



Ferris Heights

United Methodist Church, Waxahachie TX

In God's name . . . Build, Belong, Serve. It's Our Legacy!

August 2023

Information

Our Staff

Rev. John Han

Pastor

PastorFHUMC

@gmail.com

Dawn Davis

Organist

Shannon Goretska

Youth Director

Karen Lawton

Dianna Robertson

Children's Directors

Angie Heck

Secretary

FerrisHeightsUMC

@gmail.com

Melanie Marrs

Abby Machuca

Nursery

Kyle Goretska

Custodian

108 Center St.

Waxahachie TX 75165

Church Office

972-937-2344

FHUMC.org

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Monday-Thursday

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sunday School & Worship

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Column

In our current sermon series, we are exploring *The Books of Samuel*. It is traditionally believed to be mainly written by Samuel. While there are many fascinating stories in them, the best known story is the timeless story of David and Goliath. As many of you might be familiar with, young David defeated the giant warrior Goliath with the power of God.

The reason that this story resonates so deeply with us is that each of us faces our own "Goliaths," who are formidable challenges in our own eyes. These Goliaths could take the form of financial crises, relationship struggles, health issues, or something else that overwhelms us. But here is the truth: we are always united with Christ who has even overcome death. Thus, we should not be afraid of our Goliaths, for Christ already won the battles for us. But we need to boldly step forward and face them with unwavering faith.

We currently find ourselves enduring the extreme heat of Texas. It may make you slow down. It can dampen our enthusiasm for various aspects of life. In the midst of this challenging season, exciting events are on the horizon. Schools are about to start. The fall Alpha course will begin soon. Our campus will be full of young students and teachers. Fall is coming. The new season is coming to us.

This presents a unique opportunity for you to embark on a fresh chapter in your spiritual journey. Remember that by boldly stepping forward towards Christ, your Goliath will be defeated. As we embrace this new season, let us hold on to the assurance that with Christ by our side, we can overcome any obstacle that comes our way.

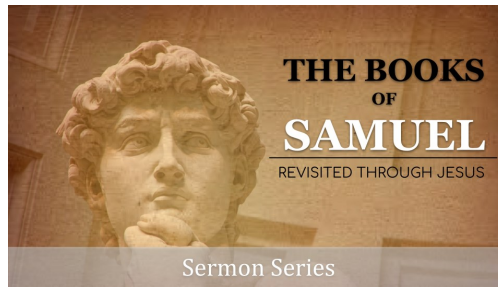
Your Pastor, Rev. John Han

Alpha Course Intro Dinner & Fall Course Information



The **Alpha Course** is an Introductory course which seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. It is described by its organizer's as "an opportunity to explore the meaning of life." Invite your family and friends to the introductory dinner, Wednesday August 30, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Bring your meal.

This series will run for 11 weeks. We will meet in Wesley Hall, Wednesdays, August 30 thru November 8. The Wednesday times are 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



Sermon Series

8/6/2023	1 Samuel 17:4-11 <i>The Books of Samuel: David vs. Goliath</i>
8/13/2023	1 Samuel 20:12-17 <i>The Books of Samuel: David and Jonathan</i>
8/20/2023	1 Samuel 21:10-15 <i>The Books of Samuel: Persecutions</i>
8/27/2023	2 Samuel 5:1-5 <i>The Books of Samuel: Triumphant Entry</i>

Back-to-School Blessings

August is back to school time for students of many ages. In worship on Sunday, August 13, we will have our annual blessing of teachers, staff, and students in all levels of education.



A potluck lunch hosted by U.W.F. will follow worship in Wesley Hall. Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share.

Kids, bring your backpacks and school supplies. We'll have extra goodies and surprises to add.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON



Let's Celebrate!

Back to School
POTLUCK LUNCHEON

August 13
after worship service
Wesley Hall
U.W.F. to Host

Rev. John Han To Visit Families

Rev. John Han will be visiting church families at their home or if you would like to meet elsewhere, your choice.

Plans are:

- Visit 2 families a week.
- Visit our visitors.
- Visit families that are on the Board so that we can discuss new goals and ideas for Wildly Important Goal.
- Visit families for the second time.

Call now to be placed on the schedule 972-937-2344.



9 Square in the Air

The church has purchased the game "9 Square in the Air." game. The youth really enjoy playing this game.



August Committee Meetings:

August 14, 11:00 a.m.,
Nominations



August 14, 6:00 p.m., W.O.W.

August 16, 11:00 a.m.,
Lord's Day Festival



Youth News

by Shannon Goretska

The youth led the worship service on July 30. They did a wonderful job. You can view the service on the church's Facebook page.

On Tuesday August 1, the youth went to the movies.

The youth meet after worship service every Sunday. We welcome all youth to come.

Sunday Leaders

Worship Leaders: Children's Time:

August 6	Kyle Goretska	Karen Lawton
August 13	<i>Open</i>	Ruth Shugart
August 20	<i>Open</i>	Shannon Goretska
August 27	Sherry Wright	Dianna Robertson
		Ruth or Karen

This space reserved for a 5th Sunday if there is one.

Worship leaders are needed for future months. Worship Leaders will lead the congregation in the Call to Worship & reading of the Scripture for the day. Sign up by writing your name on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board by the stairs or by contacting Lay Leader, Ruth Shugart. Lock up schedule in 2023:

August: Carolyn Spillers, September: Mike James

United Women in Faith

The U.W.F. will host the Back to School Luncheon August 13, so there will not be a Monday evening meeting this month.



MISSION SPOTLIGHT

Third Sunday Mission Giving

Beginning this month and continuing throughout the year we will have a **third Sunday special offering** for a designated mission. An extra basket or box will be passed around after the regular offering has been taken. Thank you so much.

This month, the third Sunday Mission focuses on the Youth of Ferris Heights UMC.

Ferris Heights Youth have 5 teenagers that are currently active.

The Youth have fundraisers throughout the year for their annual summer mission trip, retreats and other activities.

The Youth also have a light lunch each Sunday, with their lesson. For Fellowship they have pool parties & even go to the movies.

Your contributions will help make young disciples.



Church Directory

By: Angie Heck

For the next directory, if you have a photo in the July 2021 directory I will use that one unless you give me a new photo. Thank you.



August

Marilyn Cole (91)	01	Teri Fox	07
Annie Johnson	01	Keith Hollabaugh	07
Jadon Hill	04	Anthony Reina	13
Richard Goretska	05	David Hennessy	14
Marva Reed	07	Sean Hennessy	14
Mary Canada	09	Carolyn Spillers	15
Brent Baker	10	Coco Gutierrez	16
Kyle Goretska	10	Mikey James	17
Ann Waller	10	Phillip Quigley	18
Billy Roberts	12	Rev. John Han	20
Karen Lawton	20	Frances Brannon	22
Sharon McIver	26	Roxie Pinkerton	22
Kirk Roberts	27	Gary Patton	22
Jamie Rowl	29	Jared Hill	23
Gerald Reed	30	Robert Quigley	23
Ruth Wooley	30	Kathy Helms	26

Happy Birthday

September

Meg Varner	03	Cheryl Lundeen	28
Nancy Cannaday	05	Doyle Varner	30
Sandra Bishop	06	George Lawton III	24
Beverly Hennessy	06	Emma Almond	25
Jacob Hill	06	Maryan Lily	25
Emily Spence	06	Betty Jordan	28

Happy Birthday

July 2023

YTD AVG Worship Attendance

YTD Connectional Giving Paid 6/10th

	Feb 2023	Mar. 2023	*Apr. 2023	*May 2023	June 2023	July 2023
In Person	56	55	59	61	65	60
Online	59	59	78	80	78	78

Income \$11,724

Expense \$16,590

*April includes Easter Sunday & Living Lord's Supper.
*May includes Mother's Day and Scholarship Awards Day.

Monthly FHUMC Activities:

Cut out and place on your fridge.

Sunday	Youth 11:15 a.m.
Monday	Quilting 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday	Quilting 10:00 a.m.

Calendar

- August 13 Blessing of the Backpacks.
Back to School Potluck Lunch.
- August 14 Nominations Cmte Meeting,
11:00 a.m.
- August 16 Lord's Day Festival Meeting,
11:00 a.m.
- August 30 Alpha Course Information
meeting & dinner, 6:30 to
8:30 p.m.
- Sept. 3 Labor Day, office closed.

FHUMC Board Meeting Highlights

- ◇ The Sanctuary piano was tuned in July.
- ◇ The insurance premiums for the church have increased drastically. The annual increase is 22% (\$5,672) over last year of which 11.2% in building valuation increase & 10.8% increase in premium rate. The average premium rate increase in TX is 15%. The church will pay an extra \$628.00 in annual premiums as a part of Mercy Preparatory School using our facility.



◇ **Wildly Important Goal (WIG)** of 15 new members, for January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2023. We have 11 members of the 15.

Please continue to invite new people.

- ◇ Beginning in August we will have a **third Sunday special offering**.
- ◇ Approved the **Playground** 6/26. The fence is under construction now. See page 5 for information and photos.
- ◇ Mercy Preparatory Academy **painted the upstairs and decorated the classrooms**.



- ◇ The **Audit** for 2020 & 2021 has been completed. Thank you very much to Walter Shugart, Dawn Davis & Teri Fox.
- ◇ The **Scholarship donation** to the fund (Sunday May 21's offering) is \$350.00.
- ◇ **Mercy Prep's first day of school** is August 15. Their **meet the teacher day** is August 10.



- ◇ The church has a new **weed sprayer**. Thank you, Searchers Class.



- ◇ Conference Updates:
CTC: will have a **special session** on Saturday, November 4, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. The agenda will be disaffiliations and the CTC Budget. According to paragraph 2553 which covers disaffiliations that paragraph expires 12/31/2023.
South Central Jurisdictional Conference: (last Conference, Nov. 2022) The N.W. Conference (Lubbock, El Paso, etc.) has approximately 40 churches left in their Conference. The South-Central Jurisdictional Conference will **vote on whether to put North Texas, Central Texas, and N.W. Texas together** or another plan.

Playground Information & Q&A

We are so delighted to announce great news in developing our playground with the help of Mercy Preparatory Academy (MPA). Ferris Heights UMC thrives to be a welcoming place where people feel comfortable to grow in their faith and spirituality. There are many ways to create a more inviting church. A new playground is one of them. This addition will signify that we are a family-friendly church, and it aligns with our children's ministry team's desire to extend our children's ministry. Moreover, the playground will enhance our appeal, providing young families with an opportunity to meet and build relationships. These are the frequently asked questions about the playground.



Q: How do we cover the cost of the playground?

A: MPA will cover the playground equipment and installation costs, while our responsibility is to purchase the fence materials, amounting to \$6,820.00. We already have \$1,803.02 from designated receipts for Children's long-term development. The remaining amount will be covered by MPA's contribution, which is \$2,500 per month. It will not affect our operational budget.

Q: Where is the playground located?

A: The playground is situated behind the education building.

Q: Who will own the playground?

A: According to the agreement with MPA, the playground will remain the property of Ferris Heights.

Q: What will be the premium difference in the property insurance due to adding the playground?

A: Adding the playground will result in an approximately additional \$70 premium annually for insurance coverage. The playground will be locked except during activities organized by Ferris Heights and/or MPA.



Youth Pool Party

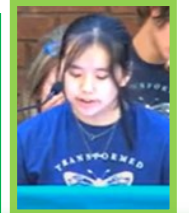


Graduation Reception

Youth Prepare for Youth Sunday



The Youth say "Thank You!"



Youth Sunday