



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

**February 2017**

614 Texas Street, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

[www.wesleysst.org](http://www.wesleysst.org)

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AND NOW ABIDETH  
FAITH  
HOPE & LOVE,  
AND THE  
GREATEST OF THESE  
is Love  
1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

## KUDOS FROM THE HCI COACH

In my recent coaching sessions with Pastor Steve, I was delighted to learn of your great progress in stabilizing the financial future of your church. All indications are that you had a very successful stewardship emphasis in the fall, some realistic budget planning for 2017, and finished the year in the black. Great news! I hear you are also continuing to work hard to strengthen finances so that new ministries and outreach can be underwritten. I am proud of Wesley turning the corner and I look forward to hearing even greater news in the future. In addition to progress on the prescription of long-term financial security, you are also well on your way with the other prescriptions: Unifying Identity, Reaching New People, Intentional Faith Formation, and Leadership Development. Keep up the good work.

In Faith,

Justin Tull, HCI coach



## Presidents' Day

Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called "Washington's Birthday" by the federal government. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's actual day of birth—the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present.

In Honor of Marvin and Louise Jones  
By: Mrs. Peggy Pullen

In Honor Shirley Glossup's 80th Birthday  
By: The Ragsdale Family

In Loving Memory of Doris Herman  
By: Diane Dixon                  Rachel and Gary Lewis



## Bishop's Rally 2017

The 2017 Bishop's Rally will be held at Lovers Lane UMC on Sunday, February 19, 2017,

from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. This event will be the largest gathering of North Texas United Methodist youth! This is for 5th - 7th Grade Youth. Leave Wesley after worship.

\*Youth Rally will be Sunday, April 30 at Hamilton Park UMC.

\*\*Sulphur Springs Work Camp -Jr. High and High School June 4-7



Stone Soup and Soul  
6:30 p.m. Wednesday,  
March 1

The Ash Wednesday Service will be in the sanctuary following the meal.

## PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Carolyn Albritton	Rhonda Alley	Charles Batty, Jr.
Sherry and Max Baxter	DeLana Beadle	Candace Bridges
James Brown	Carson Bryant	Cathy Bryant
<b>Anna Campbell and Trae</b>	Cassie Cavaliere	Leah Conner
Tom and Jane Ann Craft	Chloe Cox	Kimberly Davis
Kathy Crowson and Family	Sandy Davis	Linda Dolezan
Ty and Jamie Funderburk	Heather Gautreau	Don Gilmer
Robert and Mary Glover	Jayne Glenn	<b>Jerry Glossup</b>
Jack and <b>Janie Godfrey</b>	<b>Billy Gregg</b>	James Heimer
Magan, Tim and Eisleigh Henderson	Pam Hollingsworth	Jana Hublick
<b>Mrs. and Mrs. Daniel Huie and unborn twins</b>		Sharon Hughes
Marvin and <b>Louise Jones</b>	Sarah James	<b>Jakeb Janetis</b>
Christa and Victor Kasztelanski	Dana Jordan	Corena Korth
John Kramer	Gary Lewis	Pricilla Lewis
Angela Little	Bear Littleton	Jase Mabe
Mary Ann McCormick	Zane Magan	Kay Orr
Tana and Gary Moon	Janice Petty	Tokio Pevalta
Ricky and Kay Orr	Tommy Rawson	Greg Roller
Ron Sanders	Patti Sells	Lois Shannon
Sharon	LaVada Shelton	Dustin Snyder
Patty Soward	<b>Stephanie</b>	Anna Mae Stolz
Donna and Dave Spears	Pat and Floyd Spears	Allan Thar
<b>Jayne Stone</b>	Bob Tankesley	Braden Tinsley
<b>Mark Warren</b>	Della White	Frances Williams
Ron Zitterick	<b>The Family of Wilma Brice</b>	
<b>The Family of Brad Rollins</b>	<b>The Family of Mindy Hosey</b>	

**Our Country and Our Leaders**  
**Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire Fighters, Hospital Personnel**  
**Military Personnel and their Families**  
**Joys! Jerry and Shirley Glossup have new great-grandbabies.**  
**Mattie Rose and Landon Daniel were born Christmas Day.**  
**Dorothy McCaig also has a new great-gran. Hollis Ryan was born Jan. 24.**  
 Healthy Church Initiative/HCI Team Backpack Buddies  
 Community Chest/Cupboard Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center  
 North Texas Food Bank Holy Highway Girls Home  
 Abused Children and Youth Way of Salvation UMC, Mytitschi, Russia  
 Dallas Bethlehem Center – Wesley-Rankin Community Center  
 New additions to the prayer list are in **BOLD CANHelp**  
*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



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Ruth Clark	Feb 1
Betty Warren	Feb 2
Danny Prochaska	Feb 2
Rylan Sills	Feb 4
Ron Sills	Feb 8
Dorothy McCaig	Feb 8
Lloyd Hiller	Feb 9
Don Gadt	Feb 13
<b>Betty and Mark Warren</b>	<b>Feb 14</b>
<b>Bonnie and Mike Gilmer</b>	<b>Feb 14</b>
Jake Mahand	Feb 15
Mandi Stock	Feb 15
Wandean Easley	Feb 16
Jack Godfrey	Feb 18



## Reaching

## Out and

## Making It Count

It's a new year with new beginnings, new ideas, and refreshed excitement.

The Outreach and Missions Committee had its first meeting of the year and welcomed new members Amanda Clark and Bethany Ferrall. Thank you to our past members, Ilene, Dorothy, Betty and Joyce for your service and support. I know there are many more that I don't know about – thank you all!

Our first mission of the year is supporting the Wesleyan Class with the annual pizza party for the Holy Highway Girls. The party will be Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Wesley Hall. All are invited and we encourage you to attend. The committee will be providing Valentine's buckets (much nicer than baskets and more practical) filled with goodies. If you would like to contribute funds to this mission, please see Marieke, Bethany, Amanda or Bonnie.

Missions this year will be quarterly; we will pray about and discuss the mission one month, plan it the next and carry it out the following month. Our goal is to make the mission **count**. We hope to reach as many people, both within and outside of our church.

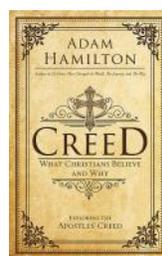
Everyone will be given an opportunity to provide input as to what mission you would like us to consider. A survey will be made available soon where you can write down your favorite missions; the top three will be the ones we'll focus on this year.

We welcome all to our meetings and encourage you to attend. Your input is important to us and we need your help and support to make these missions **count**. Our next meeting is February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. If you need a ride, please don't hesitate to call me and I will be more than happy to pick you up. I can be reached at 903-456-0207 or [speechwitch@gmail.com](mailto:speechwitch@gmail.com).

We are looking forward to seeing you and making it **COUNT**.

Blessings,

Silvina



## Lenten Bible Study

### Creed by Adam Hamilton

*What Christians Believe and Why*

Exploring the APOSTLES' CREED

March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5, 12

Books now \$13 per copy

**From  
Pastor  
Steve**

## Love is the Theme!

With Valentine's Day smack-dab in the middle of February, this month is very often known as "the month of love." And as the 1964 hit "*What the World Needs Now*" (recorded by Jackie DeShannon with lyrics by Hal David and music by Burt Bacharach) reminds us "Love, Sweet Love." Be it Valentine's Day, a song, a way of life (Jesus), or attitude, love is desperately needed by our wounded, family-deteriorating, social media-crazed, and loveless society/world.

Hal David's lyrics does give us some perspective:

Lord, we don't need another mountain  
There are mountains and hillsides enough to climb.  
There are oceans and rivers enough to cross  
Enough to last 'til the end of time.

Lord, we don't need another meadow  
There are cornfields and wheat field enough to grow.  
There are sunbeams and moonbeams enough to shine  
Oh, listen, Lord, if you want to know...

What the world needs now is love, sweet love  
It's the only thing that there's just too little of.  
What the world needs now is love, sweet love  
No, not just for some but for everyone.

For those of us 55+, we have known from even popular music that the greatest need today and every day is love! Jesus told His Disciples a thing or two about this great need over two thousand years ago and we still don't get it:

1. "The first greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength." Matthew 22:37
2. The second greatest commandment "is to love your neighbors as you love yourself." Matthew 22:40
3. "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12

Being a loving person with a loving heart, speaking the truth in love in love to one another, serving the Lord in loving ways, and staying in love with your spouse or family or friends is really hard work! And that part of the Sermon on the Mount

about "loving our enemies" is especially difficult. To know at the very depths of our souls, Jesus asks us to be this way or do these things exhaust and challenge us where we do not want to be challenged. Why, the Apostle Paul even refers to love as the greatest over our faith and hope! And then Solomon, the author of Proverbs, adds insult to injury when he says: "Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers a multitude of sins!" The Bible is clear on this subject of love: "We love Him (God in Christ Jesus) because He first loved us!" (1 John 4:19)

Finally, a beautiful hymn I've always loves is "Love is the Theme." It was written by Albert Fisher, a Methodist! Yet it is found in either The United Methodist Hymnal or the Cokesbury Hymnal. Fisher even attended SMU in Dallas after growing up in Fort Worth and earned his Doctor of Divinity degree at Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky. He moved back to Fort Worth in 1908 and, for a decade, served as a General Evangelist for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In World War I, he was a Military Chaplain. After the War, he worked first in the East Oklahoma Conference and, beginning in 1944, the North Texas Conference (our Conference!). Read and appreciate some of his stanzas:

Of the themes that men have known, One supremely stands alone;  
Thru' the ages it has shown, T'is His wonderful, wonderful love.

Since the Lord my soul unbound, I am telling all around,  
Pardon, peace and joy are found in His wonderful, wonderful love.

As of ole when blind and lame to the blessed Master came,  
Sinners, call ye on His name, Trust His wonderful, wonderful love.

And the chorus:

Love is theme, Love is supreme; Sweeter it grows, glory bestows;

Bright as the sun ever it glows! Love is the theme, eternal theme!

"O, how He loves you and me, O, how He loves you and me.  
God gave His Son, what more could He give? O, how He love you!  
O, how He loves me! O, how He loves you and me."

In Southernese: "Yes, and bless his big, sweet heart!"



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



## Pancake Tuesday

6:00 p.m. February 28

followed by

Children's  
Parade



Mardi Gras

We'll have fun as a church on Tuesday, February 28, as well celebrate Pancake Tuesday; also known as Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras. Its roots lie in the Christian calendar, as the last hurrah before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1. Our children will present a Parade of the Stars that night after we

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Sunday, February 12, will be **Scout Sunday**. Members of Troup 77 will be participating in the worship service. The Cub Scouts in Troup 77 meet here at Wesley.

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Tax-Aide Federal Income Tax Preparation  
from **AARP Foundation**

**Tuesdays and Saturdays**

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

Wesley UMC Wesley Hall

Begins Saturday, February 4

Ends Tuesday, April 18

**Cost: FREE**

For more information, call  
Cheryl Spears 903-885-8932



We are going to continue giving thanks and gratitude as we celebrate being a child

of God!

Each Sunday, there will be a container on the table at the back of the sanctuary for donations. Please give as you are led. At the end of the quarter (March, June, September, December) the money will be counted and will be in the newsletter along with the stewardship reported in each newsletter.

The donations will go toward apportionments just as the thank offering did at the end of the year.

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**Needed!**

Someone to drive the church bus in March and April. Also needed is someone to go along when picking up and dropping off the children on Sunday morning.



For more information, please call or come by the church office if you would like to be a part of this ministry. Isn't it exciting to see so many children at Wesley!



# Little Acorn School February Newsletter

## Important Dates

Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Scholastics is Due (you can order online or send your order to school)  
Feb 14<sup>th</sup>- Valentines Party (each teacher will have a sign up in their room) It will not be a big party like we did at Christmas. Each class will do fun activities all day in their room and have a fun lunch. The kids will also be exchanging Valentines.

## Reminders

**Supply Fees are due so please get these turned in. Please remember I need all tuition turned in no later the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

## DEVOTIONAL

Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> No Devotional  
Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> No Devotional  
Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> Jesus Feeds 5000  
Feb 27<sup>th</sup> -March 3<sup>rd</sup> John the Baptist



## United Methodist Women

**February 17** The girls from Holy Highway will be here. UMW are collecting personal items for the girls.

### Wednesday, February 15

Serve lunch for approximately 50 students at the Wesleyan Campus Ministry, Texas A&M-Commerce  
The bus will leave Wesley at 10:30 a.m.  
Everyone is welcome to go, not just United Methodist Women! It is a blessing to interact with the students.

## Mark Your Calendars

### March 3

World Day of Prayer at Our Savior Lutheran Church

### Sunday, April 9

Bake Sale in Wesley Hall - Baked goods, soups, casseroles, etc.

## 2017 Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk 17-133 Feb 16-19 @ Lone Star, TX

Women's Walk 17-134 Apr 20-23 @ Lone Star, TX

Girls Chrysalis Flight June 8-10 @ Cuthand, TX

Boys Chrysalis Flight July 13-15 @ Cuthand, TX

For more information, talk to an Emmaus alumni.

## 2017 Apportionments

**TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS \$23,737.00**

There is a list of where our money goes on the bulletin board. This year we will not adopt each apportionment as was done in the past.

Each one of us is encouraged to **Adopt a PORTION of the Apportionments; the amount is determined by YOU.**

You can adopt a portion by yourself, go together with someone else or as part of a Sunday school class. Check the thermometer on the Wesley Hall bulletin board and thermometer in the Sanctuary for updates on how much Wesley has paid.

Methodism's founder John Wesley encouraged his followers to spread the good news, transform hopelessness into hope and assist God's children wherever they may be. We gather regularly with our congregation and put money into the offering plate, and through a carefully crafted system of United Methodist mission and ministry, our gifts stretch around the world.

The contributions to the local church have regional, national and international impact through our connectional giving system. Most of the money given support the local church's work. A small portion funds regional ministries. A portion of the giving goes to the general church to fund programs nationally and internationally, agreed upon by General Conference delegates. We share the cost of these ministries, with each local church being responsible for contributing a fair portion or "apportionment."





The Wesley Witness  
Wesley United Methodist Church  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

See us on

**facebook**

Wesley UMC-Sulphur Springs



## United Methodist Women

1:30 p.m. Tuesday  
February 21

Program: Dicie Rue Cook  
Hostesses: Rachel/Dorothy



## Outreach Committee Meeting

6:30 p.m.  
Tuesday  
February 21

**Youth-Sponsored  
Valentine Lunch**  
Sunday, February 12  
Following Sunday School  
Cost: Donation

