

June 2014

Church Chat

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From the Pastor's Desk

A few weeks ago our son Simon called and said, "Dad I just sliced my finger open with a knife and it's bleeding bad. What do I do?" I told him to put pressure on it to stop the bleeding and get to the ER.

Just yesterday I was informed that in the last nine months alone Palacios UMC has been bleeding financially, on average \$1,534 per month. So I'm doing what I told Simon to do...put some pressure on it. And by putting pressure on it, I mean, put pressure on you, our church members and friends, to help stop the bleeding.

Your Finance Committee has made all the cuts it can to keep our worship, Sunday School, and ministries intact. But if the bleeding does not stop the next thing we will have to cut is our staff.

So what would our worship be like if we did not have Perry Dean as our choir and hand bell choir director? How would our music sound if we did not have Mignon to play the piano for us? Who among you would be willing to volunteer to be a nursery attendant if we let our attendants, Karleigh and Elena, go? Or how many of you would volunteer to clean the church each week if we let Linda Contreras go? And there's also the option of replacing me with a part-time local or retired pastor.

I've been in churches who only looked at what expenses they could cut. And as they cut their expenses they continued to shrink in worship attendance and ministry effectiveness for their members and their community. They were unwilling to risk making some people mad by asking anyone to increase their giving.

I'm not asking any one person to prayerfully consider increasing their giving. I'm asking **all of us** to prayerfully consider increasing our giving. This is our church and if we want to keep it, it is up to us to do what it takes to keep it and to make it the kind of church we believe God is proud of.

I believe God has a lot to be proud of in this church. On Easter Sunday, we confirmed eight young people in the Christian faith. Last month, we presented our graduating senior, Bryson Huitt, with a Bible and a \$500 scholarship. How many other churches do that? The current pastor of Travis Park UMC in downtown San Antonio, Rev. Monte Marshall, received his call to ministry while sitting on the front pew of our church during a youth event hosted here several years ago.

Members and friends, you and I are the only source of financial support for this church and God is our partner. Prayerfully ask God what you should do. How can you support what God is doing and wants to do in and through this church. No one family, no one individual, will stop the bleeding. But all of us together, each doing their part and just a little more, can stop the bleeding and help make this church grow into what God is calling us to be.

I am so pleased and proud to be
your pastor,

David

Wesley Nurse News



The Palacios HUB will be offering **free yoga classes** during the lunch hour. Fridays will be for beginners and Wednesdays will be for intermediate level. Please come join us!

- June 11—Lunch and Learn, “Men’s Health”, Palacios HUB, 12 pm
- June 25—Lunch and Learn, “Women’s Health”, Palacios HUB, 12 pm

I am in need of **diapers** for babies and adults to start the diaper pantry. I will be in the office on Wednesdays, so please drop them off then. Children’s diapers sizes 3 and 4 are the greatest need.

During the summer months, I will only be in Palacios on Wednesdays 10am-2pm. If you need to see me at a different time, please call me at 361-987-2071 to make an appointment or email me at lmachicek@mhm.org.

Save the following dates:

-Leslie Machicek, Wesley Nurse

Church Calendar for June



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 - 7th Sunday of Easter, Ascension Sunday, Communion Sunday
- Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1:15-23, Luke 24:44-53</p> <p>4 - Pastor David in Victoria</p> <p>5 - Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 9:30 am</p>
<p>8 - Pentecost Sunday
- Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13, John 7:37-39
- Men’s Breakfast at First Baptist, 7:30 am
- Choir practice in Sanctuary, 9:15 am
- Fellowship Luncheon in Weimer Hall, 11:15 am</p> <p>8-12 - Mission by the Sea youth here</p> <p>9 - Finance Committee, 6 pm, Weimer Hall*
- Administrative Council, 7 pm, Weimer Hall*</p> <p>10 - Dinner for Mission by the Sea Adult Volunteers, Weimer Hall, 6:30 pm</p> <p>12 - Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 9:30 am</p> <p>12-16 - Pastor David at Annual Conference in Corpus Christi</p> | <p>15 - 1st Sunday after Pentecost, Halcy Dean preaching, Father’s Day
- Genesis 1:1-2, 4a, Psalm 8, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13, Matthew 28:16-20
- Choir practice in Sanctuary, 9:15 am</p> <p>19 - Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 9:30 am</p> <p>20 - Crossroads Emmaus Gathering Danevang Lutheran, 6:30 pm</p> <p>22 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost
- Genesis 21:8-21, Psalm 86:1-10, Romans 6:1b-11, Matthew 10:24-39
- Choir practice in Sanctuary, 9:15 am</p> <p>23-29 - Pastor David on vacation</p> <p>26 - Ladies Bible Study in Weimer Hall, 9:30 am</p>
<p>29 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost, Janie Guley preaching
- Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 13, Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 10:40-42
- Choir practice in Sanctuary, 9:15 am
- Noisy Offering Sunday</p> |
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*The **Finance Committee** and **Administrative Council** will meet on **Monday, June 9**, at their regular times so that we can host a dinner for the Mission by the Sea volunteers in Weimer Hall on Tuesday the 10th.

Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis

Crossroads Emmaus is hosting a Women's walk July 24-27 at the Spiritual Renewal Center outside of Victoria. Prayerfully consider attending this uplifting and spiritually energizing weekend.

In addition, Chrysalis, the Walk to Emmaus program for youth will have a girl's weekend July 14-16 at Cathedral Oaks, and a boy's weekend August 7-9 at Cathedral Oaks. If you are in 9th-12th grade, contact Pastor David for information on attending.

Crossroads Emmaus gathers for a potluck supper and worship at area churches every

month. If you are interested in Emmaus or Chrysalis, have been on a Walk to Emmaus or Chrysalis, or just want to enjoy some wonderful food and exciting worship, please contact Janie or Barney Gulley at janiegulley@hotmail.com.

The next monthly gathering will be at the **Danevang Lutheran Church** on **June 20** starting at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in learning about Emmaus, this is a good way to get started. If you want to carpool, contact the Gulley's.



United Methodist Women Summer Schedule

Although the United Methodist Women will not be meeting over the summer, please be on the lookout for an announcement of a **special event in July**.

And don't forget the UMW-sponsored library in the Parlor. There are lots of different types of books, from Bible resources to daily devotions to spiritual growth. Please take advantage of having

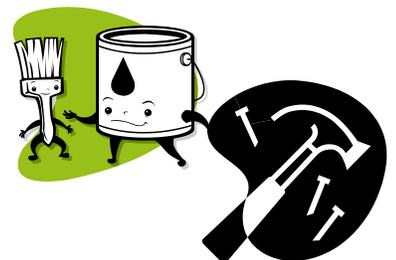
these books available, and help yourself. When you're finished with a book, just return it and choose another.



Bethany Middle School Mission by the Sea

The Bethany U.M.C. Middle-School Youth from Austin, along with their adult chaperones, will be here the week of June 8-12.

They will be doing jobs around town, so let's make them feel welcome!



Father's Day is June 15

In celebration of Father's Day, we take time to honor God's gift we call "Dad". Whether you are a dad, stepdad, granddad, adoptive dad, foster dad, uncle, or caregiver, we thank you for your willingness to give of yourselves to shape a child's life. And for those of us whose Dads are in Heaven watching over us, we say a special prayer of thanks for the blessings we received.

What Makes a Dad?

God took the strength of a mountain,
 The majesty of a tree,
 The warmth of a summer sun,
 The calm of a quiet sea,
 The generous soul of nature,
 The comforting arm of night,
 The wisdom of the ages,
 The power of the eagle's flight,
 The joy of a morning in spring,
 The faith of a mustard seed,
 The patience of eternity,
 The depth of a family need,
 Then God combined these qualities,
 When there was nothing more to add,
 He knew His masterpiece was complete,
 And so, He called it...Dad.

--Author Unknown

Fathers everywhere,
 We honor you and wish to say
 May God's blessings be with you
 In a special way today!

God our Father,

In your wisdom and love you made all things.

Bless those fathers, who have taken upon themselves the responsibility of parenting.
 Bless those who have lost a spouse to death...or divorce who are parenting their children alone.
 Strengthen them by your love that they may become the loving, caring persons they are meant to be.
 Grant this through Christ our Lord,
 Amen.

God our Father

Bless these men,

That they may find strength as fathers.
 Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
 Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
 may honor them always
 with a spirit of profound respect.

Amen



Fellowship Luncheon June 8

June means summer vacation, hot weather, Father's Day and **church luncheon!** Let's celebrate on Sunday, June 8th in the Fellowship Hall. Lots of good friends and good food.

If you will bring a meat/main dish, please contact Mary Jo Neeley.



UMC Market is Changing!

UMC Market is the online shopping resource that pays money back to our church when you shop online at one of a large selection of retailers. If you use UMC Market for your online shopping, you may have noticed a few changes lately.

As you may have recently heard, the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) announced that the UMCmarket shopping/donation program has moved to **UMCmarket.net**. Any churches that previously signed up for the program will be automatically enrolled at the new address. Even if you enter UMCmarket.org in your browser, you will automatically be redirected to UMCmarket.net. There's nothing new for you to do.

The new site, www.UMCmarket.net, offers enhanced features for users including:

- New browser applications with improved functionality that works with all browsers.
- Automatic handling of Amazon orders. No more manual verification.
- Improved customer service with faster response time.

A new team and marketing staff that will help educate churches on how to benefit from the program. We apologize for the inconvenience and confusion this change may cause. However, working with our trusted service provider Zebraplace, we are confident that donations made through the old web address, UMCmarket.org, have reached or will reach their intended United Methodist church or organization. We believe this change to UMCmarket.net will better meet the needs of our constituents and we thank the people of The United Methodist Church for their continued support of innovative donation opportunities that enable ministry in their local churches.

So far, we have raised almost **\$300** for Palacios UMC simply by using the UMC Market website for our online shopping! It is easy to use, and over 1000 retailers will donate a percentage of your purchase back to our church! If you have any questions about how to use UMC Market, please contact Janie Gulley or Pastor David.



Youth News

The Youth Fellowship group is taking a break for the summer. They will resume in September.

However, the **Youth Sunday School Class continues** through the summer. The class meets in Weimer Hall at 9:00 am. All youth in middle or high school are invited and welcome to come. The class is led by Barney Gulley and Pastor David.

Summer Camp for Kids

Summer camp opportunities at Mount Wesley in Kerrville all have the theme:

Be a Hero, Live Like Jesus.

For more information and registration go to:
www.umcswtx.org/summer-camps

- 3rd-4th Grade -- July 6-9
- 4th/5th/6th Grade -- Music, Art & Drama Camp -- July 23-26
- Preteen 5th & 6th Grade -- August 3-7



June 29 is Noisy Offering Sunday!

Sunday, June 29 is Noisy Offering Sunday. Bring your loose change for the kids to collect during the Noisy Offering. Our children take up this offering that goes to support the great work done for children and youth at the Methodist Home in Waco.



Answering Your Questions about Apportionments

One of the issues that come up time and again in the church is the issue of paying apportionments. What are we paying for? How are they determined? Over the next several months, we'll feature in the newsletter what the apportionments go to so you can see what good we, as Methodists, are doing with the apportionment dollars we send in.

First, how are apportionments figured? The formula used by our Annual Conference looks like this:

$$\frac{2 \text{ Years Local Church Operating Expenses}}{2 \text{ Years All Conference Churches Operating Expenses}} \times \text{Total Apportioned to All Churches}$$

In the United Methodist Church, apportionments are our share of the cost of being the United Methodist Church in ministry around the world today.

One of the items on our apportionments is for **Ministerial Support**. The goal is to supply effective spiritual and administrative leadership to the local churches and the world.

- **Twelve and a half cents** of every apportioned dollar is allocated to District Superintendent and Other Clergy Support.
- The **District Superintendent** is our **Chief Mission Strategist**. In our local churches, approximately half of our local giving pays for salaries and benefits of the pastors and lay employees of the church. Salaries are not overhead to the church, but certainly are the way we do ministry.
- Local church salaries are made much more effective by the money given to this apportioned item. The Bishop and Cabinet work closely with churches to ensure they have the best clergy leadership possible, and to intervene when necessary to solve problems that could otherwise become destructive.
- Whenever a need arises in the local church, the District Superintendent and Bishop provide **guidance and leadership**. For example, if a pastor becomes disabled and is unable to provide leadership, or if the church is hurting for their pastor, the District Superintendent and Bishop arrange for the pastor to access disability benefits and provides temporary pastoral leadership in the short-term. Thus, healing beings.
- The seven districts of the Annual Conference are diverse geographically, sometimes blanketing many miles. District Superintendents **travel their areas** relentlessly, providing leadership and guidance to build effective and vital churches.
- **Moving Expenses**: Each year an average of one third of our pastors move from one church to another, and the cost of moving is provided through the **Moving Fund** supported by this apportionment.
- Some churches become temporarily unable to pay their pastor and may need assistance for a 2-3 year period before becoming self-supporting again. The **Equitable Compensation Funds** supplied through this apportionment subsidizes the ministry in their church while it's moving toward self-sufficiency.
- Of the \$1,442,885 our Annual Conference is budgeting to spend on Ministerial Support, the share paid by **Palacios UMC** is **\$2,451.00**.

In the coming months, we will look at Administration, Pensions and Benefits, General and Jurisdictional Conference Support, and Conference Benevolences.

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Assisting With Worship in June

Those assisting with worship in June are:

Liturgist: Maxine Kubecka

Ushers: Lucille Remlinger and _____ (need a volunteer)

Greeters: Shelly Johs and _____ (need a volunteer)

June Celebrations

Birthdays in June: 4—Teresa Blackwell, 5—Ken Johnson, 6—Gertrude Thompson, 11—Katie Kubecka Gilbert, 13—CJ Griffith, 14—Neva Taylor, 15—Gene Allen, Patty Frankson, Kelly Frankson Wiatrek, 19—Dennis Schuetz, 20—Donatin Nelson, 21—Martha Law, 22—Jed Harper, Chris Harvey, 26—Dawna Frankson, McKenlie Frankson, 27—Beulah Sparks

Did we miss a birthday or anniversary? Contact Janie Gulley at 361-972-3185 or janiegulley@hotmail.com to be sure it gets on the calendar!

Prayers and Praise

We extend our sympathies and prayers for the family of **Joe Ray Beard**, who went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on April 29, 2014. Services were held on May 2 here at First United Methodist in Palacios. Joe Ray was the husband of Imogene Beard and the brother of Thelma Holloway.

Our sympathies go out to Imogene Beard at the death of her husband Joe Ray and her sister, Raeceil Neely in North Dakota.

We also extend our sympathies to Alton Nelson at the death of his brother, Gilbert in May.

Announcements

We welcome **Mary Bari** as a new member. Mary joins us by transfer of her membership from St. Mark's UMC in San Antonio.

We also welcome **Bailey Elizabeth Kubecka** into God's family by baptism. And we welcome Bailey's mom, **Kristen Kubecka** who joins us by transfer of her membership from First Baptist Church of Palacios.

Help Wanted: We need someone who can work with Martha Law to learn the Treasurer's job. Experience with computers and QuickBooks is a plus. The Treasurer keeps the church's checkbook, pays the bills and payroll, and produces reports for the Finance Committee and Administrative Council. If interested, please contact Pastor David.

Newsletter Articles

If you have any suggestions for information you would like to see in the newsletter, or notices or articles you want to submit for the July edition, please contact Janie Gulley at 361-972-3185 or janiegulley@hotmail.com.