



(Photo: Holy Communion being served in Children's Church.)

Dear FUMC Family,

I hope that you are having a good week. This week we celebrated the life of Mrs. Emma Duke on Monday in her Memorial Service. On Monday, also, we learned that both Mr. Jim Mckinney and Mr. Mike Dugger had joined the Church Triumphant in the early hours of the morning. Thank you for your prayers and support of each of these families. Thank you also for your faithfulness in prayer for Linda and Jim Gray since last June when Jim was diagnosed with cancer. Please continue your prayers for Jim and Linda as Jim has entered into hospice care this week.

This Sunday in Worship, we will focus on the "I am sayings of Jesus" as found in the Book of John. There will be a special offering on Souper Bowl Sunday to help feed those who are experiencing food insecurity and it will be matched by the Missions committee as you leave. Youth will have soup containers for you to place your offering. I am looking forward to seeing you Sunday!



Cares and Casserole Ministry

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Thank you to everyone who has committed to be a part of the Cares and Casserole Ministry. The purpose of this ministry is to offer loving support to the families of Hospice of Texarkana as well as others going through a challenging time of life. There are more

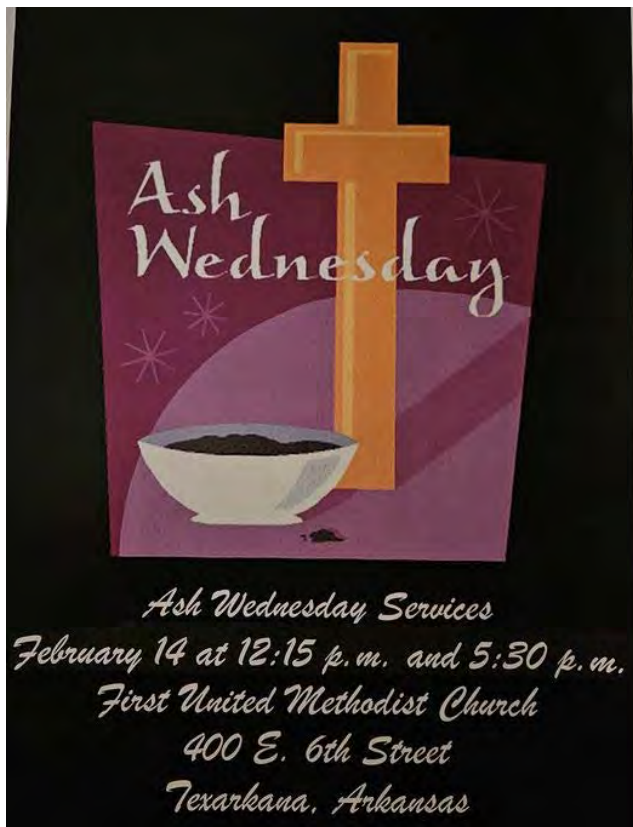
8x8 aluminum foil pans and lids available in the Narthex and the Office for those who are making casseroles in February and March.

Ash Wednesday is next Wednesday

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Ash Wednesday is February 14th. You are encouraged to attend Ash Wednesday Services to begin the season of Lent. There will be three opportunities for you to be in worship on Ash Wednesday.

Services:

12:15 in the Sanctuary (Brief Service)

3:15 to 3:45 (A Come and Go Service in the Chapel of Hospice of Texarkana, 2407 Galleria Oaks Dr.)

5:30 in the Sanctuary



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Please be in prayer for the family of James "Jim" McKinney. Jim entered the church triumphant on Monday morning. His Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, February 10 at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary. A time of visitation will be held following Jim's service in the Parlor. Jim attended the New Covenant Sunday School Class.

James McKinney

November 2, 1930 - February 5, 2024

James Weston McKinney, Jr. passed away peacefully on February 5th, 2024. Jim was born in Amory, Mississippi on November 2, 1930 to Marie and James Weston McKinney. His father died unexpectedly when Jim was 13 years old and his younger sister, Ann, and brother, William, were two years old and one year old, respectively. The responsibility of assisting his mother in caring for his younger siblings helped inform every aspect of Jim's life: his devotion to family, his resourcefulness in facing challenges, and his business acumen.

Jim was a 4-letter athlete for the Amory High School Panthers, including playing football on the conference championship teams in 1946 and 1947. He later enrolled in the

ROTC program at Mississippi State College (now University) where he majored in accounting and received his Bachelor of Science degree.

Following graduation he served in the United States Air Force, attaining the rank of First Lieutenant.

Jim was stationed at Lake Charles Air Force Base in Lake Charles, Louisiana when he met the love of his life, Ruth Kathryn Browne. They were married 59 years until her death in 2013. After Jim was Honorably Discharged from the Air Force, he began his career with Burroughs Corporation selling accounting machines. He received their Distinguished Salesman Award for his area in 1963, and this work led him to Texarkana and his next business opportunity.

In 1965 he took a position with First Federal Savings and Loan of Texarkana which in 1995 became Texarkana First Financial Corporation, whose shares were listed on the American Stock Exchange. Jim retired in 2000 after having served as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer where he oversaw both the initial public offering of Texarkana First Financial and its acquisition by BancorpSouth Bank (now Cadence Bank). Besides his faith and his family, Jim's greatest joy was in working at First Federal where he could help other people achieve their dreams of buying a home.

Jim's commitment to Texarkana ran deep, and he showed this commitment by serving on numerous boards of directors and finance committees for Texarkana organizations, including the Texarkana Housing Development Corporation where he chaired the committee that oversaw the bond issuance for the expansion of Wadley Hospital; Texarkana Firemen's Relief and Retirement Fund; Texarkana Chamber of Commerce; Texarkana Community Chest and its successor, the United Way of Texarkana; Temple Memorial Treatment Center; Four States Fair Association; Caddo Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and First United Methodist Church Texarkana, Arkansas. He was a State board member of the Arkansas Savings and Loan League and a trustee of the Financial Information Trust of Des Moines, Iowa as well as a member of the Texarkana Wilbur Smith Rotary Club and Texarkana Country Club, among other activities.

Jim was an avid duck hunter, golfer and fisherman. He began duck hunting as a boy in Mississippi as a way to help feed his family, and his passion for it continued well beyond his last hunt at the age of 81. He also enjoyed training his Labrador Retrievers and often enlisted the help of his daughters in doing so, much to their delight.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents, Marie Boozer and James Weston McKinney; his wife, Ruth Browne McKinney; and his siblings, Ann Marie McKinney Walker and William Boozer McKinney. He is survived by his daughters, Kathryn Ann McKinney of Texarkana, TX; Nancy Claire McKinney of Rockwall, TX; and Mary McKinney McDonald and her husband, David, of Austin, TX; his granddaughters, Kathryn Anne McDonald of

New York, NY, and Caroline McKinney McDonald of Austin, TX; and his brother-in-law, Dr. Gerald Walker of Starkville, MS, along with several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank all of the medical personnel at Collom & Carney Clinic who have given him such excellent care, especially Dr. Malcolm Smith, the staff at Cornerstone Methodist Retirement Community, and his caregiver, Sarah James, with Ashley's Care and House Call.

A visitation will be held 5:00-7:00 on Friday, February 9, 2024, at Texarkana Funeral Home, 3515 Texas Blvd., Texarkana, Texas. Following a private family burial, a memorial service will be held under the direction of Reverend Jaimie Alexander at 2:00 on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at First United Methodist Church, 400 East Sixth St., Texarkana, Arkansas.

Should you wish to make a donation in Jim's name, please consider Texarkana Museums System - Ace of Clubs Restoration, 219 North State Line Ave., Texarkana, TX 75501 (www.texarkanamuseumsystems.org

); First United Methodist Church Texarkana, Arkansas (<https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=101558>

), or a charity of your choice.



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Please in prayer for the family of Mike Dugger. Mike entered the church triumphant on Monday morning. Mike was a teacher in the New Covenant Sunday School Class. Thank you for your concern and your prayers for his wife Wilma, their daughters and families.

Mike Dugger

January 2, 1936 - February 5, 2024

Myron (Mike) Dugger (88) of Texarkana, Arkansas, formerly of Hope, Arkansas, received his final set of wings on February 5, 2024. He was an avid pilot, holding a commercial license. He booked his final flight with His Lord and Savior, on a one way ticket to his reward of Eternal Life. The pilot in command being the Lord Jesus Christ, of whom he faithfully served with on this earth.

Born January 2, 1936 in Holmen, Wisconsin. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers he dearly loved, Don and Duane Dugger.

Mike was survived by his wife, Wilma Trammell Dugger, having celebrated 64 years together. Three Daughters, Debbie Dugger Stroud and husband Jerry of Hope, Arkansas. Doreen Dugger Antley and Husband Clay of Fulton, Arkansas, and Teresa Dugger Cox of Benton, Arkansas. One Sister Marlene Jones Legatski and Husband Ted of Ft. Worth, Texas. Six GrandChildren, 11 Great GrandChildren, many nieces and nephews, and a host of Friends.

Mike was a member of the First United Methodist church of Texarkana, Arkansas. He was an active Masonic member of the 241 TXK Lodge as well as the 238 Lodge of Hope. He was a 32nd degree Mason and well known for his requested involvement in the Eulogy of members of the brotherhood. A dedicated, self employed retired businessman having pioneered three businesses of his working career. He was a man of many hats, seldom seen without a dressed Felt Fedora Stetson on his head. He was a former State Representative that served his district for 8 years. A devout Christian that fulfilled the commision of Christ, leading many people to the Saving Grace of God through his ministries and service in life. A Wonderful Husband, Father, Grandfather, and Father in Law that held his family as the dearest prized possessions of his life. He will be greatly missed by all, having been found a good and Faithful servant. Rewarded.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction of BRAZZEL/Oakcrest The Funeral Home of Hope, Arkansas. Online condolences: www.brazzelfuneralhomes.com

Baptism of Savvy Lin Brown

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Last Sunday in worship, we celebrated the baptism of Savvy Lin Brown, daughter of Meagan and Matt Brown. Her sister is Sutton and her brother is Manning. It was such a blessing to share in this important step of faith for Savvy and her family. Thank you for your commitment to pray for her and her family as she grows her faith in Jesus Christ.

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[Thank you to everyone who helps monthly with meals for the Randy Sams' Shelter.](#)

The staff ministry team and friends will be serving the guests at the Randy Sams' Shelter on Super Bowl Sunday. Thank you to everyone who participates in this outreach ministry monthly.





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"RUN the LINE" Water Station Sunday February 18th

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Volunteers are needed to host the FUMC Water Station for the Run the Line Half Marathon, this Sunday February 19th from 7:30 to 9:00 am. Located at 4425 Jefferson Ave. We hope to see you there!

Thank you to Scooter Wilder for being the event coordinator for 6 years.

God is Faithful!

Bro. Jaimie J. Alexander

Don't just come to church, Be the CHURCH!

First United Methodist Church

400 East 6th Street

Texarkana, Arkansas 71854

(870) 772-6931

Making banners for the "Run the Line" water station volunteers.

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