

## **First United Methodist Church**

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Mason, Texas 76856

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[www.fumcmason.org](http://www.fumcmason.org)

***January 18, 2026***  
***2nd Sunday of Epiphany***



### **GATHERING/WELCOME**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Children of God, who has God called you to be?

**Amanda McMillan**

#### **A light to all the nations!**

When confusion, disunity, and misinformation threaten to undo us, who are you called to be?

#### **A light to all the nations!**

When wars and rumors of wars in our communities and around the world overwhelm us, who are you called to be?

#### **A light to all the nations!**

When the vulnerable are left without care or hope for flourishing, who are you called to be?

#### **A light to all the nations!**

Come! Let us worship God, who gives us as a light of good news to all the nations!

**We come to worship God, who calls us and equips us to reflect God's glory and abundant life into all the world. Amen.**

**\*SONG OF PRAISE**

**UMH#662**

“Stand Up and Bless the Lord” v. 1,2,5”

1. Stand up and bless the Lord, ye people of his choice; stand up and bless the Lord your God with heart and soul and voice.	2. Though high above all praise, above all blessing high, who would not fear his holy name, and laud and magnify?
	5. Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God adore; stand up and bless his glorious name, henceforth forevermore.

***Acolytes bring in the light of Christ acknowledging the Presence of God.***

**A YEAR WITH GOD.** We color Epiphany green because it is the time we celebrate how God is made known to the world.

**CENTERING PRAYER SONG: “Spirit Song” v.2**

**UMH #347**

2. O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy. Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name. O give him all your tears and sadness; give him all your years of pain, and you’ll enter into life in Jesus’ name.	Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
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**CONFESSION**

**Gracious and loving God, hear our prayer. We know we do not always live as we ought: We turn away from you, from our neighbor, and from our true selves. We know we dim your light within us, With our pride, our self-righteousness, and our need for control We know that you love us, that you do not abandon us, and that again and again you call us back to you, back to love, back to grace, back to your light. Forgive us, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, hear the good news: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. Let us proclaim the good news:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**YOUNG DISCIPLES TIME**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:**

**Amanda McMillan**

**Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove: Open our ears to the truth of your word, that the testimony of Christ may be strengthened among us and the glad news of deliverance revealed. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 49: 1-7

**Amanda McMillan**

49 Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother’s womb, he named me. 2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand, he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. 3 And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” 4 But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God.” 5 And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—6 he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” 7 Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up: princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

**SONG OF PREPARATION:** *“The Summons” v.1,2,5*

**FWS #2130**

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?	2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.	

**SCRIPTURE:** John 1:29-42

**Pastor Laura**

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks

ahead of me because he was before me.’ 31 I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” 32 And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” 39 He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed. 42 He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter.

**SERMON:** The Gift of Unbridled Curiosity

**Pastor Laura**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY** “Would I Have Answered When You Called”

**FWS#2137**

**\*SONG OF THANKS:** Doxology

**UMH #95**

**OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AND SERVE**

**\*SONG OF COMMITMENT:** “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

**UMH #140**

<p>1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.</p>	<p>Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!</p>
<p>2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.</p>	<p>Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!</p>
<p>3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!</p>	<p>Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!</p>

## SENDING FORTH - BLESSING

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*UMH=United Methodist Hymnal; FWS=The Faith We Sing; W&S=Worship and Song*

### **Questions for Reflection**

*Andrew invited his brother Simon Peter to meet Jesus, and Peter's life was changed forever. Do you invite others to come and see Jesus? How do you watch and listen for those who might be seeking Jesus? Do you trust God to give you gifts for sharing the story of your salvation? How then do you show the world God's love made real in Christ?*

### **Household Prayer: Morning**

*You inclined your ear and heard my cry and lifted me when I was low. Strengthen me for service as I carry your light in the world. Amen.*

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

*Jesus, fill me with your peace, that I may be strengthened to the end and find my rest in you. Amen.*



***Please pray for our members and loved ones who are homebound or residing in nursing homes.***

***Also, please pray for: the family of Kerry Graham Rustin, Donna Nelson, Randy Eastes, Debbie Boatright the following individuals: Natalia Ramon, Anne Chappell & Terri Reardon, Katherine Graham (friend of***

*Nikki Watson diagnosed w/ cancer), George Eastes, Amy Reardon (CJ Reardon's daughter), Barbara Young, LeiLei Vermulen (chemo treatments), Marty Evans (son of Dennis & Kay Evans), Aubrey Burrow, Gerry Gamel, Kathy Kerr, Kash (Rodney Flemings 1 yr old grandson), Rick Woerner (Father of Tiffany K.), Bonnie Woerner (Stepmother of Tiffany Klaerner), Joan Whitaker, Shirley Beth Lyles, Lauren Hoerster, Connar Reardon, Doris Grote, Lorine Metz, the church, the homeless, and all those affected by war and by natural disasters.*

***Please pray for our members and loved ones who are in the military.***

***U.S. Army: Joseph Alba, T.J. Schovajsa, Britney Schovajsa and Kalyn Bauer US Marine Corp: Hunter Goodwin USAF: Matt Adam US Navy: Ferd T. Slocum III & Truman Coe***

**MINISTERS—ALL MEMBERS OF FUMC  
STAFF—LISTED BELOW**

<b>Rev. Laura Hewett Becker</b>	<b><a href="mailto:pastorlaura@fumcmason.org">pastorlaura@fumcmason.org</a></b>
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<b>Leslie Whitworth Music Dir.</b>	

Giving and Attendance	
LAST WEEK'S GIVING (JAN 11, 2026) .....	\$ 2,792.00
DEC. MTD GIVING.....	\$31,550.16
DEC. BUDGETED INCOME.....	\$31,424.58
DEC. MTD EXPENSE.....	\$18,909.00
DEC. BUDGETED EXP.....	\$77,224.64
DEC. EXTRA BENEVOLENCE...(ANGEL TREE).....	\$ 4,810
LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE (JAN 11) .....	57

# *This week's Calendar*

## **Sunday, January 18**

9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages  
11:00 AM Worship Service  
4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts

## **Monday, January 19**

MLK – Office Closed  
09:30 AM prayer Shawl  
10:30 AM Senior Exercise  
05:00 PM Foundation Meeting  
05:15 PM Trustees Meeting  
05:30 PM M. Habitat Board Meeting

## **Tuesday, January 20**

**Birthday- Nonie Stringer**  
02:40 PM Steady Steps Chapel

## **Wednesday, January 21**

**Birthday – Cameron Bauer**  
10:30 AM Mason Ministerial Alliance  
10:30 AM Senior Exercise  
06:00 PM Choir Practice  
06:00 PM Habitat Workshop

## **Thursday, January 22**

## **Friday, January 23**

**Birthday – Drew Tallen & Jim Heath**  
10:30 AM Seniors Exercise Group

## **Saturday, January 24**

**Birthday – Jess Irwin**

## **Sunday, January 25**

9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages  
11:00 AM Worship Service  
4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts