



(Westhill @ Colonial)  
P.O. Box 114  
Cleburne, TX 76033

the  
**GATHER  
GROW  
GO**  
podcast



"Stories of Wilderness" Check out the Gather Grow Go Podcast during Lent for stories of transformation and growth. We'll have a special guest joining us every week.

[SAVE THE DATE](#)



In The Family Center

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #29  
CLEBURNE, TEXAS

## TREND SUMMARY

### **Worship Trends:**

Worship Attendance: YTD: 320

Professions of Faith: YTD: 1

### **Financial Trends: Through 2/29/2020**

2020 Giving: \$ 56,116

2020 Expenses: \$ 60,867

General Fund Balance \$ 65,893



Making deeply committed disciples of Jesus Christ for  
the transformation of the world, one life at a time.

# FIRST NEWS



### MARCH

**Friday, March 13:**  
Mobile Food Pantry at Santa Fe  
Elementary, 3:00 - 4:30pm

**Tuesday, March 17:**  
Painting With A Saint Children's  
Activity , Family Center, 1-3pm

**Saturday, March 28:**  
Church-wide Garage Sale, Family  
Center, 8am to 3pm

### HOLY WEEK

**Sunday, April 5**  
Palm Sunday

**Thursday, April 9**  
Maundy Thursday Service, Kids are  
5:45pm in the Family Center &  
regular service is 6pm, Sanctuary

**Friday, April 10**  
Good Friday Service, 7:00pm,  
Sanctuary led by Music Ministry

**Sunday, April 12**  
Sunrise Service, 6:30am  
Easter Contemporary, 8:30am  
Easter Traditional Services,  
8:30am, 9:45am, 11am

### SUMMER

**Wednesday, May 13**  
Summer Kickoff BBQ, Orlana Park,  
5:30pm

**Monday - Friday, June 8 - 12**  
Vacation Bible School, 9am - noon

**Sunday, Saturday, June 21 - 27**  
Senior High Mission Trip

### NOTE FROM PASTOR DANIEL

As the carhop came to my car late on Wednesday night, he was on "autopilot"; prepared to rattle off my order, hand me my food, make the briefest of eye contact and then leave. I too was on autopilot; ready to be pleasant, get my dinner and head home at the end of a long day.

As he approached the car we were broken out of our autopilot. When he looked in and began to launch into reciting my order, he paused. He looked down and then back up, and then down and back up again. His double take made me wonder if something was wrong with my order or if I had looked at him strangely. That's when I remembered that I had a big ash cross on my forehead. After two Ash Wednesday services (the most recent of which had ended just 40 minutes before), I had forgotten about the cross on my forehead.

Broken from our autopilot for a moment we both resumed our normal script. He gave me my food, and having received it, I went home.

Over the last couple of days I've reflected on that moment. That Ash Wednesday evening I was wearing a sign of my identity as a follower of Christ on my forehead. In oil and ash I carried a reminder of my need for God and God's willingness to meet me in my need and bring redemption in the face of it.

In many ways, I hope that I live my life as a sign of God's love for all of humanity and God's deep desire to bring about the work of restoration. BUT this moment reminded me that there is still work to be done. Sometimes, I forget about the cross that's supposed to be "on my head" daily. I fail to fully reflect the goodness of God and the good news to my neighbor.

Truthfully, I need to grow closer to God so that I might more fully reflect God's goodness and nature each day. I'm thankful that we find ourselves in the season of Lent, a season of intentionality, prayer, fasting and growth. It is my prayer that the next 40 days are days of growth for us all.

I invite you to a season intentionality. In worship as we wrestle with the questions Jesus asks us, I invite you to commit to God and to yourself to be here for every Sunday of Lent. Outside of worship, I invite you to make a commitment to your own growth in learning and prayer. Join Pastor Melissa in Pastor's Bible Study, encounter Stories of Lent on the Gather Grow Go Podcast, join a Sunday school Class or small group each week. As you pray, pray for God to reveal to you the next faithful thing that you can embrace. Pray for our church and our leadership as we continue the work of discerning the next new place for new people we are being called to start, and that we might discern a 10 year vision that pushes us forward faithfully and fruitfully.

May we be on this journey of Lent together,

Grace and Peace, Pastor Daniel



## Walk To Jerusalem

If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far go together. - African Proverb

Alone going 7,029 miles seems impossible, together going 7,029 miles feels possible. This Lent if you've been anywhere around the church then you know that we have taken on a church-wide spiritual practice of walking. There are a myriad of ways to connect with God in our walking; so below I have listed out some of the ways you might experience God if you are walking to Jerusalem this Lent.

### Walking as a Spiritual Discipline:

1. Walking as a Spiritual Discipline remembers that God gifted us our whole self - our mind, soul, *and body*. Remembering to take care of our body is to remember that God wants us to honor the image we are created in.
2. Do you remember last year's Lent Sermon Series? We passed out bracelets that read WWJD (what would Jesus do). We spent last Lent practicing the things Jesus did, and one of the practices was, you guessed it, walking. Spending time doing the things Jesus did helps us to see the world through Christ's eyes.
3. Going together (as a team or as an individual with the church) reminds us of the value of community as a place to hold each other accountable and cheer each other one as we pursue Christ.
4. Walking is an ancient Christian prayer practice. Monks would walk to clear their mind so that they could let go of all distractions and simply be present with God.
5. Walking as a spiritual disciple has become a modern day prayer practice especially among Missional Communities. The modern prayer practice of walking involves walking around your neighborhood (or a place in your community) and noticing what's around. As you notice things, such as, what brings you joy, offer these joys as a prayer of gratitude. What goes overlooked? What breaks God's heart? What is God asking you to pray over? What is God asking you to do about it?
6. Connection with our neighbors. Walking around our neighborhoods gives us the chance to be in connection with people we otherwise would miss out on, and Jesus spent time with people.
7. Here's the beauty of spiritual disciplines. They give us each an opportunity to connect with God in unique ways, that means I might have missed the way you are best connecting to God as you walk with your church to Jerusalem. So here is your pastoral permission to add your own!

By the time you are reading this we have already made it to Baton Rouge, Louisiana as a church! I look forward to seeing where we have reached by this upcoming Sunday. May your walking be blessed this Lent.

Grace and peace, Pastor Melissa



## Snapshots of February



Ash Wednesday in the Sanctuary



Ash Wednesday in the Nursery



Ash Wednesday in the Chapel



Welcome Chuck & Lisa McCullough



Mardi Gras Gumbo Lunch



Baptism of Hallie Vance

## Student Ministry

### New sermon series for this lenten season

Chocolate bunnies, baskets of candy, and lots of pastel colors—that's what Easter is all about, right? In this series, We help our students dive deeper into the Easter story, pointing them toward what the season really means for their lives. As we do, we will show them that because of what Jesus did for them thousands of years ago, there's more to Easter than maybe they've ever thought.



### Confirmation starts!

Beginning March 1 at noon, our students who haven't been confirmed will begin a journey of exploring God's story, their story and the story of their church. At the end of their journey, they will have the opportunity to claim faith for themselves and join the church. If you have a student (6th - 12th grade) who has not been confirmed and is interested in participating, please contact Dylan at Dylan@fumccleburne.com. Please be in prayer for our students and their mentors during this season.

### Mission Trip Fundraising

Mission trip fundraising has kicked off with a spectacular gumbo lunch and sweet auction thank you all so very much for your support of your students as we prepare for our mission trip to Arkansas and East Texas.

## Children's Ministry

### Midweek kids

All our Wednesday mid-weeks will be focused on the ways we honor Jesus during our Lenten walk.



### Kidscore

Throughout Lent our rotation will be focusing on Holy Week and all that Jesus did to prepare the people and Himself. This will be done through Science, art, cooking, story telling and games. It's never too late to join in!

### A note from Bev:

Lent is the most important season of the year in our Christian walk. When else do we get to share the story that Jesus Died for us and then came back? What a gift! God Bless you and yours during this amazing time of year!

### Dates to remember:

March 17th from 1-3

Paint with a Saint - In the art room in the kid's hall.  
Painting & take a Celtic cross with Mrs. Bev

March 18th

No mid-week

April 9th at 5:45 – Family Center (gym)

Maundy Thursday - Last Supper experience  
Washing of feet, Passover meal

April 11th at 11:00 – FUMC grounds  
Easter Egg Hunt