
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH STANTON

2026 Newsletter



LETTER FROM PASTOR BOBBY

Greetings First Methodist Stanton Family!

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As we move into 2026, let's take a brief moment to celebrate the church's faithfulness in 2025.

Thank You For Your Faithfulness

We experienced a great movement of God in our Children's and Youth Ministries in our Wednesday programming, Sunday Night Youth, Vacation Bible School, Summer Camps, and more. Attendance and connection in our Children's and Youth Discipleship programs are continuing to grow. Our Youth Leaders Karis and Edward have done an excellent job investing in the lives of our youth and in creating the Youth Leadership Team. You all have seen them serving as greeters, ushers, liturgists, and more on Sunday morning. There are many other areas they serve behind the scenes. The Youth Leadership Team is open to any high school age student that is active in the youth group. Vacation Bible School, the Fall Festival, and our other children's ministry outreach events were a great success. Thank you for your faithfulness in volunteering, giving, and most important, your prayers.

In 2025, you invested over \$146,683 directly into discipleship ministries for our children, youth, and adults to help them develop a deeper faith in Jesus Christ. You shared over \$309,000 in missions and outreach to our local community and beyond to share the love and hope of Christ with those in need. This includes nearly \$30,000 given for flood relief in Kerrville and central Texas, over \$125,000 given to help those in our community and west Texas, and over \$67,000 invested into sharing the good news of Jesus throughout the United States and world.

First Methodist Church experienced another extraordinary year of financial faithfulness of our church members and financial blessing in 2025.

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General Offerings: \$673,513.00 (*an increase of over \$180,000 from 2024*)
Investments Interest: \$130,518.35 (*as of 11/30/25*)
Designated Offerings: \$19,813.00 **Minerals Income:** \$576,884.12
Other Income: \$35,516.69 **Bud Lindsey Estate:** \$960,000.00
Total Giving & Income: **\$2,396,245.16**

Thank Yous From 2025

Please be sure to give a BIG THANK YOU to our discipleship, worship, nursery, and janitorial staff. They are wonderful and pour their hearts and time into planning and leading the ministries of the church.

Discipleship Staff: Karis Carstensen, Edward Alberts, and Karyn Cook.

Worship Staff: Rena Harri, Laurel Silva

Nursery Staff: Dorotea Ramos

Janitorial Staff: Patty Venegas, Perla Gutierrez

Please also be sure to give a big thanks to all our ministry volunteers from music, discipleship, worship, and so much more!

Thank you for once again taking part in the Angel Tree that provides Christmas gifts for the children at the Josiah and Bethany Children's Home in Reynosa, Mexico. Through your generosity, we provided gifts for the five children living there plus gifts for the adult employees and volunteers at the Children's Home.

Thank you for another wonderful Advent and Christmas Season! A special thank you goes to everyone who helped decorate and take down the Christmas decorations. Thank you to Kelli Holland, Leah Mitchell, Karis Carstensen, Edward Alberts, and Karyn Cook for helping lead our Children's Christmas Music program. Our hope is to make this an annual event again.

Thank you to everyone for your prayers for the church as we continue to move forward with our mission of Celebrating God's Presence, Demonstrating God's Love, Communicating God's Word, and Educating God's People! Our church has been serving Christ and sharing His love with our community in so many ways over the last year.

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Through the launching of our Tuesday lunches for the Stanton High School students, student of the week prizes for our Stanton Elementary students, Wednesday Night ministries, concerts, movie nights, and more in the MAC. Our Annual Conference challenged each church to connect with and serve 10% of its community. We have far exceeded this goal by serving nearly 25%-30% of our community. Thank you for your commitment to serve with Christ and sharing His love.

Thank you to everyone for your suggestions of mission and outreach organization to send the October General Offering. Seven organizations were chosen. Each received \$5000 each, for a total of \$35,000.

The organizations are: 1) Christmas in Action - Permian Basin, 2) Casa De Amigos - Midland, 3) Evon's Hope - Amarillo, 4) Wesley Foundation at West Texas A&M - Canyon, 5) Global Kingdom Ministries - Builds Safe Houses For Children rescued from sex trafficking in India, 6) Western Conference of the Global Methodist Church for new church starts, 7) International Conference for Church Renewal, Evangelism, and Discipleship.

Looking Forward

Our N.O.W. Team (Nurture, Outreach/Mission, Witness/Worship) is continuing to plan some excellent discipleship, missions, and outreach events in the MAC. This month we are hosting a community event with Christian Comedian, Bob Smiley on Saturday, January 24th. We will host a concert with musical artist Whitlee Casey on Saturday, March 21st. Please continue to pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance and discernment as we seek to use the MAC to help others grow in Jesus Christ and to be a great blessing of God's love and hope for our community.

Our Children's and Youth Ministries have many great things planned for the rest of this year. We will continue to have our Wednesday Night Encounter program that offers discipleship opportunities for all ages. We are looking forward to Vacation Bible School in June, Children's and Youth Summer Camps, and more.

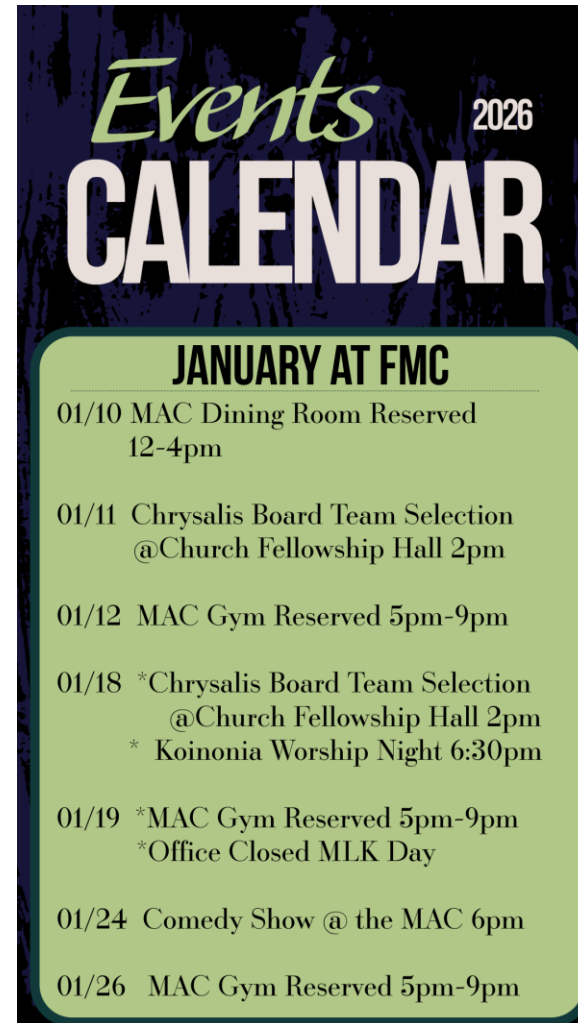
We will also return to the tradition of having an Annual Church Picnic. The Church Picnic will be Sunday, May 31st at the new Martin County Community Complex. We will share more details as the date approaches.

God Bless,
Pastor Bobby

STAY CONNECTED

Did you know that you
can view our calendar
live?!

Go to the calendar page
on our website to stay up
to date!



BOB SMILEY



**HIGH-ENERGY COMEDY
FOR EVERYONE**

**FREE DINNER AND COMEDY SHOW
FOR EVERYONE**

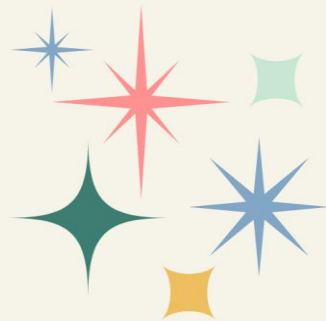
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24TH
6:00PM AT THE MAC**

Need A Bible?

A close-up photograph of an open Bible. The pages are aged and yellowed, with visible text. A red ribbon bookmark is placed between the pages, extending from the right side. The background is dark and out of focus.

WE HAVE NEW BIBLES AVAILABLE IN
THE SANCTUARY FOR ANYONE WHO
WANTS OR NEEDS ONE. GRAB ONE FOR
YOURSELF OR FOR A FRIEND.

FMC Youth 6 Flags Trip!!





**WINTER YOUTH
RETREAT @
BUTMAN CAMP**



FMC PRAYER'S NEEDED

David Adkins
Joe Alvizo
Kim Anderson
Lupe Moreno
Tommy Villa
Charlotte White

