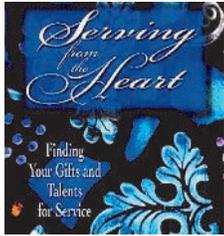


# CHURCH MATTERS

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3      FEBRUARY 4, 2014

## SERVING FROM THE HEART



Serving From the Heart is a 2-day small group study designed to help each participant consider his or her own spiritual gifts, talents & abilities,

individuality, dreams and experiences to discover how they can best serve God and neighbor. If you are questioning where God is calling you to serve at Euless First, this is the class for you. Facilitated by Lynne Moffatt and Pat Bailey, the class will meet Tuesdays, February 18 & 25 6:30pm-9:00pm in the Library. There is a \$20 fee

required to cover the cost of your personal study book. Class size is limited- first come first served. Call 817-283-4421 to register by Sunday, February 11. You can also register online at [fumceuless.org](http://fumceuless.org), click on "Register." A registration form can also be found at the Welcome Desk.

## CULTIVATING OUR CALL UPDATE

Thanks to all of you who joined in any of the 8 Cultivating the Call sessions held between last October and last week. The point of these meetings was to have open conversation between our Senior Pastor and the congregation about who we are and where we are headed as a church.

Attendance at these sessions varied from 3 to 15 people. We had people who have lived all their lives in Euless First UMC and people who have not actually joined yet. The age range was mid 20s to mid 80s.

We heard many different stories. In them, we noted these common threads:

Relationships built in and through Euless First are highly valued

We all appreciate being

accepted by and the opportunity to worship and grow with people who are not all "exactly like us."

Even if we don't like everything the church is doing, we realize any single thing that might not be our "style" reaches and blesses someone else.

We draw strength from being reminded that, as a church, we "are trying to follow Jesus better today than yesterday."

We want the hope and hospitality that has drawn us together at Euless First UMC to draw, help, encourage, and support others as well.

These conversations were originally intended to identify what we had been "doing well" in 2013. Each conversation quickly became about more than merely listing events, experiences, or ideas.

The sharing was valuable enough that in addition to everything else, we've decided to continue the pattern! Beginning in March, we will have a monthly opportunity for "Coffee with the Pastors." We will be especially intentional to invite newer visitors and members, but everyone will be welcome to be part of the conversation.

## SERVING FROM THE HEART

**What:** Spiritual Gifts Study

**When:** February 18 & 25  
6:30 p.m.

**Who:** Anyone that seeks to find their place of service.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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PRAYER LIST

If your prayer request has been left off, please resubmit it. All requests are for 30 days only, and will need to be resubmitted after that time.

All cancer patients, young and old	Dunkan and Barbara Tandy	Julie Ratliff	Melissa Schilling and her son, Oliver, Darlene Carter's great niece	Ron Hula, Stephen Pilney's friend	<b>In the Military:</b> Carl Miller
Allison Fry, Rachel VanVleet's cousin	Elizabeth Polenz Penland	Kari Mason, Kaitlin Coats' mother	Merrick family	Sandra Clopton, Robbie Clopton's mother	Chris Mulford, Pat Bailey's grandson
Alma Morgan	Emma Boggs, Billie Bradford's cousin	Katy Ott, Kathy Knowles	Merrit family	Sherry White, David Davis' aunt	Colton Hardaway and Kayla Davis, son and daughter of Michael and Lore Osborn
Amber and Jeff Bosher and kids, Kim Jones' family	Family of Gary Sprinkle	Kevin and Lisa Balentine on the birth of their adopted son, Adam, Cindy Balentine's son and daughter-in-law	Michael Mulholland	Stan Clarke, Sue & Richard Morrow's friend	Devan DeBoyington, Robin Biles' friend
Angela Ferguson	Family of Iva Nail	Kevin Maines	Michele Heroux and family, Amber Hawthorne's friend	Steve Dupree, Dale Miller's co-worker	Eric Sherrer, Justin Sherrer, Patric Owen, and Alan McClelland, Grandnephews of Vic and Judy Torres
Anne Smith	Family of Johnathan Skinner, Heidi Graham's cousin	Kim and Jeremy Jones	Michele Moffatt, Alan and Lynne Moffatt's sister-in-law	Students going back to college	Gail Worofka
Artith, Ryane Barker's aunt	Family of Lois Johnson	Kim Knighton	Michelle and Baker Ingram	Sydney Gorton	James Fiaccone, Sue Fiacone's grandson
Ashley Haggard, Shelly Grant's cousin	Family of Nellie Lewis, Dave Lewis' mother	Kimberly Massey, Milford Roop's step-sister	Milford Roop	Sydney Marie Peel, Pat May's great niece	Jeffrey Stone, Lucille Link's nephew
Beth Gathings	Fran Medenwald, Judy Mulholland's friend	Kirk Johnson	Nancy Jones, Billie Bradford's cousin	Terri Marlow	Josh Crow, Annette Kelleher's son
Bobby and Virginia Williams, Robin Biles' friends	Gloria Kiontke, Brenda Hurlbut's mother	Lee Swann	Nick and Lisa Schoenberger, Ron Coats' friends	Terron Muller, Les Foley's niece	Justin Knighton
Bobby Trainham, Jay Bradford's friend	Gordon and Linda Roberts, Nancy Bickel's friends	Leland, Les and Denise Foley's grandson	Nolan Hardwick, Barbara Collier's father	The unemployed	Stephen Tate
Cameron Mode	Greg	Leslee, The Tyler's friend	Pat Holland, Cindy Balentine's sister	Tim and Janna Martin and kids, Kim Jones' family	Travis Thomas
Carol Rust, Dottie Rust's daughter	Isobel Rosero, Caro Kenyon's mother	Linda Lett	Paul Jones, Kim Jones' family	TJ Pepper	
Chris Manzo	Jack Loftin, Stephen Pilney's co-worker's father	Lou Alice Ashby, Billie Bradford's friend	People of Syria and Egypt	Troya family	<b>Deaths:</b>
Daniel Davis, David Davis' brother	James Gordon	Madeline Wermuth	Pierre Tshimanga's family	Vinece Carlisle, Eileen Mode's friend	Ella Kalbfeisch 12/30/2013
David Gordon's aunt, Doug Graham's friend	Jim Richter, Caro and Pierre Kenyon's friend	Marcie Dauphine	Rachel VanVleet	Warner Muirhead	Iva Nail 01/18/2014
David Viggiano, Nancy Bickel's cousin	Joe Musse, David Davis' uncle	Mark Baker	Robbie Breaux, Audrey Coats' friend	Woody and Becky Kemp, Kim Jones' family	Lois Johnson 01/26/2014
Dawnita Grimes' father, Heidi Graham's friend	John and Beverly Moore, Darlene Carter's friends	Marlene Hill and John Lewis	Robert Nail	Yvonne Gordon's husband and family	
Diana Teran, Caro Kenyon's friend	Judy Mulholland	Maurine Padgett, Nancy Bickel's co-worker	Roger and Charlotte Martin, Kim Jones' family		
Diane and Nick Lara, Denise Foley's friend	Julia LaGrone, Paula Wood's friend's mother	Maxine and Bill Wallace, Kimberly Knighton's friends	Roger Ivey		
Don Bell, Lee and Sandy Swann's son-in-law	Julia McFarland, Billie Bradford's friend	Melisa Deforest, Glenn Best's friend			

CORRECTION

• Sorry but we missed Lauralee Arnold's birthday, January 23rd and Daniel Arnold's and Jo Kemp's birthday, January 29th.

CONGRATULATIONS

A great big congratulations to Zella Stierwalt on her retirement from the City of Euless after 25 years of service. Thank you for your dedication.

BIRTHDAYS

**February**

- 1 –Sheri Roberts
- 2 –Lauren Gilby, Robert McMillon, Nick Best
- 3 –Richard Worofka
- 5 –Caitlin Kramer

- 6 –Gloria Daves, Latonja Ofoduru
- 7 –Gail Worofka, Leah Menegay
- 8 –Jim Arnold
- 11 –Michael McGee, Dylan Ratliff, Faye Stinneford

- 12 –Shane Mullin
- 13 –Jo Tarrh, Zoe & Zachary Adcock
- 19 –Kellsey Abbott, Sheldra Black, Michael McGee, Ellena Moss

ANNIVERSARIES

**February**

- 5 –Jim & Beth Gathings

## MISSION TRIP

There are several mission trip opportunities coming in 2014.

Youth and adults are invited to two Central Texas Conference Youth in Mission (CTCYM) trips this summer. If you would like more info, please ask Shane Mullin.

Second, Pastor Beverly is going on the Conference Older Adults trip to Sager Brown in May. Sager Brown is the headquarters for the United Methodist Committee on Relief. When

there is a crisis in the world they send supplies and materials to help. This trip will have participants help organize and sort in the warehouse. Regardless of your physical capabilities, this trip is for you. There are still a couple of openings. Contact Beverly Springer for more info.

Finally, Pastor Steve is looking to join in the Bishop's Mission Trip to Kenya. Bishop Lowry and Rev. Dawne Phillips, CTC Director of Missions, will lead the journey to join and serve the people of Maua,

Kenya. The trip is set for Sept. 18-30, preceded by two team meetings at 6:30 p.m., April 29 and Aug. 4, at the Central Texas Conference Service Center. Visit the Conference Mission Opportunities page on [ctcumc.org](http://ctcumc.org) to view a PowerPoint presentation on the trip and to download all the required paperwork.

Pastor Steve is planning on attending this trip and would love for you to come along. Please contact him if you are

## FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Looking back on 2013, the Food Pantry at Euless First volunteers served a total of 1,658 households. There were 4,319 bags of groceries given and that weighed a total of 46,105 pounds. The Volunteers must have been tired at the end of the year, but satisfied they did GOD'S work.

Now to the work of 2014. On January 24, Gloria Daves, Trent Daves and Larry Lewis went to the Euless Kroger on North Main to pick up *Super Bowl of Caring* sacks they collected from their patrons. The donation weighed 689 pounds. Thanks Kroger's shoppers! With the Food Bank's permission, we were able to have this donation replace the Food Banks regular order. This saved the Food Pantry approximately

\$125. A group of volunteers came in, broke the sacks down, put the contents on the Pantry shelves and now the Pantry is again ready to serve the hungry in Hurst, Bedford and Euless.

Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, the food pantry had some new faces on hand. The FACS (Family and Community Service) organization from Bell High School handed out "Blessing Bags" to supplement the Food Pantry's food bags for clients. "Blessings Bags" were filled with health and snack items students collected. The FACS wanted to let clients know they were in the students' thoughts and offer them a small gift. There were 37 bags available for the clients and each was personally handed to the clients by the members of the FACS group.

Great big thanks to Bell High School FACS!

Here is the volunteer schedule:

### February

- 7 –Helen Davies, Linda Lewis, Maggie Lucas, Hedy Taylor, Judy Tribble
- 14 –Gloria Daves, Brenda Hurlbut, Joe Roberts, Sheri Roberts
- 21 –Darlene Carter, Kathy Chapman, Marie Lusk, Judy Torres
- 28 –Doris Brown, Trish Franklin, Dottie Rust, Jill Schaneberg

### Needed Food Items:

- canned soups
- canned chicken
- boxed cereal



## DINNER FOR 8

It's not too late for you to sign up. Your Hospitality Team is organizing Dinners for 8 which is a chance to get to join other church members for dinner at an area restaurant once a month for 3 months.

It is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Sign up with the church office or contact Dave Lewis.
2. Group Captain will contact you to decide on date and place.
3. You meet your group to eat

and visit!

This is a great way for you to meet people that you may not already know very well. What a great way to build community!

## PRESCHOOL

### Angel News:

Howdy Partners! The Preschool and Kindergarten western week was a bit chilly, but lots of fun! The week began with pony rides and pictures. The week concluded with a rodeo Friday, Jan. 31. The cowhands (the kids) got to wash their bandanas and hang them on the line, pan for gold, milk “cows,” ride “horses,” and eat nachos at the chuck wagon. We completed the day with a campfire sing-

along.

The beginning of February brings Valentine’s units. The Eules Public Library will be presenting a program for the students on Friday, February 7.

Please continue to save **BoxTops and Labels for Education**. There is a container next to the preschool office you can put them in. It’s like cash for schools!

Please mark your calendars now for the **25th Annual**

### Dinner and Auction February 22nd.

It’s on a Saturday this year and we have expanded it to include vendors, childrens’ activities and a live auction. We hope to see you there. Tickets will be on sale Sundays, Feb. 9 and 16 and at the door.

## CHILDREN’S



I remember being in elementary school and looking forward to Valentine’s Day each year. For me, it was decorating the shoe box we got to decorate. I would wrap it in pink construction paper and put heart stickers all over it and my name in glitter glue. So much fun! It was always so nice to have my box full of notes and treats from the kids in my class. On February 9

during the Sunday school hour, we are going to have a Valentine’s Day party. I hope to communicate the importance of God’s love for us, and the love we should have and show to each other. We’re going to have a great time! Also, Vacation Bible School is officially in the works! This year’s theme is “Workshop of Wonders.” Through experimentation and

creation, children will learn about God’s word. Please prayerfully consider becoming a volunteer this summer. I have no doubt that each and everyone of you has a special gift that can be used! If you are interested in helping out with Sunday School, please let me know as well. Your presence and service will be greatly appreciated!  
-Aubree

## YOUTH



### To help students discover who God is calling them to BE. LOVE. and SERVE.

Our vision for student ministry is that if everything that we do helps students discover who God is calling them to Be. Love. & Serve., then we believe that students

will become disciples of Jesus Christ empowered to transform the world.

**[ BE: The Great Creation ]**  
The story of the scriptures makes clear that God is pursuing human beings relentlessly. God loves us. We don't have to do anything to earn this love from God, we just receive it. This is what it means to understand the calling to BE. God desires that we know God through Jesus Christ. We want students to know that they have been created in the image of God, and discover why the truest thing about them is what God

says - Disciples of Jesus Christ have been created in God’s image and given a new identity defined by God.

For E1ement Students, the visual reminder of BE. is a “location pin” - this serves as a visual reminder that a disciple of Jesus Christ is a person who is loved by God wherever they find themselves.

Blessings,  
Shane +



## FROM THE PASTOR

Few of us would claim we like change. Many, in fact, would probably admit they don't like change at all.

Unless you have never had children, gotten married, moved, or bought a different car, though, you have at least sometimes chosen change over keeping everything the same.

There is no doubt change can be hard. Change that is outside our control is usually harder to deal with than change we chose for ourselves.

The upcoming highway project,

and the changes it will force on us as a church, is to a great degree beyond our control. And yet, I don't know about you, but I am excited in the midst of the uncertainty. I won't try to tell you I haven't or won't lose any sleep over this big change. I will tell you, though, that I am more excited about the opportunities before us than I am worried about the problems.

I had lunch today with a friend who recently lost a parent. As most of you know, my own father died last November, so I

wanted to find out how my friend was doing. In our conversation, we realized that our losses, while different, shared much in common.

Everything is easier to face when you know you are not facing it alone.

I believe this is the reason I am more excited than anxious about our church's near future. I deeply appreciate the sense in our church family that we are in it together. I depend on this togetherness. I hope you do, too.

## BE THE MATCH WALK/RUN

On January 16, the day after Mark Baker's (Eules First Choir Director) birthday, he was diagnosed with leukemia. While medical teams are working with Mark, and feel his diagnosis is very treatable, we as a congregation are taking efforts to

support Mark and Vicki through this time of struggle. One small way that we can help is to join our team and walk or run the Be The Match® 5K on March 1 in Grand Prairie, TX. We are currently putting together a team, and would love for you to

join us. We will have more information soon about how you register and can join our team. For more info about the event and Be The Match, go to [www.bethematchfoundation.org](http://www.bethematchfoundation.org).

## HIGHWAY UPDATE

In an effort to make sure that everyone is in the know about the property acquisition and highway expansion, we will be regularly posting what we currently know in every newsletter. This may mean there are newsletters that all we have to post is that there is no new news.

Here is the most recent update:

The church office was contacted recently and we gave permission for surveyors to come onto property.

Eules First leaders have contacted 2 other churches that have had recent right-of-way negotiations with TxDOT. As a result of these conversations we began vetting professional negotiators to represent us and

the church's needs.

We also received a more accurate image of the line the Texas Department of Transportation will be using to acquire our land.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Steve.



## NEW MEMBERS

Eules First United Methodist is excited to welcome our new members. Be sure to stop and welcome them to our family. With them in our presence, we will never be the same.



Aubree & Noah Marlow

## FLOWER CALENDAR

There are still quite a few dates on the flower calendar that are available. If you would like to honor your loved one(s) with Sunday altar flowers, please call the church office.

## CHILI COOK-OFF

Good Food. Good Times.  
Good Cause.

On Sunday, January 18th, Element Students held it's annual Chili Cookoff to help support and fund their mission and Service projects. This year saw the addition of the "soup" category, both to diversify our lunch options and offer something for those who have a harder time with some of the "hot" spice in many of the chili's (and some were on fire!). It was truly a great time of fellowship, and

we want to thank everyone who participated in some way! Because of your participation and generosity, our students raised over \$1200 to help fund their mission projects in 2014 - so all of the money raised will somehow benefit folks beyond the walls of our community!

The Results: Congratulations to the Tiara Peppers (Emily Lewis, Tara McMillon, & Toni McMillon) for winning "Best Chili" for the 2nd time in 3

years! Coming in a VERY close 2nd place was Jerry Maloney Jr.!

Also, Congratulations are in order for the Halleck Ladies (Charlotte Halleck & Emily Halleck) for running away with the inaugural 1st prize in the newly-added "Soup" category.

And a big congratulations goes to Gloria Daves for claiming first prize in the "Cornbread" category.

Good Food. Good Times.  
Good Cause.



## PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN



Euleless First United Methodist Preschool and Kindergarten are beginning registration for the 2014/2015 school year. Registration for current students and church members begins February 26 . Registration opens to the public March 3. Registration fee is \$50 before April 1, and \$60 on or after April 1.

**Classes Available:**

- Cherubs: 2 yrs. of age by Sept. 1, 2013, Mon/Wed/

Fri and Tue/Thurs classes

- PK1: 3 yrs. of age by Sept. 1, 2013, Mon/Wed/Fri, Tue/Thurs and Mon-Fri classes
- PK2: 4 yrs. of age by Sept. 1, 2013, Mon/Wed/Fri, Tue/Thurs, and Mon-Fri classes
- Kindergarten: 5 yrs. of age by Sept. 1, Mon-Fri

Classes are 8:30 -11:30 a.m. Extended hours are available

until 2:00 p.m., with Enrichment or Lunch Bunch Classes. For more information, please visit our website at [www.fumceuleless.org](http://www.fumceuleless.org) and click on the Preschool link.

Please keep Euleless FUMC Preschool and Kindergarten in your prayers as we begin enrolling new students and for the growth of the school.

## ALPHA DINNERS

Alpha is off to a great start with 28 people taking the course! This is such a great opportunity for participants to explore their faith. They need your help to support these persons as they grow. Each week a dinner is provided for the group. Sunday School classes and other groups are asked to support Alpha by providing a meal. Please sign up. We ask that you prepare enough food to serve approximately 40 people.

Jan. 28 –Genesis : Soup and Corn bread and Dessert

Feb. 4– New Beginnings

Feb. 11–

Feb. 18–

Feb. 25 -

Mar. 4 -

Mar. 11-

Mar. 18-

Mar. 25-

April. 1-

April 8-

April 15 -

To sign-up please contact

Gloria Daves at 817-267-4806.

## THANK YOU!

My deepest heart felt sympathies and gratitude go to each of YOU who recently held me in your prayers as I truly walked through the valley of death.

Also those of you who provided prayers, hugs, a shoulder to lean on, for Sandy. Friends like you cannot be earned, you are Blessings from God.

There is NO way I (we) can ever thank you for any of it; all I can say is, Thank You, and God Bless YOU!

Lee & Sandy Swann

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

### Our Regular Offering is Anything BUT Regular!

by Ken Sloane

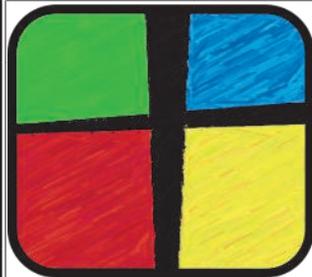
*Every year across the church, finance committees discuss how to report church receipts to the congregation. A common practice is to take the annual budget amount, divide it by 12 (months), and present that number by announcing, "This is what we need to receive in income each month so we can end the year in the black."*

*Wouldn't it be a wonderful world if funding the ministry and mission of the church was this neat, tidy, and predictable? However, the reality is that most congregational giving patterns can resemble a blueprint for a*

*rollercoaster ride. Many variables contribute to this fluctuation in giving: snowbirds from the north heading to Florida at the first sign of a cold breeze, local sporting events in suburban communities, and the planting and harvesting seasons in rural communities, just to name a few. Also, unpredictable weather can sneak up at any time. In a given year, not many congregations escape without some slump in weekly giving.*

The reality is that the Eules First Budget is not currently matching all that we have projected and pledged for 2014. However, Eules First is a wonderful place filled with

the grace of God. From Chili Cook-offs, dynamic Bible studies like Alpha and God's Grand Plot we can see the Holy Spirit at work in this congregation. We can get overwhelmed at times with the knowledge that the numbers do not all add up. However, the reality is that God is here. We do need your help to fill the financial gap. But we want you to dig deeper, give more or give for the first time, not because we are in need, but because we want to continue the ministries that are sharing the power of God with the world.



# Euleless

**First United Methodist Church**

**Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

106 N. Main St.

Euleless, TX 76040

Phone: 817-283-4421

fumceuleless.org

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 [Pinterest.com/EulelessFirstUMC](https://pinterest.com/EulelessFirstUMC)

 [Instagram.com/EulelessFirstUMC](https://instagram.com/EulelessFirstUMC)

**Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

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