



# YOU ARE GOOD ENOUGH

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– STAINED GLASS**

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# Stouffer's

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

It's true. Or, at least it's often repeated, "There is always room for improvement." ...Our world bombards us with the question "SO, WHY HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY IMPROVED?" And it really is more of an accusation than a question. I know. I'm a pastor and a preacher. It's my job to help people make those improvements in their lives. "SO WHY HAVEN'T I ALREADY IMPROVED AT MY JOB?"...it's a viscous cycle of never ending pressure - and I'm finding most of the pressure originates in my own feelings of inadequacy...and I long for a day — just one day, even a moment in a day — that everything that is, and everything that isn't, is good enough.

This year, for the seven weeks between Mardi Gras and Easter we will explore what it might mean for us to realize that, in this moment, we are already good enough. In fact, together we'll be reading a book that tries to tell us just that - and it's no coincidence that the book is called "Good Enough" by Kate Bowler, with Jessica Richie. In this book, they share "40ish devotions" to lead in our discovery! "Good Enough" will shape our Sunday morning (11:00 am) gatherings of praise and thanksgiving. We'll be gathering in smaller groups to talk about the book and share our thoughts about being good enough. I'd love to do all that I can to help you in this journey in these seven weeks! And I still face the questions...

So, why haven't I already improved at helping people improve? I'm crazy bored with that question and tired sick of that perspective. I think it's much more interesting to discover — together — how in each moment we're good enough for that moment. I think it's more interesting to explore the possibilities that together - each in our "good enough-ness" - we can find our way through life together and help others along the way. I hope to see you - to hear from you - to walk along side each other. If you read the book and want to talk, let me know. Or if you want to get coffee or tea and talk we can do that. You can catch me by email [jon@fumcbeaumont.org](mailto:jon@fumcbeaumont.org) or FB-Messenger @JonStouffer or at the church 409-832-0295, ext. 12 or @pop-up coffees around town! Also @First UMC downtown on Sundays at 11:00 am and Wednesdays at Noon!

By the way, Kate Bowler teaches do-gooders like me at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. More importantly, she's real. For six or seven years now (she's 41) she has carried on with life & family & teaching & writing following an unexpected diagnosis of stage IV cancer. As well as her academic publications and books, she's written "Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved," and "No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)." I haven't read those books, yet. I'm excited to read "Good Enough." I hope we can journey together!

- that's good enough for now!

Jon

Rev. Jon Stouffer, Lead Pastor

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep our entire First UMC Beaumont community in your prayers.

If you have a specific request, our prayer team would love to be praying with you. Email us –

[prayer@fumcbeaumont.org](mailto:prayer@fumcbeaumont.org).

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

### Alpha Omega

Room 128

Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

Teens to Senior Adult

The Alpha Omega class was started in 1928 as a class for young women. It has evolved into a multi-generational class and anyone is welcome. The class studies the Bible, Bible history, and those who have made significant contributions to or have impacted Christianity. The class is currently studying "Ancient Roads from Christ to Constantine." Videos on these subjects are presented, followed by discussion, a devotional reading, and closing prayer. The class sponsors chancel choir scholarships. It supports the Methodist Children's Home, Some Other Place, Kairos Kitchen, the Back Pack ministry, and the Thanksgiving store. It also makes contributions to FUMC youth programs and capital improvements.

**Contact Faye Seaberg, 409 752-5431**



## Tarasha Robinson Thomas

### KEEPING THE WHEELS ON THE WAGON

I was born in Fort Walton Beach FL, but grew up in Beaumont, TX graduating from Central Sr. High in 1991. After attending Lamar University for 1 year. I moved to the DFW area in 1992 with my late Husband Toby

Pratt. We married in 1993 and had our Son Tre and daughter Terricka who are now 28 and 26. I worked at Preston Hollow United Methodist Church Daycare and Preschool for 5 years allowing my children to attend

the center while being in my care since we had no close relatives in the DFW area. I later became an auditor for the largest cardiology company at the time in the DFW area (CPR Heartplace) for almost 10 years. I served on the transplant team, research team, and in the physician credentialing department through the Heart Hospitals and Baylor Health systems. I also helped my late husband build and run a very successful Industrial construction company for 17 years. In 2001, after deciding to raise our children Rockwall, TX. We left our church Southside Assembly of God in Garland TX where I served 4 years as a Sunday school teacher, usher, and Missionette's Leader and joined Church in the City Rockwall, TX under the leadership of the late Pastor Michael Hankins and his wife Pastor Vicki Hankins. There I served as a caregiver in the children's nursery ministry, I also served in the Prison Ministry as a juvenile mentor volunteer for several years at the Henry Wade Juvenile Detention Center and Youth Village. I was also Angel Tree Coordinator and Sky Ranch Camp Coordinator for Church in the City's Prison Ministry for 8 years. In 2015 my late husband Toby died of Bone Cancer, I decided to move back home to Beaumont and in 2017, I married my husband Ruggeri. In 2018 God smiled upon us and blessed us with

*Tarasha continued on p. 9*

**“and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—  
if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.”**

ROMANS 8:17 NRSV

# Groups & Studies



## GOOD ENOUGH – CHURCH-WIDE LENTEN STUDY & SMALL GROUP

*Embracing the imperfections of life and faith.*

### GOOD ENOUGH SMALL GROUP

**Via Zoom Begins Tue., March 1 at 7 p.m.**

**Led by Pastor Julius Wardley**

**In-Person Begins Wed., March 2 at Noon**

**Led by Pastors Jon Stouffer & Julius Wardley.**

**Contact [jon@fumcbeaumont.org](mailto:jon@fumcbeaumont.org) or**

**[julius@fumcbeaumont.org](mailto:julius@fumcbeaumont.org) for more information.**

We live in a culture bent on definitions of a good life as continuous upward mobility– climbing ladders of prosperity with increasingly fabulous experiences that we can post to evermore-likable social media accounts. We may comb the shelves of the self-help section in search of just the right formula to gain success. Perhaps we even gravitate towards spiritual leaders who promise great rewards if we only do “the right thing.” But life happens, right?

Most times we are not moving upward but trying to repair the rung we’ve just slipped from. So what if we stopped climbing and started fertilizing, watering, and blooming right where we find ourselves? Welcome to a Lent of affirming a faith in which we are blessed, regardless, and where we can lean into embracing our “good enough” lives.

First UMC is gearing up for a church wide Lenten study on Kate Bowler’s new book – Good Enough: 40ish days devotionals for a Life of Imperfection . We will be using this book for our sermon series, some of our small group offerings, children’s ministry and throughout our ministry in Lent.

**Visit [fumcbeaumont.org/goodenough](http://fumcbeaumont.org/goodenough) to learn more and order your book online from a store of your choice.**

## CONNECT GROUP – with Liza Nelson

**Tuesdays | noon**

8498 Oak Meadows Dr., Beaumont TX 77706.

Contact Liza Nelson for more information.

[cherokee\\_liza@hotmail.com](mailto:cherokee_liza@hotmail.com)

## SMALL GROUP – with Robin & Charlie Snoek

**Sundays | 6 p.m.**

Reading – The Great Divorce by C.S Lewis.

1135 North 23rd St., Beaumont, TX 77706.

Contact Robin or Charlie Snoek for more information.

[charles.snoek8533@gmail.com](mailto:charles.snoek8533@gmail.com)

# Loving the City

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – CHARLTON POLLARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Charlton Pollard Elementary needs dedicated members of our community to work with their students. BISD strongly encourages and believes that community involvement is a major building block in the foundation of building a strong campus and district. The mentorship provided by volunteers leaves a lasting impact on CPE's students. By giving your time, you are making a difference in a child's life and helping Beaumont to build a successful district. First UMC encourages you to sign up as a Beaumont ISD volunteer for Charlton Pollard Elementary School.

### **New Opportunity – Parents And Community Support (PACS)**

Become a volunteer to help keep our schools safe and serve as role models for the students of Beaumont ISD. All Campus Safety Monitors must be approved by BISD as authorized volunteers. **Learn more and sign up to be a volunteer at [fumcbeaumont.org/cpe](http://fumcbeaumont.org/cpe)**

### **Volunteer opportunities include (but are not limited to):**

- Parents And Community Support (PACS) – Safety Monitor
- Virtual ROAR Community Reading Partnership
- One on One Tutoring
- Mentorship Opportunities
- Virtual Career Day Videos
- Virtual Read-a-loud Videos



## **THE HOLY LAND – A SECOND SATURDAY FAITH SEMINAR**

**Saturday, March 12 | 9am – Noon  
Free Admission**

**Parlor of First UMC  
Corner of Willow and Broadway—  
follow the balloons!**

**Led by Neil W. Early - 409-651-0206  
or [mnealy@bayou.com](mailto:mnealy@bayou.com).**

A tempting trip without leaving Beaumont? Come share with us at the Second Saturday Faith Seminar as we continue our unique exploration of the Holy Land. We will be looking

at a variety of geographic locations in the Holy Land, exploring appropriate Scriptures, learning about the things happening there, and engaging in conversation and discovery of their place in our Faith life. A stone from each primary locale and some secondary locales will be shared. Refreshments are plentiful as you feed your heart, mind and body with a variety of Faith Adventures.



THE MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMISSION *thank you*  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS  
AND MISSIONS THROUGH OUR GUMBO NIGHT

## CHARLTON POLLARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

First UMC Beaumont partners with Charlton Pollard Elementary. One of the major ways we help students in need at CPE is providing school supplies. Additionally, we volunteer with the ROAR Reading Program, and other BISD volunteer opportunities at CPE.

## KAIROS KITCHEN

A ministry of our church that gives hungry people in our area an opportunity to meet in a Christian atmosphere, receive communion from one of our pastors, have access to a sympathetic, listening ear, as well as a hot meal provided for by volunteers.

## LAMAR UNIVERSITY WESLEY FOUNDATION

The Lamar University Wesley Foundation is an extension ministry of the United Methodist Church that serves the Young Adults of Southeast Texas. They are positioned to minister to the students, staff and faculty at Lamar University and its surrounding community.

## MISSIONARIES IN THE FIELD

Steve and Sherry (McKinley) Letchford with Banda Health in Kenya. Steve Letchford, is president of Banda Health, a nonprofit based out of Nairobi, Kenya working to empower healthcare workers where patients need them most, with world-class health technology. He also serves as a consultant physician at AIC Kijabe Hospital who's mission is to glorify God through the provision of compassionate health care, excellent medical training, and spiritual ministry in Jesus Christ

## RAINBOW ROOM

The Rainbow Room is an emergency resource center available to CPS caseworkers to help them meet the critical needs of abused and neglected children. Stocked with all new items, Rainbow Rooms provide clothing, shoes, underwear, baby formula, school supplies and hygiene items to children entering foster or relative care and children in their own homes who live below the poverty line.

## SEAFARERS CENTER

Located within the Port of Beaumont, The Seafarers' Center is a non-denominational mission dedicated to offering all seafarers arriving along the Sabine-Neches Waterway services and a haven from the isolation of life aboard a merchant vessel. The center gives mariners a place to feel "at home" and offers a warm welcome to seafarers and military personnel. The center provides personal, practical and spiritual guidance

## SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a non-profit organization that builds and delivers beds to children who do not have a bed. They are a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need. Their motto: "No kid sleeps on the floor in our town!"

## SOCIETY OF ST. STEPHENS

A fund that provides assistance to persons that walk in and need one time help. (gas, food, night at Salvation Army)

## SOME OTHER PLACE

A ecumenical mission in urban ministry, a place where people of all faiths come together to provide services of all types to people who find themselves in emergency situations.

## TEXAS CONFERENCE GOLDEN CROSS

Since 1921, the Texas Conference Golden Cross has provided a healing ministry to people in need of assistance with medical care. The health and faith of many people have been restored through the generosity of local churches and the benevolent medical care of doctors and hospitals throughout the Conference.

## UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church. UMCOR works in over 80 countries worldwide including the United States. 100% of donated money goes directly to the specified project.



# The Light that Shines

## THE CHANCEL STAINED GLASS

During this Lenten season, both the weekly lectionary and the five Chancel stained-glass windows remind us of God's creation of man, his need for a savior, and the death and resurrection of Jesus.

The five lancets [windows] illustrate the Apostles' Creed, the statement of our faith, while focusing attention on Jesus Christ as Lord.

Below is an overview, starting at

the top of the far-left lancet, of the depiction of the Apostles' Creed. The "Sanctuary Windows" brochure provides a more in-depth guide to all the sanctuary windows. Copies will be available in the near future.



## LANCET 1

God the Father, the creator  
Expulsion of Adam and Eve from the  
garden of Eden; the fall of man,  
Man's need for a savior  
Isaiah, typical of the prophets of the  
Messiah  
Gabriel announces the birth of Jesus to  
Mary

## LANCET 2

Birth of Christ  
Christ's baptism by John in the river  
Jordan  
Christ's transfiguration flanked with  
Moses and Elijah  
Christ standing before Pilate



## LANCET 3

The crucified Christ attended by Mary  
and John  
Joseph of Arimathea asks for His body  
and carries it to the tomb  
The guards watching

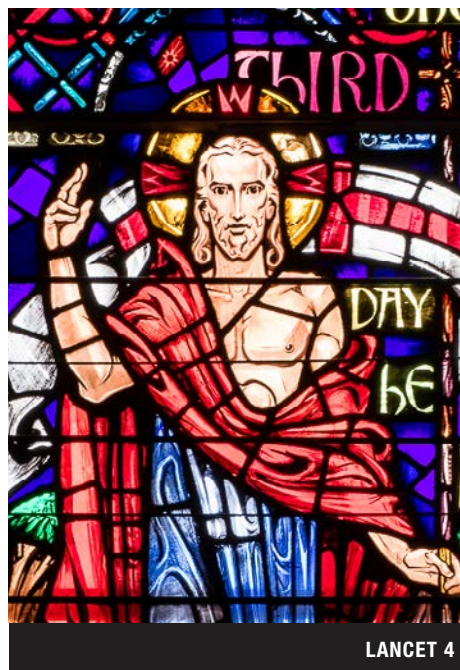
## LANCET 4

The risen Christ who joins two disciples  
in the supper at Emmaus  
Christ ascends into heaven  
Pentecost with Peter in the center



## LANCET 5

Christ sits enthroned in heaven to judge  
the living and the dead  
The Holy Spirit shown as a dove  
The penitent thief on the cross  
symbolizing the forgiveness of  
sins, the resurrection, and the life  
everlasting  
The communion of saints, of which  
John, Peter, and Paul are typical



*Photography by Michelle Holland*

*Tarasha continued from p. 3*  
the most beautiful and smartest grand-  
daughter that I have ever seen Angel 3.

I have been serving as FUMC's  
Building and Office Administrator since  
2018 in this beautiful building with all  
of its character. When I first came on  
staff, I was definitely impressed with  
the different ministries that FUMC  
is a part of Kairos Kitchen, N.A.M.,  
the partnership with Charlton Pollard  
Elementary, S.O.P., and SHP but most  
importantly to see the open arms given  
to the homeless community inviting  
them to attend church services and  
Thursday bible study spoke volumes  
to my heart showing me what it means  
to love the city with the heart of Christ.  
My prayer for FUMC is to continue to  
bridge a gap and grow through more  
created ministries within the church to  
serve this community and win souls  
through their services while displaying  
God's love.

**“for whatever is born of  
God conquers the world.  
And this is the victory  
that conquers the world,  
our faith.”**

1 JOHN 5:4 NRSV

# Lent & Easter Services

## ASH WEDNESDAY

*You Want To Put What On My Forehead?*

**Wednesday, March 2 • Noon & 6 p.m.**

While much of our world pursues the party of Mardi Gras culminating in Fat Tuesday, some are using that same time frame to clear out the clutter to get ready for seven weeks of listening, learning, and leaning into The Message that God has for the world today! These seven weeks begin with a day called Ash Wednesday (immediately following “Fat Tuesday” or “Mardi Gras” in French)! After all the celebrations are complete, Ash Wednesday stands in our calendar as a reminder that we are part of God’s creation, finite, and loved beyond measure by the One who created us. Sometimes we focus on repentance and reminders of our mortality. Sometimes we focus on fostering the promises and possibilities God brings through Jesus. As each one in worship wishes, we are marked with the sign of the cross in ashes as a reminder that we too are created by God. This year our Lenten Study of Good Enough begins at Noon on March 2 with an Ash Wednesday observance. We will also gather and livestream a worship celebration at 6:00 pm on Ash Wednesday.

## PALM SUNDAY

*Everybody Loves A Parade*

**Sunday, April 10 • 11 a.m.**

And that’s exactly what happened on “Palm Sunday” when Jesus and his followers entered Jerusalem on their way to celebrate that year’s Passover. There were crowds of people shouting to God and waving branches and coats and anything they could find. Everyone thought that Jesus - a teacher and leader - would usher in a new order of governing, ending many years of Roman rulership. They thought Jesus would be a king like King David so many years before. Jesus had other ideas. On Palm Sunday, April 10, we will have a parade of our own and wave branches but probably not coats or other things we might find. As we seek to listen to God, we may even discover that we’re better working together than we could possibly on our own! Come join the parade!

## HOLY THURSDAY

*The Best Meal Ever*

**Thursday, April 14 • Noon & 6 p.m.**

When Jesus and his followers gathered to celebrate The Passover, as was their tradition, they met in what the Bible calls an “upper room.” In the midst of that great celebration, Jesus began a new tradition that has become for us what we call “Holy Communion” or “The Lord’s Supper.” We believe that it is the best meal ever! When we remember the beginning of this tradition on the Thursday before Easter, we remember the story of God’s great love we find in Jesus. This is when Jesus first shared this meal he told his followers, “I give you a new command to love one another as I have loved you.” We will gather at Noon and at 6:00 pm to remember and retell this great story!

## GOOD FRIDAY

*The Audacity To Call This Day Good*

**Friday, April 15 • Noon & 6 p.m.**

This is the day we remember that Jesus died on the cross, an anti-victory of sorts as the world sees wins and losses. When we remember the crucifixion, death, and burial of God’s Son Jesus, we proclaim this action of self-giving is the greatest act of love in all the world. The “good” on this day is an indication of the sacredness of the day - it could be called “Holy Friday.” We will gather at Noon and at 6:00 pm to remember and retell this story of the greatest love.

## EASTER DAY

*The Day That Reshapes All Creation*

**Sunday, April 17**

**Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt • 9:30-10:45 a.m.**

**Easter Service • 11 a.m.**

Much of our society knows about Easter because of the traditions surrounding the Easter Bunny and the new life of spring blossoming all around us! For us, Easter Day is the celebration of Jesus rising from the dead as the beginning of new life for all creation. In one letter of our sacred texts, the writer tells that all creation is bound to decay with the “shackles of mortality” and Jesus rising from the dead is the beginning of creation being restored to God’s original plans. This new life also begins in those who follow Jesus in their faith practice knowing that in God’s love we are restored and renewed for the life we live now! On this Easter Day, we will have a community breakfast beginning at 9:30 am in our fellowship hall, an Easter egg hunt for kids of all ages, and worship together at 11:00 am in the sanctuary!

## WEEKLY RHYTHMS

### SUNDAYS

#### Sunday School

9:45 a.m.

#### Family Worship Service

11 a.m.

In-Person & Livestream

### WEDNESDAYS

#### Chancel Choir Practice

6 p.m.

## DO YOU HAVE UPCOMING EVENTS?

Email event info and pictures to –

[Erika@fumcbeaumont.org](mailto:Erika@fumcbeaumont.org)

April Spire Deadline for entry –  
March 21.

## STAY CONNECTED

 @fumcbeaumont

 @fumcbeaumont

 First UMC Beaumont

 [fumcbeaumont.org](http://fumcbeaumont.org)

 (409) 920-PRAY

## MARCH & APRIL DATES TO KNOW

### SATURDAY, FEB. 26

#### Kairos Kitchen

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, MAR. 1

#### Good Enough Small Group - Zoom

Begins via Zoom, 7 p.m.

Contact Pastor Julius Wardley

[julius@fumcbeaumont.org](mailto:julius@fumcbeaumont.org).

### WEDNESDAY, MAR. 2

#### Ash Wednesday

Services at Noon & 6 p.m.

#### Good Enough Small Group - In-Person

Begins In-Person, Noon

Led by Pastors Jon Stouffer & Julius

Wardley

### WEDNESDAY, MAR. 9

#### Games Day - Fellowship & Fun

10 a.m. - noon | Rothwell Hall

Contact Ruby Nelson (409)-781-6798

### THURSDAY, MAR. 10

#### United Methodist Women

Feeding Lamar University Wesley

Foundation Students

### SATURDAY, MAR. 12

#### Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build

8:30 a.m. - noon, 12:30 - 4 p.m.

2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX

Pre register at [bit.ly/shpvolunteer](http://bit.ly/shpvolunteer)

### SUNDAY, MAR. 13

#### Daylight Saving Time Begins

Set clocks forward one hour Saturday

Night.

### SATURDAY, MAR. 19

#### Sleep in Heavenly Peace Delivery Day

9 a.m. | 2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX

Bring your cordless drill with charged up

batteries.

### SUNDAY, MAR. 20

#### Family Day

11 a.m. Family Worship Service

Taste of Beaumont Lunch after service

### FRIDAY, MAR. 18

#### Some Other Place - Service Day

8:00am – 1:00pm

### SATURDAY, MAR. 26

#### Kairos Kitchen

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, APR. 10

#### Palm Sunday

#### Family Day

11 a.m. Family Worship Service

Taste of Beaumont Lunch after service

### WEDNESDAY, APR. 13

#### Games Day - Fellowship & Fun

10 a.m. - noon | Rothwell Hall

Contact Ruby Nelson (409)-781-6798

### THURSDAY, APR. 14

#### Holy Thursday

Services at Noon & 6 p.m.

### FRIDAY, APR. 15

#### Good Friday

Services at Noon & 6 p.m.

### SATURDAY, APR. 16

#### Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build

8:30 a.m. - noon, 12:30 - 4 p.m.

2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX

Pre register at [bit.ly/shpvolunteer](http://bit.ly/shpvolunteer)

### SUNDAY, APR. 17

#### Easter Day

#### Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt –

9:30-10:45 a.m.

Service – 11 a.m.

### SATURDAY, APR. 23

#### Sleep in Heavenly Peace Delivery Day

9 a.m. | 2950 Milam Street, Bmt., TX

Bring your cordless drill with charged up

batteries.



Loving the city with the Heart of Christ

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BEAUMONT

# Taste of Beaumont 2022

WITH FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Let's break bread together,  
and support our local restaurants!*

MARCH 20 & APRIL 10

AFTER OUR 11 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

*Restaurants TBA*