

The Window



"Send out Thy truth and Thy light; let them lead us." --Psalm 43:4a

September 1, 2017

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN "TREASURE"

The Bible says that "Where your treasure is, there your heart is also" Matthew 6:12. The month of September has traditionally been the time we set aside to celebrate all of the financial blessings that God has given to us this year, and to project through our Stewardship Campaign what financial commitments we will have for the coming year. We do this as the family of God because we recognize that we need to have a financial plan to be good stewards over what programs, services and gifts we will share with our community. Also as people of faith, we make commitments to show our love, obedience and appreciation for all that God has done and will continue to do in our lives. This year, I will be asking the question "Where is your treasure?"

Commitment Sunday will be on September 24, 2017. We will have a time in both worship services to bring our commitment cards before God. After the 11:00 a.m. service, we will all go to the Gym to celebrate with a sit down feast of Fried Chicken Strips/ Fried Fish and your best Pot Luck dish. We are looking for salads, appetizers, veggies, mac and cheeses, beans, coleslaw and of course DESSERTS !!!! There will be approximately 125-150 people gathered.

Please RSVP with Jamie Cauchon in the church office before September 17, 2017 so we can have plenty of chicken and fish available. Oh by the way, did I say this wonderful meal is FREE!!!! Yep FREE!!!

Hope to see you there!!!

Be Blessed

Felicia



Back to Fall, Y'all

I hope you got in some last minute relaxing before the craziness of school got underway yet again. At least we have a couple more months of summery temperatures in store, thanks to living in Texas!

Last month we had a couple of wonderful opportunities for fun, food and fellowship! The Ice Cream Challenge and Cardboard Box Race was a hit for year two. First Central Presbyterian loaned us their resident ice cream expert, Cliff Stewart, again; and he granted YOURS TRULY first place for my Triple Shot Mocha homemade recipe. I'm open to autographs and celebrity signings if necessary! It was a lot of fun watching the kids and adults recklessly scramble around the track in their cardboard cars. We even had a cardboard ambulance thanks to some industrious middle schoolers!

Back to School and Tie-Dye at Playfaire Park was a tasty way to spend the last day of Summer, too! Pat Mouser and Skipper Hamaty cooked up some cheeseburgers before everyone played a round of Mini Golf and tie-dyed with the legendary Doc. As usual, all had a relaxing time channeling their inner hippies.

This month we launch year 3 of our after school Bible program at Johnston Elementary on September 20. We would LOVE for you to drop by and hang out with our Jungle kids this year on Wednesday afternoons from 3:15-4:30 pm! We sing, eat snacks, learn about the Bible and play games every week! I am offering an informational meeting and training for any and all volunteers who are interested in helping make this year wonderful for Johnston's 3rd-5th graders on Tuesday, September 12 at 3:00 pm in the Wesley Friendship Hall. Come join us!

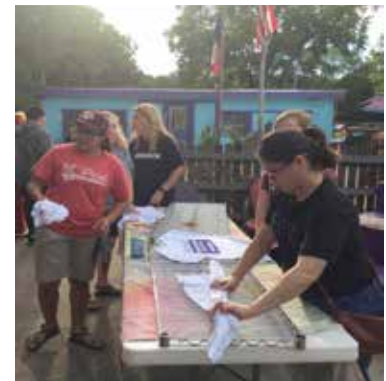
Have a great September!

Robin

ICE CREAM SOCIAL WAS A BIG HIT *Delicious Ice Cream and Box Car Derby.*



BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY WAS ALOT OF FUN *Good Food, Miniature Golf & Tie Dye.*



Wednesday Night Programming Beginning September 6, 2017

After a very HOT and long summer we will begin our Wednesday night programming on September 6, 2017 at 5:30 PM. We have CHANGED the format of Wednesday nights to help us do two very important things:

First, to Fellowship, so on the FIRST Wednesday of every month we will have a very nice dinner meal (meat, veggie, salad,) for \$7.00 per person and \$24.00 for a family of 4 and larger. After the meal, at 6:00 PM, we will add a time of fun/games (dominoes, bridge, bunko etc.). The evening will end at 7:00 PM.

Secondly, we want to provide an atmosphere for us to become better individual Disciples of Christ. So on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesday nights of the month, we are going to spend time in very small groups (3-5 members) called L.T.P.'s. The L stands for Listening, T stands for Talking and the P stands for Praying. L.T.P. is exactly what the group will be doing for approximately 30-45 minutes weekly. We will provide biblical discussion sheets for each week's conversation in your group. We will also provide a small sandwich/snack meal (for a donation) with ice tea if you need it for all LTP nights - until 6:00 PM.

In September (only), I will lead a two week study on becoming a better disciple and what it means to be in a L.T.P. Then weekly in October, November and December you will be encouraged to meet in your own LTP. The beauty of this is you can meet ANY time you want. Some of you will meet during the daytime, some will meet at lunch or in the evenings, and some will meet on Wednesday nights. The scheduling is all up to you and your group members. All you have to do is show up, share and allow God to help you grow.

So this month I am asking you:

1. To come on September 6, 2017 at 5:30 PM and hear in detail what we are trying to do to help us grow stronger in our faith in our L.T.P. small groups. PS. There will be mmmm good food by Haley Jo on the Go
2. To commit to continue to come with your family, friends, co-workers or neighbors or whoever to the First Wednesday Night of September, October, November, and December for food, fellowship and fun.
3. Pray about being in an L.T.P. spending no more than 30 mins with some of your friends this fall semester.
4. Then ask 2 or 3 people to be in an L.T.P. with you. They do NOT have to be church members and if you don't have anyone. We will provide open groups to join.

I know some of you are wondering what about "my kids"? Not to worry, we will have musical activities (led by Adam Samuels and Laura Logan) for our elementary aged folks. There will also be spiritual learning opportunities coupled with service, for our mid-high and high school students. For our children, this new system means not having to sit through "one more class at night at church." I promise there will be a variety of clean, Christian, fun things for them to do. Woo-Hoo!!!!

Hope to See You Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 5:30 PM.

Peace, *Felicia*

Hurricane Harvey Assistance

Hurricane Harvey hit the Houston and surrounding areas with devastating flooding and destruction. There have been several phone calls asking how people can help.

The conference is asking that ALL churches in the district make it a goal to put together at least 10 cleaning kits (see list of supplies below). All items must be new. The larger churches in the district are asked to make double that or more. Please bring any of the items listed below to the church and we will put the kits together.

Monetary donations can be sent to the church office or directly to UMCOR (Advance #901670) with the notation Hurricane Harvey Assistance.

Cleaning Kit Supplies Needed

Liquid Laundry Detergent

One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. bottle(s) only

Liquid Household Cleaner

12-16 oz. liquid, that can be mixed with water
No spray cleaners

Dish Soap

16-28 oz. bottle, any brand

50 Clothespins

Clothesline

One 100 ft. or two 50 ft. lines-cotton or plastic

7 Sponges

No cellulose sponges due to mold issues

24-Roll heavy-duty Trash Bags

33-45 gallon sizes

18 Cleaning Wipes

Handi-wipes or reusable wipes. No terry cloth.

1 Can Air Freshner

Aerosol or pump

1 Insect-Repellant Spray

6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump
with protective cover

2 Pairs Kitchen Dishwashing Gloves

Durable enough for multiple uses

1 Pair Work Gloves

All Cotton, All Leather or
Cotton with Leather Palm

5 Scouring Pads

No stainless steel, Brillo pads or SOS
Nothing with soap built in

1 Scrub Brush

Plastic or wood handle

5 Dust Masks

Wednesday Night Programming

Wednesday night meals and programming will begin Wednesday, September 6. We have changed the format of Wednesday nights to help us fellowship and become better individual Disciples of Christ. There will be something for everyone: adults, children and youth.

Please read Felicia's article for complete details.

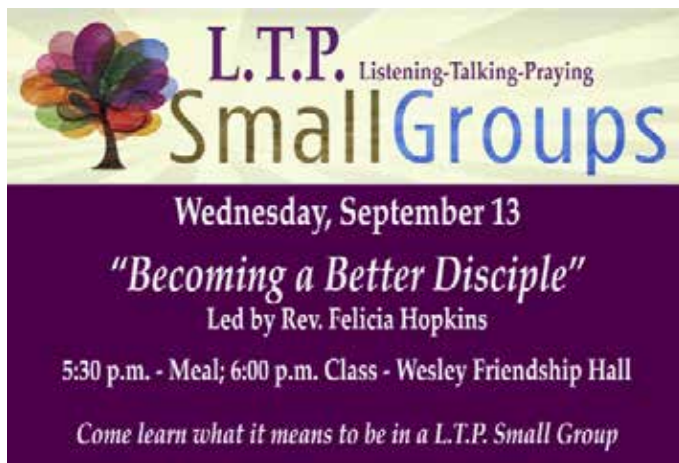


**Wednesday Nights
Fall, 2017**

Wednesday, September 6

5:30 p.m. - Meal; 6:00 p.m. Class/Discussion
Wesley Friendship Hall

*Come hear an Overview of our
Wednesday Nights*



L.T.P. Listening-Talking-Praying
Small Groups

Wednesday, September 13

"Becoming a Better Disciple"
Led by Rev. Felicia Hopkins

5:30 p.m. - Meal; 6:00 p.m. Class - Wesley Friendship Hall

Come learn what it means to be in a L.T.P. Small Group



L.T.P. Listening-Talking-Praying
Small Groups

Wednesday, September 20 & 27

"Listening-Talking-Praying"
Small Groups Meet together

5:30 p.m. - Meal; 6:00 p.m. Small Groups

Come meet with your Small Group.

Activities at a Glance...

Sunday, September 3

8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:30 pm Contemporary Worship Service
 1:30 pm Wesley Court Communion

Monday, September 4

OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY



Tuesday, September 5

8:30 am Staff @Food Pantry
 9:30 am Staff Meeting
 4:30 pm St. Paul @Food Pantry

Wednesday, September 6

10:00 am Prayer Team
 5:30 pm Fellowship Meal
 6:00 pm Becoming a Better Disciple Study
 6:00 pm Middle School Games
 6:00 pm High School Group
 6:15 pm Children's Music
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 7

11:45 am Staff Book Study

Saturday, September 9

9:00 am Ramp Build

Sunday, September 10

8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service

Monday, September 11

9:30 am United Methodist Women
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 3

Tuesday, September 12

9:30 am Staff Meeting
 3:00 pm Johnston Jungle Training

Wednesday, September 13

7:00 am United Methodist Men
 Breakfast @The Flipping Egg
 10:00 am Prayer Team
 5:15 pm Finance Committee
 5:30 pm Fellowship Meal
 6:00 pm Becoming a Better Disciple Study
 6:00 pm Middle School Games
 6:00 pm High School Group
 6:15 pm Children's Music
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 14

11:45 am Staff Book Study

Sunday, September 17

8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:30 pm Contemporary Worship Service

Monday, September 18

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 3

Tuesday, September 19

9:30 am Staff Meeting
 9:30 am Caring Hearts Visitation

Wednesday, September 20

10:00 am Prayer Team
 3:15 pm Johnston Jungle
 5:30 pm Fellowship Meal
 6:00 pm L.T.P. Groups Meet
 6:00 pm Middle School Games
 6:00 pm High School Group
 6:15 pm Children's Music
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 21

11:45 am Staff Book Study
 5:00 pm Board of Trustees

Sunday, September 24

Commitment Sunday

8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:00 pm Celebration Pot Luck Lunch
 12:30 pm Contemporary Worship Service

Monday, September 25

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 3

Tuesday, September 26

9:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, September 27

10:00 am Prayer Team
 3:15 pm Johnston Jungle
 6:00 pm L.T.P. Groups Meet
 6:00 pm Middle School Games
 6:00 pm High School Group
 6:15 pm Children's Music
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 28

11:45 am Staff Book Study

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
 9:30 A.M. IN ROOM 111

Program:
Dr. Dorothy Barnes

INTRO TO UNITED METHODIST
 MISSIONARY CONFERENCES™

**United Methodist Men
 Breakfast**

Wednesday, September 13, 2017
 7:00 a.m. @ The Flipping Egg
 (4150 So. Danville)

Each person will order from the menu. **NEW LOCATION**



Program given by
Larry Fink,
 HSU English Professor
 speaking about C.S. Lewis

Bishop Bruce Ough, president of the United Methodist Church Council of Bishops, issued the following statement on Charlottesville:

My shock, dismay and grief over the clashes between white supremacy advocates and counter-protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia, continue to grow. I grieve for the lives lost, and pray for the family of Heather Heyer, the families of the two state troopers killed while monitoring the Charlottesville demonstration from the air, and for the healing of all the injured. I am shocked by the blatant resurgence of white nationalism, neo-Nazism and racially motivated domestic terrorism in the United States. I am dismayed (and frightened) by the animosity, division, extremism and evil that is spiraling out of control in the U.S.

Let there be no excuses or political justification for the evil that was on full display in Charlottesville last Saturday. Nor, let us forget that many such displays of white supremacy, racism and hatred go un-reported or under-reported in many places. White supremacist and neo-Nazi ideologies are abhorrent and entirely inconsistent with the Christian faith.

Jesus called his followers to “love your neighbor.” It is clear this key spiritual imperative means all neighbors without regard to race, color, religion or national origin. And, Paul taught that “enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions and factions” are among many works of the flesh that are antithetical to the kingdom of God. “By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” (Galatians 5: 19-23) These works of the Spirit lead to peace-making and the kingdom of God.

The Social Principles of our United Methodist Church are a clarion call and powerful witness in times such as these. “We affirm that no identity or culture has more legitimacy than any other. We call the Church to challenge any hierarchy of cultures or identities.” (Para. 161A, The Nurturing Community, page 110, 2016 Book of Discipline). And, from Para. 162A The Social Community, page 120: “Racism, manifested as sin, plagues and hinders our relationship with Christ, inasmuch as it is antithetical to the gospel itself ... Therefore, we recognize racism as sin and affirm the ultimate and temporal worth of all persons ... We commit as the Church to move beyond symbolic expressions and representative models that do not challenge unjust systems of power and access.”

Martin Luther King, Jr. echoed a similar sentiment when he challenged the United States to transform the thin paper of the Declaration of Independence that affirms the self-evident truth “that all men are created equal, are endowed with certain inalienable rights” into thick action.

I pray that the shock, dismay and grief of Charlottesville will be a turning point for the U.S. and even our global United Methodist church. We share collective responsibility to turn our thin words into thick action. We share collective responsibility to break our silence. We share collective responsibility to restore health to the communities and relationship out of which extremism, hatred and racism grow. We share collective responsibility, as followers of the Prince of Peace, to create non-violent communities where people with different political and religious views respect each other. We share responsibility to articulate the vision of the Beloved Community where no person feels endangered on account of their social, racial or cultural identity.

This collective responsibility begins by each of us examining our own hearts for the prejudice that contributes to attitudes of supremacy or hatred, or to violence, or silence or fear. Peacemaking and reconciliation always begins within.

This is the moment for The United Methodist Church and all peoples of faith to be bold in our witness against racism and white supremacy. The vision of the Beloved Community lies not behind us, but before us. I urge us to pray for the Holy Spirit to break through and work through The United Methodist Church to heal our broken world and make tangible, visible the kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Bishop Bruce R. Ough, President
Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church

Birthdays!

September 1

Donna McDonald

September 2

Paige Gollihar
John Lineweaver
Becca Ritchie
David Watson

September 3

Phillip Egdorf

September 4

McKenna Cox
Thelma Ragland

September 5

Ruth Stokes

September 6

Anita Westmoreland

September 7

Adam Samuels

September 8

Charles Smith

September 9

Mike Bannister
Cindy Guerra

September 10

Danielle Font
Sarah Stamey

September 11

Braxton Hollis

September 12

Gavin Hamaty
Lindsay Perry

September 13

Portia Moore

September 14

Linda Dehlinger
Margaret Vaughn

September 15

Greg Stokes

September 16

Ashley Perry

September 19

Aiden Tovar
Ila Beth Westbrook
Bob Wood

September 20

Beth Hamaty

September 21

Aubrey Fite
Brandon Kmiec

September 22

Christian Kappel

September 25

Cynthia Loya
Stratton Tolliver

September 26

Alex Borchert
Drew Borchert

September 27

Lt Col Charles Bass
Anna Beth Waller
Sheila Warren
Dustin (Dusty) West

September 28

Bob South

September 30

Jamie Mollet
Anne Watson
James Wheeler, Jr.



Sympathy

LaVerne C. Rollins, *Sheila Warren's mother*, died Saturday, July 29, 2017. Services were Tuesday, August 1, 2017 in Abilene with burial in Gustine, Texas.

Oweda Mae Terry, died Friday, August 4, 2017 in Abilene. Services were Sunday, August 13, 2017 in DeLeon, Texas.

Davy Maldonado, *Maurice & Charlene McLeod's nephew*, died Monday, August 21, 2017. Services were Saturday, August 26, 2017 in Dallas, Texas.

Memorials and Gifts...

In Memory Of:
Patricia Bogar

To TV Fund
Ruth Griffith
Billie Martin

In Memory Of:
Sue Carney

To Memorial Fund
K.O. & Marilyn Long
Janice Middlebrooks

In Memory Of:
Oweda Terry

To Memorial Fund
K.O. & Marilyn Long
James & Reba Wheeler

In Memory Of:
LaVerne Rollins

To Memorial Fund
Linda Chapman
Leonard & Chris Glasgow
Pamela Kay Johnson
K.O. & Marilyn Long
Polly Patterson
Ona Reed
Stan Trammell
George & Danna Williamson
Randy & JoAnn Wilson

In Memory Of:
Sue Wheeler

To Memorial Fund
Helen Hutchinson





ST. PAUL
United Methodist Church

525 Beech
Abilene, TX 79601
stpaulabilene.org

St. Paul United Methodist Family Thanks God For:

Celebration Pot Luck Lunch

Fried Chicken Strips
& Fried Fish Provided

Please bring your favorite
side dish & dessert.

*Join us as we Celebrate
Commitment Sunday
as a church family.*

**Sunday
September 24**

**12:00 Noon
Activity Building**