

The United Methodist Reporter

First United Methodist

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New Associate Pastor named

Nathaniel Hankins to preach Sunday

First Family members will be given the opportunity to meet their new associate pastor this Sunday as he delivers the message "We Thank You Father" during the 8:30 and 10:45 worship services.

Although Rev. Nathaniel Hankins will not officially join the pastoral staff until June 1, he will be available during the month of May to help with a smooth transition when Rev. Grosse Mohler retires in June.

"I could never replace Grosse, no one could," Rev. Hankins said. Grosse will remain as a volunteer working with First Family's seniors, shut-ins, and hospitalized members.

Rev. Hankins will be working in the area of evangelism and preaching. "I am very excited about being here. I feel I have come full circle," he said.

Hankins and his wife, Mary, grew up in Palatka, Florida. He retired from the Air Force and later from Ethicon, where he was

in management.

He also served on the San Angelo City Council from Nov. 1993 - 1995, and as Mayor Pro Tem from May 1996.

He answered the call to ministry in 1994, completing the Local Pastor School and the Perkins School of Theology, graduating in 1999.

Hankins' first appointment was at Wesley UMC, and Mary was in charge of the "Daily Bread" Soup Kitchen. The couple then moved to Corpus Christi where he served as senior pastor at St. Peter's by the Sea UMC for three years.

He retired last May, while serving as senior pastor at Simpson UMC, Austin. The couple returned to San Angelo last September where they have been very active.

Mary is currently serving as Sunday School superintendent and working in the "Daily Bread" Soup Kitchen.

Both Nathaniel & Mary have a heart for

their community, serving on a number of committees such as United Way, San Angelo Task Force to reduce Racial Tension, Adult Literacy Council, just to name a few.

"I feel very comfortable coming to First Church and look forward to meeting everyone," Rev. Hankins said.



Rev. Nathaniel & Mary Hankins

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Radiating God's love

list Church

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First Family's new associate pastors were welcomed Sunday with receptions following the 8:30 and 10:45 worship services. (L to R) Mary & Rev. Nathaniel A.B. Hankins and Rev. Laura & Kevin Heikes are pictured during the reception in Celebration Hall.

