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# FUMC Hurst News

September 2011

An edition of *The United Methodist Reporter*

Vol. 158, No. 16 (071550)

Two sections, Section A

## WORSHIP

### Saturday Evenings

Genesis Service:  
6 p.m.

Rev. Philip Rhodes

### Sunday Mornings

Worship:  
8:30, 9:45, & 11 a.m.

Sunday School:  
9:45 a.m.

Dr. Michael McKee,  
Senior Minister

**September 4**  
A Fresh Start:  
*When the Lead  
Breaks; Dealing with  
Disappointment*  
2 Corinthians 4:7-12

**September 11**  
A Fresh Start:  
*Each Day a New  
Beginning; Learning  
How to Hope Again*  
Mark 6:25-34

**September 18**  
*Forgiving Yourself*

**September 25**  
*How to Forgive Others*

## Harvest Festival is Saturday, September 17

Whoever has a  
bountiful eye  
will be blessed,  
for he shares his bread  
with the poor.

—Proverbs 22:9

It is tradition in autumn to give thanks for our bounty. At FUMC Hurst, we celebrate annually with our Harvest Festival—a great day of fun and the opportunity to raise money for those in our community who do not have such a bountiful harvest.

Harvest Festival allows us to put into action our congregation's core value of **Transforming Generosity**: We respond to God's love for us as revealed in the reconciling gift of Jesus the Christ, by loving and serving our neighbors.

This event is our church's largest fundraiser for missions, and will benefit Mission Central, Bellaire Elementary School, Coat of Many Colors Resale Shop, the United Methodist Women, missionaries in Atlanta and Central America, and more.

### **Festival Schedule**

Harvest Festival will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, September 17.

Children's activities, 10 a.m. to noon, will include fall pictures, an inflatable obstacle course, and carnival games.



Our church's  
largest fundraiser  
for missions.

**Saturday, September 17**  
**10 a.m.–3 p.m.**

A frozen entree sale organized by the Young Professionals Class and a Bake Sale presented by the Wesley Bible Class will also take place from 10 a.m. to noon.

Lunch will be served 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., provided by the Friendship Class.

Adult meals, \$5, will be a baked potato with all the trimmings, garden salad, and tea or water. A children's meal, \$1, available for those ten and younger, will be a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fruit cup, and juice box. Soft drinks will be sold by the Youth. Tickets are on sale on Sundays through September 11.

United Methodist Women will have Mystery Boxes available; each costs \$35. What's in the box? It might be a small electric appliance, holiday decorations, power tool, or another surprise.

Many groups will deliver

their Pre-Sale orders 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Some will still take orders that day, with profits going towards missions.

New this year is an opportunity to sell gold, silver, and platinum jewelry. You can find out the purity, karat weight, and current scrap market value of each item. You choose how much of the value to donate to Harvest Festival. This no pressure opportunity is a great way to support Harvest Festival and clean out some drawers of old, unused, or broken jewelry.

The auctions produce the most fun AND the most money toward our missions!

The Silent Auction will have a variety of gift items, including home decor, team memorabilia, theme baskets, bird houses, gift certificates, bakery items, sunglasses, hotel packages, and quilts.

The Live Auction will

begin at 1 p.m. This event is the high point of the festival! Registration is 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Some of the items include Dr. McKee's Famous Lasagna, Super Bowl Tailgate party, unique dinners/luncheons/brunches, theme baskets, stays in condos, sporting event tickets, and the coveted reserved parking spaces at FUMC Hurst.

### **Donations Needed**

We are still accepting auction items such as tickets for entertainment venues, home decor, jewelry, artwork, woodwork, sports memorabilia, and gift baskets. Other popular items include gift certificates for photography, tax work, legal services, yard work, salon services, and private lessons.

Gift certificates to restaurants, hotels, birthday party venues, and travel

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# A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

When FUMC Hurst kindergartner Cole Massey turned six, he didn't ask for Legos or a bicycle. Instead he asked family and friends to give school supplies to donate to our adopt-a-school, Bellaire Elementary. Last week Cole and his parents took backpacks filled with paper, pencils, folders, and notebooks to Bellaire – supplies that will make a difference for students at Bellaire, the majority of whom are from economically disadvantaged families.

Missy Matthews, our Communications Director, tells me that several years ago her son Jack participated in Cook Children's Peter Pan Birthday Club, in which children ask their friends to give monetary donations for the hospital in lieu of birthday gifts. She said that when she got a newsletter which listed Birthday Club donors, she was stunned by how many children's names she recognized. About ten percent of the list was children from our church.

One of our church's core values is transforming generosity. It's a value that we strive to instill not only in the adults in our community, but in our children as well. Cole and the other generous children of our church are great examples that this core value is held dearly by our children.

When I talk to new members of our church, one of the most mentioned reasons for joining FUMC Hurst is the strength and depth of our ministries with children and their families. This has always been an area of great importance to our community of faith, as evidenced by the resources of money, staff and volunteer time dedicated to children's ministries.

Ministry with children and their families has been in a bit of transition over the last month, as we have worked to put together a team to lead this vital ministry forward. I'm pleased to tell you that the Staff Parish Relations Committee of our church, in consultation with the staff and Children's Council, have chosen three persons to lead our ministry with children.

Rev. Holly Dittrich, who served as our Minister to Children and their Families from 2002 to 2008, will provide support and leadership with our Confirmation Ministries. Deena Friesz, who has been serving as the Assistant Director of Children's Ministry, is now the Director of Preschool Ministries. Brittany Platz, a member of our congregation, is Director of Elementary Children's Ministry.

As this transition occurs, I ask that you pray for these who will be guiding our congregation's work in "telling the stories of Jesus to our children, so that His story can become our children's story." I would ask that you consider one more request: Would you think and pray about how you could help tell the stories of Jesus to our children? There are a multitude of ways to serve in our children's ministry. Deena and Brittany can help you determine how your love for our children can be translated into action. Give them a call!

*Mike McKee*

## Our Church Family

### Congratulations to:

Amy and Chris Coleman on the August 13 birth of son Thomas Ray Coleman.

**No members hospitalized:** As of August 26.

### Recently released:

Sidney Boyd	Rhonda Brown
Linda Fox	Keith Friend
Susan Horton	Peggy Moore
Marge Tillery	

**Please notify the church office, 817.282.7384, if you know of a member who has been admitted to a hospital. Due to privacy laws, hospitals cannot provide this information.**

## Harvest Festival

—continued from page 1

destinations are also appreciated. All members are encouraged to solicit donations.

Community Donation Letters (given to businesses to explain the purpose of Harvest Festival) and Auction Donation Commitment Forms (which provide a tax receipt) can be picked up and auction items dropped off (with forms attached) in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings and in the church office.

## Garage Sale

The Goal Diggers Class is organizing a church-wide Garage Sale on October 22, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Look in your garage, attic, and closets for items to donate; drop off items at the Scout Building October 16-21. Please contact Steve Harding to schedule pick up of large items, 817.807.0050.

## Help FUMC Missions

**Don't miss this fun opportunity to support FUMC Hurst missions!**

## Gifts

### Foundation Fund

In memory of **Ed Broadhurst** by James and Kathryn Beard

### Day School

In memory of **Edith DeVault** by the Questers Class

### Hug Works

In honor of **Betty Samuel** by the Questers Class

### Mission Central

In memory of **Rev. Barbara Wordinger** by William and Madelyn Dean, Joyce Jones, Ronald and Rose Lambert, Sandra Lydick, Marc and Susan Monzingo, Carol and Edward Proctor, and Margaret Slattery

In memory of **Ed Broadhurst** by Larry and Carol Calloway

In memory of **Paul McMullen** by Deborah Nance, Harlan Nance, and family

### Youth Missions

In honor of the **Valet Parkers** by Ruby Briscoe

## Publication Information

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## Submissions

Submissions for the church periodical publication are welcome. Include contact name and daytime phone number with submissions. Send to mmatthews@fumchurst.org or to the address above. Contact Missy Matthews at 817.488.1168 with any questions.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HURST reserves the right to edit submissions for content, spelling, grammar, and length. Views expressed are those of the individual and not necessarily those of the church. News and opinions in the UMC Worldwide News pages are those of the United Methodist Reporter, Dallas.

## Submission Deadlines

SEPTEMBER 13  
for October issue

OCTOBER 18  
for November issue

## Mission Central: Revenue Growth at Coat of Many Colors ... Will You Help Our Progress?

PAULA JERNIGAN  
Mission Central  
Executive Director

A short time ago, Vicky Otterman wrote an article describing our need for volunteers at Mission Central's Coat of Many Colors. Since then, we have added seven volunteers to our team. I want to bring you up to date on our progress and ask for your continued support and involvement.

First, I am pleased to report that we are making progress toward consistent store hours of 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The only day we close at 4:30 p.m. is Friday. As soon as volunteers are available to work 4-6 p.m. on Friday, our store hours will be the same every day. Secondly, we have filled the Store Associate position. Victoria Pedersen is working on Friday and Saturday so we can be open and Merle Boyd can finally get a well-deserved day off. At the moment, the Point



of Grace Sunday School class is staffing the store on Saturday afternoons. They challenge other Sunday School classes to staff the store 2-6 p.m. Saturdays. The more volunteers we have, the less frequently individuals will need to work.

The resulting increase in revenue from expanded store hours has already been significant. Merle Boyd, Store Manager, states with great pride that we recently broke our weekly sales record with more than \$6,100. Please contact Merle, 817.428.2450, if you are

able to volunteer in any role at the Coat of Many Colors. Work schedules are flexible.

Why is this additional revenue so important to Mission Central and the clients, students and customers we serve? The answer is simple: 61% of Mission Central's budget (\$190,000) comes from sales at Coat of Many Colors. Through the years, Merle and the COMC volunteers have worked faithfully to sort, price and sell donated items in a timely way so the store is profitable. Because of their hard work, we

are able to purchase food for the food pantry, fund Family Opportunities, and provide programs at the Village Library. When revenue increases, funds are available to expand services. In short, your volunteering will make a difference!

Imagine what it would be like to allow hungry families to come to the food pantry monthly rather than three times per year. Think of the difference we could make in children's lives if we had funds for Mary Sholty to offer the Village Library tutoring program four days per week rather than two. Consider the impact of expanding the Family Opportunities Program so twice as many families are able to work with our Social Worker, Melody Wilson, to change their lives and make their way out of poverty. In short, additional revenue from the Coat of Many Colors and all other sources makes a difference in our ability to fulfill our mission.

**How can you help?**

Volunteer your time. Volunteer to sort and price merchandise, pick up furniture donations, or work in the front of the store to greet customers, check them out at the cash register, and bag their purchases. Donate high quality, clean merchandise ready to sell. If you aren't sure what we sell at the Coat of Many Colors, come for a visit so you'll know what to bring to the store and what to donate elsewhere. Come to shop. You'll be amazed at the bargains ... I'm especially fond of purchasing hard backed books for \$2.

In short, do what we Methodists do best ... contribute your time, talents, gifts and service. And yes, we even witness in our own way to customers and each other as we joyfully go about our work to make a difference in the community.

I am blessed to work with you and welcome new people to the team! Feel free to contact me if you need more information, [missioncentralmetroplex@hotmail.com](mailto:missioncentralmetroplex@hotmail.com) or 817.595.0011.

## Flower Ministry Team Provides Visitation to Homebound

You may have noticed that on many Sunday mornings, there are beautiful flowers on the altar in the Sanctuary. What you may not know is that on most Sundays, the generous donors ask that the flowers go to our homebound members after worship is over.

Another thing you may not know is how the flowers get from the altar to our homebound friends.

Right after the 11 a.m. service, volunteers from the Flower Ministry Team take the altar arrangement to the sacristy and divide the flowers into three or four smaller arrangements. They then take those arrangements to individuals from our church family who are in care facilities for rehab or long-term care, or to those who are



at home and are no longer able to drive.

These Flower Ministry Team volunteers know that the flowers they deliver give much more than something beautiful for our homebound friend to enjoy.

The time spent visiting with our church family member provides a meaningful fellowship opportunity and a reminder

that they belong with us.

If you would like to know more about volunteering to serve in this vital FUMC ministry, please contact Cathy Cartmill, 817.282.7384 x22 or [ccartmill@fumchurst.org](mailto:ccartmill@fumchurst.org).

If you would like to provide flowers for the altar (\$50 per arrangement), please contact Carrie Weaver, 817.282.7384 x11 or [cweaver@fumchurst.org](mailto:cweaver@fumchurst.org).

## Summer Blood Drive Thank You

Thank you to everyone who donated blood on July 10. FUMC donated 19 units for Carter BloodCare. Donations from our drives over the last two years have helped save the lives of as many as 212 people. Whether used to replace red cells lost during an accident or surgery, or to supply plasma for burn victims or platelets for cancer patients, your donations have played a critical role. The products created from donations at FUMC drives were shipped to healthcare facilities throughout North Central Texas, including Cook Children's Medical Center, Children's Medical Center Dallas, Texas Health Harris Methodist in H.E.B, Baylor Hospitals, and JPS Health Network, just to name a few. Thank you to everyone for your generous gift.

## Fall Blood Drive: October 2

**Carter BloodCare will be here on Sunday, October 2, for our Fall Blood Drive, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** Sign up in the Fellowship Hall on September 18 and 25. You must be 17 or older to donate, or 16 years old with parental consent. You must have picture ID. For more information about how to donate, please contact Dawn Davis at 817.680.3599.

# The Hurst Series Presents: *September Songs* Featuring Mark Hayes

The Music Ministry, along with the Mustang Chorale of Grapevine High School, will present a concert with composer Mark Hayes on Sunday, September 25.

Mark Hayes is one of the most recognized names in church music today. His personal catalog, compiled over the last 32 years, includes more than 700 published original compositions and arrangements. Hayes has produced and arranged more than 50 recordings for various

artists and publishers, 50 keyboard folios, and 21 vocal solo collections.

Hayes earned a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance, magna cum laude from Baylor University. Today Hayes' vocal and instrumental writing is widely acclaimed and performed across the nation. He is well-known for his unique choral settings which draw from such diverse styles such as gospel, jazz, pop, folk, and classical to achieve a truly "American sound."

The popularity of his music is evident in the numerous offers of commissions he receives from universities and churches throughout the country.

Hayes is increasingly sought after as an orchestrator and record producer. He is a recurring recipient of the Standard Award from ASCAP, and his album, *I've Just Seen Jesus*, received the Dove Award, the equivalent to a Grammy in gospel music. He received the Award for Exemplary Leadership in Christian Music

## September Songs featuring Mark Hayes

Sunday, September 25  
7 p.m. • Sanctuary



Photo by Shawn Northcutt

from Baylor University Center for Christian Music Studies.

Mr. Hayes will serve as guest soloist in worship on Sunday, September 25, and then will lead the Music Ministry in concert that evening. Admission is free; child care will be provided.

## Caregiving Ministry Grant Awarded to FUMC Hurst

FUMC Hurst was recently awarded a \$2,500 grant from the United Methodist Committee on Older Adult Ministries. More than 75 grant proposals were received; 45 projects were funded. The grants are provided in partial fulfillment of the Comprehensive Plan for Older Adult Ministries approved by General Conference.

This grant money will be used to provide a variety of appropriate materials for our homebound members.

*Upper Room* (large print) will be helpful in continuing faith development and daily reflection. In the book *Talking With God in Old Age* by Missy Buchanan, heart-lifting



meditations encourage those who are aging and facing heartache to find hope in this phase of life. In *Living With Purpose in a Worn-Out Body*, also by Buchanan, meditations move from a particular challenge of an aging body to the larger perspective and the faithful response.

Other support materials will also be made available

to our members and their families according to their challenges and needs.

Caring ministry support of the homebound individual, which allows for continuing faith development during an extremely challenging period of his/her life, is a gift we can share. The ultimate value of this gift will only be measured by the one who receives it.

## Alabama Mission Trip Planned for October

Plans are underway for our adult mission trip to help rebuild Tuscaloosa, Ala., after the city was struck by a Category 4 tornado in April.

Excitement is growing weekly as more people are committing to volunteer their time and talents for this endeavor which is scheduled for October 22-29.

The disaster plowed through a wide swath of homes and businesses, and UMCOR has been on-site



directing teams from churches across the country. Volunteers have worked tirelessly through

the summer heat to assist in the recovery.

By the time the team from FUMC Hurst arrives in Tuscaloosa, the city will be in a reconstruction phase after most of the debris from the storm has been cleared.

We welcome anyone who would like to be part of this effort.

For more information, contact Sandra Hill, 817.282.7384 x. 17 or [shill@fumchurst.org](mailto:shill@fumchurst.org).



### Children's Ministry Team

Leading our Ministries with Children and Their Families will be Deena Friesz, Director of Preschool Ministries; Brittany Platz, Director of Elementary Children's Ministry; and Rev. Holly Dittrich, Director of Confirmation Ministries. Read more about their leadership of this vital ministry in Dr. McKee's column.

### Encore! Ministry for Adults 60+ Let's Do Lunch! September 21



Join us in the Fellowship Hall!  
10 a.m.–noon: Games and Fellowship  
Noon: Lunch: \$7.50 per person.

Please pre-pay

All adults 60+ are invited. Invite your friends or someone you would like to get to know better!

Sign up in your Sunday School class, call 817.282.7384, or email [Cathy Cartmill, ccartmill@fumchurst.org](mailto:ccartmill@fumchurst.org).

### Electronic Statements

It is not too late to sign up for electronic giving statements. Please provide the preferred email address for your electronic giving statement at [www.fumchurst.org](http://www.fumchurst.org).



### Kindergartners Receive Special Blessing

On August 21, our kindergartners received a special blessing during 11 a.m. worship. FUMC Hurst kindergartners are Megan Barr, Maya Bennett, Hayley Benton, Matthew Boyd, William Chenault, Kate Constantine, Thomas Dunlap, Evelyn Garcia, Jake Gibson, Julia Henley, Emily Hester, Henry Jetzelsberger, Joseph Jewell, Miranda Markle, Cole Massey, Jack McDonald, Zachary Medina, Cohen Murphree, Bailey Newton, Nica Pacione, Chloe Pittard, Ian Puckett, Ella Riddle, Sophia Tubbs, Xanna Unrue, Brayden Vinson, Sara Vinson, Jett Williams, John Wyant, and Ella York. See more photos from Back to School Sunday at [www.fumchurst.org](http://www.fumchurst.org).

—Photo by FUMC Hurst Photo Ministry Team

### Welcome our Newest Members!



Dave and Sandi Griffin



Billy and Amanda McCranor



Tracy Ann Johnson



Ralph Perez



Chris Utchell



### UMW Salad Supper

The UMW hosted their annual Salad Supper on August 9. The speaker was Reverend Meridith Whitaker, Director of Cookson Hills Center United Methodist Mission.

—FUMC Hurst Photo Ministry Team



### GPS Potluck Dinner

Participants in Fall GPS Bible Studies gathered for fellowship and a Potluck Dinner on August 14. New GPS classes start in September and October. *Details on page 7 and online.*

### Congratulations On Your Baptism!



Luke Jennings, son of Brian and Amanda Jennings



### Cub Scouts Give Back

Thank you to Cub Scout Pack 320, led by Rich Hicks, who cleaned pew pockets in the Sanctuary and organized worship kits on Saturday, August 20. The Scouts were learning to give back to the church and how to be a volunteer.

### David, Cindy Ceballos: Special Guests in Worship September 4

Rev. David M. and Cindy Ceballos, missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries, will be our guests in all services of worship on September 4. FUMC Hurst partners with the Ceballos' through GBGM. Come hear what the Ceballos are accomplishing in Honduras, and how the support of churches, including FUMC Hurst, is making a difference in Central America.

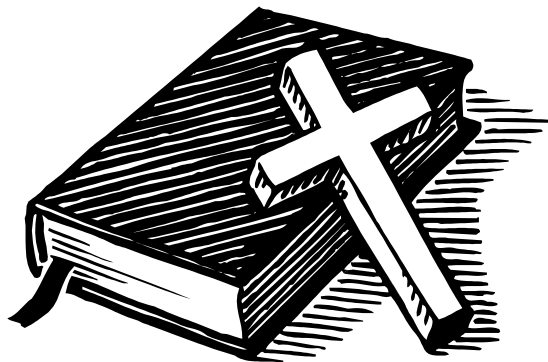


## Children and Families

For more information about these activities, contact Deena Friesz (x39 or dfriesz@fumchurst.org).

### Third Grade Bible Presentation: September 25

Our Third graders will be presented with Bibles on September 25 during 11 a.m. worship. This experience is a milestone, a rite of passage for our children. **Parents:** please turn in the form with your child's full name for Bible inscription. Those receiving Bibles must be in Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. on September 25 for instructions and practice. The class will sit together at the front of the Sanctuary. A group photo will be taken on the Chancel steps following worship. If you have questions, please contact Deena Friesz.



### Will You Be a Bible Buddy?

Adults play an important role in mentoring our children and youth. On Saturday, November 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., we will have a one-day retreat where our Third Graders will learn how the Bible is organized, and familiarize themselves with the names of the books of the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament – and all of it happens in fun ways! We are looking for an adult to pair with each third grader.

You don't have to know all the answers, you don't have to be proficient in Bible study. A willing heart and a kind spirit will nurture and encourage your buddy. You will know her, you will be able to call him by name ... you will pray for him and watch her grow on this journey of faith. If you would be a Bible Buddy, please contact Deena.

## Children's Sunday School: Toddlers through Grade Five

### Age Two Years through Kindergarten:

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on a rock" – Matthew 7:24.

Preschoolers will hear the stories of Abraham, and how they are blessed by God and how God calls us to be blessings to others. Preschoolers follow the Rock Solid curriculum.

## Testament Travels

### Grades 1–5:

#### Testament Travels

**Celebrates the Story of Esther**  
September 4–October 9

Throughout the Bible we hear stories of people like Esther, who was faithful and stood up for God.

Through cooking, role playing, art, and other activities, the children will become familiar with the story of Esther, discover that God has special plans for each of us, and explore their abilities to be faithful, even when it is hard to do so.

### Children's Choirs Begin Rehearsals September 11!

Choirs offered at  
8:30, 11 a.m. for  
children in grades K–5

Fall is a great time for your children to get involved in the Music Ministry!

Children's Choirs meet regularly throughout the school year on Sunday mornings (during worship). While learning songs to present in worship, they learn about Bible stories and songs of our faith.

During a semester, each group will sing for worship. They will also present a Christmas program together in early December, involving both music and drama.

**8:30 a.m.: Joy & Praise (K–5)**  
Children remain in worship with their parents until the



### Confirmation 2011 is Beginning!

On Sunday, September 11, sixth graders, their parents, faith partners, and family group leaders will gather for an evening of fellowship and worship to mark the beginning of a very special year for these students.

Confirmation in the United Methodist Church is a time for students to explore and expand their faith story as they learn more about their heritage as Christians and United Methodists, explore their beliefs, and begin to make decisions about how they will live as faithful Christians.

Our Confirmands are surrounded by many faithful adults who agree to serve as Family Group Leaders and Faith Partners. A Faith Partner serves as someone who journeys with an individual student throughout the Confirmation experience. Faith Partners commit to attending Confirmation one evening a month and a Saturday Prayer Retreat in the spring, as well as worshiping with their Confirmand on a regular basis.

If you are a member of FUMC Hurst and would be interested in this type of fulfilling experience, please contact Rev. Holly Dittrich. As a member of FUMC Hurst, you are encouraged to hold these students and adults in your prayers throughout this year.

If you are a sixth grader and have not received information about Confirmation in the mail, contact Sherry Herrington, 817.282.7384. For further questions, contact Rev. Holly Dittrich, hdittrich@fumchurst.org.

### Important Dates:

September 11: Dinner and Covenant Service, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall. *Make reservations at [www.fumchurst.org](http://www.fumchurst.org) (events calendar) by September 6.*

September 18: First Night of Confirmation, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall

September 25: Parent Meeting, 9:45 a.m., Chapel

September 26: Registrations due for Fall Retreat

October 2: Faith Partner Orientation, 5 p.m. W102  
First Faith Partner Activity Night, 6 p.m.

Doxology, and then attend choir rehearsal.

### 9:45 a.m.: Promises Choir (ages 3–4)

Our youngest choir meets during Sunday School.

### 11 a.m.: Joyful Noise (K–2) Covenant Singers (3–5)

Children remain in 11 a.m.

worship with their parents until the Doxology, and then attend choir rehearsal.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help with these groups, please contact Sessalie Shapley, [sess@gregshapley.com](mailto:sess@gregshapley.com), or 817.358.1879.

# fumc hurst youth /fumchurstyouth

For information, contact Rev. Matt Ybañez, Minister to Youth and Their Families (x46, or mybanez@fumchurst.org).

## What's happening in September?

### September 4:

#### Connecting with God

How do you connect? How would you describe your spiritual life? We're going to practice lots of different ways of being with God.

### September 11: Grieving

Loss is a part of life. People die. And their deaths lead to

confusion, pain, frustration and sometimes a loss of faith. We are going to discuss the practice of "lament," to deal with death and loss as we learn to share our pain with God and our community.

### September 18: One Egg

I am going to give you one egg. Then after 30 minutes, I am going to take that egg from you and drop it off of

the roof. What can you do to your egg in 30 minutes to keep it from breaking when I throw it off?

### September 25:

#### Mission Night

What we do in Anderson Center on Sunday nights is great ... but every once in a while we need to get out and do something for someone else!

## Transformative Generosity: School Supplies for Bellaire

For many of us, back to school means new clothes, new gear, and fresh starts, but for many of the students at our Adopt-A-School, Bellaire Elementary, that is not the case.

More than 90% of the students at Bellaire Elementary struggle with significant economic disadvantages. The start of school does not necessarily mean a fresh start. Many families must stretch to provide basic school supplies.

Over the last several weeks, members of our congregation collected school supplies for Bellaire Elementary to assist families that could not buy them for their children.

We collected two truckloads of supplies and delivered them the week before school started, but that's not all.

A kindergartner in our congregation named Cole Massey decided that he wanted to do something special for his birthday this year. Instead of asking for presents for himself, he asked his friends to bring backpacks full of school supplies that he could give to Bellaire



Kindergartner Cole Massey used his birthday celebration to collect school supplies for the children of Bellaire Elementary.

Elementary.

The week before school started, Cole personally delivered everything that he had collected to Bellaire. Cole, thank you, for your Transforming Generosity!

In addition to the school supplies, members gave almost \$1,700 to purchase supplies for teachers at Bellaire. The list included binders, paper, markers, folders, Play-Doh, backpacks, easel pads, dividers, and more.

Our youth group took the money collected from the church and in a whirlwind shopping spree purchased

everything the teachers had asked for!

Our students then went to Bellaire and helped sort the supplies so that bags of school supplies with students' names on them were waiting in their classrooms on the first day of school.

Our prayer for these school supplies is that they are blessings to the students who will use them and that they may be tools used for learning, growth, and new opportunities.

Thank you to everyone who donated, collected, sorted, moved, or bought school supplies!



## Grow • Pray • Share

Many great GPS courses begin this month!

**Exploring John Wesley's Standard Sermons:** Starts Sept. 6 7 p.m. Tuesdays (4 weeks), \$3; Beth Stuyck

The sermons of John Wesley are a part of the doctrinal heritage of the United Methodist Church. Participants will read and discuss several of Wesley's sermons, including "The Almost Christian" and "Catholic Spirit."

**Christianity and World Religions:** Starts Sept. 7 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, (7 weeks), \$20; Kathleen Gilbert

This course explores four major world religions — Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism — and compares the beliefs of each with those of Christianity. This study deals openly with questions about other religions, including why we believe the claims of Christianity over other faiths.

**A Faithful Heart (Women's Study):** Starts Sept. 12 7 p.m. Mondays (8 weeks), \$15; Elaine Plybon

*A Faithful Heart* combines Scripture, stories, and the faith of Mary to encourage women to grow and share their heart.

**Living Prayer:** Starts Sept. 12 7 p.m. Mondays (6 weeks), \$13; Wendie Lunsford

This study makes the experience of prayer come alive by featuring daily commentary on a particular facet of prayer.

**Love for the Long Haul: Marriage Enrichment:** Starts Sept. 18 11 a.m. Sundays (4 weeks), Jennifer Acker

Getting married is easy. Staying married is another story. This fun seminar will teach you real-world marriage skills to last a lifetime, including communication skills, conflict resolution skills, understanding the mechanism of emotions (including love), identifying and managing emotional hot buttons, and knowing how to sustain forward progress and intimacy.

**Raising Children with Consistency & Compassion:** Starts Oct. 2 11 a.m. Sundays (4 weeks), Rev. Holly Dittrich

*Love and Logic* uses humor, hope, and empathy to build the adult/child relationship, emphasizing respect and dignity for children and adults and providing limits in a loving way. Leave each class with practical and straightforward tools that can be applied immediately.

Register online now for these courses, as well as child care. For more information, contact Rev. Donna McKee, dmckee@fumchurst.org.

# Calendar: September 4–October 1, 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>CELEBRATION SINGERS (Gr. 6–12), 5–6 p.m.</p> <p>CHAPEL CHOIR, 6:15 p.m.</p> <p>YOUTH GROUPS (7–12), 6–8 p.m.</p>	<p>NETworkers Career Transition Group, 9 a.m., Parlor.</p> <p>DEPRESSION CONNECTION: 6:30 p.m., W103/104.</p>		<p>A.A. &amp; AL-ANON, 6:30 p.m., Recovery House.</p> <p>SR. HIGH WORSHIP (9–12), 7 p.m.</p> <p>CHANCEL CHOIR, 7 p.m., Choir Room.</p>	<p>JOYFUL CREATIONS PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY, 9:30–11:30 a.m., W120. Visitors welcome. Contact Eileen Thrash, 817.282.2424.</p>		<p>GENESIS WORSHIP, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Child care available.</p>
<p><b>September 4</b> HARVEST FESTIVAL PRE-SALES before/after worship.</p>	<p><b>September 5</b> CHURCH CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY</p>	<p><b>September 6</b> UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW) General Meeting, 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>September 7</b></p>	<p><b>September 8</b> ADULT GAME NIGHT, 6 p.m., Parlor.</p>	<p><b>September 9</b> MOBILE FOOD BANK, 8 a.m.–1 p.m. To volunteer for this Food Bank, contact Vicky Otterman, 817.296.3525, or vickyott@swbell.net.</p>	<p><b>September 10</b></p>
<p><b>September 11</b></p>	<p><b>September 12</b> GRIEF SUPPORT: 6 p.m., W124. DIVORCE SUPPORT: 6 p.m., W122.</p>	<p><b>September 13</b> UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW) Morning Circle Meetings, 9:30 a.m. UMW Tri-Circle, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>September 14</b>   <b>September 15</b>   <b>September 16</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>THE BOOKMARK REVIEW CLUB kicks off the fall season on September 14 in the Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. The speaker, Susan Boone, enjoys presenting books about intriguing women in Texas history. Contact Gwen Adams, 817.283.5754, for information. <i>Annual dues are \$25.</i></p> </div>			<p><b>September 17</b> HARVEST FESTIVAL, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our largest fundraiser for missions! <i>Details page 1.</i> LAMPLIGHTERS, 10 a.m. <i>Details below.</i></p>
<p><b>September 18</b> UMW SUNDAY SUNDAY AFTERNOON READERS, 2:30 p.m.. PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY, 2:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>September 19</b> GRIEF SUPPORT: 6 p.m., W124.</p>	<p><b>September 20</b> COMMUNITY GARDEN MEETING, 7 p.m., W103. To volunteer in the Village Garden, contact Vicky Otterman, 817.296.3525, or vickyott@swbell.net.</p>	<p><b>September 21</b></p>	<p><b>September 22</b></p>	<p><b>September 23</b> CARING CHRISTIAN MOTHERS Moms' Work on Whatever, 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>September 24</b></p>
<p><b>September 25</b> SEPTEMBER SONGS CONCERT, 7 p.m., Sanctuary. <i>Details page 4.</i></p>	<p><b>September 26</b> GRIEF SUPPORT: 6 p.m., W124.</p>	<p><b>September 27</b></p>	<p><b>September 28</b></p>	<p><b>September 29</b></p>	<p><b>September 30</b></p>	<p><b>October 1</b> LAMPLIGHTERS, Support group for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, 10 a.m., Recovery House.</p>

## Help feed local families

**September 3/4: Mission Central First Food:** The first weekend of each month, we bring items for Mission Central. On September 3/4, please bring canned tuna for the pantry at Mission Central. More than 2,700 cans of tuna are needed to serve clients for three months!




**a saturday worship experience**  
led by rev. philip rhodes

**6 p.m. worship**  
fellowship hall • nursery available