

The Mess of Mercy

The reformer Martin Luther once dreamed that he saw Jesus approaching his door. Luther panicked, seeing that his home was an absolute disaster inside. "How am I going to let the Lord of Life, Jesus Christ, come into a mess like this?" he wondered.

Luther raced to clean up, but the mess only increased. As Jesus knocked, Luther was resigned. "Come on in, if you think you can come into a place like this," he told Jesus ... only to turn around and see that everything was now in order. All Luther had to do was let Jesus enter.

"Mercy is always a messy business," writes pastor Daniel Emery Price at 1517.org. That's true of the Reformation, just as it was when Jesus cleared moneychangers out of the temple. "There will always be those who condemn the mercy because of the mess," notes Price. "Reformation is always about clearing the path to God's radical grace."



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service 9:50 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship 6:00 p.m. Solid Ground Youth

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

6:00 p.m. Ladies' Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

4:30 p.m. Ladies' Handbell Choir
5:30 p.m. W.O.W. Children's Ministry
6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:15 p.m. Snack Supper
6:30 p.m. Youth
6:30 p.m. Discipleship Study

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

9-12 noon Methodist Market



- 1. Denson Thomas Tommy Woodard
- 2. Sallie Pender
- 4. Mike Hughes Wanda Woodard
- 5. Chip Heidel

2. Mr. & Mrs. J Ketchum



The Ladies Handbell Choir will begin its new season rehearsals October 2, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

We look forward to meeting together to learn some new pieces of music and revisit some of our old favorites.

If you are interested and think you might like to join us in this ministry, please contact Lettie Terrell.



It is time to fill your Christmas Shoe Boxes for the waiting children of the world! There are boxes you fold together outside the church office as well as boy or girl slips. You may take a pamphlet and large rubber band to put around your completed box. Our goal this year at First Methodist is 75! Please help us reach this goal. Boxes will be collected November 17.





This week is the last lesson in our September series **The God Who Created Us**. This Sunday our lesson is called "Created in God's Image." God created people to be like Him. We are created in God's own image and are therefore His greatest creation. He wants to have a relationship with us. He also wants us to take care of His creations and treat everything and everyone as special and important.

HISKIDZ/W.O.W. WEDNESDAY

Our Children's Wednesday Night Bible study has resumed. Our children will continue to learn about the stories and people in the Old Testament. Last week we finished our stories about the Tribes of Israel and the fall of Jericho. For the next several weeks, we will be in the Book of Judges, learning the stories of Deborah, Gideon, Samson, and Samuel. This Bible Study has us moving through the Books of the Bible, one story at a time. We meet at 5:30 p.m. with Snack Supper at 6:15 p.m. We will dismiss at 6:30 p.m.

Solid Ground

Youth Bible Study and Small Group

Sunday and Wednesday Night Bible Study for the Youth is back in full swing. We are moving through a study call "Confirming Your Faith." This study encourages us to talk about things in our everyday lives that can help strengthen our Faith or hinder it. We will also continue to have game night in our opening time as a fun icebreaker.

Details for M28 Camp will be sent out soon. Sign-up will require a non-refundable deposit of \$125 to hold your place. Spots will only be held if the full deposit has been paid.

Tentative dates for Camp – June 27-July 1, 2025 or July 8-12, 2025

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

Greeters Diane Vaughan/Jim & Brenda Oakes Scripture Acts 2:41-47 Sermon **** Christian in Action or Acting Like a Christian** Flowers Patsy Clark

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SEPTEMBER

- 29. 19th Sunday after Pentecost
- 30. Self-control begins here

Luke 15:1-10 James 3:1-12

OCTOBER

- God will send fire
 Who is like God?
- 3. The Prophet mourns
- 4. How long, O LORD?
- 5. God's desire for everyone

Amos 2:4-8 Psalm 113 Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 Psalm 79:1-9 1 Timothy 2:1-7