



OFFERING CHRIST

I am reading an article by Herb Miller, a church consultant, and he talks about “unconscious intent”. I have been familiar with the concept for many years but never had a name for it that I felt described what I observed. He calls it an, “invisible guidance system [that] exerts more power than the bylaws, the mission statement or any other document.” I first remember observing this as a child. The stated intent as voiced by my mother may have been to do our chores or clean our room but sometimes the unconscious intent I witnessed was for my mother to feel she had some sense of control over

her life. If she had an especially tough day at the office I could clean thoroughly (which didn't happen often) but begrudgingly and it didn't help her mood much. If I showed respect and promptness I could clean minimally and she seemed pleased. Learning this lesson early saved me many hours of cleaning. My conscious intent was to keep from having to clean my room. My unconscious intent may have been to keep my mother happy. We are not always aware of our unconscious intent. Miller goes on to say, “Effective pastors and lay-leadership groups become as conscious as possible of their unconscious intents.”

Our mission statement is “... to offer Christ to all those we encounter and to nurture, equip, and enable persons to become committed Christians in our community and the world beyond.” This would be our conscious intent. Discovering our “unconscious intent” is much more difficult. Richard Dunagin tells the story of a Russian Rabbi who became discouraged. One evening he took a long, aimless walk. Without realizing where he was, he strolled into a military compound. A guard suddenly confronted him with, “Who are you? Why are you here?” The old Rabbi, startled by the stern questions replied, “What?” The guard said more loudly, “Who are you? Why are you here?” The Rabbi blurted out, “How much do they pay you a month?” After the guard asked why he wanted to know the Rabbi replied, “Because I need someone to ask me those two questions every day! Who are you? Why are you here?”

We could ask ourselves those two questions as a congregation while looking at our mission statement. Who are we? Why are we here? Take a small part of the mission statement and ask, “What is the conscious intent? What is the unconscious intent? Who are we? Why are we here?” For example, “... to offer Christ to those we encounter.” Who do we encounter? Does that mean people we encounter every day or just those who sit close to us in worship? Does that mean just my Sunday school class or does it include the clerk in the convenience store where I buy my gas? We filter what we do and who we are with the history that brought about our unconscious intent. When we work to become as conscious as possible of our unconscious intent then we have the opportunity to bring those to ideas more in harmony with each other. We may spend less energy and actually be more productive.

All congregations and pastors have unconscious intents. As they move from unconscious to conscious, they are able to tolerate ambiguities and embrace differences. Successful congregations blend those to create meaningful ministries in their communities.

See you Sunday,

Jim

TWO NEW HIRES AT RECEPTION DESK

Two of our members have recently accepted the position of Church Receptionist. Jimmy Barrett was hired in December, 2010 and Jessica Lewis was hired for the afternoon position in January, 2011. Jimmy is at the Church Reception Desk weekday mornings (8:15 am to 2:15 pm) and Jessica relieves Jimmy at 2:15. The exception is Wednesdays when Jimmy returns to his post to work 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Further, each serves as clerical assistant for the Weekday School.



Jimmy Barrett

Jimmy and his partner joined Laurel Heights in March, 2009. Jimmy reports that he and Jim have been “involved in Faith in Action for two years in a row now and it has been quite rewarding to us spiritually and personally.”

Jimmy was born on Christmas Eve in San Antonio, Texas and grew up here. As an outlet for his abundant and creative energy Jimmy got involved in drama early on. He has done acting in plays and commercials, and served as an extra in locally filmed movies throughout his school years. Jimmy still enjoys acting in community theatre whenever he has the chance.

Jimmy's hobbies include listening to music, singing, antiquing, watching/reading suspense/thriller movies and books, and collecting vintage Christmas cards and ornaments. He and Jim have four Yorkshire Terriers, a Miniature Pomeranian, and a Quaker Parrot.

Jimmy says, “Never did I dream that I would have the very fortunate opportunity to actually become part of the staff here at Laurel Heights. I love all the interaction both over the phone and in person with all the wonderful people I am blessed to work with on a daily basis. I truly enjoy being involved in such a great group of people and look forward to coming to work every day!”



Jessica was born in Dallas, Texas but has lived in San Antonio most of her life. She and her husband Eric hope to eventually move to Dallas to attend Christ for the Nations so they can be accredited in non-denominational Christian ministry.



Jessica Lewis

Jessica fell in love with music when she was a little girl as she found comfort in her mother's singing to her. When Jessica began high school at Robert E. Lee, choir was her creative outlet.

Jessica joined Laurel Heights about eight years ago (as Jessica Wilson). She soon went through confirmation classes and really learned what it meant to be a Christian and walk in the ways of the Lord. A few months later, she was hired by the church to work in the

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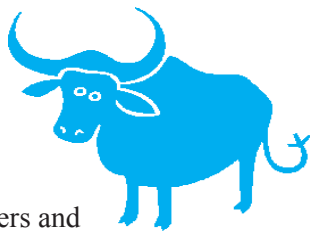
Other LHUMC News on Pages 4A & 8A

Daring Disciples save lives worldwide through Heifer Project

The Daring Disciples Sunday school class would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to all who helped them surpass their Heifer Project goal of \$490. Third, fourth and fifth grade class members Sadie Cavazos, Chloe Frame, Cheyenne Guinn, Abigail Sanders and Victoria Turrubiate wanted to give to others in a special way during the Advent season. On Nov. 28 they set a goal to buy a water buffalo, a goat and a pig through the Heifer Project. For the next several Sundays the girls carried their decorated container around giving everyone an opportunity to contribute. One Sunday Joshua Sanders helped also. By Dec. 26 they had collected \$510.22.

Heifer Project helps people in third world countries become self-sufficient and able to provide basic needs for their families through agriculture. To do this, they enlist churches, schools and civic groups to donate money to purchase all or a part of a farm animal or crop seed.

Daring Disciples teachers are Bonnye Cavazos and Clyta Coder.



TWO NEW HIRES

(cont'd. from pg. 1)

nursery Sunday mornings as well as on Wednesday evenings. She also began attending the Connection worship service which allowed her to find a group of Christian friends that helped her grow both spiritually and socially.

Jessica is currently attending San Antonio College where she works at the United Methodist Student Center as an intern. During their free time, she and Eric "love to lead worship at local churches and bless people with music that glorifies Christ."

December 14, 2010

Dear Judy,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the work your church did in coordinating the Peanut Butter food drive for



Christian Assistance Ministry. What a blessing to receive so many large jars of peanut butter that can be used to provide for the needs of the clients we serve here at CAM. The box of hygiene products and other food items were greatly appreciated as well.

Christ's love is shared daily through the service, volunteers, support and understanding that occurs through this ministry. The items your church collected are one of the many ways we can help meet the basic needs of our clients who find themselves in difficult situations. Gifts of clothing, food and financial assistance not only meet the physical needs of the client, but also the spiritual needs. When they come through our doors, the most important gift we can offer our clients is hope.

Again, we want to express our gratitude for your help and to let you know that we appreciate the commitment from Laurel Heights United Methodist Church. *Thank you!*

Sincerely,
Dawn C. White
Executive Director
Christian Assistance Ministry

Mission of the Month: House of Mercy Orphanage, Piedras Negras, Mexico

House of Mercy Orphanage is a Methodist home for children abused, abandoned, or mistreated by their parents. This orphanage is part of the Border Ministries that this Church supports. A loving Christian environment is provided for boys and girls of all ages. Over 140 children have come to the Casa since its opening in January, 2005. Rather than a facility, House of Mercy is a Christ-centered home with loving house parents and caregivers. The children, more often than not, come to the orphanage distraught, afraid, angry and belligerent. But in this safe haven God's love melts away the despair and they become happy, well-adjusted, loving children. At House of Mercy children receive full medical and dental care. Children's clothes in good condition are always welcomed and your support is appreciated. All Wednesday night table offerings and communion rail offerings in February go to House of Mercy Orphanage in Piedras Negras.

Tuesday Musical Club Concert, Jan. 25

Join us in the sanctuary at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, Jan. 25 to hear Scott Kluksdahl on cello. *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reports Kluksdahl "is a virtuoso artist who can bring music to life. Moreover, his playing expresses the joy in making music--an aspect of the art that is too often lost in the shuffle." Tickets at the door are \$20 each; students are free with student ID. For more information, call (210) 832-0861 or visit www.satmc.org.

Finance Committee News 2011 Budget Update Adopted 11/14/2010

RECEIPTS:

Individual Pledges	\$	650,000.00
Previous Year Pledge	\$	500.00
Non-Pledged Giving	\$	40,000.00
Other Offerings	\$	25,500.00
General Memorials	\$	8,000.00
Facility Use	\$	7,500.00
Super Adults	\$	5,000.00
Weekday School	\$	34,111.00
Misc. Income	\$	50.00
Income to Apportionments	\$	13,706.57
Pastor's House Endowment	\$	17,000.00
Endowment from Trustees	\$	13,000.00
Orts Bequest	\$	12,644.00
TOTAL BUDGET RECEIPTS:	\$	827,011.57

BUDGET EXPENSES:

Evangelism	\$	1,250.00
Communication	\$	6,000.00
Library	\$	3,043.00
Worship	\$	1,461.00
Neighborhood Ministry	\$	1,300.00
Music and The Arts	\$	5,200.00
Christian Education	\$	8,500.00
Children's Ministry	\$	900.00
Child Care Ministry	\$	500.00
Youth Ministry	\$	2,322.00
Membership Care	\$	1,650.00
Missions & Outreach	\$	250.00
Apportionments	\$	75,968.00
Administration	\$	36,316.00
Operations	\$	181,440.00
Personnel	\$	537,026.30
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES:	\$	863,126.30
Surplus/Deficit:	\$	(36,114.73)

Finance Committee News 2010 End-of-Year Report As of 12/31/2010

General Budget	2010 Budget	2010 Actual
Receipts	\$811,080.00	\$849,670.20
Expenses		
Evangelism	\$1,300.00	\$1,313.10
Communication	\$5,850.00	\$5,518.05
Library/Media	\$2,000.00	\$2,221.34
Worship	\$2,600.00	\$2,093.13
Neighborhood Min	\$600.00	\$318.06
Music	\$5,200.00	\$1,235.08
Christian Education	\$8,000.00	\$6,004.39
Children's Ministry	\$650.00	\$521.12
Child Care Ministry	\$500.00	\$239.17
Youth Ministry	\$2,000.00	\$1,651.37
Membership Care	\$450.00	\$(63.33)
Missions	\$250.00	\$250.00
Apportionments	\$83,024.00	\$91,728.00
Administration	\$25,500.00	\$21,913.33
Operations	\$163,500.00	\$157,061.38
Personnel	\$557,289.74	\$502,432.96
Total Expenses	\$858,713.74	\$794,437.15
2010 Budget Surplus		\$55,233.05

CHURCH CALENDAR

*Childcare available.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 Fellowship Time - Dining Rm.
9:30 Tiny Tones - 106
9:30 Joyful Noise Choir - 313-A
10:00 Sunday School for all ages
4:00 Student Ministries (Middle School) - 319
4:30 UMW Elizabeth Circle- 313-B
5:30 Student Ministries (High School) - 319
6:30 Emmaus - Scott Chapel

Monday, January 24

9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - 312
9:00-3:00 Church Staff Lenten Planning - Oblate's Rock House
9:00-4:00 Clergy Groups - 322
1:00 Knitpickers - Laurel Room
3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Mon.-Thu.) - Gym
6:00 Emmaus Reunion Group - DR
6:00 Weekday School Board - WDS
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B

Tuesday, January 25

9:00-4:00 Clergy Groups - 322
10:00 A Matter of Balance - 312
2:00 Tuesday Musical Club Concert - Sanctuary
5:30 Bexar County Support Groups - Dining Room
5:45 Missions - Laurel Room
6:30 Neighborhood Ministries - Parlor

Wednesday, January 26

11:00 Staff Meeting - 313-B
4:15 I'm 3rd (K-5th Grade) - 105
4:30 Line Dancing - 312
5:30 *Supper - Gym
6:00 SA Youth Parents' Meeting - 312
6:15 *Worship (Rev. Robin Hiatt-Reed) - Scott Chapel
6:15 Handbells- Sanctuary Balcony
6:30 Disciple I - Parlor
7:00 Chancel Choir - Choir Room

Thursday, January 27

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)
9:00 Super Adult Day - DR, Gym

Friday, January 28

6:30 Parents' Night Out (Reservations by noon 733-7156)
7:00 MOPS Around Town (Call Katie Myers, 545-0312)

Saturday, January 29

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship - Sanctuary
9:30 Fellowship Time - Dining Rm.
9:30 Tiny Tones - 106
9:30 Joyful Noise Choir - 313-A
10:00 Sunday School for all ages
10:00 LHUMC Leads Worship at Chandler Center
12:00 Evangelism Committee Covered Dish Lunch - DR
4:00 Student Ministries (Middle School) - 319
5:30 Student Ministries (High School) - 319

Monday, January 31

9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - 312
1:00 Knitpickers - Laurel Room
3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Mon.-Fri.) - Gym
5:30 Stephen Minister Training - 312
6:00 Emmaus Reunion Group - DR
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

Tuesday, February 1

9:30 UMW Executive Committee - Parlor
10:00 A Matter of Balance - 312
5:30 Bexar County Support Groups - Dining Room
6:15 Stephen Ministry - 313-B

Wednesday, February 2

11:00 Church Staff - 313-B
4:15 I'm 3rd (K-5th Grade) - 105
4:30 Line Dancing - 312
5:30 *Supper - Dining Room
6:15 *Worship (Rev. Jim Carr) - Scott Chapel
6:15 Handbells- Sanctuary Balcony

Thursday, February 3

6:30 Disciple I - Parlor
7:00 Chancel Choir - Choir Room
8:35 Parents & Pastries - Parlor
9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)
6:00 Church under the Bridge - Depart from Woodlawn Lot
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

Friday, February 4

6:30 Parents' Night Out (Reservations by noon 733-7156)

Saturday, February 5

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B



Welcome to **Buren Leitch** and **Robert Robinson** who joined Laurel Heights Jan. 9 by letter of transfer from Northern Hills UMC of San Antonio.

Welcome to **Susie Grubbs Goodson** who joined Laurel Heights Jan. 9 by letter of transfer from Berkeley UMC of Austin, Texas.

Mission Statement

The mission of Laurel Heights United Methodist Church is to offer Christ to those we encounter and to nurture, equip, and enable persons to become committed Christians in our community and the world beyond.



JANUARY

23 William Dugger
24 Beeper Smith; Bethany Williams
25 Melinda Hartson
26 Laura Healy
27 Janice Clayton; Tom Grossett
28 May O'Neal; Dennis Tilson; William Tilson
29 Ilda Gennero
31 Omar Medina; Elizabeth Zufall

FEBRUARY

1 Kim Barron; Jane Magavern; Glenn B. Quick
3 Andrew Edeler; Murphy Thomas Grossett; Dale Stehle
4 Susan Holloway; Laura Flume; Chrys Hecox; John McKay
5 Karen Hogan; Richard Parrigan; Fred Vaca



GIFTS IN

HONORARIA

Choir Fund

NANCY FASSNIDGE
by
Richard & Heather Miller

Christmas Offering

EMILY & BRAD JONES
ELEANOR, MERYL
& WYNNE JONES

by
Elizabeth Ann Gates

REV. & MRS.
JIM MCCLAIN

by
Bishop & Mrs. J. Dorff

Organ Fund

NANCY FASSNIDGE
by
Hayley Fassnidge

Pastor's Discretionary

REV. & MRS.
JIM MCCLAIN

by
Bill & Ellen Myers

UMCOR

ALEENE BLOCK
by
Members of
Believer's Bible Class

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

Christmas Offering

ROY R. CAMPBELL, JR.
by
Richard & Nancy Dugger

CHAD CRAIG

by
Kay Craig

DEENA NICHOLS

by
Justin Nichols

DAVID A. OJEDA

by
Michael & Destiny Mendez

RAY LOPER (GRANDFATHER)

by
Alethea Phillips

KARA K. SHEARER

by
Andrea Lee

WINIFRED WORSHAM

by
David Worsham

General Memorials

MARY FAIREY (CECE ADAMS' SISTER)

by
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kurtz

RAY LOPER

by
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kurtz

LORRAINE PAUL

by
Doris Mick Davis

GRADY REED

by
Stephen Paine

Organ Fund

JOHN BALLARD

by
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Parrigan

Pastor's Discretionary

MRS. JOSEPHINE BOOS

by
Paul Billingsley

CHARLES S. MYERS, JR.

by
Bill & Ellen Myers

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@mylhmc.org.



Healing: Geraldine Douglas; Patti Vaughan; Martha Hamil; Myrle Deaton; Faye Fox; Mindy Lanoux; Nancy Fassnidge; Roxane Darnell; Harold & Juanita Souder; Mary Lou Miller; Rebecca Mayes; John Evans; Richard Jackson; James & Mary Verette; and Larry Mooney.

God's Presence: Bettie L. Beck and Hattie Tucker.

Those Who Mourn: Family of Betty Japhet who died Jan. 5; family of Roy Kosaka who died Dec. 30; and CeCe Adams in the loss of her sister, Mary Fairey.

Remember our shut-ins and those in the military.



CONTACT Us

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Super Adults 733-6482

Clergy

Rev. Jim McClain x34
Pastor

Programming

Deaconess Judy Davis x18
Community Outreach
Susan Holloway 733-6482
Super Adult Director
Kercida McClain x37
Christian Education Director
Paul Seeman x17
Youth Director
Geoffrey Waite x19
Director of Music
Dr. Anne Wier 732-6979
Weekday School Director
Elizabeth Woods RN BSN x36
Wesley Nurse

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Jimmy Barrett x10
AM Receptionist
Louise Dudley x29
Bookkeeper
Cathy Everhart x13
Publications Editor
Elizabeth Jackson x12
Administrative Secretary
Jessica Lewis x10
PM Receptionist