

# Church Chat

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## From the Pastor's Desk

When you read the Bible, do the stories seem kind of one-dimensional? Are they kind of flat and lifeless, just printed words on a page? Do you find you have a hard time remembering what you read just a few minutes after you put your Bible down?

Maybe there's a better way to read your Bible, one that makes what you read more memorable, and more meaningful. Maybe there's a way to read your Bible that brings it the life and vitality that God intends it to have for you.

Maybe if you read just one "episode" and try to imagine it, you would find it more interesting and memorable. Suppose for these next couple of weeks you take the Gospel scripture reading from the calendar and read it each day. And not just read it, but imagine it. Use that God-given faculty of your imagination to place yourself in the scene. You can see yourself as part of the

action or as a bystander witnessing what is taking place.

If you look on the calendar you will see the scripture readings for each Sunday. The one that is in bold print is the passage I'll be talking about in the message. Maybe as we read and imagine these actions of Jesus we will begin to see our faith infused with life.

Maybe we will see ourselves in these events. Maybe we will see ourselves as the recipients and then the communicators of a faith where Jesus is present and active.

May this upcoming season of Lent be a time when our faith comes alive!

I'm so pleased and proud to be  
your pastor,

David

## Have You Considered a Walk to Emmaus?

*"Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" –Luke 24:31-32*

The Walk to Emmaus is a 3-day ecumenical spiritual renewal weekend sponsored by The Upper Room and based on the Road to Emmaus story found in Luke 24. This weekend experience provides a chance to spend some time with God away from daily distractions and is open to all denominations.

The next Crossroads Emmaus weekend is a **Men's Walk** scheduled for **February 19-22, 2015** at the Spiritual Renewal Center outside of Victoria. **Barney Gulley, Pastor David, and Perry Dean** are on the team. If you are a man or know a man who would like to deepen their Christian experience and understanding, the Walk is a great way to do it.

**Registration is still open** for this weekend, but time is running short! Please contact Pastor David or Barney Gulley for more information on how to attend.

The next Women's walk is scheduled for July 23-26. More information on that weekend in the coming months.

## Wesley Nurse News



Important dates and information:

- February 2, Monday, blood pressure and blood sugar screening, 9AM-12PM, HUB
- February 3, Tuesday, 4:00 PM—Lego Club meets in Weimer Hall

**Notice: I'm changing my days in Palacios to Monday and Tuesdays. Office hours are: Mondays 9AM-3PM and Tuesday 9AM-4PM.**

**Diaper pantry** is up and running! Anyone in need can pick up diapers and receive a small educational program. There will be a limit of 1 pack a month while supplies last.

Samaritans Closet: in November a family from Edna lost 5 children in a fire. I would like to make sure that everyone has a **smoke detector** in their home. Smoke detectors can be found at any hardware store and Walmart. Please bring them to add to our closet and I will make sure they are placed in a home. Thank you for your help in this mission.

Kids, **Lego Club** is here!! First Tuesday of every month at 4pm, come and let your imagination build!! You can bring your own creations or build with us. If anyone has any **extra Legos**, please bring them for the kids.

There will be days that I may not be here because of meetings out of town, or I may be in town at the HUB. If you need to see me on a different day, please call me (361-987-2071) and make an appointment. Or you can call or text my cell phone anytime: 361-571-1044.

--Leslie Machicek, Wesley Nurse

## Fellowship Luncheon February 8

Don't forget the fellowship luncheon on **February 8 after worship**. Let's join together and celebrate our fellowship and the beginning of spring!

Let Mary Jo Neely know if you will be able to bring a main meat dish.



## Martha's Table

**Martha's Table** is being resurrected and is under new management. A Board of Directors has been selected that includes pastors and several members of various local churches. They are delivering about two meals worth of groceries twice a week to about 100 families in the Palacios community.

In February they are in need of **soup and crackers**, as well as cash donations. There is a basket in the entryway of the church for the food and you can make out a check to Palacios UMC with "Martha's Table" noted on it.

## United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women meet on **Thursday, February 19** at noon in Weimer Hall.

Come join us for a brown bag lunch and an interesting program presented by Janie Gulley.



## Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis

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 **February 13 at 6:30 PM** at Bloomington Assembly of God for potluck dinner and worship. Contact the Gulleys if you would like to carpool: 361.972.3185.



## Beginner Pilates Class Coming Soon

We are working on hosting a Pilates Class in Weimer Hall on Thursday mornings from 8:00- 8:50 AM. The class will be taught by Zeinab Ghais, a certified Pilates instructor from Bay City. We will let you know by announcement in church, email, and Facebook when it is definitely on the schedule.

## Youth News

**Youth Sunday School Class** continues using Francis Chan's study on **Prayer** for its classes. Prayer is a frequent theme in Scripture, but students often struggle with questions about the purpose, practice and power of prayer. Is this invisible God just a magic genie in heaven who gives me what I want? Does God really want to hear from me, and if so, how does He talk back? If God already knows everything, what's the point of praying? Why doesn't God always answer my prayers?

Over four powerful sessions, we'll explore these tough questions and hear students share how prayer impacted

the tough situations they were facing. Francis Chan will unpack what the Bible has to say about prayer, helping teens understand how they should pray, what they are called to pray for, and why God invites them to communicate with Him.

The class meets in the back room of Weimer Hall at 9:30 AM every Sunday. Pastor David and Barney Gulley help lead the class.

**Palacios Youth Fellowship** will begin meeting again on Sunday, February 15 in Weimer Hall.

Youth News  
Youth News  
Youth News  
Youth News

## Announcements

### Program Hope: Senior Behavioral Health

An outpatient program that provides individualized treatment for older adults who suffer from emotional, behavioral, or mental health disorders. The program provides intensive outpatient treatment Monday through Friday at the Memorial Medical Center in Port Lavaca. Transportation as well as lunch are provided. For more information, call 361-552-0798.

### Storytelling in Palacios

This will be an engaging, experiential, educational, entertaining and cultural art community opportunity for

participants to become acquainted with the renaissance of storytelling as a performed art, and equipping all who desire to perform and develop a guild of tellers for the Palacios community.

### Kick-off House Concert\*

Saturday, Jan. 31, 7:00 p.m.

Peaceful Pelican B&B

Award-winning teller featured: Donna Ingham

\$5 ticket at the door. No credit cards.

### Storytelling Course on Sunday Afternoons

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Taught by storyteller and minister Vanessa Potter

Peaceful Pelican B&B

\$15 for the course. No credit cards.

\*A storytelling concert is when one or more featured tellers perform stories for a live audience. The stage can be large or small.

## News from Coastal Bend District

Bring Your Christian Journey into Focus and Watch the Bible Come Alive

We are thrilled to invite you to join us on an exclusive journey to Israel to take place **October 10-19, 2015 (10 days)**. This pilgrimage to the Holy City, arranged by travel experts at Christian Tours of America, is sure to be a life-changing experience for every participant. By experiencing the sights, smells, and sounds of Israel, you will be humbled by Christ's loving and sacrificial journey toward the cross, and you will understand more deeply the unshakeable faith of His followers. You will be challenged to dig deeper into God's Word and to walk boldly in your own faith. This journey is one of education, inspiration, and encouragement for all ages.

Touring important sites such as the City of David and the Temple Mount will open your heart and mind to the enormity of God's faithfulness and love. This exclusive journey is an opportunity every Christian should experience!

Our tour to Israel is being coordinated by **Christian Tours of America**. This is all-inclusive, per person Double occupancy tour price of **\$3,683.00** for 10 days.



The price includes:

- Roundtrip transportation from Austin (excluding luggage fees)
- Secure, quality hotel accommodations
- Elaborate breakfast and dinner buffets
- Entry fees into each of the sites
- Sightseeing with professional, licensed guides
- 24-hour on-call company representatives at the hotel
- Comprehensive medical and accident insurance

**Space is limited! To register for the trip or request an information packet: email Eradio Valverde, our District Superintendent, at [eradio@coastalbendumc.org](mailto:eradio@coastalbendumc.org) or call 361-852-8268. The registration fee is \$200.00 and is due by February 15, 2105, or you can register online at [www.christiantoursofamerica.com](http://www.christiantoursofamerica.com).**

## Upcoming Training for Ministry Areas

Are you involved in a ministry area in our church, for example, SPRC, Trustees, Finance, Treasurer, or other ministries of our church? Please take advantage of one of these workshops for a training opportunity!



### *Ministry Workshop 2015*

*Tools and Training for the  
Ministries of the Church*

Sponsored by the Ministry Team of the  
Coastal Bend District, United Methodist Church

*Two Dates and Places to Choose from in February:*

<i>Saturday February 7, 2015</i>	<i>Saturday February 21, 2015</i>
<b>Grace United Methodist</b>	<b>Port Lavaca FUMC</b>
<i>14521 Northwest Blvd., Corpus Christi</i>	<i>814 N. San Antonio, Port Lavaca</i>
<i>8:45a.m to 12:30 p.m</i>	<i>8:45a.m to 12:30 p.m</i>

***Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend!!!***

*These workshops are for **EVERYONE!***

*Gain Tools for doing Ministry in and outside the Church  
Plus Training in the Specific areas of Pastor Parish/Staff  
Parish, Trustees, Finance, Treasurers, and Leadership*

## 2014 Financial Year-End Update

The Finance Committee would like to thank everyone for helping to meet the financial needs of the church. Your response allowed us to meet all of our financial obligations this year without having to use our reserves. Please help make 2015 a year where our finances turn the corner and put the church onto the path of a vital and growing mission for Jesus Christ.

	<u>2014 Year End</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Family and Individual Giving	\$ 159,739
Other Income	<u>\$ 11,579</u>
Total Income	<b>\$ 171,318</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Apportionments	\$ 22,187
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 95,854
Church Operating Expense	\$ 42,557
Program Expense	\$ 1,286
Capital Expenses	<u>\$ 5,644</u>
Total Expense	<b>\$ 167,528</b>
Net Income	<b>\$ 3,790</b>

## Church Calendar for February



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| <p>1 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany – Communion Sunday<br/>Scriptures: Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111,<br/>1 Corinthians 8:1-13, <b>Mark 1:21-28</b><br/>Sunday School 9:00 AM, Worship 10:00 AM</p> <p>3 LEGO Club, 4:00 PM, Weimer Hall</p> <p>4 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM</p> <p>5 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM</p> <p>7 Ministry Workshop, 8:45 AM-12:30 PM, Grace United<br/>Methodist, 14521 Northwest Blvd, Corpus Christi</p> <p>8 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Scriptures: Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 147:1-11, 20c,<br/>1 Corinthians 9:16-23, <b>Mark 1:29-39</b><br/>Men's Breakfast at First Baptist Church, 7:30 AM<br/>Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM<br/>Fellowship Luncheon after Worship</p> <p>10 Finance Committee in Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM<br/>Administrative Council in Weimer Hall, 7:00 PM</p> <p>11 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM</p> <p>12 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM</p> <p>13 Crossroads Emmaus Gathering, First Assembly of God in<br/>Bloomington, Men's team commissioning, 6:30 PM</p> <p>14 VALENTINE'S DAY<br/>Harmonie Club Valentine's Parade and Dance<br/>Palacios Youth Support BBQ, KC Hall, 2:00 PM</p> | <p>15 Last Sunday after the Epiphany—Transfiguration Sunday<br/>Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6,<br/>2 Corinthians 4:3-6, <b>Mark 9:2-9</b><br/>Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM<br/>Youth Fellowship in Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM</p> <p>16 PRESIDENT'S DAY</p> <p>18 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Ash Wednesday Worship Service, 6:30 PM<br/>Scriptures: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Psalm 51:1-17,<br/>2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</p> <p>19 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM<br/>United Methodist Women in Weimer Hall, 12:00 Noon<br/>Men's Walk to Emmaus Walk 1779 Begins at Spiritual<br/>Renewal Center<br/>Chamber of Commerce Banquet 6:00 PM<br/>East Side PTO Stuffed Baked Potato Fundraiser, 5:00 PM</p> <p>21 Ministry Workshop, 8:45 AM-12:30 PM, Port Lavaca United<br/>Methodist</p> <p>22 First Sunday in Lent—Josh Harper, preaching<br/>Scriptures: Genesis 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10,<br/>1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15<br/>Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM</p> <p>22-24 Pastor David at Bishop's Convocation at Mt. Wesley</p> <p>25 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM<br/>Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM</p> <p>26 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM<br/>Palacios Lion's Club Hamburger Fundraiser for Boys &amp; Girls<br/>Club of Palacios, pickup at East Side 4-6 PM, tickets<br/>\$7/plate, presale only from any child in Boys and Girls Club<br/>or contact Carolyn Kubecka</p> |
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### Dates on the horizon to remember:

- March 8—Men's Breakfast at First Presbyterian Church, 7:30 AM
- March 8—Daylight Savings Time begins—spring forward!
- March 9-13—PISD Spring Break
- March 16—Alpha Club Spring Party in Weimer Hall
- March 20—Crossroads Emmaus Gathering at Palacios UMC
- March 29—Passion/Palm Sunday

## Celebrations in February

### Birthdays:

1—Lisa Kubecka Calhoun, 2—Taylor Turner, Nancy Howard, 4—Douglas  
Kubecka, 6—Leala Kahlich, 15—Annette Stonedale, 18—Lisa Moore,  
26—James Hebel



**FUMC PALACIOS**

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We're on the Web!

*Visit us at:*

**www.fumcpalacios.org**

## Joys and Concerns

We welcome our newest members:

- Joni Brown comes to us by transfer from Parkway Baptist Church in Victoria
- Samantha and Alex Garcia, III have joined by profession of faith and baptism. And their two children, Alex Garcia, IV and his sister, Aaron Garcia, were baptized into Christ's family and this church.

Be sure to welcome these new folks into our church family!

## Assisting with Worship in February

Liturgist—Ken Johnson

Greeters—Shelly Johs and Leland Singer

Ushers—Zachary and Kyle Seaman

## Newsletter Articles for March

If you have an article or announcement for the March newsletter, please get the information to Janie Gulley **by February 25**: 972-3185 or [janiegulley@hotmail.com](mailto:janiegulley@hotmail.com).

PALACIOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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ADDRESS