

**Volume 2 Number 2, February, 2024**

**Ash Wednesday Launches Lent Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>**

Yes! Easter is early this year. That means the 40 days of Lent begin February 14th. Many faith expressions note the start of Lent by receiving ashes and remembering Genesis 3:19 that tells us from dust we were formed and to dust we shall return.

We will offer imposition of ashes to all who drive by the Museum between 7-9 AM or 4:30-6:30 PM. There will not be a formal service inside the church. If you cannot get to the museum contact Pastor Tom and he will come to you some-time during the day.

Lent is a time of preparation. We prepare our hearts for the moment of Easter morning when we once again can proclaim "Christ is Risen".

The ash anointing is available to all who wish to begin a holy and sacred Lent. Please come and invite others to come as well.

**Pastor Tom's Ordination**

On Saturday afternoon, February 3, at First Methodist Church in Waco, Pastor Tom Lathen was ordained a Deacon in the Global Methodist Church. Attending the ordination service were his wife, daughter, and church members Don & Trenaise Engleking, Dr. Howard & Debbie Lufburrow, Steve & Judy Lazarus, Dr. Jerry & Elaine Herrick, and John & Sandra Perry. Salado United Methodist Church Pastor Tommy Prud'homme also attended.



*Above: Pastor Tom was ordained a Deacon in the Global Methodist Church by Bishop Scott Jones and Mid-Texas Conference President Dr. Leah Hidde-Gregory. He was joined by his wife, daughter, Rankin Koch, and Elder Stephen Schmidt.*

**Special Days in February**

**Grady Newton Feb 8**

**Joe & Karin Berg Feb 15**

*Please forward your birthdays and anniversaries to Pastor Tom or John Perry.*



**What's Happening!**

**By: Tom Lathen**

The second annual Awakening Conference concluded with an Ordination Service on February 3rd.

I was humbled to be one of eleven pastors ordained as Deacon. Eleven others were ordained as Elder.

The immediate impact on our church will be minimal. My responsibilities do not change, as I am ordained to serve this church alone. For the record, that's the way I like it. However, I am expected to continue on via on line and possibly in person seminary classes to become an Elder by 2026.

I want to thank you for your prayers and support. But mostly I want to thank you for supporting each other and praying for New Life Church.

There is much left to do and we need everyone pulling together to serve and love in Jesus name.

## Global Church News Roundup for February

Pastor Jim and the Jarrell GMC Food Pantry send their thanks for your support of their Food Pantry ministry. They have pledged to be ready for our food delivery on first Sundays if we can deliver by 11:45 am as their services are concluding.

More than 500 gathered for the Mid Texas Global Methodist Awakening Conference in Waco. A group of 22 pastors were ordained. There were worship services, and inspirational workshops. The next gathering will be this summer.

If you have attended a Walk to Emmaus (or if you are interested in a future walk) you are invited to a meeting at Salado UMC February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

Prayer, deliverance, authority, intercession, and other spiritual gifts and practices were taught and modeled by Christ and the Holy Spirit to our earliest forefathers and foremothers in the faith. Unseen is a conference planned for March 1-2 in San Antonio. You're invites to a time of

growing and exploring these valuable spiritual treasures of Christian ministry. Cost is \$50. For more info send an email to:

*Paul.Trejo@coker.org*

At the Mid-Texas Annual Conference in Waco it was reported that the conference has 223 churches, with 43,000 members. It has 181 Full time appointments and a total of 269 clergy. New Life Methodist was recognized at the Conference for being one of 30 brand new churches.



### Remember the Jesus Prayer During Lent

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

This prayer is hundreds of years old going back to the desert monks of early Christianity.

### Men's Zoom Bible Study Re-doing Format

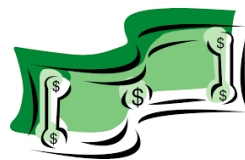
We don't have enough participants interested in the zoom format.

However, if you signed up for the class (you know who you are) Pastor Tom would like to meet with you briefly on Sundays after services to discuss what you've been reading.

### Women's Bible Study Moves Forward

The Women's Study on spiritual formation will begin February 13th and run for six weeks. The class will meet at 10:00 am Tuesdays. The class will meet at the Blanton's Depot at 233 N. Main.

Check with Margaret or Carolyn for information. Books are available now.



### Dollars and Cents

Balance 12/31/23	\$135,333.58
January Deposits	\$ 25,880.00
January Expenses	<u>\$117,330.80*</u>
Bank Balance 1/31/24	\$ 43,882.78
CD Balances:	\$ 186,796.77**
Money in Escrow	\$ 20,000.00

\*Includes \$110,000 transfer from checking to a new CD

\*\*includes Property Fund balance of \$62,896.20



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Feb 4— Communion Sunday. Food Pantry collection.**

**Feb 10—Men's Breakfast at Don's. Please RSVP to Don or Tom.**

**Feb 17—Walk to Emmaus meeting at Salado UMC.**



— A Global Methodist Church —  
PO Box 1322  
Salado, TX 76571

New Life Methodist Church meets each Sunday at 10:00 am with Bible Study at 9:00 am at the Salado Museum, 423 S Main Street in downtown Salado.  
Tom Lathen, Pastor (254) 899-5680