

# Church Chat

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Announcements	2
Wesley Nurse	2
Missions Corner	3
Financial Update	4
Calendar	7

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## From the Pastor's Desk

Lately I've listened to a lot of people who are feeling pretty hopeless about things these days. With all the confusion and conflict in our presidential nominating process, reports of terrorism, and a general dissatisfaction with life as it is today, it's difficult for some folks to see much of anything to be hopeful about. One person shared a post on Facebook, "When we had Reagan as president, we had Johnny Cash, and Bob Hope...but now we have Obama as president, no cash, and no hope." I had to resist the temptation to point out to them how well we live compared to most of the rest of the world.

We just celebrated the resurrection of Jesus from death and the tomb. We who claim the name and profess allegiance to Jesus have the most to be hopeful about. If Christians expect to have any impact on the hopelessness in our world today, we must be hopeful and give hope to others.

The apostle Paul writes to the faithful in Rome, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13 NRSV) What is it within our faith that gives us hope? We have the hope of the resurrection. Jesus died on the Cross carrying the sins of the world, which includes yours and mine. Jesus was buried and rose from the dead conquering hell and death. Jesus opens for us the reality of heaven, here and now as well as beyond our physical death. Jesus is coming again to bring His reign as fully upon the earth as it is in heaven. We have the hope of salvation, rescue from the hopelessness of our world. And He has created and empowered His Church to bring this hope to all who see their need and find a compassionate reception within its doors.

God spoke through the prophet Jeremiah one of the greatest promises ever spoken, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plan for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jer. 29:11 NRSV)

In our church, do we give hope? In our lives, do we have hope to offer the hopeless? Can we resurrect hope in our lives to offer to others? I pray we can, by God's grace.

I am so thankful and proud to be your pastor,

**David**

## Youth News

**Youth Sunday School**—The class is for all youth in grades 6-12 and meets in the classroom at the back of Weimer Hall at 9:00 AM.

## Announcements

The **Seaside Ringers** meet at 5:30 PM each Wednesday to practice. They play the bells during worship on the third Sunday of each month.

**Adult Sunday School**—is reading and discussing the book of Nahum. They meet in the Parlor at 9:00 AM each Sunday morning, led by Josh Harper.

**Chancel Choir**—practices at 6:30 PM each Wednesday in the Sanctuary.

**Young Children's Sunday School**—We now have a young children's Sunday School class! Linda Contreras is using the Play and Pray material for children who are ages 2-5. They meet in the Nursery at 9:00 AM every Sunday.

A new **Prayer Request Email** is active for you to send in prayer requests online if you wish. This will be monitored daily and someone will be praying for all requests. Just email: [prayerrequests@fumcpalacios.org](mailto:prayerrequests@fumcpalacios.org)

## THANK YOU

Thanks to the following ladies for graciously helping with the meal for the funeral for **Milam Simons** on **March 24**: Carolyn Kubecka, DeeDee Stork, Landra VandenBergh, Carolyn Johnson, Myra Brhlik, Linda Curtis, Joan Bates, Thelma Holloway, Leala Kahlich, Maxine Kubecka, Frances Crunk, Nellie Rockenbaugh, and Betty Janszen

## Fellowship Luncheon in April

Spring has sprung! Let's celebrate with a Fellowship Luncheon. We will enjoy our friends and delicious food after church on **Sunday, April 10**. If you plan to bring a mean/main dish, please let Mary Jo Neeley know.



## Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis

The next Crossroads Walk is a **Men's Walk on April 14-17, 2016**. There is still time to get applications in for that one. The next **Women's walk is on July 21-24, 2016**. If you, or someone you know desires a deeper experience of the



Christian life and community, please contact Barney or Janie Gulley or Pastor David.

Crossroads celebrates every month with a gathering of the community. If you want to know more about Emmaus, or you have been on an Emmaus walk, you are welcome to attend. Come share in fellowship on **April 22 at 6:30 PM** at **Grace Presbyterian in Victoria** for potluck dinner and worship. Contact the Gulleys if you would like to carpool.

## Wesley Nurse News

**Office hours: Tuesdays 9 AM-4 PM, and Thursdays 9 AM-2 PM.**

**Diaper Pantry**—Tuesdays 1-4 PM



- Saturday, April 2, Light It Up Blue for Autism Awareness
- Thursday, April 14, 9 AM-12 PM, Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Screening, HUB
- Tuesday, April 26, 5 PM—Diabetic Support Group, HUB
- Thursday, April 28, 9 AM-12 PM, Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Screening, HUB

Light It Up Blue for Autism Awareness is very simple; you can wear blue and spread Autism Awareness or you can light it up blue by changing your front porch light to a blue bulb and let it shine bright!

If you know someone with Diabetes that has no insurance and needs help with supplies, send them to me. I am starting a Diabetic Support Group on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the HUB. Open for diabetics and family members.

I still have smoke detectors available for anyone that needs one.

Thank you,

--Leslie Machicek, Wesley Nurse

## Missions Corner

*"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." - Matthew 28:9*

- April's **Communion Rail Offering** will be going to our continued support of the Dale and Miranda Peacock family as they serve in Germany with Wycliffe Bible Translators. The goal of this organization is to make the Bible available in every language. It is exciting that our church is a part of the Great Commission through our association with the Peacock Family.
- March's Rail Offering of **\$315** was sent to the **United Methodist Committee on Relief**. This is a part of our apportionment's contribution to be a Five Star Church. Thanks to your generosity, our money went to help others in need of assistance from natural or man-made disasters.
- **Calling for boxes of Macaroni & Cheese!** It was brought to the attention of the *Missions Work Team* that the Robert Duran Food Pantry would like to include a box of Macaroni & Cheese in each of the 300 boxes they prepare and give out each month. However, they are unable to buy this item from the food bank. St. John's donates about 120 boxes per month but that isn't enough. We thought our church could help out. Our goal is to collect 180 boxes of **Macaroni & Cheese each month** for the months of **April, May, and June**. The brand does not matter, just as long as it is Macaroni & Cheese and it is in a box. There will be a box in the Narthex in which to place your donations.
- **Mission by the Sea** will be here June 6th, 7th and 8th. If you, a neighbor, family member or friend could use some willing helpers, you may pick up an application from Pastor David, Marty or Carl Rieck, or the library. Applications are due **May 16th**. If you would like to help in some way, just let Marty or Carl know at [m.jo.riek@gmail.com](mailto:m.jo.riek@gmail.com).
- The next *Missions Work Team* meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**. All who are interested are invited to attend.

## United Methodist Women

All women of the church are invited to United Methodist Women to learn more about how UMW supports mission giving for women and children.

Come join us on **April 21**. Bring a sack lunch and join us at 12 Noon in Weimer Hall.



## Restarting the Shepherd Program

A **Shepherd** is a person who "adopts" different families in the church to pray for. The role of a Shepherd is to nurture the families in our church, drop them an occasional note, notice when they are absent or ill and check on them. It doesn't take much time to send someone a quick note to let them know they were missed, or to wish them happy birthday.

If you think this is something you would like to do, contact one of the following: Janie Gulley, Myra Brhlik, Joan Bates, or Marty Rieck. We hope to get the Shepherd program up and running again, and we promise not to have a lot of meetings! The purpose is to nurture the members of our congregation.

## Making New Chrismons for Our Church Christmas Tree

Every year at Christmas we have a beautiful Christmas tree in our Sanctuary. It is decorated with lovely hand-made Chrismons that have significance in our faith. Unfortunately, many of the older ones are in need of repair or replacement.

What is a Chrismon? A Chrismon is an ornament made from Christian symbols.

If you would like to help with this project, contact DeeDee Stork. If we start now, we can have many new Chrismons to decorate our tree this Christmas!



## Finance Committee Update

The Finance Committee is pleased to report the church Finances through the end of February. The first two months of the year have been difficult due to the need to pay property taxes and our receipts were below normal. We ask that each family consider their giving to the church and understand that our needs are a continuing need.

You will see that we are starting to track our work in the Mission field. These is not new expenses. We are accounting differently to show our commitment to mission in Christ's name.

2016		FEB	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET
<b>INCOME</b>				
	Offerings and Memorials	\$ 11,716	\$ 24,420	\$ 27,133
	Missional Giving	\$ 363	\$ 754	
	Rent	\$ 650	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,300
	Oilwell	\$ 424	\$ 425	\$ 333
	Other	\$ 2	\$ 65	\$ 5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13,155</b>	<b>\$ 26,964</b>	<b>\$ 28,772</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
	Apportionments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,327
	Pastor Salary	\$ 5,342	\$ 10,557	\$ 10,929
	Staff Salary	\$ 2,669	\$ 6,428	\$ 5,585
	Operating Expenses	\$ 4,815	\$ 7,327	\$ 7,067
	Program Expenses	\$ (50)	\$ (100)	\$ 317
	Mission	\$ 363	\$ 954	\$ -
	Capital Expenses	\$ 402	\$ 3,485	\$ 1,320
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13,541</b>	<b>\$ 28,651</b>	<b>\$ 28,545</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ (386)</b>	<b>\$ (1,687)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

## From the Trustees: THANK YOU!

The **Board of Trustees** wants to thank all those who were able to stay after church on Palm Sunday for a church work day or contributed to it in some fashion. 30+ people got most of the jobs completed. The Sanctuary looks orderly and shiny and smells great, too. Cracks in pavement were filled, wiring issues fixed, curb areas shoveled and swept, shrubs trimmed, playground equipment removed, the swale on east side graded, a crib donated and assembled, and much, much more.

Many thanks go to Maxine Kubecka and Annette Stonedale for providing and preparing a great meal for so many! The food was delicious and the fellowship in working together absolutely fun! Again, thank you.

## 2016 Administrative Council

Effective January 1, 2016, the following persons begin their terms on the Administrative Council of the church:

- Chairperson—Erwin Janszen
- Council Secretary—Janie Gulley
- Lay Leader—Barney Gulley
- SPRC Chair—Leland Singer
- Trustee Chair—Long Han
- Finance Chair—Bill Kubecka
- Church Treasurer—Barney Gulley
- President of UMW—Thelma Holloway
- Youth Representative—Zachary Seaman
- Pastor—Rev. David King
- Nurture Chair—Becky Johnson
- Outreach Chair—Marty Rieck
- Witness Chair—Erwin Janszen
- Lay Delegate to Annual Conference—Janie Gulley

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, April 12**, at 7:00 PM in Weimer Hall.

## Peacock Mission Family Update

We have been keeping busy! The cold weather has offered us new opportunities to play in the snow. We have been sledding, hiking, biking, and more. Our Cub Scout pack in Basel hosted the Pinewood Derby for this area. Cyclops won 1<sup>st</sup> place in his den and Wolverine took 3<sup>rd</sup> in his den.

Dale went on his first official story-gathering trip to a town a few hours north of us. Wycliffe Germany hosted a training for a German Refugees course in their headquarters. He had a good trip and his photos will be posted with the story in the near future (we will let you know when it goes up). Miranda has been helping our team leader by taking over many administrative functions and learning how our systems operate.

We even took some time to enjoy a rare day of wintertime sunshine with some friends during which we took a hike out to an old castle ruin located less than a dozen miles from our home.

Many of you are aware of the refugee situation currently happening in Europe. Some of you have asked how we may be involved with this. Next week, Dale will begin working one evening a week with a group repairing bicycles for use by refugees. Our family will also be participating in a program that will join our family and a German family to build a relationship with an incoming refugee family. A new refugee center is scheduled to open in Kandem in May. Please continue to pray for everyone involved on all sides of the refugee crisis.

### Praises

- Dale traveled on his first story-gathering trip last weekend. We are so thankful for each of our partners who make it possible to serve God in this way!
- The Peacock children are all doing much better! Thanks to your prayers, school is going much more smoothly.
- God is using people of many nations, tribes, and tongues to bring His word to the nations. We praise Him for translators like Salvador Sanches!

### Prayer Requests

- We are waiting for one more piece of government paperwork. Please join us in praying that it comes quickly and with no hiccups.
- Due to changes in job situations and other circumstances, we have lost several partners. We are almost \$1000 per month below budget. We would love to talk to you more if you are interested in partnering with us.
- January brought many challenges with illness, unplanned car repairs, and unexpected bills. Please pray with us for God's provision to meet the financial needs that come with these issues.

We value all of you so much!

Dale and Miranda



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## Patchwork of Life Conference

Don't miss this year's Patchwork of Life Conference on Saturday, April 23 from 8:30 AM-12:00 noon. The event is held at the Christian Life Center at 200 Welch St., Palacios. Please see Myra Brhlik for ticket information.



*Patchwork of Life*

FOURTH ANNUAL  
COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 23, 2016  
8:30 am to 12:00 noon

Christian Life Center  
200 Welch St, Palacios, TX

UNITED BY GOD'S DESIGN

 TRILLIA NEWBELL is a wife, mother, author and nationally-recognized speaker. A gifted teacher, she will share how each of us can make a difference in today's world by embracing God's design for faith, family and diversity.

Trillia is the author of two books published by Moody Press:  
*United: Captured by God's Vision for Diversity* (2014) and  
*Fear and Faith: Finding the Peace Your Heart Craves* (2015)

For more information, please call  
Donna Christensen (361-972-6068)  
or Fran Callahan (361-404-0333)

Tickets \$15 each, or bring a friend and get  
two tickets for \$25 -  
includes Conference & Brunch!

NO CHILD CARE AVAILABLE  
PatchworkOfLife.com Like us on Facebook!

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## Early Response Training

Asbury Church in Corpus Christi is hosting **Early Response Training** on Saturday, **April 16<sup>th</sup>** from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM. The cost is \$30 and includes training, lunch, snacks, a t-shirt, background check, and photo ID badge.

If you are interested, please register online at: [www.riotexas.org/early-response-team-training](http://www.riotexas.org/early-response-team-training)

Please RSVP for childcare at 361-992-7501 by **Thursday, April 14.**

Asbury Church  
7501 S. Staples  
Corpus Christi, TX

## Church Calendar for April



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|--|--|
| <p>1 Youth Sailing Club meeting in Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM</p> <p>2 Colorful 5K by the Bay Fun Run benefitting Boys and Girls Club</p> <p>3 Second Sunday of Easter, Communion Sunday<br/>Scriptures: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31<br/>Sunday School 9:00 AM, Worship, 10:00 AM</p> <p>5 Missions Work Team, Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM</p> <p>6 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM</p> <p>7 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM</p> <p>8-9 Pastor David in Austin</p> <p>10 Third Sunday of Easter<br/>Scriptures: Acts 9:1-20; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19<br/>Men's Breakfast Weimer Hall, 7:30 AM; cook at 6:30 AM<br/>Sunday School, 9:00 AM, Worship, 10:00 AM<br/>Fellowship Luncheon after worship</p> <p>11 Trustee Meeting, Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM</p> <p>12 Finance Committee meeting, Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM<br/>Administrative Council meeting, Weimer Hall, 7:00 PM</p> <p>13 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM</p> | <p>14 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM</p> <p>14-17 Men's Walk to Emmaus at Spiritual Renewal Center</p> <p>17 Fourth Sunday of Easter<br/>Scriptures: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-39<br/>Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM</p> <p>20 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM</p> <p>21 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM<br/>United Methodist Women, Weimer Hall, 12 Noon</p> <p>22 Crossroads Emmaus Gathering, Grace Presbyterian Victoria</p> <p>23 Patchwork of Life Women's Conference, First Baptist Palacios</p> <p>24 Fifth Sunday of Easter<br/>Scriptures: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35<br/>Sunday School 9:00 AM, Worship, 10:00 AM</p> <p>27 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM</p> <p>28 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 12 Noon</p> |
|--|--|

## Dates on the Horizon to Remember

- May 5—Ascension of the Lord, Scriptures: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53
- May 5—National Day of Prayer
- May 8—Mother's Day and Festival of the Christian Home
- May 12-15—Pastor David in College Station for Ruth's graduation
- May 15—Pentecost Sunday, Barney Gulley preaching
- May 20—Crossroads Emmaus Gathering at John Wesley UMC, Victoria
- May 29—5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Noisy Offering
- May 30—Memorial Day

## Celebrations in April

### Birthdays:

1—Joan Bates; 8—Avery Kubecka; 9—Shelley Johs; 11—DeeDee Stork;  
12—Janie Gulley; 16—Jeff Miller; 17—Ruth King; 22—Jimmy Neeley, Mary Jo Neeley; 23—Ron Laws; 24—Zachary Seaman; 25—Grace Gideon



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**www.fumcpalacios.org**

### Joys and Concerns

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of **Ruth Norine**, who passed March 17. Ruth is the mother of Karen Laws.

We also extend our sympathies to the family and friends of **Milam Simons**, who passed away March 20<sup>th</sup>. Services were held in Edna on March 24.

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of **Mignon Smith** who passed away March 24.

We also extend our sympathies to the family of **Rosemary Harvey**, who passed away March 20. Services were held in Palacios on March 24.

### Assisting with Worship in April

Liturgist—Myra Brhlik

Greeters—Leland Singer and \_\_\_\_\_

Ushers—Shelly Johs and \_\_\_\_\_

Can you help out in April by being a Greeter or Usher, even if for one Sunday? Thanks!

### Newsletter Distribution

Do you know someone who needs to be on the mailing list or email distribution list to receive the newsletter? If you receive the newsletter by mail, would you consider switching to email distribution? This would let us save a few trees and a little money in postage. Please contact Janie Gulley at 361-972-3185 or [janiegulley@hotmail.com](mailto:janiegulley@hotmail.com) to update our distribution lists.

### Newsletter Articles for May

If you have an article or announcement for the April newsletter, please get the information to Janie Gulley **by April 28** at 972-3185 or [janiegulley@hotmail.com](mailto:janiegulley@hotmail.com).

PALACIOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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ADDRESS