

MEADOWBROOK MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF MEADOWBROOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter

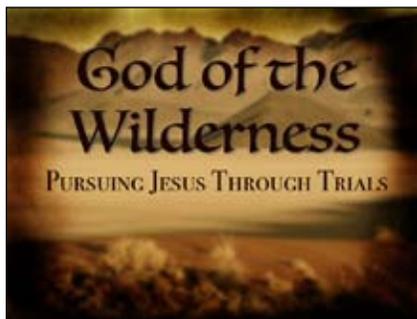
www.mbrookumc.org

February 27, 2018

Lenten Sermon Series: God of the Wilderness

Pastor Denise Blakely continues her Lenten sermon series, "God in the Wilderness: Pursuing Jesus through Trials."

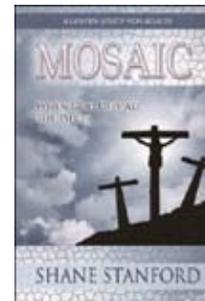
We'll learn how to avoid the pitfalls together as we follow Jesus on his journey through the wilderness. Worship begins at 10:50 a.m. on Sundays.



Let God Use Your Broken Pieces For His Kingdom

It's not too late to join this year's Lenten study to learn how God can reassemble the broken pieces of our lives into something beautiful and useful for his Kingdom.

Pastor Denise is leading separate sessions at 4:00 p.m. Sundays, 10:00 a.m. Mondays and 6 p.m. Wednesdays. Get your book in the office and join us in the parlor.



UMCOR will be the Recipient of March 4 Communion Offering

When disaster strikes around the globe—like Haiti's 2010 earthquake or Typhoon Haiyan in 2013—so many watching the drama unfold on our living room televisions feel entirely helpless. How can any one person make a difference in the wake of such widespread devastation? As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is prepared to act.

Since 1940, when UMCOR's forerunner was established to meet the needs of those suffering overseas at the onset of World War II, we've continued to respond to those in desperate need—today throughout more than 80 countries around the world. The response of UMCOR isn't something "they" do, it's something "we" do.

That's because your generous giving to UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ's church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity—without regard to race, religion or gender—together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic need.

Because you give, the United Methodist Church's compassionate response to human suffering continues today:

- When tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma, we responded
 - When children in Zimbabwe lost parents to AIDS, we responded
 - When a massive tsunami devastated lives in Japan, we responded
 - And when the next mass crisis occurs, we will be prepared to respond
- UMCOR will be able to offer aid in Jesus' name to those who suffer because United Methodists give through UMCOR Sunday. In fact, it's your generous giving that allows us to respond when disaster strikes. Not "they." We.

When we meet the needs of those who suffer, we actually minister to Jesus, who said: "I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me." (Mt. 25:35-36, CEB) As we respond, we recognize Jesus in those who are reeling in the wake of disaster. Thank you for your generosity.

-- Outreach Committee



Prayer ❖ Presence ❖ Gifts ❖ Service ❖ Witness

Hospital

Jean Dyer

Church Members

Trish Christensen	Charles & Ernestine Ferguson
Joyce Fry	Grace Johnston
Maria Romero	Penny Tanner

Home and Care Centers

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

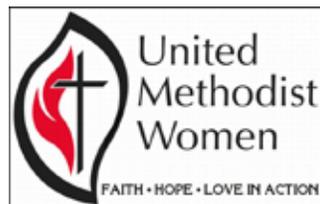
Church Friends and Family

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)
 Debra Duesterdick (Daughter of Kay Hofer)
 Jamie Hofer (Grandson of Kay Hofer)
 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)
 Gloria Ramirez (Mother of Frank Ramirez)
 Cara Reed (Cousin of Craig Maxwell)
 Diane Reed (Friend of Janet Moore)
 Eugene Semana (Nephew of Mary-margaret Belota)
 Linda Thomson (Cousin of Jane Cumbie)
 Joan 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 Billie Gordon, who died Friday, February 2.

UMW News

The UMW general meeting will be on Tuesday, March 13, beginning with refreshments at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. We will move into the Wesleyan classroom at 10:30 for the meeting and program, "My Place in the World, Part 2," led by Emma Clegg.



The outreach project is bringing pocket-size tissues for the Parkview gift bags. A big thank-you to our members for supporting the Souper Bowl for Caring and the gathering of stuffed animals for children in crisis.

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

UMW Outreach Project for March

Pocket-size tissues for the Parkview gift bags.

February 2018

Average Presence

Sunday School.....	56
Morning Worship.....	76

Giving

Budget.....	\$15,729
Birthday Club.....	\$279
Century.....	\$300
Communion (Church Growth).....	\$61
\$\$'s for Missions.....	\$597
Noisy Offering	\$138

Welcome Judah Raquel Jones

Pastors Marilyn and Clint's baby girl arrived Friday, February 2, 2018 at 5:22 p.m.
 7 Lb. 2 Oz. and 21 inches long
 with "lots of red hair"
 from both sides of the family.



Happy Birthday to Everyone Born in March

All of you who have been Methodists for a long time know about the importance of “connectional giving” and how those dollars fund Methodist involvement in not only local, but world-wide ministries. Meadowbrook is proud to be part of that “connection” and wants to pay its fair share into this fund. EVERY DOLLAR we collect through the Birthday Club goes directly into connectional giving; so when you join the Birthday Club, you are helping so much in our meeting this commitment!

If you were born in March (or January or February), it's time for you to send in your check for membership in this elite Club of MUMC members (and friends). Remember, your check should equal the amount of years you are celebrating in 2018...or you can round it up (or down) to \$100 if you want to keep your actual age a secret.

And don't forget to send a birthday card to one or more friend(s) on the March Birthdays list below. Perhaps it will remind him/her to join the Club!

March Birthdays

2	Marah Montalvo	18	Lura Colorado
3	Tammy Strom	19	Mary Reynolds
4	Alice Pauline Sims	19	Sharon Conger
4	Averiee Osmundson	24	Jeff Roper
6	Marty Cerroni	26	Ray Owen
9	Caroline Robbins	27	Ernestine Ferguson
10	Dave Turnbull	29	Betty Pollock
12	Martha Wachtel	31	Maxwell Colorado
16	Yvette Cervera		

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. (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.

Happy Birthday, Y'all!



New Birthday Club Members Celebrated

Thanks to these generous church family members for January and February donations to the Birthday Club:

Mary Stout
Dana Nance
Lois Bogusch
Claudia Roper

Your gifts are very much appreciated and will be credited immediately to our Connectional Giving fund.

We estimate that at least five or six new members will be needed every month if we are going to reach this year's goal of \$4,000, so at this point in time we are a little behind in our targeted participation. Won't you please consider joining the Club when your birthday month rolls around? We really need you!

NOTE: Membership in the 2017 Birthday Club does not carry forward. Membership in the 2018 MUMC Birthday Club requires a 2018 donation.

Remember that the first ten donors to the 2018 Birthday Club campaign will participate in a drawing for a \$25 Home Depot gift card!

For your April Calendar

Heritage Dinner is Sunday April 15th and the price is still \$10.00 for adults and 5.00 for children 12 and under.

The menu hasn't changed: Ham, green beans, cheesy potatoes, fruit salad and, three kinds of cake!



Covenant Class News - Room 221

Snack and lesson schedule is as follows:

	SNACKS	TEACHER
March 4	Nance	Give Up Something Bad for Lent/Stout
11	Community Breakfast	
18	Osmundson	Mary Stout: GUSBFLent
25	Reynolds	Mary Stout: GUSBFLent

Please make note of the date for which you are scheduled to bring snacks. If you are unable to bring snacks on the date shown, let me or Nancy Estes know a little ahead of time and we'll make other arrangements.

Last, I hope you will make every effort to be in class as much as possible this year. We miss you when you are not here, and we really do still have good and lively lessons and discussions. Don't forget to keep each other in your prayers. Hope to see you in class! -- M-m

Wesleyan Class News - Room 112

I'm saddened to report that our class member Billie Gordon passed away February 2. Please remember her family in your prayers. We have had a number of class members out with the flu, pneumonia and other illnesses. Please keep each other, our class members, and our mission work in your prayers. If you haven't been able to attend class, please know you are missed!

On January 28, the class congratulated Dick and Lois Bogusch on their 61st Anniversary (January 26th) by singing "Happy Anniversary." We wish them many more happy years! We signed and sent a class card to Clare Cameron. Clare turned 100 on February 21st. Congratulations to Clare! Vern announced the birth of Judah Raquel Jones February 4th, and said he had sent Judah her first e mail, commenting in that e mail that "she was the same length and weight as a prize Black Bass he caught, but much prettier!" We join other church members in being thankful for her long-awaited, safe arrival! Congratulations to Marilyn and Clint!

The icy, cold weather on February 11th resulted in very low class attendance. As a result, we began class with "no musician, no song leader, and, at first, no teacher." We did subsequently have an excellent teacher, but the absence of Martha and Mary was sorely noticed when we attempted to sing "Happy Birthday" a cappella. The spirit was there, but the result was sadly lacking! We weren't brave enough to attempt to sing actual hymns! Let's remind these ladies how much we appreciate their presence and contribution to class music every Sunday!

A number of class members are participating in Meadowbrook reading Book Buddies program, but more volunteers are always welcome. Contact Martha Deller (817-535-3407) for information if you are interested. Don't forget the 2018 Birthday Club goal for 2018 was increased to \$4,000! Help make the new goal and join the club! The class enjoyed the Bingo lunch at the church on February 24th.

We are blessed! - Kay Hofer

Koinonia Class News - Room 202

Koinonians had their long-delayed Christmas/Epiphany party on February 4 at the Wilson's home, where we overindulged in Ron's barbecued ribs and a variety of side dishes and desserts; exchanged books in a kinder, gentler version of our once heated holiday gift swaps; and divvied up our Advent Conspiracy donations to missions in the Congo, Nicaragua, Latvia and Fort Worth.

We also planned our project to rehab the children's library hastily organized last year for our first Project Transformation reading camp. We've had one work day and scheduled another this week with a goal to unveil the freshly painted library at a March 21 luncheon for prospective partner churches for this summer's PT camp.

We're also on a tight schedule to finish our Lenten study of Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails" before Easter. Under Gary Cumbie's guidance, we made it through six chapters the first two weeks and are assigned chapters 7-9 for March 4. After a break for our March 11 community breakfast, we'll try to finish the last six chapters by Palm Sunday so some members can serve Easter breakfast at Union Gospel Mission, then join our classmates for brunch before worship.

-- Martha Deller

AARP Driver Safety Class

Since March, 1998, Meadowbrook United Methodist Church has been sponsoring the AARP Driver Safety (formerly Defensive Driving) Class every March. As most of you know, this class reminds us of safe driving rules and techniques we already know but may have forgotten, and teaches us about new rules and regulations that might save our life sometime. In addition, most insurance companies give reduced rates to those who have completed the course.

This year the class will be offered on Wednesday, March 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in Fellowship Hall of our church. Cost will be \$15 for AARP members (bring your membership card to provide the number), or \$20 for non-members, payable at the door.

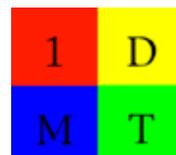
Sign up now by calling or e-mailing Billie Horton 817-457-4609 or bhorton1@aol.com or calling the church office 817-534-1741.

March 3 - 1DMT Work Day

Jim Nance is organizing a work day to tackle several things around the church. We will be joined by some of the men from First UMC Euless. Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. followed by power-washing and other projects around the church.

March 11 - Community Breakfast

One Day Mission Trip is hosting the community breakfast on March 11th. Volunteers are needed to set up the tables and cook. E-mail Jeff Roper jeff.roper@sbcglobal.net if you are available to help.



Ministry Opportunities

BLESSING THE ANIMALS WHO WILL BLESS THE CHILDREN

Meadowbrook members came through once again, filling the sanctuary pews with well over 300 stuffed animals as a Valentine's gift to the children in our community. As we have for 35 years, we hugged the furry friends throughout February before the congregation carried them to the altar to be blessed by Pastor Denise Blakely.



Audrey, granddaughter of Jim & Dana Nance, loved on the animals and dutifully posed with the bears before helping put them in bags after church.

Cindy Woelke, founder of our Teddy Bear Ministry, will deliver the animals to Alliance for Children, neighborhood police and fire officials and other First Responders to hand out to traumatized children in need of comfort.

Celebrate Easter Son-Rise Service at UGM

Some of you have begun Easter serving breakfast at Union Gospel Mission since our former UGM board member Bill Sargent arranged for us to feed several hundred mission residents and homeless street people in 2000. Choir members and Sunday school teachers have missed this

uplifting ministry to host children's Easter egg hunts or rehearse music for our own Easter worship services. Others equated Easter sunrise services with youth-led worship in neighborhood parks.



For the 19th year, we want to give everyone the opportunity to celebrate Jesus' resurrection as his early followers did - by answering his call to spread his Word by serving the least of his brethren.

Even if you're not an early riser, please join us at 7:15 a.m. April 1 at the mission at 1331 E. Lancaster Ave. You'll be done in time for Sunday School and worship at MUMC. Contact Jane Cumbie at jecumbie@aol.com or 817-992-5159 for more information, to sign up or need a ride to the mission.

Send a Scout to Camp - Earn Discounts

Purchasing a Boy Scout Camp Card may not bring you the instant gratification of a box of Girl Scout cookies. But like cookie sales, the \$10 Camp Cards can fund camp and other activities for our Meadowbrook Boy Scouts while earning discounts from a dozen businesses on everything from Texas Rangers and Six Flags tickets to burgers, pizza and groceries.

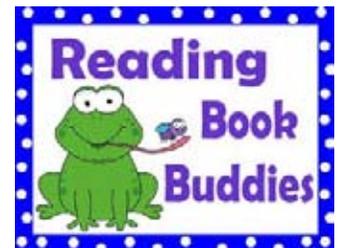


Our Troop 12 and Pack 12 Scouts will be selling Camp Cards at our March 11 church breakfast as well as outside the TCU bookstore in March and Albertson's and Tom Thumb grocery stores in April. Contact Martha Deller at martha.deller@yahoo.com or 817-729-9567 for details.

Calling all Book Buddies

Meadowbrook Buddy Buddies, a reading partnership that grew out of MUMC's Project Transformation reading camp last summer, is about to finish our second 8-week session helping Meadowbrook Elementary second and third graders improve their reading skills. Most of our faithful MUMC reading volunteers are on board to continue a third 8-week session after spring break - this time helping struggling first and second graders develop a love for reading as they practice their reading skills.

But we'd like to offer others a chance to interact one hour a week with students who come to the school library in three groups of 10, select a book and choose one of our volunteers to listen to them read for 20 minutes. Reading to a student in each of the three groups takes only an hour.



Principal Terry McGuire said the 1-on-1 interaction between our volunteers and 30 students who have read to us each session have resulted in immeasurable gains - from better classroom behavior to increased confidence to actual gains in reading levels. One student excitedly told Ms. McGuire recently that he had advanced from one reading level - identified by colored dots on the books - to another. "It's working," she said.

If you're not ready to commit to the weekly reading sessions yet, consider signing up to substitute for a regular volunteer who gets sick or has a last-minute conflict. If you can't do it this spring, you'll have another chance when we host our second Project Transformation reading camp in June and July. For more information, contact Martha Deller at 817-729-9567 or martha.deller@yahoo.com

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)
10:00 a.m. Lenten Book Study (P)
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)
6:00 p.m. Lenten Book Study (P)
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, March 4
Sunday, March 11

Tuesday, March 13

Wednesday, March 21
Sunday, March 25
Sunday, April 1

Communion Sunday
Daylight Savings Time Begins
Community Breakfast
UMW Executive Meeting
General Meeting
Driver Safety Class
Noisy Offering Sunday
Easter Sunday



Newsletter
DEADLINE

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