



## CHURCH CONFERENCE

Fall is a wonderful time in the life of the church. Historically it was the time when the harvest was brought in and the very best was offered as a way of saying thank you to God for the year's produce. It was also a time for everyone to realize there were always those less fortunate than themselves. In today's society we are no longer dependant on the fall harvest to identify our resources but we still experience this time of year as a time to take inventory of what God has given us and what God requires of us in the upcoming year.

November 14, 2010 is the date we have set aside to answer both questions as a congregation: "What has God given to us this past year?" and "What is God asking us to do with what has been given?" November 14th is the date of our annual all-church conference. It will take a great deal of work on everyone's part to answer those questions prayerfully and truthfully. Everyone is asked to answer these questions individually. Start by asking yourself "What is God asking of me this next year?" I don't believe God ever invites us to do something without giving us all the resources needed to accomplish the task. Once you have answered for yourself what you believe God is asking of you, look around at what God has provided and see if the resources you need are available already.

Each committee is invited to prayerfully participate in the same discipline. As a committee, ask what God is asking of you for the next year. Only after you have answered that question, focus on what you need to accomplish the ministries and how those ministries will be carried out. Bring those ministry and resource needs to the church office. Those needs will be compiled and presented to the Finance Committee for their September 21st meeting. The Finance Committee has been charged with developing and implementing plans to support the ministries the committees have adopted. They depend heavily on you having prayerfully considered God's call for each request. They may feel the need to return the budget to the committees for further prayer or recognize God's hand in the budget as presented. They will prayerfully compile a complete budget to be presented to the Program Council and Board of Stewards in their Oct. 16 meetings.

Each committee is represented in some way on the Board of Stewards and everyone is encouraged to attend this meeting Church Conference. As the body of Christ, we will review the prayerful recommendations of the Finance Committee and the requests of the committees. Any adjustments needed in the budget will be made and agreed on by the Board of Stewards after prayerful consensus has been reached. Every opinion is important as well as the ability to agree to disagree. I believe this will be a time filled with the presence of God. Fall is a very special time in the life of the church. We look back on our past and forward to God's future.

See you Sunday,

**Other LHUMC News on Pages 4A & 8A**

## Getting to know our neighbors at Neighborhood Block Party, Sept. 26

September is Open House Month in The United Methodist Church and a good time to give our neighbors a closer look at who we are and what we're about. Along with free food and fun activities, we'll have members of our congregation here to give guests a tour of the sanctuary and the areas affiliated with its use.

Many people find going to a new church intimidating because they don't know the people there and they don't know their way around. It doesn't take long at Laurel Heights before you notice two things: 1) It's easy to get lost in our buildings; and 2) the people are really nice. Having events like the Block Party can help demystify us to our neighbors.

So if you think coming to the Block Party is a silly waste of time unless you have small children, think about this. Regardless of your age and whether or not you have small children, your presence at the Block Party is important because it's really about getting to know our neighbors and them getting to know us.

When people come to the Block Party we want them to feel welcome and make it easy for them to come back. Maybe they're looking for a new church home or they need counseling where a Stephen Minister could help. Perhaps they're interested in joining a church choir or would like to attend a Bible study. Perhaps it's a new mom who would like to be in a group with other women who feel equally challenged at times by the daunting task of motherhood.

The information you share in small conversation with our guests might be the key that leads them toward a closer walk with God. Sure, the Block Party is fun and games and music and laughter! But it's so much more, too. The Block Party is about us getting to know our neighbors and about them getting to know us in a more personal way. We don't want to just be seen as the big Methodist church on the corner of Woodlawn and Belknap. We want to be known as people who have opened our hearts, our minds and our doors so that anyone who passes this way feels welcome in our midst and drawn to participate in our community of faith.

### Block Party

*Free Food & Fun Activities for All Ages*

**Sunday, Sept. 26 - 3 to 6 PM**

227 W. Woodlawn - 733-7156

- Music
- Sack Races
- Puppet Show
- Hula-Hoop Contests
- Cake Walks
- Fish Pond Prizes
- Firefighters & Fire Truck
- Child Safety ID by SAPD
- Tour of the Church
- *And, much, much more!*

SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LHUMC

# The Property Committee

by *Trudy Kinnison*

This is the second in a series of newsletter articles describing functions of sub-committees of the Board of Trustees. As mentioned in the Aug. 6 *Messenger*, there are four sub-committees elected by the Church Conference and each has a role in the implementation of specific responsibilities entrusted to the Trustees.

The focus of the first article was on the Building and Grounds Committee and described that sub-committee's major responsibility in overseeing the maintenance of the church's facilities and grounds. Their work continues weekly, as the Church Mice carry out selected projects.

In order to accomplish the requirements set forth in the Book

## The Property Committee evolved from a long line of committees...

of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, the Trustees must oversee, maintain and supervise building use and be responsible for all church property. The Property Committee is another of the Board of Trustee's four sub-committees and shall be discussed here.

The Property Committee evolved from a long line of committees known in earlier days of the church as the Interiors Committee, or the Arts Committee or later, during the 2006 renovation, as the Furnishings, Fabrics, and Finishes Committee. The recent Renovation and Remodeling Project was ongoing from 2001 to completion in 2006 with an expenditure of \$2,000,000, as well as untold volunteer hours by committee members.

At the completion of the 2006 Renovation Project, the Trustees noted a need for a group, the Property Committee, whose mission would be to provide specific oversight of the use of the building in order to maintain the furnishings, fabrics, and finishes in their newly restored and refurbished condition and to see that any building changes needed would be consistent with the existing design features of the property and would follow the Building Use Policy.

**"...we welcome its use by parishioners and the community when the mission is consistent with that of the Laurel Heights Mission Statement..."**

One of the most important responsibilities of the committee is to support the current Building Use Policy, which was approved by the Trustees and the Board of Stewards. We are stewards of an excellent facility, a gift from God, and as it is our intention to spread the gospel, we welcome its use by parishioners and the community when the mission is consistent with that of the Laurel Heights Mission Statement: "...to offer Christ to those we encounter and to nurture, equip, and enable persons to become committed Christians in our community and the world beyond." There are formal and informal areas of the building which are available for various purposes.

The Building Use Policy addresses building use as well as care of the property by congregational and outside groups. For example, "There may be no temporary or permanent alteration or addition to any interior or exterior building space or finish in the space; including: floor material, paint, wallpaper, stain, furnishings or decorative items without prior written approval of the Property Committee." (p. 5: VII Care of Property; A:2) Any congregational group may submit a proposal to the Property Committee to seek a needed change in their space, i.e. classroom furnishings, wall finishes, or art work. Other guidelines may be viewed online in the complete document at [www.mylhunc.org/](http://www.mylhunc.org/)

**Currently chaired by Trudy Kinnison, the Property Committee is composed of lay persons John Williams, Aleene Block, Wendell Davis, Molly Walden, Helen Perkins, Dit Justiss, Sandra Ojeda-Medina, Carolyn Crockett, Nancy Fassnidge, and Beverly Smith, ex officio. Staff liaison is Geoffrey Waite.**

readingroom/formsandbrochures.html. Another document available for viewing online is the LHUMC Funeral Policy which was written by the committee and approved by the Trustees in 2010.

Some of the past projects that have been overseen by members of the Property Committee are repair projects around the building, which include: 1) improvements of the Belknap entry on first floor; 2) improvements to the Centennial Display Case; 3) installation of a locking wooden door between the hallway from the Weekday School to the receptionist desk; 4) installation of stair lighting on the stairs in the breezeway to the sanctuary; 5) construction of the columbarium in the northwest entry of the sanctuary; and 6) changes to the youth lounge on the third floor. Additionally, artwork was purchased and installed in various areas of the building, and the unsafe brick pavers on Rowe Plaza were repaired and re-painted.

Also, the committee maintains a List of Memorials for the congregation and the pastor. This is a wish list of projects around the property, waiting to be funded. The list is available for anyone wishing to make a designated gift to the church.

A project now underway is a joint venture with the Build-

ing and Grounds Committee to create an electronic and photo inventory of furnishings and equipment in rooms and spaces on the interior of the building.

The Property Committee is in the process of studying the

exterior signage and making suggestions for changes. There have been many visitors, as well as members of the congregation who have pointed out the need for better information and signage around the property. The committee appreciates any input and suggestions from a Sunday school class or individuals regarding directional signs on the property. A plan for signage improvements will be sent to the Trustees for approval, with implementation of the approved changes beginning in early 2011.

A long-range goal of the committee is to submit applications to secure historical markers for our historic sanctuary building.

The Property Committee reports to the Trustees regularly on the status of the property and operates from a budget overseen by the Trustees. The Trustees establish their budget based on income from investments that come from wills and bequeaths left to Laurel Heights, mostly from earlier generations. The next article will focus on the role of the Investment Sub-Committee in the implementation of the Trustees' work.

## Celebrating school

Super Adult Day is Sept. 30, beginning at 9:00 am. Bring an apple for a Weekday School teacher and a school photo of yourself for our display. Others will try to guess which photo is which Super Adult.

Dr. Anne Wier, Director of the Laurel Heights Weekday School, will be our lunch speaker at noon. Dr. Wier will give an in-depth description of this great school, which was one of the first Protestant churches in San Antonio to provide this type of ministry for children.

Remember too that we're collecting school supplies this month to be distributed to needy students in area schools. The Super Adult newsletter for September provides a list of requested items.

Call the Super Adult office, 733-6482, by noon Tuesday, Sept. 28 to make meal reservations. Cost for lunch is \$6 for Super Adult members; \$7 for guests.



STAFF MEETING

**Tuesday, Sept. 21  
9 AM - 3 PM**

If you call or come by the church offices between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 21, please be patient. Only a few church staff will be minding the store. The pastor and others will be away for Advent planning.



## SEPTEMBER

- 19 Landon Samuel Brandvik; Evelyn Galbreath
- 20 Willa Jo Beuhler; Lucy Celaya; Lucille Hernandez; Lori Ann Ramirez
- 21 Stan Bartel; Beth Highbanks Furber; Evelyn Langston; Lillian Wells
- 22 Ted Bailey; Jennifer Brooks
- 23 Emily Jones
- 24 Sammie Sollock
- 25 James Aderhold, Jr.; Marjorie Hugo; Lenella Meister; Oralee Meyer; Ruth Woods
- 26 Jerry Hodges; Carrie Holloway
- 27 Billie Arredondo; Shannon Jones; Bonnie Surber
- 28 Gracie Huron; Lauren Kramer; Karen Michaelson
- 29 Adolph Grier; Jerry Howell; Paul Oleson
- 30 Beth Williams Brewer; Carmen Hughes; Molly Myers

## OCTOBER

- 1 James Anderson, Jr.
- 2 Charlie Beuhler; Mary Verette

## Mission Statement

**The mission of Laurel Heights United Methodist Church is to offer Christ to those we encounter and to nurture, equip, and enable persons to become committed Christians in our community and the world beyond.**

## CHURCH CALENDAR

\*Childcare available.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

8:30 & 11:00 \*Worship (Rev. Jim McClain) - *Sanctuary*  
9:30 Fellowship Time & Faith in Action Taco Sales - *Dining Room*  
9:30 Tiny Tones - *106*  
9:30 Joyful Noise Choir - *313-A*  
10:00 Sunday School for all ages  
10:00 LHUMC Leads Worship - *Chandler Center*  
12:00 Youth Ministry Council - *319*  
12:00 Acolyte Training-*Dining Rm.*  
3:00 Youth Choir - *Choir Room*  
4:00 UMYF - *319*

### Monday, September 20

9:00 Super Adult Games Day - *DR*  
9:00-4:00 Clergy Women Meet (Mon.-Thu.) - *322*  
9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - *312*  
3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Mon.-Thu.) - *Gym*  
5:00 SA Youth Advisory Council - *Laurel Room*  
6:00 Emmaus Reunion Group - *DR*  
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*

### Tuesday, September 21

9:00-3:00 Church Staff Planning Retreat - *Respite Care*  
5:30 Finance Committee - *Parlor*  
5:30 Bexar County Detention Ministries - *Dining Room*  
6:15 Stephen Ministry - *313-B*

### Wednesday, September 22

10:00 Canning & Freezing Lecture - *Dining Room*  
4:30 Line Dancing - *312*  
4:30 Property Committee - *Library*  
5:30 Supper - *Dining Room*  
6:15 \*Worship / Communion (Rev. Robin Hiatt-Reed) - *Scott Chapel*  
6:15 Handbells- *Sanctuary Balcony*  
6:30 Disciple I - *Parlor*  
7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*  
7:15 Bible Study - *Library*

### Thursday, September 23

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)  
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*

### Friday, September 24

9:00-12:00 Community Convening (SAMB) - *Dining Room*

### Saturday, September 25

8:00-3:00 Planned Parenthood- *312*  
8:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*  
4:00 Borg Bunch Study Group - *Laurel Room*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

**Choir Dedication Sunday**  
8:30 & 11:00 \*Worship (Rev. Jim McClain) - *Sanctuary*  
9:30 Fellowship Time & Faith in Action Taco Sales - *Dining Rm.*  
9:30 Tiny Tones - *106*  
9:30 Joyful Noise Choir - *313-A*  
10:00 Sunday School for all ages  
2:45 Children's Ministry Team - *Parlor*  
3:00-6:00 Block Party - *Woodlawn Parking Lot*  
6:30 Emmaus Gathering - *Scott Ch.*

### Monday, September 27

9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - *312*  
9:00-4:00 Clergy Women Meet (Mon.-Thu.) - *322*  
3:00-7:00 San Antonio Youth at LHUMC (Mon.-Fri.) - *Gym*  
5:30 Trustees - *Parlor*  
6:00 Weekday School Board - *WDS*  
6:00 Emmaus Reunion Group - *DR*  
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- *313-B*

### Tuesday, September 28

10:00 Staff Meeting - *313-B*  
5:30 Bexar County Detention Ministries - *Dining Room*  
6:30 Neighborhood Ministries - *Parlor*

### Wednesday, September 29

4:30 Line Dancing - *312*  
5:30 \*Supper - *Dining Room*  
6:00 SA Youth Parents' Mtg. - *312*  
6:15 \*Healing Service/Communion (Rev. Valli Seilheimer)-*Scott Ch.*  
6:15 Handbells- *Sanctuary Balcony*  
6:30 Disciple I - *Parlor*  
6:30 Border Ministries - *313-B*  
7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*  
7:15 Bible Study - *Library*

### Thursday, September 30

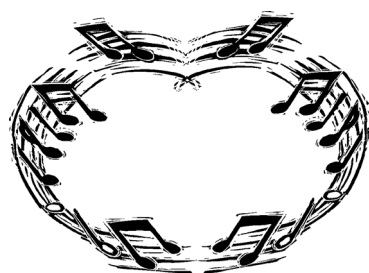
9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)  
9:00 Super Adult Day - *DR, Gym*  
5:30 Nominations Committee - *Parlor*  
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*

### Friday, October 1

8:00-5:00 Weekday School Staff Development/TAEYC Conference  
4:00 UMW Annual Meeting - *Church Bus*

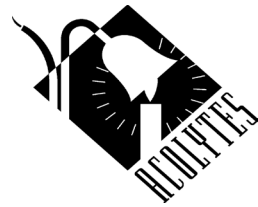
### Saturday, October 2

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*



## Choir Dedication Sunday Sept. 26

As is customary at Laurel Heights, Choir Dedication Sunday will take place on the last Sunday in September. At the 11:00 service we will have a time when we, as a congregation, will give thanks to God for the gifts, time, and talents of these dedicated individuals who give so much throughout the year in honoring God and leading us in worship through music.



## Acolyte Training, Sept. 19

Parents, your 4th through 8th grade son or daughter can be an integral part of worship by serving as an acolyte. Even if your child has served before, they should attend this session, which is scheduled for 12:00 noon on Sunday, Sept. 19. We will eat pizza in the dining room with training following in the sanctuary. RSVP to 733-7156. We should be finished before 2:00 pm.

## Super Adult Sunday

Now celebrating its 36th year, the Super Adult ministry at Laurel Heights will lead both worship services on Sunday, Sept. 19. Super Adults will provide the choir at the 11:00 service and will be participating as liturgists. Henry Holloway will sing a solo at 8:30 and 11:00; Richard Parigan will be organist; Susan Holloway will preach.

## Eat healthy and save some green

Canning and freezing fresh produce is a healthy and economical way to enjoy summer's fruits and vegetables year-round. From 10:00 am to 11:30 am on Wednesday, Sept. 22 Dr. Connie Sheppard with Texas AgriLife Extension will teach us how to preserve fresh produce using basic kitchen equipment. Space is limited to 15, so reservations are required. Call Elizabeth Woods, 733-7156 ext. 36.

### GIFTS IN HONORARIA

**Education DR. & MRS. REEVES SMITH**  
by  
Dinah Tanner



In the Mailbag

Aug. 2, 2010

To my family at LHUMC:

Just a note to thank you for your support through prayers and scholarships the last four years while I was in seminary. I graduated from Perkins School of Theology in May, and on July 1 became the associate pastor at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

St. Paul's reminds me very much of Laurel Heights. It's a 1,400-member congregation, and we have between 400 and 500 in worship each Sunday. I am blessed to have an amazing senior pastor, so I preach almost every week.

I was sad that I wasn't returning to South Texas, but in the month I've been in New Mexico I have become acutely aware that God called me here. San Antonio will always be home to me, and you will always be my family, but there is a lot of ministry to be done in Las Cruces as well. I work with the staff and volunteers in children's ministries, youth ministries and missions, all of which I am very passionate about, and I am primarily responsible for our contemporary service.

It is so wonderful to see that Laurel Heights continues to grow and prosper, and I continue to hold you in prayer. If you are ever in the area look me up. I would be thrilled to see you.

Blessings to you,  
Pastor Tammy Valentine

## Tuesday Musical Club presents...

At 7:30 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 12, The Tuesday Musical Club's 88th Artist Series will bring to Laurel Heights The PSB Piano Trio featuring Navah Perlman at piano, and Giora Schmidt and Zuill Bailey on violin and cello. Tickets are \$20 at the door. Students are free with student ID. For more details, call 832-0861 or visit [www.satmc.org](http://www.satmc.org).



**Healing:** James Verette; Rex Bailey; Mindy Lanoux; Julie Mazel; Harold Souder; Roxane Darnell; Rebecca Mayes; Winifred Worsham; Martha Chapman; Nancy Fassnidge Elizabeth Boazeman; Richard Jackson; Vane Hugo.  
**Those Who Mourn:** Families of Thomas & Robin Reed and Drew & Carey Reed in the loss of Randy Reed on Aug. 28 and JonMichael Reed on Aug. 29; Pat Moss in the loss of her uncle, James Ralph Weed.

Remember our shut-ins and those in the military.



**CONTACT Us**  
Main (210) 733-7156  
Fax 737-3920  
School 732-6979  
Super Adults 733-6482

### Clergy

Rev. Jim McClain x34  
Pastor

### Programming

Deaconess Judy Davis x18  
Community Outreach  
Susan Holloway 733-6482  
Super Adult Director  
Kercida McClain x37  
Christian Education Director  
Geoffrey Waite x19  
Director of Music  
Dr. Anne Wier 732-6979  
Weekday School Director  
Elizabeth Woods RN BSN x36  
Wesley Nurse

### Office

Cherie Burt x10, Receptionist  
Louise Dudley x29  
Bookkeeper  
Cathy Everhart x13  
Publications Editor  
Elizabeth Jackson x12  
Administrative Secretary

The issue date of this bi-weekly publication is the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Deadline for submitting news is 5:00 pm on 1st & 3rd Thursdays. Mail to: Messenger Editor, 227 W. Woodlawn, San Antonio, TX 78212 or send an email to: [cathy@mylhumc.org](mailto:cathy@mylhumc.org).