

August, 2018

Commission on a Way Forward

For several decades the United Methodist Church has been at an impasse when it comes to the issue of human sexuality. Conservative, progressive and moderate voices and groups have all put forth proposals to help us find common ground and resolve our different theological and cultural understandings (with little success.)

At the 2016 General Conference (the only body that is authorized to speak on behalf of the UMC), the Commission on a Way Forward was created for the express purpose of helping the Council of Bishops develop a path (or multiple paths) that would help us to move beyond this stalemate so that our best energies can be used *to make disciples for the transformation of the world* (the mission statement of the UMC).

The 32-member Commission was represented by diverse viewpoints from clergy and lay perspectives from around the world. After numerous meetings since 2016, the Commission has put forth several proposals that will be presented by the Council of Bishops to a specially called General Conference, February 23 – 26, 2019 in St. Louis. Here are the options...

<u>One Church Plan</u>: (recommended by the Commission). This model would allow different United Methodists in different places to make different decisions regarding ministry with or by LGBTQ persons rather than maintaining a single standard that operates everywhere throughout the worldwide church. This plan would remove restrictive language from the Book of Discipline and give Annual Conferences, churches and pastors the flexibility to decide on how to minister to and with LGBTQ persons.

<u>**Traditionalist Plan</u></u>: This plan would affirm the current language about homosexuality in the Book of Discipline and seek to strengthen enforcement for violations of church law.</u>**

Connection-Conference Plan: This plan would create three connectional conferences based on theology or perspective, each having clearly defined values (accountability, contextualization, and justice). The three connection conferences would function throughout the worldwide church and the five existing U.S. jurisdictions would be abolished. Adaptations to the Book of Discipline would be allowed by each connection conference. Annual Conferences would determine their affiliation with a connectional conference. Local churches who choose a branch other than the one chosen by their Annual Conference could vote to join another conference.

For more information, and to view news releases, please visit the following: <u>http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/commission-on-a-way-forward-news-and-updates</u>

Please be in prayer for the future and connection of the United Methodist Church.

Inside This Issue

- Daily Scripturep. 2 ~ Note from the Music Minister
 - ~ Worship Opportunities
 - ~ Children's Choir

Stewardship Page.....p. 3

- ~ We Pray For...
- ~ Attendance...
- ~ Financial Report...
- ~ Coming Events...
- ~ Weekly Opportunities...
- Children & Youth Ministriesp. 4
- ~ VBS Celebration in Worship...
- ~ Story Reading Celebration...
- ~ Backpack Blessing...
- ~ Children & Youth Sunday...
- ~ Children's Ministry Team...
- ~ Looking ahead to Sept....
- ~ Youth Mission Trip Pictures...
- Adult Ministriesp. 5
 - ~ Open Hearts...
 - ~ "the ROCK, the ROAD...
 - ~ Wordspirations...
 - ~ Upcoming Bible Studies...
- Adult Ministries, cont.....p. 6
 - ~ Fast Track Disciple 2...
 - ~ This We Believe...
 - ~ GriefShare...
 - ~ Loss of a Spouse...

Around the Church.....p. 7

- ~ Caps for Veterans...
- ~ Coats for Kids...
- ~ Encounter Worship Service...
- ~ Phil Jones Concert...
- ~ Emmaus Meeting...
- ~ Kudos Max Pelayo...
- ~ Church APPS...
- ~ Thank you from Linda Crail... ~ Donations needed...

Message from Pastor Rosiep. 8

- ~ Church Contact Info...
- ~ Newsletter Deadline...

Volume 23, Issue 8

WORSHIP AND FINE ARTS

Daily Scripture Week of August 6 Monday Samuel 18:5-9 Tuesday Samuel 18:31-33 Wednesday Psalm 34:1-8 Ephesians 4:24-29 Thursday Friday Ephesians 4:30-5:2 John 6:35, 41-46 Saturday Sunday 2 Samuel 18:5-9,15, 31-33 Psalm 130 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 John 6:35, 41-51 Week of August 13 Monday 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-5 Tuesday 1 Kings 3:3-14 Wednesday Psalm 111 Thursday Psalm 111:10 Ephesians 5:15-17 Friday Saturday Ephesians 5:15-20 Sunday 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 Psalm 111 Ephesians 5:15-2 John 6:51-58 Week of August 20 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30 Monday Tuesday 1 Kings 8:41-43 Wednesday Psalm 84:1-7 Thursday Psalm 84:8-12 Ephesians 6:10-20 Friday Saturday John 6:[1-55] 56-59 Sunday 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43 Psalm 84 Ephesians 6:10-20 John 6:56-69 Week of August 27 Monday James 1:17-27 Tuesday James 1:17-21 Wednesday Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Thursday Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Friday Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 Saturday Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Sunday Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Worship Opportunities

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Services Sanctuary - Rev. Andy Smith preaching

9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

11:00 a.m. Praise Worship (Life on the Road) Family Life Center -Rev. Rosie Grattan preaching



 \mathcal{H} ave you seen those charging stations at airports? On a recent trip, I was a amazed at how many places you could sit and recharge some sort of a device. Some airports have a simple counter with multiple outlets located close to each terminal gate. Other

places have nice comfy chairs with connections built in to the arms or sides of the chair. The restaurants in the airports also provide places at which you can plug in. Even with all those places to plug in and recharge, you still see people sitting on the floor next to an outlet with their devices plugged in. Keeping your device well charged has become an important priority, not just when traveling, but in our daily lives as well. Think about the number of cars that have a place to recharge your device, even without needing a cable. As we go about our lives, what do we do when we start feeling "run down" or "low on charge?" Are there places we can "plug in" and top off on what we're lacking? For some, it's on the golf course; others, the beach. The Bible tells us that when Jesus needed to get away for a while, to refocus or recharge, he would go off by himself and find a quiet place to pray. Jesus knew that he needed time to talk with, and listen to, God. In today's society, we are often running from place to place, event to event, and by the end of the day find ourselves physically, mentally and/or spiritually drained. On days (or weeks, or months, etc) like that maybe we should use Jesus as our example and take time to commune with God through prayer. Actress Loretta Young once said, "I believe prayer is our powerful contact with the greatest force in the universe." Anyone who has accidentally been shocked while plugging in their device knows how strong the force of electricity can be. Maybe if we took more time to plug ourselves into God through prayer we could realize just how strong "the greatest force in the universe" can be, also. Take time to plug in, pray, and connect with God. And the great thing is you don't have to worry about finding an empty charging station or outlet. "Silently now, I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see..."

– Mark Hixon, Director of Music and Fine Arts

Children's Choir Begins August 19

It's that time again! Time to begin another exciting season of Children's Choir. In Children's Choir, children learn songs about faith, play games, play instruments, make crafts, and they've even been known to have a snack ever so often. Children's Choirs will kick off on Sunday, August 19 at 4:30 p.m. with a big celebration in the choir room. This will be a time to catch up on what we did over the summer, meet new friends, play a game or two, sing some songs and maybe play some instruments. Children's choirs are open to all children beginning Kindergarten thru Fifth grade. Parents are invited to stay and see what Children's choirs are all about. For more information contact Mark Hixon thru the church office or Mark@ManchacaUMC.org.

STEWARDSHIP

We Pray for the Following:

New this month...

- Christina Ana Larry Bingham Family Billye Brown Taylor Couchman Family Sandi Dietz Edna Esparza Hal Ferguson Cora Ferguson Family Chuck Graff Family B.G. & Shirley Henry Lee Herring Patsy Johnson
- Jess Johnson Forest & M'Liss Jordan Baby Oliver Johnny Perez Rosemary Jim Shuffield Rev. Jerry Weaver Patsy Whittington Family Family of Rev. Dick Wilson Michael Zaloga

Continuing prayers...

Jennifer Bailey Ron Baker **Rick Barker** Ainsley Beck Gary Ácone "Nacho" Bejarano Walter Beyer Jill Boatright Ellen Carpenter Tina Carter Caulin & Family Tia Coleman Jim Crowson David Joseph Dahill Karen Davis Kristine Ehrlich Ethan Betty Engleking Mary & Randy Felps Roy Gordon Imogene Gray JoJo Guerin Marilyn Hallmark Tena Hammond Robin Hansen J.B. Hawn Susan Hilburn Family David Hirst Adrienne Howell Sharon Howell Norma Jacobson Warren Jacobson Chuck/Eleanor Jett Bunnie Kelly Jackie Kerr David Kingsley Mary Koenning Julie Linnard Nichole Lupo Molly McBride Chris & Allen McKean Olga & Judy Martinez Joni Mead Tom Mead Bobbye Meador Dick Meyer

Charlotte Morahan Mark Monteith Nancy Morris Sean Myers & Family David Nancarrow Dorma Nickels Kerry Nixon Pat Nixon-Gunn **Richard Norman** Judy Oliverius Margie Osborn Jana Pankratz Gavin Pardeiro Mimi Raper Clifford Ratcliff Mary Lynne Reagan Aliya Rosegreen Seth Rye Beto Saldana Luther Lee Sanders Deb Sanders **Clarence Scholfield** Gail Schofield Chris Scholle Siegel Family Cary Sitterly Carolyn Smith Eleanor Smith Rhena Smith Dean Thompson Rita Thompson Robert Todd Mark Tutite Kat Vice Randy Waters Elizabeth Watkins Celia Weaver Robin Wella B. A. Wilcoxson Clint Wilson Ron Wilson Marcus Wink Kim/Logan Wood Bobbye Word Chuck Zaloga

Attendance

Sunday 6-24-18 Sunday School Visitors First time visitors		243 117 30
Sunday 7-1-18 Sunday School Visitors First time visitors		326 137 33
Sunday 7-8-18		256
Sunday School Visitors First time visitors	0	131 34

June Financial Report

June



Operating Income\$	57,979.59
Operating Expenses	65,245.85
Net Op. <u>Loss</u> \$	(7,266.26)

YTD (June)

Operating Income\$	93,428.67
Operating Expenses	402,804.23
Net Op. <u>Loss</u> \$	(9,375.56)

June Special Offering Rec'd

1 0	
Food Pantry	\$ 417.50
Memorials	\$ 1,104.00
Build-Serve-Grow	\$12,239.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 2,075.00
Missions	\$ 144.00
Alter Rail Offerings	\$ 107.50
UMCOR	\$ 35.00

The Church's financial reports are available for review, by any Church member, in the Church's office, during normal working hours. Please contact Dick for assistance and to make an appointment.

Coming Events

Vacation Bible School -7:30 am Jul 30-Aug 3
Stephen Ministry Leaders -9 am Aug 2
Coloring Café -10 am Aug 6
MUMC Staff Meeting -1 pm Aug 6
Emmaus Community Gathering -6:30 pm Aug 7
Open Hearts -7 pm Aug 7
Stephen Ministry Supervision -7 pm Aug 7
"the Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi" Aug 8
Women of the Word (WOW) -9:30 am Aug 10
Pastors' Coffee -9:45 am Aug 12
Wordspirations -4 pm Aug 12
Stitches from the Heart -6 pm Aug 13
Newsletter Deadline -noon Aug 14
CD Release Party for Phil Jones -7 pm Aug 18
Coloring Café -10 am Aug 20
MUMC Staff Meeting -1 pm Aug 20
Stephen Ministry Supervision -7 pm Aug 21
FLAMS -9 am Aug 22
Church Council -7 pm Aug 23
Women of the Word (WOW) -9:30 am Aug 24
Caregivers Seminar -3 pm Aug 26
Stitches from the Heart –10 am Aug 27



Weekly Opportunities

Worship - Sanctuary -8:30 amSun	
Sunday School -9:45 amSun	
Worship - Sanctuary -11 amSun	
Worship - Family Life Center -11 amSun	
UMYF -3 pmSun	
AA -7:30 pm Mon	
Boomer Exercise -9/10 am Tue/Thur (except 8/2)	
Craft Group -7 pm Tue	
Craft Group -9 amWed	
Men's Group -12 noonWed	
Such as These Praise Band -6:30 pmWed	
Sanctuary Choir -6:45 pmWed (except 8/1)	

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

VBS Celebration and Singing in Worship



We are excited to welcome about 160 children to this year's Vacation Bible School. All participants and their families are invited to join us for worship on August 5, where children

will sing VBS songs during Children's Time at both of the 11 AM worship services.

Celebration of Summer Bible Story Reading Program

Did you read all 12 stories in the Summer Bible Story Reading checklist? Come celebrate with a pizza and ice cream party on August 19 right after worship (and bring your family!). Your completed checklist is your family's ticket to the party! It's not



mily's ticket to the party! It's not too late to get started! Pick up your checklist at church or download one from the children's page of our website and get reading! All ages can participate, reading at their own

age level or having a parent read to them. Please RSVP for the party by emailing Ms. Kim at Kim@manchacaumc.org.

September Dates to Save:

Mission Sunday School	9/2
Promotion Sunday and Start of Fall Sunday School Classes	9/9
FISH (Tween Ministry for 4th & 5th grade) - Resumes	9/12
3rd Grade Bible Presentation (11 am services) and Lunch (immediately after worship)	9/16
Children's and Youth Sunday Combined Worship (Time TBA)	9/30
Pumpkin Unloading on Sunday, after church	9/30

Thank you to those who went on our two Youth Mission trips!



Backpack Blessing – August 19

School can be fun, scary, awesome and tough. We're sending students and educators back to school with prayers and blessings. Students of all



ages are encouraged to bring their backpacks, lunch boxes or school bags to church and receive a special blessing during Children's Time at all three of our services. Children will receive a "God's Got Your Back" backpack tag to attach to their bags to remind them that God is always with them wherever they go! Educators and administrative staff of schools will receive prayer bookmarks. Come and be blessed!

Children & Youth Sunday-Coming In September! A Celebration of God's Creation

On September 30, the children and youth are invited to lead worship at a special combined service. We will celebrate God's beautiful creation as we answer God's call to take care of it and each other. All ages are invited to participate! Look



for sign-ups in the hospitality area. We will have rehearsals in September (dates and times TBA).

Children's Ministry Team is Seeking New Members!

Would you like to be a part of planning ministry and events for children and families? Come be a part of our dynam-

ic team! Contact Leslie Piggott or Kim Carroll for more information.





Gospel Quartet ~ Sept. 2



The Southern Plainsmen Quartet will be singing at Manchaca UMC on Sunday, Sept. 2 at both the 8:30am and 11am traditional services.

A love offering will be taken up during these services to support this ministry

This quartet was originally formed in May 1978, in the rolling pine-hills of West -Central Louisiana. Since its humble beginnings, the group travels to churches and auditoriums throughout the south to sing and proclaim God's amazing grace.

Be sure to spread the word about our singing guests. And invite a neighbor!



Learn, Grow, and Serve by Becoming a Stephen Minister

Do you have gifts for caring, encouragement and listening?

If so, please prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister. A new training class is set to begin on **Sunday**, **Sept. 9 at 6pm**.

Stephen Ministers are individuals trained to offer high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times, such as divorce, grief, illness, or loneliness. A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour. Becoming a Stephen Minister requires 50 hours of training. Though a commitment, these 50 hours will be some of the best use of your time!

If you are interested, please call Mary Looney at **512-264-1981** or Pastors Rosie or Andy, or any of our current Stephen Ministers.



LIFE GROUPS:

A new ministry...because you can't grow spiritually unless you're connected relationally

Community. It's a word we often hear, but what exactly does it mean? And why is it so important to our spiritual life?

Because we can't grow spiritually unless we're connected relationally. It's not an option; it's a need - like food, water, and shelter. We're relational beings because God is relational. God wants to us other people to grow us, and He wants to use us to grow other people.

Life Groups provides that opportunity for community. Eight to twelve people at similar stages of life are asked to gather together at least twice a month to allow for deeper explorations of faith. Gathering in homes allows for a casual setting characterized by food, fun, and fellowship.

Once a Life Group is formed, participants will decide on the meeting time and begin using a provided study guide that will help form friendships and lay the foundation for a great small group experience. Once the Life Group has completed the initial eight-session introductory course, participants may choose Bible studies and other devotional guides at their discretion. Groups will meet from Sept. to May.

SO WHAT'S NEXT? Sign up! Our goal is to create multiple groups that fit similar stages of life.

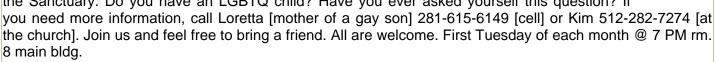
Throughout the month of August, we will have sign-up sheets at the church for different Life Groups. Current participates of our first Life Group will also be sharing testimonies during worship and be present during sign-ups to answer any questions about the joy and significance of a Life Group.



ADULT MINISTRIES

Open Hearts

A dear friend of mine is Director of Family and Youth for Chicago Adventure Therapy. "CAT" takes groups, mostly homeless LGBTQ youth, on "adventures" - including kayak trips. She, also, does a lot of counseling with parents. Recently the parents of one of the youth came to her and asked "Am I a Bad Christian for Loving My LGBTQ Child?" That is what we will be discussing at the Open Hearts Support Group meeting on Tuesday, August 7 @ 7 p.m. in rm 8 across from the Sanctuary. Do you have an LGBTQ child? Have you ever asked yourself this guestion? If



Open Hearts is a laity support group for parents, friends, family, and allies of LGBTQ persons.

"the ROCK, the ROAD, and the RABBI"

Are you ready to begin your journey to a deeper faith? Join us for a six-week adult Bible study in which we will follow Kathie Lee Gifford as she visits sites in Israel. This glorious walking tour of the Holy Land, with personal insights and stories by Kathie Lee Gifford, describes the places of Israel and their meaning step by step. The fascinating background details will make the story of the New Testament come alive and renew our hearts and minds.

This study aims to bring these places alive in ways that will illuminate the message of the Gospels, the message of Jesus. You will also be discovering the very Jewish background of the Gospels in ways that shed fresh light on the Scriptures. If you think you already know what happened in Bethlehem or Jerusalem, get ready to be amazed!

Session topics include: Bethlehem: Where It All Began, Nazareth: The Early Years, Capernaum: Ministry Headquarters, Galilee: Ministry Grounds, Mount of Olives: The Triumphal Entry, and end with Jerusalem: Crucifixion and Resurrection.

This is a free, 6 week adult Bible Study class that begins on Wednesday evening, August 8th, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., led by Debbie and John Dulski. It's going to be powerful study.

Summer 2018 Wordspirations

There is one more meeting of our Summer 2018 Wordspirations Women's Bible Study, open to all who would like to join us-even if you did not attend our previous meetings this summer! We will meet Sunday, August 12, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and fellowship together, sing, visit, and focus on a particular passage of Scripture. We read the passage aloud several times, listen, let God speak

to our hearts, and then journal about it in the moment. Then we share with each other and discover how amazing it is that God knows just what we

each need to hear from Him – everyone has something different and very personal. We all leave feeling lighter and uplifted by God's touch and the community of others. No cost, no homework, and there are always snacks! Led by Ellen Carpenter and Team ~ Julie Chandler, Sharon Mize, and Debi Jones. We would love for you to join us.

Upcoming Women's Bible Studies

"The Broken Way" by Ann Voskamp Sunday Afternoon Women's Bible Study Begins Sept. 9 4:00 - 6:00 PM Led by Ellen Carpenter & team

"This I Know For Sure" by Babbie Mason 6-week Wednesday Morning Women's Bible study Begins Sept. 19, 9:30 - 11:00 AM Led by Kim Carroll



Men's Bible Study Coming in October

"Your Move" by Adam Stanley Led by Scott Abel This 4-week men's



sourations

study will start in October, but we have not yet set a day and time. If you are interested, let Kim know and we'll take your schedule into consideration as we plan. (Kim@ManchacaUMC.org)





ADULT MINISTRIES

Fast Track Disciple 2 – Into the Word, Into the World (Part 1)

Tuesday Evenings, Beginning September 11, 7-8:30 pm Led by Pastor Andy Smith, Cost: \$15 for the Part 1 study manual



Are you ready to deepen your understanding of Scripture? Do you want to know how Scripture might be calling you to respond? This 12-week study immerses participants in the books of Genesis and Exodus, emphasizing the rhythm of coming to God and going for God, of being in the Word and in the world individually and corporately. Weekly sessions and daily readings help participants

grow in their understanding of Scripture and how they might respond to it in the world through faithful witness and service. The gift of Sabbath rest and renewal is part of each week's experience. Fast Track Disciple Part 2, which focuses on Luke and Acts, will be offered in a 12-week study in the spring.

This We Believe – The Core of Wesleyan Faith and Practice

Sunday Afternoons, Beginning September 16 Led by Kim Carroll, Cost: \$12 for the book



For John Wesley, the Bible is the joyfully consistent testimony of God's never-ending grace and ever-seeking love. Likewise, studying the Bible is more than merely knowing what Scripture says; it is also about living every day as a child of God. In his book, "This We Believe," Bishop Will Willimon systematically lays out key Wesleyan tenets of faith so that readers will have a fresh way to hear God's voice, share in God's grace, and become more like Jesus Christ. Participants in this 8-week study will meet weekly to discuss their book

reading as well as pull in Methodism resources for a rich conversation about what it means to be a United Methodist and how to live out our faith in the world.

GriefShare

Sundays, beginning September 9, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$15 for workbook (scholarships available)



GriefShare is a faith-based video seminar and support group that provides help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. It's a place where you can be around people who understand the feelings and pain associated with your loss. You may begin GriefShare at any point during the 13 week time frame.

Call Deanna at 512-917-1909 for further information.

GriefShare—Loss of a Spouse



Your life has changed forever. The daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear.

Find help at a Loss of a Spouse seminar.

GRIEF

This is a **new** stand-alone class for those who have lost a spouse. The materials will arrive in August and our first class will be in late August or early September - more info to come.

For more information, call or email David Luna, 512-660-8866 lunad079@gmail.com.

Early Response Team Training

The Rio Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church is looking for volunteers who will respond to early response disaster relief, as individuals or as a team. Those interested have the opportunity to attend the next training date, August 18, 2018 at First UMC, in Austin, 8am to 5pm. You must register online for training at the conference's website: <u>ERT</u> <u>Basic Training - FUMC, Austin</u>. Please consider this opportunity to make a difference in communities affected by disaster!

Volume 23, Issue 8

AROUND THE CHURCH

Caps for Veterans

The Craft Group has a new outreach project this year: caps for veterans. During the Christmas season the Central Texas Veterans Health Care System/Austin Outpatient Clinic gives each veteran who comes in a warm winter cap. The project is off and running and we'd like to include the whole church in this effort. New caps for men or women can be left in the church office or drop them by the Craft Room in the Fellowship Hall. If you knit or crochet, you can make some! We have plenty of yarn and will gladly give you what you need to make caps. If you have any guestions please contact Judy at 512-971-5293 or Susan at 512-203-2624. We plan to have donations ready for the VA in early November.



Can You Help?

The Craft Group will again be collecting coats to donate to the 2018 Coats for Kids drive. If you have any new or gently used coats to donate, we would love to have them! Coats of all sizes—for men, women, or kids are needed. They can be left in the church office or t^{o} drop them by the Craft Room in the Fellowship Hall. Last

year our donations filled KVUE's lobby and they are always given in the name of MUMC. We would like to have these donations by early November. Thank you for helping us!

Special Concert—Phil Jones

Phil Jones, a member of our congregation, will provide a concert of songs from his new CD, "Love is Heaven, Love is Hell," on Saturday, Aug. 18 in the Family Life Center. Special guest performers include These Fine Moments and Debi Witt Jones. Door prizes will be given away, and refreshments will be



served. Admission is free, and a love offering will be collected. Mark your calendars!

Kudos

Congratulations go out to Max Pelayo for completing his Eagle Scout project at Manchaca UMC. Max designed, constructed, and installed the Blessings Box located at the West entrance of the church. It will be stocked regularly by our food pantry with basic food items and supplies for people who may need them after hours. This is a great addition to our food pantry ministry. Thank you, Max, for your hard work, dedication, and service to your church and community.

Thank you - from Linda Crail

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the lovely reception and all of the cards, Thank gifts and well wishes on my retirement. I do miss going to work every You day and greeting the people who call and come into the church. Not many people get to work their whole life doing what they truly enjoy. MUMC is a special place because of the people there. Working at MUMC has been a real pleasure. Love to each and everyone,

Linda

New Worship Service

A new worship service kicks off on Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 7 pm. *Encounter* will offer praise music led by Natasha Pelayo and her family and will be

include a brief message and time for prayer. The service will service starting be offered on the



first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Local Emmaus Gathering at MUMC

August 7, 2018 – Buda/Kyle/Manchaca area

* At Manchaca UMC

(1011 FM 1626, Manchaca, TX)

- * Potluck 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
- * Service 7:15 p.m. in Sanctuary



* Please bring your worship book, name tag and lanyard.

Check out our CHURCH APPS

The church offers two important APPS that you can download to your smart phone or tablet. Visit the Apple or Google APP store to search for the following...



Search for Manchaca UMC for our custom church APP. It provides alerts, news, online giving, calendar information, and so much more. Can be used on any smart device.



Search Shelby Next for the APP that will give you access to our church directory and allow you to register your attendance for worship or other small group events.

Please Help!

MUMC has helped many people over the years and we have another person in need. If anyone has old furniture especially a couch or other furniture items that they plan to give away, please contact: Linda at vogeslinda@gmail.com. Thank you.



In Mission Together

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Matthew 25:35-36 (NIV)

I enjoyed my time worshipping and ministering in the sanctuary the first four weeks in July, teaching from the book Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times, by Adam Hamilton. The teach-

ing has got me thinking about the courage we are called to walk in, with God's help of course, and the hope we can bring to others who are in need, even when it means sometimes making great personal sacrifices.

Thank you for your prayers and words of comfort and healing as we sought to minister to Rev. Sheldon Johnson, retired pastor, colleague and mentor/friend of mine, who was in an automobile accident, losing his wife and 13-year old son. He and his sister-in-law, "TK" are on the mend, but prayers will still be needed for a long time to come. Thanks be to God for the prayer shawl ministry. Because of their gifts, we had the opportunity to bless Sheldon and TK with shawls as a sort of healing balm – a token sign of our love.

Missions Notes

Disaster Relief and Early Response Team (ERT) opportunity – The Rio Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church continues to need volunteers who are willing to go out and provide disaster relief as early responders. Training is required to be on a team, so if you are interested please contact me. A training opportunity in the Austin Area will be provided on August 18, at First UMC in downtown Austin. Click here to learn more: <u>https://riotexasresponse.org/ert-basic/</u> or on the Internet, go to <u>riotexas.org</u>; find Ministries, then Disaster Response. Let me know if you need help or have any questions! I will be going out to the Rio Grande Valley, August 22-24. I would love for you to join me!

Also, contact me if you have a heart to help those in need of occasional assistance. From time to time I receive requests for help in securing used furniture and other forms of assistance. With a little bit of a system in place, we can help meet a few more of the needs out there. Thank you for your consideration! Thank you for your prayers! I am praying for you and yours!

In Christ's love, Always, Pastor Rosie

Sunday Worship and Sunday School Schedule: Contact Information: **DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at NOON 8:30-9:30 a.m.-Traditional Worship w/Communion Rev. Andy Smith-Sr. Pastor Email submissions to: in the Sanctuary Rev. Rosie Grattan- Assoc. Pastor Office: 512-282-7274 deanna@manchacaumc.org or FAX: 512-282-7508 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.- Sunday School for all ages office@ManchacaUMC.org office@manchacaumc.com email: 11 a.m. - 12 noon- Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary web address: http://www.manchacaumc.org/ NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE MAILED 11 a.m. - 12 noon- Praise Worship in the Family Life Center Child Development Center: 512-280-2552 Wednesday, August 22, 2018



Return Service Requested

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