



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

September 2018

614 Texas Street, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

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*But as for you,
be strong and
courageous,
for your work
will be rewarded."*

2 Chronicles 15:7





Labor Day in the United States of America is a public holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. It honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws, and well-being of the country. It is the Monday of a long weekend known as Labor Day Weekend. It is recognized as a federal holiday.

Beginning in the late 19th century, as the trade union and labor movements grew, trade unionists proposed that a day be set aside to celebrate labor. "Labor Day" was promoted by the Central Labor Union and the Knights of Labor, which organized the first parade in New York City. In 1887, Oregon was the first state of the United States to make it an official public holiday. By the time it became an official federal holiday in 1894, thirty states in the United States officially celebrated Labor Day.

Canada's Labour Day is also celebrated on the first Monday of September. More than 80 countries celebrate International Workers' Day on May 1, and several countries have chosen their own dates for Labour Day. May 1 was chosen by a pan-national organization of socialist and communist political parties to commemorate the general strike and events that took place around the Haymarket affair, which occurred in Chicago on May 1-4, 1886. A peaceful demonstration was promoting an 8-hour workday. (More information on Wikipedia)



2018 Confirmands

John Henry Moser, Spencer Thurman, Rylan Sills, Kenna Lane and Eryn Fikes were confirmed Sunday, August 12, 2018



Confirmands and Their Families

Pictures by Mary Lou Foster



Our hearts were warmed by the overwhelming support from Wesley Methodist Church in the loss of our mother, sister and grandmother. The meal you provided for our family was plentiful and delicious. Your attendance at the graveside service was comforting to all of us. May God bless each of you.

Don Drummond, John Drummond, Donna Mutzenberg, Kara Lane, Shirley Glossup, Lou Jane Drummond and Families.



We are happy to have Betty Green back in the Wesley Family! Betty had been living in Texarkana but recently moved back to this area.

From Pastor

Being a Wounded Healer in the Body of Christ

Friend and fellow pastor, Tim Marks, posted this recently:

Layperson: "What's it like being a pastor?"

Clergy: "It's kind of like a roller coaster..."

Layperson: "That sounds awesome!"

Clergy: "I'm not finished."

I distinctly remember my pastor of record at both my licensing and ordination services repeating these words to me, "Steve, if you can be happy doing anything else as a profession, then do it. Ministry will wear you out!"

This past month (August) was my 50th year preaching the Gospel. I was 17 years old, a rising senior in high school, a local radio DJ and newscaster, and served as president of the class of 1969 (1968-1969 school year). These were formative years for me for what awaited me in life: a seminary-trained, licensed and ordained preacher/pastor/administrator.

During my senior year, I preached at almost every Baptist church in Caldwell and Lyon Counties, KY. With me, most of the time, was my best friend, Mike Oliver, who usually sang, led the singing, or played the piano.

We were both in the same advanced classes offered, for the first time, at our high school. Trust me, I still feel tense when I recall two of those teachers, Ruthanne Williamson and Carol Alexander. Both of them kept our feet to the fire reminding us that the math and chemistry books we were using were college freshmen texts. And neither teacher cut you any slack! Their bars for excellence were high and missing class became our own responsibility to catch up with fellow classmates. At this time, I want to thank Tom Schuler, Salutatorian of our class, for his invaluable help and mentoring!

Well, here I am, 50 years later! I've learned many things in ministry simply by "being there" as a pastor. On the other hand, I'm still learning the lesson of "not having to be there" all the time. My best guess is an effective pastor is one who can solve the issue of "being there or not." I affirm that mature spiritual adults are an asset always to me--and to all pastors. After all, laity can speak to laity with common courtesies and frequent "being there" with one another! It is a common saying among United Methodist laity I've heard in every church I've been appointed, "Pastors come and go. Laity stay on!" If we pastors do not appreciate this fact, we do our laity folk a disservice in thinking we have the latest idea, the latest interpretation, or bring with us the latest way to do church. The gem of being an effective pastor is learning the culture of the church. Church culture is "how an individual church acts and behaves in and of itself as well as how it expresses itself to others."

Perhaps the one book that opened my eyes to functioning both as laity and clergy is Henre Nouwen's book, *The Wounded Healer* (1974). One has said:

Nouwen has come up with a balanced and creative theology of service that begins with the realization of fundamental woundedness in human nature. Emphasizing that which is in humanity common to both minister and believer, this woundedness can serve as a source of strength and healing when counseling others. Nouwen proceeds to develop his approach to ministry which an analysis of suffering--a suffering world, a suffering generation, a suffering person, and a suffering minister. It is his contention that ministers are called to recognize the sufferings in their own hearts and make that recognition the starting point of their service. For Nouwen, ministers must be willing to go beyond their professional role and leave themselves open as fellow human beings with the same wounds and suffering--in the image of Christ. In other words, we heal from our own wounds."

The Apostle Paul's image of the Church as the Body of Christ offers a compelling statement: Christ is the Head of the Body and then each church occupies a functional place in His Body. Everybody is a somebody in this model. Not all can be the same member or function the same. The Bible explicitly says we all have gifts that differ according to the Spirit of God. Romans 12:4-21 and Ephesians 4:11-14 are the two places where a list of various functional (working) gifts are listed. *The Message* puts it this way, "If you preach, just preach God's message, nothing else. If you help, just help, don't take over. If you teach, stick to your teaching. If you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy. If you're put in charge, don't manipulate. If you're called to give aid to people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond. If you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face. Love from the center of who you are, don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil. Hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply. Practice playing second fiddle." (From Romans 12:6-10)

My friend, Tim Marks, is right. Being a pastor is often like riding a rollercoaster with its ups and downs and twists and turns. And the most important thing for a pastor to do? Buckle up, hang on, but enjoy the ride! Grace!

In Loving Memory of Nell Drummond

By: Rachel and Gary Lewis Diane Dixon
Dennis and Paula Jordan



In Loving Memory of Victor Kaszlelanksi

By: Rachel and Gary Lewis Diane Dixon

In Loving Memory of Bruce Fielden

By: Diane Dixon Bill and Gina Wilder

In Loving Memory of Floyd Spears

By: Bill and Gina Wilder Rachel and Gary Lewis
Diane Dixon

In Loving Memory of Fran Francis

By: Bill and Gina Wilder Diane Dixon
Rachel and Gary Lewis



Rylan Sills and Family



Spencer Thurman and Family



Eryn Fikes and Family



Kenna Lane and Family



Notes from the Lay Leader

Wow! Thank you for your generous donations for our apportionments luncheon. We raised \$2897.00. I will say it again, "Wesley is the best." And thanks to the Wesleyan Class for providing the meal and all their hard work that goes into one of these luncheons. We will keep on keeping on!

We are having meetings to determine what we are going to do about our Wednesday night meals. I believe that is a time for fellowship that we need. We have to keep the ministries of our church active and alive. Please be in prayer about how you can help and make plans to attend.

School is starting. Choir is active again and it is a wonderful time to be a member of Wesley United Methodist Church. Please pray for our church, Pastor Steve, Joe, and members of our worship team. We are thankful to have a caring, dedicated staff. Our volunteers are awesome also. Remember to thank these people for their service to our church.

God bless us all!

Lou Jane Drummond, Lay Leader



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Dorothy Duncan	Sept 1
Gina Wilder	Sept 1
Sharon Callahan	Sept 1
Tim Henderson	Sept 1
Lou Jane Drummond	Sept 2
Marvin Jones	Sept 3
Silvina Epperson	Sept 6
Bobbie Moseman	Sept 7
Larry Nelson	Sept 7
Cheryl and Rick Spears	Sept 9
Muriel Lucas	Sept 10
Ilene Massey	Sept 11
Alexus Garcia	Sept 11
Jimmy Winfrey	Sept 12
Johnny Nichols	Sept 16
Ilene and Max Massey	Sept 18
Joe Clark	Sept 28
Emily Garcia	Sept 30



We need used printer or toner cartridges. We purchase office supplies with the rebates we get from recycling.



Wednesday Night Activities

5:40 - 6:00 p.m. Greeters should position themselves at the east entrance of Wesley Hall. They will be responsible for welcoming people, as well as providing direction and information to minors and parents who may be dropping off kids. As people arrive, the greeters will assign them to a family group. The greeters will try to place 4 adults, 2 youth (Jr/Sr High), and 2 children (K-5). After receiving a family group assignment and name tag, people will find the table designated for that family group. At each table, family groups will find a small basket containing a box of crayons and coloring books/sheets, pencils/pens, and a devotional. At this point, family groups are encouraged to guide children in coloring until meal time.

6:00 p.m. At the pastor's direction, everyone will join together for prayer prior to the meal being served. After blessing the food, family groups will return to their tables until their table is called to go through the dinner line.

During Meal Each family group will remain at their own table during the meal. Conversation is encouraged and family groups may elect to begin devotional and discussion at this time. Adults at each table are responsible for dealing with any issues at the table. In the event that a "big issue" arises, such as a tantrum or a refusal to recognize the authority of adults at the table, the issue will be handed over to either Joe (grades 6th-12th) or Marieke (grades K-5th). If necessary, parents/guardians may be contacted at this point to pick up a child.

If phones/mobile devices become an issue at a table, the adults should require everyone at the table to place their phones in the basket provided until the end of the meal. However, unless this is an issue, don't make it one! Kids are accustomed to playing on their phones, and should be allowed to unless the group is eating or engaged in group discussion.

As members of each family group finish their meal, each table will be responsible for disposing of any trash that is on the table, as well as cleaning and wiping off the table with a wet towel. Family groups are encouraged to designate two/three members of the group to do this, or make it a team effort! However, don't make the youth/kids do it every week, share the responsibility and lead by example. This is an opportunity to teach the kids/youth.

6:45 By 6:45, everyone should be finished eating, the devotional should have been discussed and all tables should be clear and clean. Members of each family group

will remove their name tags and place them in the table's basket along with the other supplies provided at the beginning of the meal. The basket should then be placed with all the other baskets in the designated location. Children and youth should remain at the table until they are called to go to their appropriate activity.

Notes: Unaccompanied minors should not be on the church campus until 5:40 p.m. Youth room should remain locked unless supervising adult/church member is present. West side entrance of Wesley Hall should be locked and closed.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Jordyn Ausmus	Betty Bassham	Charles Batty, Jr.
Allison and John Bostick	Delana Beadle	Bethany Nichole
Cassie Cavaliere	Wanda Clayton	Silvina Epperson
Clifford and Sandra Davis	Eddie Fenstermaker	Gene George
Donny and Baulah Godfrey	Jayne Glenn	Trip Glenn
Jack and Janie Godfrey	H.W. Halcomb	Dorothy Hargrave
Roy Herman, Jr.	Mark Heisler	Christa Kasztelanski
Magan, Tim and Easley Henderson	Pam Hughes	Lynn Kincade
Fred and LaDonna Kusta	Jase Mabie	Zane Magan
Mary Ann McCormick	Bobbie Moseman	Lynna Nichols
Sandra Parker	Nan Price	Carolyn Roland
Clara and Durwood Smith	Mildred Schulz	The Spears Family
Elton and Louise Stewart	Nancy Stobough	Allan Thar
Mark Warren	Karen Wedding	Gracie Weston
Barbara and Jim Williams	Ron Zitterick	The Bobbie Pinson Family

The Spears Family-A visitation was held on Thursday, August 30 for Mr. Floyd Spears, Rick's dad.

The Fran Francis Family -A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, September 8, at Wesley. Visitation at 1:00 p.m.

The Family of Dorothy Junod-Kelly Moser's grandmother in Penn.
Students, Teachers, Administrators, Support Personnel
Wildfires & Flooding Military Personnel and their Families
First Responders, Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire Fighters, Hospital Personnel
CANHelp CASA Backpack Buddies Abused Children and Youth
Community Chest/Cupboard Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center
North Texas Food Bank Holy Highway Girls Home
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

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





Wesley United Methodist Church
invites you to the
Church Picnic
and
Outdoor Worship Service
Sunday, September 30
10:00 a.m. at
the Pavilion at Buford Park

**Outdoor Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.
with Pastor Steve Cook speaking.**

A FREE Lunch will follow the worship service.

**Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, water and tea
will be provided by the church.**

Church Members, please bring salads and desserts.

Fun time with family and friends!

Everyone is welcome to attend!



The Wesley Witness
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Wesley UMC-Sulphur Springs



**United Methodist
Women**

1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 18

Program: Diane Dixon

**Hostesses: Sandra Parker
Joyce Davis**

**East District Annual Meeting
September 22
First UMC, Kaufman**



**Grandparents Day
Sunday, September 16**

**Refreshments in Wesley
Hall following worship.**



**The Church Office
will be **CLOSED**
Monday, Sept. 3**

**Breaking Bread
will serve a meal at
NOON**