



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

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

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Issue: #96

September 20, 2013

Message from Pastor Carol



Hello Church,

We are a blessed community! Holy Covenant is exploding with excitement. This past Sunday, we received five new members; collected a record setting offering; filled our sanctuary with members, guests and returning members; experienced full Sunday School classrooms; and enjoyed record numbers at our new member and guest luncheon! God is good!

I am looking forward to all that God has for us over the next few months as we move into Advent and

Christmas. I am confident that we will

have more guests and returning families entering our doors so we want to make sure we are ready. Greeting guidelines help all of us to be mindful on Sunday mornings of how best to welcome others. The more sensitive we are to those coming through our doors, the more likely they are to return.

1. Understand the mind of a guest.

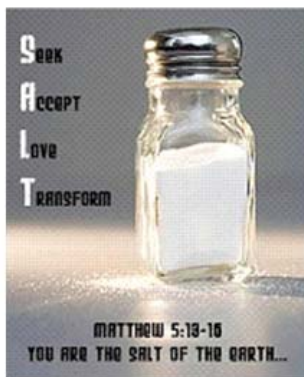
They want to be welcomed but not pressured. They are here to check us out, see if it is a good fit and find out if we have room for them.

2. Welcome everyone.

Guests and members alike need to be welcomed. Develop a good handshake and do not be frightened to introduce yourself to someone even if you find out they have been a longtime member. Try this to avoid that pitfall, "We're glad to have you here today. I don't recall meeting you before."

3. Help newcomers connect.

Children's Ministry



SALT Ministry

**Seek, Accept, Love,
Transform**

Interested in volunteering as a tutor at Davis & Furneaux Elementary schools? You can make a difference! Tutoring begins in

October.
Contact Jana Jones
jjones@hcumc.org to
participate.

Youth Ministry



For all youth in
7th - 12th Grade

UMYF Sunday Nights
6-8 pm



Please consider providing a meal for our youth. It is around the table we fellowship and begin to process our busy lives. Please contact me if you have any questions, we have a signup sheet on our website www.hcumc.org under the Online Registration tab.
-Jason Redick
jredick@hcumc.org

Adult Ministry

While you are getting to know them, introduce guests to another regular attendee who walks in and suggest they sit together, or feel free to invite first time visitors to sit with you.

4. Make our guest the priority.

Make our guest or an unfamiliar face the priority at our greeting time during worship. Ask while you are introducing yourself if they need anything. For our guests, you might even want to point out the location of the restrooms.

5. Say goodbye with warmth.

After the service, bid farewell to our guests, inviting them to return next week. Ask them if they have any questions. If possible, introduce them to me so I can connect a face with the name on Monday.

6. Avoid Church Business.

Avoid church business before and after worship. Let this be a time of fellowship so you can greet guests and returning members.

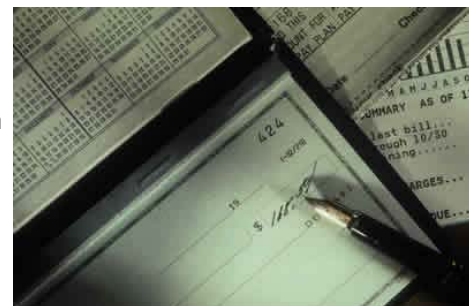
It is easy to get sidetracked on Sunday mornings with family and friends but just think who you are missing by not greeting someone new. Perhaps, there is a new friend just waiting to be discovered! We have ushers that have greeting tasks each week but all of us are essential in making people feel welcomed and at home in our church. When was the last time you were new to a group? How did they make you feel welcomed? Are you using that wisdom to welcome others?

Let's make a place for everyone coming to Holy Covenant. There is room for us all and why wouldn't we want everyone to come and enjoy the excitement and joy of our congregation?

See you at church on Sunday!
Pastor Carol Sparks

Update from Finance

Holy Covenant UMC ended August 2013 in a deficit cash position. As of August 31, 2013 the church was required to borrow funds in the amount of \$26,600 from designated funds of the church. A deficit position is not unusual for the church in the summer months, but the amount was larger than expected due to very low



giving (\$31,375) during August. Our monthly expenditures for operations are \$50,000 - \$55,000 which resulted in a \$20,000 deficit for August 2013. As of now, it is estimated that our expenditures for the year will be \$655,000 which is \$25,000 less than the original budget.

Our estimate is that expenses for the remainder of 2013 will be



Finding the Light: A Small Group for Young Adults

Sundays 9:45 am

All are invited for study and fellowship in Room A (NE Sanctuary)

Contact Jana Jones
jjones@hcumc.org to participate.

Young Adult Dinner



**Saturday, Sept. 21
6:30-8:30 pm**

At the home of Dante & Marilyn Paa

Are you between the ages of 20 & 40? Do you like fajitas?

Join us for a fun evening of food and fellowship!

RSVP to Jana Jones
jjones@hcumc.org.



Three Simple Rules

\$266,000 (this includes apportionments paid to the annual conference) and the amount to cover the current deficit of \$26,600 indicates we will need to receive \$295,000 - \$300,000 for the remainder of the year in order to be in a positive cash position at year end. Our estimate is that the \$300,000 would be received from the following sources:

Members and Guests giving	\$262,000
Reimbursed expenses	8,000
Auction receipts	30,000
Total	\$300,000

The \$262,000 in estimated giving is 42% of the giving required for the year. In the past 5 years, the church has received 34% - 38% of the giving in the last 4 months of the year. The need for 2013 is greater than in previous years and the Finance Committee is requesting that everyone prayerfully consider your giving position and give what you can to the operations of Holy Covenant UMC.

Come to "The Well"

Weekly Saturday Night Worshipping Community 5:00-6:00 pm

Join us in a casual, family-friendly atmosphere and experience contemporary worship led by a rockin' band!

Special programming for kids ages Kindergarten thru 5th Grade.



CALLING THE HEART

Bearing Witness To Ways We Respond To God

The local church is a seedbed for calling. From teaching a Bible study, to serving on a mission trip, to offering the bread and cup during Sunday worship, the local church provides countless ways through which God might speak a word of calling into ministry.

Parents' Night Out

Saturday, September 21

Come and worship, then leave your kids from 6:00-9:00 pm

3rd Saturday of each month.

E-mail Jana Jones
jjones@hcumc.org to make a reservation.

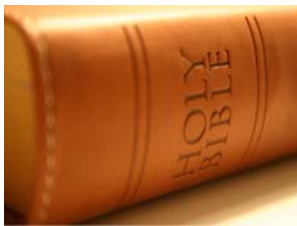
For kids ages Infant-5th Grade - a snack will be provided.

Cost is \$5/child or FREE if you attend the service and show your bulletin!



One Hit Wonders

w/ Rev. Carol Sparks
Sundays at 9:45 am
Room 113
Learn about Methodism
and John Wesley.



**"Where Did the Bible
Come From, and How
Should We Read It?"**

Sundays thru October 27
- 6:00-7:30 pm

All are invited! The cost
is \$12.

Contact Jana Jones or
Gary Feltner if you would
like to participate.



Saturday, September 28

7 pm

Holy Covenant Music Ministries
present *One Hit Wonders*. Join us
for an evening of fun and
refreshments. Admission is free,
but you can reserve a table in front
for just \$20.

From *Harper Valley, PTA* to *Ice, Ice
Baby* and *King Tut* to *Call Me
Maybe*, some of the most popular
songs ever were recorded by
artists who could never quite

capture that magic again. We call these One Hit Wonders!

Please join the Holy Covenant Music Ministry for a night of One
Hit Wonders Saturday, September 28 at 7. Our annual variety
show is always full of surprises (some are even surprises to
us!) There is no charge for admission, but an offering will be
taken to support the Music Ministry. We hope to see you (and
your friends and neighbors) September 28!

Holy Covenant's Annual Dinner & Auction

Our annual dinner and auction is coming soon! For you Auction
veterans, you will note a
couple of
changes from
past years.
First, we are
moving the
event to Friday
night. Second,
we will have
just one dinner
seating,



though it will still give you flexibility of your arrival time. What
won't change, however, is the great dinner, the fantastic silent
and live auction items, and the fun and fellowship that we all
enjoy. Here are the details:

Auction Date: **FRIDAY, October 18**

Auction Time: Silent auction opens at 5:30

Dinner Time: Earliest seating will be 5:45 and latest will be
6:30

For those of you who haven't attended the event in the past,
and those of us who can't remember yesterday, much less a
year ago, here are some auction basics:

WHAT IS THE AUCTION?

The Holy Covenant Auction, our church's largest single fund

Music Ministry



**New ringers and
singers are always
welcome!**

Email
dchapman@hcumc.org
with questions

Sunday rehearsal schedule:

3:30 pm - Joyful Noise
Ringers - beginning
handbell choir

4:30 pm - Revelation
Ringers - Grades 6-12

5:15 pm - Revelation
Singers - Grades 6-12

Wednesday night rehearsal schedule:

5:45 pm - Children's Handbells - Grades 3-5
 6:30 pm - Children's Choir - Grades 1-5
 6:30 pm - Covenant Carillons - Adults and Advanced Youth
 7:30 pm - Adult Choir

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 and 11:00 am
Worship Services

9:45 am
Sunday School for all ages

Staff

Rev. Carol Sparks,
 Senior Pastor

Rev. Debbie Chapman,
 Associate Pastor, Music Ministries

Jana Jones,
 Lead Pastor of *The Well*
 Adult Discipleship Minister

Jason Redick
 Youth Minister

Heather Hinton
 Children's Minister

Beth McClure,
 ECDP Director

Carol Jones,
 Bookkeeper

Elise Webb Odell,
 Administrative Assistant

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The Campbell family;
 James Williams Valerie Roberts; Bill Henly; Cindy Baber; Natalie Garcia; Linda Oakley; Kristi Wasemiller; Nikki Holmes; Michelle & Kenny Patterson; Bob

raising event, is an evening of fun and fellowship. Proceeds go to support the ministries of the United Methodist Church, both locally and globally. Additionally, the youth receive a portion of the proceeds for their annual mission trips.

WHERE DO THE DONATED ITEMS COME FROM?

Members of the church donate items to be auctioned. Donated items can include homemade goods, personal services, gift certificates, or products from local merchants, and are limited only by our imaginations. Donors complete a Donation Form and return the form to the church as soon as completed and then bring the donated items to the church anytime up to the day of the auction.

WHAT ARE BASKETS?

Many donors package several items into gift baskets for auction. Examples of some baskets are teen, golf, kid's toys, and "pamper yourself" baskets. The donor can either assemble baskets or the items can be brought to the church to be assembled.

HOW DOES THE AUCTION WORK?

The silent auction opens at 5:30 and closes at the start of the live auction and then reopens for a few minutes at the end of the live auction. Silent auction items are bid on by noting the bid amount and the bidder's bid number on the bid sheet. The live auction begins at 7:00 and includes roughly 30 items. Holding up the bid card during the live auction indicates your bid.

HOW DO I KNOW WHICH ITEMS I HAVE WON AND HOW DO I GET THEM?

When the auction is over (both silent and live) all bid sheets are taken to the cashiers and filed by the winning bid number. Bidders proceed to the cashiers and, after paying, are given a copy of the bid sheets for the items won. Bidders then take the bid sheets to the auction area to pick up their items. We accept cash, check, Visa, or MasterCard for payment.

WHAT IS THE RAFFLE?

In conjunction with the auction, there is a raffle for a brand new 40" LED Samsung smart TV! Tickets are \$10.00 each. Church members can purchase tickets and pick up tickets to sell to others after each service, returning the ticket stubs and cash to an Auction Committee member.

WHAT ABOUT DINNER?

Dinner is being catered and will be served to you. You may arrive as early as 5:45 or as late as 6:30, or any time in between. Once you finish eating, make your way into the sanctuary to start bidding on the silent auction items. Dinner reservations may be made after each service for \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. You may also complete a reservation form and return or mail it to the church with your payment.

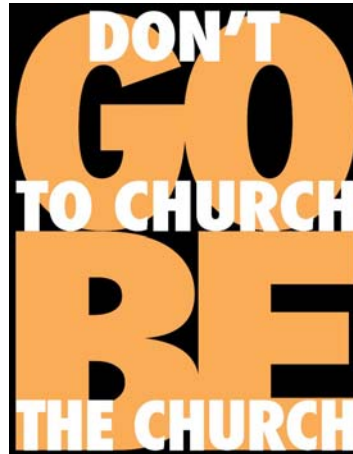
Austin; Rachel Millaway; Lexie Mitcham; Jenny Martin; Stephen Ministers; Pam Johnson; Mick Abed; Barbara Krueger; the Berks family; Michael Prees; Michael McAnally; Janis Miller; John Bator; Carl Robertson; DoReen Burbidge; Bonnie Feltner; Melissa Anderson; Pam Krause; Norma McCormack; Elizabeth Rudolf; JoAnn Wiggins; Bernard Hardy; Kristin Nelson; Joey Crumpley; Jessica and Philip Stallings; Geraine Allen; Nita Sharp; Virgil Ronning; John Michael; Sheila Anderson; James Ross; Stephanie Flangin; Bill Anderson; DoReen Burbidge; Jak Kinder; Philip Sorrell; Sandy Serifin; Ray Rivera; Donna Crawford; Dennis Stringer; Stephen Booker; Lily Gosling; Bankston Potts; the Staab family; the Fisk family; Michele Foust; Mary Robinson; the Mata family; the Serafin family; Martha & Hugo Taylor; Katy Cook; Erin Beavers & family; the Pillai family; the Wearden family; Isaac & Karissa Gonzales; Darla and Jonathan Sherry; 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;

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY CHILDREN DURING THE AUCTION?

Children aged 5 and up will be entertained by youth volunteers during the silent and live auction. The nursery will be open for children under 5 at no cost.

Watch for more details in the coming weeks! We hope to see you there!!

BE THE CHURCH Weekend



October 19 - 20

Holy Covenant will hold its annual Be the Church event on October 19 for the Saturday Well service and on October 20 for the Sunday services. This event presents an opportunity for the congregation to perform community service projects that weekend, i.e. Don't Go to Church, Be the Church.

The Missions Committee has arranged a wide variety of projects for different skills and ages - something for everyone. Sign-up will commence Sunday September 22.

If you have questions, please contact Rick Davis mdrdtexas@hotmail.com.

Marketing Help Needed

The Arts & Craft Committee needs help with all forms of marketing for our April craft show. The tentative date is April 12, 2014 and help is needed from mid-January to the show date. If any type of marketing is your specialty, we really need your expertise! Thanks.

Please contact Ginger Rathbun at 972-446-1095 or sewsomuch@sewsomuch.com



Carrollton West Pet Hospital

Rosie Alexander; Kate Bushmann; Jess Beltran; Rick Clement; Lisa Tenore; Vic Anderson; Jon Broom; Barbara Boothe; Chase Gattis; Rob & Jaycinta Kambach; Gusty Pritchard; Eddie Mae Washington; the Rainey family; the Hickman family; the Dooley family; Jackie Franklin and family; Huffman family; the Pifer family; the Bailey family; and the Witcher family.

Our loved ones in the military

Gabriel Bridges, Chad Davidson, C.J. Davidson, Zach Glass, David Hunt, Jake Oliver, Ashton Rudolf, Logan Vidrine, & Ashley Wert.



Carrollton West Pet Hospital

www.CarrolltonWestPet.com

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

Lynda VanAntwerp, DVM
Leigh-Anne Morris, DVM
Anna Osofsky, DVM
Diplomate, ABVP, certified in Avian Practice
Ashley Braniff Champagne, DVM
Jon Paa, DVM

Piano Lessons at Holy Covenant!



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