



MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM THE

CHURCH STAFF



Rev. Jim McClain Senior Pastor

53rd Festival celebrated Sunday, Dec. 18

This year's Festival is the 53rd at Laurel Heights. The Festival of Lessons and Carols includes Christmas carols and Bible readings that vary from year to year, making each year unique. The form of service known as Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was instituted at Truro Cathedral, England, in 1880. It has continued there and in other settings, significantly, King's College Chapel, Cambridge, where it has been sung annually since 1918. Laurel Heights began the service in 1958.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Dec. 18 at 7 pm. The service is free and open to the public. A reception will follow in the gym. Call Julie Mazel, 734-5703, if you would like to bring cookies.



Handwritten Christmas messages from various members including Taylor & Hester, God's Peace, Jim, Elizabeth, and Jessica A. Lewis.

The Magnificat in dance

Those in Sunday morning worship in Advent have watched "God creating among us" come to life as a bowl was formed from clay at the potter's wheel, colored yarns came together on a loom to form a cloth, and acrylics dabbed across an empty canvas formed a scene. Now, during both worship services on this last Sunday of Advent (Dec. 18), Alice (Huss) Hahn will express the Magnificat (Mary's Song) in dance.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services

- Children & Family, 4:00 pm
7:00 pm & 11:00 pm
Childcare Available @ 4 & 7

All are invited to a reception in the dining room following each service

Other LHUMC News on Pages 4A & 8A



### Merry Ex-Mice to Charles Davis

Charles Davis (pictured center) was happy to see George Frame, Bill Myers, Lester Koerlin and Tom Kurtz on Thursday, Nov. 3 when they drove to Houston on a first-ever Church Mice field trip to visit their long-time fellow Mouse Charles Davis at his new home. The group swapped stories, toured Charles' cottage, visited his new church and had a delicious lunch together. Charles is in good spirits and has settled in with a group of men who meet once a week for conversation and debate.

The group also learned that Charles' 104-year-old next door neighbor was a celebrity in that she was selected as Miss Dr. Pepper in 1923.

Closing out the fun-filled day, the group returned after detouring to Luling to load up on City Market barbeque.

You, too can join the fun by meeting with the Church Mice on Thursday mornings to do minor maintenance chores around the church and enjoy fellowship with coffee and treats. (We have Church Mice women in our group, too!)

**CHRIST  
THE SAVIOR  
IS BORN!**

### Epiphany Feast, Jan. 4



The Epiphany Feast, a long-standing tradition of Laurel Heights UMC, will be celebrated at 5:30 pm in the gymnasium on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2012. Make plans to celebrate Epiphany with us with a feast and program explaining the traditions and Biblical foundation for the liturgical day. Epiphany means "manifestation" or "revelation".

For meal reservations, call the church receptionist, 733-7156, or indicate on the Sunday attendance registration that you wish to make a reservation for the Epiphany Feast. The suggested donation is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children.

For many years the Kitchen Guild coordinated the feast which included four meats: roast, ham, turkey and lamb. David Saylor and Acadiana Café will again this year prepare the turkey and accompanying dishes. The roast, ham, and leg of lamb will be donated by members of the congregation. If you would like to prepare and donate any of these three meats, please contact Trudy Kinnison, 735-8345.

If you would like to bring a King's Cake, contact Willa Jo Buehler at willajo@hotmail.com.

The food and fellowship are always wonderful and the festive program is fun and educational for all ages. Bring the kids, invite a friend and plan to join us. After the meal and program those who wish may process outside to place the kings in the crèche.

### Cookies needed for Christmas Eve

There will be a reception in the dining room following each Christmas Eve Service on Dec. 24. If you would like to bring cookies, call Kercida, 733-7156.



### CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT, DEC. 19

At 7:30 pm on Monday, Dec. 19, Benjamin Britten will present "A Ceremony of Carols" and Conrad Susa will present "Carols & Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest," featuring harp, marimba, and guitar. Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the door. Children and students with student ID are admitted free. A \$3 discount is offered for those 65 and over, for TPR members and active duty military. For more information, call the San Antonio Choral Society, 228-4147.

### End-of-year giving

As 2011 quickly draws to a close, remember that in order for those last minute contributions to the church to be included on your 2011 Record of Contributions they must be received in the church office by noon on Thursday, Dec. 30. If mailed, your envelope must bear a postmark date no later than Dec. 31, 2011.



Dec. 7, 2011

To all the ladies that have sent me cards this past year, thank you. I appreciate them very much. You don't realize how much they mean to me. I hope I will get a chance to see some of you in church on Christmas. I wish all of you the merriest Christmas. God bless all of you. May the God of Peace be with you all.

Love to all,  
Margaret Bich



### Adopt a Family for Christmas

If you would like to adopt a family for Christmas (whatever that means to you), contact Pastor Jim McClain. There are usually individuals and families who contact the church office during the holidays asking if we can help. The needs vary.

**CHURCH OFFICES  
CLOSED  
DEC. 26 & 27  
& JAN. 2 & 3**

<b>GIFTS IN HONORARIA</b>
<b>General Fund</b> <b>DEBORAH &amp; KEITH SPADING</b> by Dinah Tanner and Aleene Block
<b>Heifer International</b> <b>TUESDAY MORNING REUNION GROUP</b> by Elizabeth Hughes
<b>Organ Fund</b> <b>MAY O'NEAL EPWORTH CLASS TEACHER</b> by Douglas & Donna Semmes
<b>Stephen Ministry</b> <b>ANNA LOWRY'S BIRTHDAY</b> by Doris Wise Hoffman

### Project is a photo finish on the web

The Dec. 2 newsletter had an article about the Property Committee's recent approval for an exterior signage project. Photos of the prototype of these signs have now been posted to the church web site along with information about their location and the estimated cost to purchase and install each new sign and to repair two of our permanent, monument-type signs. You can help us get this project moving along with your donation in any amount. Visit <http://www.mylhume.org/signage.html>.



#### DECEMBER

- 18 David Adams; Helen Bernhardt
- 19 Andrew Bowerman; Laura Mitchell
- 20 Raquel Feagins; Concepcion Garcès; Jill Sanders
- 21 Patty Peacock
- 22 Wendell Davis
- 23 Faye Fox; Alice Johnson
- 24 Jimmy Barrett; Holly Nistler Rodriguez; Patti Vaughan
- 26 Bradley Jones; Brady Woods
- 27 David Douglas; Max Healy; Henrietta Hopper; Ashley Huron; Zachariah Zufall
- 28 Jill Caldwell; Dale Carver; Andrew Douglas; Liz Hughes; Dan Ratliff
- 29 John Harper Shaw; Charlotte Wenger
- 30 Noelle Guajardo; Sam McGlone
- 31 Charles Bailey

#### JANUARY

- 1 Chris Huron; Joe McMullen; Julie Mazel; Daniel Sarvis
- 2 Amy Eddy; Josh Sanders
- 3 Larry Thompson
- 4 Zachary Huron; Oliver Peck; Olivia Peck
- 5 Isabella Halteman; Hershel Homer
- 6 Kimberly Berry
- 7 Michaela Cowan

## CHURCH CALENDAR

\*Childcare available.

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 & 11:00 \*Worship - *Sanctuary*  
 9:30 \*Fellowship Time-*Dining Rm.*  
 9:30 Tiny Tones Choir (preschool - 1st Grade) - *105*  
 9:30 Joyful Noise Choir (2nd-5th Grade) - *313-A*  
 9:30 Youth Chimes - *Choir Room*  
 10:00 \*Sunday School for all ages  
 10:00 College Reunion Breakfast - *Parlor*  
 10:00 LHUMC leads worship at Chandler  
 12:00 Youth Ministry Council - *319*  
 1:00 Super Adults "Lights at the Capitol" - *Regent Coach*  
 4:00 Middle School Student Ministries (UMYF) - *319*  
 5:30 High School Student Ministries (UMYF) - *319*  
 6:30 Disciple 1 - *Library*  
 7:00 Lessons & Carols - *Sanctuary*  
 8:00 L&C Reception - *Gym*

#### Monday, December 19

Weekday School ACE (Mon.-Thu.)  
 8:00-5:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Mon.-Wed.) - *Gym*  
 1:00 Knitpickers - *Laurel Room*  
 5:30 Trustees - *Parlor*  
 6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*  
 7:30 San Antonio Choral Society Concert - *Sanctuary*

#### Tuesday, December 20

8:45 Yoga Class - *312*  
 10:45 San Antonio Tobacco Prevention Coalition - *312*  
 12:30 MELD Parenting Group - *DR*

#### Wednesday, December 21

8:45 Church Staff Meeting - *313-B*  
 10:30 Positive Parenting Class- *319*  
 1:00 Positive Parenting Class- *319*  
 2:00 \*Disciple 1 - *Library*  
 4:30 Line Dancing - *312*  
 5:00 Book Club - *Library*  
 5:30 \*Supper - *Dining Room*  
 6:15 \*Worship (Rev. Barb Kurtz) - *Scott Chapel*  
 6:15 Handbells- *Sanctuary Balcony*  
 7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*

#### Thursday, December 22

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church  
 6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*  
**Saturday, December 24**  
 4:00 \*Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service - *Sanctuary*  
 7:00 \*Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service - *Sanctuary*  
 11:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service - *Sanctuary*

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30 & 11:00 \*Worship - *Sanctuary*  
 9:30 \*Fellowship Time-*Dining Rm.*  
 10:00 \*Sunday School for all ages

#### Monday, December 26

Church Staff Holiday

#### Tuesday, December 27

Church Staff Holiday

#### Wednesday, December 28

8:00-5:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Wed. & Thu.) - *Gym*  
 8:45 Church Staff Meeting- *313-B*  
 10:30 Positive Parenting Class- *319*  
 1:00 Positive Parenting Class- *319*  
 2:00 \*Disciple 1 - *Library*  
 4:30 Line Dancing - *312*  
 5:30 \*Supper - *Dining Room*  
 6:15 \*Worship (Rev. Barb Kurtz) - *Scott Chapel*

#### Thursday, December 29

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church  
 6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- *313-B*



### SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

#### EPIPHANY SUNDAY

8:30 & 11:00 \*Worship / Holy Communion - *Sanctuary*  
 9:30 \*Fellowship Time-*Dining Rm.*  
 9:30 Tiny Tones Choir (preschool - 1st Grade) - *105*  
 9:30 Joyful Noise Choir (2nd-5th Grade) - *313-A*  
 9:30 Youth Chimes - *Choir Room*  
 10:00 \*Sunday School for all ages  
 10:00 LHUMC leads worship at Chandler

#### Monday, January 2

Church Staff Holiday

#### Tuesday, January 3

Church Staff Holiday

#### Wednesday, January 4

8:45 Church Staff Meeting - *313-B*  
 2:00 \*Disciple 1 - *Library*  
 3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Wed.-Fri.) - *Gym*  
 4:30 Line Dancing - *312*  
 5:30 \*Epiphany Feast & Program - *Gym*  
 7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*

#### Thursday, January 5

8:35 Parents & Pastries - *Parlor*  
 9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church  
 6:00 Church under the Bridge - *Leave from Woodlawn Lot*  
 6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*

#### Friday, January 6

Women's Retreat (Jan. 6-8)

#### Saturday, January 7

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- *313-B*  
 1:00 Super Adults to Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival - *Regent Coach*

## Mission of the Month for January: San Antonio Metropolitan Ministries

SAMMinistries is an interfaith ministry whose mission is to help the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless attain self-sufficiency by offering, with dignity and compassion, shelter, housing, and services.

Begun in 1981 by members of First Presbyterian Church in downtown San Antonio the program, by 1983, had gained financial assistance from several downtown churches and was incorporated into San Antonio Metropolitan Ministry, Inc. Today, SAMMinistries has a staff of more than 70 and has more than 4,500 trained volunteers who help families and individuals throughout the city, contributing an average of 70,000 service hours each year. Information on volunteer opportunities can be found on their website at <http://www.samm.org>.

Your communion rail offerings and Wednesday night table offerings in January help fight homelessness in San Antonio. You can also give online at [www.mylhumc.org/onlinegiving.html](http://www.mylhumc.org/onlinegiving.html).

## GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

### General Memorials

#### MYRLE DEATON

by

Rusty & Jan Busby

by

Theodosia Coppock

by

Julie Croisant

by

Allison DuBose

by

Richard & Nancy Dugger

by

Mr. & Mrs. Dave Gannon

by

Kathryn Hennington

by

Chuck & Nancy Hollimon

by

Bill & Ellen Myers

by

John Odell & Margaret Gonder-Odell

by

Dave Schmidt / Findling, Milan & Pyle

by

Peter & Buffy Smolens

by

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Spillman

by

Martin & Jakey Weilbacher

by

Mrs. A. D. Willbern, Jr.

#### ARLENE MORTON

by

Richard & Nancy Dugger

#### MRS. DICK THIESEN

by

Bill & Ellen Myers

### Music Fund

#### MYRLE DEATON

by

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Crockett

by

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kurtz

by

Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Malek

by

Darla Peek

by

Reeves & Beverly Smith

#### ARLENE MORTON

by

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Crockett

by

Mr. & Mrs. Dave Gannon

by

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kurtz

### Organ Fund

#### MYRLE DEATON

by

Mrs. Robert Hardy

by

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Parrigan

#### TONI GUIDO

by

Mrs. Robert Hardy

### Pastor's

#### Discretionary

#### MYRLE DEATON

by

Bob & Molly Walden

#### MRS. DICK THIESEN

by

Bob & Molly Walden



*Healing:* Jane Magavern; Geraldine Douglas; Patti Vaughan; Lucille Warren; Fred Vaca; and Charles Schneider.

*Those Who Mourn:* Family of Hattie Tucker who died Nov. 29; Bill Myers in loss of his cousin, Barney Davis and friend, Ray Payne; Billie Arredondo in loss of her aunt, Verda Bowerman.

*God's Presence:* Our shut-ins and those in the military.



## CONTACT Us

Main (210) 733-7156

Fax 737-3920

School 732-6979

Super Adults 733-6482

### Clergy

Rev. Jim McClain x34

Pastor

### Programming

Susan Holloway 733-6482

Super Adult Director

Kercida McClain x36

Christian Education Director

Paul Seeman x17

Youth Director

Geoffrey Waite x19

Director of Music

Dr. Anne Wier 732-6979

Weekday School Director

Christina Galvan, RN, BSN

x37 - Wesley Nurse

### Office

Clyta Coder, Kayla Hester,

and Jessica Lewis x10

Receptionists

Louise Dudley x29

Bookkeeper

Cathy Everhart x13

Publications Editor

Elizabeth Jackson x12

Administrative Secretary

The issue date of this bi-weekly publication is the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Deadline for submitting news is 5:00 pm on 1st & 3rd Thursdays. Mail to: Messenger Editor, 227 W. Woodlawn, San Antonio, TX 78212 or send an email to: [cathy@mylhumc.org](mailto:cathy@mylhumc.org).