



Rain

This morning I have the indulgent opportunity to enjoy a wonderful cup of coffee while sitting next to the window watching it rain. After giving thanks to God for this beautiful slow rain, I prayed that this rain would not be so unique that you reading this would know what day it is.

Rain is one of the events that have the ability to remind us in a very meaningful way how little control we really have over our own lives. Every year we seem to gain new ways to control and manipulate our environment. I can easily remember a time when there were a limited number of places you could pick up a phone and have a conversation

with someone. Controlling the temperature of your home or office was a costly and cumbersome goal and imperfect at best. We have learned a vast amount in the areas of communication and comfort and the discoveries God has given us provides us the opportunity to make our lives much fuller. Rain keeps us humble.

The belief that we are self-sufficient can draw us away from God and trivialize our relationship. We forget that it is through God's grace that we are able to invent or discover these new comforts and that they are gifts, not rights. Most of you reading this were born into a nation and at a time where we have the ability and resources to imagine even greater ideas to make our lives more at ease, convenient and prosperous. And in most cases, we were born here not because of some extraordinary actions on the part of our parents. Likewise, the education we received depended largely on the schools to which we had access. These are gifts. If not gifts given directly to us by God, then gifts given to us by God through our parents and others and their ability to use those advantages wisely.

No matter how much we know or how hard we try we still do not seem to have the ability to control when it rains, how much or where. Our attempt to control the rain has far reaching consequences that we cannot accurately predict. Rain still seems to be something we can agree is best left to God. Like all the things God gives us, we can manage and use the rain wisely but rain has a wonderful way of reminding us it is a gift from God.

So I am working from home this morning with my laptop computer writing a newsletter article some of you will read on a screen in another part of the world, drinking coffee that was grown in another country where I want to believe the growers were treated fairly, watching cars of all sizes and shapes almost stop at stop signs while driving on roads that are safe and solid, giving thanks to God for the rain. I am praying for people who are sick and that those who care for them will have knowledge beyond their training. I am thinking about the day ahead of me and how I can better allow people the opportunity to encounter Christ. I am listening to my family stir and prepare for their day and thanking God for the gift of the family I was given. I am asking God for the wisdom to use all these things wisely. I am thanking God for the rain and for all those I know who God has given ranches or farms and who depend on rain much more than I. I am thanking God for the rain and my parents who had the faith to have children. I am thanking God for the rain and the way God brought the elements of the earth together in such a way that Kercida and I have the blessing of the children we have. I am thanking God that I serve at Laurel Heights and can sip my coffee in a wonderful home while enjoying the rain.

See you Sunday,

Jim

VBS - July 11-15, 9-12

Vacation Bible School is open to age four years through sixth grade. Your child should be *at least* four years of age *before* July 11, 2011 and may be *entering* sixth grade in the fall of 2011-12. Blue registration cards can be found around the church or on the church website at <http://www.mylhunc.org/events/vbs.html>. Families registered will receive a CD of the music.

HOSPICE - What is it exactly?

Good question! There is a lot of misinformation about Hospice floating around. Come to room 312 at 6:15 pm on Tuesday, July 19; let Robin Hiatt-Reed help you learn the truth about Hospice - how it started, what Hospice is and what it can do with and for your family. This learning event is sponsored by Stephen Ministry at Laurel Heights. Questions? Call Colleen Bailey or Barb Nardi Kurtz.

Summer in the Story for children and youth

It began June 26 and continues through Aug. 21 - *Summer in the Story* - Our great, great, great, great, great, great... Grandparents in Faith for children and youth (pre-school-12th grade). **Session 1 Abraham:** Sundays through July 17; **Session 2 Joseph:** July 24-Aug. 21. Each week children and youth Sunday School classes rotate to a different center to experience the story in a new way: *Cooking...* Room 219; *Art...* Room 313-A; *Drama/Theatre...* Room 320; *Games...* Room 312; *Science...* Room 105.

Clip and save the Weekly Schedule below. More information is available online at www.mylhunc.org/summerstory.html.

	PS	K-2	3-5	6-12	
3-Jul	Drama	Games	Science	Cook	Abraham
10-Jul	Games	Science	Cook	Art	
17-Jul	Science	Cook	Art	Drama	
24-Jul	Cook	Art	Drama	Games	Joseph
31-Jul	Art	Drama	Games	Science	
7-Aug	Drama	Games	Science	Cook	
14-Aug	Games	Science	Cook	Art	
21-Aug	Science	Cook	Art	Drama	



SUNDAY
JULY 10
 9 AM - 12:30 PM
 LHUMC GYM

Sign up today! Call
 Wesley Nurse Christina Galvan, 733-7156

Other LHUMC News on Pages 4A & 8A

Super Adults On The Go

Peach Pickin' Super Adults on the Go to Texas Hill Country

Those peaches should be ripe; let's go get some! The Super Adults (and anyone interested in going with us) are headed to the Texas Hill Country by chartered Regent Coach on Thursday, July 7. The first stop is for morning coffee at the Bakery in Fredericksburg. From there we're headed to the peach orchards where you can pick your own peaches, if you like.

Lunch will be at Wheeler's before a visit to Fischer and Wieser where you can buy peaches or some of their other offerings. On the return home we'll stop at Wildseed Farms where you can browse the gift shop and get some homemade ice cream (on your own).

The cost is \$59, which includes charter Regent Coach, morning coffee, lunch, driver tip and guides Susan and Henry Holloway. Call 733-6482 or 342-6912 for details.

Magazines abound in your Church Library

by Karen Michaelson and Sandra Webb

The LHUMC Library subscribes to numerous publications for your religious and inspirational reading pleasure. Here are just a few:

The Upper Room, a daily devotional guide, is used by more than 2.5 million readers; submissions come from readers like our own Dinah Tanner who has had two articles published in it.

Christian Century is a bi-weekly periodical with sections on politics and society, arts and culture, ministry, theology, and a life of faith.

Christianity Today talks about current events from a Christian perspective including reviews of books, movies and music.

Bits and Pieces is a motivational magazine. Recent articles include "Delight in Simple Pleasures," "A Sweet Lesson in Humanity," "The Power of Belief," and "Facing Adversity."

Guideposts gives us uplifting true stories on positive thinking, faith and prayer.

Come visit your Church Library to find just the right periodical for your enjoyment and devotional enrichment.



Welcome to Andrew Edeler, Nathan Garza, Murphy Grossett, Tori Hartson, Caitlyn Hughes, Bo Lee and Josh Sanders who joined Laurel Heights UMC on June 12 by Confirmation.

Altar Flower donors needed

We still have dates available Aug. 7 to Nov. 6 for Sunday Altar Flowers. You can order the arrangement yourself or the church office can do that for you. If the church orders, prices start at \$42. To schedule a date and tell how you would like the Sunday bulletin to read, contact Elizabeth Jackson, 733-7156 ext. 12. Altar flower donors have the unique opportunity of beautifying the sanctuary while honoring or remembering someone special.



"Catcher in the Rye" featured in July

Join the Super Adults in the **Library** at 10:00 am on Monday, July 11 for another Books and Conversation with discussion of J. D. Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye*. Published in 1951, the book now celebrates its 60th year of publication. Even today, moral issues raised in the novel tend to stir up controversy and debate among Salinger's critics. Mark your calendar and plan to come!

SAPD offers F.A.C.T. training

The F.A.C.T. (Family Assistance Crisis Team) Volunteer Program is part of the Victims Advocacy Office of the San Antonio Police Department. Volunteers are needed to work one Friday or Saturday night a month from 7 pm to 2 am at one of the police substations. Volunteers offer these crisis intervention services: 1) a listening ear, 2) help in planning for another's safety, 3) giving out information and 4) making available referral resources.

Volunteers can also choose to serve at the Family Justice Center which is open Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm. At the Center, volunteers greet the clients, assist with paperwork and help clients get to the various services available there. Volunteers at the Center are asked to work two four-hour shifts a month.

The next training will be on Saturdays, July 16 and 23 from 9 am to 4 pm and Tuesday, July 26 from 6 pm to 9 pm. **All three sessions must be attended.** Volunteers within the Police Department must also attend an Orientation class on August 20 from 9 am to 1 pm. Classes are held at the San Antonio Police Department Headquarters, 214 W. Nueva. There is no charge for the training. **Volunteers make a commitment to work at least six months.** For more information or to apply, call Ivie Tovar in the F.A.C.T. office, 207-2305. Help put an end to family violence!

Sandwiches, fruit, and cookies

Just a simple meal for a hot summer evening -- something not everyone can afford to eat.

In January of 2003 Laurel Heights took on Church under the Bridge (CUB) as a new outreach ministry, offering (once a month) to prepare a meal and take it to the CUB site in downtown San Antonio to feed the homeless. The number of helpers has dwindled from 20 to just a handful.

If you would like to help prepare and load vehicles, be at the church by 4 pm on a first Thursday. (Next date is July 7.) The group leaves from the Woodlawn parking lot at 6 pm. Don't be late.

If you want to give food, we always need sandwiches, cookies, and fresh fruit. Put sandwiches and cookies in individual serving size zip lock bags. Contact Julie Mazel or Diane Boehme.

Thank you to all of you who had a part in the Zimbabwe Mission. I believe the Lord worked through us and blessed us there. As the weeks go by I hope to share experiences with you. Thank you for caring. Pastor Tedious often asked, "Are you here?" Here is a poem I wrote one night in Muziti, Zimbabwe, Africa. - Clyta Coder



ARE YOU HERE?

Are you here beneath
stone-faced Mount Tikwiri?
Are you here, Lord?
Are you here in Muziti
listening to your people sing
and dance their joy
before you,
spirit-joy, pure and bright
as the stars in the Southern
sky,
not a Sunday morning
performance,
but a daily walk,
spontaneous,
perfect in pitch, tone,
and rhythm,
clean before the Lord,
a bubbling fountain of joy.
Are you here, Africa?
Are you here, Zimbabwe,
listening for God's call?



PNO Resumes August 5

Parents' Night Out resumes Friday, Aug. 5. PNO provides certified childcare for ages 3 months to fifth grade. Rates are \$15 for the first child and \$10 for each additional child. Reservations must be received by noon on the Friday of PNO. Call 733-7156.

NEW LHUMC LIBRARY HOURS

STAFFED LIBRARY HOURS COMPUTERS AVAILABLE ONLY DURING STAFFED HOURS	WEDNESDAY 10 AM - 12 PM & 5 - 6 PM FRIDAY 10 AM - 12 PM SELF-HELP LIBRARY HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 - 5 PM
SUNDAY 9:30 AM - 11 AM	Search the Library Catalog online at http://66.196.195.10:8080 .
MONDAY 10 AM - 12 PM	



JULY

- 3 Aleene Block; Shelley McMullen; LaRhesa Pollock
- 5 Ann Beuhler
- 6 Robert Barrows; Patricia Weatherly
- 7 Tommy Barrows; Marie Campbell; Andrea Lee; Cole Dean Reed
- 9 Pam Kruckner; Marjorie Parrigan; Cheri Riddle
- 10 Ben Williams
- 11 Annabella Presley Garcia; Alexandra Bethany Mitchell; Donna Semmes
- 12 Robert Basil
- 13 Paul Campbell
- 14 Sarah Adams; Skyler Marie Barron; Norman Fournier; Reeves Smith
- 15 George Allen
- 16 Carli Jane McKay Byrd; Debbie Campbell; Zachary Cavazos

CHURCH CALENDAR

*Childcare available.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship / Holy Communion - *Sanctuary*
9:30 Fellowship Time - *Dining Rm.*
10:00 Sunday School for adults
10:00 Summer in the Story for children & youth - *Rooms vary*
10:00 LHUMC leads worship @ Chandler Center
4:00 Student Ministries (Middle School) - 319
5:30 Student Ministries (High School) - 319

Monday, July 4



All Offices & Buildings Closed

Tuesday, July 5

8:00-5:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Tue.-Fri.) - *Gym*
8:45 Flow Yoga Class - 305
9:00-5:00 VBS Work Days (Tue.-Fri.) - 312

10:00 Gentle Yoga Class - 305
10:00 Church Staff Meeting- 313-B
6:15 Stephen Ministry - 313-B

Wednesday, July 6

4:30 Line Dancing - 312
5:30 *Supper - *Dining Room*
6:00 Youth Bible Stories - 319
6:15 Summer Adult Bible Study w/ Bert & Janice Clayton -*Parlor*
6:15 *Worship / Holy Communion - *Scott Chapel*

Thursday, July 7

7:30-5:00 Super Adults to Fredericksburg, TX -*Regent Bus*
9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church
9:00-5:00 Youth to Fiesta Texas - *Church Bus*
6:00 Church under the Bridge - *Leave from Woodlawn Lot*
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B
7:00-9:00 VBS Training - 312

Friday, July 8

10:00 Church Women United Executive Board Meeting- *Parlor*

Saturday, July 9

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

SUNDAY, JULY 10

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship- *Sanctuary*
9:00-12:30 Blood Drive - *Gym*
9:30 Fellowship Time - *Dining Rm.*
10:00 Sunday School for adults
10:00 Summer in the Story for children & youth - *Rooms vary*
4:30 UMW Elizabeth Circle- 313-B

Monday, July 11

8:00-5:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Mon.-Fri.) - *Gym*
9:00-12:00 Vacation Bible School (Mon.-Fri.) - *Dining Room*
10:00 Super Adults Books & Conversation - *Library*
1:00 Knitpickers - *Laurel Room*
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B

Tuesday, July 12

7:30 Health Cabinet - *The Foundry*

10:00 Church Staff Meeting- 313-B
11:30 Stephen Leaders- *Laurel Rm.*
5:30 Bexar County Detention Support Groups - *Dining Room*

Wednesday, July 13

7:30 Executive Comm. - *Foundry*
10:00 Super Adult Steering-*Library*
11:30 LEO - *Room TBD*
4:30 Property Committee - *Library*
4:30 Line Dancing - 312
5:30 *Supper - *Dining Room*
6:00 Youth Bible Stories - 319
6:00 Women's Book Group - *Laurel Room*
6:15 Summer Adult Bible Study w/ Bert & Janice Clayton- *Parlor*
6:15 *Worship / Holy Communion - *Scott Chapel*

Thursday, July 14

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

Friday, July 15

6:00 VBS Closing Celebration & Dinner - *Gym*

Saturday, July 16

8:00-3:00 Faith in Action Followup
8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B
9:00 Program Council - 312
10:30 Board of Stewards - 312

July Mission: Domestic Disaster Response, UMCOR Advance #901670

UMCOR maintains a corps of trained disaster response specialists for quick reinforcement of local efforts, and it keeps a supply of relief materials in warehouses for dispatch when and where required.

UMCOR-trained disaster response coordinators are part of each annual conference and are ready to respond locally when a disaster occurs. Annual conferences are regional organizations that represent the United Methodist churches in that area. There are nearly 70 annual conferences in the United States.

When a disaster occurs, UMCOR staff are in close contact with disaster response coordinators offering, advice, support, financial assistance, and a personal presence as needed.

You are welcome to give at any time in the month. However, all communion rail and Wednesday night table offerings in July help support this Mission of the Month.

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

Bell Tower HAROLD SOUDER

by
Mr. & Mrs.
Raymond Angelini

by
Will & Stacy
Campbell Family

by
Mr. & Mrs. James Cross

by
Ricardo & Beatrice
Espinosa

by
Mr. & Mrs. Dave Gannon

by
Keith & Pat Geasler

by
Donna Glawson

by
Elizabeth Hughes

by
Col. & Mrs. Vane Hugo

by
His Loving Nieces
and Nephews:
Donna & Slade MacTaggart
& Family
Ellen & Tom Heile
& Family
Scott Souder
& Carolyn Green

by
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Mitchell

by
Mr. & Mrs.
Richard Parrigan

by
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Perron

by
Mr. & Mrs. William Phelps

by
Dr. & Mrs. Clay Skinner

by
Edward & Florence Souder

Gifts to United Methodist Women Mary Blackford Scholarship Fund

In Memory of
MARY MCDAVID
by
Mary Eng

GIFTS IN HONORARIA

General Budget TORI HARTSON

by
Barbara Myers

Stephen Ministry ANNA LOWRY

by
Doris Wise Hoffman

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

General Memorials

TALITHA HOLLOWAY

by
Rev. & Mrs. Bert Clayton

HAROLD SOUDER

by
Dit Justiss

by
Paul Le Bleu

Music Fund TALITHA HOLLOWAY

by
Mary Eng & Sandra Eng

Organ Fund ROBERT W. CARLSON

by
Darla Peek

TALITHA HOLLOWAY

by
Darla Peek

HAROLD SOUDER

by
Darla Peek

Pastor's Discretionary Fund HAROLD SOUDER

by
Gloria Sparkman

by
Mr. & Mrs.
Andrew Spillman

Youth Mission Trip HAROLD SOUDER

by
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Malek

Our mission

...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.



Healing: Thomas Romo; Ellen Berky; Ed Pendleton; Jean Ockenfels; Margaret Bich; Fred Vaca; Mindy Lanoux; Roxane Darnell; Shelley & Joe McMullen; Patti Vaughan; Max Healy; Bill Magavern; Ruth Nielsen; Geraldine Douglas; and Martha Hamil.

Those Who Mourn: Robert Robinson in the loss of his grandmother on June 13.

Remember our shut-ins and those in the military.



CONTACT Us

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Youth Director
Geoffrey Waite x19
Director of Music
Dr. Anne Wier 732-6979
Weekday School Director
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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.