



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

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

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Children's Ministry



**Children's Sunday School
Sundays at 9:45 am**

Issue: #103

December 27, 2013

Message from Pastor Carol



Isaiah 63:7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,

the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us,

and the great favour to the house of Israel

that he has shown them according to his mercy,

according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸ For he said, 'Surely they are my people,

children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour

⁹ in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel

but his presence that saved them;

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

The cards are mailed, the packages are opened, the meals eaten, the decorations dusty. We looked forward to the big day of opening presents and sharing meals for a month and now it is has come and gone. I can remember as a child looking so forward to Christmas morning and of course having a fabulous time opening my gifts and playing with all of my Santa haul. I was filled with delight and glee but this often fell away when it was time to crawl in my bed that evening. It was not that I was not happy with my day but rather I no longer had anything to which to look forward. For weeks perhaps even months, I had so anticipated the day and as I laid my head on the pillow the realization of all that I anticipated had come and gone. It was a sort of melancholy moment.

The good news is that we are not children and we realize what

K-2 is in Room 202
 3-5 is in Room 206
 Preschool is in Room 105
 Toddlers are in the
 Nursery

Youth Ministry



**For all youth in
 7th - 12th Grade**

Sunday, January 5 –
 Youth Council/Parent
 Meeting at 12:30 pm
Sunday, January 12 –
 Dallas Stars Game & Faith
 Night

Adult Ministry



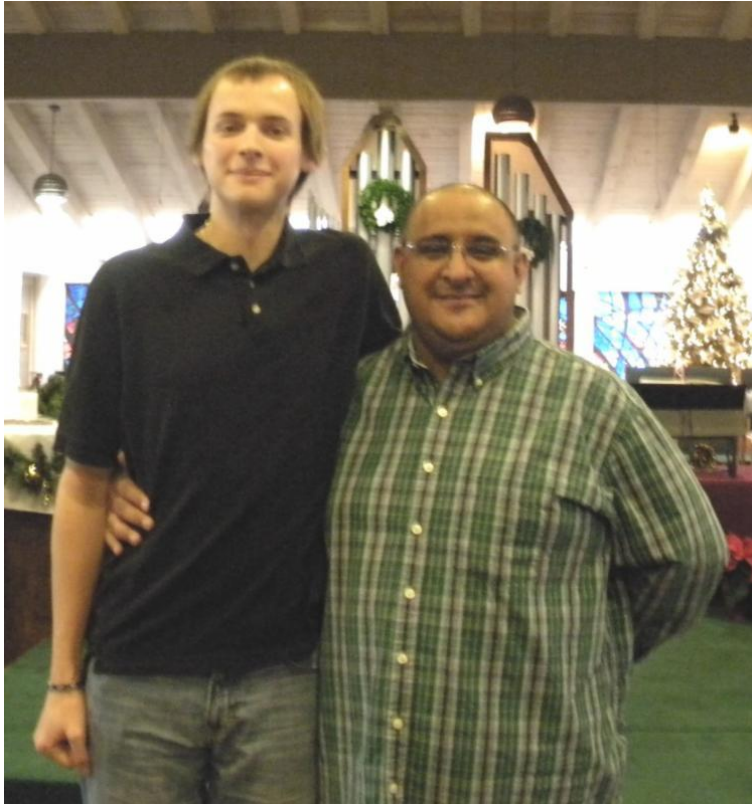
**Finding the Light: A
 Small Group for Young
 Adults**

Sundays 9:45 am
 All are invited for study
 and fellowship in Room A
 (NE Sanctuary)
 Contact Jana Jones
jjones@hcumc.org to
 participate.

in fact the day represents. We recognize that Christmas morning is about so much more than gifts, meals and even family. It is about God loving all of us so much that God came to walk among us so he could lead us all home through Christ. So now at the end of our day, as our heads rest on our pillows we can *recount the gracious deeds of the LORD* and realize truly how blessed we are to have a God who *in his love and in his pity he redeemed [us]; he lifted [us] up and carried [us] all the days of old.*

Pastor Carol

New Members



Nick and Frank Esparza joined December 22, 2013

Sendoff for Jana Jones

**Sunday, December 29
 9:45 am in the Covenant Center**

Make plans to join us as we thank Jana for her service to Holy Covenant and wish her well on her new appointment as Administrative and Children's Pastor of Connection UMC in Frisco!



Music Ministry



Rehearsals for all ages will resume January 8! The next issue will have dates, times and locations.



YOUTH Ringers and Singers

Organizational meeting for Youth and Parents on Sunday, January 12 at 5:00 pm in the choir room. We have exciting ideas for Choir tour but we must know who plans to attend. We also have plans for us to do one of the Holy Week services. Come to this meeting if you plan to be a part of our great youth ringers and singers for 2014!

Food Pantry Needs



America's Got Talent



How about YOU???

Admit it! You've listened to the harmonious tinkling of our bell choirs, praising God with song, and wondered if you could do that, too. Well, now's your chance! Beginning in early January, you'll have your chance! We're forming a *One and Done*

bell choir! This group will get together for 6 weeks of rehearsals, which will end with a performance in church (and maybe Atria) at the end of February. Then we're done. If you loved it, you can look for a permanent home in one of our other bell choirs. If you've discovered something you really don't enjoy, then you've only committed 6 weeks.

Beginners, as well as seasoned musicians, are welcome to come try this out! Because this will be a whirlwind exposure to music and ringing, you will need to attend each week. Rehearsal day/time will be determined by the interested parties. In order for this group to hit the ground running, it will be important to know who's coming ASAP! Please reach out to Debbie Chapman or Joy Lasley to express your interest. Debbie: dchapman@hcumc.org, 972-492-2432
Joy: joy@lasley5.com, 972-536-3215

What Do Stephen Ministers Do?

Ever thought about becoming a Stephen Minister?

Holy Covenant will be training another class of Stephen Ministers starting in January, 2014. Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastors to care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness. If you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening, please begin to prayerfully consider whether you might want to be part of this exciting ministry. If you think you might be interested, contact with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Debbie Chapman dchapman@hcumc.org; Susan Rardin susie@gsrardin.com, or Susan Kasten kastens@verizon.net.



**Macaroni & Cheese,
Reusable Bags,
and
Copy Paper Boxes**
Please drop off at the
church office.
Thank you!

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
Adult Discipleship Minister

Jason Redick
Youth Minister

Heather Hinton
Children's Minister

Beth McClure
ECDP Director

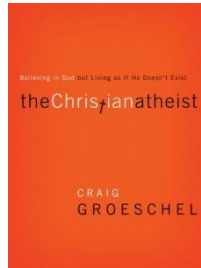
Carol Jones
Bookkeeper

Elise Webb Odell
Administrative Assistant

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The Kasten family; Nancy Cardenas; Milli Davis; Therese Campbell; Josh Faulkner; Larry Kees; Valerie Roberts; Bill Henly; Linda Oakley; Rachel Millaway; Jenny Martin; Stephen Ministers; Cindy Baber;

Breakfast Club New Book Study



The Christian Atheist Mondays at 7 am in Room 113 Starts January 6

"The more I looked, the more I found Christian Atheists everywhere." Former Christian Atheist Craig Groeschel knows his subject all too well. After over a decade of successful ministry, he had to make a painful self admission: although he believed in God, he was leading his church like God didn't exist. To Christians and non-Christians alike, to the church and the unchurched, the journey leading up to Groeschel's admission and the journey that follows--from his family and his upbringing to the lackluster and even diametrically opposed expressions of faith he encountered--will look and sound like the story of their own lives. Now the founding and senior pastor of the multicampus, pace-setting LifeChurch.tv, Groeschel's personal journey toward a more authentic God-honoring life is more relevant than ever.

Christians and Christian Atheists everywhere will be nodding their heads as they are challenged to take their own honest moment and ask the question: am I putting my whole faith in God but still living as if everything was up to me?

Instrumentalists

Traditional and Contemporary!

**Sunday, January 12 - 4:00 PM in the
Choir Room!**

We have a number of instrumentalists joining our church and it is time to organize ourselves so that we can play more often in worship! Youth and Adults should attend an organizational meeting on Sunday, January 12 at 4:00 pm in the choir room! We want to have an even more blended musical experience on Sunday mornings. So it is also time to form a praise team. This meeting on January 12 will also be to see if there is interest in this area. I think we have all pieces except a drummer. If you know of someone bring them to this meeting as well!



Chili Cookoff



**Saturday, January 18
6 pm**

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

Barbara Krueger; the Berks family; Susan Kiker; Michael Prees; Cyndi Benedict; John Bator; Carl Robertson; DoReen Burbidge; Bonnie Feltner; 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; Jim Martinez; Frank Esparza; Stephanie Flangin; the Doane family; Joseph Millioto; Buddy Milner; Susan Parker; the Rainey family; DoReen Burbidge; Jak Kinder; Philip Sorrell; Donna Crawford; Dennis Stringer; Stephen Booker; Lily Gosling; Bankston Potts; the Staab family; the Fisk family; Michele Foust; Mary Robinson; the Mata family; Martha & Hugo Taylor; Emma Mambuca; the Pivonka family; Katy Cook; the Smithen family; Erin Beavers & family; the Pillai family; the Wearden family; Isaac & Karissa Gonzales; Darla and Jonathan Sherry; 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;

Gospel of Matthew Study

Sundays from 6 to 7:30 pm

Starting January 19

Room 213

Study manuals are \$9. Led by Gary Feltner.

Journey inside the pages of Scripture to meet a personal God who enters individual lives and begins a creative work from the inside out. Shaped with the individual in mind, *Immersion* encourages simultaneous engagement both with the Word of God and with the God of the Word to become a new creation in Christ.

Happy New Year from ECDP!

As we start the New Year, Holy Covenant Early Childhood Development Program knows that families with young children are already thinking about the new school year. Please stop in to visit our preschool program during our Open House week, January 27-30, 2014.



We'd love to give you a tour of our building so that you can see the wonderful teachers we have and the great things that ECDP kids do.

Registration for the 2014-2015 school year begins February 4, 2014. Please call Beth McClure at 972-492-1371 to schedule a tour or get more information. Your children are precious in His sight and in our sight too.

Childcare Worker Needed!



We need a part time child care worker here at Holy Covenant. Schedule will include Sunday Mornings 8:15 am - 12:15 pm, and some Saturday evenings 4:45 pm -6:30 pm and Wednesday evenings 6:00 - 9:00 pm.

Ideal candidate will have:

- Experience working with children
- A caring attitude
- Reliability

The responsibilities of this job include:

- Caring for children infant - 7 years of age
- Changing table and feeding requirements
- Planning and leading fun and engaging activities for children
- Passing a background check and Ministry Safe Training

Chase Gattis; Rob & Jaycinta Kambach; Gusty Pritchard; Eddie Mae Washington; and the Rainey family.

Our loved ones in the military

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

Please contact Heather Hinton for more information and to apply. hhinton@hcumc.org * 214-668-1780



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@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.

Holy Covenant United Methodist Church | 972-492-2432 | 1901 E. Peters Colony Road | Carrollton | TX | 75007