

# CHURCH MATTERS

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

MARCH 4, 2015

## WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

This year, for Lent, we are offering a focus that will help us all practice self-denial. Or, at least offer us opportunities to take stock of the excess in our lives. Jen Hatmaker is an author and pastor's wife in Austin. Her first book titled 7: An Experimental Mutiny Against Excess,

formed out of her living the kind of life our society welcomes and encourages us to live; the life of a consumer. We are adopting this book and its topics to guide us through Lent. We are not against consuming. We do believe, however, that we are

To help us through this reflective journey we are offering a couple of options each week. First, we will have Lenten Wednesday Lunch Bible Studies, at 12:00 p.m. in the Swor Parlor together. This is a time to bring your lunch and look at the Bible. This will not necessarily be directly related to the Lenten

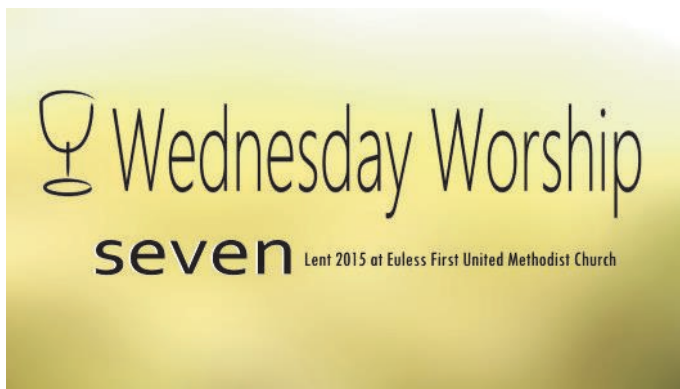
*followers of Jesus before we are consumers.* This means our consuming of things should fit with how we understand we ought to be following Jesus.

series, but will still provide a time to look at our lives and our relationship with God. Dave Lewis is leading this study.

Second, Euless First will be offering Wednesday Worship. This weekly service will be at 6:00 p.m. The service will include communion, as well as a time to

look further into our weekly subject from the book.

We hope you will join us as we continue our personal mutiny against excess, in whatever ways we can.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
PRAYER LIST	2
BIRTHDAYS/ ANNIVERSARIES/ WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	2
FOOD PANTRY NEWS	3
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN	3
UIMW BAKE SALE	3
BAPTISMAL BLANKETS	3
MCMURRY CHOIR	3
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	4
FROM THE PASTOR	4
PRESCHOOL	5
LENTEN SCHEDULE	5
STUDENT MINISTRIES	6
EASTER LILLIES AND TULIPS	6
HIGHWAY UPDATE	6
CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE	6
STEWARDSHIP MOMENT	7
RANGERS BASEBALL	7

## BOARD GAME BASH



Board Games are more than just fun. They teach time, rules, and structure. They teach the ability to be gracious winners and losers. They let us have time together to enjoy each other. Maybe, most importantly, they are a wonderful chance for people

of all ages to come together. We know all these wonderful attributes of board games, but really they are just a lot of fun. As a result of the fun, Euless First's Children's Ministry would like to invite you to a time for family board games on

March 7 at noon. What a wonderful way to kick off Spring Break! Bring your favorite game and a great snack for fun together.

This is for every member of the church! Join us as a family for all the benefits of board games!

## BOARD GAME BASH

**What:** Time to play board games for all ages!

**When:** Saturday, March 7, 12:00 p.m

**Who:** Everyone is invited.

**How:** Bring a great board game to share.

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.

Alton and Reta Ray	Rhymer's friend	granddaughter	Michelle and Baker	Robbie Breaux,	<b>Military:</b> Charles Everett, Charlotte & Larry Everett's nephew Chris Mulford, Pat Bailey's grandson Colton Hardaway and Kayla Davis, son and daughter of Michael and Lore Osborn Devan DeBoyington, Robin Biles' friend Dirk Van Ingen, Katie Lucas' friend Eric Sherrer, Justin Sherrer, Patric Owen, and Alan McClelland, grandnephews of Vic and Judy Torres Gail Worofka James Fiaccone, Sue Fiaccone's grandson Josh Crow, Annette Kelleher's son Justin Knighton Sam Weatherby, Gary and Carol Turner's nephew Stephen Tate Travis Thomas William Crowder, Yvonne Rohlfing's son
Ann Burns	Family of Fred Lucas,	Kelly Lough family,	Ingram	Audrey Coats'	
Arthur Schirmer	Larry Lucas' father	Ginger Miller's	Mike Sprague, Steve	friend	
Audrey Bradford, Jay	Family of Gary Don	friend	Sprague's brother	Robert Nail	
Bradford's mother	Holder, Dale Miller's	Kevin Maines	Milford Roop	Rooster Teeth	
Baby Thomas Humison	High School friend	Kevin Springer	Misty Conejo's friend's	community	
Bailey family	Family of Guy Mansell,	Kimberly Knighton	mother	Roxanna and Randy	
Barb Falcone's family	Jeremy Harrison's	Laura Parsons and	Mrs. Price, Sarah	Berg	
Bernardo Schirmer	uncle	family on the loss of	Miller's friend	Ruth Hight	
Burton family	Family of Helen	her mother	Nancy Pilgrim	Sarah Miller and Mae	
Cameron Mode	Sheppard, Sally	Laura Young,	Nick and Lisa	Sharon Menix	
Carol Crenshaw,	Rhymer's cousin	Sherwood Abbott's	Schoenberger, Ron	Shayla Herigan, Eileen	
Aubree Marlow's	Family of Jack Loftin	aunt	Coats' friends	Mode's friend	
great-grandmother	Family of John Turner,	Lesli Cummings	Nita Sospa, David Davis'	Sheri, Tami Polenz's	
Carol Rust, Dottie	Rex and Paula Wood's	Linda Pierce, Sally	sister-in-law's mother	sister	
Rust's daughter	friend	Rhymer's mother-in-	Nolan Hardwick,	Stan Clarke, Sue &	
Carolyn & Pierre	Gordon and Linda	-law	Barbara Collier's	Richard Morrow's	
Kenyon	Roberts, Nancy	Lisa Moffatt, Lynne	father	friend	
Courtney Elizabeth	Bickel's friends	and Alan Moffatt's	Ollie O. Sallis	Steve Phillips	
Berry, Rachel	Honor Vaughn, Teresa	daughter-in-law	Oliie O'Sallis' family:	Susan McGehee	
Heyduck's new baby	Sprague's mother	Lois Weems, Joyce	Christopher, Steven,	Sydney Marie Peel, Pat	
niece	Isabel Rosero, Carolin	Humphrey's mother	Sean, Latoya, Andrea,	May's great niece	
Crystal Grau	Kenyon's mother	Mark Coats and family	Urias, Jackie, Jay,	Ted Foley	
Denise Foley	James and Ila Gravely	Mark Stevens, Renee	Gertrude, Gwen,	Ted Ware, Dottie	
Dennis Strahle, Ann	Jamie Saunders, Michael	Robinson's son	Tina, Janice, and	Rust's friend	
Wilson's friend	Mulholland's aunt	Marlene Hill	sister Rosa and	Terron Muller, Les	
Don Wilson	Jana Clanton, Vicki	Marvin Burrell,	family, Claudia and	Foley's niece	
Doris Alexander,	Smith's cousin	Mulholland family	her newborn	Tim Powell, Candy	
Dottie Rust's sister	Jane Ford and family,	friend	daughter, Penelope	Klasen's friend	
Elida Schirmer	Dottie Rust's friend	Maxine and Bill	Marie, Maria Chico's	Tracy Foster, Layla	
Family of Amy	Jerry Elizondo, Ginger	Wallace, Kimberly	daughter-in-law	and Amelia Coat's	
Withem, Michelle	Miller's friend	Knighon's friends	Pat Holland, Cindy	grandma	
Barker's co-worker	John Lewis	Men and women in	Balentine's sister	Vera Bohnet-Farmer	
Family of Bill Brown,	Julie Ratliff	active addiction	People dealing with	Vicki Smith	
Leland Brown's	Kaitlyn Coats,	Michele Heroux and	Ebola	Warner Muirhead	
grandfather	Kellsey Abbott,	family, Amber	Pierre Tshimanga's		
Family of Darla Wright	Sherwood and Cheri	Hawthorne's friend	family		
-Beck, Sally	Abbott's		Ray Warren, Betty		
			Vowell's brother		

BIRTHDAYS

**March**

- 3 –Robert Sims,
- 5 –Tracy Provorse, Audrey Coats, Ginger Miller
- 6 –Candy Klasen, Dottie Rust
- 7 –Phil Bailey
- 9 –Joe Cannon
- 11 –Phyllis Augustus, Jack

Stoker

- 12 –Sharon Patton
- 17 -Larry Patton

ANNIVERSARY

**March**

- 5 –Brad & Judy Tribble
- 12 –Robert & Sonia McMillon
- 17 –Jerry Maloney, Jr. & Michelle Singleton,

Michael & Lore Osborn

WORSHIP

ATTENDANCE

**January**

- 4 -235
- 11 -224
- 18 -241
- 25 -263

**February**

- 1 -296
- 8 -254
- 15 -245
- 18 -96 (Ash Wed.)
- 22 -228

**March**

- 1 –182

## FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Food Pantry Volunteer Schedule:

### March

6 –Brenda Hurlbut, Linda Lewis,  
Hedy Taylor, Judy Tribble

13 –Darlene Carter, Gloria  
Daves, Maggie Lucas, Sheri  
Roberts

20 –Phyllis Augustus, Marie Bean,

Kathy Chapman, Judy Torres  
27 –Doris Brown, Trish Franklin,  
Dottie Rust, Jill Schaneberg

The next Tarrant County Area  
Food Bank Work Day is March  
18. We are needing your help.  
For every hour each person works  
the Eules Food Pantry receives  
credit on our monthly food bill.

We will leave the Church parking  
lot at 8:00 a.m. and be back  
around 12:30 p.m.

**Food Pantry needs:** Tuna &  
Chicken Helper.



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Did you know that United  
Methodist Women support many  
missions in our immediate  
area. One of biggest missions is  
United Community Center in  
Fort Worth. This year, as our  
mission challenge, we were asked  
to collect "Change" to be used to  
purchase technology. Bring your  
coins to help us affect change.

(Check the UMW Bulletin Board  
located by the nursery area for  
more information.) This  
technology is to be used by the  
Community Center to teach ESL,  
computer skills, job  
enhancements, and for children  
to use for homework and research  
projects. UMW invites ALL  
ladies of the church to help with a  
fun activity. On April 26th look

for a member of UMW and her  
basket with coin purses. Take  
one, fill it up and return on May  
3rd or May 10th with your  
collected coins. You are welcome  
to keep the coin purse as our gift  
to you for helping us help others.  
Thanks for your continued  
support of missions in our  
community.

## UMW BAKE SALE

United Methodist Women's 5th  
Sunday Bake Sale is scheduled for  
March 29th, 2015 (Palm Sunday).  
Proceeds benefit Eules First  
UMW missions.

Please bring your homemade  
goodies to the Food pantry area

anytime between 8:15 a.m. and  
10:30 a.m. making them available  
for the congregation to purchase  
before 8:30 a.m. service, during  
the Sunday School hour, the 11:00  
a.m. service, and if there are  
any treats left, after the 11:00

a.m. service. Come and treat  
yourself or your family and  
support missions here at Eules  
First and beyond.

## BAPTISMAL BLANKETS

Do you know.....

that when our pastor baptizes any  
child younger than one year of age  
that the family is presented with a  
blanket that is lovingly crocheted  
by the gifted and gracious ladies of  
the Harmony Hope group of

United Methodist Women?

These ladies are requesting  
assistance with this project and the  
coordinator is Myna Moody. If you  
already know how to crochet,  
contact Myna for pattern and  
thread requirements.

Also, if you are interested in  
learning how to crochet, Myna is  
also willing to provide  
instructions. You can contact her  
at 817/685-7609.

## MCMURRY CHOIR

What a wonderful Spring it is  
going to be at Eules First United  
Methodist. One treat that we are  
excited to have is the McMurry

Chanters visiting for a concert on  
March 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the  
Sanctuary. Our guest will also need  
host homes for one night. If you

are able to have a couple of college  
students spend a night, please let  
Pastor Rachel know.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Get ready for some March fun! Saturday, March 7, is Family Game Day in the Swor Parlor at 12pm. Bring your family's favorite game to play with everyone. It will be a great time to relax and rest your legs after the *Be the Match* 5K!

March 28 at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center, join us for Egg-Vangelism! This will be a time of fellowship with each other and a great way to serve our community and also invite them to worship with us on Easter to hopefully join our family!

Sunday, March 29, is Palm Sunday. There will be a luncheon following the 11 o'clock service. Following the luncheon is the Egg Hunt! If you are able, please bring a dozen stuffed eggs (please no chocolate) to contribute to the hunt and don't forget to bring a bag or basket to hold your eggs in!

On Easter Sunday, April 5, come for the Breakfast Potluck at 9:45 a.m.! No Children's Sunday School that morning.

Looking ahead to April 25-Movie Day in the Swor Parlor. If you have a suggestion for the movie

or would like to contribute snacks or drinks, please let me know.

Looking forward to seeing you at our many events we have planned! And, of course, there are still many open opportunities to help with Vacation Bible School. Our theme is *G-Force: God in Action*. What better way to show God in action than by volunteering your time and serving the wonderful families that come to this special event every year! If you have questions or comments about anything at all, please email

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## FROM THE PASTOR

"Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored! These mercies bless and grant that we may feast in fellowship with thee. Amen.

These words to the "Wesleyan Grace," sung to the tune of the old doxology, bring warm memories to me.

As a high school freshman, newly relocated from Maryland, I owe a debt of gratitude to the youth of Faith United Methodist Church in Spring, Tx. They welcomed my brother and me despite our having a slight (to us) "yankee accent."

Over meals together, this group sang the Wesleyan Grace.

Just thinking about that tune with those words transports me back - now almost 40 years! The acceptance that welcomed me into the church family, and into God's family became an important part of the foundation

of my life of ministry.

Consider the opening line of this song with me: "Be present at our table, Lord."

We invite God to be present. But don't we believe God is always present? We even have a "big word" for this - omnipresent.

But inviting God to be present doesn't mean we don't think God is outside, awaiting an invitation. Nor does it mean that in the midst of all the other things God might be doing throughout creation, we want or expect God to stop all that and hang out with us here.

No, inviting God to be present is a way of becoming more present ourselves.

I'm not the only one, am I, who is sometimes there, but not actually present?

I've had kids talking to me, and my mind drifts off into something else. Maybe even something else

important. Then the child asks, "well, do they, Daddy?"

If I say, "do they what?" or, as I've come to do lately, "I'm sorry, I wasn't paying attention. What is the question again?"

I was present without being present.

In the world of excess we live in, it is too easy to be present without being present.

Let this season of Lent be a time that you and I practice being present for one another. And for ourselves. And for God.



## PRESCHOOL

The Preschool Dinner and Auction was fabulous! We raised over \$10,000! Thank you to all the church members who supported us by coming to the dinner and purchasing items. A special thanks to Mike Springer for coordinating all the technology and creating the program! Thank you Yvonne Rohlhing for helping with check-out. Also, a huge thank you to TJ, Michelle, and Dylan Pepper, Kaye and Glenn Best and Dave and Emily Lewis for cooking and doing whatever else needed to be done. It is so nice to be a part of

such a great church family that pitches in when help is needed! Registration for Fall 2015 has begun. Registration for the month of March will be rolled back to \$50. It will return to \$60 on April 1. If you know of anyone that has an 18 month thru four-years old, we have wonderful part-time programs. Our day can be from 8:30 to 11:30 AM or the day can be extended until 2 PM. We have 2-day, 3-day and 5-day programs available. We will be on spring break from March 9-13 and will return

on March 16. Our Cherubs and PK1 classes will be performing their annual circus next Thursday and Friday, March 5 and 6. The kids are adorable as clowns, dancing dogs, enormous elephants, tight rope walkers and terrific tigers!



## LENTEN SCHEDULE

As a congregation we wish to offer you a variety of opportunities to keep God as the focus during this time, therefore, we have a number of events available for you to join in. Here is a list of events:

- **Wednesday Evening Worship** with Communion/Activities in the Sanctuary, starting February 25, 6:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday Lunch Study** with Dave Lewis from 12:00 –1:00 p.m. in the Swor Parlor. Bring your lunch and join us as we look at Lent from a different perspective.
- **Palm Sunday** is March 29. Morning Worship is followed by a Pot-luck lunch and Egg Hunt. The morning worship services will include the beginning of the

### Choir Passion Week Production.

- March 28 is **Egg-vangelism 2015** from 10:00– 11:30 a.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to let our community know about the ministries of Eules First as well as invite them to Easter morning happenings. It is great for all ages! **Youth Rummage Sale** in the morning time, benefiting youth mission opportunities.
- **Holy Week Daily Lunch Devotionals** with Pastor Steve, March 30-April 3. Bring your lunch and join us!
- **Holy Thursday Worship** at 7:00 p.m. with a *Choir Passion Week Production*.
- **Good Friday Worship** at 7:00 p.m. with a *Choir Passion Week Production*.

- **Easter Services** on April 5 will be at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. There will be an **Easter Brunch** for the entire church during the Sunday School hour, and there will be no Children's Sunday School that morning.



## STUDENT MINISTRY



**BE. LOVE. SERVE.** We Want Your Stuff!



One of the ways that Element Students will be raising funds this Spring to help cover the costs for CTCYM and other service projects is to host a Rummage Sale, and we want your stuff! If you have items that you would like to

donate for our cause, please begin setting them aside. We will be able to receive your donated items beginning on Wednesday, March 25th.

The Rummage Sale will take place on the morning of Saturday, March 28th. If you don't have rummage to donate, rest assured that you can help us out in other

ways in the coming months. We will be hosting one of our fabulous carwashes sometime after Easter, and you can always help us get the word out about our annual booth at ArborDaze (April 25-26). Thanks for all of your support!



## EASTER LILLIES AND TULIPS

It is time again to purchase lilies or tulips to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 5. Flowers are \$15.00 each. If you wish to place a lily

or tulip in honor or in memory of someone special, please fill out a form found online or at the welcome desk. The Deadline for orders is March 18.

If you would prefer, you can make a memorial or honorarium to Apportionments as an alternative missional giving.

## HIGHWAY UPDATE



We finally have news concerning the highway project!

The groundbreaking for the Midtown Express is scheduled for Thursday, March 5 in Irving.

Two weeks later, Thursday, March 19th, is an important day for us and for everyone involved. From 4 to 7 pm, South Gate Mobility Partners, the ones

building this highway expansion, will hold a public meeting to present design changes to the project. Last week we received mail indicating that we should expect a call from an appraiser to schedule a visit to our property. This is the first step toward the developer presenting us with a bid.

This does not establish a timetable for the rest of the process, but it does make it clear to us that the process has begun.

Remember that the God who has guided us on this corner for the past 139 years will continue to guide us now! When the world around us changes and moves, we remember God, who is always faithful.

## CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

Eules First United Methodist Church Council met February 16. One of the many subjects that was discussed was the continued effort to define the vision of Eules First. We are still working out some slight grammatical adjustments, but here is the first draft of our Vision, Purpose, and Mission. We will hope you will pray about the future of our congregation and support our efforts to make these our focus in

the coming months and years. We want to make sure that all ministry at Eules First reflects these statements. Blessings to all Eules First Ministries.

**Mission:** Eules First United Methodist Church strives to follow Jesus Christ a bit better today than yesterday. Through these efforts we develop a relationship with Christ and thus transform people, their lives, our community and the world.

**Purpose:** We seek to follow Jesus better by moving people from knowing God, to growing in relationship with God, to going forth with God to serve others, and finally, glowing for God by witnessing to their faith to others.

**Vision:** Our vision is to be a community of God's love and grace so that the larger community and world see God by our actions and outreach.

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

### Raising Cheerful Givers

#### Part 4 of 7 –

#### TEACHING

#### MANAGEMENT: SHARING, SAVING, AND SPENDING

This is the fourth in a series of articles on “Raising Cheerful Givers”. Helping our children understand financial principles will not only help them manage their money, but also become joyful stewards.

Once children receive a source of income either by allowance or other means of making money, they are ready to learn how to manage it. The first step is making a budget and practicing the discipline to stick to it.

Teaching children how to budget will not only help them reach their goals, but will also teach them how to make wise choices throughout their lives.

To effectively create a budget, children need to understand three things: sharing (tithing), saving, and spending. Instead of just dumping all their money into a piggy bank, we want to help our children determine an appropriate amount or percent of income for each area.

**SHARING.** Perhaps the most important lesson in our children’s financial training is the concept of stewardship. Sharing doesn’t come easily for most children. Their natural sense of

ownership says, “It’s mine and I want to keep it!” This is an opportune time to help them understand that everything is not ours but is really God’s. We are just managing or “taking care” of it for Him. This concept begins to lay the foundation of a lifetime of faithful stewardship. Sharing also teaches children that the world is bigger than themselves. By sharing, they will understand the value of reaching out to help others.

**SAVING.** Setting short- and long-term goals with our children, depending on their age, will be very beneficial to them and their future. Whether it is a new toy, video game, bike or other item, saving helps children understand the rewards of accumulation now and spending later. To help a child stay motivated in saving, you may want to offer to match with your own money all or some of the amount they save.

**SPENDING.** The last category is discretionary spending. Let them spend this amount on what they choose. Let them make the decisions, good or bad, about what to buy. After purchases are made, discuss it with them. For example, after they have bought yet another video game, share with them what else they could have used with that money. Or, after they’ve made a good decision, show them how others

are making less desirable purchases. Allow this to be a learning experience so they can learn the importance of making good decisions.

Children can learn the principles of sharing, saving, and spending at a very early age. For example, preschoolers can be given three coins each week to put into the three categories.

Once children enter grammar school, they can begin to divide their income by percentages. A good guide to start is ten percent of their money goes into sharing, 50 percent into saving, and 40 percent into spending. There is no borrowing from one category to another. Remember when the spending money is gone, it’s gone. By supplementing those budgets, we would defeat the purpose and send the wrong message. It doesn’t take children long to recognize that money is important. It takes more time to learn how to use it well.

Remember, not having a plan is a plan to fail. The rewards of teaching good financial management according to biblical principles will provide our children the foundation for joyful giving and responsible living.

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Online Giving Link

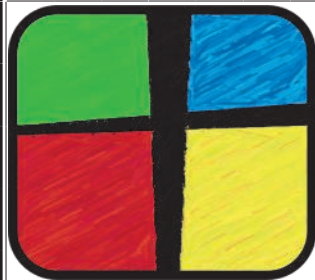
## RANGERS BASEBALL

The annual church outing to the Rangers Baseball game is set for May 3, when the Rangers take on the Athletics. The first pitch is set for 2:05 p.m. The game will be followed by a Casting Crowns

Concert! The Fresh Start Sunday School Class will host a family tailgate party beginning at noon in the southwest corner of the parking lot. Ticket prices will be published soon. We’d like to give

a big thanks to Larry Lewis for securing 125 tickets. To purchase tickets, find Larry Lewis or Dave Lewis.





# Euleless

## First United Methodist Church


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

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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.

Euleless First United Methodist Church

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