



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

March 2018

614 Texas Street, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

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*But the Spirit produces
fruit that is love,
joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness,
faithfulness gentleness,
and self-control.*

Galatians 5:22-23



Wednesday Night Meals

We are blessed to have the opportunity to feed the children on Wednesday night and to teach them about the Word of God. It is estimated that each child or youth needs to pay \$1.50 for his/her meal. We do not require the children to pay if they are not able to.

We do need for the adults to add a little to what they pay each week to help support this ministry. If each adult gives a little extra, it will go a long way to help keep us in the black.

Please consider the long range effect we hope to have in the lives of those who do not know Christ, our Savior, if we do not welcome them to our church. We have excellent teachers who are committed to this ministry. What a blessing!. Thank you for your help!

Sunday, February 4, 2018

Worship	99
Sunday School	57
<u>Stewardship</u>	
Offering Anticipated to Date	21,000.00
Offering through February 4, 2018	20,134.81
Offering this week	2,909.00
Designated	363.00

Sunday, February 11, 2018

Worship	88
Sunday School	56
<u>Stewardship</u>	
Offering Anticipated to Date	25,200.00
Offering through February 11, 2018	23,445.91
Offering this week	3,311.10
Designated	276.00

Sunday, February 18, 2018

Worship	88
Sunday School	56
<u>Stewardship</u>	
Offering Anticipated to Date	29,400.00
Offering through February 18, 2018	26,161.91
Offering this week	2,716.00
Designated	1,143.00
Noisy Offering	68.17

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Worship	104
Sunday School	101
<u>Stewardship</u>	
Offering Anticipated to Date	33,600.00
Offering through February 25 2018	28,456.90
Offering this week	2,294.99
Designated	880.00

Wesley Youth Bake Sale

Saturday, March 31 at Atwoods

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m

Company Coming for Easter Sunday?
This is a great time to get goodies for just a donation! Save yourself some work and you'll have more time to spend with family and friends!



Wesley Youth Valentine Lunch

February 18, 2018

From
Pastor

New Spaces for New Faces

One of the newest learnings from Wesley UMC's participation in the Healthy Church Initiative is the title of this monthly column: *New Spaces for New Faces*. Throughout my first three years here, we read, visited with other HCI folks, and pondered anew "what" could we do to meet the needs of folk in our community or, as Papa Bill Watts likes to say, folk in our "charge area." In the meantime (where most of us live), new children and youth started arriving in growing numbers. Those numbers still remain strong, especially on Wednesday evenings: 20-25 children (pre-school and elementary) and around 20 youth (middle and high school). And now a growing number have started attending Sunday school.

Truthfully, we were not ready for this wonderful growth. We have been learning by doing ministry. Do not read me to say that we are not exactly prepared. We just never know how many and which children and youth will be here on Wednesdays or Sundays...kind of like adults. Just getting to know this number of new kids is a stretch for most of us! Finding our more of who they are and why they are here is a work in progress. I want to commend both our children's minister, Marieke deWitte, and here primary helpers/teachers, Gloria Batty and Amanda Clark as well as our youth minister, Joe Clark, and his helper/teacher, Rhonda Alley. In addition, I am grateful for the adults who will be here every Wednesday, not only to prepare the food and set up the tables and chairs, but also to show a caring concern for these *New Faces in our Old Places* (which causes us to provide *New Spaces for New Faces*!

In addition to these additional children and youth, our Breaking Bread Together Ministry of feeding folk in our parish area has brought an additional 50-60 new faces to Wesley. And this past Sunday, February 25, four of those new faces chose to join Wesley Church. I will be starting a new adult confirmation class for these and others beginning this Sunday during Sunday school in the Community Classroom adjacent to my office. These new persons need to know what we believe as United Methodists and also how to fulfill their, and our, vows of prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. I fear many folk often forget these vows they made upon becoming a member of Wesley Church. It will be a joy for me to explore our beliefs and vows with these *New Faces in our Old Places*! So, kudos to our Breaking Bread Together (BBT) Ministry team for sharing their vows of presence, prayers, gifts, service and witness to these folk who gather at noon at our church every Monday and Friday. "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of my brethren," Jesus says, "You have done it unto me." By the way, each BBT team member is called a servant!

I remind myself often that God has called us to be faithful and not successful. Unfortunately, we measure our success most often by the standards of the world: money, attendance numbers, and buildings. Yet, we are called the church and one of our Affirmations of Faith declares we, "Celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our

hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen."

In the summer of 1971, three distinct experiences happened in my life and I still treasure them today. 1) I participated in the Billy Graham Crusade in Lexington, KY at Memorial Hall on the University of Kentucky campus; 2) I was both song leader and junior boys VBS teacher at a concrete block church on Seventh Street in inner city of Lexington; and 3) I preached twice a month at the Second Street Tower Apartments for their Sunday evening service.

The first experience speaks for itself, especially with last week's passing of Billy Graham. The last two experiences were both joys and challenges. The two-week VBS seemed like an eternity for me with both 15+ junior boys in as 12' x 12' concrete block basement room. I certainly got a small taste of what public school teachers go through on a daily basis--yet I stayed, I survived, and I learned to love children who were not regular church-going kids. (I'm trying now to recall this each Wednesday.)

The third experience helped to form me as both a pastor and a preacher. Retired, poor, crippled, and lonely folk gathered to sing hymns and songs to bolster their faith and remind me of what being sent is all about. And those folk were encouragers, let me tell you! Even when I got lost and rambled on, those folk said, "Preach those precious promises, son!"

I was fortunate to grow up in a small community yet a strong church that gave me multiple opportunities to learn the craft of preaching. When August 25 arrives this year, 2018, it will mark my 50th year of being a licensed pastor, first in the Baptist Church and since June 15, 2001, in the United Methodist Church. Along the way, I've been mentored and blessed by so many persons--both lay and clergy. And I'm still challenged to prepare each Sunday as I study, read, research, and craft a sermon. Honestly, preparing to preach is much like seeing *New Faces in New Spaces*--for I never know when I'm preparing who will be here to hear! However, my job remains: I must be faithful!

In case no one from Wesley has said to you, "We miss you" when you are not here, WE/I do miss you. And remember that presence is one of those vows you and I made when we joined this church. When we miss one another, we both lose. As you are able: worship, praise and sing your heart out! Amen.



Tax-Aide Federal Income Tax Preparation

Tuesdays and Saturdays

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wesley UMC Wesley Hall

February 3 -- April 17

Cost: FREE



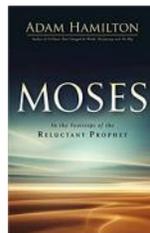
Breaking Bread Together Ministry

On Mondays and Fridays, servants cook the food which is served to neighbors and friends who are in need of a meal. The menus are planned in advance in

order to take advantage of what is on sale on particular days. Each day an entrée, bread or crackers, a dessert and sometimes a salad is served. Items used on an ongoing basis are listed:

All purpose flour - 25 pound bags
Cornmeal - All purpose 10 pound bags
Gallon Size tea bags
Granulated sugar - 10 pound bags
Vanilla - pure extract
Vegetable shortening - 1 gallon
Mild or sharp cheddar cheese
Potatoes - 10 pound bags
Pinto beans - 5, 15, 25, or 50 pound bags
Ice cream - one gallon containers - vanilla or chocolate
Vanilla wafers
Baking powder - large cans
Hamburger patties - 32 per case
Chicken - 10 pound bags of leg quarters
Sliced peaches - 1 gallon cans
Diced tomatoes - 1 gallon cans
Tomato sauce - 1 gallon cans
Catsup - 1 gallon cans
Eggs - box of 5 dozen (Cash Saver)
Whole Milk - 4 gallon lots
Butter
Paper Goods (Styrofoam) - Purchased at Northeast Texas Janitorial on Lee Street
8 oz. Coffee cups
14 oz. Cups for tea/water
8" or 9" plates
12 oz. bowls
Light weight plastic forks
Light weight plastic spoons or soup spoons
Paper towels
Food handler gloves - large

The most effective and convenient thing to contribute is money. We can purchase the items as needed by watching the ads and making purchases then. But...if you see a bargain on an item, we welcome your donation! Please make checks out to Wesley UMC and on the notation line put BBTM. Cash is also welcome!



Tuesday Night Bible Study *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet* by Adam Hamilton

6:00 p.m. Tuesdays

March 6 - April 17

(No meeting March 12-Spring Break)

There is a sign-up sheet on the Wesley Hall bulletin board. Each person will purchase his/her own book. (\$12.00 at www.amazon.com)



Adam Hamilton, renowned author and senior pastor of Church of the Resurrection, will be at Highland Park United Methodist Church on Wednesday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m. He will be discussing his new book, [Unafraid: Living with](#)

[Courage and Hope in Troubled Times.](#) and [Hope in Troubled Times.](#) For anyone struggling with fear, worry or anxiety, or who wonders how families and communities can live as peacemakers in troubled times, *Unafraid* offers an informed and inspiring message full of practical solutions.

The cost (\$18) includes a signed copy of the book. You must [register and pay online.](#) You will receive your signed book at check-in the night of the event. Childcare is available for this event free of charge. We would appreciate your registration by March 7. You may register by going online at www.ntcumc.org. A link to the registration page is available there **or** come by the church office and we can help you register. **This is during spring break so there will not be any activities at Wesley that evening. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board if you are interested in going. We can car pool or take the church bus.**



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

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Kay Atkins	Kate Banister	Charles Batty, Jr.	Delana Beadle
James Brown	Cassie Cavaliere	Wanda Clayton	Dicie Rue Cook
Sandy Davis	Yogi Davis	Cristine Dixon	Nell Drummond
Marieke and Hendrik deWitte		Silvina Epperson	Troy Garrett
Jayne Glenn	Jerry Glossup	Jack Godfrey	Janis Hargrave
Roy Herman, Jr.	Mark Heisler	Patty Hudson	Robbie Jones
Magan, Tim and Easley Henderson		Lynn Kincade	Jase Mabie
Christa and Victor Kasztelanski		David Maeker	Zane Magan
Mary Ann McCormick		Gary Moon	Sandra Parker
Lee Ann Carpenter	Oliver Carolyn Roland	Reed Schnieder	Mildred Schulz
Lois Shannon	Melvonda Smith	Donna Spears	Judy Stewart
The Spears Family	Beverly Stowe	Kelly Sutton	Allan Thar
Sue Ulmer	Mark Warren	Karen Wedding	Everlyn West

The Family of Johnny Petty The Family of Kenny Minick
 The Family of Joshua Paul Cowling
 Students, Teachers, Administrators, Personnel
 Military Personnel and their Families
 First Responders, Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire Fighters, Hospital Personnel
 Community Chest/Cupboard CANHelp CASA
 Backpack Buddies North Texas Food Bank Abused Children/Youth
 Holy Highway Girls Home Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center
 Dallas Bethlehem Center – Wesley-Rankin Community Center
 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

Fran Francis Bobbie Holder Muriel Lucas Della Loane
 Lois Shannon Margaret Campbell Sandra McIntire
 Martha Johnson Red and Vernice Penny Marge Johnson

Lily Order Form

United Methodist Women are taking orders for lilies to be placed in the sanctuary Holy Week. The cost of each plant is \$10.00. Please make checks out to UMW. Deadline to order is March 25.

Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Total Lilies Ordered _____

We are very pleased that these folks joined Wesley UMC Sunday, February 25. We look forward to working with you!



**Brad Gilmer, Kelly Moser
 John Moser, and Grandson, Phoenix Pullen**



Kimberly and Michelle Griffith



Casey Hines and Johnny Nichols

In Loving Memory of Truman Renshaw

By: Gary and Rachel Lewis
 Jerry and Shirley Glossup
 Ronny and Kathy Darrow
 Gordon and Janet Skaug
 Diane Dixon
 JoAnn Johnson
 Rick and Cheryl Spears



**March 11, 2018 is UMCOR Sunday.
United Methodist Committee on Relief**

Together, we reach children, families and communities who have experienced devastation in the wake of disaster. Your generous giving to UMCOR Sunday is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ's church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity--without regard to race, religion or gender--together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic need. 100% of your gifts go directly to help those in need.

The United Methodist Women of the North Texas Conference have decided to support the recovery efforts of communities in the service areas of our National Missions institutions in Robstown and Corpus Christi. The United Methodist Women's National Board of Directors has voted to create a designated fund for hurricane relief.

Donations to this fund will support grants that assist in direct service to the communities, as well as property grants to repair the buildings as needed. Monies given at local, district and conference meetings will be designated to this effort. We invite Wesley UMC to join UMW as we help these facilities get back on their feet so they can once again serve their communities as they did before Hurricane Harvey. The fund number is 3019250. Please put this number on your check or the envelope with your cash donation.

**Wesley's Kids had their annual
Mardi Gras parade
Tuesday, February 13**



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Fran Francis	March 1
Della Loane	March 7
Bethany Ferrall	March 7
Rachel Lewis	March 8
Mary Logan	March 9
Jake Gibson	March 11
Marieke deWitte	March 12
Marieke and Hendrik deWitte	March 13
Brenda McKinzie	March 16
Katherine Glass	March 17
Jeff Godfrey	March 20
Jacob Jones	March 22
Gail Clark	March 23
Jo and Bill Watts	March 24
Rheston Sills	March 27
Paula and Dennis Jordan	March 28
Sandra Parker	March 29
Jana Prochaska	March 29
Peggy Gregg	March 29
Jordan Krause	March 30
Varie Ramos	March 31

March 11, 2018



*Daylight Saving
Time Begins*



The Wesley Witness
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www.wesleysst.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

See us on



Wesley UMC-Sulphur Springs



**United
 Methodist
 Women**

**1:30 p.m. Tuesday
 March 20**

We will serve lunch at the Wesley Student Center in Commerce on Wednesday, March 7. If you would like to go, please be at the church by 10:30 a.m.



**World Day
 of Prayer**

11:00 a.m.

Friday, March 2

First United Methodist Church

301 Church Street

Lunch follows



**Good Friday
 Service of
 Darkness**

6:00 p.m.

March 30

Wesley Sanctuary