



FALL 2026

welcome guide

FUMCTC.ORG

whoever you are

WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY

whatever your story

OR YOUR IDENTITY

God's love

IS HERE FOR YOU

and so are we!

Church Staff

Rev. Taylor Smith

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THIS FALL IN WORSHIP

AUGUST + SEPTEMBER

THE NARROW WAY: THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

What does it actually mean to follow Jesus?

This fall begins on a hillside in Galilee with Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Together, we'll explore Jesus' challenging words about character, relationships, prayer, anxiety, discernment, and love. We'll discover that discipleship is more than believing the right things. It is allowing Christ to shape the people we are becoming.

Matthew 5–7 • August 2–September 27

OCTOBER

ENTRUSTED: STEWARDING EVERYTHING GOD HAS GIVEN US

What does a disciple do with an entire life?

Everything we have (our time, relationships, abilities, resources, influence, and possessions) is a gift entrusted to us. Through four movements (Receive • Manage • Share • Return) we'll discover that stewardship isn't simply about giving money. It's about learning to faithfully steward our whole lives as followers of Jesus.

October 4–25

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS

IN THE DAYS OF KING HEROD...

What if the Christmas story has more to say to our world than we realize?

Jesus was not born into a peaceful world. His neighbors knew political oppression, economic uncertainty, violence, fear, and despair. This Advent, we'll rediscover Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy not as sentimental Christmas ideals, but as God's response to a world desperately longing for good news which culminates on Christmas Eve with the promise of Emmanuel: God With Us.

Nov. 29 – In The Days of Fear... HOPE

Dec. 6 – In The Days of Violence... PEACE

Dec. 13 – In The Days of Power... LOVE

Dec. 20 – In The Days of Despair... JOY (Music Sunday)

Dec. 24 – In The Days of King Herod... EMMANUEL

Family Friend Contemporary Service - 5:00 pm

Traditional Service – 9:00 pm

* both services will be livestreamed with communion & candlelight



Blessing Bags | Ongoing

Part of the way we fulfill our mission to eradicate nutritional insecurity in our neighborhood is by passing out "Blessing Bags" to folks who come to the church in need of groceries. Each bag has enough food to hold a family of two over until the local Food Pantry opens.

Food Blessing Drive | Monthly | 3rd Saturday

Each month The City of The Colony hosts a drive through, mobile food pantry. Groceries are donated by the Tarrant Area Food Bank. Volunteers from local churches and organizations can help by setting up, packing groceries into bags, passing out bags to cars, and/or cleaning up. Come and go as your time allows.

Children's Hunger Fund | September 26th

Another way to fulfill our mission is by helping pack 'food paks' for Children's Hunger Fund. CHF partners with local churches to provide food and practical resources to children and families facing hunger and poverty. All are welcome to join us on September 26th from 9:00-11:00 a.m. to volunteer at the warehouse: 16005 Gateway Dr Ste 200, Frisco, TX 75033. Contact Amy Reddoch for more details or to let her know you're coming.

Southern Roots Community Garden

In 2025, FUMCTC partnered with an organization based out of Mississippi to host a community garden on our grounds. The Southern Roots Community Garden is in their first full growing season and will be looking for future volunteers once they tackle the newness of Texas heat and clay-soil. For more information go to their website and stay tuned for church-wide community garden workdays southernrootsgarden.org/the-colony-tx

New Hope Learning Center

FUMCTC houses a preschool in the wing with our Sunday School classrooms.

The mission of New Hope Learning Center (NHLC) is to provide excellent, affordable licensed child care. Operating since 2008, we provide a loving, nurturing environment where children are encouraged to develop spiritually, emotionally, socially, academically, and physically at their own pace. NHLC is the area's only non-profit learning center.

NHLC is open Monday-Friday from 6:30am-6:00pm,
year round (except some holidays)
Ages: Children from 8 weeks to 5 years old.

NHLC Director: Diane Brown diane.brown@fumctc.org
Assistant Director: Mary Saye mary.saye@fumctc.org
972-625-2459 newhopetc.org



Welcome

TO FUMC THE COLONY!

We believe church is about more than attending worship or participating in programs. Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and we describe discipleship as a person committed to the continual process of cultivating a life with and like Jesus, doing the things Jesus did. Everything you'll find in these pages (from worship and small groups to children and youth ministries, service opportunities, meals, and community events) is intended to help us take another step in that lifelong journey. Over the next couple of years, we're placing an especially intentional emphasis on what it means to be formed in the way of Jesus. We'll explore the kind of life Jesus invites us to live, rediscover the larger story of Scripture and our place within it, and create new opportunities to practice our faith alongside others in meaningful community. And we need you in that journey. We believe God is already at work in your life, and the gifts, experiences, questions, perspectives, and witness you bring help all of us see more clearly what God is doing in the world. Church isn't simply a place where you come to receive something; it is a community we build together as each of us offers what God has entrusted to us. That's how we hope to live into our vision of becoming a loving church, all working together to eradicate spiritual, relational, and nutritional insecurity in our neighborhood. We don't simply want to know more about Jesus; we want to become people whose lives increasingly look like his—and who use our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to help our neighbors flourish. Wherever you are on that journey, you have something to receive, something to offer, and a next step to take.

MEET THE PASTOR

Rev. Taylor graduated from McMurry University in 2014 and Duke Divinity School in 2017. He is a husband, father of three, dog owner, theology nerd, former CrossFit coach, and enthusiastic consumer of good food. He loves asking big questions about God and exploring how faith shapes not just what we think, but how we live, move, eat, work, rest, and love. He can usually be found reading something unnecessarily complicated, lifting something unnecessarily heavy, or negotiating with a small child.



UNITED METHODISM: AN OVERVIEW

Who We Are

The United Methodist Church is a global Christian denomination with roots in the teachings of John Wesley. We are grounded in Scripture, shaped by tradition, reason, and experience, and committed to grace-filled living.

Core Beliefs

God's Grace - We believe in prevenient grace (God seeking us), justifying grace (God saving us), and sanctifying grace (God growing us).

Faith and Works - Faith is lived out through action. We are called to love God and love our neighbor.

The Bible - Our primary source for faith and practice, interpreted through tradition, reason, and experience.

Open Table - Holy Communion is open to all who seek to follow Christ. You don't have to be a member to participate.

Our Wesleyan Heritage

John Wesley, is the found of Methodism. He was a Priest in the Anglican Church who grew discontent with religious formality. He began a system of small group ministries whose goal was to move us to 'holiness of heart and life.' This ongoing, unending process emphasized:

- *Personal and Social Holiness* - Growing in faith and working to make the world more just and loving.
- Small Groups - Spiritual growth happens in community.
- "Practical Divinity" - Faith should impact daily life.

What Makes Methodists Unique?

There are numerous tenants of United Methodism that differentiate us from our fellow Christian believers. To name a few:

Personal Piety and Social Action: Prayer and justice go hand in hand.

Our Theology of the Sacraments (Baptism and Holy Communion):

We practice infant and adult baptism, emphasizing God's claim on us before we ever respond.

We celebrate **Holy Communion** as a means of grace, not just a symbol. ALL are welcome at the table, because it's Christ's table--not ours.

Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir is the primary adult vocal ensemble of FUMCTC. The choir leads worship regularly through anthems, special music, and seasonal presentations. No audition is required--just a willingness to sing, learn, and participate in the life of the choir. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings at 7:00p.m. throughout the year, with additional rehearsals scheduled as needed for special services and seasonal programs.

Handbell Choir

Our Handbell Choir enriches worship through the distinctive and beautiful sound of handbells. The ensemble performs a variety of music throughout the year, including seasonal selections and special music offerings. Weekly rehearsals provide an opportunity to develop technique and enjoy fellowship.

Instrumentalists & Small Ensembles

Music ministry extends beyond our choirs. Instrumentalists and small ensembles are important and are invited to share their musical gifts through solos, duets, ensembles, accompaniment, and special worship music. If you play an instrument and would like to contribute your musical gifts to worship, we would love to hear from you.

get involved

Getting involved in FUMCTC is one of the most meaningful ways you can grow in your faith, develop your gifts, be in fellowship, and make a difference. Below is a list of all the ways you can become involved here at FUMCTC.

Acolytes

Altar Flowers

Blessing Bags

Catch a Ride

Chancel Choir

Children's Hunger Fund Serving Team

Children's Ministry

Communion Prep

Community Garden

Congregational Care Team

Crossfire Youth

Decorating Team

Donut Team

Liturgy Team

Funeral Team

Greeters

Homebound Communion Team

Ladies Bible Study

Lay Nominations Team

Leadership Board

Margarita Mondays

Marquee Team

Missions Team

Margarita Mondays

Marquee Team

Media Team

Missions Team

Money Counters

Music Ministry

Prayer Team

Pub Theology

Scribbles

SPRC

Table Team

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Women

Ushers

If you're interested in learning more about any of these ministries contact the church office to get connected

with the Ministry Team Lead:

office@fumctc.org

972.625.1281

SAVE THE DATE

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 25th 2026

FRIENDSGIVING POTLUCK

November 22nd 2026

One of the things Jesus did regularly throughout the Gospels was eat with folks. As we try to model our life more like Jesus we hope you'll join us, bring your favorite dish to church at 10:30am and stay after service for a time of fellowship and food.

PASTA AND PUCCINI | MUSIC MINISTRY

NOVEMBER 14nd 2026

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

DECEMBER 12th - 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 10TH 2027

MAUNDY THURSDAY

MARCH 25TH 2027

GOOD FRIDAY

MARCH 26TH 2027

EASTER SUNDAY

MARCH 28TH 2027

Sunrise Service

Traditional Service

Spring Spiritual Retreat

APRIL 16TH - 18TH 2027

Save the date for an intentional Post-Easter spiritual retreat at The Prothro Center on Lake Texoma. Details are forthcoming.

SUNDAY GATHERINGS

Children's Sunday School

ROOM C-10, 9:15AM

Kid's Sunday School is an important way to support children in the life of the church. They will learn about Jesus, study the Bible, and occasionally throw in a party! The curriculum is age appropriate and is from Sparkhouse, which addresses stories with humor and fun activities.

Confirmation SEASONAL

Confirmation Class is offered to those teens that are ready to make the commitment to remember their baptism and identify as a member of the body of Christ. The class curriculum is spread out over several months all culminating with Confirmation Sunday.

Evening Youth

ROOM C-6, 6-8PM

Sunday nights are for Crossfire Youth, with teens in middle school and high school meeting for dinner, fellowship, fun, and devotionals-growing in faith together and building a community through worship, service and recreation.

Adult Sunday School Classes 9:15AM

Along your journey of discipleship, you are invited to gather for support, study, and shared mission. Learn more on the next page or at fumctc.org/adult-ministry.

Nursery

ACROSS FROM FELLOWSHIP HALL

AGES 0-5

Nursery care is offered during Sunday School and Worship Services. The nursery opens at 9am and stays open until after Worship. Our loving staff is prepared to take great care of littles.

Youth Sunday School

ROOM C-6, 9:15AM

Students gather to grow as a group, growing closer to one another and to God so that more young people will experience God's love.

Grace Kids

K-5TH GRADE

Grace meets monthly after worship, during the academic year. All elementary school children are welcome--membership isn't a requirement. Grace does several mission projects throughout the year.

Worship Service

Worship Service begins at 10:30am in the Sanctuary. Grab a coffee & a donut from the Narthex and join us!

adult ministries

United Women in Faith | "UWF"

Monthly Breakfast - 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 a.m.

If you are looking for a welcoming, purposeful community of women committed to growing in faith and making a real impact--UWF is the place! Together they support women and children in need, engage in hands-on service, meet regularly, and connect through spiritual growth and bold discipleship.

United Methodist Men | "UMM"

Monthly Breakfast - 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 a.m.

All adult men are invited to join United Methodist Men for a casual breakfast and fellowship on the second Saturday of every month at 8:00 a.m.

Classes & Studies

"**Being United Methodist Christians**" this six week study will be led by Bobby Ellis and is a fantastic primer for better understanding what makes United Methodism uniquely different from other Christian denominations. Whether you're new to the UMC or looking for a refresher this is sure to be a group full of lively discussion and laughter!

Pub Theology: Pastor Taylor leads a "spirited" discussion in a safe space for folks with questions about God and faith but who aren't ready to ask them in a traditional church setting. We meet the last Thursday of every month at *Barrel and Bones* in The Colony. *Whether drinking libations or not, all are welcome.*

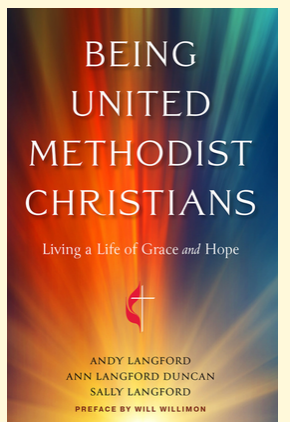
Ladies Bible Study Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. - Conference Room
Starts Sept. 10th

Book Club First Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. - Conference Room

Margarita Monday First Monday of every month at Angelina's

Yoga Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Griefshare Every Saturday from 1:00-3:00 - for those grieving a loss of a loved one - cost is \$25



music ministry

Music is an important part of the worship and community life here at FUMCTC. Our music ministries provide opportunities for people of all ages and musical backgrounds to share their gifts, develop their talents, build meaningful relationships, and help lead the congregation in worship.

Whether you are an experienced musician, a returning singer, or someone who simply loves to make music with others, there is a place for you!

You do not have to consider yourself a professional musician to participate. If you love music, want to grow musically, enjoy being part of a community, or simply want to try something new, we invite you to become part of our music ministry.

**For more information, please contact Dr. Gary Wayne Pyland,
Pastor of Music and Worship, through the church office or email
gary.pyland@fumctc.org.**



Our Theological Task: the idea that our faith grows as we BOTH reflect on Scripture using tradition, reason, and experience AND put our spiritual insights into practice.

Policy and Government Structure: we balance both clergy and lay ministries in a global denomination.

- We are a connectional church: congregations support each other across regions throughout the globe.
- We follow a structured system of Pastors, District Superintendents, and Bishops who serve the whole church, not just individual congregations.

Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

This means: Growing in Faith (discipleship), Serving others (mission and justice), Worshipping God (*together*)

All Are Welcome

The UMC is a global denomination with a rich history--and like any faith, we are growing and discerning together how best to love God and our neighbors.

We believe that God's grace is for *everyone*. Our church seeks to be inclusive of all people, regardless of background, questions, or where you are in your faith journey.

More Information

Explore the UMC Website: www.umc.org

Schedule a time to chat with the Pastor: email our administrative assistant Lauren Blakemore, at lauren.blakemore@fumctc.org

Join the Church: email our hospitality coordinator, Mike Bossert, at mbossert06@gmail.com

Join us for our Informational lunch: even if you're not ready to take the step towards membership, our luncheon is designed to go a little deeper into our history, theology, and ways to get involved in the church.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

*A loving church all
working together to
eradicate spiritual,
relational, and
nutritional insecurity
in our neighborhood.*

Staff - Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is the liaison between church staff and the congregation. This committee is sort of like a "human resources" team for the church, providing encouragement and accountability to staff, and serves as a communication bridge between clergy and laity. SPRC is a great fit for people who care about staff well-being, understand confidentiality, and support the church's ministry through personnel care. SPRC assists in hiring and staff structure, sets ministry goals, addresses concerns and celebrate successes.

Congregational Care

Congregational care is the heart of the church in action. We embody Christ's love in the everyday moments of people's lives. Whether it's a phone call, a hospital visit, delivering a meal, or by simply being present, you become a reminder that God is near. If you feel called to walk alongside others in moments of need, joy or loss, Congregational Care is a way to live out Christ's compassion in real and personal ways.

Nominations Committee

This committee is responsible for identifying, equipping, and nominating church members to serve in leadership roles across the church. More than just filling spots--this committee is about developing leaders and ensuring that the leadership of our church reflects our values. If you believe in the power of shared leadership and shaping the future of the church through spirit-led discernment--this committee is for you!

committees

Crisis Team

Our Crisis Team is committed to supporting individuals and families in our community who are experiencing financial hardship or other times of need. Through our Benevolence Fund, the team carefully reviews requests for assistance, follows established guidelines, consults with the Missions ministry and church budget, and then gives their approvals. This committee is a meaningful way for our church to care for people right here in our own community—not only by offering financial assistance, but also by connecting individuals with helpful resources and support. Through the Crisis Team, we have the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ by meeting people where they are and walking alongside them in times of need.

Lay Leadership

The Lay Leaders help bridge the gap between the work of the clergy and the life of the congregation. Lay Leaders represent the congregation in church decisions, and support the development of new leaders. They are active participants in worship, prayer, small groups, and the wider life of the church. They represent the church at district and annual conferences.

Current Lay Leader: Marguerite Shaw

Worship Team

Each week the Worship Team helps lead our community in all elements found in worship like scripture reading, liturgy, acolytes, serving communion, ushers and music. They also help facilitate things that make worship possible like livestreaming, preparing worship spaces. The media booth is also an opportunity for people from youth to adults with tech skills to help create meaningful worship in person and online.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Pathways

Fellowship Hall

This is a discussion oriented study of current or relevant book selected by the class. Lively and open discussions are encouraged.

Bad Girls in the Bible

ROOM C-9

This is a discussion oriented class for women to support one another through study and sharing of life experiences.

New Testament

LIBRARY

The New Testament class is an on-going class that provides an in-depth study of the books of the New Testament. Although this is an ongoing class, new members are free to jump in at any point.

Practicing the Way

ROOM C-8

This discussion based class is led by Rev. Taylor but co-facilitated by all members. This season, we're exploring "Questions of Faith," getting curious about those big questions that don't always get answered. All are welcomed!

Stay Connected!

Scan the QR Code below to sign up for all church communications



Follow us on Facebook!
First United Methodist Church The Colony

hospitality

Hospitality says to every person, "You are welcome here." If we had eyes of the stranger, the one seeking community, curious about church, in need of hope and healing, who longs to be in worship, then we could know what it is like to come to this place for the first time.

Greeting and welcoming calls for a full team of people who love as Jesus loves. If you can smile and say, "Good Morning!"--if you can help folks with walkers, wheelchairs, or strollers, if you can direct people where to go--then you are well-qualified to join the Hospitality Team.

Greeters - Sunday (Rotation)

Greeters welcome everyone just like you would at home. Just open the door with a loving smile! Greeters stand at church entrances and watch for people seeking to attend worship or locate Sunday School classrooms. Greeters help folks find their way and help guests get connected.

Ushers

Ushers serve as a team to welcome everyone entering worship. At points of entry, ushers hand out bulletins, assist people to find their place and help lead worship. Ushers keep a watchful eye for folks having difficulty or in need. They receive offering and follow process to secure the collection. This is an important ministry of presence and hospitality.

If you are interested in joining the hospitality team, please reach out to Mike Bossert - mbossert06@gmail.com

committees

Leadership Board / Trustees

The Leadership Board is the primary team responsible for overseeing the mission, ministry, and administrative life of FUMCTC. The Board ensures that everything we do -worship, discipleship, outreach, etc. align with our church's mission, vision, and values. In keeping with the UMC's *Book of Discipline*, our Leadership Board serves as the Trustees Committee, Finance Committee, and Administrative Council of the local church. As a single board, we divide our work into three sub-teams:

Trustees: the Leadership Board acts as the Board of Trustees, tasked for maintaining the church building, grounds, equipment, and legal matters (i.e. insurance or any contractual obligations). Whether you're handy with tools, skilled with reading contracts, or passionate about creating hospitable space, this team is for you!

Finance Team: the Leadership Board is entrusted with the fiduciary responsibilities of the church. They oversee the annual budget, financial policies and reporting, monitor giving and expenses, and ensure transparency and accountability. If numbers are your thing and counting beans makes you come alive, then the Finance Team sub-team made be right for you!

Missional Team: the Leadership Board also acts as the Administrative Council, evaluating major ministry programs for alignment with our church's mission and vision. If you're have a knack for casting vision, setting direction, and creating cultures that foster faith formation, then this team might be right for you!

The Leadership Board meets on the third Monday monthly at 7:00p.m. and discusses ways to evaluate ministries, collaborate on budgeting and staffing, and guide decisions that affect the congregation. The Leadership Board has representation from every major ministry area: trustees, finance, youth, discipleship and more. Meetings are open and welcome for anyone to attend.

MAP OF FUMC THE COLONY

