



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

Seek with God's heart

Grow in God's word

Serve all God's people

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S.A.L.T Update

Issue: #7

April 9, 2010

From Pastor Andy



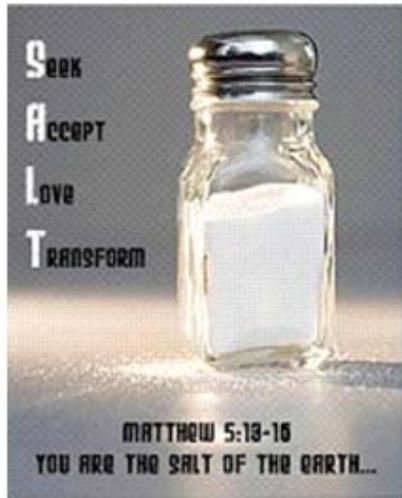
God and Going Green

-a reflection as we approach Holy Covenant's first Green Week, April 19th - 23rd

The ancient stories, passed along one generation to next for centuries and now found in the first few chapters in Genesis, have shaped our perspectives on a variety of fundamental topics: what does it mean to be human, why do we experience pain, suffering and death, and what kind of relationship does our Creator desire to share with us? In addition, these stories contain wisdom about the sacredness of God's creation and our intended relationship with it.

Some of this wisdom is probably familiar to us. In Genesis 1:31, we read that God saw everything that God had made, and declared that it was very good. Undoubtedly, it is good...and astounding in its diversity, abundance, beauty, power, and interconnectedness. Even a quick glance out the window and momentary daydream about snow-capped mountains or fields of wildflowers tell us so. God's handiwork surely reveals something to us about the character of its maker.

Perhaps a less familiar but very important bit of wisdom comes from Genesis 1:28 and 2:15. (If there was ever a case in point for the dangers of misinterpreting scripture, this is it!) From the King James Version, countless believers were taught that human beings were charged by God to "subdue" and "have dominion over" the natural world (1:28). We took that ball and ran with it, striving to bring the creation under our control and to use its resources for our purposes. But, we ignored another phrase in that same verse that commands us to "replenish" the earth as well (1:28). Genesis 2:15 contains a similar message, saying that Adam's job was to "cultivate" and "take care of" the garden (The New Jerusalem



Our work at Furneaux and Davis elementary schools has begun! As we strive to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, we are excited about building relationships with their teachers, students, and families through tutoring and mentoring. We currently have 70 volunteers serving in the schools, and we always welcome new helpers! Pray about where God is calling you to serve - you have the chance to make a difference in the life of a child and show the good news of Jesus by being generous with your time. Contact Jana Jones jjones@hcumc.org or Tom Miller thomas.miller@teampcs.com if you would like to be involved.



Vacation Bible School 2010

We will set sail July 12-16 and experience the deep, rolling waters of God's love! Registration will begin in May, but save the date on your calendar now!

translation). We have tended to focus on the power of authority and to neglect the responsibility of stewardship, and as a result we have put the creation and ourselves at great risk.

And so, Holy Covenant is offering to our faith community and the wider Carrollton community an opportunity to repent, ie. to turn away from the ways that we have acted as poor stewards of the creation and instead embrace this basic vocation which God has given all of us. That opportunity is called Green Week, and it is happening April 19 - 23. All of the details are inside this edition of the newsletter (as well as on posters hanging in various places across our city). Suffice to say, during Green Week we can learn some simple, easy-to-implement things we can do to take better care of the earth and begin to do some of those things together. It should be a lot of fun and certainly can be a way to deepen our discipleship.

God and going green really do go together.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Andy

Baptisms



Briley Johnson, baptized March 28, 2010

If you're interested in helping, please contact Jana Jones at jjones@hcumc.org.



Summer Sunday School

Classes for Toddlers through 5th Grade begin on Sunday, May 30 at 9:45 am!

This is a 12-week commitment. Training will be held on May 16. Please consider teaching so our regular teachers have a much-deserved break.

Contact Jana Jones jjones@hcumc.org if you would like to help.



Tannah Oppliger, baptized March 28, 2010

Youth Ministry

**Youth and Clergy Mission Day
Saturday, April 24
9:30 am to 2 pm**

We will join youth & adults from around our Conference in a day of mission & worship. Meet at Holy Covenant at 9:30 to carpool to Arapaho UMC.

Sign up now for summer youth mission trips:

✓ June 20-26, **Youth Choir Mission Tour** (grades 6-12) heads to South Texas. Rehearsals taking place now on Sundays at 5 pm in choir room. \$25 deposit due now! Contact Rev. Debbie to sign up dchapman@hcumc.org

✓ July 17-24, **Senior High** (grades 9-12) will go to Upper Sands Mountain Parish in Alabama to do home repair, gardening and canning for a group of 8 rural UMC churches.

✓ Aug 1-6, **Junior High** (grades 7-8) will go to C2K in West

New Sermon Series

The Prodigal God



April 11 - Recklessly Extravagant God

April 18 - A Spiritually Deadly Condition

April 25 - Freedom Is Never Free

May 2 - Join the Party

Youth Choir Breakfast Fundraiser

**Sunday, April 11
8 to 10:30**

Mark your calendar to have a great breakfast Sunday morning and have yet another way to support our youth ringing and singing choirs prepare for their summer tour to South Texas.

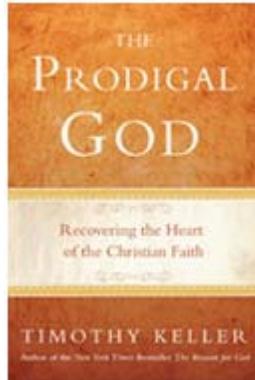


Bowling Night

**Friday, April 16 from 7-8 pm
Main Event, Lewisville**

Dallas to paint & scrape houses for elderly and disabled homeowners.

Adult Ministry



Prodigal God Study Groups

Join a small group discussion & learn how our radically loving God welcomes us with open arms.

Several groups to choose from:

Sundays, 9:45 am- Covenant, Sunday Morning Live, Faulkner, Seekers Sunday school classes
Wednesdays 12 PM- River Spice Thai, Frankford & Tollway, Pastor Andy hosts.

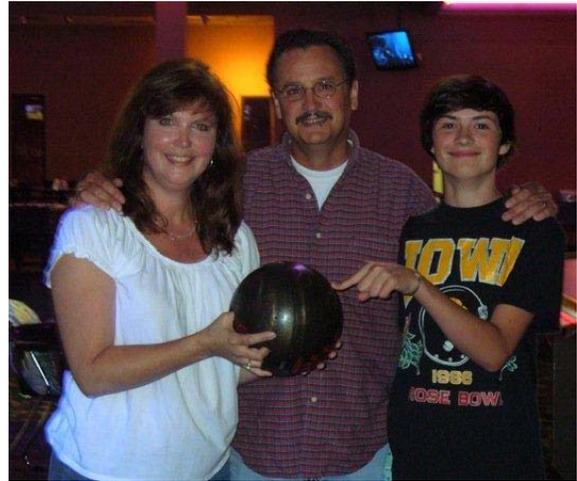
Tuesdays, 7 PM- Escape Coffee & Donuts, Hebron & Old Denton, Vicki Chandler & Jenny Martin host.



Greek Night

The 2009-2010 Disciple Bible Study classes cordially invite the adults at Holy Covenant to join us for a "Greek Night" on Saturday, April 24. The evening will begin at 5:00 PM with Vespers Service at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Dallas and commence with a tour of the church immediately following the

Child care available at the church from 6:30 - 9. Cost is \$8 per person, plus \$3.50 for shoes the night of the event. Registration is online, and you may drop a check in the offering plate marked "bowling" in the memo line.



Men's Retreat

April 16-17 at Settlement West

Dr. Hal Barkley will be the guest speaker on Saturday. Come up on Friday and join the early arrivals for dinner at the Catfish Cafe in Yantis, Texas and an evening of relaxation on the lake, or join us Saturday morning for breakfast at 9 am followed by our speaker. Our official programming concludes after lunch and you can depart or stay and enjoy beautiful Lake Fork. Contact Bob Michael rhmchl@yahoo.com for more information.

Church-wide Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, April 18

12:15 pm in the sanctuary

Stay after 11 am worship for our Finance Committee's first Quarterly Financial Town Hall meeting. You'll get an update on our current financial status & have a chance to ask questions.

Green Week

April 19th to the 24th

Come join your neighbors for a fun and informative week of environmental stewardship! Each day will feature a different "green" activity.

Monday, April 19th from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Recycling and Shredding

Collection for laptops, cell phones, ink cartridges, paper and alkaline batteries. Secure, on-site shredding of your sensitive documents will be provided for \$5 fro each copy paper sized box.

Tuesday, April 20th from 7 - 8 pm

Going Green 101 *

Discussion of recycling, water conservation and electricity conservation basics

Wednesday, April 21st from 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Gardening for Nature *

Catherine Lusgarten DVM, MS and a Life Member of the

service. After the tour, the group will enjoy an evening of fellowship together at Kosta's Café in Plano. It's the perfect chance to learn more about the Eastern Orthodox churches, how our Greek neighbors practice their faith and a great opportunity to ask questions. Reservations are required; participation is limited to 40 people. Please contact Rev. Wendy - wcurran@hcumc.org to reserve your spot or to obtain more information. We hope you'll join us!!

Music Ministry



Children's Choir Program

Holy Covenant has a history of a strong children's music program. This is lived out in the ultimate success of the youth choir program. Where have all the children gone? Well, we want to know. In order to produce our spring program, we need more children. Maybe Wednesday night isn't the best time for rehearsal. Melanie Luce and Debbie Chapman want to talk to parents of children in grades 1-5 to assess the viability of a choir for this age at this time in the life of Holy Covenant. Contact Debbie at dchapman@hcumc.org or 972-849-5372 OR Melanie Luce at lucechange613@yahoo.com if this program is important to you.

Native Plant Society of Texas will discuss the ease and benefits of earth-friendly landscaping using native Texas plants with examples of her favorites from the Carrollton area.

Thursday, April 22 beginning at 6 pm

Earth Day

Live music, tree planting, children's bike rodeo and pond clean-up. Performance Bicycle will be on site providing free repairs and safety inspections of all bicycles to ensure they are in good working order. Commuting with your bicycle will be discussed with Ryan Geiger, a Carrollton resident who commutes using his bicycle and the DART system.

Friday, April 23rd from 7 - 8:30 pm

Movie Night *

Showings of *Disney Earth* and *Wall-E*

Saturday, April 24th from 9 am - 3pm

City of Carrollton Home Chemical and E-Waste Collection Day



*Childcare will be provided

See www.hcumc.org for more information.

Spring Mission Project

Saturdays, April 24 and May 1

The Mission Committee is coordinating with Senior Adult Services for a Spring Mission Project in our local community. We will work on two Carrollton/Farmers Branch residences addressing code and/or safety issues for the senior owners. The Mission Committee decided to pursue this local mission project this year, aligning with Holy Covenant's local community focus, rather than participate in the 2010 Amigos Days sponsored by the North Texas Conference and City of Dallas.



The home maintenance work consists of siding replacement, painting, and fence repairs - so please come join us. There are opportunities for all skill levels and for the many support tasks needed to help make our mission projects successful.

Over the years our local mission projects have been very popular, church-wide activities supported by many contributors with a variety of capabilities. These missionaries will attest that one of the best parts is the food and fellowship - we do eat well and work well together thanks to Mike Gonzales, our master chef and construction manager. So, come join us in fellowship as we help our neighbors as Christ taught us in James 2:26, "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead." **Sign-up sheets are located in the Narthex.** If you have questions, please



Revelation Ringers and Singers Choir Photo Scheduled

April 11, 5:00 pm

All youth ringers and singers should be prompt at 5:00 pm for our annual group photo that we use in advertising our summer tour. Wear blue shirts, black pants and black shoes.

"Living Water Tour"

It is not too late to make a \$25.00 deposit and to attend rehearsals for our summer tour to Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Austin, June 20-26, 2010. This will be a wonderful trip! Come join us for rehearsals at 5:00 pm in the choir room on Sunday afternoons.

Handbell Festival



The Covenant Carillons joined handbell choirs from the Metroplex and Oklahoma for the Greater Dallas Handbell Association's 2010 Spring Festival at FUMC Richardson on March 27.

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 and 11:00 am - Worship Services

9:45 am - Sunday School for all ages

contact Rick Davis (972-814-5325).

New Member Luncheon

Sunday, April 25 in Covenant Center Room 113

All new members of Holy Covenant who joined in 2009-2010 are invited to attend a "New Members' Luncheon" on Sunday, April 25 after the 11 am service. We hope that you and your family will join the staff and the Engagement Committee members for this time of fun and fellowship. Please RSVP to Rev. Wendy if you will be able to attend the lunch - wcurran@hcumc.org.

Frisco Roughriders Game

Sunday, June 13 6 pm Dr. Pepper Ballpark

The Recreation Committee invites everyone for a party on the patio! Tickets are \$25 per person and include not only a place on the Dr Pepper Patio for a great view of the Roughriders vs. Midland Rockhounds game, but also a program, a limited edition 'Riders hat, and unlimited hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies, and Dr Pepper products including Dasani water! Finally, children under 12 get to run the bases when the game is over. Sign-up online at www.hcumc.org.



Registration closes on Mother's Day, May 9th. Don't miss this fun night out with your Holy Covenant family! Childcare will be provided for those who want to have fun without the kids.

From Debbie

I am humbled and so thankful for all of the well wishes and delicious food and gifts that I have received since my accident and ultimate surgery. My doctor is not approving my return to work for at least another 30 days as I continue to heal and do physical therapy. I want to thank Sheli Erenberger, Teresa Oostenbrug, Andrea Millaway, Jonathan Kaan and others for their leadership during this time. I also want to thank my friend the Rev. Phyllis Wilson who has helped with rehearsals and worship during Lent and Easter and who will sub for me in the weeks to come. Choirs have stepped up to the plate for a wonderful Lent and Easter season. Thank you my church family, for the ways that you love and care for others, especially me!



Staff

Rev. Andy Lewis, Senior Pastor
Rev. Debbie Chapman,
 Associate Pastor, Music Ministries
Rev. Wendy Curran,
 Associate Pastor, Spiritual
 Formation
Jana Jones, Children's Minister
Georgia Harrison, Youth
 Minister
Sheryl Toney, ECDP Director
Carol Jones, Bookkeeper
Elise Webb, Administrative
 Assistant

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

The Svehlek family; Christy Marceaux's family; Chris Hinkley; Debbie Chapman; Joni Taylor; Cherl Hoskins; Sue Poydence; Dale Kiplinger; Beverly Randall; Lindsay Reese; Dan Zambrano; Helen Montfort; Dick Ellis; Paul Glaze's mother; Gary Feltner's mother, Bonnie; Kevin Stahl's father, Harvey; Larie Engles' mother; Sue Moser's brother, Jimmy McCrary; Sue Poydence's sister, Joyce Hausler; Chris Mundell's mother, Rosemary; the Faulkner's nephew, Chris Richardson; Lauren Charters' Great Grandpa Huffman; Nicki & Don Luce & family; Virginia Taylor; the Depew family; Heather Hinton's uncle Billy Fulton; Colin Hinton; Steve Mazzucco; Amy & Eric Bresie; Carol Jones' parents, Verne & Dorlis Glass; Sandie and Mark Loudermilk; Doug Jones' brother Jeff; Ray Rivera; MariaCreighton-Cabezas; Shane Slovinsky; Chelsea Chamberlain's friend, Steven Grillo; Jay & Kathy Cash; Rosie Alexander; Kate Bushmann; Jess Beltran; Jan Rollins; Annabella Chan; Rick Clement; Lisa Tenore; the Burlingame family; David Ross; Vic Anderson; Jon Broom; Barbara Boothe; the Frisbie family; Ron Watkins, Susan's father; Al Pope; Sara Shepperd; Pam Moore; the Hickman family; Amanda Edmondson & family; the Dooley

Debbie

All-Around Easter



family; Jackie Franklin and family; Gary Poff, friend of the Dahir family; Anna Hixon, friend of Kim Eaves; Ann Michelle King; Jon Broom; Huffman family; the Pifer family; the Bailey family; the Eatherly family; the Witcher family; Larry Conrad and Susan Balch.



Our loved ones in the military

Trevor Baucom, Precious Blackman, Jeff Christie, Clem Clemens, Sean Connelly, Tim Connelly, Collin Fender, Zach Glass, David Hunt, Oscar Jasso, Marco Mastrogiovanni, Kevin Merritt, Brand Oakley, Jake Oliver, Ashton Rudolf, Ashley Wert, C.J. Westmoreland, Brad Wethington, & Jeremy Whiteside.



Katie Neff, MS, LPC-Intern with *Pastoral Counseling and Education Center* is currently offering counseling at Holy Covenant Thursday afternoons and evenings. Call (214) 526-4525 to make an appointment. www.pcec-counseling.org

Piano Lessons at Holy Covenant!



Jonathan Kaan is teaching piano lessons at Holy Covenant. You can contact Jonathan at jkaan@dcccd.edu or at 254-495-2633 for more information. Jonathan graduated with honors from Baylor University with a Masters Degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance.

Our Vision ~
Connecting with our neighbors,
caring for our earth,
finding transformation through the love of Christ.

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