



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

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Children's Sabbath Sunday, February 5

Join us at 8:30 and 11 am as we are led in worship by our children!



Parents' Night Out

Issue: #141

February 1, 2017

Message from Pastor Carol



Christ's Proxy for the World

I can think of no greater time when we were needed as Christ's agents in the world. So what does it mean to be Christ's agents (action)? Does it mean that we are a Democrat or Republican? Does it mean that we are liberal or conservative? Does it mean that we are for or against immigration, abortion, war and/or trade sanctions?

Expecting our religiously held beliefs to provide easy or sweeping solutions concerning our social, political and economic ills is to diminish the value of our faith. Faith is confidence and trust in God and God's ordering for our lives for the benefit of all people. Throughout scripture we have the witness of God's law to order the lives of those who had faith in order to facilitate a life of meaning and purpose - not rightness. When Jesus challenged the religious community through his teachings he said, "I did not come to abolish the law but rather to fulfill it." Jesus came to make the point that none of us are to ignore the law of God so we must be obediently disciplined **BUT** in all circumstances we are to choose the intent of the law over the letter of the law; people over rules, love over rightness.

To be Christ's agents today is to discipline ourselves so that every decision, opinion or choice we make is driven by this intent. Is what or how I am speaking uplifting to others? Am I choosing to grow in my love of God and neighbor before my love of self? Are "rules" given a priority in my life so much so that I cannot offer grace when called for? Is being right more important than making another feel defeated? Do others experience peace, compassion and encouragement through me? Does my life have meaning for the sake of others?

To be Christ's agent is to be a law-disciplined, gentle-speaking, God-worshipping, neighbor-loving, grace-filled, peace-seeking, compassion-offering, encourager. Yep, it's a

**Friday, February 17
6 to 9 pm in the
Covenant Center**

Ages Infant - 5th Grade. Reservations are required by Wednesday, February 15! Reserve a place for your child at www.hcumc.org. You may drop off and pick up children anytime during the designated hours. \$6 per child; \$15 max per same family.

Music Ministry 2017



**Monday Handbell
Choir**

We need 3 more ringers to complete our group but we are learning fast and having fun. Come join us on Monday at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary.

We will rehearse on Feb. 6 and 13 and are canceled on Feb. 19. Email

dchapman@hcumc.org
or text/phone 972-849-5372 your interest.

big job. See you in church so we can learn together how to live a God-ordered life for the benefit of others!

Blessings,
Pastor Carol

And remember, when you are not in church, you are missed!

New Members



**Shelly Martinez, Brandon Glass and Jamie Schaffer
joined December 11, 2016**

Ladies In Fellowship Together

**L.I.F.T.
Thursday, February 9
at 6:30 pm**

We will have our monthly LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) meeting on Thursday, February 9



Food Pantry Need:



Canned meats and soups

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 of Music and
Worship

Rev. Bill Mauldin
Associate Pastor
of Family Ministries

Beth McClure
ECDP Director

Christine Perry
Bookkeeper

Elise Webb Odell
Administrative
Assistant

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The Yull family; Carol Lasley; Betty Laker; Larry Kees; Gina Woestehoff; Jamie Schaffer; Lois Eaton; Brent Arapis; Aiden

at 6:30 pm at the home of Cindy Baucom. Go to www.hcumc.org for more information.

Bring a snack or covered dish to share. We will enjoy food, fellowship and a short devotional. If you do not have time to prepare a dish, please join us anyway - we want you with us! Come join us for this time of fellowship!

Disciple 2 Study



**Sundays at 4
Room 113**

Rev. Carol Sparks will begin a Disciple II study on **Sunday, Feb 12 at 4 pm in Room 113**. Please sign up in the narthex if you are

interested. If Sundays at 4 is not a good time for you, please sign up anyway and note what day and time would be better.

Chili Cook-Off & Talent Show

**Saturday, February 25
Chili Cook-Off at 5 pm
Talent Show at 6:30 pm**

Sign up in the narthex to enter your soup or chili in the competition!

Proceeds will support Youth, Music and Spiritual Journeymen projects. Plan to participate and attend this fun evening.



This is for all ages, gifts and talents! For those that sing, dance, cook and enjoy all of the above.

We know that **Holy Covenant's Got Talent** and that **Holy Covenant can Cook!**

Gamez; Debbie Michael; Brenda Jo Anderson; Donna McAnally; Dan Kasten; Clark Ackerman; Foss Bond; Jerry Hunsaker; Ron Ross; Andrew Gonzales; Trey Gunn; Bob Barke; Blanca Soto; Mitzi King; Susan Diaz; Randy Sutherland; Kelly Ellis; Steve Morris; James and Rosa Gunn; Jem Ellis; Carmelita Robinson; LaVonia Pritchard; Wayne Pritchard; Tom Yull; Lola Herndon; John Bator; and Stephanie Flangin.

Our loved ones in the military

Tyler Ackerman, Levi Bayard, Hunter Blue, Kate Blue, Max Blue, C.J. Davidson, Zach Glass, David Hunt, Jake Oliver, Ashton Rudolf and Diana Rudolf.

Ash Wednesday Worship

March 1
7 Pm
in the sanctuary



Holy Covenant
united methodist

where radical love welcomes all and
nourishes our community

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.