



How is it going?

How is it going? I know when I am working hard on something it is sometimes nice for someone to ask “How is it going?” It’s not an invasive question and it shows interest in what I am doing. The other night, as my family and I were watching a basketball game, I reached over and picked up a ball that is supposed to make your arms stronger for tennis. I started the gyroscope inside spinning and then began to use my forearms and wrist to keep it going. After a little over a minute I heard Lancy say, “Stop looking at the clock; tell me when you want to stop and I’ll let you know

when the time comes.” I kept going for a few seconds longer and then I heard her say, “Don’t quit, you can do it, 20 more seconds.” I knew that couldn’t possibly be right but I liked the encouragement and kept going until she said time was up. She then encouraged me to not stop but to switch hands. That little bit of encouragement made a big difference.

The spiritual season of Lent is about half over. How is it going? I hope there is someone encouraging you to continue. The church is watching the clock for you and I promise we will not let you miss the end. We have great celebrations set up for the entire week before the end of Lent. The next newsletter will arrive just a few days before Palm Sunday, which begins the week long count down to the end of Lent and the week culminates in a spectacular Easter Celebration. Have you enjoyed the special devotionals? If you are not getting them, let me know. I especially like the one for Day 11 on page 33. Like me, Linda was encouraged by just a few simple words, “Next time you’re here, let’s sit together.”

Training for something does not have to make us miserable. It can be fun. It is frequently difficult and challenging but I find that often the hardest and most demanding things I do are the most rewarding. Being a Disciple is not easy. It did not come naturally for the followers of Jesus in his day and it usually does not come easily for his followers today. Some people are happy remaining followers but you are training to become committed Christians and Disciples.

Our devotions so far have dealt with accepting God’s love for us. After you accepted the fact that God loves you specifically, you likely recognized the joy of “Radical Hospitality” and began working on that set of spiritual muscles. Most recently we worked the muscles of “Passionate Worship”. That would make this a great week for each of us to look at our “Intentional Faith Development.” (Don’t look at the time. Keep going. Don’t stop now. You can do it. Remember, Sundays are not part of Lent; take a break and rest in the knowledge of Christ’s resurrection.) Now is the time to start thinking about taking this new self out into the world with “Risk-Taking Mission and Service”. After just a little more work we will focus on “Extravagant Generosity”. How is it going? Or, as the founder of what is now called The United Methodist Church was known to ask, “How is it with your soul?” Let me tell you, “Well done!”

See you Sunday,

Jim

Lenten Opportunities April 3 - 16

3 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT / ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

- Worship & Holy Communion, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
- Labyrinth up in Room 312 (Sun.-Fri. 8-8; Sat. 8-3)

5

- Lenten Prayer & Reflection, 10:00 am in the Laurel Room
- Body and Spirit Class, 1:45 pm in Room 312, Tues. & Thur.

6

- Worship, 6:15 pm in Scott Chapel (Rev. Robin Hiatt-Reed)
- Compline (evening prayers), 8:30 pm in the Sanctuary Foyer

10 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

- Deadline to order Easter lilies (use coupon on page 8A)
- Worship, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
- Labyrinth up in Room 312 (Sun.-Fri. 8-8; Sat. 8-3)

12

- Lenten Prayer & Reflection, 10:00 am in the Laurel Room
- Lenten Soup & Cornbread Lunch (Hosted by United Methodist Women; open to all) in the Dining Room
- Body and Spirit Class, 1:45 pm in Room 312, Tues. & Thur.

13

- Worship, 6:15 pm in Scott Chapel (Rev. Barb Kurtz)
- Compline (evening prayers), 8:30 pm in the Sanctuary Foyer

Lent

Soup &
Cornbread
Lunch

Hosted by
United Methodist Women

- Open to All -

Tuesday, April 12

11:30 am

Dining Room

No RSVP required



JUNE 26 - JULY 1

**“NOT SO EASY
IN THE BIG EASY”**

**NEW
ORLEANS**

**INFO SESSION
SATURDAY, APRIL 16**

**12:00 NOON
ROOM 319**

Other LHUMC News on Pages 4A & 8A

Stephen Ministry update



The newest class of Stephen Ministers have passed the half-way point. Karen Michalson, Randy Pollock and Robbie Gryzsmik will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers on Sunday, May 22.

Their learning so far has included listening skills, boundaries, confidentiality, and assertiveness. There is a lot more to come, and this great group will be at work until they complete their course on May 21.

Instructors for the course have included Barb Kurtz, Don Clark, Ellen Evans and Melinda Hartson. Reverend Jim Carr is among their future leaders. This group will be primed and ready to serve Christ as Stephen Ministers when they are commissioned next month!

OGHS, April 3

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) on April 3 is one of six Special Sunday offerings that United Methodists support each year with financial gifts. OGHS gifts underwrite UMCOR's "costs of doing business," meaning that every penny you give to a specific UMCOR project is spent on that project. This enables UMCOR to respond to natural or human made disasters.

SUMMER IN THE STORY



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our great, great, great, great, great..... Grandparents in Faith.

First session starts June 12.

Wanna Help? You can cook, draw, act, dissect, and watch the story come to life. Let Katie Myers or Kercida McClain know.

Faith, hope, and love in action

by Judy Davis

The theme for the 2010 United Methodist Women Assembly was Faith, Hope and Love in Action. That is also what LHUMC has been for me. It was with faith, in January 1998, that you partnered with Methodist Healthcare Ministries and I became the first Wesley Nurse at Laurel Heights. During the 10 years that ensued, it was your love as the body of Christ that supported and strengthened me and my family through many life-changing events. It was also your faithfulness that gave me hope and inspiration to answer God's call in my life to be commissioned a deaconess. It is with an attitude of gratitude to you, the congregation of Laurel Heights UMC, that I begin family leave on March 15. Your gifts of faith, hope, and love will sustain me as I now devote my time and energy to our daughter who just had twin daughters on March 18.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer once said: "The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve." May "The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him." (*Romans 15:23 NIV*)

Godly Play training, April 29 and 30

There are a lot of things you can learn from a lecture, but Godly Play is best learned from the inside out. And this is what we will do at Godly Play training.

Blurring the lines between teacher and student, you will experience and learn Godly Play stories in a collegial, prayerful setting. Rev. Jim Carr's vast knowledge and deep spirit will deepen your understanding of children's spirituality while guiding you on a personal journey of wonder. By exploring the fundamental foundations of a Godly Play classroom, you will improve your teaching skills, learn the components of the class, and leave spiritually refreshed. Everyone is welcome, but please let us know you are coming so we can set a place for you. Call Kercida, 733-7156 ext. 36.

Japan Emergency, Advance 3021317

Formerly Pacific Emergency, Japan Emergency is providing emergency relief and long-term recovery support for disaster-affected communities in Japan and the Pacific region. UMCOR is working through relief and church partners in Japan to respond to and provide immediate assistance and long-term rehabilitation. With these partners, UMCOR is meeting the most basic humanitarian needs in northern Japan such as providing clean drinking water, food, cooking and eating supplies, clothing, and fuel for heating. As you continue to pray for the people of Japan during this crucial time, please remember to support this emergency through giving to Advance # 3021317.

Book Review, April 11



On Monday, April 11, at 10:30 am in Scott Chapel, Susan Holloway will review *The Lake of Dreams*, a new novel by Kim Edwards. When Lucy Jarrett leaves her boyfriend in Japan and returns

to upstate New York to help her mother who is suffering from a broken arm, she has no idea her life is about to change. Still coping with the death of her father over a decade ago, Lucy finds it difficult to settle in. One night, searching through a locked cabinet, she finds papers that lead her on a search for her family's hidden history. What she finds frees her to live her life fully.

Coffee and light refreshments will be available at 10:00 am in the Choir Room. Admission to the Book Review is \$3.

Join the Book Review Lunch Bunch at Boehler's on Josephine (where the Liberty Bar used to be). Order from the menu. Pay your own. Do let us know if you plan to join us so we can reserve a table. Call the Super Adult office, 733-6482.

April Mission of the Month: United Methodist Campus Ministry

United Methodist Campus Ministry is an outreach of the Southwest Texas and Rio Grande Conferences of The United Methodist Church to students and faculty of colleges and universities in the area of San Antonio, Texas.

With on-campus registered student organizations at San Antonio College, UTSA, and Trinity University, and off-campus activities at partner churches, UCMCM seeks to: 1) Unite students from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds in Christian community, spiritual celebration, and works of charity, mercy, social justice and public witness; 2) call forth and equip students to become effective Christian leaders; and 3) engage students in theological reflection and intellectual inquiry on matters of faith, culture and public life.

Your communion rail offerings and Wednesday night table offerings in April help to support this vital outreach to area college students. Reverend John P. Feagins is the director.



APRIL

- 3 Rosalyn Ann Dugger
- 4 David Bailey; Marc Edward Bean; Lelia Ford; David Gannon; James Hollerbach; Nicolas Ty Kuhn; Jordan Meister
- 5 Tony Arredondo; Natalie Ojeda
- 7 Chance Kinnison
- 8 Viola Buckaloo; John Ockenfels; Sean Cowan
- 9 Mary Crenshaw
- 10 Lindsay Zufall
- 11 Olivia Seay; Joseph Tognetti
- 12 Raymond Boazeman
- 14 Crystal Marie Bean; Bonnye Cavazos; Ann Jones
- 15 Daniel Hargis; LaVonne Hills
- 16 Elizabeth Bailey; Ronnie Beck

Leave your checkbook at home.

Laurel Heights

United Methodist Church
now accepts

Electronic Giving

- EFT (Checking/Savings)
- Credit/Debit Card

A Simple, Generous Choice.

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church. Contact the church office to learn how you can participate.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Gracie Huron, Supervisor

2011 DATES

April 1 & 8
May 13 & 20
June 10 & 17
July CLOSED
Aug. 5 & 12

RATES

\$15 for first child; \$10 for each child thereafter

CERTIFIED CHILDCARE
Ages 3 months to 5th Grade

TIME

6:30 PM - 11 PM

Call 733-7156

for more information and reservations. Reservations are required by Friday at Noon.



CHURCH CALENDAR

*Childcare available.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

8:00-8:00 Labyrinth (Sun.-Fri.) 312

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship / Holy

Communion - *Sanctuary*

9:30 Fellowship Time - *Dining Rm.*

9:30 Tiny Tones - 106

9:30 Joyful Noise Choir - 313-A

10:00 Sunday School for all ages

10:00 Confirmation Class - *The Tower, Room 201*

10:00 LHUMC Leads Worship at Chandler Center

4:00 Student Ministries (Middle School) - 319

5:30 Student Ministries (High School) - 319

Monday, April 4

9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - 312

10:00 Altar Guild - *Parlor*

1:00 Knitpickers - *Laurel Room*

3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC

(Mon.-Fri.) - *Gym*

5:30 Stephen Minister Training-312

6:00 Emmaus Reunion Group - *DR*

6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B

Tuesday, April 5

8:00 Super Adult Wildflowers Tour - *Regent Coach*

9:30 UMW Executive Committee - *Parlor*

10:00 Lenten Prayer & Reflection - *Laurel Room*

1:45 Body & Spirit (Tue. & Thu.) - 312

5:30 Bexar County Support Groups - *Dining Room*

6:15 Stephen Ministry - 313-B

Wednesday, April 6

11:00 Staff Meeting - 313-B

12:00 Staff Lunch - *Panchito's*

4:15 1st 3rd (K-5th Grade) - 105

4:30 Line Dancing - 312

5:30 *Supper- *Dining Room*

6:15 Worship / Communion (Rev. Robin Hiatt-Reed) - *Scott Chapel*

6:15 Handbells- *Sanctuary Balcony*

6:30 Disciple I - *Parlor*

7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*

8:30 Compline - *Sanctuary Foyer*

Thursday, April 7

8:35 Parents & Pastries - *Parlor*

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)

6:00 Church under the Bridge - *Depart from Woodlawn Lot*

6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B

Friday, April 8

Confirmation Retreat (Fri.-Sat.)

6:30 Parents' Night Out - RSVP by

12 noon Friday @ 733-7156

Saturday, April 9

8:00-3:00 Labyrinth - 312

8:00-12:00 Faith in Action at CAM

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

10:00 MOPS Gathering - 105

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Deadline to order Easter Lilies

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship with music

guests from McMurry University

Choir - *Sanctuary*

9:30 Fellowship Time - *Dining Rm.*

9:30 Tiny Tones - 106

9:30 Joyful Noise Choir - 313-A

10:00 Sunday School for all ages

10:00 Confirmation Class - *The Tower, Room 201*

4:00 Student Ministries (Middle School) - 319

4:30 UMW Elizabeth Circle- 313-B

5:30 Student Ministries (High School) - 319

Monday, April 11

9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - 312

10:00 Super Adult Coffee - *Choir Room*

10:30 Super Adult Book Review - *Scott Chapel*

1:00 Knitpickers - *Laurel Room*

3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC

(Mon.-Thu.) - *Gym*

5:30 Stephen Minister Training-312

6:00 Emmaus Reunion Group - *DR*

6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

Tuesday, April 12

7:30 Health Cabinet - *The Foundry*

9:00 King Antonio - *Gym*

9:30 UMW General Mtg. - *Parlor*

10:00 Lenten Prayer & Reflection - *Laurel Room*

11:30 Lenten Soup & Cornbread

Lunch by UMW (open to all) - *DR*

11:30 Stephen Leaders - *Laurel Rm.*

1:45 Body & Spirit (Tue. & Thu.) - 312

5:30 Bexar County Support Groups - *Dining Room*

Wednesday, April 13

7:30 Executive Comm. - *Foundry*

10:00 Super Adult Steering - *Parlor*

11:00 Church Staff - 313-B

11:30 Let's Eat Out - *Church Bus*

4:15 1st 3rd (K-5th Grade) - 105

4:30 Line Dancing - 312

4:30 Property Committee - *Library*

5:30 *Supper - *Dining Room*

6:00 Women's Book Group - *Laurel Room*

6:15 *Worship / Communion (Rev. Barb Kurtz) - *Scott Chapel*

6:15 Handbells- *Sanctuary Balcony*

6:30 Disciple I - *Parlor*

7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*

8:30 Compline - *Sanctuary Foyer*

Thursday, April 14

8:00-7:00 Super Adult Passport to Texas History Tour-*Regent Coach*

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)

6:30 Education Committee - *Parlor*

6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

Friday, April 15

12:00 Church Offices Close for Battle of Flowers

Saturday, April 16

8:00-3:00 Faith in Action 2nd

Quarter Follow-up

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

9:00 Program Council - 312

10:30 Board of Stewards - 312

12:00 Youth Summer Mission Trip

Information Session - 319

GIFTS IN HONORARIA

Church Mice

TERESA GARCÉS

by

Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Grier

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner... July 11-15

What a time it will be -- Calls are being made; materials are being printed; everyone's creativity is flowing! Come join the fun! Just let Bonnye Cavazos, Lea Nye, or Kercida McClain know you want to join in. Workdays will start in June to paint sets and make decorations. Registration begins May 1.



Gifts to United Methodist Women

Mary Blackford Scholarship Fund

In Memory of NANCY FASSNIDGE

by Teresa Garcés
Liz Hughes

In Memory of BARBARA LUMSDON

by Teresa Garcés
Liz Hughes

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

General Budget

GRACE BAILEY

by

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kurtz

General Memorials

GRACE BAILEY

by

Matt & Danita Cotterly

by

Linda Hansen Ogle

NANCY FASSNIDGE

by

Mary Louise Dwyer

by

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Souder

Music Fund

ERMINE ARMSTRONG

by

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Mazel

NANCY FASSNIDGE

by

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Myers

Organ Fund

GRACE BAILEY

by

Darla Peek

Pastor's Discretionary

Fund

NANCY FASSNIDGE

by

Sue Hall

UMCOR

Pacific Emergency

NANCY FASSNIDGE

by

Jerome & Angela Malek

Our mission

...is to offer Christ to those we encounter and to nurture, equip, and enable persons to become committed Christians in our community and the world beyond.



Healing: Roxane Darnell; Geraldine Douglas; Truman Smith; Ginger McKay; Patti Vaughan; Harold Souder; Shelley McMullen; Cece Adams; Clay Skinner; Martha Hamil; Faye Fox; Mindy Lanoux; Richard Jackson.

Family of Mary McDavid who died March 21; family of Birdie Towery who died March 13; and Bill Myers & family in loss of his cousin, Bobie Bremond.

Remember our shut-ins and those in the military.



CONTACT Us

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Clergy

Rev. Jim McClain x34

Pastor

Programming

Deaconess Judy Davis x18

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Kercida McClain x37

Christian Education Director

Paul Seeman x17

Youth Director

Geoffrey Waite x19

Director of Music

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Office

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Receptionists

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Bookkeeper

Cathy Everhart x13

Publications Editor

Elizabeth Jackson x12

Administrative Secretary

The issue date of this bi-weekly publication is the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Deadline for submitting news is 5:00 pm on 1st & 3rd Thursdays. Mail to: Messenger Editor, 227 W. Woodlawn, San Antonio, TX 78212 or send an email to: cathy@mylhumc.org.

Order Easter Lilies Here

Easter lily plants for Easter Sunday services in the sanctuary are available for purchase as a memoriam or honorarium at \$15 each. **The deadline is Sunday, April 10**, or whenever the maximum of 75 plants is reached. Complete this form and mail it with your check made payable to Laurel Heights UMC to: LHUMC, Attn: Easter Lilies, 227 W. Woodlawn, SAT 78212. Please write "Easter Lilies" in the memo line on your check.

Donor: _____

Phone: _____

PLEASE SELECT

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____