



## Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

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### Children's Ministry



**Mark your calendars!  
Family Easter Event  
and Egg Hunt  
Saturday, April 3  
3 - 5 pm  
More info coming soon!**

Issue: #117

February 1, 2015

### Message from Pastor Carol



#### Becoming Christ through the Gospel of Luke

Our challenge to read Luke this spring is well on its way. We have completed the first six chapters and have come to understand Jesus as both Son of Joseph and Son of God. What this knowledge has done for us is to make us keenly aware of our own humanity and divinity. Jesus came as a man to show us how to live; how to love; and, how to be an extension of God in the world.

Through the baptism story we have learned to recognize God's voice claiming us as God's children and to respond to God's call by pulling away from our life and spending time in prayer. We are to become so convinced by God's love for us that we are willing to be different. We are willing to walk away from the standards this world would use to call us, and our lives, wonderful to be defined by our call to live by the standards of Christ. The story of Jesus' temptation reminds us of the continual challenge to let go of our identity created by God and allow others (be them good or evil) to define us, causing us to waver in our confidence.

As Jesus descends the mountain and begins his ministry, we become acutely aware of the skepticism and myopic view of the people who were closest to Jesus. They should have been first on board but, as we read, they wanted to throw him off the cliff! What does this mean to us as we prioritize our lives around God?

So how does Jesus stay focused? How does he keep his resolve? He clings to his anointing by God.

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me to preach good news to the poor,  
to proclaim release to the prisoners  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to liberate the oppressed,  
and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. (Luke 4:16-19)*

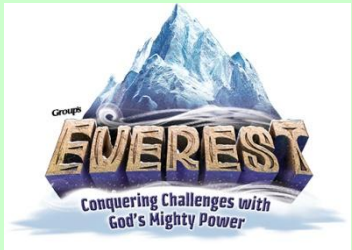


### **Children's Sunday School**

**Sundays at 9:45 am**

K-2nd is in Room 202  
3rd-5th is in Room 206

Preschool is in the  
Nursery, Room 101



### **Vacation Bible Camp June 15-19**

Please note the change  
to June!

For ages 3 (by Feb. 1)  
through 5th grade  
(completed).

*EVEREST - A Mountain-  
Top Experience of  
Conquering Challenges  
with God's Mighty Power*

We will need lots of  
helpers! Please let Ryan  
Baumgardner  
[ryloba@verizon.net](mailto:ryloba@verizon.net) or  
Heather Hinton  
[hinton.heatherd@gmail.com](mailto:hinton.heatherd@gmail.com)  
to volunteer to help!

**Registration starts  
soon!**

He knows he has been anointed because he has a job to do. We too have jobs to do for God but the key to keeping our resolve is to claim our job. What we are called to do in this world is our divine purpose. What good news are you bringing? When is your heart confident that you are being Christ? What are the dreams you have for the world? Are you working to make them a reality?

God is alive and well through Christ's church today. We just have to step fully into our lives as God's representatives in the world of 2015 with all its problems, pain and hope. I look forward to continuing to grow with you as we read Luke's gospel together. We will all be better disciples for it but the best news is the world will be better for it as well!

Blessings,  
Pastor Carol

### **New Member and Baptism**



**Michelle Ortiz joined January 11, 2015**

**Also,  
Justin Sessums was baptized January 25, 2015**

## Youth Ministry



**7th- 12th Grade**

**Sunday Nights -  
UMYF (United  
Methodist Youth  
Fellowship)  
from 6-8 pm  
in the Youth Room**

**February Dates:**

*Feb 1st @ 12:15, Rm  
113*

Mission and Music trip  
planning session

*Feb 1st*

Super Bowl Party @ the  
Parsonage, 1021 E.  
Seminole Trail

*Feb 7th*

Harvey's Kids

*Feb 22nd*

Confirmation Lunch and  
Hot Topics

*Feb 27th*

Visit to Synagogue

## Music Ministry



**It is time to join a  
choir!**

## Adult Discipleship Study Groups

Starting February 15 -  
Lenten Study led by Rev. Jim  
Guest. Sundays, 4:45 - 6 pm  
-Rm 210 - 7 weeks ending on  
Palm Sunday. *The Last Week*  
by Marcus Borg and John  
Dominic Crossan. What the  
Gospels really teach about  
Jesus & his final days in Jerusalem. Purchase and bring your  
own book.

Contact: [sbryan@hcumc.org](mailto:sbryan@hcumc.org)



New! Women's Reading Group led by Rev. Susan Bryan  
It's still not too late to join us! Thursdays - 12:30 - 1:30 pm  
*A Faithful Heart: Guide for Joyful Living* by Bishop Rev. Sally  
Dyck

Cost of the book - \$8

Contact: Susan Bryan - [sbryan@hcumc.org](mailto:sbryan@hcumc.org)

Pastor's Bible Study led by Rev. Carol Sparks  
Wednesdays, 6:30 pm - Rm. 113 (by kitchen)  
Ongoing Study of Luke and Acts - Bring your Bible  
Contact: Carol Sparks - [csparks@hcumc.org](mailto:csparks@hcumc.org)

Monday Morning Breakfast Club led by Gary Feltner  
Mondays, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. - Room 113  
Current Book - *The Well-Played Life* by Leonard Sweet  
Contact: Gary Feltner - [gary\\_feltner@verizon.net](mailto:gary_feltner@verizon.net)

**Bible Nomads** invite you to come for their study of the book  
of Ruth, led by Miles Olsen in February. This Sunday School  
Class meets off the sanctuary in Rm. B at 9:45.

## Parents' Night Out



**Friday, February 20  
from 6:30 to 9:30 pm  
Covenant Center**

Ages Infant - 5th Grade.  
Reservations are required  
by noon on Wednesday,  
February 18th! RSVP to  
[sbryan@hcumc.org](mailto:sbryan@hcumc.org). You may  
drop off and pick up children

anytime during the designated hours.

**\$6 per child; \$15 max per same family**

Upcoming Dates - March 20 & April 24 (note change to 4th  
Friday)

We have many opportunities for all ages. Here are the days and times:

### **Sundays**

Joyful Noise Ringers (Beginner) - 2:30pm, sanctuary;  
Youth Handbells - 4:30 pm, sanctuary;  
Youth Choir - 5:15 pm, choir room

### **Wednesdays**

Children's Choir -6:30 pm, choir room;  
Covenant Carillons (advanced bells) - 6:30 pm, sanctuary;  
Adult Choir - 7:30 pm, choir room

### **Saturday, February 28**

- Adult Choir Workday at Holy Covenant 9 to noon in the sanctuary.

Questions? Contact Rev. Debbie Chapman  
[dchapman@hcmc.org](mailto:dchapman@hcmc.org)

### **Food Pantry Needs**



**Reusable Bags & Soup**  
Please drop off in the church office.

### **Sunday Worship Schedule**

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

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

### **Fresh Look for Classrooms**

#### **Come & See Newly Painted Nursery & Upstairs Sunday School Rooms!**

Needed! We are collecting newish and gently used bean bag chairs and floor pillows for our elementary Sunday School gathering! If you have these to donate, please bring to room 207 or to round table under the stairway. Children's Sunday School - Kindergarten - 5th Grade - Please note - SS now begins in 207 Gathering Room with our opening time together at 9:45!



### **Neighborhood Leadership Training**



**CARROLLTON**  
TEXAS

**Saturday, February 21  
8am to 2pm  
Newman Smith High School**

Greetings Holy Covenant, The City of Carrollton and the Neighborhood Advisory Commission are pleased to invite your church to the 2015 Neighborhood Leadership Training: Carrollton Cares. Register by Saturday, February 14!  
<http://cityofcarrollton.com/index.aspx?page=1725>

This event will address the needs of Carrollton residents by building connections that celebrate and cultivate the sense of community. This workshop is free and open to all. Hear success stories of community involvement, learn about city opportunities to promote a stronger sense of community, and enjoy a continental breakfast and mixer.

### **Blood Drive**

**Sunday, March 1  
9 am to 1 pm  
Covenant Center**

**CARTER  
BLOODCARE**



## Staff

**Rev. Carol Sparks**  
Senior Pastor

**Rev. Debbie Chapman**  
Associate Pastor  
of Music and Worship

**Rev. Susan Bryan**  
Associate Pastor of  
Discipleship

**Jason Redick**  
Youth & Young Adult  
Minister

**Beth McClure**  
ECDP Director

**Elise Webb Odell**  
Administrative Assistant

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The family of Robert Austin; Sherry Harmon and family; Linda Hill and family; Hefina Greensted and family; Scott Harrell; Kathy Amos; Nancy Cardenas; Joni Taylor; Nikki Holmes and Michele Carter; Sue Moser; Andrew Smith; Elaine Edgington; Valerie Roberts; Bill Henly; Rachel Millaway; Valentina Fevrier; Bonnie Feltner; Mark Tacy; Kevin Pearce; Robert Sheets; Joan Richards; Betty Chapman; Michael Prees; John Bator; Pam Krause; Norma McCormack; Elizabeth Rudolf; Jeff McCreight; Virgil Ronning; John Michael; Mike Pruitt; Katherine Rosselot; Kenny & Stephanie Flangin; Joseph Millioto; Donna Crawford; LaVonia Pritchard; Sara Rivera & Yamilex Ortiz; Mark

## Journeyman Chili Cook-Off Big Success



The Spiritual Journeyman held their annual Chili Cook-Off on Saturday evening. Wonderful time, great fellowship, with lots of really amazing chili to taste. The money raised will go to the church "People in Need" fund. The Daughters of Shalom's favorite charity and the Confirmation Class. Please, plan on attending next year, and think about bringing a pot of your own "secret" chili recipe.

The cook-off winners were: 1st Place - Sela Class, 2nd Place - Justin Sessums, and 3rd Place - Bill Brian (with Fred Wright coming in a close 4th). Total

money raised this year was almost \$1000.

We have a new member in the SJ Sunday School Class. We are happy to welcome Aaron Hunsaker. Since most of our members are over 50, it is great to have Aaron to bring us a younger mans prospective. We welcome all men to our class, and especially you younger guys.

The SJ class has started our new study and discussion of the books of Luke and Acts per the Bishops request. We have, class provided, booklets to help us on our journey to read, study and understand The Gospel of Luke. Please come and join us. We would love to have you.

## Life Line Screening Results

On behalf of the staff at Life Line Screening, we would like to thank you for allowing us to come to your community. The results from the Friday, December 19, 2014 screening are as follows:



### Carotid Artery Disease

Total Screened: 39  
Normal Range: 20  
Moderate: 18  
Findings of Possible Significance: 1

### Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

Total Screened: 35  
No Aneurysm: 35

### Peripheral Arterial Disease

Total Screened: 39  
Normal: 33  
Abnormal: 2  
Unable to Compress: 3  
Critical: 1

McMahan; Bob Iverson; Lar Park Lincoln; Ramon & Bonnie Ybarra; the Rainey family; and the Foster family.

**Our loved ones in the military**

Hunter Blue, Max Blue, Chad Davidson, C.J. Davidson, Zach Glass, David Hunt, Jake Oliver, Ashton Rudolf, and Ashley Wert.

**Atrial Fibrillation**

Total Screened: 35  
No Atrial Fibrillation: 35

**Lipid Panel - Total Cholesterol Test**

Total Screened: 7  
Desirable: 6  
High: 1

**Glucose**

Total Screened: 7  
Normal: 6  
Required Immediate Follow-up: 1

Thank you for your help in bringing such an important service to the members of your community. We look forward to our next screening together.



**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@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.