



A. Frank Smith UMC

March 2020

The Stations of the Cross

An opportunity for contemplation and reflection

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of his last day, beginning with his condemnation and proceeding to his burial in the tomb.

The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the person moves from station to station. At each station, the person recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the person moves to the next station until all 14 are complete.

Starting this Sunday, March 8, and continuing through the Lenten season (now until April 11, the day before Easter) you have the opportunity to spend some time on this journey. The 14 Stations of the Cross will line both sides of the hall of the Danheim Education wing. Starting from the Sanctuary on the left side of the hall, you simply stop at each display down the left side of the hall and then return down the hall stopping at the seven displays on the right side of the hall.

The 14 Stations of the Cross

Jesus is condemned to death

Jesus takes up his cross

Jesus falls the first time

Jesus meets his mother

Simon helps Jesus to carry the cross

Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

Jesus falls a second time

Jesus consoles the women of
Jerusalem

Jesus falls the third time

Jesus is stripped of his garments

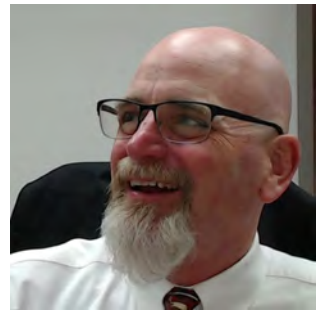
Jesus is nailed to the cross

Jesus dies on the cross

Jesus is taken down from the cross

Jesus is laid in the tomb

An Epistle from John



I stopped by the youth group last night and enjoyed the hot dogs* and took part in their discussion/lesson.

I offered them the opportunity to ask me anything. ANYTHING! I told them that they couldn't offend me with any question nor could they ask such a radical question that I would think poorly of them. Having done this same kind of thing with groups of children and youth for nearly 30 years, I knew I had no idea what questions would come up. I was not disappointed.

The first question that was (quite nervously) asked was about dinosaurs. You may find this an odd question to ask a preacher, but this young lady is interested in herpetology (the study of amphibians and reptiles) and it was important to her.

One of the advantages of having seven different majors in college is the vast array of knowledge I have that covers many fields (I know a little bit about a lot of things, but not a lot about any thing). As odd as some of the people thought the question was, it started a dialogue that eventually took us to a discussion about creation, evolution, Noah and the Ark, and several other topics.

As that discussion wound down, others felt a little less trepidation about asking questions. For the next 45 minutes (it was supposed to be about 15 minutes) we touched on both the mundane and the significant. And while not all of it had to do with typically churchy things, I believe our time together was a growing time for all of us.

When we were finished one of the amazing young ladies said her brain was tired from thinking about all the stuff. I can tell you that her statement made my week. My goal as a pastor has never been to tell people what to think or believe, but to get them to think about things from God's point of view. Thinking is hard and her statement let me know that what we did last night was more than simply kill time and talk about dinosaurs. We got to thinking about God and our place in his love. What could be better than that?

**I really like hot dogs. Some day I'll tell you the story about when I hijacked three District Superintendents and made them eat hot dogs in Atlanta.*



Dana Hargrave

Shane Austin

Marianne Cote'

Donna Cote'

Cornel Mot

Barbara Whiteman

Tommye Worley

Susanne Hargrove Hill

Deysy Castillo

Clint Corley

Joan Felder

Summers & Marcia Hassell

Milroy Weinert

Tiffany Walker

Lester & Joane Hunter

Lisa Howard Thomson

Marjorie Warner

Rose Peacock

Ethel Best

Ray & Cathy Penn

Dan Watkins & family

Kenneth Walley

Don & Frances Henley

Dawson Grammer

Dianne West

Family of Carolyn Simmons

Pam (Pat Hoovers daughter)

Joy Jones

Family of Kenny Calloway

Jill Pegues

Deysy Castillo

Mary Kate West

Jenna Landry

Jackie Baker

Randy Dowling

Brianna Robin

Audrey Stanley

Steve Selman

Bobbi King Orsack

Robert Hicks

Alto ISD Staff & Students

Our Country & People

Citizens of Alto

Jill Pegues

Cold Springs UMC

Family of Charlie Holcomb

UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendars* **EVENTS**



MARCH 5th

Men's Prayer Breakfast - 6am at Hilltop Baptist Church

MARCH 8th

Leadership Meeting - 5pm in the Covenant Classroom

MARCH 9th

United Methodist Women Meeting - 2pm

MARCH 12th

Men's Prayer Breakfast - 6am at Hilltop Baptist Church

MARCH 16th

Sisters@Heart Meeting @ 6pm in the Covenant Classroom

MARCH 19th

Men's Prayer Breakfast - 6am at Hilltop Baptist Church

MARCH 26th

Men's Prayer Breakfast - 6am at Hilltop Baptist Church



Want to honor someone special in your life?

Starting this year, Easter Lillies will be ordered through the church instead of going through the florist. Get in touch with Donna in the office (936-858-4347 or donna@afsumc.org). The cost is \$16.50 per plant.

Gifts

2/2	2/9	2/16	2/23
\$2,268.00	\$3,123.00	\$705.00	\$2,826.00

DISCIPLESHIP



Presence

2/2	2/9	2/16	2/23
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Worship

63	65	69	76
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Sunday School

48	43	54	49
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Grant Davis	Mar 01	Drew Wallace	Mar 12
Jackie Wallace	Mar 01	Garrett Davis	Mar 15
Marlee Reed	Mar 01	Cody Watson	Mar 16
Noel Bradford	Mar 07	OT Allen	Mar 18
Frances Henley	Mar 08	Margie Adams	Mar 22
Sawyer Davis	Mar 08	Aidan Bryan	Mar 25
Ginny Spurgers	Mar 08	Gina Clark	Mar 28
Charlie Wallace	Mar 09	Alicia Adkinson	Mar 29



Tommy & Ginny Spurgers Mar 8

Tools Needed

The Youth Room Build Out is starting next week (Spring Break) and the crew is excited to start swinging hammers.

Our first step is to frame out the walls. We are looking for a portable table saw, a circular miter saw, and some portable lights (the area currently has five small bulbs for the whole area).

If you can provide the tools or the muscles, contact Pastor John (cell-832-451-4100 or john@afsumc.org).

2020 New Testament Challenge

3/2 - Mark 13

3/3 - Mark 14

3/4 - Mark 15

3/5 - Mark 16

3/6 - Luke 1

3/9 - Luke 2

3/10 - Luke 3

3/11 - Luke 4

3/12 - Luke 5

3/13 - Luke 6

3/16 - Luke 7

3/17 - Luke 8

3/18 - Luke 9

3/19 - Luke 10

3/20 - Luke 11

3/23 - Luke 12

3/24 - Luke 13

3/25 - Luke 14

3/26 - Luke 15

3/27 - Luke 16

3/30 - Luke 17

3/31 - Luke 18

4/1 - Luke 19

4/2 - Luke 20

4/3 - Luke 21

4/6 - Luke 22

4/7 - Luke 23

4/8 - Luke 24

4/9 - John 1

4/10 - John 2

4/13 - John 3

4/14 - John 4

4/15 - John 5

4/16 - John 6

4/17 - John 7

4/20 - John 8

4/21 - John 9

4/22 - John 10

4/23 - John 11

4/24 - John 12

4/27 - John 13

4/28 - John 14

4/29 - John 15

4/30 - John 16

5/1 - John 17

5/4 - John 18

5/5 - John 19

5/6 - John 20

5/7 - John 21

5/8 - Acts 1

**SIGN UP
NOW!**

Email Pastor John to get the daily email that includes both the text for the day and a link to Pastor John's recording of the daily reading.

john@afsumc.org

