

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

GADDIS GOOD NEWS

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2026



GADDIS CHURCH
ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE
141 HIWAY 87 COMFORT TX
830-995-3813
GADDISCHURCH@GMAIL.COM
WWW.GADDISCHURCH.ORG



GADDIS CHURCH walk • serve • share

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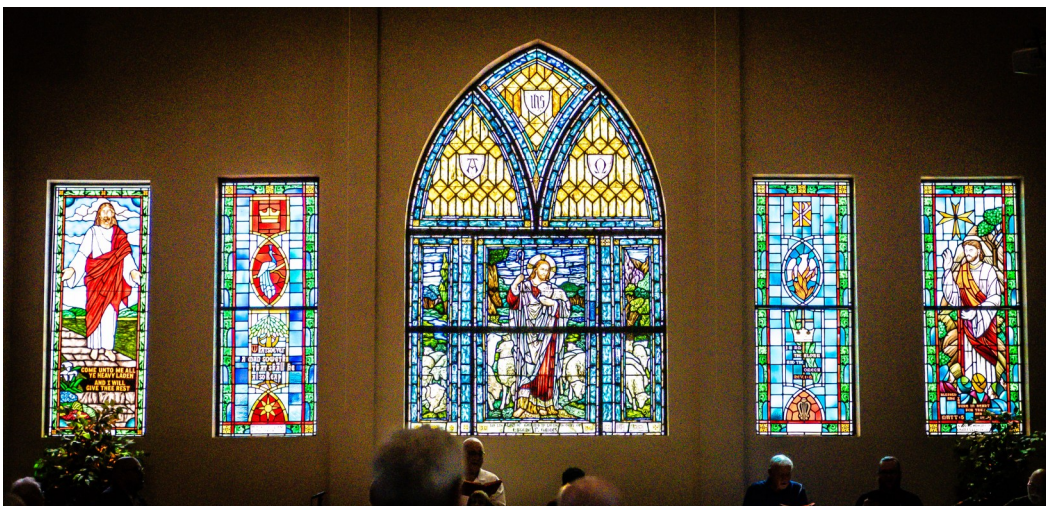
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GADDIS CHURCH walk • serve • share



**GADDIS UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

**PASTOR: REV. THOMAS
HANKINS**

CHURCH SERVICE ~ 10:00 AM
email:

gaddischurch@gmail.com
www.gaddischurch.org

Office hours: Mon.-Thurs.
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Sunday Morning Church Service ~ 10:00 AM
with live streaming ~

connect to the service on the Gaddis Church website ~ www.gaddischurch.org

The first few weeks of 2026 have been quite the “doozy”. From tremendous upheaval and violence in our country to ice covered roads and yards down here in the middle of Texas, it seems like things are a little topsy turvy. Upside down, almost. But there are also good things and things worth celebrating. In January, we observed a day in remembrance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who set a model for what it means to be a Christian concerned with peace and justice in our modern world. Now, in February, we recognize Black History Month, which lets us remember the many names throughout our countries history who have fought and worked for equality and justice for the Black community.

One such name is Dr. James Cone. James Cone was, and still is, one of the most pivotal and influential black theologians in our country’s history. Through some of his writings like, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* and *A Black Theology of Liberation*, Dr. Cone, and many others, helped develop what we call today “liberation theology”. This is an approach to theology that fundamentally emphasizes the call to liberation for oppressed peoples around the world, whether that oppression be due to racism, sexism, or cultural differences. This framework of Liberation Theology is exactly the framework that I was taught in as a young theologian and it informs almost everything I do as a pastor. Whether you know it or not, you’ve been hearing sermons grounded in Liberation Theology for almost two years now.

But here’s something that I think is absolutely vital to recognize Liberation Theology isn’t a different “approach” to theology that is out of step with the “normal” way we have been hearing and learning about Christianity our whole lives. Instead, I see Liberation Theology as a reminder; a reminder that ALL Christian theology is centered on liberating oppressed peoples from the weight of human sin that keeps them in unjust, unethical systems of suffering. This idea is one of the most important gifts that Dr. Cone gave us through his work. It was Dr. Cone who said:

The Gospel of Jesus is not a rational concept to be explained in a theory of salvation, but a story about God’s presence in Jesus’ solidarity with the oppressed, which led to his death on the cross. What is redemptive is the faith that God snatches victory out of defeat, life out of death, and hope out of despair.

This month, and in the midst of everything going on in our world, let us remember that it was Jesus who came to live and dwell amongst the lowest and the least. It was the Son of God who come to identify with the oppressed peoples of the world, not only to free them from sin, but to call out those who were oppressing and stepping on them. It is a difficult message to hear sometimes. It may be uncomfortable for us to consider. But Christ does not call us to comfort – Christ calls us to liberation. Amen.

Pastor Thomas

PRAYER REQUESTS

Andrew Collins
April Langston
Bill & Bonnie Vernor
Chris & Kim Adams
Claudia Alldredge
Curtis & Margaret Morries
Dennis Wigginton
Dorothea Booth
Earl Cox & Patti
Eddie Ellis
Gail Glover
Harriet & Don Kirchhoff
Jack & Sue Wilson
James Halsell
Jay & Karen Stovall
Jayton Key
Jim & Judy Earls
JoAnne Foster
Kat Bingham
Lois DUEwall
MaryAnn & Graham Ward
Mike & Michel Elder
Nancy & Mark Heerema
Nancy Moorman
Pastor Thomas
Pat & Jo Childers
Ron & Irene Morgan
Roy & Patti Cox
Sue Wiedenfeld
Vicki Weber
Virginia Milner
Amy Dee Hawley

Adriana Leal
Amy Lanterigne
Betty Beatty
Bethany Buenteo
Brent Jenkins
Gary Davidson
Gigi Johnson
Glenn LaPierre
Hailey Williams
Jane Holdsworth
Jayton Key
Jean Adams & Daughter
Kaity Eden Schultz
Martha Scholtz
Matt Elder
Meghan Ochoa
Miller & Alexia Wells
Nathan Leeds
Otto Eichholz
Pam Franklin
Betty Brekke
Peggy Rogers
Pete Villarreal
Ralph Trieber
Rebecca Krumrey
Rex Bourland
Robin Clapper
Steve Rust
T.J. Harris
Tim & Adriana Stovall
Tom Childers
Tom Paquet
Vicki Vacek



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 1 Jack Wilson
 Jan. 2 Amy Dee Hawley
 Jan. 19 Jaxton Daggett
 Jan. 21 Leslie Ellis
 Jan. 26 Eddie Ellis
 Jan. 26 Laurie Heczko

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 1 Mason West
 Feb. 6 Don Durden
 Feb. 9 John Bohnert
 Feb. 14 Mike Elder
 Feb. 17 Mark Heerema
 Feb. 20 Mercedes Ellis
 Feb. 22 Kathy Martinez
 Feb. 23 Fred Collins

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1 Joel Rincones
 March 15 Tara Daggett
 March 28 James Halsell
 March 29 Dalton Neill



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jan. 8 Chuck & Beth Converse

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 1 Jack & Sue Wilson
 Feb. 14 Bill & Bonnie Vernor
 Feb. 24 Jim & Judy Earls

A SPECIAL SURPRISE!



On Sunday, December 14, 2025, a special surprise had been planned for one of Gaddis' members. Pat Childers, Jo Childers' husband, secretly executed a great surprise for his wife. She thought all of their family and friends had come to church that morning to celebrate her birthday. Little did she know that Pat had been in contact with Pastor Thomas and the office staff to plan a vow renewal! It was beautiful to see! He was so nervous and anxious to make sure that this was a true surprise for Jo, and it was! She had no clue that this was about to happen! Many witnessed the exchanging of renewal vows! Happy marriage, Pat & Jo Childers!!!

“GADDIS CARES”



Gaddis United Methodist Church is collaborating with Comfort Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to provide essential items for long-term care residents and aims to establish a visitation program to address their needs. Going to visit at the Nursing Home on the last Tuesday of each month is very rewarding. The group brings a seasonal craft item for the residents’ room or door, hot chocolate, refreshments, kindness, and compassion.

The goal is to make these residents feel seen, heard, and loved.

If you would like to be part of the “Gaddis Cares” group, please contact Julie Hughes (210-410-6679) for more information.

FEBRUARY NEWS

Ash Wednesday - February 18

MARCH NEWS

Daylight Savings time begins - March 8

Palm Sunday - March 29

PASS IT ON

Hours: Friday & Saturday 12-4PM

810 Ave A, Comfort ~

behind the Comfort Post Office



Pass It On is a wonderful resale shop where you can find unique items at extremely reasonable prices. You The volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that all items for sale are in gently used condition and desirable.

If you would like to volunteer, either stop by Pass It On or call the church office, (830) 995-3813. Donations of gently used household items and clothing are appreciated.

* The proceeds from the sale of items in the store go to Comfort High School seniors and those who wish to continue their education in the form of scholarships. Without your support, this is not be possible.

WHAT IS A PASTOR?

by Dusty Bruns

When asked for the definition of a Pastor of a Church, most would simply reply that this individual delivers a weekly sermon, the subject of which aligns with the liturgical season of the year. But there is more. They also visit and pray for those that are ill or in spiritual need. And they baptize people, perform weddings, and officiate at funerals. Frequently, they are a counselor for our psychological needs. More importantly, a good pastor is able to offer us empathy, instead of just sympathy. Easily put, they provide spiritual leadership and guidance for a congregation collectively, and friendship to each of us individually. Thus, their work can be sometimes challenging and seemingly never-ending.

The term “Pastor” comes from the Latin noun “pastor” which means “shepherd”, and from a derivation of the Latin verb “pascere” which means to lead to pasture, or shepherd a flock. For Christians, Jesus is our best example of “The Good Shepherd”.

Not everyone is predestined to be a Pastor. Few choose this profession on their own; rather, it chooses them. Since one cannot serve God physically, you fulfill this calling by serving His church and the people within.

In doing so, Pastors carry the emotional weight of their congregation. Their work is not confined to “normal” hours but can be any day of the week and at any time. They can become involved with interpersonal conflicts within the Church. Some expect of them instant availability. Isolation, in spite of being surrounded by people, is sometimes a downside. And then the congregation expects an interesting and engaging sermon each Sunday!

But being a Pastor can also be a great joy in knowing that you frequently make a profound positive impact on people’s lives! In return, a good pastor needs the friendship and support of his congregation. Be assured, Pastor Thomas, that those of us whose lives you have touched appreciate your kindness. (And those interesting and engaging sermons each Sunday!)

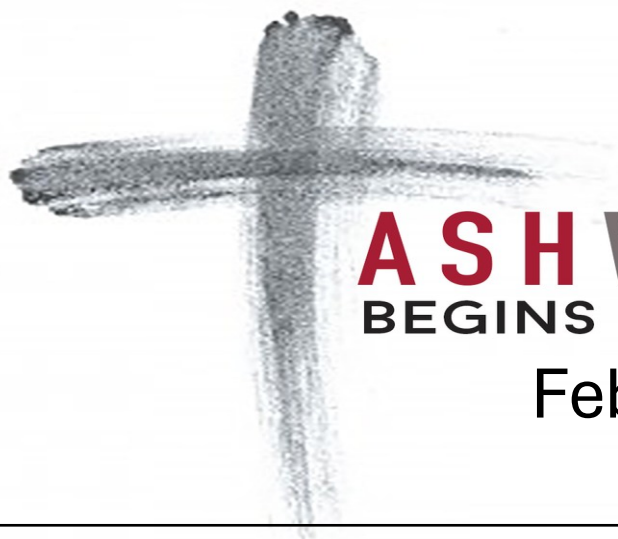
From *Romans 10:14* - “But how are they to call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a Pastor?”

RAIL OFFERINGS & COMFORT FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

	RAIL OFFERING	PANTRY NEEDS
JANUARY	UMCOR - where most needed - Please put "999895" on the memo line of your check	Cornbread/Bread Mixes, Laundry Soap, Bar Soap
FEBRUARY	Comfort Table	Canned Fruit, Soup & Crackers, Toilet Paper
MARCH	UMCOR Disaster Relief	Peanut Butter & Jelly, Coffee, Baby Wipes

STAFF & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Pastor	Thomas Hankins	Community Awareness	Nancy Martin
Admin Assistant	Amy Dee Hawley	Trustee Chair	Bud Hughes
Custodian	Andrew Collins	Finance Chair	Irene Morgan
Council Chair	Chuck Converse	Outreach/Missions	Amy Dee Hawley & Stacey West
SPRC Chair	Julie Hughes	Annual Conf. Delegate	Chuck Converse
Lay Leader	Teresa Chamberlain		
Treasurer	Bill Heckzo		



ASH WEDNESDAY
BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT

February 18, 2026

Gaddis United Methodist Church
141 Hwy 87 ~ P.O. Box 566
Comfort, TX 78013
(830) 995-3813
www.gaddischurch.org

Return Service Requested

INVITATION

At Gaddis our regular schedule is one service at 10:00 am. We play your hymnal favorites with a few newer pieces of music when appropriate to the message. All of our songs and messages are designed to enhance your worship experience. Come, join us each Sunday for a warm, spiritual gathering of down-home friendly folks. Everyone is welcome.

Each Sunday service is live streamed. To watch, go to the Gaddis website and click on the link at the top left side of the homepage. Website: www.gaddischurch.org

The Gaddis United Methodist Church monthly newsletter is EMAILED each month. To be added to the email list, please notify the church office either by phone, (830) 995-3813, or by email, gaddischurch@gmail.com. The deadline is the 20th of each month.