



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

In This Issue

2019: A Year in the Bible

Epiphany

Food Pantry Needs

L.I.F.T. (Ladies In Fellowship Together)

Parents' Night Out

Invitation from the Advocates

Adult Mission Trip

Worship Design Team

From Our Lay Leader

Christmas With the Spiritual Journey

Children's Formation



Attention Parents of Current 3rd, 4th, & 5th Graders:

Your child can go to summer church camp at Camp Bridgeport this year. Holy Covenant will be attending C2 (the second children's camp of the summer) June 24th-

Issue: #164

January 2, 2019

2019: A Year in the Bible



We are excited to see so many willing to take the challenge to read the Bible in one year. Sometimes we make a serious commitment, but we get a little off or behind and we decide better to just stop. We hope you won't make that choice this time, and to support you to keep up with

your commitment we are going to have rendezvous and rally days. Rendezvous days are times that we will gather as a community, generally at the parsonage, to check in on how the reading is going. We might watch a movie or have a discussion to help fill in parts of the story you may have missed or help you connect to the material in another way.

Jan 6 - How to Read the Bible - After Worship with Pastor Carol

Jan 18 - Recap Genesis - Friday Night at parsonage with Pastor Carol

Feb 15 - Recap Exodus - Friday Night Movie at the Parsonage

March 15 - Recap "The Law" - Friday Night with Pastor Carol

April 12 - Recap Promise Land - Friday Night with Pastor Carol

May 17 - Recap The Kingdom - Friday Night Movie at Parsonage

June 21 - Recap Psalms, Proverbs, and Writings - Friday Night with Carol

July 19 - Recap Exile and Prophets - Friday Night with Carol

Sept 8 - Kick Off for New Testament - Sunday after Worship with Pastor Carol

Oct 18 - Recap Gospels - Friday Night with Pastor Carol

Nov 21 - Recap Acts & Intro Letters- Friday Night Movie Night at Parsonage

Jan 17 - Recap Revelation - Friday Night with Pastor Carol

We will also have Rally Days. Rally days are when we all start again at the same point in the reading on the same day. So if

28th. Registration begins Jan 9th at 9am. Camp slots can go fast depending on what camps the bigger churches decide to attend and can be full within a few days. Pastor Bill will attend C2, but it would be great to have more adults there that our children know, so please consider volunteering. It would be nice for our girls to have a female adult in their cabin. To sign up go to the Camp Bridgeport website [Bridgeport Camp](#) and enroll. You can reserve your spot with a \$50 deposit and pay before camp.

Youth Formation



Mid Winter

This year Holy Covenant youth will be going on a mid-winter retreat to Turner Falls, OK. We will leave on Friday night Feb 22nd. We will return Sunday afternoon on Feb 24th. Cost is \$75. We will be staying at the Deer Creek Lodge, youth will need to take bedding. The theme of our retreat will be whole-hearted living. Sign up online at [Mid-Winter](#).

you missed a few days and got behind on the reading in Genesis, on February 1st we will all start on Exodus together. The idea is you have an idea about what Genesis was about, and if not please attend one of the Rendezvous Days to help you with that, but we all start Exodus together.

Here is the list of Rally Days:

Old Testament

- Jan 1 - Genesis - Reading Day 1
- Feb 1 - Exodus - Reading Day 32
- March 22- Joshua - Reading Day 81
- April 8 - 1 Samuel - Reading Day 98
- May 27 - Proverbs - Reading Day 147
- July 16 - Isaiah - Reading Day 197

New Testament

- Sept 24- Luke - Reading Day 267
- Nov 7 - Acts - Reading Day 312
- Dec 6 - Ephesians - Reading Day 341
- Dec 26 - Revelation - Reading Day 359

With our Rendezvous and Rally Days we hope to support you staying engaged in the reading and understanding the grand story that goes through out the whole Bible of God reaching out in love to all humanity.

Pastor Bill

Epiphany

January 6 is the day observed as a church festival in recognition of the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. This year, January 6 falls on a Sunday. Join us as we celebrate the Magi coming to see the baby Jesus.



Food Pantry Needs



Communion Sunday, January 6

You are invited to bring uncooked rice and/or boxes of macaroni & cheese on Communion Sunday. The Pantry team says we are currently low on many items, especially canned

meats and canned fruits.



High School Camp

There is a high school camp for those in 9,10,11,12th grades July 1-5. Pastor Bill will not be attending but youth can still sign up to go if they wish. For those with the servant's heart, you may consider applying to work Children's SEEK Camp June 4-8th. Let Pastor Bill know if you are interested and he will get you more information.



Mission Trip

All our middle and high-schoolers are encouraged to attend mission trip June 16th- 22nd to NE Oklahoma. We will stay in a lake cabin at the UM Boy's Ranch in Gore, OK. We will be volunteering at the ranch. My hope is to have a middle school and a high school work crew. I hope to arrange the high school crew to do some work with the Cookson Center, part of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. The cost is \$150. We will float the Illinois River one day. It is flat water, but fun. Sign up at [Youth Mission Trip](#).

L.I.F.T. (Ladies In Fellowship Together)

**Thursday, January 10
6:30 pm**

We will have our monthly LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) meeting on Thursday, January 10, at 6:30 pm at the home of Donna Hatter. Go to [L.I.F.T.](#) 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!

Parents' Night Out



**Friday, January 11
6 to 9 pm
in the Covenant
Center**

Ages Infant - 5th Grade. Reservations are required by Wednesday, January 9! Reserve a place for your child at [hcumc.org](#). You may

drop off and pick up children anytime during the designated hours. Cost is \$10 per child; \$25 max per family.

Invitation from the Advocates

**Sunday, January 20
9:00 am
in the sanctuary**

The Advocates for Justice & Peace will host a 5th Sunday event on January 20th during the Sunday School hour. Keeping with the theme of helping

children in our community, they are going to shed some light on the growing number of children in the foster care system and how the trauma they have endured affects them even after adoption. You may or may not know that there are over a dozen kids in our congregation that are not living with their biological parents...some in foster care through CPS, some





Attention Parents of Current 6th, 7th & 8th Graders:

Your youth will be going to JH2 (the second junior high camp of the summer) July 15-19th. Registration begins Jan 9th at 9am. As you know, camp slots can go fast depending on what camps the bigger churches decide to attend and can be full within a few days. Pastor Bill will attend JH2, but it would be great to have more adults there that our youth know so please consider volunteering. It would be nice for our girls to have a female adult in their cabin. To sign up go to the Camp Bridgeport website [Bridgeport Camp](#) and enroll. You can reserve your spot with a \$50 deposit and pay before camp.

Adult Formation



Sanctuary Class

There will be a new Sunday morning small group beginning on January 13th at 9:15am

already adopted, some with grandparents, some with aunts or uncles. Regardless of how they arrived to their current situations, they all carry some level of trauma that manifests in a number of ways. Please join us on the 20th to hear more about how we as a congregation can help support these precious children and their families.

Adult Mission Trip



February 7 - 10 Sinton, TX

Holy Covenant UMC is taking a mission long-weekend trip to the Texas coast to continue helping in the Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts. We will leave (after work) Thursday Feb 7th. We will help arrange car pools for those who want to drive and those who want to ride depending on the time they are able to leave. We will work Friday and Saturday. We will return home Sunday

February 10th. Cost is \$80, plus travel and food. Sign up at [Adult Mission Trip](#) where you will find a link to forms you will need to complete.

Worship Design Team

Currently, we have a couple of congregational members who share their time and artistic gifts to design our Sanctuary and Altar for our various worship series. We NEED some people who can help put together the designs and ideas of our Visual Team. This would mean a few hours per month of your time according to your schedule.

Please contact Leanne Seabright lseabright@hcumc.org if you are able to serve in this vital way for our church.



(after children's worship). It will meet in the sanctuary, so it has been aptly dubbed "The Sanctuary Class". The hope for this class is to rotate teachers offering a variety of short term series. Pastor Carol will start this class off with a nine-week series about building greater intimacy with God and moving past a mundane spiritual life that has us just going through the motions. This series will be in conversation with the book MORE by Greg Hawkins. You can get the book to help you engage more or just show up in the sanctuary and join the conversation.

Music Ministry



Children's Choirs are back on SUNDAY, JANUARY 13TH!

This means that the CKY lunches, Music Machine, Cherub Choir, Children's Chimes and Youth will be meeting immediately following the church service.

From Our Lay Leader



Our ears and eyes are always on. We see and hear things all day long. But are we really listening? Are we really seeing? Are we seeing and listening to the right things? Are we listening to what God wants us to hear and seeing what God want us to see?

Are we only hearing and not listening? There is so much noise in our lives it's hard to listen to what is important. This month really try to listen to the people you encounter, but really listen. Don't tune out to what the person is saying while you are thinking about what you want to say next.

Are we missing the sunrise because every morning is a rush to get out the door? This month, try to see a sunrise or a sunset, even just for a moment, but really see it.

Sometimes listening and seeing requires us to sit in a quiet space. A place where we can listen to what's going on in our minds. A place where we can see where we have gone and where we are going. Often, this is where we listen and see the most. When we can focus on the day that is done or the day that is about begin. A place where we can remember or remind ourselves of what we have done or what we need to do. A place where we can ask what God wants us to do.

Let's all try to not only listen with our ears and see with our eyes, but to also listen and see with our hearts as well as through the hearts of others.

"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." James 1:19

Christmas With the Spiritual Journeymen

The Spiritual Journeymen helped spread Christmas cheer at a two December events. The first event was the Methodist Children's Home Christmas Party on Dec. 15 where we provided breakfast at the Richardson First Methodist Church. The annual event honors families that adopt or foster kids through the MCH. Forty-eight kids and 40+ adults were served and enjoyed the morning with Santa (Preston Hunt). Seven Journeymen helped, sampled the breakfast, commiserated and submitted last minute pleas to Santa. The second event was helping at the Metrocrest Services Holiday store where client families "shop" for gifts (community donations) for their families and also receive Christmas food boxes.



COVENANT CARILLONS
are back on
Wednesday, January
8th at 6:30 pm.



WESLEYAN CHOIR meet
on **Wednesday, January**
2nd at 7 pm.

If you are interested in
serving in any of the
above choirs, please
contact Leanne Seabright,
lseabright@hcumc.org.

Sunday Morning Schedule

**9:00 am Sunday
School for all ages**

**10:30 am Unity
Worship**

Staff

Rev. Carol Sparks
csparks@hcumc.org
Senior Pastor

Rev. Bill Mauldin
bmauldin@hcumc.org
Associate Pastor
of Family Ministries and
Discipleship



Rev. Jim Guest

jquest@hcumc.org
Associate Pastor of
Pastoral Care

Leanne Seabright

lseabright@hcumc.org
Worship and Music
Minister

Beth McClure

bmccclure@hcumc.org
ECDP Director

Christine Perry

cperry@hcumc.org
Bookkeeper

Elise Webb Odell

ewebb@hcumc.org
Administrative Assistant



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The Baldwin family; the Phillips family; the Knibbs family; Donna McAnally; Mary Harrison; Brenda Anderson; Carlos Ponce; Shelly Martinez; Jojo Sain; Susie Ponce; Viktor Parker; Barbara Burns; Jan Reynolds; Jerry & Elizabeth Hunsaker; Randy Sutherland; Kayla Soto-Nava; Linesha Maicera; Tom Yull; Stephanie Flangin; Semyon & Ilana Narosov; Trevor Tilton; Sara Price; and Michael Schroeder.

Our Loved Ones in the Military

Levi Bayard, Hunter Blue, Kate Blue, KeNi Gaines, Zach Glass, Jake Oliver, Antonio Ramirez, Ashton Rudolf and Diana Rudolf.

Holy Covenant
united methodist

**meeting Christ in our local community
to serve our children and youth**



We are welcoming and open to all people;
black or white 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, hcumc.org, 972-492-2432,
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