

MEADOWBROOK MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF MEADOWBROOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter

www.mbrookumc.org

January 30, 2018

February 4th Communion Offering will Benefit Church Growth

In 1980, our Central Texas Conference began a concentrated effort to plant new churches in order to introduce new people to Christ's love. Since that time, we have planted more than 40 churches! These churches now account for more than 10% of the current worship attendance within our Conference.

The Conference's new Center for Evangelism and Church Growth continues to create new communities of faith which invite new people to experience God's grace. Our February Communion Offering will help support the Conference in its church planting efforts in the following ways:

- Paying the salaries of new church start pastors
- Renting worship spaces
- Purchasing sound equipment and other technology necessary for worship
- Providing for the day-to-day expenses of pastors working in their communities to develop relationships

Starting new churches embodies the Great Commission to take Jesus' message to all people. Let your donation to this special offering be part of your witness as together we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!



(The Conference also invites individuals every February to subscribe to a Church Growth Shares program. Shares are \$60 each and renew annually.

If you would like to purchase shares in this program, contact Debbie Martin in the church office; and she will provide you with a SHAREholder Commitment Card. The Church Growth SHAREholder program gives you a direct opportunity to invest in the future of the United Methodist Church in Central Texas.)

-- Outreach Committee



Love is....

Love is probably one of the most misunderstood words in the English language. This sermon series will help us understand what love really is and why it is necessary for our Christian walk.

So get all your love songs ready, and let's journey together to the heart of love.

Worship begins at 10:50 a.m.

February is Black History Month

It does not take long to understand why Black History Month is celebrated. It would be hard to miss what is happening in the national news in terms of racial tensions and divisions across the country.

In celebrating Black History Month, we can look at how far we have come and we can dream about what it can be like in the future. We build the future by building relationships. These intercultural relationships are crucial for overcoming racial tensions, growing the church and becoming the church that God has called us to be.

The General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR) helps build those relationships through resources and support for churches. GCORR is committed to helping the church embrace cultural diversity in our congregations and communities. The agency also is committed to equipping the church to engage with other cultures.

When we give generously to our Connectional Ministries, which includes the World Service Fund, we are supporting the work of GCORR.

Prayer ❖ Presence ❖ Gifts ❖ Service ❖ Witness

Church Members

Trish Christensen	Ernestine Ferguson
Joyce Fry	Grace Johnston
Penny Tanner	

Home and Care Centers

Dortha DeManche	Jim Horton
Pat Kuhler	Hester Landers
Marguerite Price	Doris Thomas

Church Friends and Family

Cindy Anderson (Former member)
 Ron Baker (Father-in-law of Shawn Bell)
 Anita Bookout (Friend of Sharon Conger)
 Katie Daniel (Daughter of Laura Daniel)
 Kinsey DuVall (Sister of Linsey DuVall)
 Sandra Lamm Everett (Neighbor)
 Deke Gray (Relative of Joy Guthrie)
 Tommy Haddix (Father of Pastor Marilyn)
 Stella Hales (Great-niece of Laura Williamson)
 Mary Hohman (Daughter of Dorothy Mills)
 Diana M. (Friend of Trish McDaniel)
 Allen Peloquin (Son-in-law of Llano Carlisle)
 Edward Ramirez (Brother of Frank Ramirez)
 Cara Reed (Cousin of Craig Maxwell)
 Eugene Semana (Nephew of Mary-margaret Belota)
 Linda Thomson (Cousin of Jane Cumbie)
 Joah Thompson (Friend of Mary-margaret Belota)
 Charlie Tremayne (Nephew of Ron & Elaine Shumate)
 Robert Walters (Cousin of Billie Beth Moore)

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to the family and friends of the following:

- * Jane Maxwell on the death of her sister, Betty Avarello on December 1;
- * Steve Osmundson on the death of his brother, Keith Osmundson, on December 2;
- * Annie Lee Andrews, who died Sunday, December 10
- * Micki Wier, who died Saturday, January 20.



2018 Flowers for the Altar

Choose your special dates, then call the church office, stop by or e-mail office@mbrookumc.org with your information. Arrangements are \$40.



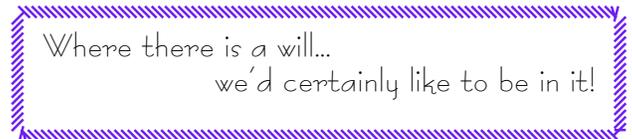
December 2017 & January 2018

December/January Average Presence

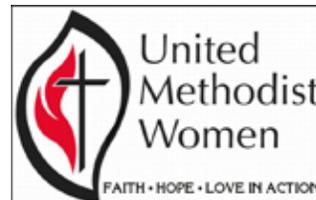
Sunday School.....	62
Morning Worship.....	77

December/January Giving

Budget.....	\$14,921
Birthday Club.....	\$161
Century.....	\$550
Christmas.....	\$250
Communion (Human Relations Day).....	\$175
\$\$'s for Missions.....	\$595
Noisy Offering	\$125



UMW News



The February general meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13, beginning with refreshments in the parlor at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will follow at 10:30 in the Wesleyan Room. The program

is the UMW study "What is My Place in the World" (part 1) led by Lois Bogusch and/or Emma Clegg.

Remember that the church is collecting bears and other stuffed animals for children in crisis through the month of February - let's fill the pews with stuffed animals.

The Executive Committee will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Parlor.

UMW Outreach Project for February

Blankets for Eastside Ministries, and lip balms for the Parkview Christmas bags.

Introducing.....MUMC's 2018 Birthday Club

It's been fun to see everyone's birthday published in the newsletter every month in 2017, so we are going to continue this Connectional Ministries Giving campaign for another year. Remember, you can become a member of the Birthday Club just by donating an amount equal to (or more than) your new age in 2018. Because we did not publish an end-of-December newsletter, we are "running behind" in alerting you to January birthdays, so here they are. (Please review the following list; and if you were born in January, make certain your name is listed below. If it is not--or if the date shown is not correct--please let us know, so the computer records in the church office can be updated.)

January Birthdays

- 2 Mary Stout
- 3 Scott Strom & Joe Ballem
- 4 Dorothy Mills
- 7 Cliff Helbert
- 8 Dana Nance, Michael Strom & Dexter Colorado
- 9 Sharen Simmons
- 12 Thomas Reid
- 14 Daisy McCombs
- 15 Kaitlin Cervera, Kylie Reynolds, Penny Tanner & Jane Cole
- 19 William DuVall, Dodie Lawhorn, & Angela Osmundson
- 20 Taylor Estill
- 23 Ann Helbert
- 24 Marta Davis
- 27 Brenda Reynolds

And, now to get us current on upcoming birthdays, here is the list of those individuals we know who are celebrating a birthday during February. Are you a February baby?

February Birthdays

- 3 Marguerite Price
- 7 John Randall Gideon & Lois Bogusch
- 18 Claudia Roper
- 20 Cynthia Davis
- 21 Clare Cameron
- 22 Elia Villanueva
- 27 Mary-margaret Belota
- 29 Jim Horton

If you need an address to send a birthday card to one of these special people and cannot locate the current address in your church directory, feel free to call the church office and ask for the information you need. Also, if you know of someone else whose name should be on one of the above lists and it's missing, please contact that person and urge him/her to provide us with the missing date. Working together, we can get our computer records in great shape!

Again, here are the ways in which you can become a member of the Birthday Club: 1) You can make a "second-mile" gift to the church in a dollar amount that matches your 2018 birthday age. It will become part of Meadowbrook's Connectional Mission Giving both locally and around the world. (Your check should be marked "Birthday Club.") 2) You will become a member of the Club if someone else contributes \$50 or more to this campaign in your honor. If the donor wants to remain anonymous, we'll let you know the gift was received but keep the donor's identity a secret.

We are looking forward to hearing from everyone who wants to become a member of the Birthday Club or help someone else achieve that status. Because all dollars collected during this campaign will benefit the mission outreach of the Methodist Church, you surely will be blessed by your participation and your contribution to God's work in our world. Thank you for your generosity!

Thanks (and Yippee!) to All 2017 Birthday Club Members

A great big THANK YOU goes to everyone who joined last year's Birthday Club. Because of their generous donations, we were able to raise \$2,256 toward our Connectional Ministries Giving commitment. (No! Wait a minute! A last minute December donation was just discovered in the January mail, so the total collected for last year's Birthday Club is \$2,355!) The Birthday Club's first year goal was \$3,000, and we almost made it! If you had intended to join but "never got around to it," don't let the same thing happen in 2018! Maybe your donation will be the one that puts us over the top of our NEW GOAL for 2018: \$4,000!

Here are the names of our 2017 Birthday Club Members:

Mary-margaret Belota	Wylma Blackburn	Denise Blakely
Dick Bogusch	Clare Cameron	Llano Carlisle
Sharon Conger	Gary Cumbie	Jane Cumbie
Jean Dyer	Charles Ferguson	Imogene Gentry
Diane Griffin	Ruth Grimm	Kay Hofer
Billie Horton	Jim Horton	Dodie Flynn Lawhorn
Marjorie McLendon	Betty Moore	Dana Nance
Jim Nance	Angela Osmundson	
Claudia Roper	Jeff Roper	Billie Fleming Smith
Mary Stout	Hubert Strom ("in memory" donation)	
Mary Strom		

We acknowledge and celebrate each of these individuals for the generosity behind every one of these Birthday Club donations! You have contributed not only dollars -- but hope -- to the ongoing ministries of the United Methodist Church, and we are grateful! Amen!

New Birthday Club Members Acknowledged

Thanks to these generous church family members for December donations to the Birthday Club:

Billie Horton
Ruth Grimm

Your gifts are very much appreciated!

An interesting statistic for all to ponder: Of the 29 donations to the 2017 Birthday Club, about 3/4 of them were made by women. Now why is that? We know there are a lot of generous men in this church family who want to help MUMC meet its Connectional Ministries Giving goal. Do we need to have a male vs. female contest to get more men motivated to donate to the Birthday Club campaign? Well, no, that won't be necessary.

They just need to know that the first ten donors to the 2018 Birthday Club campaign will participate in a drawing for a \$25 Home Depot gift card! Of course, that's a great prize for a woman, too. Come on, you guys. Let the donations begin!



Congratulations, Jean! Winner of the third 2017 Birthday Club drawing is Jean Dyer, who won a \$25 gift card from the Mexican Inn. Other 2017 winners were Dodie Flynn Lawhorn, who won a delicious Lois Bogusch tea ring and Jim Nance, who enjoyed wonderful Curious George cupcakes baked and decorated by Pastor Marilyn for two of his grandchildren.

Covenant Class News - Room 221

Snack and lesson schedule is as follows:

	SNACKS	TEACHER
February 4	Cotellesse	Tracey Smith
11	Estes	Give Up Something Bad for Lent/Stout
18	Everett	Mary Stout: GUSBFLent
25	James	Mary Stout: GUSBFLent

Be thinking about what subject matter you would like to study this year, and about whom you would like to have teach us. You might also consider whether you would be interested in teaching a lesson some time. Just let me know and I will definitely find a date for you to do so. -- M-m

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

How many Methodists does it take to replace - or stand in for - a young tech-savvy senior pastor and a creative full-time communications secretary? In Meadowbrook's case, a team of seven lay members who hope they can merge their individual skills and experiences to help fill the communication roles of Pastor Marilyn Jones and communications volunteer Dana Nance.

Pastor Marilyn appointed the lay team this month to ensure continued communication with the congregation and community during her maternity leave. We hope the team will continue to assist Marilyn and Dana, our retired communications secretary who still publishes the newsletter monthly.

Team members each have individual roles based on their skills and interests but will work together to plan and provide internal and external communications. So if you have something you need to say or think others need to hear, contact one of the individuals below to get the word out.

Meadowbrook UMC Communications Team

Do you have something you need to say? Contact one of the individuals below to get the word out.

Lois Bogusch Greater Meadowbrook News
lbogusch@icloud.com 817-846-7885

Johnny Cartwright Screens
jmccc@msn.com 817-733-2443

Martha Deller Weekly e-news
martha.deller@yahoo.com Star-Telegram/Radio
817-535-3407 (h) 817-729-9567 (c)

Pastor Marilyn Jones Maternity Leave
revmarilynj@gmail.com 817-682-7955

Dana Nance Bulletins/Monthly Newsletter
djnance@sbcglobal.net 817-999-4487 (e-mail preferred)

Luis Santillan Screens & Website
k.fernny2@gmail.com 915-275-9389

Kime J. Sims Facebook & Social Media
kime2u@msn.com 817-266-0240

Mary Strom Bulletins & Bulletin Boards
hhstrom@sbcglobal.net
817-457-5565 (h) 214-212-1195 (c)

Koinonia Class News - Room 202

As predicted, we'll finish our Advent study of "Underdogs & Outsiders" just in time to start our Lenten study of Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails." Ron G. wrapped up 2-week discussion of Bathsheba on Sunday. Gary will start discussion on Mary, the Mother of God on February 4 and plan to finish on the 11th.

Our 5-week study will begin on the 18th and continue through Palm Sunday March 25th with a week off for the Community Breakfast on March 11. Some of us will serve breakfast at Union Gospel Mission on Easter, then join the class for brunch in our classroom.

In the meantime, our delayed Epiphany party will begin at 4 p.m. Sunday, February 4 at Ron and June Wilson's Haltom City home. We'll eat, exchange books, discuss our Advent Conspiracy offering recipients and set a date to renovate our children's library. Gary likely will lead the Texas version of "12 Days of Christmas." We'll try to wrap up in time for football fans to watch the Super Bowl game together or at home. Bring a dessert or side dish for brisket; a new or used book and your calendar to plan the library project and future activities. We hope to see Trish C., recovering at the Staten from her latest surgery; Linsey, if her son is feeling better; Lynn, Bertha and others we've missed lately. -- Martha Deller

Wesleyan Class News - Room 112

We are sad to report that Micki Wier has passed away. Please remember her family in your prayers.

The Wesleyan class didn't meet the first two weeks of January. Attendance is now back to normal. Wesleyan class always has wonderful teachers. Our teacher, Eve Hamilton, is moving to London to help build a new brand "Mimosa Leaf" for a starter company for a prestigious global firm that previously has been commissioned by the British Museum of Natural History, the Ritz Carlton Hong Kong, and Buckingham Palace. We will miss her and wish her well!

A number of class members are participating in Meadowbrook Reading Buddies program, but they can always use more volunteers.

Jean Dyer won the \$25 Birthday Club January gift certificate to Mexican Inn. Congratulations, Jean! We also celebrated her 90th birthday in class. We fell a bit short of the BC goal for 2017 and encourage everyone to participate this year. The 2018 goal is increased to \$4,000! As Vern noted, "When funds go down, raise the goal!" Let's do it! Help us make the new goal!

Eastside Ministry thanked us for our Christmas contribution. Please remember to bring box dinners for the current collection for Eastside.

If you haven't been able to attend class, just know we miss you! Please keep each other especially those class members who are ill and absent and our mission work in your prayers. - Kay Hofer

Ministry Opportunities

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Great job! You've overflowed one pew outside the nursery with cases of mac 'n cheese, cereal and other nonperishable food. You have one Sunday left to fill the pew across from the sanctuary entrance. Scouts and 4-H members add their donations at Monday and Tuesdays meetings, so you have an extra day or two before we deliver the food to Eastside Ministries and United Community Centers.



NEW LIBRARY DESIGN

You are invited to a meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 5 in MUMC's Fellowship Hall to share your ideas with city officials planning a new library set to open in late 2019 on the vacant lot across from MUMC. Billed as the first Fort Worth children's library, it will be open to adults to pick up pre-ordered books.

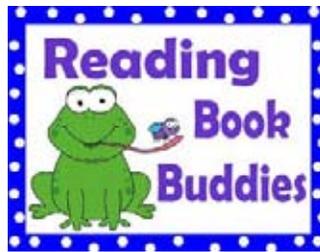


For more information, contact

project manager Alfonso Meza at alfonso.meza@fortworthtexas.gov or 817-392-8274.

BOOK BUDDIES

After a holiday hiatus, MUMC "Book Buddies" continued reading with 30 2nd and 3rd graders needing help with their literacy skills. Principal Terri McGuire would like to continue the program after Spring Break March 12-16 with a new group of first and second graders who didn't even know the alphabet when they enrolled in October.



If Tuesday conflicts kept you from becoming a Book Buddy in the fall or winter sessions, please consider volunteering AFTER spring break when the reading day may change.

FE"BEAR"URY MEANS TEDDY BEARS

Cindy Woelke credits a Methodist friend with starting the Bear Ministry at her church, but Cindy brought it to Meadowbrook where she has kept the tradition alive for 35 years. She brought a tiny bear and a sock monkey to church Sunday to remind us to start bringing new and gently used stuffed animals to fill the sanctuary pews where we pray over them and hug them for a month before distributing them to Alliance for Children, police, fire and others who encounter children who need a furry friend.



SCOUT SUNDAY 2018

Daisy Scout Belen Barriga has been selling cookies at Meadowbrook for several weeks and helped collect the noisy offering on Sunday. She'll be in church again February 11 along with more than 20 Girl, Boy and Cub Scouts who will lead Scout Sunday worship from the opening flag and candle lighting ceremonies to reading scripture and prayer. Cookies will be sold before and after the 10:50 service.



EASTSIDE MINISTRIES

Eastside Ministries, the faith-based agency Meadowbrook UMC helped start in 1985 to serve our needy neighbors, is earnestly seeking more volunteers to help its small paid staff process and distribute food and clothing to a growing number of clients.

EMS staff is preparing to implement suggestions from current volunteers to recruit, train and share the ministry workload with more individuals, churches and civil groups. They include:

- Volunteer Orientation -- beginning February. 27, EMS staff will hold monthly sessions to explain the ministry and cross-train new volunteers for various duties in the clothing closet and food bank.
- Saturday work days, similar to one requested and staffed January 20 by MUMC volunteers, will be scheduled monthly to allow volunteers with paid weekday jobs to participate in the ministry.

Contact ESM board members Joy Guthrie or Pastor Denise Blakely or other MUMC volunteers Lois Bogusch, Martha Deller, Janet Adair, Jane and Gary Cumbie for more information.



Happy New Year and Many thanks!!!

Thank you to everyone who helped un-decorate the Sanctuary on December 31st. As always, even with terrible weather, many showed up to assist. My biggest heartfelt thanks to each of you. You make my heart smile.

Wishing you all, those who helped and those who couldn't, a prosperous and healthy New Year!

-- Angela Osmundson

MEADOWBROOK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3900 MEADOWBROOK DRIVE
FORT WORTH TX 76103-2699

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CLERGY TEAM

Pastors

Rev. Marilyn Jones
mjones@mbrookumc.org
817-682-7955 (cell)

Rev. Denise Blakely
dblakely@mbrookumc.org
Associate Pastor of Community Missions

Office: 817-534-1741
Fax: 817-534-9517
E-mail: mumc@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.mbrookumc.org

Worship Opportunities

Sunday School 9:40 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Rejuvenate Community Bible Study 4:00 p.m.

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Sunday

9:40 a.m. Sunday School Classes
10:50 a.m. Worship Service
2:00 p.m. Karate (CLC)
4:00 p.m. Rejuvenate Bible Study (P)

Monday

12:00 p.m. Rotary (FH)
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 12 (SH)

Tuesday

6:00 p.m. Early Childhood Matters (L)

Wednesday

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry (P)
2:30 p.m. Games Day (113)
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (CR)

Thursday

Friday

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (SH)
6:30 p.m. Daisy Scouts (SH)

Saturday

Additional Dates

Sunday, February 4
Monday, February 5
Sunday, February 11
Tuesday, February 13

Wednesday, February 14
Sunday, February 18
Sunday, February 25

Communion Sunday
Library Meeting
Scout Sunday
UMW Executive Meeting
General Meeting
Ash Wednesday
1st Sunday in Lent
Noisy Offering Sunday



Newsletter
DEADLINE

Articles are appreciated by Wednesday, February 21.
The next newsletter will be published February 27, 2018.
Thank you Diane & Martha!