

Church Chat

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From the Pastor's Desk

This past weekend I went back to the church in Freer that I served from December of 1998 to June of 2002. They were celebrating their 80th Birthday as a church. Things had changed quite a bit since Lori, the kids, and I were there. Many of the members we knew back then had either died or moved away. There were a few who were still there. And now the church is yoked with another small church, Bruni UMC. Their combined membership is somewhere around 60, with Freer being the bigger of the two with 40.

And do you know who else was there for this celebration besides me? Our District Superintendent, Rev. Eradio Valverde and his wife Nellie. And Bishop Jim Dorff and his wife Barbara were there too. Yes, the Bishop himself was there to celebrate with these two little churches out in the middle of nowhere. In fact the Bishop and his wife drove farther than I did to get there.

I say all this to remind us, as we prepare for our Church Conference and our Cloud Conference, that we are not in this alone. Sometimes, I know, it feels like Palacios UMC is out here all by our lonesome selves. But we are not. That's one reason that our DS has continued to meet with the Clouds (taken from the cloud of witnesses in the book of Hebrews).

That's also one of the reasons we continue to have our meetings as we do. We are a part of something bigger than just Palacios UMC. We are a part of a cloud of witness for Christ in the world today. We are a part of the Coastal Bend District of the United Methodist Church sharing people and resources. We are a part of the RioTexas Annual Conference that is here to help us as we seek to go out into the world representing Christ.

As much as I may gripe and bellyache about the Church Conference and Cloud Conference, it really is a time for me (and us) to realize and reaffirm our connection with the people, the churches, and the leaders that we are in this venture together with

I am so thankful and proud to be your pastor,

David

A Note from the Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Did you know that **October** is **Pastor Appreciation Month**? Let's show our appreciation for Pastor David's service to our church by making the **October 11** Fellowship Luncheon OUR Pastor Appreciation day. We'll celebrate with cake and let Pastor David know how much we love having him serve here in Palacios!

United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women will meet on **Thursday, October 15th at noon** in Weimer Hall. Becky Johnson will present the program on the World Thank Offering. If you've been collecting change, please bring it then. Even if you haven't, come join us to learn how UMW uses the money collected. The World Thank Offering is an opportunity for us to respond to God's abundant grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude to support the total mission programs of UMW.

Please come join us at **Noon** in Weimer Hall on **October 15** for this interesting program and bring a sack lunch as we fellowship and celebrate the mission programs of UMW.

Walk to Emmaus/Chrysalis

The next Crossroads Walk is a **Men's Walk to Emmaus on April 14-17, 2016**. The next **women's walk is 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 **October 16 at 6:30 PM at a place to be determined** for potluck dinner and worship. Contact the Gulleys if you would like to carpool.

Announcements

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

Hand Bells—have resumed meeting in the Sanctuary at 5:30 PM each Wednesday.

Chancel Choir—will practice at 8:45 AM on Sunday mornings in the Sanctuary until the temperatures moderate.

Boys and Girls Club Glow Run—We are once again sponsoring a **rest stop** on the Boys and Girls Club

Youth News

We will meet with the **Youth Fellowship** on **Sunday, October 18 at 6:00 PM** in Weimer Hall. Come join us as we make plans for the school year!

Youth Sunday School—has resumed meeting. 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.

Glow Run. Contact **Barney Gulley** if you want to help out with snacks or volunteer to hand out goodies!

Flu Vaccination Clinic

FREE

We are unable to offer this clinic to those on Medicaid. If you are on Medicare or have insurance please bring your cards. Those with insurance please have your coverage checked at Walgreens before the event. Available to people over the age of seven.



Photo credit: James Galberry

Thursday, **October 8th**
From 5:00pm-7:00pm

Palacios Community Hub
205 4th Street,
Palacios, TX 77465

For more information, contact Leslie Machicek, Wesley Nurse
First United Methodist Church
(361) 571-1044



Wesley Nurse News



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

Fan Drive and Diaper Pantry—Tuesdays 1-4 PM

- Tuesday, October 6, 4 PM—Teen Support Group, Teen Center
- Thursday, October 8, 5-7 PM—Flu Shots, HUB
- Tuesday, October 20, 4 PM—Teen Support Group, Teen Center

I am collecting **smoke detectors** and **9 volt batteries** for the November and December Smoke Detector Drive. We need a lot of these!

The Palacios Hub, Walgreens, and I are teaming up to give out flu shots on October 8th, 5-7pm. They do not take Medicaid but they do take Medicare part B. Private insurance carriers will need to call Walgreens at 361-552-7451 to pre-qualify. I will also have a limited number of free vaccine vouchers, if you know of anyone that is needing one, they need to call me at 361-571-1044. We will have a sign-in sheet at the HUB for anyone interested, must be signed in by October 1.

I will be out of town the week of September 29-October 2 for training.

Thank you,

--Leslie Machicek, Wesley Nurse

Small Church Initiative

Our church has enrolled in the Small Church Initiative offered to us by the Rio Texas Conference.

The Small Church Initiative (SCI) helps churches look at themselves and identify their strengths and weaknesses in regards to the health of the church and the church's effectiveness in ministering to the needs of the congregation and to the community that surrounds us.

The process will begin with some homework to be done to look at where we are as a church and what are the challenges facing our future. Then in January, we will have a Consultation which will include interviews with a few members of our church. After the consultation, we will receive some recommendations from the consulting team. The church will have 30 days to discuss and pray about the recommendations, then hold a church conference to decide whether to adopt the recommendations or not. If the church votes to accept the recommendations, we will be appointed a coach to work with us until the recommendations are implemented.

The SCI process has been implemented by 21 churches in the Conference already, and there have been 3 more churches, including ours, who will be going through the process in early 2016.

More information will be coming this fall as we enter into a time of self-study and prayer for our future. If you would like to become one of the team involved in the process, please let Pastor David, Erwin Janszen, or Barney Gulley know of your interest.

Please keep our church in prayer as we discern what is God's calling for our church in the years to come.



2015 Finance Committee Update

The Finance Committee is pleased to report that our finances continue to improve this year thanks to the generosity of the church. We have three months until the end of the year, and we need to focus on payment of our Apportionments. We are slightly behind our scheduled giving toward this part of our ministry and need to put a focus on meeting this need of God's work. Please consider a sacrificial gift towards our obligation so that we do not have to make a plea in November and December.

2015		August	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	2015 Budget
Income	Offerings & Memorials	\$ 14,646	\$ 101,028	\$ 101,467	\$ 152,200
	Rent	\$ 770	\$ 5,320	\$ 5,200	\$ 7,800
	Oil Well	\$ -	\$ 1,397	\$ 2,400	\$ 3,600
	Other	\$ 10	\$ 101	\$ 100	\$ 150
	Total	\$ 15,426	\$ 107,846	\$ 109,167	\$ 163,750
Expenses	Apportionments	\$ 3,514	\$ 7,676	\$ 12,739	\$ 19,109
	Pastor Salary	\$ 4,775	\$ 42,207	\$ 42,759	\$ 64,139
	Staff Salary	\$ 2,899	\$ 20,626	\$ 19,793	\$ 29,689
	Operating Expenses	\$ 3,979	\$ 29,150	\$ 27,233	\$ 40,850
	Program Expenses	\$ (225)	\$ 1,574	\$ 1,267	\$ 1,900
	Capital Expenses	\$ 503	\$ 6,373	\$ 5,373	\$ 8,060
	Total	\$ 15,445	\$ 107,606	\$ 109,165	\$ 163,747
Balance		\$ (19)	\$ 240	\$ 2	\$ 3

Outing to Danish Heritage Museum

Who wants to take a road trip? A group of 20 or more can schedule a visit and tour to the Danish Heritage Museum in Danevang. We can visit the Historical Danish Lutheran Church, see a video about Danevang, tour the Museum and Pioneer House, go on a Museum Scavenger Hunt, and even shop in the gift shop! All this and an authentic Danish lunch for only \$20!! Tours are available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Contact Mary Jo Neeley at 972-5236 or email JimmyMary@NeeleyFamily.com if you are interested in this fun adventure.

Interested in a Bible Study?

Walk and Talk: Walking Together in Scripture



Walk & Talk is a year-long walking Bible study and devotional that is specifically designed to be used while you walk with a friend, with a member of your congregation, or by yourself. The primary objective of Walk & Talk is to help communities incorporate healthy habits into their lives through physical movement and spiritual enrichment. Just as Jesus taught his disciples on the road, we believe that God speaks to us as we Walk & Talk.

While there are many options for using the resource, it is designed so that a group or pair of

individuals could discuss a Walk & Talk devotional once a week for a full year. Each month has a different theme and provides four devotionals on that theme. Each devotional provides a scripture passage, a short reflection, a series of discussion questions and a closing prayer.

Our Wesley Nurse, Leslie Machicek, has offered to help us get started. If you are interested in this Bible Study activity, contact Leslie at 361-571-1044, or LMachicek@mhm.org.

Prayer Corner

Thank you, Lord,
for loving me
when I am my most
unlovable.
Give me love enough
to love others
as you love me.

In the singing of birds
Is the sound of God.
In the swimming of fish
Is the power of God.
In the moving of beasts
Is the willing of God.
In the heart of humankind
Is the dwelling of God.

In my heart and my head,
In my hands and my feet,
God's Spirit within me
Shall move and shall speak.

--Evelyn Frances Capel

Explorer God,
You have put within us
a spirit of adventure to
move us beyond the
immediate and to
explore even our most
familiar environment to
its fullest potential.

May each day become
an adventure of
people, tasks, places,
and responsibilities.
And when I feel grey
and lifeless, may your
Spirit remind me that
each day brings its own
gifts and that the best
is yet to be.

From "Laughter Silence
and Shouting: An
Anthology of Prayers"

Church Calendar for October



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| <p>1 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM</p> <p>4 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, World Communion Sunday
 Scriptures: Job 1:1, 2:1-10; Psalm 26 or 25;
 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16
 Chancel Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM
 Coastal Bend Cloud Conference, Sanctuary 3:00 PM</p> <p>5-6 Pastor David in San Antonio</p> <p>7 Hand Bells in Sanctuary 5:30 PM</p> <p>8 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
 Flu Shots at the Palacios HUB
 Texas AgriLife Extension Watershed Workshop in Weimer Hall, 1:00-4:00 PM</p> <p>11 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
 Scriptures: Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15;
 Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31
 Men's Breakfast at First Baptist Church, 7:30 AM
 Chancel Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School 9:00 AM, Worship, 10:00 AM
 Fellowship Luncheon in Weimer Hall following Worship</p> <p>12 Trustees Meeting in Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM</p> <p>13 Finance Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM, Weimer Hall
 Administrative Council Meeting, 7:00 PM, Weimer Hall</p> | <p>14 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM</p> <p>15 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM
 United Methodist Women, Weimer Hall, 12 Noon</p> <p>16 Crossroads Emmaus Gathering, Location TBD, 6:30 PM</p> <p>17 Coastal Bend District Spiritual Retreat at Mustang Island Conference Center</p> <p>18 Twenty-First after Pentecost, Laity Sunday
 Scriptures: Job 38:1-7 (34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c;
 Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45
 Chancel Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM
 Youth Fellowship in Weimer Hall, 6:00 PM</p> <p>20 Coastal Bend District Pastor's Meeting in Sanctuary, 9:30 AM-Noon</p> <p>21 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM</p> <p>22 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM</p> <p>25 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
 Scriptures: Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-3 (19-22);
 Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52
 Chancel Choir in Sanctuary, 8:45 AM
 Sunday School, 9:00 AM; Worship, 10:00 AM</p> <p>28 Hand Bells in Sanctuary, 5:30 PM</p> <p>29 Ladies Bible Study, Weimer Hall, 10:00 AM</p> <p>30-31 Pastor David out of town</p> <p>31 Boys and Girls Club Glow Run, Palacios UMC will have a rest stop</p> |
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Dates on the horizon to remember:

- November 1—All Saints Sunday
- November 1—Daylight Savings Time end (Turn your clocks **BACK**)
- November 8—Men's Breakfast at First Presbyterian Church, 7:30 AM
- November 11—Veterans Day
- November 21—UMW Chicken Spaghetti Fundraiser
- November 26—THANKSGIVING DAY
- November 29—First Sunday of Advent

- December 13—Men's Breakfast in Weimer Hall, 7:30 AM
- December 13—Choir Cantata during Worship
- December 13—Fellowship luncheon after Worship
- December 24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 24—CHRISTMAS DAY
- December 31—NEW YEAR'S EVE

Celebrations in October

Birthdays:

2—Jason Miller; 4—Ansley Kubecka; 5—Michele Colura; 8—Lori King; 18—Jody Kubecka; 25—Mary Frances Simons, Jim Davidson, 31—Debbie Poessel, David King



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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.fumcpalacios.org

Joys and Concerns

Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of **Sandra Glen**, who passed away on August 27. The funeral service was held in our Sanctuary and the burial was at Hawley Cemetery. Thanks to Betty Janszen and Mary Jo Neeley and all the other volunteers who helped make the reception such a blessing for the family and friends.

Our sympathies also go out to Mignon and Paul Smith at the death of Mignon's cousin, **Darla Roy**.

Assisting with Worship in October

Liturgist—Josh Harper

Greeters—Amy Kubecka and Margie Holst

Ushers—Kyle and Zachary Seaman

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.

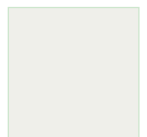
Newsletter Articles for November

If you have an article or announcement for the November newsletter, please get the information to Janie Gulley **by October 29**: 972-3185 or janiegulley@hotmail.com.

PALACIOS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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ADDRESS