



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

March 1, 2021 | Issue 189

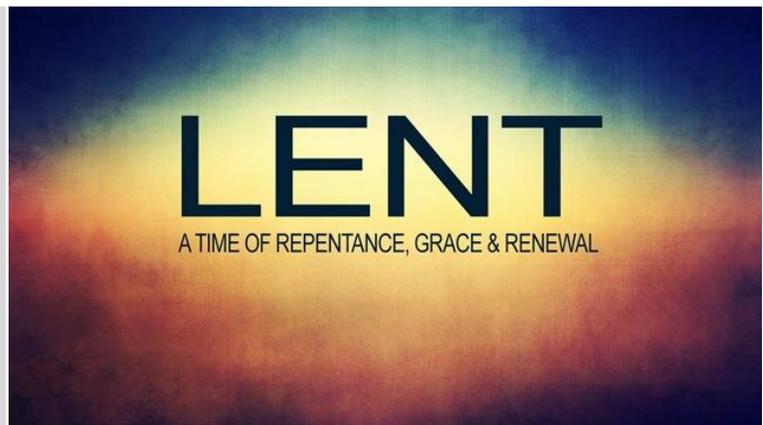
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Join us Sundays
at 10:30 am at the
[Holy Covenant United
Methodist Church
Facebook page](#)

You may also follow our online
worship or watch previous
online services you may have
missed at hcumc.org.



Message from Pastor Cheryl

“Rise up, my dearest,
my fairest, and go.
Here, the winter is past;
the rains have come and gone.
Blossoms have appeared in the land;
the season of singing has arrived,
and the sound of the turtledove is heard in our
land.

The green fruit is on the fig tree,
and the grapevines in bloom are fragrant.
Rise up, my dearest,
my fairest, and go....”

-Song of Songs 2:10-13

Dear Fellow Wanderers,

In this long liminal season (unable to return to where we have been and not sure yet the direction we are heading; a threshold), our wandering has been long and challenging. As we so hoped 2021 would be the beginning of a turnaround, in many ways that has not been a reality yet.



**Outdoor Worship
RESUMES MARCH 21
at 8:30 am
Weather permitting**

Staff

Rev. Cheryl Murphy
cmurphy@hcumc.org
Pastor

Vera Kleinhenz
vkleinhenz@hcumc.org
Music Director

Julian-Louis Carter
youth@hcumc.org
Youth Director

Christine Perry
cperry@hcumc.org
Financial Administrator

Elise Webb Odell
ewebb@hcumc.org
Administrative Assistant

Erin Shepardson
preschool@hcumc.org
Interim Preschool Director



Mondays - Church Office Closed

Last week, Jeff and I received our second shots. I feel as if they are lifegiving shots. And I know some of you have received them, and/or are scheduled to receive your shot in the next weeks and months. I must admit, I am still in awe of modern medicine. That little bit of fluid entering my body twice will hold at bay a virus that might have taken my life or made me very sick. With these shots we are receiving a second chance at life. As we come through the darkness of this pandemic, how will we recreate ourselves? How will we be personally impacted by our new beginnings?

At Holy Covenant, the leadership is evaluating programs: what ministries will we continue, what will we let go of and what new programs will begin? I am wondering if we are doing that in our own personal lives. As we move beyond the survival mode, to being thankful for a new life season, what will we change in our own lives? What habits will we keep, what areas will we never return to, what have we created in this in-between to improve our lives that we will hold onto permanently?

I love living in Texas during Lent. Every year spring blossoms during Lent. It is as if new life is bursting within our spirit, while nature is witnessing to that truth. Our new life beyond the pandemic will also be blooming this spring. We will have so much to celebrate as the days remain brighter later into our evenings. As the temperatures begin to warm up and our life begins to emerge from the cocoon we have all been hiding in, we will see the spring through refreshed eyes of hope. The remainder of Lent, the next 29 days, will escort us through March, the liminal season, into the dawn of spring, new life and the true witness and hope of Easter.

I hope you will continue our Lenten journey with daily prayer and corporate prayer with all of us at 12:30 pm, fast from things that separate you from all that God created you to be and continue deepening your faith. Please join us this month each week for a new experience of prayer in the yard of our church. There is a QR code on the back glass door window - begin your journey there!

May the Lord Bless and Keep You!
Shalom Blessings,
Pastor Cheryl

Tuesdays - Open 9 am - 3 pm
 Wednesdays - Open 9 am - 3 pm
 Thursdays - Open 9 am - 3 pm
 Fridays - Church Office Closed

Pastor Cheryl cmurphy@hcumc.org is in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings and available afternoons and evenings by appointment.

Prayer List

The Lathrop and Roberts family; the Mincieli family; Rhonda and Mitzi King; Andy Edwards; Janet Trumble; Helen Mayo; Mary Harrison; Tyler Ackerman; Jojo Sain; Mike and Susan Bragg; our friends at Atria Carrollton; and those impacted by the winter storm.

Loved Ones in the Military

KeNi Gaines, Bianca Lathrop, Sean Murphy, Jake Oliver and Antonio Ramirez.

Phone Streaming



Do you know someone who would like to follow along with our worship by phone? Contact Pastor Cheryl cmurphy@hcumc.org or call Elise Odell in the church office 972-492-2432

March Dates

3/2 7 pm Trustees - via Zoom
 3/3 10:40 am Preschool Chapel - by the cross outside
 3/4 6 pm Advocates for Justice & Peace - via Zoom
 3/7 9 am Panel Discussion on Housing Insecurity - Zoom
 3/9 7 pm SPPR - via Zoom
 3/10 10:40 am Preschool Chapel - by the cross outside
 3/11 7 pm Music Ministry Check-in - via Zoom
 3/14 1-3 pm Food Drive-Thru - HC parking lot
 3/16 7 pm Finance - via Zoom
 3/17 10:40 am Preschool Chapel - by the cross outside
 3/17 6 pm Missions - via Zoom
 3/21 8:30 am Outside Worship resumes
 3/23 7 pm Ad Council - via Zoom
 3/24 10:40 am Preschool Chapel - by the cross outside
 3/25 7 pm Music Ministry Check-In - via Zoom
 3/28 Palm Sunday
 3/28 1-3 pm Food Drive-Thru - HC parking lot



March Worship



For the month of March our worship services continues to be livestreamed on [Facebook](#) or on the church [website](#) at 10:30 am on Sundays. We hope to resume the 8:30 am outside worship service **March 21st**, weather permitting. Please continue to find ways to be present with us every week!

March 7 Third Sunday in Lent - Luke 15:11-32, Grace
March 14 Fourth Sunday in Lent - Matthew 17:14-20, Faith

March 21 Fifth Sunday in Lent - John 5, Hope
March 28 Palm Sunday - Foreshadowing Events

March Birthdays

3/2 Ricky Davis
3/4 Mackenzie Rockhold
3/6 Mandie Long
3/7 Vicki Barkley
3/9 Georgia Herrick
3/10 Dan Patman
3/14 Ashley Norris
3/16 Ginger Rathbun
3/18 Elliott Beard
3/20 Pat Underhill
3/21 Mandy Nader
3/27 Joy Kees
3/29 Rex McAnally
3/30 Tremayne Phillips



Lenten Prayer Walk

Lenten Prayer Walk

Scan this code with the camera app on your phone for instructions:



Each Week in Lent

Be sure to come to Holy Covenant each week, any time of day, to experience a Lenten Prayer Walk. You will find a QR code with instructions posted on the glass doors by the labyrinth on the east side of the sanctuary. Just scan the code with the camera on your phone and follow the steps. Any materials you may need will be in the Prayer Box located below the code. You may complete the walk by yourself, or with someone else. We hope the walk will prove to be a time of meditation and reflection for you.

A Report on Our Neighborhood: Panel Discussion on Housing Insecurity

Sunday, March 7
9 am on Zoom

Holy Covenant's Advocates for Justice and Peace will present a program titled, "A Report on our Neighborhood – a Panel Discussion on Housing Insecurity" at 9:00 am on Sunday, March 7th.

The Panelists will be:

Tracy Eubanks, the CEO of Metrocrest Social Services;

Chris Lopez, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 6;

Adam Polter, a Carrollton City Council Member, Place 2;

A Neighbor from Within the Crisis, and

A Representative from CFB School District



This presentation will be on Zoom.

Time: Mar 7, 2021 09:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84303535826?pwd=c2NIMG1yeW9XR0hWYUFKUDBQZDNjZz09>

Meeting ID: 843 0353 5826

Passcode: 340389

Dial 1 346 248 7799

If you would like to contribute to help cover the costs of our Micah Sundays, please go to hcumc.org to donate or send a check to the church office. Be sure to put "Advocates" in the note.

Our next Advocates meeting is on March 4th at 6:00. We would love to have you join us. Please contact Lois Eaton at 214-862-8683 or loiseaton@verizon.net for a link to the meeting.

Youth Ministry Update



March 2021

*We will meet outside if the weather permits,
in the gym if it doesn't.*

March 7: 2 - 3:30pm

March 14: 12:30- 2pm

March 21: 12:30- 2pm

March 28: 12:30 - 2pm

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

It's been a loooooong three months since I took over as Youth Director. running a youth program under COVID has been quite the challenge, but with God's grace, all things are possible. I want to take some time out and update you on what we do as EXALT youth of HCUMC.

We have created youth worship every Sunday at 12:30 pm (2 pm the first Sunday of the month). Following worship is small group discussion and prayer.

On the third Sunday of the month, we will now have a monthly service project. Our first project as a youth group was putting the book holders back in the sanctuary chairs, getting the church ready for you all to return.

We have also introduced weekly studies, led by our youth leader Rick Davis, through Zoom. Currently, he is leading studies on this season of Lent.

As COVID allows, there will be more activities of games and socials with our sister youth group from Aldersgate UMC.

Again, thank you Holy Covenant for allowing me to teach your children about the God who has been so good to us all. I pray under my leadership, we will grow and prosper in the months and years to come. To God be All Glory!

Julian-Louis Carter
Youth Director

Music Ministry on Zoom

Music Ministry Check-ins 2nd and 4th Thursdays 7 pm on Zoom

If you are part of the Music Ministries (choir, handbells, instrumentalists) at Holy Covenant--or would like to be--please join this virtual gathering. It gives us a chance to check-in with everyone and make plans for upcoming music opportunities. ***In March, we will meet on March 11 and March 25.***

HCUMC IT is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Choir

Time: 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87955220118?pwd=b0IKTjBpMWFHVWViTzg0eHdnSFZQUT09>

Meeting ID: 879 5522 0118

Passcode: 944377

Dial +1 346 248 7799



Food Pantry Update



On Sunday, February 21st, we held an impromptu Food Distribution. Impromptu because we only had two days to plan it, but everyone pulled together to make it a success. We served 73 families or 249 individuals. That equals 3,220 meals.

The Distributions in March will be on the 14th and the 28th. Please sign up on signupgenius.com for the next Distribution **on March 14th**.

If you would like to donate money to the Food Pantry, you can do so online, by mailing a check to the church, or by dropping off your money or food donation at the church office Thursday or Saturday from 10:00 am to noon.

We are doing well with the food we can order from the North Texas Food Bank, but we still come up short on a few items.

For that, we need:
Canned Chicken
Soup
Pasta Sauce
Dog and Cat Food

Thank you for all you do for the Food Pantry.

Preschool Registration

Registration for Fall will begin in March!



Coming in April!



Secure Document Shredding
Saturday, April 24
9 am to 12:30 pm
in the HCUMC parking lot.

Finance Update

February Giving:
Projected: \$37,604
To Date: \$33,898

Online Giving

[Donate Here](#). You may set up regular giving by choosing the Donation Frequency.



Streaming Ministry



Volunteers Needed!

Would you like to help with our online worship? We are looking for volunteers for our worship streaming ministry. You will be asked to commit to 2 worship services per month to operate either a video switcher or a camera. Experience welcome--but not required! There will be training. If interested, please contact Tim Shepardson

tim@shepardson.us.

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 UMC | hcumc.org

