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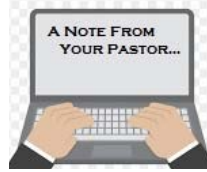
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**I**t's hard to believe that I am 2 years away from the big **50!!!** There is a bit of denial but my family is more than willing to keep me honest about my age. It's not as if I can hide the gray hairs on my head. Fortunately, gray is just another shade of blond. (glad you agree)

So what am I to do in my fragile state? Where can I turn to for comfort and understanding? How about the Bible. Read Psalm 90. It ponders the passing of time. *"...our years come to an end like a sigh. They are soon gone, and we fly away."* No matter how many years we live the time seems to pass quickly. So the question I propose to you is simple: are we making the best use of our time? We want to know that in the end our lives have counted for something good. We want to have something to show for the years we've spent in this world! Rabbi Harold Kushner writes, *"Our souls are not hungry for fame, comfort, wealth, or power. Those rewards create almost as many problems as they solve. Our souls are hungry for meaning. We want our lives to matter!"*

I believe that if you want your life to matter then you first have to number your days. This idea comes from Psalm 90. *"So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart."* Everybody counts or keeps track of something. I could recall to you all kinds of NASCAR statistics or the estimated amount in my checking account. Psalm 90 reminds us to recall the number of our days because wise people count the things that really matter.

Sooner or later, we're all going to leave this world and return to our Maker. We don't like to face that reality, but until we do, we'll never know how to make our lives count. Psalm 90 reminds us that we must die, but the real purpose of this lesson is to teach us how to live! When we number our days, we realize how few of them we really have, and so we need to spend them wisely.

If you were to number your days, your hours, and your minutes, what would it reveal about the way you are spending them? After sleeping and work, would TV be third on the list? How much time do you spend getting closer to God and growing in your spiritual life? Is it enough? How much time to you spend in service to the church or community? (not worship but with volunteering or serving?) One hour a week is just 52 hours in a year. That's just over a grand total of 2 days and that doesn't seem like very much. You don't really know how you're spending your time until you sit down and number it. Then you can begin to spend it wisely.

Time is precious. Time is a gift from God. And with all gifts we are called by God to be good stewards of these gifts. Remember your time. It is a gift to you and it is a gift that you can give to others through your love, support, and service. You have only one life. That's all. And you were made to live that life for God. Don't waste it!

In Christ's Service,  
*Andy*

# WORSHIP AND FINE ARTS

## Daily Scripture

### Week of September 3

Monday	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Tuesday	James 2:1-7
Wednesday	James 2:14-17
Thursday	Mark 7:24-30
Friday	Mark 7:31-37
Saturday	Psalm 125
Sunday	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9 -22-23 Psalm 125 or Psalm 124 James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17 Mark 7:24-37

### Week of September 10

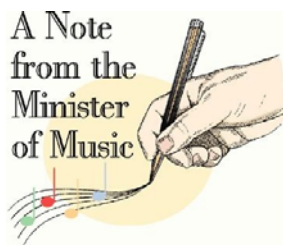
Monday	Mark 8:27-30
Tuesday	Mark 8:31-38
Wednesday	Proverbs 1:20-33
Thursday	Psalm 19
Friday	James 3:1-8
Saturday	Psalm 19:7-14
Sunday	Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalm 19 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38

### Week of September 17

Monday	Proverbs 31:10-31
Tuesday	Psalm 1
Wednesday	James 3:13-18
Thursday	James 4:1-3
Friday	James 4:7-8a
Saturday	Mark 9:30-32
Sunday	Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, -8a Mark 9:30-37

### Week of September 24

Monday	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10
Tuesday	Esther 9:20-22
Wednesday	Psalm 124:1-5
Thursday	Psalm 124:6-8
Friday	James 5:13-20
Saturday	Mark 9:38-41
Sunday	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50



## A Note from the Minister of Music

As another school year begins, I can't help but think of when I was a "newbie" teacher, starting my first year teaching elementary music. The position for which I was hired was split between two schools. I would teach at one school for half the year, then the other half of the year I was at another school. I was excited, yet also nervous, especially on my first day. Each day and week got easier as I established a routine with my students. Then, in a blink of an eye, it was time to say to goodbye to the first school and begin again at the next one. As January came, I found myself, once again, having another "first" day – new faculty, new schedules, new students. However, this time I had more experience. I had learned from my time at the first school. Yes, it was like starting over, but I was better equipped to know what to expect. It wasn't ideal having to start over in the middle of a school year, but with the knowledge I had already learned, I had the opportunity to become a better teacher to my students. Knowledge and experience was on my side. Very few people enjoy having to start over. I've watched my mother tediously pullout stitches from something she has crocheted or knitted because something didn't turn out right. I've watched my daughter scrap pages of a paper that she had written because it wasn't progressing like she wanted it to. It's easy to become frustrated when we have to start something over. However, God promises to be with us, no matter what. In Lamentations we're told, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning..." (3:22-23). *One thing I learned that first year of teaching was every day was a new day. No matter what had happened the day before, if I had a bad day, or if a student had a bad day, the past was the past and each day brought a fresh start. God offers each of us a fresh start. We don't have to wait days, weeks, or months; it's always available. It's not easy to start over, but it's definitely easier with God on our side. "Morning by morning, new mercies I see..."*

– *Mark Hixon*, Director of Music and Fine Arts

## Worship Opportunities

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

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

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

**7:00 p.m. first & third Wednesday**  
Encounter Worship Service  
Sanctuary  
Praise music, message and prayer

# STEWARDSHIP

## We Pray for the Following:

Adrianna	Charlotte Morahan
Kelly Archer	Maxine Monteith
Rick Barker	Mark Monteith
Ellen Carpenter	David Nancarrow
Tina Carter	Dorma Nickels
Kristine Ehrlich	Pat Nixon-Gunn
Edna Esparza	Richard Norman
David Fegan	Amy & Iyana Petcovic
Imogene Gray	Carl Quedbedeaux
Robin Hansen	Rev. Mimi Raper
Rev. Jack Heacock	Aliya Rosegreen
Family	Rev. Harold Sassman
Lee Herring	Family
Rev. Suzanne Isaacs	Mike & Mary Seberger
Angel Jackson	Aaron Smyth
Norma Jacobson	Dean Thompson
Forest & M'Liss Jordan	Rita Thompson
Ethan McBride	Robert Todd
Chris & Allen McKean	Jerry Weaver
Joni Mead	B. A. Wilcoxson
Tom Mead	Bobbye Word
Bobbye Meador	Chuck Zaloga
Dick Meyer	



## Sympathy to...

**Bill & Nancy Zaloga** due to the death of their son, Michael Zaloga.

**B. G. & Shirley Henry** due to the death of their son, Val Henry.

**Julie Saucedo** due to the death of her father, Rev. Dick Wilson



*Names are removed from this prayer list each month unless otherwise requested. When requesting prayers either through pew cards, email or phone, be sure and specify whether or not names should be published in the newsletter and/or the bulletin. If not specified, names will be sent to the prayer chain only.*

## Attendance

<b>Sunday 7-22-18</b> .....	241
Sunday School	121
Visitors	38
First time visitors	0
<b>Sunday 7-29-18</b> .....	221
Sunday School	no Sunday School
Visitors	27
First time visitors	0
<b>Sunday 8-5-18</b> .....	297
Sunday School	118
Visitors	29
First time visitors	0
<b>Sunday 8-12-18</b> .....	246
Sunday School	124
Visitors	28
First time visitors	1

## Financial Report



### JULY

Operating Income .....	\$ 74,220.53
Operating Expenses .....	\$ 68,453.57
Net Op. <b>Income</b> .....	\$ 5,766.96

### YTD (July)

Operating Income .....	\$ 467,649.20
Operating Expenses .....	\$ 473,588.22
Net Op. <b>Loss</b> .....	\$ (5,939.02)

### July Special Offering Rec'd

Food Pantry .....	\$ 925.00
Memorials .....	\$ 105.00
Build-Serve-Grow .....	\$ 4,654.50
Debt Reduction .....	\$ 1,940.00
Missions .....	\$ 200.00
Alter Rail Offerings .....	\$ 95.00
UMCOR .....	\$ 35.00
Emergency Assistance Fund .....	\$ 400.00
Scholarship Fund .....	\$ 500.00

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

Gospel Quartet -8:30 am & 11 am .....	Sun, Sept 2
Mission Sunday -9:45 am .....	Sun, Sept 2
LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED .....	Mon, Sept 3
Coloring Café -10 am .....	Mon, Sept 3
Staff Meeting -1 pm .....	Tues, Sept 4
Stephen Ministry Supervision -7 pm ...	Tues, Sept 4
Open Hearts -7 pm .....	Tues, Sept 4
Rock, Road, Rabbi -7 pm .....	Wed, Sept 5
Encounter Worship Service -7 pm .....	Wed, Sept 5
CDC Fall Term Begins .....	Thurs, Sept 6
Stephen Ministry Leaders -9 am .....	Thurs, Sept 6
Promotion Sunday .....	Sun, Sept 9
Pastor's Coffee -9:45 am .....	Sun, Sept 9
GriefShare -1:30 pm .....	Sun, Sept 9
"The Broken Way" -4 pm .....	Sun, Sept 9
Stephen Ministers Training -6 pm .....	Sun, Sept 9
Stitches from the Heart -6 pm .....	Mon, Sept 10
"Fast Track Discipline 2" -7 pm .....	Tues, Sept 11
FISH resumes -6:30 pm .....	Wed, Sept 12
CDC Board -6:30 pm .....	Wed, Sept 12
Rock, Road, Rabbi -7 pm .....	Wed, Sept 12
Women of the Word -9:30 am .....	Fri, Sept 14
3rd Grade Bible Pres. -11 am svcs. ....	Sun, Sept 16
3rd Grade Bible Luncheon -noon .....	Sun, Sept 16
GriefShare -1:30 pm .....	Sun, Sept 16
"This We Believe" -3 pm. ....	Sun, Sept 16
"The Broken Way" -4 pm .....	Sun, Sept 16
Stephen Ministers Training -6 pm .....	Sun, Sept 16
Coloring Café -10 am .....	Mon, Sept 17
Staff Meeting -1 pm .....	Mon, Sept 17
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -noon. ....	Tues, Sept 18
Stephen Ministry Supervision -7 pm ..	Tues, Sept 18
"This I Know For Sure" -9:30 am .....	Wed, Sept 19
Encounter Worship Service -7 pm .....	Wed, Sept 19
Ministry Fair -9:45 am. ....	Sun, Sept 23
GriefShare -1:30 pm .....	Sun, Sept 23
"This We Believe" -3 pm. ....	Sun, Sept 23
"The Broken Way" -4 pm .....	Sun, Sept 23
Stephen Ministers Training -6 pm .....	Sun, Sept 23
Stitches from the Heart -10 am .....	Mon, Sept 24
Missions Team -7 pm .....	Mon, Sept 24
FLAMS -9 am. ....	Wed, Sept 26
"This I Know For Sure" -9:30 am .....	Wed, Sept 26
Women of the Word -9:30 am .....	Fri, Sept 28
Child/Youth Sun Rehearsal -10 am .....	Sat, Sept 29
Children and Youth Sunday,	
ONE SERVICE -10am .....	Sun, Sept 30
Lunch/Pumpkin Unloading -noon .....	Sun, Sept 30
GriefShare -1:30 pm .....	Sun, Sept 30
"This We Believe" -3 pm. ....	Sun, Sept 30
"The Broken Way" -4 pm .....	Sun, Sept 30
Stephen Ministers Training -6 pm .....	Sun, Sept 30

## Weekly Opportunities

Worship - Sanctuary -8:30 am .....	Sun
Sunday School -9:45 am .....	Sun
Worship - Sanctuary -11 am .....	Sun
Worship - Family Life Center -11 am .....	Sun
UMYF -3 pm .....	Sun
Youth Choirs -4:30 pm .....	Sun
AA -7:30 pm .....	Mon
Boomer Exercise -9/10 am .....	Tue/Thur
Craft Group -7 pm .....	Tue
Craft Group -9 am .....	Wed
Men's Group -12 noon .....	Wed
Such as These Praise Band -6:30 pm .....	Wed
Sanctuary Choir -6:45 pm .....	Wed
Glory Bells -7 pm .....	Thurs

# CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

## Caring Kids Spent Time Reading at Marbridge This Summer

This summer, our Caring Kids service group had the opportunity to participate in a joint reading program at Marbridge. They had previously visited Marbridge to make Valentines, have an Easter egg hunt, and go Christmas caroling. Wanting to volunteer more, Caring Kids began reading with residents at the Senior Dorm's Leisure Class on five Wednesdays over the summer. Some of the Leisure Class members know how to read and read books with the kids while others enjoyed listening to books the kids picked out to read. They read joke books, chapter books, picture books, history books, and much, much more. One resident shared with her reading buddy how happy she was when they came to read because it was one of the only chances she got to do it. Both groups are looking forward to continuing the program again next summer! (submitted by Leslie Piggott)



## New Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth!

On September 2, all children's and youth Sunday school classes will gather in the Fellowship Hall for Mission Sunday. School-year Sunday school classes begin on Sunday, September 9! Our children's and youth Sunday school classes offer age-level Christian education and faith formation. Being a part of a Sunday school class encourages kids to build positive relationships with their peers and with the adult spiritual mentors who lead the class. While Sunday school is not Disneyworld, our teachers work hard to teach the Bible in ways that are relevant and fun, while giving children a foundation of faith stories that will carry them into youth and adulthood! Make Christian Education a priority for your family this year and check out one of these classes:

### Children's Sunday School Classes

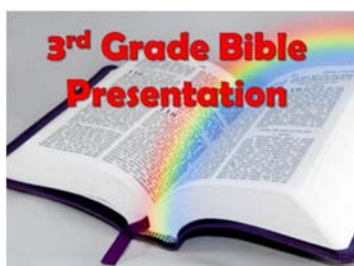
- Babies and Wobblers, Infants – 2 years, Nursery – New Deep Blue Nursery Curriculum!
- The Splash Pad, Ages 3 years – Kindergarden, Room 23 (Education Wing) – New Deep Blue At Home with God curriculum!
- Godly Play, 1st-2nd Grade, Room 28 (Upstairs)
- Bible Divers, 3rd Grade, Room 18 (Education Wing)
- Wave Walkers, 4th-5th Grade, Room 30 (Upstairs) – New Learning to Study Your Bible, and Children's Ministry Illustrated curriculum



## 3rd Grade Bible Presentations

September 16 at the 11:00 AM Services

We will be presenting our 3rd grade students with Bibles at both of our 11:00 AM services on September 16. Worship will be followed by a Bible Luncheon where 3rd graders can come to celebrate with their families and learn about their Bibles. RSVP by contacting Kim Carroll or signing up online.



## FISH Pre-Teen Youth Group

This group of fourth and fifth grade students meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month for community building and Bible study. Using the Deep Blue Life curriculum, this year we will be exploring how to stay faithful in the midst of cultural influences and real-life topics such as bullying and conflict. FISH also gather for occasional mission projects throughout the year. Our first meeting of the year is Wednesday, September 12, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. FISH is always open to the community, so bring a friend!



## Children and Youth Sunday - A Celebration of God's Creation



On September 30, the children and youth are invited to lead worship at a special combined service at 10:00 am in the

Sanctuary. 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, the FLC and online.

We will rehearse on Saturday, September 29th, 10 am - noon.

# CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

## Celebrating VBS!

Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School was an overwhelming success! We hosted 180 children with 70% of the families coming from the community. The children had a great time discovering that following Jesus brings Adventure, Acceptance, Joy, Rest and Peace. Above all, they learned that God is with them wherever they go and no matter what is happening. Inspired to help others, the children raised \$811.85 to give to Flint Water Recovery through the Crossroads District of the United Methodist Church to help the residents of Flint, where they are still struggling to have safe water to drink! Thank you to the 90 adult and youth volunteers who were on site, the 13 members of the prayer team, the teamwork of the entire MUMC staff and the support of the congregation with their prayers, gifts and donations of money and materials. Thank you to those who helped prep and set up our gorgeous decorations. And a very special thank you to Jenny Rinehart, our VBS Director, who put in countless hours making sure things ran smoothly during the week. Thank you, Manchaca UMC, for coming together to support this important ministry.



## Youth Ministry Needs YOU!

### Parents/Adults: Volunteers Needed!

As Summer is finally starting to wind down, and schedules are about to start normalizing, the Youth Ministry is again finding itself in need of volunteers.

Partially, this is to keep us within the boundaries of Safe Sanctuary. but, it is also in preparation for the future. If we want to develop our Youth Ministry, we need more active volunteers.

Right now, we are getting by with the bare-minimum (*and I am very grateful to everyone who has helped out in so many various ways*). But if we want this thing to grow/develop/mature, we need some help.

- ▶ **The Goal:** Have at least 3 adult volunteers present at each youth meeting.
- ▶ **The Dream:** To have 8 adult volunteers divided between 2 different Youth Meetings (Middle School and High School)

This is for more than just safe-sanctuary compliance. This is so we can do Relational Ministry well. Please, consider volunteering with our Youth Ministry.

If you are interested, or just want to talk more about it, sign-up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044aadad2fa13-youth5>.



## Awaken Sunday Morning Youth Fellowship



- ⇒ Middle School, 6th – 8th Grade, Room 3 (across from Kim's office)
- ⇒ High School, 9th-12th Grade, Youth Room (upstairs)

Learn more about the curriculum and leaders in each of these classes on the Children and Youth pages of our website: [www.manchacaumc.org](http://www.manchacaumc.org).

## Pumpkin Unloading!

Pumpkins are coming on Sunday, Sept. 30, right after church. Join us for a quick lunch after the special worship at 10:00 am, and then the unloading begins! The pumpkin unloading is fun for all ages, so bring the whole family to the party! Many hands make light work. Hope to see you there!

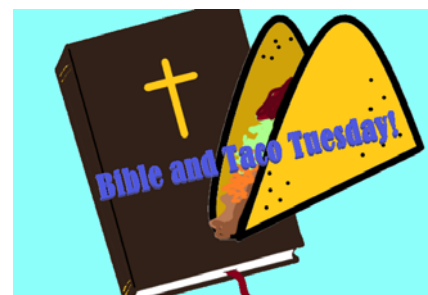


## Calling All High School Youth!

*NEW THIS FALL!*

*HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE AND TACO TUESDAYS!*

▶ MORE INFO TO COME! ◀



# ADULT MINISTRIES

## Open Hearts - Tuesday, September 4, 2018 Rm. 8 Main Bldg.

[A laity support group for parents, friends, family, and allies of LGBTQ persons]

The Calendar may say summer is ending, but the thermometer hasn't gotten the message. Join us in the cool A/C as we help each other consider life's never-ending connections. Upon doing some research on LGBTQ teen suicide, I ran into homelessness which led to domestic violence which led to single mothers which led to poverty and on and on. Depressing? Yes, but very enlightening. The ways to help are endless.....food, housing, jobs, acceptance, money, education, etc. On closer examination I found that while each of these methods may be diverse, they each require the same major ingredient..... LOVE. With Christ-like Love, it is amazing what can be accomplished. If you need more information, call Loretta [mother of a gay son] 281-615-6149 [cell] or Kim 512-282-7274 [at the church]. All are welcome. First Tuesday of each month @ 7 pm, room 8, in the main building.



## Learn, Grow, and Serve~Become 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 6 pm.

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.



## 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.



## The Broken Way: Women's 10-week Bible Study

Sundays, September 9 - Nov. 11, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$24 for the book and study guide

Led by Ellen Carpenter and team, Fellowship Hall

*"We are all broken people in need of God's grace."  
~ Rev. Steven Sweet, former Pastor of MUMC*

We all have felt the pain of life, of loss, of mistakes, wounded relationships, fearful medical diagnoses, financial crises – sometimes it leaves us feeling broken and worn out. We might ask, "Where is God?" or "Is there a way for me to heal from this?" New York Times bestselling author Ann Voskamp asks us, what if we learn how to let our brokenness "just break open and let trust in; let the abundance of God in?" She reminds us that Jesus is our "Wounded Healer" and He will meet us right where we are and give us hope where we are hurting.

The Broken Way will guide us to discover how God can heal our broken places and let those be the very ways His light can shine through.

Led by licensed counselor Ellen Carpenter, and Team.



## 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 Part1 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.

**Disciple Fast Track**  
—Into the Word, Into the World

# ADULT MINISTRIES

## This We Believe – The Core of Wesleyan Faith and Practice

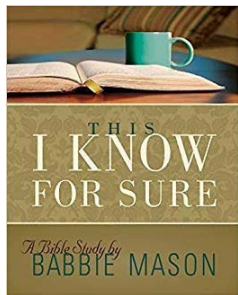
Sunday Afternoons, 3 – 4:30 pm, Beginning September 16  
Led by Kim Carroll, Cost: \$12 for the book

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.



## This I Know For Sure: Women's Bible Study

6-week Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11 am, Begins September 19  
Led by Kim Carroll, Cost: \$12 for the book



Do you have a longing to know God more intimately? Do you desire a rock-solid faith to believe God for the challenges you are facing, regardless of how you may feel? This six-week Bible study by award-winning Gospel singer-songwriter and Bible teacher Babbie Mason challenges you to examine your personal relationship with God, make up your mind to believe God's Word, regardless of your feelings or circumstances, and take hold of some non-negotiable principles of the faith. Whether you are wrestling with questions or fears, struggling in your relationships, or facing a health, financial, or other crisis, these principles will enable you to trust God with your doubts, cease your wavering, and drive a spiritual stake of faith in the ground. Drawing upon the powerful words of 2 Timothy 1:12, Babbie identifies five spiritual "landmarks" that point us to foundational promises in God's Word we can know beyond a shadow of a doubt.

## Ministry Fair



**PUT ME IN COACH!!!** Wear your favorite sports shirt (yes, NASCAR is ok) to church on Sunday, September 23 and come huddle with us in the hospitality area and hallways to learn about all that MUMC has to offer and ways you can help outreach into the community.

The ministry fair will be hosted during the Sunday School hour.

**MINISTRY FAIR**

## The October Kairos Prison Ministry Needs Your Support

**Lockhart Women's Unit Weekend #23 (Oct. 11-14) & Luther Men's Unit Weekend #5 (Oct. 18-21)**

Kairos Prison Ministry is an ecumenical ministry that serves incarcerated men and women as well as the staff at correctional institutions in Texas, the United States, and many countries.

The four day weekend offers the love, mercy, and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to those who have made bad decisions in their life and are repaying their debt to society. Many of these men and women have had challenging lives and may never have had a relationship with God through Jesus or the relationship became broken or distant.

The Kairos weekend seeks to offer God's mercy and love through a series of spiritual talks, prayer, music, activities, food, and fellowship. To witness the transformation of these individuals by the Holy Spirit is to know the power of God's Love. There are 42 "pilgrim" men or women prisoners and about 15 prison steward volunteers who have been on a Kairos weekend and are now serving their fellow inmates for the weekend. The Kairos team is 42 volunteers on the "inside team" and 30 volunteers on the "outside team" who cook and prepare meals, and pray for the entire team.

You can be a part of the Kairos weekend through your prayers, letters, cookies, posters, and cash donations. The weekend costs \$150.00 per inmate and \$150.00 for the volunteers. This pays for food, supplies, and materials needed for the weekend – about \$20,000.00. Cash donations are tax deductible.

If you feel led to participate and support this Kairos weekend contact Ron Mize at 512-699-8031, [mizeron@earthlink.net](mailto:mizeron@earthlink.net), or Sharon Mize at [petunia54@earthlink.net](mailto:petunia54@earthlink.net) or 512-699-8029.

*Together, we can offer God's amazing grace to incarcerated men, women, and the prison staff. God Bless You!*

# ADULT MINISTRIES

## The pumpkins are coming!

All hands on  
Deck!!!

Our first truck of pumpkins will arrive on Sunday, September 30th after the 11:00

services. Dress casual and bring your gloves! Lunch will be provided. Prepare for fun, food and fellowship.

Kid AND adult hands needed-some of those pumpkins are pretty heavy!



## Pumpkin Storytellers and Helpers Needed!

Pumpkins are coming! Every year we host about 1000 children from local schools at our Pumpkin Patch for story-time field trips. Books and ideas provided! We need storytellers and helpers for each weekday morning between October 4 and October 19. Look for our sign-ups online and on the clipboards at church!



## Your Move with Andy Stanley

4-week Men's Bible Study led by Scott Abel  
Thursdays, October 4 – Nov. 1, 7-8:30 PM

Don't miss the opportunity to gather with other Manchaca Men to delve into the Bible and apply it to daily decision-making in your life! Throughout our lives, we are confronted with decisions we never anticipated having to make—relationship decisions, career decisions, financial decisions, parenting decisions—the list goes on and on. To complicate matters further, the timeframe for making a decision is often short and our options limited. Regardless, a decision must be made.

So, what do you do when it's your move and you aren't sure what to do? In this 4-part series, Andy Stanley offers four powerful questions that will help you determine your best move. This free class will be led by our Lay Leader, Scott Abel. The class will meet for four weeks, skipping October 18. Sign up at church or online.



## Civility...For All!

We tend to think about civility as a quality that is mostly present or not present in political discourse. Civility's root word is from Latin and it means a 'citizen' performing his/her civic duty, or civic engagement. But civility is important in all human interactions when it means being considerate, having respect, or regard for the other. It can also mean caring for and claiming one's identity, needs, and beliefs without degrading someone else's identity, needs, and beliefs in the process.

Civility is a learned skill, with a particular vocabulary, which communicates respect and willingness to listen. Civility is also communicated in body language. We all know what 'eye-rolling' or 'harrumphing' communicates to us. There are ways that positive regard for the other can be communicated in body language as well!

People with opposing political positions could have a meaningful conversation if they practiced civility. A married couple could have a better marriage if they practiced civility. Children, teen-agers, young adults might have more frank and open conversations with parents if they were taught the concept of civility along with the appropriate vocabulary and body language. A church community might learn to be more loving, open and accepting practicing civility. Even a church committee might be more productive if the members of the committee knew how to practice civility!

Re v. Mimi Raper will lead a two-week session on civility on Sundays, October 21 and 28 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. There will be discussion of the vocabulary and body language necessary to communicate with civility and there will be opportunities to practice being civil in a conversation.



Mimi is a retired United Methodist pastor who spent 38 years in churches in the southwest Texas area, including Coker in San Antonio, San Benito, San Juan, and Edcouch in the Valley, Mathis near Corpus Christi, Buda, and First Church, Austin. She has a daughter, Rebecca, who lives in North Austin, and two retired racing greyhounds who enjoy the contemplative, mostly silent life-style in the home they share with Mimi! A member of MUMC, Mimi participates in the "It's New to Me" Sunday school class.



# AROUND THE CHURCH

## 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.

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.

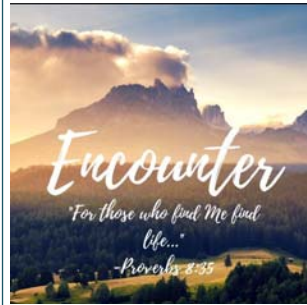


**A love offering will be taken up during these services to support this ministry**

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

## New Worship Service

On Wednesday, September 5th, our new evening worship service, "Encounter", begins. The services will be on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, and all are invited. Please join us for a time of worship music led by Natasha Pelayo and praise band, Moving Mountains, a message, and prayer.



We hope you'll join us for these times of worship, fellowship, and encountering God together.

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## Coats for Kids - 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 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!



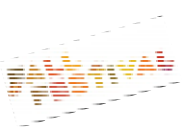
## Caps for Veterans

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 questions 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.



## Annual Fall Festival October 27

Save the date! Our annual Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Saturday, October 27 from 4p-7p. This years festivities will include music, a hay ride, games, bounce houses, trunk or treat, food trailers, crafts and much, much more! This is a free family event we offer for our families and the surrounding communities. This is an amazing outreach opportunity and is typically attended by about 700 people.



Details and volunteer opportunities coming soon!

## Keep the Tradition Going

The Craft Group needs a kitchen crew for this year's craft show lunch on Saturday, Nov. 10. The job is simple: serve up bowls of soup, make sandwiches, and sell servings of dessert.



The hours would be 8 a.m. to about 2 p.m. We would appreciate all the help we can get!

For more details call:  
Judy 512-971-5293 or Susan 512-203-2624

## Coloring Café

The Coloring Café will meet on 1st and 3rd Mondays throughout 2018! Meet us in the Parlor at MUMC (east side of the main building). Doors open at 10:00 a.m. and close around Noon or 1 p.m. Come and go as you please! Coloring sheets, gel pens, colored pencils and markers are provided, or bring your own!



Everyone is welcome to join us - Bring a friend! You do not need to be a member of the MUMC family to participate. Feel free to bring a treat or refreshment for yourself or to share, if you'd like! Coffee and water will be provided. Questions? Contact Kristine Ehrlich at [ehrllichkristine@gmail.com](mailto:ehrllichkristine@gmail.com) or call or text 512-789-9285. Childcare is available by request: [childcare@ManchacaUMC.org](mailto:childcare@ManchacaUMC.org).

## Check out our CHURCH APPS

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.



**Peace? What's That Look Like?**

On some days, like today, life seems frazzled, disjointed, and downright weird and scary. I scheduled on my calendar to do two things today: 1. Sermon Writing, 2. Newsletter article writing. By the time I get to work, I've got a few "extra" things that need to be done that have somehow hopped onto my ministry plate. And the fire alarms need to be tested **TODAY**. Don't get me wrong; I'm not complaining. Some days are just like this. Fortunately, on days like this, the Lord has a way of reminding us of the peace He desires to give us. Maybe we're trying to get too much accomplished in one day. Maybe, just maybe, not everything has to be done **TODAY**. Maybe, just maybe, not every email and voicemail needs to be responded to in the same way I like to respond, which is usually immediately.

Peace. Some days you may be wondering "What's that look like?" Is this peace God promises real? Does it really exist in a world full of troubles, a world that seems to only find its fullness if we're hustling and bustling, rushing around trying to get everything done? Today, trying to get so much done in a very limited amount of time, I feel like I could explode and have a heart attack (no joking). But then Gracious God reminds me of His peace – in fact the peace that passes all understanding. It's available, and God specifically, lovingly calls us back to His peace.

In about A.D. 61, during imprisonment in Rome, the apostle Paul wrote this in a letter to the church at Philippi:

*"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:4-7).

And to the church in Galatia, Paul reminds the church that filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we have "fruit" waiting to be born, wonderfully known as the fruit of the Spirit:

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."* (Galatians: 5:22-23a).

Pray this prayer with me that we may know God's peace for our lives right now:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.* (Saint Francis)

Peace is a journey of a thousand miles and it must be taken one step at a time. Lyndon B. Johnson

Enjoy your day and may the peace of Christ be yours!

*In Christ's Love, Always, Pastor Rosie*

**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at NOON  
 Email submissions to:  
[deanna@manchacaumc.org](mailto:deanna@manchacaumc.org) or  
[office@manchacaumc.com](mailto:office@manchacaumc.com)

**NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE MAILED**  
 Wednesday, September 26, 2018

**Sunday Worship and Sunday School Schedule:**

- 8:30-9:30 a.m.- Traditional Worship w/Communion in the Sanctuary
- 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.- Sunday School for all ages
- 11 a.m. - 12 noon- Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 11 a.m. - 12 noon- Praise Worship in the Family Life Center

**Contact Information:**

Rev. Andy Smith, Sr. Pastor  
 Rev. Rosie Grattan, Assoc. Pastor  
 Office: 512-282-7274 FAX: 512-282-7508  
 email: [office@ManchacaUMC.org](mailto:office@ManchacaUMC.org)  
 web address: <http://www.manchacaumc.org/>  
 Child Development Center: 512-280-2552



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