



## Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

**Seek** with God's heart   **Grow** in God's word   **Serve** all God's people

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Issue: #69

September 7, 2012

### From Pastor Rusty



Dear friends,  
Last weekend I attended the last of the seven home meetings that were sponsored by the Staff-Parish Relations Committee of our church. The meetings were intended to let Betsy and I begin to know the folks here at Holy Covenant. I also wanted to let you tell me what matters when it comes to church and where our church should go from here. I met with over a hundred different folks from this church and found the meetings to be very informative and helpful as I settle into my role as pastor at Holy Covenant. I'm very

grateful to the SPR Committee who planned these meetings, the people who graciously opened their homes for these meetings and to all who attended.

Listening to the comments of people at these meetings told me a great deal about our church. There is no doubt in my mind that Holy Covenant is a very caring community. Person after person told stories about being encouraged or blessed by friends from church who helped them in times of illness, death or other challenges. As I listened it also became apparent how deeply ingrained in our church is the tradition of tolerance and diversity. The people of Holy Covenant are committed to missions and already serve our neighbors in a surprising number of ways. I learned that Holy Covenant has a clear idea of its identity and its purpose in being here on this corner.

Overall I learned that there is much good here and much to be proud of. There is great vitality in the life of our church. I am deeply gratified by the commitment to God and to the mission

### Children's Ministry



#### Kids' Sunday School

9:45-10:45 am every  
Sunday!

Preschool - Room 103

PreK/Kindergarten - Room  
105

1st-5th Grade - Rooms 202  
& 206



**Acolyte Training**

Sunday, September 16 -  
12:15 pm

Kids, (3rd-6th Grade) do you want to be a leader in worship?

Come join us for a training session for new/returning acolytes.

Contact Jana Jones [jjones@hcumc.org](mailto:jjones@hcumc.org) if you're interested.

**Youth Ministry**

**Youth Fellowship,  
Sunday evenings, 6-8 pm**

Grades 7 - 12. Snack supper followed by fellowship, study and fun!

**Wednesday Nights-** Small Group 7:00-8:30. Wishing to go a little deeper with your faith? Come and join us!

**Adult Ministry**



**Disciple IV**

Class begins Sunday, September 16 at 6 pm in Room 213. Led by Gary Feltner.



and ministry of Christ. I am honored to have the opportunity to share with you in the life of this church.

I also sensed a recognition that the church must always be in the process of change and growth. To stand still is to begin to die and we must always be ready to step out in faith to meet the challenges that tomorrow will bring.

At this point it appears that my agenda should be two-fold. The first is to nurture, support and encourage all the good work that is happening here and look for new ways that we can serve God and our neighbors. The second part is that I hope to find ways for you to experience the presence of God first hand. I think people today are hungry to experience the reality of God and not simply to know about God. My hope is that through worship, Bible study, adult mission trips, spiritual formation retreats, hands on mission opportunities and whatever else we can think of, we can come to know God in a more personal way. That's a big dream but it's okay because we serve a big God. I hope to see you Sunday.

Grace and peace,  
Rusty

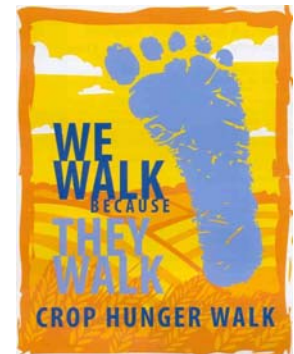
**CROP Hunger Walk**

**The Interfaith Walk for the Hungry  
Saturday, September 8**

The annual Metrocrest CROP Hunger Walk on Saturday, September 8th. Walkers raise awareness of hunger and raise funds to fight hunger in our community and around the world. The Walk route, which is approximately 2 miles, starts/ends on Holy Covenant's grounds (registration 8am, start 8:30am). Water and other family activities will be provided after the Walk.

We often forget that people in developing countries typically walk as much as six miles a day just to get food, water, and fuel for their families. The CROP Hunger Walk is a way to symbolically acknowledge their struggle and to take a stand against hunger and poverty in our world and our community.

Sign up tables and donation packets are available at Holy Covenant in the narthex area. Please contact Rick Davis (972-814-5325) if you have questions.



**Finding Balance: A Small Group for Moms**



**2nd Wednesday of each month,  
beginning September 12  
9:30 - 11:30 am**

All women are invited for study and fellowship!

### Finding the Light: A Small Group for Young Adults

Every other Tuesday beginning September 11 - 7:00 pm

All are invited for study and fellowship at Café Brazil in Carrollton!

First book study will be *UnChristian* by David Kinnaman & Gabe Lyons

Contact Jana Jones [jjones@hcumc.org](mailto:jjones@hcumc.org) if you would like to participate.

### Music Ministry

#### Music Ministry Dates to Remember:

- **Sun., Sept. 9** - Youth Bells Resumes (4:00 pm)  
Youth Choir (5:00 pm)
- **Sat., Sept. 22** - TV Time Variety Show - 7:00 pm - Sanctuary
- **Wed., Sept. 26** - Children's Choir Kick-off - "Sundaes" on Wednesday!  
Bells (grade 3-5) 6 pm,  
Choir (grades 1-5) 6:30 pm
- **Sun., Oct. 7** - World Communion - Youth, Children and Adults Combined Choir for Worship
- **Sun., Oct. 14** - Music Appreciation Sunday during Worship (Youth, Adults and Bells)
- **Sun., Oct. 14** - Youth Choir Festival, Christ UMC, Plano, Concert at 5:30 pm
- **Sun., Oct. 28** - Children's Sabbath (children's choirs sing)
- **Sun., Dec. 2** - Advent Workshop and Children's Music presentation
- **Sun., Dec. 9** - Christmas Pops Concert - 6:00 pm
- **Sun., Dec. 16** - Lessons and Carols Services of Worship

### Sunday Worship

Contact Jana Jones [jjones@hcumc.org](mailto:jjones@hcumc.org) if you would like to participate.

### Study of The Shack

#### Thursday evenings

**6:30-8:00 pm, Room 208**

Led by Jana Jones [jjones@hcumc.org](mailto:jjones@hcumc.org) - contact her if you are interested.

We read and study the book The Shack by William P. Young.

In a world where religion seems to grow increasingly irrelevant, The Shack wrestles with the timeless question,

"Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?"

Through this story, we will explore life and death, and perhaps gain a new understanding of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.



### Come to "The Well"



#### Saturday, September 15

**5:00-6:00 pm**

A new Saturday night worshipping community!

Monthly services are planned, with hopes of a weekly service beginning in 2012. Join us in a casual, family-friendly atmosphere and experience contemporary worship led by a rockin' band! Childcare is provided for young kids.

**\*\*Come to the service, then leave**

**your kids from 6:00-9:00 for a Parents' Night Out!**

**\*\* Email Jana Jones [jjones@hcumc.org](mailto:jjones@hcumc.org) to make a reservation. For kids ages Infant-5th Grade - a snack will be provided. Cost is \$5/child or FREE if you attend the service and show your bulletin!**

FINDING BALANCE IN AN IMBALANCED WORLD-A sermon series that will uncover God's perspective on how to survive & thrive!

### Blood Drive

**Sunday, September 16**

**9 to 1 pm**

**in the Covenant Center**

Give blood. Often.

Be a part of something great.



### Stay Tuned Variety Show

**Saturday, September 22**

**Schedule**

**8:30 and 11:00 am  
Worship Services**

**9:45 am  
Sunday School for all  
ages**

**Staff**

**Dr. Rusty Hedges,**  
Senior Pastor

**Rev. Debbie Chapman,**  
Associate Pastor, Music  
Ministries

**Jana Jones,**  
Children's and Young Adult  
Minister

**Erin Lester,**  
Youth Minister

**Cassie Wade,**  
Ministry Intern

**Sheryl Toney,**  
ECDP Director

**Carol Jones,**  
Bookkeeper

**Elise Webb Odell,**  
Administrative Assistant

***In Our Thoughts and  
Prayers***

The Ray family; the Baucom family; the Jones family; the Pepper family; the Glaze family; the Ditty family; John Engles; A.P. Loyd; Dan Zambrano; Arlene Lane; Sharon Richards; Larry Rayes; Hugh & Bea Dixon; Stephen Ministers; Rosemary Stierhoff; Cris Hinkley; Dot Molencupp; Dick Ellis; Linda & Marcus Oakley; DoReen Burbidge; Sandra Sisk; Jeffrey Oostenbrug; Bonnie Feltner; Samuel Lee, Jr.; Melissa Anderson; Krystle Wert; Wyatt Atcheson; Peggy Tatum; Pam Krause; Norma McCormack; Kay Mayfield; Ed Webb; Julie Bowes; JoAnn Wiggins; Bernard Hardy; Mitchell &



**7 pm in the sanctuary**

Holy Covenant's music program does a variety show every year. This year's show is *Stay Tuned!* It will feature theme songs from some of our favorite television shows.

**S.A.L.T. Ministry**

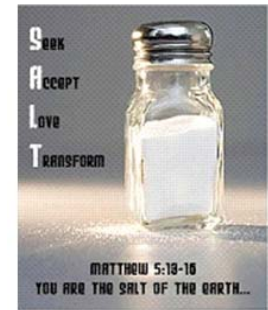
**(Seek, Accept, Love, Transform)**

Interested in volunteering as a tutor at Davis or Furneaux Elementary?

You can make a difference!

Info session on Sunday, September 23 - 12:15 pm

Tutoring begins in October.



**Blessing of the Animals**



**Sunday, October 7  
6 pm**

**Annual Dinner & Auction**

**Saturday,  
October 20**



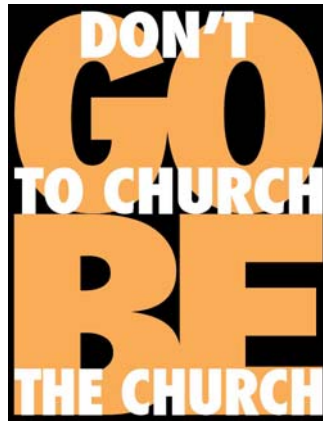
**Don't Go to Church. Be the Church.**

**Sunday, October 21**

Ashley Wert; Kristin Nelson; Joey Crumpley; Jessica and Philip Stallings; Geraine Allen; Sara Ray's father; Nita Sharp; Joe Worthington; Virgil Ronning; Josephine Anderson; John & Elizabeth Rudolf; John Michael; Sheila Anderson; James Ross; Stephanie Flangin; Bill Anderson; DoReen Burbidge; Jak Kinder; Philip Sorrell; Sandy Serifin; Sandie & Mark Loudermilk; Ray Rivera; Donna Crawford; Floyd & Stephanie Talley; Erin Beavers & family; Kyla Walls; the Pillai family; the Wearden family; Isaac & Karissa Gonzales; Darla and Jonathan Sherry; Brooks Williams; Joyce Shipman; Mattie Lannerd; Grant Russum and family; John Cloninger & family; Nathan Berry; Jim Hartley; Rachel Herrera; Brooke Johnston; Diane Bullock; Dale Bryan & family; Noel Tardy; Jeannie Deringer; Arthur Alaniz and family; Bill Hill; Jay & Kathy Cash; Rosie Alexander; Kate Bushmann; Jess Beltran; Rick Clement; Lisa Tenore; Vic Anderson; Jon Broom; Barbara Boothe; Chase Gattis; Rob & Jaycinta Kambach; the Rainey family; the Hickman family; the Dooley family; Jackie Franklin and family; Anna Hixon; Huffman family; the Pifer family; the Bailey family; and the Witcher family.

### Our loved ones in the military

Gabriel Bridges, Jeff Christie, Sean Connelly, Tim Connelly, Chad Davidson, C.J. Davidson, Zach Glass, David Hunt, Oscar Jasso,



## Adult Mission Trip

### Bastrop, TX November 5-9

Last spring the North Texas Conference of United Methodist Churches contacted us about this mission opportunity. As many of you know over 1,700 homes were destroyed in wildfires last fall in the Bastrop, TX area.

Around 50% of the homes were uninsured or underinsured.

The United Methodist Church is partnering with other denominations and the Bastrop County Long Term Recovery Team to help rebuild homes.

We will stay at Faith Village, an ecumenical village on the grounds of the First Baptist Church, Smithville, TX. The cost of \$20.00 per person covers food and lodging.

The dates that we have secured are Nov. 5-9, 2012. Monday and Friday are travel days with work days scheduled for Tues. - Thurs. It is not required that workers stay the whole week. Individuals may come for shorter periods of time. All skill levels are welcome. We will know more about our specific work tasks as we get closer to the date.

Contact our team leader, Rick Davis [mdrdtexas@hotmail.com](mailto:mdrdtexas@hotmail.com) for more information.



Marco Mastrogiovanni,  
Brand Oakley, Jake Oliver,  
Ashton Rudolf, Logan  
Vidrine, Ashley Wert, C.J.  
Westmoreland, Brad  
Wethington, & Jeremy  
Whiteside.



## Carrollton West Pet Hospital

[www.CarrolltonWestPet.com](http://www.CarrolltonWestPet.com)

Lynda VanAntwerp, DVM

Leigh-Anne Morris, DVM

Anna Osofsky, DVM

*Diplomate, ABVP, certified in Avian Practice*

Ashley Braniff Champagne, DVM

Jon Paa, DVM

3729 Old Denton Rd.  
Carrollton, TX 75007  
972-492-1828



### Custom Embroidery

Corporate Apparel, Shirts, Caps, etc.

### Screen Printing

T-shirts, Team, etc.

### Advertising Promotional Items

Pens, Mugs, Magnets, Koozies, etc.

*Mike & Rose Lovell*

1630 Valwood Parkway at Luna Rd., Carrollton, TX

e-mail: [metrocrest@embroidme.com](mailto:metrocrest@embroidme.com) web: [www.embroidme-metrocrest.com](http://www.embroidme-metrocrest.com)

### Piano Lessons at Holy Covenant!



Jonathan Kaan is teaching piano lessons at Holy Covenant. You can contact Jonathan at [jkaan@dcccd.edu](mailto:jkaan@dcccd.edu) or at 972-505-1833 for more information. Jonathan graduated with honors from Baylor University with a Masters Degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance.



We are welcoming and open to all people;  
black or white, yellow or brown, you are welcome here;  
rich or poor, young or old, you are welcome here,  
gay or straight, citizen or sojourner, you are welcome here.

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