



Wesley Witness

Wesley United Methodist Church

October 2014

614 Texas Street, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

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New Tables

After many years of wrangling the round, heavy wooden tables, United Methodist Women decided to sell them and purchase round, not-so-heavy white tables. (UMW bought the tables originally so they made the decision to replace them.)

The tables were sold promptly, thanks to Pat and Janet Skauge. Then the money to purchase the new lightweight, sturdy white tables was given equally as promptly. Mary Lou and Stanley Foster are getting that purchase taken care of. We were able to get 12 tables plus a cart for storage. A huge thank you to all of you who made it happen!! You are very much appreciated!

October Mission Emphasis

Blankets



New and Gently

Used Coats and Jackets



Fall Roundup Saturday November 1

In Memory of Myrtle Thar

By: Gary and Rachel Lewis
Max and Ilene Massey
Malcolm and Mary Ellen Kirkland



In Memory of Margaret Welsh

By: Jerry and Rebecca Hathcoat

In Honor of Don and Norma Gadt and Max and Ilene Massey

By: Elizabeth Young



**From
Pastor
Steve**

Each One, Reach One!

Wow! Already been at Wesley for 3 months! "Time flies when you're having fun!" And it has been an exciting start for Dicie Rue and me here. We look forward to many more years of service and ministry with you.

I'm reading a new book by a pastor to an urban culture in Austin, Texas (Jonathan K. Dodson) who was raised in an East Texas Baptist environment, but felt the Lord leading him to minister in a challenging place like Austin. In starting a church there, he found the going tough and almost gave up. Like one convert the first year and small growth a few years after that. Yet, he remained faithful and now the Lord is growing a new, disciple-minded church. I want to share a paragraph out of that book with you.

... "there is value in growing in our knowledge and understanding of the Gospel itself. The Gospel acts as a grand apologetic by addressing the deepest of life's questions: the value of creation, the problem of evil and suffering, the existence of God, the hope of salvation, the nature of God and man, and the role of faith. The story line of the Bible is an explanatory narrative that accounts for our deepest longings and hopes, while narrating a world we all want. It begins and ends with a perfect world--just, joyful, beautiful, intimate, fruitful, creative, and full of peace. The story of Scripture also acknowledges most of our objections to the way the world currently is--unjust, sad, lonely, cursed, barren, and broken. ...the Bible goes further, identifying the problem--the world order, the sinful longings of 'the flesh', and the devil himself--as well as providing the solution--the life, death, resurrection, and return of Jesus Christ our Lord."

The Great Commission tells us to "Go into all the world, make disciples for Jesus Christ, baptize all in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and then teach obedience to all of Jesus' commands." When Jesus was asked about the Greatest Commandment, He responded essentially with "Love God and Love your neighbor." My observation over the past 40+ years in ministry is that most church folk get the "Love God" part pretty good, but we are lacking and lagging behind in the "Love Neighbors" department. Why is this? Are we ashamed of the Gospel of Christ

we proclaim in word, deed, and song? Are we embarrassed to "tell the world we are Christians?" Have we lost our "first love" described by John in Revelation 2:2-7? Have we, in the modern vernacular "been there, done that and even bought a t-shirt? " Have we become so "professional in ministry" that we expect "the pastor" to handle this area of our Biblical witness? (We ALL are ministers at Wesley UMC!) Are we just "too busy" with everything else in our lives that we are too tired and weary to do "another thing at church?" Or, what would you say it is?

Years ago, I discovered one day in my quiet time a singular thought about "how" to reach out to grow the church. I call it, "EACH ONE, REACH ONE." It is very simple math: every person take the pledge to be responsible for asking just one person to attend Wesley, perhaps taking them with you to Sunday school or involve she/he in one of our programs (Sunday school, choir, UMW, Backpack Buddies, shut-ins, etc.), and maybe even take them out to lunch or home with you. It can be ANYONE--which means family, neighbors, co-workers, or friends. So if 75 of us take the pledge for the next six months, it is possible that we could have 75 new or even restored members in our church. Then we repeat the pledge with others or the same for another 6 months...well, you get the gist of this "each one, reach one" pledge/covenant. Let's make it a matter of prayer...each of us...and see how the Lord leads us. "You never know what you're gonna get when you pray about it."

What a JOY it is to be your pastor and to serve alongside you. So many of you are committee and loyal servants for our Lord here at Wesley and I thank you for your willingness to do all that you're doing. Great days are happening now and they are ahead for us



Upcoming Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #14-125

October 16-19, 2014 at Lone Star, TX

Women's Walk 15-126

February 19-22, 2015 at Lone Star, TX

Men's Walk 15-127

April 23-26, 2015 at Lone Star, TX

For more information, log on to:

www.netemmaus.org or talk to an Emmaus alumni.

Note to Emmaus alumni: Team members are needed for all walks. If you are interested, go to netemmaus.org.

Men are needed for the upcoming Men's walk in October. If you know of friends or church members who might be interested in this opportunity, please talk to them and give them an application.

Wesley UMYF

During the month of September, the youth group has rekindled its flame. We have had amazing Sunday Bible studies as well as interactive fellowship on Wednesday evenings. In a few weeks, we will be attending what is called *Fields of Faith*. This is what most of the youth groups of Sulphur Springs attend to have fellowship with their Christian brothers and sisters. There will be disciple time, worship time, and prayer time- all major parts of the Christian faith. We look forward to going!!

-Dylan Dante di Donato



PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Jewel Adams	Rhonda Alley	Jill Barclay
Jim and Mary Barnhart	Dominic Ayala	Day Brown
David Cartwright, Jr.	Carson Bryant	Margaret Campbell
The Carmody Family (Phoebe)	Vickie Campbell	Amber Clayton
Steve and Dicie Rue Cook	Jon Coffee	Kathy Crowson
Mary Dabiere	Emmitt Daehn	Max Drummond
Yogi and Stacy Davis	Jon Davis	Dorothy Easley
Charlie Epperson	David Foster	LaJuan Foster
Billy Wayne Frazier	Jason Frazier	Jennifer Glover
Robert and Mary Glover	Beulah Godfrey	Janie Godfrey
Roy Herman, Jr.	Doris Herman	Dora Hernandez
Magan, Tim and Easley Henderson	Frank Hernandez	Doreen Gregg
Louise and Marvin Jones	Bill Hinchcliff	Algarine Jordan
Dana Jordan	Jace Jordan	Millie Kates
Mark Lacek	Marie Lee	Della Loane
Muriel and Weldon Lucas	Trinity Lutes	Kim Moore
Allison, Wade and J.W. Mullinax	Bart Penny	Ricky and Kay Orr
Deb and Dave Nossotti	Nancy Rawls	Matthew Prochaska
Majel and Roger Redick	Tyler Rosamond	Kim Shuey
Pat and Floyd Spears	Larry Spradlin	Nola Tadlock
Lacy, Gabe and Ceely Stout	Burke Tinsley	Allan Thar
Brian and Kimberly Tubb and Children	Chrystal Vargas	Derek Wagnon
Frances Smith Williams	Sara Wilkinson	
War in Israel and Gaza	Orthodox Christians in Iraq	
Children coming into the US from Central America		
Victims of severe weather in the US and around the world		
Backpack Buddies	North Texas Food Bank	The Dinner Bell
Holy Highway Girls Home	Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center	
Dallas Bethlehem Center – Wesley-Rankin Community Center		
Way of Salvation UMC, Mytisch, Russia		
Our Country and Our Leaders		
Military Personnel and their Families	RAIN	
EMS, Fire Fighters, Police and Sheriff Depts.	Hospital Personnel	
The Middle East	Ukraine	

New additions to the prayer list are in **BOLD**
Note: Names added to the prayer list will remain on the list for 30 days. They will be relisted by request. Please help us to keep the list current.

WESLEY HOMEBOUND

June Anderson	Doris Rawls	Mary Burks	Dell Cline	Bobbie Holder
Billie Newsom	Vivian & Bill Shell	Weldon & Muriel Lucas	Sandra McIntire.	



Golden Agers

will meet at
11:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 16

Covered Dish

Program: Pastor Steve



Fall Roundup

Live Auction - 50 item limit

- No garage sale items
- Items must be purchased new or hand crafted - quality items, please
- Items must be at the church no later than noon on November 1, unless the committee has approved late arrival of the item.

Silent Auction

- Items must be new or hand crafted
- This is not the time to clean out your closets, your store rooms, or your garage.

Grandma's Kitchen

Homemade cooked items : bread, cookies, candy, jams and jellies.

Handmade items: crocheted items, afghans, quilts, embroidered pieces, aprons, baby bibs, booties, etc.

If you have questions about Grandma's Kitchen, please talk to Mary Lou, Carol Ann or Diane.

The Committee will determine where donated items will be placed.

We are doing what's best to keep things peppy and to keep interest in the bidding.

You can help us by signing up on the sheets posted on the bulletin board.

Even if you have done a particular job in the past, we need to know if we have enough help.

If you have any questions, please contact the following people:

Coordinators - Mary Lou Foster and Carol Ann O'dell

Live Auction - Didi Thurman/Rachelle Sills

Silent Auction - Rhonda Brock

Publicity - Diane Dixon

Set Up and Decorations - Catherine Ferguson

Stew Pots and Cooks - Carol Ann O'dell

Auctioneer Chief - Marvin Jones

Finance and Computer Guru - Lanny Caffey and Company

Volunteers Needed for Coordination in the Following Areas:

Ticket Takers Grandma's Kitchen Pie Room

Kitchen Preparation and Serving Clean Up

Sign up sheets will be on the bulletin board in Wesley Hall SOON!

Called Ad Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 7

Wesleyan Classroom

On the agenda: Discussion of disbursement of proceeds from Fall Roundup. Everyone is welcome to attend! Bring your ideas and suggestions! This is your opportunity to be heard!

Regularly Scheduled

Ad Board Meeting

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 28

Wesleyan Classroom

Committee Chairs: Please submit your written reports to Pat by

Fall Roundup

Saturday, November 1

All you can eat Stew, Chili, Dessert



Tickets

Adult \$6.00

10 and under \$4.00

Under 5 FREE

Quart Sales begin at 6:30 p.m. - 2 tickets

Activities

Grandma's Kitchen

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Stew/Chili Served

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Silent Auction

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Live Auction

6:30 p.m.



Adopt a Backpack Buddy

Each year we are given the opportunity to adopt a Backpack Buddy.

We will be giving weekly food to children at North Hopkins ISD and to children at Como-Pickton CISD (usually the number of children served is 100 or so).

Included in the bag each child receives each week is:

2 breakfast items such as instant oatmeal or granola bars

2 lunch items such as ravioli or beans and wieners

2 snack items such as peanut butter crackers or pudding cups

2 drinks such as fruit punch or Yoo Hoo

The menu varies each week. The cost of the food given each week is **\$3.00**. When you adopt a Backpack Buddy, you may give your money by the week, month or year.

The Backpack Buddy display will be in the sanctuary and the backpack magnets are on the display. Please take one (or two). You may go together with someone to adopt a Buddy or Sunday school classes may choose to adopt several.

Thanks so much for your participation!

Hello Wesley Family,

Today, as I write this letter, is the first full day of fall. This morning was crisp and clear. I took in a deep breath and thanked God for his many blessings.

Wesley will soon be deep in Fall Roundup preparations. Fall Roundup is scheduled for 1 November. Proceeds are always earmarked for a special fund. This fund is selected through a called meeting of the Administrative Board, discussions from church members and a deciding vote from the Board members. **We have scheduled that called meeting for 7 October at 6:30 p.m. in the Wesleyan classroom.** This meeting is especially important because Wesley always needs some tender loving care (TLC). As this is an open meeting, every church member can attend and voice their opinions. This meeting allows each of us the opportunity to speak up and reach out to our fellow parishioners. If you have a special project for which you would like to see the Fall Roundup proceeds dedicated, this is the meeting to attend. If you need transportation to the meeting, please let the church office know early, so we can have someone pick you up.

As we enter this fall season, we focus on gathering, harvesting, canning, and thanking God for our abundance. Even in our pain, brokenness, and despair, we take time to celebrate. We know that God gave us Jesus so we would know “the way” to everlasting life. Beyond the hugs, shaking of hands, pats on the back, generous smiles and gifts of gab found whenever Wesley gathers, there is a generous outpouring of love for our fellow man. When Wesley gives to missions such as Little Acorn School, backpack buddies, or to freeing missions in deepest Africa, Mexico, or right here at home, we give our love and support. Wesley has open arms for all who enter. Those who have grown in faith in Wesley know this love. It is the love of Jesus Christ. God loves us so much that he gave his Son to die for our sins, that we may be forgiven and have everlasting life. Our minister sums it all up when he proclaims, “We are Wesley!”

Here is a short history lesson about John Wesley and the evening his heart became “strangely warmed.”

John Wesley’s Heart Strangely Warmed

John Wesley was almost in despair. He did not have the faith to continue to preach. When death stared him in the face, he was fearful and found little comfort in his religion. To Peter Bohler, a Moravian friend, he confessed his growing misery and decision to give up the ministry. Bohler counseled otherwise. “Preach faith till you have it,” he advised. “And then because you have it, you will preach faith.” A wise Catholic once made a similar statement: “Act as if you have faith and it will be granted to you.”

John acted on the advice. He led a prisoner to Christ by preaching faith in Christ alone for forgiveness of sins. The prisoner was immediately converted. John was astonished. He had been struggling for years. Here was a man transformed instantly. John made a study of the New Testament and found to his astonishment that the longest recorded delay in salvation was three days—while the Apostle Paul waited for his eyes to open.

The Moravians assured him their personal experiences had also been instantaneous. John found himself crying out, “Lord, help my unbelief!” However, he felt dull within and little motivated even to pray for his own salvation. On this day, May 24th, 1738, he opened his Bible at about five in the morning and came across these words, “There are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, even that ye should partakers of the divine nature.” He read similar words in other places.

That evening he reluctantly attended a meeting in Aldersgate. Someone read from Luther’s Preface to the Epistle to Romans. About 8:45 p.m., ***“While he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.”***

It took him some time to learn how to live the life of faith, for he was not always possessed of joy and thought he had fallen from salvation. It took time for him to see that it is not Christ and good works, but Christ alone who saves, resulting in good works.

As time went on, John Wesley was mightily used of the Lord to reform England. His Methodists became a national force. John rode thousands of miles (as many as 20,000 a year) preaching as only a man filled with the Holy Spirit can preach, telling the Gospel to all who would listen. He acted “as though he were out of breath in pursuit of souls.” Wherever he preached, lives changed and manner and morals altered for the better. It is often conjectured that his preaching helped spare England the kind of revolution that occurred in France.

Please plan on attending the called Administrative Board meeting called for October 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Wesleyan classroom. Your enthusiastic support will be appreciated.

In Service to God and to Wesley United Methodist Church

Pat Skauge

Healthy Church Initiative

The Healthy Church Initiative (HCI) is a new North Texas Conference program designed to help churches become familiar with their strengths and weaknesses and how to develop stronger churches. Wesley agreed to become involved; at least for the first year and then reassess what we have learned before moving to year 2 and 3.

We need 12 people to serve as our “representatives.” A total of 7 Saturdays beginning October 18, 2014, and concluding on May 16, 2015, is the time frame. The meeting time will be 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Wesley has been asked to host 4 of the 7 meetings! The other 3 meetings will be held at Kavanaugh UMC in Greenville.

Wesley will host the first, the third, the fifth, and the seventh and final meetings! Layman, Jerry Putnam from the Colony is our Laity Leadership Development Guide. OK. If you are willing to serve, please speak to Pastor Steve before he speaks to you! Please pray about it. Couples will be fine. Any member qualifies. No meeting in December 2014.



United Methodist Women



1:30 p.m.
Tuesday
October 21

Hostess: Sandra Parker
Program: Diane Dixon

United Methodist Women of the North Texas Conference Annual Celebration and Meeting

Saturday, October 11, 2014
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

St. Luke Community UMC
5710 East R. L. Thornton Freeway, Dallas, TX

Keynote Speaker
Sarah Squires, Executive Director
Wesley Rankin Community Center



Little Acorn School October News

Important Dates

- Oct 3 Scholastic Due
- Oct 10 Donuts with Dad
- Oct 24 Closed for Fall Festival
- Oct 27 - 31 Red Ribbon Week

Monday - **Wear Red** (clothes, shoes, hair, anything that is red) to start Red Ribbon Week.

Tuesday - Wear pajamas to school to follow your dreams/not drugs

Wednesday - Nerd Day - too smart for drugs

Thursday - Wear a hat day - We are putting a cap on drugs

Friday - Superhero Day

Oct 31 Fun Day

October Devotionals

- Oct 6-10 Baby Moses
- Oct 13-17 Prayer (God hears my prayer)
- Oct 20-24 Daniel and the Lion's Den
- Oct 27-31 Sampson and Delilah



Your prayers, phone calls, cards and food was very much appreciated.

Rachel and Gary Lewis

Thanks to my friends at Wesley for all you do for me. I love the visits now that I can hear! Special thanks to Bonnie Hufstettler for giving me the recliner. It is so comfortable and pretty too. Also bless you Brother Steve and Jim Skaggs for delivering the chair and for the many visits I get from them. My love to my family at Wesley.

Dell Cline



Wesley is going to cook a pot of stew at the world famous Hopkins County Stew Contest on Saturday, October 25. A meeting to discuss the details will be held at **6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30**, in the Wesleyan classroom.

Discussion Items: Publicity for Wesley UMC, decorating the stew site, decorating the participants, set up, clean up, etc. Please bring your ideas to the planning meeting Tuesday. For more information, please talk to Cheryl Spears.

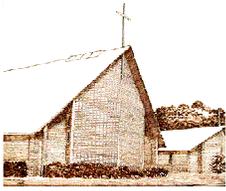


Used Printer Cartridges Needed

Wesley can recycle 20 **used** printer cartridges each month at Staples. Cheryl Spears can also recycle 20 cartridges each month. We use the rebate on the cartridges to purchase office supplies such as copy paper. If you have any cartridges, please do not throw them away! It helps to keep our office expenses down!!!

Please put them in the box on the mission emphasis table in Wesley Hall.





The Wesley Witness
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www.wesleysst.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

See us on

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Wesley UMC,
Sulphur Springs
or

www.wesleysst.org

Trustee Sponsored Work Day

8:00 a.m. - Noon

Saturday, October 4

We have a job for YOU!

