It takes all of us connected together to be that light. Join us in worship during October as we look at what God is calling us to do and how we might move from bright to brilliant.

Harvest Festival

All Things Harvest Festival

Per sales and donation collections begin October 8 in the Fellowship Hall. There will be tables set up where you can purchase your pre-sale pecans, whole briskets, lunch tickets and more! If you have a class or individual donation, we will be accepting those as well. Donor forms are available if you would like to go to your favorite local business to see if they would like to make a donation.

Also needed are donations in the form of baked goods (these do not have to be individually packaged) and frozen items. Drop-off for these items begins on Friday, November 3. Lunch tickets are $10 for adults (brisket or chicken leg quarter, two sides and fixins) and $5 for kids 12 and under (hot dog, chips and drink).

In August, the congregation made a commitment to pray for our students and our educators this school year. On Back-to-School Sunday and Blessing of the Educators Sunday we were invited to make eye contact with a student and an educator and pray for that individual all year. Who do you choose? Have you been praying for that child, teacher, or Sunday school leader? Have you introduced yourself to that person? Consider introducing yourself to the educator or child that you chose in August. Let them know that you have been praying and will be praying for them this school year. What a great opportunity to begin a sacred partnership!

Who Did You Choose?

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Where Does the Money Go?

by Diana Cason

Since I began serving on the Finance Committee two years ago, I find myself thinking about stewardship frequently. Not just my own stewardship, but the stewardship of the funds that you have entrusted to the work of the church. We are all temporary stewards of these gifts while we have possession of them. I am deeply grateful for each pledge and gift that is given to God in this place. These gifts further God’s mission and ministry through FUMC Hurst. Your tithes and offerings support the 2017 annual budget of $2,879,169 in the following ways:

- Compensation (including salaries, payroll taxes, health insurance, and pensions) is expected to be $1,551,619. These funds provide for the clergy and staff that teach, inspire, and lead us to live God’s kingdom here and now.
- Administrative expenses (for office staff salaries, postage, and credit card fees) are $96,900. Much of this represents technology costs that didn’t exist twenty years ago.
- Did you know that the church’s need for money, but also the Christian’s need to give. He also notes that it extends beyond the use of money, but also to time, talent, teaching, and love.
- I am overcome with gratitude for the privilege it is to be a part of this body of believers, and to support God’s work through this church, in this community and beyond.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude when I consider the many blessings God has provided to me and others through this church. What a privilege it is to be a part of this body of believers, and to support God’s work through this church, in this community and beyond.

I know that I need to give. I am inspired by generous people and want to be more like them. As we all prayerfully consider our giving this year, I hope you will join me in practicing generosity.
MinistrySafe

MinistrySafe Update!

Each person who works with children or youth must have this training. Once registered for an in-person policy training, you will be sent a link to an online abuser prevention training. Please complete the online training prior to attending the policy training. Each person must also sign up for a short interview. All information and registration links can be found at www.fumchurst.org/ministysafe.

Upcoming training date: October 16. Training takes place at 6:30 p.m. in C109 and walk-ins are welcome. Register online through the church’s event calendar. Childcare available with registration.

For more information, contact our MinistrySafe Administrator, Lynn Carter at lcarter@fumchurst.org.

Testament Travels Shepherd Meeting/Training Sunday, October 1, 9:30-9:45 a.m., Cinema Those who serve as Shepherds in Testament Travels will gather together in the Cinema to share ideas, support one another, participate in training, and receive updates about implementation of HILH Listening. Those who occasionally serve as a substitute Shepherd (or would like to begin serving as a Shepherd) are encouraged to attend. We are eager to have your participation. Please register online (child care available). Contact Abbie with questions.

Children’s Ministry News

For more information about any Children’s Ministry events, contact Jennifer Acker at jacker@fumchurst.org or 817.282.7384, x 220. Please let her know your interests. She will help you connect to the appropriate role within the Children’s Ministry.

Sunday School Preschool Training, Cinema Calling all adults who serve in Preschool Sunday School. Please join us on Sunday, November 5 at 9:45 a.m. to share ideas, support one another, and participate in training. If you are interested in serving in Preschool Sunday School or if you already serve in this area, please join us. Please register online (child care available). Contact Abbie with questions.

Mission Possible Kids (MPK)

TWO gatherings in October!

Sunday, October 1, 4-5 p.m.
Mission Possible Kids will meet in the Cinema.
Sunday, October 15, 4-5 p.m.
MPK will meet in the park to participate in the Kids Fun Run! Parents are requested to stay with their children at this event. For those children participating in choir, parents are responsible for getting children to choir afterwards.

Have you seen the sta?!

Have you seen children in worship who are wearing yellow star necklaces? Our Kinder students received a special gift from losing a loved one in August. Since then, they have been in worship with us. When you see a Kinder student wearing the yellow star necklace, ask them what they experienced in worship that day or what they learned in Sunday school. The children love having you involved in their discipleship journey!

Sunday School Youth

Youth gather before 9:45 a.m. in Anderson Center and then dismiss to grade level classes. Grades 7-11 meet in Anderson and Rite 12 (+grade) meets in the Serenity Room. Classes end at 10:45 a.m.

Sunday Night Youth

All youth in grades 7-12 are welcome to attend youth group on Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. We meet together for snack supper (served at 6 p.m.), worship as a whole group and then divide between junior high and senior high for teaching and small groups. All youth are also welcome to attend our other Sunday night activities:

- Praise Band practice, 4-5 p.m., Anderson Center
- Youth Choir rehearsal 5-6 p.m., Choir Room

Upcoming in October

October 22: Youth Volunteer Summit, 12 p.m., Anderson
October 29: Trunk or Treat, 6-30 p.m. (be in the parking lot by 4:30)

No Youth following.

A Word from the Youth Directors:

Throughout September the youth group focused on learning about what it means to be living in community. We discussed why we need to be in community, what community looks like and what community isn’t. As we learned about biblical communities, like the church of Acts, we discovered ways for us to embody those communities within our youth group. We have concentrated on creating open and inviting small groups that can be a time for students to discuss lessons and their personal lives, always asking the question “How is it with your soul?” These small groups have been made possible by our wonderful Sunday night mentors who volunteer their time to pour into our students. We are very thankful for all of our volunteers (both Sunday school teachers and Sunday night mentors), you make our youth group possible!

If you are a student that hasn’t gotten involved in youth group yet, we invite you to join us for Sunday school in the mornings or Sunday night youth!

Senior High Youth

Youth gather before 9:45 a.m. in Anderson Center and then dismiss to grade level classes. Grades 7-11 meet in Anderson and Rite 12 (+grade) meets in the Serenity Room. Classes end at 10:45 a.m.

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Stephen Ministers are lay members who are trained in pastoral ministry. A Stephen Minister can help you through a difficult time or crisis in your life. A Stephen Minister promises to be a friend, to help you through a difficult time, to listen with no judgments, not to judge, and to maintain strict confidentiality. Stephen Ministers receive an intensive training to prepare in serving others. The training does not stop after one becomes a Stephen Minister. Continuing Education is a vital component of our ministry—held once a month on a variety of topics, to help our ministry continue to learn and become better. This past month, we had the honor of listening to Fort Worth Star Telegram columnist and author Tim Madigan speak on his newest book, Getting Grief Right. Co-authored with noted psychotherapist Patrick O’Malley, the book is an expanded look on a 2015 New York Times piece, telling Patrick O’Malley’s story about his death of his mister son—and how his inability to “move on” challenged everything he was taught as a psychotherapist—it inspired an unprecedented flood of gratitude from readers that continues to this day. What is shared is a truth that many have longed to hear: that there is no right or wrong way to grieve. Written with Tim Madigan and illuminated by O’Malley’s own story and those of many clients, one we’ve lost, to be fully felt and woven into our lives.

The time spent with Tim during our continuing education event provided invaluable information to our Stephen Ministers and another tool to use when being with those in our care.

Friday, October 20
6-9 p.m. • Serenity House
A night for family, food, and friends hosted by Compañeros En Cristo.
Potluck dinner, bring your favorites!
Spanish optional.
Welcome to Our Newest Ministry Intern

Barbara Dunlap and her husband Brian have been members at FUMC Hurst for 12 years. They have three children, Laura, 14, Thomas, 11, and Anna, 8. Barbara is in her final year in the Masters of Arts in Theology and Ministry at Brite Divinity School. She is a Certified Candidate for ordained ministry as a Deacon in the United Methodist Church. During her internship at FUMC Hurst, Barbara will be working with Rev. Donna McKee in Adult Discipleship, including teaching online classes about United Methodist history, beliefs, and policy. She will also be working to coordinate efforts between FUMC Hurst and other area organizations to try to reduce the high rate of infant mortality in our area, specifically the 7,0002 zip code.

Deepening Connections in Panama

Have you ever thought about going on a mission trip? What about that mission trip to Panama? Just thought the can be a bit daunting and exciting at once. Mission trips help us to reconnect our lives from self-centered to Christ-centered. It’s not just something to experience, but it energizes and inspires us to carry out God’s call on our lives each and every day. In 2018, there will be two opportunities to serve on a mission trip in Panama with our missionaries David and Cindy Ceballos. In July 2018, we are sending a medical team to host a clinic for those in need. In October 2018, we have a new opportunity to help improve the quality of life for the indigenous community in Guialul.

If you’ve ever thought about going on a mission trip to Panama, please join us at our informational meeting on Sunday, October 15 at 6 p.m. in the Parlor.

Hurricane Harvey Update

Abby Pursley named 2017 Buzz Burkhalter Memorial Service Award Recipient

The families of Buzz Burkhalter and Joyce Hogan are excited to announce FUMC Hurst member, Abby Pursley as the 2017 Buzz Burkhalter Memorial Service Recognition Award recipient and $500. She is a junior at Texas Tech University, majoring in Psychology, minoring in Religion Studies. Throughout 2016, volunteers and staff at Mission Central’s Community Resource Center spent time talking to our guests and making notes about the resources they requested. In early 2017, Mission Central’s Board of Directors assigned a Family Services Review Committee to look at these needs data and make recommendations about the program and services that would be most helpful to guests in our community.

What we learned is that most of our guests are families who are having trouble making ends meet due to low pay and limited access to budgeting and financial tools.

In response, Mission Central has developed and is launching their new STEPS (Self Transformation Equals Personal Success) program. This program provides families with job, budgeting, and financial coaching to help them realize their dreams. This coaching may include helping the family find job training, offering resume writing or budgeting classes, or connecting a family with financial institutions that will offer services like savings accounts to those with low income and/or poor credit.

This program is adapted from the Working Families’ Success Model, which is a proven framework for helping families overcome poverty. As the program grows, we hope to move toward providing all of the elements of the model as we empower our neighbors in need to improve their own quality of life.

FUMC Hurst African Immigrant Scholarship Fund

The First United Methodist Church of Hurst African Immigrant Scholarship Fund was created to help young African immigrant members of our church improve their lives by providing higher education. We realize that education is the great equalizer and that given fair opportunity and access to higher education, the future will likely hold a better life for African immigrants in our community. The fund serves as an education as a catalyst for positive change, a force that can transform the lives of individuals and families.

FUMC Hurst African Immigrant Scholarship Fund is to assist young African immigrants who are motivated to improve society by enhancing their future careers through a college education.

Donations this year allowed us to award three students $1,000 each to deserving African immigrant students at Tarleton State University and Tarrant County College (TCC) for the 2017 fall semester.

Mission Central introduces new STEPS program

The new STEPS (Self Transformation Equals Personal Success) program.

Need your help? These students will need additional funds for the 2018 spring semester and for the coming years. Please know that you will be a blessing to these young African immigrants by supporting the FUMC Hurst African Immigrant Scholarship Fund.

Any contribution, information, contact Rev. Joseph Kazadi at jkazadi@fumchurst.org or 817.282.3784, x33.

Mission Central introduces new STEPS program

FUMC Hurst African Immigrant Scholarships are available for qualified African Immigrants.

African Gospel Music Concert

Sunday, October 1 • 4-6 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Come and experience African Gospel Music and Dance

organized by Ministers with African Immigrants

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Families interested in participating in the STEPS program should contact Diane Pustell at 817.390.0011 for more information.

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I felt very lost after my husband of 25 years passed away, and have been riding the roller coaster of grief for some time. However, in this widowhood journey there does come a time when we realize that this widowhood journey there does come a time when we realize that we need to move forward with our situation, and it is so helpful to talk and share with others who have had similar experiences, as sometimes they are the only ones who truly understand.

"NEXT" – a new group for widows, is not really a grief support group, it's more of a "What's Next?" group, a safe place to share and have fun together. One of my favorite quotes came from Becky Aikman from Saturday Night Widows: “None of us expected to find ourselves in this strange situation, having to reorient ourselves when we least expected it. But as long as we're doing it, here's to doing it in style and here's to doing it in good company.”

The group will meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The first Tuesday will be a sharing and caring time. The third Tuesday will focus on simply having fun with friends with such activities as dinners, movies, craft nights and game nights.

Our October Meetings will be:
- October 3: 5:30 p.m. Brides Room (Wesley 120)
- October 17 at 6:30 p.m. Brides Room for a Game Night

Please contact me, Lori Friend, at lvfriend@fumchurst.org if you need more information.

Attention All Adults 60+!!!
Wednesday, October 18 • Fellowship Hall
Game players should come at 10 a.m. If you are not a game player, you will want to be there for the luncheon ($9 per person) at noon, followed by the program!

All men are invited to meet in the Fellowship Hall for conversation and great food! Breakfast will be served promptly at 7 a.m.
For more information, contact Joe Molkey at joseph.molkey@att.net or Kevin Campbell at lacemebell@att.net.

Registration Continues for Fall Learning Opportunities
You'll find all registration information at the Connect Desk or online at www.fumchurst.org/learning.

For more information about fall studies, contact Rev. Donna McKee at dmckee@fumchurst.org or at 817.282.7384, x38.

Enjoy by Adam Hamilton
Sunday at 10 a.m. | Fellowship Hall | 4 sessions beginning October 8
Rev. Holly Dittrich, Rev. Matt Ybanez, Rev. Donna McKee and Sarah Garza, Facilitators

Enjoy is an invitation to rediscover the Bible’s wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices.
All adults are invited to come and explore the keys to contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. (Sunday school classes and small groups must email Sherry Herrington at sherrington@fumchurst.org with the number of persons participating.)

Understanding Your Grief by Alan Wolfelt
Monday at 6:30 p.m. | 6 sessions beginning October 9 | Wesley 124
Rev. Donna McKee, Facilitator | Class Fee: $12
Together we will explore the ten essential touchstones for finding hope and healing your heart following the loss of a loved one.
We will help each other understand the many factors that make each person's grief unique. In addition, we will discuss the many normal thoughts and feelings common to the grief experience. Childcare is available with online registration.

Attention New United Methodists and New Members!
This Is Us for YOU!
Sunday at 9:45 a.m. | Wesley 124 | 3 sessions beginning November 5
What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ at FUMC Hurst?
• How can I deepen my faith and Christian understanding?
• What are ways I can strengthen my connection with God, people, and purpose through the mission and ministries of the church?
This class is perfect for those who want to know more about what it means to be a United Methodist Christian at FUMC Hurst.