



Wesley's Vision

INVITE all in the Name of Christ
GROW disciples with the Word of Christ
SERVE all with the LOVE of Christ.

Wesley Witness

Wesley United Methodist Church

December 2016

614 Texas Street, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

www.wesleysst.org

Phone 903-885-3383

Fax 903-438-2324



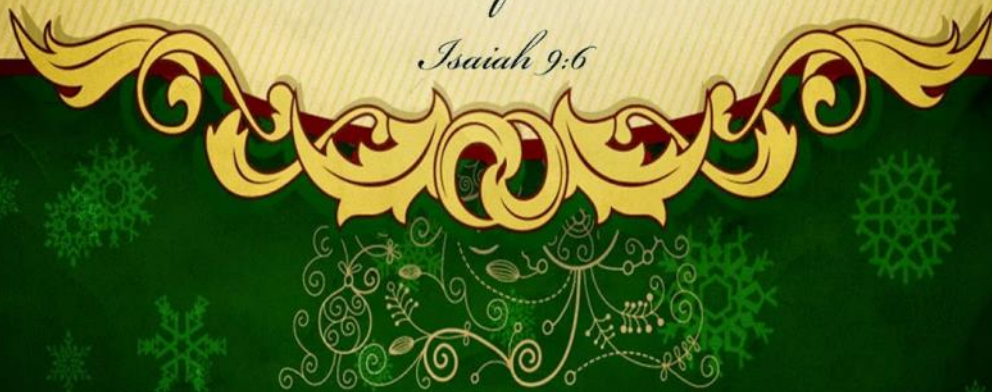
Jesus

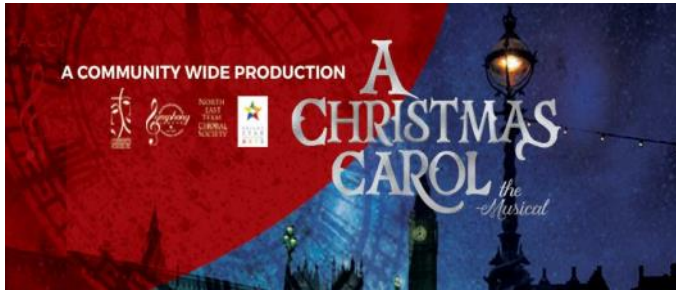
And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6





7:30 p.m. Friday, December 2
 7:30 p.m. Saturday, December 3
 2:00 p.m. Sunday, December 4

Civic Center Auditorium

Tickets may be purchased at the banks
 At the Civic Center Box Office or online at
communitychristmascarol.com



East

North
 Tex-

as Choral Society

presents

A **FREE** Concert

3:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 10

Celebration Square

November 13, 2016

Dear Wesley Church,

Please accept this gift from our family. As we have been blessed, we are happy to share this with your church.

Thirty years ago, we were married at Wesley and over the years, we have seen Wesley Church be a blessing in our community. You will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Love,

Michael and Mary Ellen Hoybook



Christmas is coming

BAKE SALE

December 17, 2016

Wesley Christmas Bake Sale

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wesley Hall

614 Texas at Bellview

Let us help with your
 Christmas cooking!

Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Candy
 Soups, Casseroles

Everyone in the church is
 encouraged to participate.

Turn Your Ovens On!!

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Rhonda Alley | Pat Ballard | Charles Batty, Jr. |
| Sherry and Max Baxter | DeLana Beadle | Cherrie Bolden |
| Carson Bryant | Cathy Bryant | Sharon Callahan |
| Margaret Campbell | Cassie Cavaliere | Leah Conner |
| Tom and Jane Ann Craft | Chloe Cox | Kathy Crowson |
| Diana Davis | Sandy Davis | Betty Ferrell |
| Ty and Jamie Funderburk | Don Gilmer | Steve Gilmer |
| Jerry and Shirley Glossup | Brent Glenn | Jayne Glenn |
| Robert and Mary Glover | Janie Godfrey | Doris Herman |
| Magan, Tim and Eisley Henderson | Pam Hollingsworth | Mindi Home |
| Sharon Hughes | Sarah James | Ann Jones |
| Marvin and Louise Jones | Dana Jordan | Lawanda Kent |
| Christa and Victor Kasztelanski | Corena Korth | Della Loane |
| Muriel Lucas | Jase Mabie | Zane Magan |
| Robert and Charlene Maples | Jo McCain | Red Penny |
| Mary Ann McCormick | Tokio Pevalta | David Phillips |
| Tana and Gary Moon | Tommy Rawson | Truman Renshaw |
| Ricky and Kay Orr | Brad Rollins | Patti Sells |
| Lois Shannon | LaVada Shelton | Pat Skauge |
| Jim and Vera Skaggs | Dustin Snyder | Patty Soward |
| Donna and Dave Spears | Pat and Floyd Spears | Allan Thar |
| Latisha Taylor and new baby | Charlene Stewart | Richard Tharp |
| Braden Tinsley | Frances Williams | Hardy Williams . |
| Ron Zitterick | Pray for Tennessee | |

Our Country and Our Leaders Military Personnel and their Families
 Schools - Teachers, Students, Staff

Healthy Church Initiative Community Chest/Cupboard
 Backpack Buddies North Texas Food Bank CANHelp
 Holy Highway Girls Home Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center
 Dallas Bethlehem Center – Wesley-Rankin Community Center
 Way of Salvation UMC, Mytisch, Russia Abused Children and Youth
 Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire Fighters, Hospital Personnel
 Methodist Children's Home

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

Doris Rawls Bill Shell Bobbie Holder Truman Renshaw
 Muriel Lucas Sandra McIntire Della Loane Lloyd Hiller

Backpack Buddy Report

The current number of students we are serving is:

Travis Elementary 9 We get food from the North Texas Food Bank.

North Hopkins ISD 25 We purchase this food locally.

Como-Pickton CISD 66 We purchase this food locally.

It costs about \$3 per week for each student. For 91 Backpack Buddies, that is around \$273 per week.

Tira UMC sends a donation each month to help cover the costs for North Hopkins. We have received donations recently from Beckham Baptist Church, Greenpond Ladies Class, and Danny Evans, County Commissioner.

If you have not already adopted a Backpack Buddy, please consider doing so! A Backpack Buddy can be fed for only \$15 per month. This ministry is very important and we want to be able to continue serving these children! A huge thanks to all of you who support this program! We cannot do it without YOU!!

Fall Roundup 2016

We have terrific cooks!



Memorials

In Loving Memory of Charles Johnson
By: In Loving Memory of Billie Newsom

In Loving Memory of Randy Jenkins
By: JoAnn Johnson

In Loving Memory of J.D. McPherson
By: Gary and Rachel Lewis
Jerry and Shirley Glossup
Diane Dixon

In Loving Memory of Hoot Gibson
By: Brenda Cupps Rhonda Alley

In Loving Memory of Bobby Bankston
By: Gary and Rachel Lewis Diane Dixon

In Honor of Max and Ilene Massey
By: Mark and Betty Warren



Our November Outreach Focus

Wesley sold 122 tickets for BE THE SERVICE. That's 122 Families that

received a box (an entire meal) for Thanksgiving. (\$1,120.00) WAY TO GO!!



The Wesley UMC Thank Offering

In the October newsletter, Wesley folk were encouraged to give \$1 per day to say thanks for all of the blessings we have been blessed with. The saving was to begin on October 2 and continue until December 30. Please bring your "thanks gift" by Christmas Sunday so it will be included in the 2016 fiscal year.



Wesleyan Sunday School Class Party
6:00 p.m. Saturday, December 10
Wesley Hall
Bring Snacks!



Little Acorn School December Newsletter

Important Dates

- Dec 2 All hearing and vision screening turned in (If your child was 4 years-old by September 1, 2016.)
- Dec 13 Pajama and Movie Day
- Dec 16 Christmas Party
- Dec 19 - 30 Closed for Christmas
- January 2 School Resumes (Daycare only)

Teachers will have a sign up sheet for the Christmas Party!

Little Acorn Staff
wishes you and
your family a



2016 Apportionments Report

We should net approximately \$13,300 for Fall Roundup. After expenses and other money designated, we can apply \$5,000 to Apportionments. That will leave us a balance of \$6,400. We will have a Bake Sale on December 17 and Thank Offering (a dollar a day) that will be also applied to Apportionments. Thank You for YOUR conscientious effort in helping pay the Apportionments!

Caroling and Communion



On Monday, December 12, we will visit nursing homes/assisted living and any homebound members. Please meet at the church at 9:00 a.m.



Needed! Used printer cartridges. We purchase office supplies with the rebates we get from recycling.

**From
Pastor
Steve**

From Thanksgiving to Advent to Christmas to Epiphany!

Our Music and Young Minister, Joe Clark, asked me last week: "Pastor, do you want to go straight into Advent/Christmas music or to 'ease' into it?" I replied rather quickly, "Let's ease into it, Joe. We still need to be sharing that gratitude-attitude at least into December!"

Let me list some of my thankfulness or gratitude for our church, Wesley UMC:

- For our hard and all-out work on two "treasure hunts" (garage sales): one to support our sweet Easley Henderson and the other to support our ministries and budget at Wesley.
- For Rick and Cheryl Spears (and a few others of us) who represented Wesley at the 2016 Hopkins County Stew Festival.
- For the Wesleyan Sunday school class-sponsored October all-church lunch in October and the Cornerstone/Harvey Crusaders/Lifeway Sunday school classes in November.
- For our annual Charge Conference report in November in Greenville.
- For our all-church Wednesday Thanksgiving dinner with over 150 folk attending.
- For our adopted Cub Scout Troop 77 and their weekly ministry.
- For our Little Acorn Pre-school Program-year-round learning and fun.
- For hosting NA groups and TOPS ladies year round.
- For our successful 2016 Fall Roundup raising 13,398 for Wesley ministries.
- For staff and committees working for the glory of God together.

And friends, most of these things have occurred in the last 60 days! Wow! And the next 40+ days will be filled with making memories, worship, and JOY! Let me highlight some of these events and activities:

- Advent began last Sunday, November 27. Each of the next 4 Sundays, we will have Wesley folks leading in "Calls to Worship."
- We will celebrate Christmas Eve with special music, a Christmas story skit, and closing with Candlelight Communion starting at 6:00 p.m.
- With both Christmas and New Year's Day falling on Sundays, our Worship Committee has set a 10:00 a.m. Devotion and no Sunday school.
- January 6, 1952, was the first worship service held at our church. We will celebrate our 65th Church Anniversary on *Epiphany Sunday*, January 8, at 10:00 a.m. followed by an all-church anniversary luncheon. We have invited back former Pastors and families for this event. We will also send invitations and information to any former members we can contact as well as advertise in the newspaper, on radio, and on Facebook as well as our Wesley website. This will be a

unique, planned service with our guest pastors and friends helping us to praise God for our 65 years of ministry!

I am humbled by the privilege of serving as Wesley's pastor. Several of you have stepped up and stepped out to be faithful in your service to Jesus Christ our Lord these past 60 days. I can only say "thank you" from my heart. And you are fleshing out our recent motto: "A Place of Grace."

Fresh on my mind is a "frozen moment" I experienced with Shirley and Jerry Glossup (with Jerry in the hospital at the time). It was the Tuesday before Thanksgiving and, of course, we were all talking about food and family. With the sound off on the TV in Jerry's room, Jerry was looking at a news story where 5 children were killed in a bus accident in Chattanooga, TN. Not all of the facts were in (at the moment), but an apparently speeding bus wrapped around a tree killing the 5 and wounding several others. It was Shirley who spoke and put everything into perspective: "And, ya'll, here we are talking about food to cook and eat and these families are hurting." I say a "frozen moment" because, of course, this loss of life story, especially affecting little ones, always outranks any feel good moment we experience.

Let's remember: "Only by the Grace of God are we forgiven, accepted, restored, and saved." When we believe (have faith) and receive this awesome free gift of God, our Journey of Grace through Faith "exceeds our sin and our guilt!" No wonder it is known as *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound!*



Poinsettia Order Form

United Methodist Women will be taking orders for poinsettias which will be placed in the sanctuary during Christmas. The deadline for orders is December 18. The cost of each poinsettia is \$10. Please make checks payable to UMW.

Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Total Poinsettia(s) Ordered _____

Mark Your Calendars!

1952



65th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, January 8, 2017

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Lunch will follow in Wesley Hall

2017



Invitations to former members (who don't live in the area) will be sent if you will provide the names and addresses.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Sang Ok Cha | Dec 1 |
| Stephen Andersen | Dec 2 |
| Vera Skaggs | Dec 3 |
| Frances Daniels | Dec 4 |
| James Clark | Dec 4 |
| Rachelle Sills | Dec 11 |
| Bill Shell | Dec 12 |
| Leigh Moseman | Dec 17 |
| Carol Ann and Gaylon O'dell | Dec 19 |
| Judy Stewart | Dec 21 |
| J.C. Clark | Dec 21 |
| Sue and Paul Smith | Dec 21 |
| Louise and Marvin Jones | Dec 23 |
| Carol Lortz | Dec 24 |
| Dicie Rue and Steve Cook | Dec 24 |
| Gaylon O'dell | Dec 25 |
| Stanley Foster | Dec 28 |
| Vernice Penny | Dec 28 |
| Ronny Darrow | Dec 28 |
| Zachary Clark | Dec 28 |
| Carol Ann O'dell | Dec 30 |



Civil Air Patrol

This Sunday marks the 75th Anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol - "America's Best Kept Secret." Civil Air Patrol, the long-time all-volunteer U.S. Air Force auxiliary, is the newest member of the Air Force's Total Force, which consists of Regular Air Force, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve, along with Air Force retired military and civilian employees.

CAP, in its Total Force role, operates a fleet of 550 aircraft and performs about 85 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 70 lives annually.

Civil Air Patrol's 58,000 members nationwide also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. Its members additionally play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to more than 24,000 young people currently participating in the CAP cadet program.

Civil Air Patrol received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2014 in honor of the heroic efforts of its World War II veterans. Congressionally chartered 75 years ago, the nonprofit organization also participates in Wreaths Across America, an initiative to remember, honor and teach about the sacrifices of U.S. military veterans. Visit www.capmembers.com for more information.

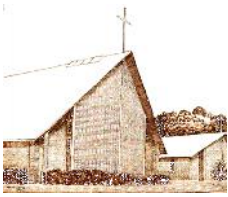
Our local unit, Sulphur Springs Composite Squadron, meets at the airport on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Check us out at www.sulphurspringscap.org and come be part of "America's Best Kept Secret!"

Visit our open house
Sunday, December 4, 2016
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Sulphur Springs Airport



A few of us got up early Thanksgiving morning to provide water for the runners in the Mother's Culture Club Turkey Trot. The Trot benefitted Eisley

Henderson!! It was a brisk, sunny morning to encourage those who ran either 5K or 10K.



The Wesley Witness
 Wesley United Methodist Church
 614 Texas Street
 Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

(903) 885-3383 Church Office
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 (903) 438-2324 Fax
www.wesleysst.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

See us on



Wesley UMC-Sulphur Springs

**Christmas Eve
 Candlelight and Communion
 6:00 p.m.
 Saturday, December 24**

**The Children, Youth and Chancel Choir
 will present**



The Christmas Story



**12:00 Noon
 Salad Luncheon**

Program: Dicie Rue Cook
 Hostess: Wanda Winfrey
 630 CR 2302
 Sulphur Springs, TX 75482



**We will have a \$\$ tree
 benefiting Holy Highway
 Girls Home.**



**10:00 a.m.
 NO Sunday School**



**10:00 a.m.
 No Sunday School**



**Happy
 Grinchmas!**

The Wesley Youth will be selling Grinch insurance on Sundays and Wednesdays. You may purchase insurance for \$10 to keep your yard from being decorated or to have someone else's yard decorated. If the beautiful ornaments should show up on your property, \$10 will have them removed promptly. (They disappear after 3 days!) **Proceeds benefit Wesley missions.**