Please consider adding a few items to your grocery shopping and dropping them by the church. We could use frozen tv dinners, burritos, breakfast sandwiches along with K-cups for the coffee. **Thank you** to everyone who donates and continues to support this ministry of the church. The food pantry is



Special request for September: Generic protein shakes, small waters, Spam, Vienna sausages, sugar free sports drinks.

Fitness Classes: We continue to have a lot of fun in our Seniorcise and Zumba Gold classes. As always, there are modifications for every fitness level, and we would love you all to join us soon. Keeping your legs and arm muscles strong are critical to healthy aging.

Zumba Gold Mondays will return in October but we are still meeting Wednesdays at 10 am

Seniorcise Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10 am-11 am.



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The **Diabetic Education and Support Group** continues to meet at 12:00 noon on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Recreation Room. We have several community members who attend each month. The educational focus was [How to Recognize and Treat DKA: It Can Save Your Life! - Taking Control Of Your Diabetes®](#)

Our next meeting is **September 8th at 12:00 noon** in the Recreation Room. Dr. Nguyen from Wavefront Eye Center will present a program on Glaucoma. Everyone is invited to attend..

Bicycle Ministry: Thank you to everyone who recently donated new and used bicycles. These bicycles are given to individuals who need transportation getting back and forth to work, grocery shopping, etc. I donated 5 bicycles in August. If you have a bicycle that needs to be picked up from your home, please let me know and I will send the bicycle angels to pick it up! Ask your friends, shop at the garage sales, buy a new one at Wal-Mart.

I have a waiting list of 3 individuals needing bicycles.



Thank you all so much for your continued support, donations, and prayers. They are appreciated more than you know. Please feel free to call or text me anytime at **210-455-1409**. My door is always open, and God bless you all, Geralyn

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Acts 20:35

“Serving Humanity to Honor God”

Small Group Study Opportunities



In person:

Sunday

Truth Seekers
Children & Youth



FREE Community Exercise Class

Zumba Gold & Seniorcise: Standing or Seated

Take back control of your health & improve your life through exercise. DVD led class with modifications for every fitness level. These exercises can be done seated or standing. These classes will help you develop strength, enhance your ability to function in daily life, improve your balance, lose weight, boost your energy & metabolism. They can even help you play more with your grandchildren! Strengthen your body & mind to help you enjoy a life of independence!



**Zumba Gold 8:00 am, Monday
& 10:00 am Wednesday**

**Seniorcise Classes are at 10:00
am, on Monday, Tuesday &
Thursday.**

First United Methodist Church
801 Main Street
Rockport, TX

For more information, contact:
361-729-1659
Or GERALYN Matejcek, BSN, RN
Wesley Nurse
210-455-1409

www.mhm.org



Come Join Us!
FUMC of Rockport
801 E. Main Street

**Every Tuesday at
11:00 am in the
Bistro**

**We play card games, |
board games &
Mahjong !**

**If you have a favorite
game bring it!**



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS:

9:30 am Small Group Studies

10:45am Together in Spirit - Communion on the First Sunday of the month

6:00 pm Living Water Worship (Spanish)

- www.fumcrookport.org/worship
- Facebook: First United Methodist Church Rockport Tx
- Instagram: FUMCrockport

*Let us know you're worshipping with us from home by filling out the online Friendship Card.
You can find the link on our home page @ www.fumcrookport.org*

First United Methodist Rockport Serving the Rockport Community since 1870

PRAYER:

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to:

rockportfumcprayerteam@gmail.com

SMALL GROUP AND BIBLE STUDIES:

Sun: Cross Talk, Begins on September 15th at 9:15 am

Truth Seekers 9:30 am, Conf. Room

GIVING

- Give online at fumcrookport.org/give
- Mail to 801 E. Main Street, Rockport TX 78382



For the latest updates, check our website at fumcrookport.org

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH

HAS GOD DONE SOMETHING AMAZING IN YOUR LIFE?

Others would benefit from reading about it—You can share your testimony in the newsletter!

Email to: admin@fumcrockport.org



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