



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

May 2018

614 Texas Street, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

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

Phone 903-885-3383

Fax 903-438-2324





Wesley was very blessed to receive a donation from the Lone Star Heritage Quilt Guild for the Backpack Buddy program. Jim and Vera Skaggs attended the dinner and meeting on April 23. Joy Gregory presented the donation. Thanks so much for this gift!



Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It is celebrated on various days in many

parts of the world, most commonly in the months of March or May. It complements similar celebrations honoring family members, such as Father's Day, Siblings Day, and Grandparents Day.

In the United States, celebration of Mother's Day began in the early 20th century. It is not related to the many celebrations of mothers and motherhood that have occurred throughout the world over thousands of years, such as the Greek cult to Cybele, the Roman festival of Hilaria, or the Christian Mothering Sunday celebration (originally a commemoration of Mother Church, not motherhood).<sup>[1][2][3][4]</sup> However, in some countries, Mother's Day has become synonymous with these older traditions.<sup>[5]</sup>

## PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Kay Atkins	Betty Bassham	Charles Batty, Jr.
Delana Beadle	John Bostick	James Brown
<b>Julia Brown</b>	Cassie Cavaliere	Wanda Clayton Sandy
Davis	Nell Drummond	Fran Francis
Gene George	Jayne Glenn	Jerry Glossup
Donny Godfrey	Dr. Richard Graves	Mark Heisler
Roy Herman, Jr.	Robbie Jones	Lynn Kincade
Magan, Tim and Easley Henderson	Mary Logan	Jase Mabie
Christa and Victor Kasztelanski	Zane Magan	Ricky Martin
Mary Ann McCormick	Gary Moon	Bobbie Moseman
Lee Ann Carpenter Oliver	Carol Ann O'dell	Vernice Penny
Jana Prochaska	Carolyn Roland	Reed Schnieder
Mildred Schulz	The Spears Family	Allan Thar
Elton and Louise Stewart	Nancy Stobough	Mark Warren
Marvin and Louise Jones		
Karen Wedding		
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 <b>BOLD</b>		

*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

### In Loving Memory of Robert Glover

By: Max and Lou Jane Drummond

### In Loving Memory of Harold Deaton

By: Max and Lou Jane Drummond

### In Loving Memory of Margie Pope

By: Max and Lou Jane Drummond

JoAnn Johnson

Diane Dixon

Donna Korth

Elva Coffman

### In Loving Memory of Truman Renshaw

By: Rhonda Alley



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

<b>Rhonda Brock</b>	May 9
<b>Emily and Garrett Glass</b>	May 14
Betty Phillips	May 16
Jim Gregg	May 17
Jacob Nelson	May 18
Janie Godfrey	May 20
Jessica Garcia	May 20
<b>Rachelle and Ron Sills</b>	May 21
Paula Jordan	May 26

**From  
Pastor**

## Being the Presence of God

In just three days, Dicie Rue and I were privileged to attend two memorial services celebrating the lives of a church member and a former pastor. On Saturday, April 21, it was for Sang Ok Cha, a petite, gracious South Korean lady and on Tuesday, April 24, it was for the Rev. Ben Read, affectionately known as "Gentle Ben." One was outdoors in the Tyler Rose Garden and the other was in the ornate, beautiful First UMC, Wichita Falls.

In Tyler we were joined by Wesley members and Sang Ok's dear friends, Wanda and Jimmy Winfrey. In Wichita Falls, Ben's friends and long time church members, Diane Dixon and Dorothy MCAig, joined us. It is always fitting and proper to honor those who have joined the Church Triumphant. It is both the Methodist Way and the Wesley Way of offering the ministry of presence with those whose lives mirror the Christian Way.

Times of grief and times of joy give each of us an opportunity to unite in a special ministry, The Ministry of Presence. Writer and Professor of Pastoral Care, the late Dr. Wayne E. Oates, once said, "Non-repetitive events take priority." By this, Dr. Oates meant events like funerals, memorial services, weddings, annual events (concerts, awards banquets, special celebrations of relatives, neighbors, close friends, employees, etc.). Faced with options on a daily basis, each of us has to choose those events that are more worthy of our time. I'll admit; even with this "non-repetitive events take priority" notion in my mind and heart, I still struggle to be present (be there!) at the right event at the right time. And I'll admit this; sometimes Dicie rue and I simply divide and conquer when faced with good choices for us. I'll go to one place or event and she'll go to another place or event. It is not the way we might choose on our own, but it is a way to be present for that special person in our lives!

In my message last Sunday, I used the term "practicing the presence of God." The most common way we, as Christian believers, emulate this idea is when we pray to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Psalm 46:10 reminds me and us to "be still and know that I am God." It is a holy moment when we choose the spiritual discipline ore, as we Methodists, say a "means of grace." It matter not where your prayer closet may be, a designated prayer room, an office, a place in the woods or outdoors, sitting by a lake or on a seashore, or even while riding on a horse, on a lawn tractor, or in your truck or car, practicing the presence of God is that time you set aside purposely to share your words of concern, praise, joy, grief, or any emotion to "our God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:20)

But practicing the presence of God is also an everyday choice you and I get to make. Scripture tells us to look out for one another as well as to love, pray, and serve one another. This is showing a deep concern for one another's well-being and spiritual and physical health. I hope I have corrected a comment I used to share with folk I visited or saw once in a while; "Yes, I'll sure be praying for you and I'll come and see you when I pass this way again!" It felt righteous and even good for me to say it, but then I did not always follow through with my words.

While on the road about 25 years ago, I believe the Holy Spirit convicted me of saying these words but not actually doing what I promised! I began to see the wrongness of saying one thing and then not doing it (following through). I think this was about the same time I was shaving one morning and I realized I was the only one that could confess this sin of omission! Now, I am very careful with my words to those whose paths I cross infrequently. And for those who ask me to pray for them, I ask immediately, "May I pray for you now?" I have never been turned down. I always find a place wherever I am to pray with and for anyone. It is a better way for me to practice the presence of God in real time.

If you haven't guessed by now, I often use the Affirmation of Faith of the United Church of Canada (UM Hymnal #883) which speaks directly to all of us. It declares our Trinitarian Faith (God in Three Persons) and reminds us "We are not alone and we live in God's world...in life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen."



WUMC,

I would like to thank all of you who came out to my 4th Western Swing Roundup at Reilly Springs Jamboree on April 21st. I appreciate all of your support and friendship and I hope you enjoyed the show. Thanks again.

God bless,  
Jack Phillips



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

(903) 885-3383 Church Office  
 (903) 335-8010 Parsonage  
 (903) 438-2324 Fax  
[www.wesleysst.org](http://www.wesleysst.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

See us on



Wesley UMC-Sulphur Springs



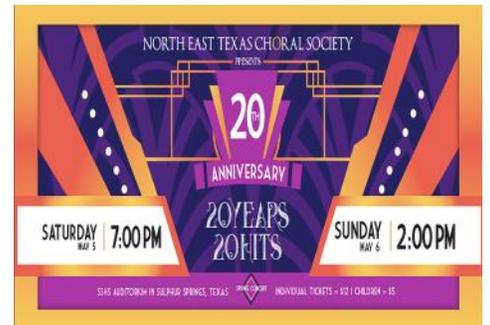
**United  
 Methodist  
 Women**

**1:30 p.m. Tuesday  
 May 15**

**Program: Konnie Cross  
 Hostess: Dorothy McCaig**



**Sunday, May 13**



**Tickets at Local Banks  
 from Singers  
 Church Office**