

November 2013 First United Methodist Church – Palacios

When I was growing up Thanksgiving dinner was a big event. My dad's parents came down from Dallas or my mother's came from Illinois. We had turkey and dressing, peas and mashed potatoes, but best of all we had butter. Real butter! It is one of the few times of the year that the family grocery budget included real butter for that special dinner. And the budget also included money for bacon for breakfast.

Growing up with a dad who was self-employed and building his business meant things were usually pretty tight. But for Thanksgiving Mom splurged and we had butter and bacon. Maybe it was to impress the grandparents that things were okay financially, maybe it was to keep those two special food items special since we had them just once or twice a year. If the grandparents came at Easter we got them again.

As we sat around the Thanksgiving dinner table, Dad would ask each one of us to tell something we were thankful for and after we had all responded he would ask the blessing on the food and the people around the table.

I remember that I was always thankful for the butter and bacon but not so thankful for the peas that I had to eat at least a few of. I remember getting the wishbone and pulling it with one of my brothers. I remember the feeling of family. We were three generations around one table sharing stories and each other's company. And I remember that it felt good.

This Thanksgiving and Christmas season, I hope that as we gather each Sunday, that we will look around at the different generations and be thankful. I hope that we will have a sense of thankfulness for the new babies as well as the older members, the young families and those who come by themselves. I hope we will be thankful for the sense of family and that it will feel good.

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

Those assisting in worship in November are:

Liturgist:

Ushers: Ken Johnson & Bill Laws

Greeters:

Celebrations!!!

November Birthdays & Anniversaries: 1 Kristy Law; 4 Amy Kubecka, Rusty Kubecka; 7 Mackinzie Lambert; 8 Judy Davidson; 12 John Neese; 14 Jeri Corporon; 15 Landra Vandenberg; 18 Robert Curtis; 19 Ronnie Kubecka, Sandy Miller; 21 Andy Erdelt; 25 Frances Crunk; 26 Erwin Janszen; 27 Rhonda Huitt

Our Church Conference was held immediately after worship on Sunday, October 13. We approved the Pastor's Compensation for 2014, the recommendations of the Nominations Committee Class of 2016, and approved applications/renewals of Certified Lay Speakers. Halcy Dean applied to be a Lay Speaker and plans attend the Basic Lay Speaker training in November at Port Lavaca.

Our Cluster Church Conference place that afternoon at 4:30 PM at Edna UMC. The format was modified to make it short, sweet, and more a prayer service than a business/worship service.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women will serve a chicken spaghetti dinner after church on November 17. The cost of the meal is \$8 and take-out meals will be available. We plan to have additional baked goods for sale for your holiday meals.

We met and exceeded our goal of raising funds to purchase 160 of The Faith We Sing songbooks for the Sanctuary. We raised enough to buy 160 songbooks for the pews, 14 Singer Editions for the Choir, and one Accompanist Edition for the piano. Thanks for helping to make the music of Palacios UMC even better! We'll be using the UM Hymnal, The Faith We Sing songbooks, and the Cokebury songbook in worship.

Thanks to everyone who donated candy and who volunteered on Saturday, October 19, for the church to have visible and fun presence at the Monstrous 4K Glow by the Bay Fun Run which benefitted the Boys & Girls Club..

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The **Adult Sunday School Class** The fun, interesting, and inspiring class meets in the Parlor of Weimer Hall at 9:00 AM. Josh Harper is leading the class through a study of the book of Acts.

The **Tween & Youth Sunday School Class** The class meets in the back classroom of Weimer Hall at 9:00 AM. Amy Kubecka and Pastor David teach this class. The November theme is: The Bible is about - Being Anointed by God; Worshipping God; Living Faithfully; and God's Faithfulness. All 6th-12th graders are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We are looking for a new co-teacher for this class. Amy has been teaching for several years and is ready for a break. If you would like to help teach this great class, please contact Pastor David or Amy.

The **Children's Sunday School Class** continues to meet in the Children's Classroom. DeeDee and Betty Stork teach this class for children.

In the Victoria District

The dates have been set for the **Crossroads Walks to Emmaus for 2014**. The Men's Walk #1739 will be February 20-23 and the Women's Walk #1756 will be July 24-27. Both Walks will be held at the Spiritual Renewal Center south of Victoria. For more information or an application, please see Pastor David or, Janie or Barney Gulley.

In the Annual Conference

A special session of the Annual Conference has been called to meet in San Antonio on Saturday, February 8. The purpose of this conference is vote on the details of the unification of the Southwest Texas and Rio Grande Annual Conferences. The Lay Members of the Annual Conference from Palacios UMC are Becky & Ken Johnson, and the Clergy Member is Pastor David.

Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Rev. John Fluth, Sr. who passed away in San Antonio on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

November AT FIRST UMC – PALACIOS

1 -- All Saints Day -- Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149 or 150; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31

2 -- **TURN CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR BEFORE GOING TO BED -- Daylight Savings Time Ends**

3 -- Youth Hand Bells in Sanctuary -- 8:30 AM

-- 24th Sunday after Pentecost – Communion Sunday

-- Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; **Luke 19:1-10**

-- Harvest Sunday Offering

-- Youth Fellowship in Weimer Hall -- 6:00 PM

6 -- Handbells in Sanctuary -- 5:30 PM -- Choir in Sanctuary -- 6:30 PM

7 -- Ladies Bible Study in Weimer Hall – 9:30 AM

8 -- Crossroads Emmaus Gathering at Salem Lutheran Church in Port Lavaca -- 6:30 PM

10 -- Men's Breakfast First Presbyterian Church – 7:30 AM

-- Youth Hand Bells in Sanctuary -- 8:30 AM

-- 25th Sunday after Pentecost

-- Haggai 1:15b-2:9; **Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21**; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

11 -- VETERANS DAY

12 -- Staff-Parish Relations Committee meeting in the Parlor -- 6:00 PM

13 -- Handbells in Sanctuary -- 5:30 PM -- Choir in the Sanctuary -- 6:30 PM

14 -- Ladies Bible Study in Weimer Hall – 9:30 AM

16 -- Basic & Advanced Lay Speaker Training at FUMC Pt. Lavaca

17 -- 26th Sunday after Pentecost

-- Youth Hand Bells in Sanctuary -- 8:30 AM

-- Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12 or Psalm 118; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

-- UMW Chicken Spaghetti Dinner in Weimer Hall

-- Youth Fellowship at 1st Presbyterian Church -- 6:00 PM

18 -- **Finance Committee meeting in Weimer Hall -- 6:00 PM**

19 -- Victoria Dist. Pastors & Professionals meeting at Cathedral Oaks -- 9 AM

20 -- Handbells in Sanctuary -- 5:30 PM -- Choir in Sanctuary -- 6:30 PM

21 -- Ladies Bible Study in Weimer Hall – 9:30 AM

-- United Methodist Women meet in Weimer Hall -- Noon

23 -- Salt & Light Mission Weekend -- Bethany UMC from Austin Youth will be here

24 -- Last Sunday after Pentecost - Christ the King Sunday

-- Youth Hand Bells in Sanctuary -- 8:30 AM

-- Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

27 -- Handbells in Sanctuary -- 5:30 PM -- Choir in Sanctuary -- 6:30 PM

27-28 --The King's in Austin

28 -- THANKSGIVING DAY -- Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 100; Philippians 4:4-9; John 6:25-35

We are excited to welcome our newest member, **Jake Bowin Werner**, infant son of **Nick and Brittany (Kubecka) Werner** of Markham was baptized into Christ on Sunday, October 27.

If you are not a member of Palacios UMC and would like to be, please contact Pastor David.

During October and November we will be conducting a membership audit in preparation for transferring our records to the new computer system. We will publish a list of those people on our membership rolls that we have lost contact with. If you know how to contact them or someone who might know how to contact them, please let us know.

Financially, we held out as long as we could but by mid-October it became obvious that we would need to take some cash out of the Johnson Fund to cover our expenses. But on the bright side, this is the longest we have gone without touching our reserves to pay bills in several years.

There are a couple of new ways that you can help support the church. One is by doing your online shopping through **UMCMarket.org**. Through this United Methodist website you can do your online shopping with some of your favorite retailers and those retailers will donate a percentage of your purchase to our church. The other is by signing up for **Stream Energy**. This is an electric utility provider that will donate \$5/month to the church for each household that switched from their current provider to Stream Energy. If you would like more information on either of these, please talk to Barney Gulley or Pastor David.

Looking Ahead on the Calendar

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service -- Tuesday, December 24 Begin thinking and praying about who you could invite or who you could help come to the Christmas Eve Service. Maybe there's someone you know who has not been able to come to church for a while, or someone who does not have a church home. The most effective way to get someone to church is to invite them and to offer them a ride.

The Youth from Bethany UMC in Austin will be in Palacios from Nov. 23-25. If you have some work they can do around your home or know of something around our town that they could do to make a difference, please let Pastor David know. He'll have a form available for you to fill out and that will get you on the list for their projects.

