



Spring Training

I heard a story on NPR the other day about a man who ran a marathon every day for a year. That's 26.2 miles of running for 365 days. He is 49 years old and averaged about four hours for each marathon. His fastest time was 2 hours and 56 minutes. Most of you know that if you see me out running some day I would appreciate you stopping me and offering to help. Chances are very good that someone is chasing me or there is an emergency of some sort. I don't run often. What struck me about the article was this man ran Ironman and triathlons. Imagine running a marathon as your training or daily exercise.

Most good athletes train year round for their sport of choice. They are aware of their diet and their lifestyle all year but they train extra when they are preparing for something that will challenge them or is of special meaning to them like opening day of the season, winning a Grand Slam, competing in the Olympics or playing a World Series. Christians are like athletes. We train on some level every day but there are times when we put forth a little extra effort because something special is coming or we want the extra challenge.

This Lent you are invited to train in five special areas. Your daily exercise may include swimming, walking, going to a gym, dancing, or running. Each area works a different set of muscles and conditions a different part of the body. For those who want a little extra spiritual training we are looking at Bishop Robert Schnase's book, *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. We will offer exercises for the muscles of Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. There will be many ways to approach these exercises. Some of you will want to participate in all the options while others may want to experience only one or two. There will be a physical option for those who find walking or doing something physical helps them train. The sermons each Sunday will focus on one of these areas. *Forty Days of Fruitful Living* will be our daily devotionals, available by book or email. There will be Sunday School and small group materials available. There will be an additional service each Wednesday evening called Compline offered by Geoffrey Waite to close the day. You may think of other options for your training. Share them with others. It is always easier to train when you have someone to help hold you accountable.

I invite each of us to look at this Easter as a special goal. Spend this Lent in training for the resurrection of Christ. Your daily training may be more like mine than the man who ran a marathon every day but we can all train in a special way this Lent. One of the wonderful things about extra training is it often shows us new possibilities and sets new minimum standards for our life.

You can order *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* and *Forty Days of Fruitful Living* from Cokesbury and we will have some available at a reduced price or free so everyone can participate. *Forty Days of Fruitful Living* can be emailed daily to households who request it. A small \$3 contribution for each email address will help with this. If we can help you get ready for spring training let us know.

See you Sunday,

Jim



**Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 13**

Set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour Saturday
night before going to bed.

Engaging five practices in Lent

As a congregation, during Lent we will focus on Robert Schnase's book, *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. Some Sunday School classes will use Schnase's individual guide, *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*. There is also a 40-day, personal devotion guide that can either be emailed to you or you may pick one up at the church. An invitation email will be sent to those already receiving this newsletter online. To receive the devotion guide, you may opt-in to receive it electronically or sign the book request found at Welcome stations around the church.

Resources in your Church Library provide help for Lent and Easter

by Sandra Webb and Karen Michaelson

Why isn't the word Easter anywhere in the Bible? Why do the calendar dates of Ash Wednesday and Easter change from year to year? Your LHUMC Library has some valuable and interesting resources for your Lenten and Easter reading. For example:



- *Totally Lent - A Child's Journey to Lent* by Jean Larkin. The author begins with a definition of Lent as a time when we follow Jesus' example of fasting and praying. For each day of Lent a scripture lesson is followed by definitions and activities, which include puzzles, rebuses, and fill-in-the-blank exercises.
- *Lent is for Children* by Julie Keleman uses humor as one way to teach children about Lent. Games, recipes, puzzles, and prayers reinforce the concepts taught.
- *Lent Begins at Home* by Pat and Rosemary Ryan presents family prayers and activities. Projects include a Lenten calendar, a butterfly banner, and a Christ candle. Recipes for Easter breads and candy are included.
- *Stories Behind the Traditions and Songs of Easter* by Ace Collins reminds us of the inspiration behind famous symbols, traditional customs, and favorite music from this Christian season.
- *The Passion and Death of Jesus* by John P. Gilbert is a seven-session study of Holy Week. This would be valuable for a group leader or for an individual wishing to develop more understanding of the most difficult period of Jesus' life.
- *He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart* by Max Lucado invites us to understand the symbols encompassed in Christ's crucifixion. Each tragic item reminds us of Calvary and His gifts of grace.

These wonderful books along with many others are available in your church library. To search through the library catalog online, go to <http://mylhunc.org/readingroom/library.html> and click on "Library Catalog" in the upper right corner. You can search the entire library collection by keyword, subject, title, author, or ISBN.

Other LHUMC News on Pages 4A & 8A



2011 Lent - Easter

MARCH - Food and Clothing Drive for CAM

- 1**
- Body and Spirit Class, 1:45 pm in Room 312, Tuesdays and Thursdays through Lent
- 3**
- Parents and Pastries, 8:35 am in Parlor - "Children and Lent: Making the season meaningful for the whole family"
- 9 ASH WEDNESDAY**
- Labyrinth up in Room 312 (through April 24)
 - Ash Wednesday Service with Imposition of Ashes 10:00 am, 11:30 am, and 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary
 - Super Adult Lenten Lunch (open to all); \$5, RSVP to 733-6482
 - Pancake Supper (UMW fundraiser), 5:30 pm in Dining Room
 - Compline, 8:30 pm Wednesdays in Lent in the Sanctuary Foyer
- 13 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT** *Daylight Saving Time begins*
- Worship, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
 - CAM speaker and presentation at 9:30 am fellowship
- 15**
- Lenten Reflection, 10 am Tuesdays in Lent, in Laurel Room
 - Lenten Lunch, 11:30 am in the Dining Room, prepared by United Methodist Women - No charge; open to all
- 16**
- Worship, 6:15 pm in Scott Chapel (Rev. Robin Hiatt-Reed)
- 20 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**
- Worship, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
- 23**
- Worship, 6:15 pm in Scott Chapel (Rev. Valli Seilheimer)
- 27 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
- Worship, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
- 29**
- Lenten Lunch, 11:30 am in the Dining Room, prepared by United Methodist Women - No charge; open to all
- 30**
- Worship, 6:15 pm in Scott Chapel (Ann McGlone)
- APRIL
- 1**
- Super Adult Lenten Pilgrimage, 9 am - 4 pm by Regent Coach; \$49.99, RSVP to 733-6482
- 3 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
- Worship, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
- 6**
- Worship, 6:15 pm in Scott Chapel (Rev. Robin Hiatt-Reed)
- 7**
- Parents and Pastries, 8:35 am in the Parlor
- 10 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
- Worship, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
- 12**
- Lenten Lunch, 11:30 am in the Dining Room, prepared by United Methodist Women - No charge; open to all
- 13**
- Worship, 6:15 pm in Scott Chapel (Rev. Barb Kurtz)
- 17 PALM SUNDAY**
- Worship, 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
- 20**
- Walk through Holy Week (3 years - 5th grade), 6:15 pm in 105
 - Meditative Worship: Prayers around the Cross, 6:15 pm in 312
- 21 MAUNDY THURSDAY**
- Seder Meal, 6:15 pm in the Dining Room
- 22 GOOD FRIDAY**
- Tre Ore Service, 12 - 3 pm in the Sanctuary; Reception follows in the Dining Room
- 23**
- Easter Festival, 10 am in the Parking Lot / Lunch provided
 - Baptism & Renewal Baptism Service, 1 pm in the Sanctuary
- 24 EASTER SUNDAY**
- Lay-led Easter Sunrise Service, 6:45 am on the Roof
 - Worship 8:30 am & 11:00; Rev. Jim McClain preaching
 - Breakfast (open to all), 9:30 am in the Gym

Book Review and lunch at Piatti's



At 10:30 on Monday, March 14, Susan Holloway will review *Clara and Mr. Tiffany*, a new novel by Susan Vreeland. This is a work of historical fiction, based on letters discovered in historical archives. Clara Driscoll (not the savior of the Alamo, but another strong woman) worked for Louis Comfort Tiffany at the time of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair where he made his debut with a luminous exhibition of innovative stained-glass windows. Driscoll was head of Tiffany's women's division and conceived and designed nearly all of the iconic leaded-glass lamps for which he is remembered. She was never recognized by him for her contributions and had to leave the company and the work she loved when she married. It is the story of an amazing talented and determined woman. Cost is \$3 at door or by season ticket.

Coffee will be ready in the Choir Room at 10:00 am.

After the Review, all are welcome to join us at Piatti's in Alamo Quarry Market, 255 E. Basse Road. Order from the menu and pay for your own, but do let us know if you plan to join us so we can reserve a table. Call the Super Adult office, 733-6482.

Will youth go hungry?

by Paul Seeman

No. However, they do need an adult to organize snack supper, which is a small meal, i.e. pizza, hot dogs, lasagna, etc. The person chosen to do this job lines up volunteers to make and bring the meals at 5:30 pm each Sunday night. If a volunteer does not wish to cook a meal but wants to help, they can order food to be delivered. Anyone can volunteer to bring dinner. As an added bonus, the Snack Supper Coordinator gets to name the position because Snack Supper Coordinator is an awful title.

Super Adults at play



The Super Adults will see the play, "Lion in Winter" by James Goldman, on Sunday, March 13 at 3:00 pm. Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine engage in an epic battle for the loyalties of their conniving sons and for the British crown. Featured roles are played by popular San Antonio actors Terry Pena Ross and Allan Ross. Tickets are \$15. We have reserved 15. First come; first to attend the play. Ride the church bus for \$3. Bus departs the Woodlawn parking lot at 2:30 pm. If you prefer, meet us at the Sterling Houston Theater at Jump-Start, 108 Blue Star in the Blue Star Arts Complex.



MARCH

- 7** Vane Hugo
- 8** Valerie Rose Kuhn
- 9** Rosie Ramirez; Penny Souder; John Williams
- 10** Aline Boehme; Cora Nell Fournier
- 11** Luke Bowman; Ellen Evans; Allen Myers; Rafael Ramirez
- 12** Edith Grier; Jennifer Halteman
- 14** Jerry Crockett; Elisa Dounson; Sarah Elizabeth Flume
- 15** Eleanor Katherine Jones; Molly Walden
- 16** Stephen Bailey; Sidney Thompson
- 17** Vanessa Gary
- 18** Warren Kramer; Rosa Northway; Timothy Michael Ramirez; Robert Robinson
- 19** Timothy Reist

Collecting for CAM in March

During the month of March the Missions and Neighborhood Ministries Committees are having a churchwide food and clothing drive to support Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM). CAM's mission is to share the love of Christ by providing immediate assistance and encouragement to people in crisis. Since 1977 CAM has been assisting hundreds of people each month with basic essentials. On Sunday, March 13 a CAM representative will join us at fellowship time (9:30 am) to share information about CAM.

Food, clean and serviceable used clothing, and hygiene items may be placed in bins labeled and located around the church. A partial listing of food items is posted on the Missions wall in the dining room. A complete listing of all items needed appears on page 4A in the Feb. 18 *Messenger*. (Online, go to <http://mylhmc.org/images/2011Feb18.pdf>.)



Welcome to Kyle and Leila Ford who joined Laurel Heights UMC on Sunday, Feb. 13 by letter of transfer from Lufkin First United Methodist Church, Lufkin, Texas.

GIFTS IN HONORARIA

General Budget
MEMBERS OF LHMC
ON THE OCCASION OF
OUR DAUGHTERS'
BAPTISM
by
Michael & Kristen Pratt

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

Library Designated
NANCY FASSNIDGE
by
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Crockett
Music Fund
NANCY FASSNIDGE
by
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Arredondo

CHURCH CALENDAR

*Childcare available.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship & Holy Communion - *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 Confirmation Class - *The Tower, Room 201*
10:00 LHUMC Leads Worship at Chandler Center

Monday, March 7

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, March 8
7:30 Health Cabinet - *The Foundry*
9:30 UMW General Mtg. - *Parlor*
11:30 Stephen Leaders- *Laurel Rm.*
1:45 Body & Spirit (Tue. & Thu.) - *312*
5:30 Bexar County Support Groups - *Dining Room*

Wednesday, March 9

ASH WEDNESDAY
Labyrinth open (Mon.-Sun. through Lent) - *312*
10:00 Ash Wednesday Service with Imposition of Ashes - *Sanctuary*
10:00 Super Adult Steering- *Parlor*
11:30 Ash Wednesday Service with Imposition of Ashes - *Sanctuary*
12:00 Super Adult Lenten Lunch (open to all)- \$5, RSVP 733-6482
4:15 *I'm 3rd* (K-5th Grade) - *105*
4:30 Line Dancing - *312*
4:30 Property Committee - *Library*
5:30 *Pancake Supper- *Dining Rm.*
6:15 Ash Wednesday Service with Imposition of Ashes (Rev. Valli Seilheimer) - *Sanctuary*
6:30 Disciple I - *Parlor*
7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*
8:30 Compline - *Sanctuary Foyer*

Thursday, March 10

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - *313-B*
6:30 Education Committee - *Parlor*
Friday, March 11
8:45 Weekday School Parent Council Meeting - *Laurel Room*
10:00 Church Women United Executive Board Meeting- *Parlor*
6:30 Parents' Night Out - RSVP by 12 noon Friday: 733-7156

Saturday, March 12

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- *313-B*
9:00 MOPS Steering - *105*
10:00 MOPS Gathering - *105*

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
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 Confirmation Class - *The Tower, Room 201*
2:00-7:30 Youth Group Outing - *Church Van*

3:00 Super Adults to see "Lion in Winter" - *Church Bus*
4:30 UMW Elizabeth Circle- *313-B*

Monday, March 14

10:00 Super Adult Pre-Book Review Coffee /Treats-*Choir Rm.*
10:30 Super Adult Book Review - *Scott Chapel*
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, March 15

10:00 Lenten Reflection Group - *Laurel Room*
11:30 Lenten Soup & Cornbread Lunch by UMW (open to all) - *DR*
1:45 Body & Spirit (Tue. & Thu.) - *312*
5:30 Bexar County Support Groups - *Dining Room*

Wednesday, March 16

7:30 Executive Committee - *The Foundry on McCullough*
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*
6:00-9:00 *Good Sense Financial Workshop - *Room TBA*
6:00 Women's Book Group - *Laurel Room*
6:15 *Worship / Communion (Rev. Robin Hiatt-Reed) - *Scott Chapel*
6:15 Handbells- *Sanctuary Balcony*
6:30 Disciple I - *Parlor*
7:00 Chancel Choir - *Choir Room*
8:30 Compline - *Sanctuary Foyer*

Thursday, March 17

Deadline for April 1 *Messenger*
9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church (open to all)
5:30 SPRC - *Laurel Room*
5:30 Library Committee - *Library*
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- *313-B*

Friday, March 18

Super Adults in New Orleans (return March 23)

Saturday, March 19

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- *313-B*
9:00 Program Council - *312*
10:00 Adoption Workshop - *105*
10:30 Board of Stewards - *312*

Our mission

...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.

CROP Hunger Walk: Ending hunger one step at a time

Held at Mission County Park, 6030 Padre Drive, walks are held Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6. Registration Saturday begins at 9:00 am; registration Sunday begins at 1:30 pm.

We walk as the feet of Christ because hungry people in developing countries typically walk as much as six miles a day just to get food, water, and fuel to take their goods to market. We walk in solidarity with their struggle for existence.

Money raised by CROP Hunger Walks nationwide is used by Church World Service to provide food, medical care, disaster relief, and self-help development for the needy around the world. Local hunger-alleviating agencies to receive funds are: Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM), Daily Bread Ministries, St. Vincent de Paul Society, San Antonio Food Bank, and Infant Formula Program through the San Antonio Community of Congregations.

To donate, participate, or for additional information contact Judy Davis, 733-7156 ext. 18.

Youth Group CROP walkers

by Paul Seeman

On Sunday, March 13 the Youth Group will be rewarded for their hard work raising funds for the previous weekend's CROP Walk by going to see the San Antonio Rampage Hockey team take on the Grand Prairie Griffins. Before the game the youth will go ice skating. During the game each person will get a soda and a hot dog. All of this will be free of charge for every youth who walks the CROP Walk start to finish. Anyone who does not walk will be able to purchase their ticket for \$10. The van will leave Laurel Heights at 2:00 pm and return at 7:30 pm. Parents and siblings (with parent) are invited and encouraged to come along with us. Younger siblings are welcome to walk for CROP and go to the game for free. Hope to see you all there!

Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving

The Finance and Stewardship Committees want to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. Credit and Debit Card Giving lets you make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card. Online Giving lets you go to <http://mylhmc.org/onlinegiving.html> at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office at 733-7156.

Order Easter Lilies Here

Easter lily plants for Easter Sunday services in the sanctuary are available for purchase as a memorial or honorarium at \$15 each. The deadline is Sunday, April 10, or whenever the maximum of 75 plants is reached. Complete this form and mail it with your check made payable to Laurel Heights UMC to: LHUMC, Attn: Easter Lilies, 227 W. Woodlawn, SAT 78212. Please write "Easter Lilies" in the memo line on your check.

Donor: _____
Phone: _____

PLEASE SELECT

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____



Healing: Geraldine Douglas; Ginger McKay; Shelley McMullen; Mary McDavid; Cece Adams; Clay Skinner; Roxane Darnell; Myrle Deaton; Patti Vaughan; Harold Souder; Martha Hamil; Faye Fox; Larry Mooney; Mindy Lanoux; Richard Jackson; and James & Mary Verette.

Family of Nancy Fassnidge who died Feb. 12; family of Grace Bailey; Jill Caldwell in loss of her brother-in-law. Remember our shut-ins and those in the military.



CONTACT US

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Geoffrey Waite x19
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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.