

Church Chat

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Wesley Nurse | 2 |
| UMW | 2 |
| Children's Ministry | 2 |
| Announcements | 3 |
| Calendar | 5 |
| Joys/Concerns | 6 |

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From the Pastor's Desk

Apportionments...probably one of the most disliked words in all of the Methodist Church. People complain that we have to pay them and people complain that they are so high. People complain that we don't get back much for what we pay in.

Now let me ask you this, how many of you are or have been members of some kind of organization? Pretty much every organization I know of expected each member had to pay their dues. It's the same if you are in Lions, Rotary, 4H, FFA, etc. Even in Alcoholics Anonymous the people bring a contribution to the weekly meeting and a portion of what is collected goes to support the larger organization.

Our apportionments are what we pay to bear the United Methodist name, to be a part of the United Methodist Church, and to have the support and organization of the United Methodist leadership. We are not an independent church, out here all on our own.

Over the past several editions of the newsletter, I've tried to include information about what all good our apportionment dollars do. Some of the good is done in our area and some is done around the world.

Our dollars are united with the dollars of every other United Methodist Church to do more good together than we could each doing our own thing.

In January, Palacios UMC began sending one tenth of our offering to go toward our apportionments. But by July it became apparent that offerings were falling far enough off that the Finance Committee decided to suspend our payments to the apportionments until the finances improved.

Thanks to the efforts of the Finance Committee and the presentations by Jimmy Neeley, Barney Guley, Ken Johnson, and Erwin Janszen, the church offerings have improved to the point that we can once again pay our fair share as United Methodists. I'm very thankful for each of you who have made a commitment to increase your giving. The prospects for the new year look good. But we still are behind in paying for 2014 by about \$10,000.

If you would like to help us do our fair share, please note on your check "Apportionments" and that amount will be added to what the church pays.

I am so pleased and proud to be your pastor,
David

Samaritan's Closet Sponsored by Wesley Nurse

Samaritan's Closet is a new mission sponsored by Leslie Machicek, our Wesley Nurse. Every month, we will be collecting different items to benefit the needy in OUR community. Bring them by the church office to stock the closet!

November—Blankets

December—Coats

January—Toiletries (Shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste)

February—Toilet paper and feminine products

March—Laundry detergent

April—First aid supplies (Band aids, bandages, tape, and ice packs)

May—Sunscreen and bug spray

June—Adult Diapers

July—Hand Soap

August—Backpacks and school supplies

September—Infant Diapers

October—Socks

Wesley Nurse News

Important dates and information:

- November 4, Tuesday, Election Day blood pressure and blood sugar screen, 1-7 pm, HUB
- November 11, Tuesday, 12:00 noon—Cancer Support Group, HUB
- November 12, Wednesday, 12:00 noon—Diabetes Awareness Program, HUB
- The HUB offer **free yoga classes** during the lunch hour on Fridays and 4pm on Wednesdays



Diaper pantry will open on Tuesday, September the 23. I will be here on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 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—a mission to collect things for families in need that are hard to come by. Every month we will be collecting something different. For the month of **November** we are collecting **blankets**, however we are still in need of children's and youth size **socks**. You can drop them off at the HUB. For a complete list of items to collect, please stop by the office or see the article on the front page of the newsletter. Thank you all for helping with this mission, other churches will be helping too!

My new office hours for Palacios are **Tuesdays 9am-3pm and Wednesdays 9am-3pm**. 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. I will be out the week of Thanksgiving visiting my granddaughter. 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

United Methodist Women Holiday Bazaar and Chicken Spaghetti Dinner

It's November, so UMW will be hosting a holiday bazaar and their famous chicken spaghetti dinner on **Saturday, November 15**.

At the holiday bazaar, we expect to have baked goods you can freeze and use for your holiday gatherings, holiday decorations, and a few pieces of holiday clothing.

The bazaar will be open at 10:00 AM, with lunch being served from 11:00-2:00 PM.

Come join use for some holiday shopping and delicious chicken spaghetti!

All money raised is for missions supported by United Methodist Women.



Calling All Bakers and Crafty Folks

If you would like to help out with the **UMW Holiday Bazaar**, we will be selling hand-crafted items and baked goods. If you would like to **donate** a baked item to sell, or any hand-crafted item, please bring it to the church on **Friday, November 14** with a price on it. We thank you for your support!

Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis

The next Crossroads Emmaus walk is a **Men's Walk** scheduled for February 19-22, 2015 at the Spiritual Renewal Center. Barney Gulley is the Lay Director and Pastor David is the Spiritual Director. 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. If you have questions, please contact Pastor David or Barney Gulley



Crossroads Emmaus gathers for a potluck supper and worship at area churches every month. The next monthly gathering will be at **Salem Lutheran Church in Port Lavaca on November 21** starting at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in learning about Emmaus, this is a good way to get started, so come for great food, fellowship, and uplifting worship. Contact the Gulleys at 972-3185 if you wish to carpool.

Cookbooks for Sale— Support Children's Ministry

The Children's class still has **cookbooks** for sale for \$15.00. These are recipes submitted by our kids and by other members of the church and community. Great recipes to create wonderful dishes!

Come by the Children's class and buy a cookbook; they make great Christmas gifts!



Poinsettias and Christmas Cactus for Sale

You have an opportunity to order beautiful plants for holiday decorating, as well as help FUMC Palacios raise money. You can order the plants for your home or to place on the altar of our church. Make your purchase special by placing them in honor or memory of someone.

The deadline for ordering the plants is **November 6**. Plants bought for personal use may be picked up at the church on **December 6** between 8 am and Noon. Those purchased for the altar will be used in worship until December 21.

Poinsettias

- Poinsettias come in red, pink, or white
- 6" pots are \$20 each
- 8" pots are \$35 each

Christmas Cacti

- 6" pots are \$20 each
- 10" pots are \$45 each

For additional information, contact Annette Stonedale at 361-972-2884.



Advent/Christmas Decorating

We will decorate the church for the **Advent/Christmas** season after church on **November 23**. We will provide lunch for all the volunteers.



This is a special time in our church, preparing for and celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus. Come out and help us glorify God and decorate!



Youth News

The **Youth Sunday School Class** continues through the fall. We are choosing lessons from the RightNow Media library to use in our class. All youth in middle or high school are invited and welcome to come. The class is led by Barney Gulley and Pastor David.

Youth News

Youth News

Youth News

Youth News

Announcements

HELP DESPERATELY NEEDED

We need someone who can work with Martha Law between now and the end of the year 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 this is something **YOU** can help with, please contact Pastor David.

Resources for Bible Study

Palacios UMC is providing everyone an on-line **Bible study library** that has over 2,000 video sessions. There is teaching from a host of well-respected pastors and teachers

(like Max Lucado, Dave Ramsey, John Maxwell) on almost every subject that impacts your daily life. You have received an email invitation from Pastor David. Simply accept the invitation and you can log into **RIGHTNOW MEDIA** and watch any of these 2,000 video sessions for free. If you didn't receive the email or have questions, contact Pastor David. This is just another way that Palacios UMC wants to help you live out your faith every day.

Program Hope: Senior Behavioral Health is 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.

Answering Your Questions about Apportionments



In an ongoing series for the newsletter, we are looking at the five different categories where the United Methodist Church uses the money we pay in Apportionments. In the United Methodist Church, apportionments are our share of the cost of being the United Methodist Church in ministry around the world today.

In previous newsletters, we have discussed: Ministerial Support, Administration, Pension and Benefits, and General and Jurisdictional missions. In the final installment in this series, we will discuss the **Conference Benevolences**. Did you know that **23.5 cents** of every apportioned dollar is allotted for Conference Benevolences?

The goal of Conference Benevolences is to support:

- Program ministries
- New church development
- Campus ministry
- Ethnic local church
- Texas Conference of Churches

Program Ministries—The goals are to support:

- Youth, Children, and older Adult ministries
- Midwinter and Summer camps
- Senior Christian retreats
- Spiritual Development and Worship Seminars
- Communications
- Board of Ordained Ministry
- Program Office

New Church Development—Reaching people for Christ by providing churches where they live and work. Starting new churches is one of the four ministry goals of the Council of Bishops... and it's precisely the purpose of this apportionment. The Southwest Texas Conference continues a long history of going to where the people are through new churches. But the apportioned funds go far beyond new churches. The money also transforms existing churches so that they are able to minister the next generation.

Campus Ministry—The goals are to:

- Recruit and educate clergy
- Provide scholarships for students at United Methodist Colleges and Universities in Texas
- Support historically black United Methodist colleges
- To ensure a United Methodist presence on local colleges and universities, where young men and women are making decisions about careers, marriage and other life-changing issues

Ethnic Local Church—Supports ethnic ministries in the Southwest Texas area. Ethnic Local Church funds provide direct grants to local churches who are initiating ethnic ministries to ethnic congregations who need special assistance. Our area is increasingly made up of people whose ethnic background is Hispanic, Black and Asian. Most of the members of our churches are Anglo, but that is changing as we reach out to people who actually live in our mission field.

Texas Conference of Churches—Helps churches and Christians of all denominations work together for common goals. Southwest Texas Conference allocates \$12,000 annually to the Texas Conference of Churches.

Church Calendar for November



- 1 All Saints Day: Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22: 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS—Set clocks back 1 hour before bed
- 2 All Saints Sunday, Communion Sunday
Scriptures: John 15:1-5; Galatians 5:22-26
Church Conference following worship
- 4 **ELECTION DAY**—get out and vote!
- 5 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM
Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM
- 6 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
- 8 Cultural Sensitivity Training at Asbury UMC in Corpus Christi, 9:00 AM to Noon
Pedal Palacios Bike Ride
- 9 22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Scriptures: Joshua 24:1-3a; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
Men's Breakfast, 7:30 AM, First Presbyterian Church
Cluster Church Conference, FUMC Port Lavaca 3-5 PM
- 11 **VETERANS DAY**
Finance Committee in Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM
Administrative Council in Weimer Hall, 7:00 PM
- 12 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM
Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM
- 13 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
- 15 UMW Holiday Bazaar and Chicken Spaghetti Dinner, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- 16 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Scriptures: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123 or 76; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
- 19 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM
Choir in Sanctuary, 6:30 PM
- 20 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
United Methodist Women, Weimer Hall, 12:00 noon
- 21 Crossroads Emmaus Gathering at Salem Lutheran Church, Port Lavaca, 6:30 PM
- 21- Pastor David out of town
22
- 23 Christ the King Sunday, Last Sunday after Pentecost
Scriptures: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46
Decorate Church for Advent/Christmas, after church
Community Thanksgiving Service, Baptist Encampment, 6:30 PM
- 27 **THANKSGIVING DAY**—Office closed
- 28 Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday; Pastor David out of town
- 30 1st Sunday of Advent, Communion Sunday
Scriptures: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-27

Dates on the horizon to remember:

- November 2—Church Conference following worship
- November 8—Cultural Sensitivity Training at Asbury UMC in Corpus Christi
- November 9—Cluster Church Conference at FUMC Port Lavaca, 3-5 PM
- November 23—Decorate Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas following worship
- November 23—Community Thanksgiving Service at Texas Baptist Encampment, 6:30 PM
- December 24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00 PM

Celebrations in November

Birthdays:

4—Amy Kubecka, 8—Judy Davidson, 12—John Neese, 15—Landra Vandenberg, 19—Sandy Miller, 21—Andy Erdelt, 25—Frances Crunk, 26—Erwin Janszen, 27—Rhonda Huitt



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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.fumcpalacios.org

Joys and Concerns

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of our sister in Christ **Beulah Sparks**, who died on September 30. Services were held on October 3 at our church.

We also extend our sympathies to the family and friends of our brother in Christ **Mike Witte**, who died on October 7. Services were held on October 18 at our church.

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of our sister in Christ **Frances Neitsch**, who died on October 10. Services were held on October 13 at our church.

Special **Congratulations** to those who attended the **Houston Hospice Volunteer Training** in October, hosted here at Palacios UMC. We had nine people attend and complete the training, including Miss Murphy, Betty Janszen, and Pastor David.

Assisting with Worship in November

Liturgist—Open

Greeters—Landra and Rylee Vandenberg

Ushers—Ken Johnson (another usher needed)

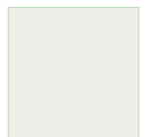
Newsletter Articles for December

If you have an article or announcement for the December newsletter, please get the information to Janie Gulley **by November 24**: 972-3185 or janiegulley@hotmail.com.

PALACIOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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ADDRESS