



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

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

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Issue: #77

December 28, 2012

From Pastor Rusty



Dear friends,

We have survived another Christmas and I hope it was a relaxing time with friends and family. I think the various musical and Christmas programs presented by our children, youth and adults were all spectacular successes. I want to extend my thanks to all who were a part of all of those programs, especially the staff. I think together they made for a truly blest Advent and Christmas season.

The folks who saw in the Mayan calendar signs of the world were wrong again and so now we turn our thoughts to the beginning of a new year. In John Wesley's time the people called Methodists met on New Year's Eve for what Wesley called a Covenant Renewal Service. It was a time to reflect on the year that was ending and reaffirm the covenant that binds us to God. It is very appropriate that we, as members of Holy Covenant United Methodist Church, should pause and consider the Holy Covenant we have made with God.

One of my professors in seminary, Dr. David Watson, described a covenant as a voluntary binding of ourselves in a moment of strength so that we cannot be unbound in a moment of weakness. That certainly is a wonderful way to think about the "covenant" of marriage. As disciples we voluntarily bind ourselves to God in a moment of strength so that, in a moment of weakness, we cannot be unbound. I invite you to find a quiet moment as the New Year begins that can be for you a moment of strength in which you can renew you covenant with God so that in moments of weakness, which will come, you cannot be unbound.

A friend of mine, Rev. Karen Chraska, rewrote some of the traditional covenant prayer in her own words. She wrote:

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



Confirmation 2013

This is an exciting opportunity for all 6th Graders!

Ice Cream Social & Orientation - Friday, January 4 at 6:30 pm
 Class begins - Sunday, January 6 at 9:45 am
 Contact Jana Jones (jjones@hcumc.org) if your child would like to participate.

"I want to be a better "me" this year. Let me work in your church. Let me work to improve to improve humanity. I want to be employed in your service. Help me find my niche. I want to find the joy in my work. If my job or career should change or cease, God guide me where I am needed. Lead me Lord. I don't want to compare my career or my salary to others. Make me content but not complacent.

Let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing so that I might understand all people, so that I won't be distracted, so that I must lean totally and completely on you. I want to experience the breadth and depth of your care. Let me have all things, let me have nothing, but if I have nothing- make that enough. I need more of you God, less of me.

Lord, I give you myself freely and with a willing heart. What that means Lord, I am not always sure. Help me mean it. Lord, I give you myself freely and with a willing heart. Help me believe it.

Lord, I don't know what this year will bring, but I covenant to be your child and hold tightly to your hand no matter what."

Thanks, Karen. I needed that. I wish you all the very best in the New Year.

Grace and peace,
 Rusty

New Member

Youth Ministry



For all youth in 7th - 12th Grade

Sunday Nights -
 UMYF 6-8 pm. Snack supper followed by fun and fellowship!

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

Youth Winter Retreat
 February 8-10
 Cost is \$50

Adult Ministry



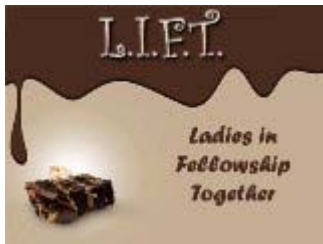
Finding the Light: A Small Group for Young Adults

Every other Tuesday-7 pm

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

Current book study is UnChristian by David Kinnaman & Gabe Lyons

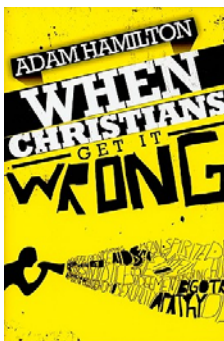
Contact Jana Jones jjones@hcumc.org if you would like to participate.



L.I.F.T. Ladies in Fellowship Together

Thursday, Jan. 17 at 6:30 pm

Contact Cassie cwade@hcumc.org for more information.



Short-Term Small Group



Rachel Kirby-Smith, pictured with David Smith, joined Saturday, December 15.

ONE Worship Service

**Sunday, December 30
Worship at 10:30 am**

Cassie Wade preaching.
No Sunday School.



It is Time to Join a Ringing or Singing Choir!

Yes, YOU!

Rehearsals resume after the holidays and YOU need to be a part of our program.

Singers: All singing rehearsals happen in our choir room located in the SE corner of our Sanctuary building.

***Adult singers** begin January 9 at 7:30 pm. We will begin work on the Mozart Requiem to be presented here during Lent and at First UMC Plano on April 28 as a part of a mass choir. We can do so much more with more voices. Please come join us!

***Revelation (Youth) Singers** (grade 6-12) begin on Sunday, January 13 at 5:15 pm. If you want to go on choir tour and

Tuesday evenings - 6:30-8:00 pm (beginning in January)
 Study and discussion of Adam Hamilton's book "When Christians Get It Wrong"
 Contact Jana Jones jjones@hcumc.org if you would like to participate.

Sunday Worship 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
Brian Hardesty-Crouch,
 Youth Minister
Cassie Wade,
 Spiritual Formation Minister
Sheryl Toney,
 ECDP Director
Carol Jones,
 Bookkeeper
Elise Webb Odell,
 Administrative Assistant

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The Kasten family; the family of Damon Downing; the Glaze family; Greg Rardin; Korbin Crowder; Debbie Michael; Nancy Cardenas; Tina Ross; Jenny Martin; Andy & Arlene Lane; Hugh Dixon; Stephen Ministers; Rosemary Stierhoff; Cris



haven't yet attended, it is time now for your attendance to count. We are still working out the plans for our Choir Tour, June 21-27. Numbers matter. The more singers and ringers we have in the program, the more elaborate our plans can be. A decision will be made soon on the destination.

***Children's Choir** rehearsals begin on Wednesday, January 9 at 6:30 pm. Grades 1-5 are having a great time and need your child to participate. Again, the more children that come, the more we can do and we have a lot of great ideas!

***Preschoolers** - If your child attends the nursery during worship, they are singing! Our wonderful nursery workers teach them the great songs of our faith and they sing in worship two or three times a year.

Handbells: ALL bell groups will begin work on music for worship and for our annual Spring Ring, scheduled for April 14 at 6:00 pm. Rehearsals are in the Sanctuary.

***Covenant Carillons** (adult ringers) begin again on January 9 at 6:30 pm. This group is preparing music for Spring Ring and our annual handbell festival scheduled for April 20.

***Revelation Ringers** (grades 6-12) begin on January 13. They rehearse at 4:30 pm. MORE RINGERS are needed. Ringing bells helps with music skills if you ring or sing at school - bells will help you improve. This group also prepares music for the Spring Ring, worship and for our annual tour, June 21-27 (location TBA).

***Children's Bells** (grades 3-5) Children's ringers rehearse on Wednesday nights beginning January 9 at 6:00 pm. They will ring periodically in worship and at our annual Spring Ring.

***All New Bell Choir** (adult ringers) to begin in 2013. We will start on January 13 at 6:00 pm! Come to this organizational rehearsal and let's see what works for everyone. If we need a better time, we can talk about it at this gathering.



We are very excited about new beginnings! If YOU will be a part of one of the above groups, we will continue the rich tradition of wonderful worship at Holy Covenant. If you have a musical skill that is not listed above, please contact Debbie Chapman at dchapman@hcumc.org or 972-849-5372. We can use instrumentalists, worship artists, dancers and dramatic artists. Let Debbie know what skill/talent you have to share.

Come to "The Well"

Saturday, January 19
5:00-6:00 pm

Hinkley; Dot Molencupp; Dick Ellis; Linda & Marcus Oakley; Betty Oesch; Michael Prees; Michael McNally; John Bator; Bobby McConnell; Carl Robertson; DoReen Burbidge; Sandra Sisk; Bonnie Feltner; Samuel Lee, Jr.; Melissa Anderson; Wyatt Atcheson; Peggy Tatum; Pam Krause; Norma McCormack; Julie Bowes; JoAnn Wiggins; Bernard Hardy; Mitchell & Ashley Wert; Kristin Nelson; Joey Crumpley; Jessica and Philip Stallings; Geraine Allen; Nita Sharp; Joe Worthington; Virgil Ronning; 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; Katy Cook; 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 &



A new Saturday night worshipping community! Monthly services are planned, with a weekly service beginning in March 2013. 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 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!**

Chili Cookoff

**Saturday, January 19
6 pm**

Bring your family and friends! All are invited to enter. Prizes will be awarded. Try them all and vote for your favorite chili!



ECDP

Early Childhood Development Program



Rainforest Open House

January 28-31
9:30 - 11:30 am

Families are invited to visit our school and tours will be conducted. Learning centers will be set up to learn about the rainforest.

Enrollment for 2013-14 School Year
Begins February 5

Now Hiring

Holy Covenant United Methodist Church has two part-time positions open. We are seeking a Director of Children's Ministries and a Director of Youth Ministries. Each position would be for an average of 15-20 hours per week with additional time required in the summer. The responsibilities of the Director of Children's Ministry would include planning and leadership of Sunday morning children's ministry plus VBS and special events for

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

children at Easter, Advent and other times of the year. This person would also be responsible for coordinating child care and leading confirmation. The responsibilities of the Director of Youth Ministries would include planning and oversight of Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday evening programming. It would also require additional time in the summer for a youth mission trip and other summer activities.

Please submit resume to Holy Covenant United Methodist Church, 1901 E. Peters Colony, Carrollton, Texas, 75007, Attn. Rev. Rusty Hedges or email at rhedges@hcumc.org by January 15, 2013.



Carrollton West Pet Hospital

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

Piano Lessons at Holy Covenant!



Jonathan Kaan is teaching piano lessons at Holy Covenant. You can contact Jonathan at jkaan@dccd.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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