

Church Chat

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Announcements	2
Financial Update	4
Questions and Answers about SCI	6
Calendar	7

Email:
palaciosumc@nwcable.net
Prayer Request Email:
prayerrequests@fumcpalacios.org

Church: 361-972-3013

Pastor's Cell: 361-655-1497

Parsonage: 361-971-6005

Website:
www.fumcpalacios.org

From the Pastor's Desk

During the month of July, I will be taking a Renewal Leave. This was first brought to me last year by Leland Singer, chair of our Staff-Parish Relations Committee, after he had attended a training by our District Superintendent, Rev. Eradio Valverde. During that training, Eradio had explained the stress on pastors of being on call 24/7.365 and the high degree of burnout among pastors.

Fortunately, our denomination and annual conference recognize this and have recommended that, in addition to the pastor's annual vacation time, he/she be encouraged to take a one-month Renewal Leave once every four years. I'll be on Renewal Leave following worship on Sunday, July 3 and will be back in the office on Monday, August 1.

During the time I am on leave, you will have Barney and Janie Gulley, Erwin Janszen, Matt Graff, and other leaders in this church running things. If there is a pastoral emergency, they have the phone numbers of Palacios and area pastors who have agreed to respond in my place. Several of our lay speakers will fill the pulpit and lead worship each Sunday. They will also handle the day-to-day operations of the church and responding to phone calls and emails regarding the church.

We are very blessed to have such a group of people dedicated to this church and I am so blessed to have a church that is so supportive of my mental, emotional, & spiritual health to allow me this time to "unplug".

During the month of July, I would like for you to spend time each day reading through the Book of Acts. I'd like us to see what it looks like when ordinary men and women dedicate themselves to the Jesus we met in reading the Gospel of Luke in June. Here is the picture of a mission-minded church. Perhaps this is the people and church God is calling us to be.

I am so thankful and proud to be your pastor,

David

Youth News

Youth Sunday School—Taking the summer off...have a great summer!

Announcements

Chancel Choir—practices at 8:45 am each Sunday in the Sanctuary during the summer months.

Adult Sunday School—Reading and discussing the C.S. Lewis book, "The Screwtape Letters." Matt Graff is leading the discussion. Copies of the book are available in the class for \$8.50. They meet in the Parlor at 9:00 AM each Sunday.

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.

Halcy and Perry Dean—As many of you may already know, Halcy and Perry Dean are moving to Seguin. Halcy has already begun her new job there as Director of Special Education for Seguin ISD. Perry is going to be the new Choir Director at Barnes Middle School in Seguin. We will say "Farewell" to Halcy and Perry on Sunday, August 3.

Honoring Teachers—During our worship service on August 14 we will take some time to ask God's blessings on our **Teachers and Administrators** at the beginning of the school year.

Honoring Students—During our worship service on August 21 we will take some time to as God's blessings on our **Students and Parents** at the beginning of the school year.

Special Day—On Sunday July 31, we will have Kristi Michaelis from the **Methodist Home in Waco** as our guest preacher. Kristi will be sharing stories of the good that is done for children and youth at the Methodist Home. And let us know how our **Noisy Offerings** are making a difference in the lives of these young people.

Job Opening – First UMC, Port Lavaca is seeking a part-time Director of Christian Education. To apply or for more info, contact: Rev. Kelli Williamson, Senior Pastor of First UMC, pastorkelliw@gmail.com .

This year, we've worked hard to make the transition to life in Germany and, on the whole, we've enjoyed our time here.

However, it became clear during this year that the specific jobs which brought us here were not as good a fit for our family as we had hoped. And sometimes, it's important to know when to recognize that, and make changes to address it. Based on this, we and our managers within Wycliffe USA have decided to move our family back to the US, temporarily, and begin the process of finding another opportunity within Wycliffe for us to continue to serve, one which will better allow our family to thrive and grow.

Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis

The next Crossroads Walk is a **Women's walk 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 **July 15 at FUMC Louise** for potluck dinner starting at **6:30** with worship following. If you'd like to carpool, contact the Gulleys.

Wesley Nurse News

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



Diaper Pantry—Tuesdays 1-4 PM

- Thursday, July 14, 9 AM-12 PM, Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Screening, HUB
- Thursday, July 28, 9 AM-12 PM, Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Screening, HUB

If you know someone with Diabetes that has no insurance and needs help with supplies, send them to me.

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

I need **diapers sizes 3, 4, and 5**.

Thank you,

--Leslie Machicek, Wesley Nurse

Peacocks Mission

We will return to the US during the first part of July. We are still sorting out the details, but here's what we know for now: our relationship as members and employees of Wycliffe Bible Translators USA is not changing; we will most likely remain in the US for at least the next year; and Dale will be looking for a role which continues to allow him to serve using photography or related skills.

Upon our return, we will initially be in Houston, Texas, as we work hand-in-hand with Wycliffe USA to sort out our next steps. We will continue to keep you informed as things develop, but we felt it was important to let you know as soon as we could about these exciting new changes in our lives.

-- Dale and Miranda

Missions Corner

'Jesus called his disciples to him and said, " I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way. " ' Matthew 15:32

- **May's Noisy Offering** of \$200 was sent to the Methodist Children's Home in Waco. On the last Sunday of July, a fifth Sunday, a representative from the home will give a presentation to our congregation. On that day, we will have an opportunity to give a financial gift to them through our *Noisy Offering*.
- **June's Rail Offering** of \$202 was sent to "Water for Life", our World Advance Mission Project. These contributions will support the installation of water wells in African villages having inadequate water supplies.
- **Macaroni & Cheese Success** As of June 23rd, our church donated 547 boxes of Macaroni and Cheese to the Robert Duran Food Pantry for the three month period of April-June. Our goal was 180 a month, 540 boxes total April, May, and June. We did that and more! What an outpouring of love.
- **Rice is Nice!** For **July, August and September**, we will be collecting rice for the Food Pantry. By the end of September, the Pantry would like to put either a 1# or 2# bag of rice in each of their 360 boxes. So, our goal for each month is 120 bags of rice, either 1 or 2 pound. They want regular rice, not Minute Rice or other quick cooking brands. This is quite a challenge as rice is pricier than macaroni and cheese, but let's see if we can do it. Just place your donations in the cardboard box in the Narthex.
- **Mission by the Sea** was here in June. Many thanks go to our church for supporting them in so many ways. Members invited them into their homes to do meaningful work and showed them great Palacios hospitality. Other members donated shrimp and salads for the adult's shrimp boil that was held in Weimer Hall. Several members donated money to offset materials expenses and others donated to our church or the Food Pantry in the name of the youth. Bill Miller, yet again, hauled brush away from 6 different sites this year, a new record. Some members even supervised jobs of other Palacios citizens. The 62 youth and 28 adults worked at 28 different sites doing a variety of jobs. They learned a lot, had a wonderful time, saw God at work and even want to come back next year for the 10th Anniversary of *Mission by the Sea*.
- **July's Rail Offering** will go toward our commitment to the Peacock Family as they continue in their mission with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Germany!
- **August's Rail Offering** will be dedicated to the purchase of school supplies for students here in Palacios I.S. D.
- The **next Missions Work Team meeting** will be on Monday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m. All who are interested are invited to attend.

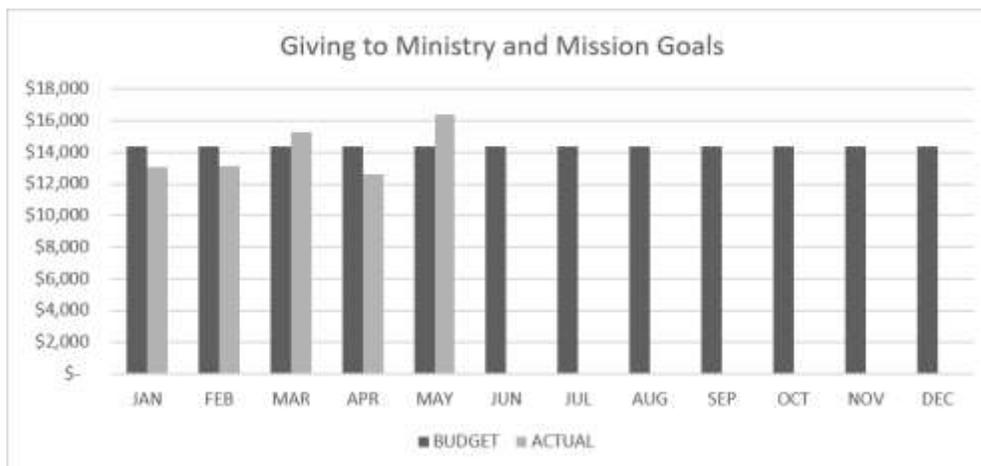
Read the Book of Acts in the Month of July

Spend the month of July reading about ordinary men and women who dedicate themselves to the Jesus we met in reading the Gospel of Luke in June. They put faith into action, becoming a mission-minded church!

Wednesday, June 29-- Acts 1	Monday, July 11 – Acts 9:32-10:48	Monday, July 25 – Acts 20:1-21-21:14
Thursday, June 30– Acts 2:1-41	Tuesday, July 12 – Acts 11	Tuesday, July 26 – Acts 21:15-22:30
Friday, July 1– Acts 2:42-3:26	Wednesday, July 13 – Acts 12	Wednesday, July 27 – Acts 23-24
	Thursday, July 14 – Acts 13	Thursday, July 28 – Acts 25-26
Monday, July 4 – Acts 4:1-31	Friday, July 15 – Acts 14	Friday, July 29 – Acts 27-28
Tuesday, July 5 – Acts 4:32-5:42		
Wednesday, July 6 – Acts 6	Monday, July 18 – Acts 15	
Thursday, July 7 – Acts 7:1-8:3	Tuesday, July 19 – Acts 16	
Friday, July 8 – Acts 9:1-31	Wednesday, July 20 – Acts 17	
	Thursday, July 21 – Acts 18	
	Friday, July 22 – Acts 19	

Finance Committee Update

The Finance Committee is please to present the church's finances as of **May 31**. The contributions in May allowed us to make a June payment towards our Apportionment commitment. We ask that you keep the church's needs in your prayers and your personal budget planning, in order to help us catch up and get current. This will help us avoid a year end plea.



2016		May	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET
INCOME				
	Offerings and Memorials	\$ 15,382	\$ 65,796	\$ 65,250
	Missional Giving	\$ 375	\$ 1,681	---
	Rent	\$ 650	\$ 3,250	\$ 3,250
	Oil well	\$ ---	\$ 425	\$ 833
	Other	\$ ---	\$ 189	\$ 13
	TOTAL	\$ 16,407	\$ 71,341	\$ 69,346
EXPENSES				
	Apportionments	\$ ---	\$ 765	\$ 8,167
	Pastor Salary	\$ 5,359	\$ 26,821	\$ 27,323
	Staff Salary	\$ 2,615	\$ 13,589	\$ 13,213
	Operating Expenses	\$ 3,552	\$ 17,435	\$ 17,667
	Program Expenses	\$ 339	\$ 169	\$ 792
	Mission	\$ 400	\$ 1,991	\$ -
	Capital Expenses	\$ 387	\$ 4,673	\$ 3,417
	TOTAL	\$ 12,652	\$ 65,443	\$ 70,578
BALANCE		\$ 3,755	\$ 5,898	\$ -

2016 Administrative Council

The 2016 Administrative Council consists of the following persons:

- 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, July 13**, at 7:00 PM in Weimer Hall.

United Methodist Women Donate School Kits

On Thursday, June 16, the UMW gathered and put together 20 School Kits for UMCOR. Becky Johnson made the bags, others donated the supplies, and Thelma Holloway delivered them to Port Lavaca where they will be sent along to UMCOR.



Study the Beatitudes

Jesus gave us the **Beatitudes** in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:3-11. All are welcome to join the Children's Sunday School class as we explore the meaning the Beatitudes this summer.

Chrismons are Here!

The Chrismons are in! We are meeting on **Wednesday evenings at 6 PM** in the Children's classroom to work on them. If you would like to pick up a kit and work on them on your own, please come by.

Coastal Bend District News

Basic and Advanced Lay Servant Training September 22-23, 2016

Friday evening & Sat. at Kingsville FUMC
Cost: \$25.00 includes book and Meal on Sat.

Registration required



Overnight Spiritual Retreat at the Sea Mustang Island Conference Center

October 21-22, 2016

Cost: \$115* per person *(2 people to a room)
Or \$155 single occupancy

Includes room, wonderful meals, snacks,
and retreat materials

Registration required

Questions and Answers about SCI

We will be having a second Town Hall Question and Answer session about the Small Church Initiative on **Sunday, June 26** after church. All are welcome to stay and ask questions. Here are some of the questions we've had so far and the answers:

What is the Small Church Initiative and why are we participating?

The Small Church Initiative is a program offered by the Rio Texas Conference to help churches examine their ministry, and to establish a vision and a strategy to carry the church into the future. Our church decided to undertake the initiative in order to assist us in creating a vision for the next three to five years.

Why do we need someone from the outside to tell us what to do?

The Administrative Council felt it would be helpful to have someone help us to take an honest and impartial look in the mirror to see who we are as a church; and begin to explore who we want to be and where we want to go. The Consultants are not here to tell us what to do or how to do it.

How much is this costing?

Our full cost for the self-study, and the following 18-month coaching session if we choose to continue, is **\$300.00**. This has already been paid.

Are they going to close our church?

NO! We are recognized in the conference as a healthy church. Our desire is to become an even better church that will reach out to the needs of the people in our community.

What has been done so far?

Members of the congregation have worked to review our church history, assess our financial condition, study the demographics of our community, and ask the congregation their thoughts on a number of issues important to the life of the church. We held a day long workshop where members of the congregation were interviewed and a group discussion was held about our perceptions and hopes for the church. In addition, this entire process has been undergirded by a Prayer Team that has been praying daily for the Small Church Initiative to transform the hearts of our members and welcome this initiative.

What did we learn?

Our learning was focused on four questions that were presented to us at the Workshop. Our church's response was:

What is the best thing about your church?

- Welcoming People
- Compassionate
- Generous
- History/Roots/Family
- Music
- Sunday Message
- Lay Leadership

What should our church look like in three years?

- 100 in worship
- Dynamic Youth Program
- Emphasis on Sunday School
- Mission
- Racially Diverse – Inclusive of other culture
- Younger Congregation

What needs to be changed?

- More fellowship opportunities
- More youth and children's opportunities
- Building issues – updated facilities
- Need for a spiritual renewal – Spiritual Growth
- Higher level of Bible study
- Less apathy

What are you expecting this weekend (from the workshop)?

- Catalyst for change
- Creative solutions – A way forward
- What resources are available to help us?

What happens next?

The consultants have recommended three areas for us to consider.

1. Create a new vision for our church and begin developing ways to build ourselves up as disciples of Jesus Christ. The consultants will not tell us what we have to do. It is for us to determine the best ways forward to achieve our goals as expressed by the members of a vital and active church in our community.
2. The Consultants affirmed our desire for more in-depth Bible Study and Spiritual Growth to deepen our Christian commitment.
3. They have recommended we adopt an alternative church administrative structure that will be easier for us to govern our church and keep us moving forward to meet our goals.

If we decide to move forward with the recommendations, we will have a coach assigned to us for 18 months to help guide our efforts and keep us focused. There are no additional costs to us for the coach commitment.



Church Calendar for July

- 3** Seventh Sunday after Pentecost—Communion Sunday
 Scriptures: Luke 10:1-12, 17-20
 Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School, 9:00 AM, Worship, 10:00 AM
 Celebrate the re-appointment of Pastor David during
 Worship
- 4** INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY—Church office closed
 Pastor David begins Renewal Leave through August 1
- 7** Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
 Texas AgriLife Extension, Weimer Hall, 1:00-3:30 PM
- 10** Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Janie Gulley preaching
 Scriptures: Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1:1-14;
 Luke 10:25-37
 Men's Breakfast in Weimer Hall, 7:30 AM
 Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM
 No Communion after Worship
- 14** Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
- 15** Crossroads Emmaus Gathering, Louise UMC, 6:30 PM
- 17** Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Erwin Janszen preaching
 Scriptures: Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52 or 82;
 Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42
 Sunday School 9:00 AM, Worship, 10:00 AM
 No Communion after Worship
- 21** Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
- 21-24** Women's Walk to Emmaus at Spiritual Renewal
 Center
- 24** Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Kyle Seaman preaching
 Scriptures: Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6-19;
 Luke 11:1-13
 Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School, 9:00 AM, Worship, 10:00 AM
 No Communion after Worship
- 28** Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
- 31** Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, Kristi Michaelis,
 preaching
 Scriptures: Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43;
 Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
 Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School, 9:00 AM, Worship in Sanctuary, 10:00 AM
 Fifth Sunday Noise Offering for Methodist Home in Waco
 No Communion after Worship

Dates on the Horizon to Remember

- August 1—Pastor David back in the office
- August 6-7—St. Anthony's Catholic Church Shrimporee
- August 7—Communion Sunday-Communion Rail offering for Back to School supplies
- August 9—Texas AgriLife, Weimer Hall, Noon to 3:30
- August 9—Finance Committee and Administrative Council meetings
- August 14—Men's Breakfast at Trinity Baptist Church
- August 14—Blessing of the Teachers and Administrators during Worship
- August 14—Fellowship Luncheon after Worship
- August 19—Crossroads Emmaus Gather at FUMC Port Lavaca
- August 21—Blessing of Students and Parents during Worship
- August 27-38—Cannonball Run Youth Sailing Regatta

Celebrations in July

Birthdays:

3—Halcy Dean; 6—Kyle Seaman; 7—Becky Johnson; 8—Gary Hebel;
 10—Ch'a Lynn Neimeyer, Harrison Dean; 12—Melinda Law;
 16—Chris VandenBergh; 17—Simon King; 18—Bill Kubecka;
 20—Carolyn Johnson



FUMC PALACIOS

PO Box 947
Corner of Third and Lucas
Palacios, TX 77465

Phone:
(361) 972-3013

E-Mail:
palaciosumc@nwcable.net

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.fumcpalacios.org

Joy in the Choir Loft!

Pentecost Sunday the Children's Sermon celebrated the birthday of the Christian church. Our Choir members joined in the fun!



Assisting with Worship in July

Liturgist—Barney Gulley

Greeters—_____ and _____

Ushers—Zach Seaman and Kyle Seaman

Can you help out in July by being a **Greeter**, 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 to update our distribution lists.

Newsletter Articles for August

If you have an article or announcement for the August newsletter, please get the information to Janie Gulley **by July 28** at 972-3185 or janiegulley@hotmail.com.

PALACIOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PO Box 947
Palacios, TX 77465



ADDRESS