



All Saints



In the celebration of All Saints we experience the solidarity of the living and the dead in Christ Jesus. In this service we find the most profound example of what it means to be the Church. This service of remembrance is to experience the mystery that is so wonderfully expressed in the Great Thanksgiving prayer at the communion table. While we may name out loud only those in formal relationship with the congregation, we remember so many others who served as sources of encouragement and holiness as we kneel at the table in silent prayer and receive the Holy Eucharist. On this day we are reminded that we are all invited to the Great Banquet Table as Saints only by God's Grace and not by our own merits. Each of us, through God's grace, is involved in the continuing work of Jesus Christ in human life. On this day we make an

additional effort to give thanks to God in life, in death and in life beyond death.

As part of this service on November 6, we will read the names of those Saints who were in formal relationship with this congregation in the body of Christ. As each name is read a candle will be lit and a bell rung. Some members of the congregation may choose to stand as the names are read to indicate the person being named had a specific impact on their life. Often family members of those being named will travel to be in the congregation on this day of remembrance. Yet, there is a clear vision to this service in its remembrance of all whose battle is over, the victory won and our continued pilgrimage with God to our place at the heavenly banquet. For those whose formal relationship was with other congregations we want to offer a more personal expression.

At the end of the communion rails will be boxes filled with sand. In the boxes will be candles that have been part of previous worship services at Laurel Heights. As you are waiting to come to the communion rail you are invited to take one of the small candles in the box. It is possible the candle you choose is the same one you held just a few months ago during a Christmas Eve service. There will be a lighted Christ Candle in each box. You are invited to light the candle you chose from the Christ Candle and then stand the smaller candle in the sand. You may say the name of the person you are remembering out loud or silently if you wish as you kneel to receive communion. Please feel free to light multiple candles if you feel led or you may want the one candle to represent many people. You may simply bypass the box if you do not wish to light a candle before receiving communion.

God is not limited by time and space as we are. People all over the world will be joining us as we kneel to remember the Saints we know and God hears each and everyone of our prayers. As we come together for this wonderful service we are invited to catch a glimpse of being free of the constraints of time and space, to spend a few moments in the time and space in between.

See you Sunday,

Jim

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

by Melinda Hartson

What is stewardship? The United Methodist guidelines tell us, "We model stewardship through our actions and attitudes, by serving and giving. The Christian steward willingly worships, studies, gives, serves, and loves with joy and gratitude as a response to God's grace. [We] set an example by the way we share our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness with one another and the wider community."

I had the privilege of watching a video about this year's VBS program (made by our resident documentary filmmaker, Jim McClain) at a church meeting, and I saw another video about the Youth mission trip to New Orleans at the Stockholder's dinner last month. My response was, "Everyone in the congregation should see these. How do we do that?"

We are blessed to have a great variety of programs at Laurel Heights and it can be hard to keep up with everything that's going on. We will therefore be celebrating our programs at a free luncheon on October 23 that is open to everyone. We'll show some video and also have speakers inform us about church programming. The luncheon will be catered by the San Antonio Food Bank and the meal will include items grown in their Community Garden. All proceeds from the meal will be donated to the Food Bank to support the most needy in our community.

Reverend Jim McClain will teach a Sunday School Parlor series November 6, 13 and 20 on practicing extravagant generosity and all are welcome to attend. Last year's class was excellent and provoked interesting discussion among a broad spectrum of church members. The curriculum will not be exactly the same and both first-time and repeat attendees are encouraged to participate.

We will also be sending devotionals through e-mail and keeping the congregation updated on stewardship events on Facebook and Twitter. Make sure that the church has your e-mail address, "like" Laurel Heights on Facebook, and follow Laurel Heights, Jim, and Kercida on Twitter.

Disciple Green begins Sunday



Disciple Green starts Sunday, Oct. 23 at 4:00 pm in the Library, led by Rev. Barb Kurtz. Are you enrolled? Pick up an application at one of the

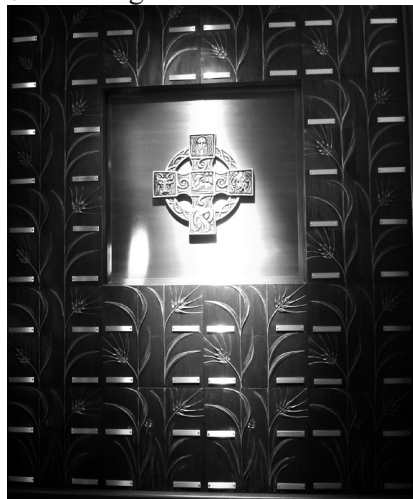
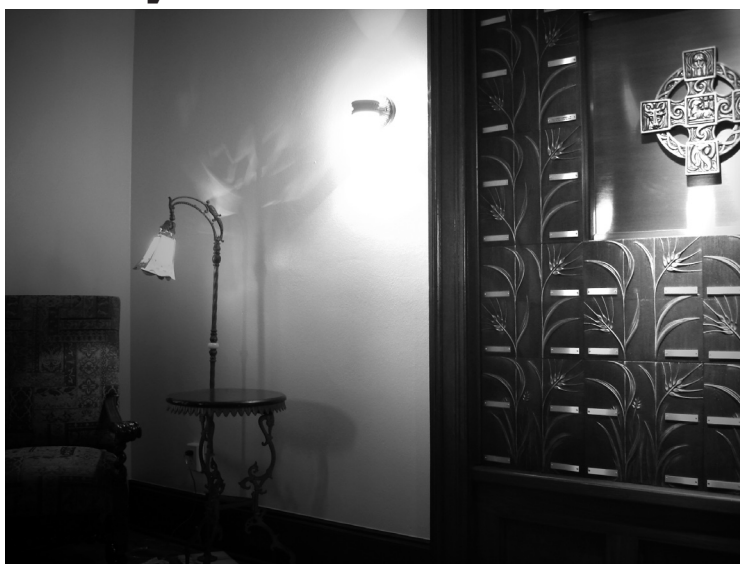
Welcome Stations around the church or call the church office. The class runs on Sundays, ending May 27, 2012.

Other LHUMC News on Pages 4A & 8A

Where will you take your final rest?

The Trustees of Laurel Heights began our columbarium ministry with the completion of the columbarium installation in the northwest entry of the sanctuary in October of 2009. Since that time, 31 of the available 64 niches have been purchased. Ashes of loved ones are currently stored in eight (8) of the niches. After the ashes have been inurned the deceased's name is engraved on the brass plaque for that niche. Each family member has his or her own niche.

Cost of a niche is \$800 with \$100 being tax-deductible as it



goes into a Columbarium Trust maintained by the Trustees. Anyone with questions or who is interested in obtaining a niche may contact Richard Parrigan, chair of the Columbarium Committee of the Trustees. You are also invited to learn more about the policies, procedures and agreements surrounding the use of the columbarium by visiting the church website at www.mylhmc.org/columbarium2.html.

Additionally, the Trustees of Laurel Heights United Methodist Church have approved the formation of a Memorial Registry. This will allow obituary information to be stored on the church website as a permanent church record available for use in genealogical searches as well as for the preservation of historical data. Watch *The Messenger* for further details.

Ladies, dream no more!

Ladies, if shopping and cleaning and cooking for guests during the holidays leaves you physically and spiritually drained, you might find yourself dreaming for a day at the spa or a time of relaxation on the beach at some remote island hideaway.

Wake up, ladies! It's time to stop dreaming and fill out our survey about a Women's Retreat in early 2012. Go to <http://goo.gl/LfWE1> and print out the interest survey. Let us know if January, 2012 fits your schedule and what would interest you in a retreat. Don't be shy. This is your chance to let your voice be heard for a retreat designed especially for you. Questions? Contact Kercida McClain, 733-7156.

Knitpickers needling again on Mondays

After a long, summer sabbatical, the Knitpickers are resuming their weekly Monday afternoon knitting at 1:00 pm in the Laurel Room on Monday, Oct. 31. Knitpickers knit or



EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY, A NEW MIND-SET

Watch for details about a new Parlor Series during the Sunday School hour for three Sundays beginning Nov. 6. Discover how giving the way that God gives is an intentional act of grace that reaffirms our faith, bringing purpose into our lives. This series is led by Rev. Jim McClain.

crochet items to be given to people in physical, spiritual or emotional need. Each item is prayed over by its creator and blessed by the group.

Can you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? Join us and see how easily you can create a thing of beauty that will warm and comfort another.

To participate, just show up or contact Tom Kurtz or call the church office for details at 733-7156.

November Mission of the Month

by Ted Bailey

Betania is a clinic that is presently growing to become a 3-bed hospital and surgery facility in Reynosa, Mexico. Established in 1970, the goal of the Clinic is to provide a Christian witness to the people they serve by offering medical and dental assistance at the lowest possible cost. Fees are based on a sliding scale. Twenty percent of the people that come to Betania are unable to pay for any of the services it provides.

The Clinic is 30 years old and is located one block north of the main square of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Reynosa is a city of more than 800,000 people, most of whom live in the outskirts of town without basic utilities and many live in extreme poverty without available medical services.

The people who use the Clinic often do not have health insurance of any kind and thus need very affordable medical care. Betania provides medical and dental services primarily to women and children. It also provides a laboratory and is considered top notch for a clinic in Mexico. On staff is one family physician, one dentist, one laboratory technician, and others who perform a variety of services.

Most of the medical equipment has been purchased through donations. In 1998 the first surgery unit was completed. Betania is planning to open its surgery room to enable physicians to perform minor surgeries. It is looking to the future to eventually open more surgery rooms. Betania strives to provide high quality services to any individual in need. These people receive consultation, treatment and medication at no cost (as long as it is available).

The Clinic also provides services in other extremely impoverished areas of Reynosa with its outreach services and United Methodist Volunteers In Mission medical teams from the United States. United Methodist Volunteers In Mission teams are looking forward to seeing the new Centro Medico Quirurgico (hospital name) created as it has been a long-term vision of many.

Family fun at Octoberfest, October 28

Everyone is welcome at Octoberfest, the Weekday School's largest fundraiser and family event. Families with young children especially love the costumes and games, but everyone enjoys the great food, fellowship and fun. Plus, the silent auction always includes an array of great items donated by families and friends of the Weekday School. The fun begins at 5:30 in the dining room and gym on Friday, Oct. 28. Call the Weekday School office for more details at 732-6979.



Treats from Our Trunks

Each year members of the congregation attired in child-friendly costumes hand out sweets, treats, and other goodies to children from the church and neighborhood on Halloween night.

"Other goodies" includes the Health Cabinet's toothpaste and child and adult toothbrushes, helping make our Halloween bash *the* place to be on Halloween night!

So, pack up your little ones with their Jack-O-Lanterns and bring them to the Belknap parking lot Monday evening, Oct. 31 from 5 pm to 7 pm. As always, Treats from Our Trunks offers a safe, friendly, and traffic-free environment for you and your child.

CHURCH CALENDAR

*Childcare available.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

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
12:00 Stewardship Kick-off Lunch - Dining Room
4:00 Disciple Green - Library
4:00 Middle School Student Ministries (UMYF) - 319
5:30 High School Student Ministries (UMYF) - 319
6:30 Disciple 1 - Library
6:30 Emmaus - Scott Chapel

Monday, October 24

8:00-5:00 SA Youth - Gym
9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - 312
6:00 Weekday School Board - WDS
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B

Tuesday, October 25

7:45 Taco Tuesday Devotions (Paul Seeman) - Alamo Hgts. Jr. High
8:45 Yoga Class - 312
10:30 Positive Parenting Promotions (Tue. & Wed.) - 319
10:45 San Antonio Tobacco Prevention Coalition - 312
12:30 MELD Parenting Group -DR
3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Tue.-Thu.) - Gym
5:00 SA Youth Advisory Council - Laurel Room
5:30 Bexar County Detention Support Groups - Dining Room
5:45 Missions - Laurel Room

Wednesday, October 26

8:45 Church Staff Meeting - 313-B
9:00-4:00 Clergy Group - 322
2:00 *Disciple 1 - Library
5:30 *Supper - Gym
6:00 SA Youth Parents' Mtg. - 305
6:15 *Worship / Communion (Rev. Barb Kurtz) - Scott Chapel
6:15 Handbells- Sanctuary Balcony
7:00 Chancel Choir - Choir Room

Thursday, October 27

9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church
9:00 Super Adult Day - DR, Gym
9:00-4:00 Clergy Group - 322
10:00 Building & Grounds - 306
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B

Friday, October 28

4:30 Super Adults to Haunted Castroville - Regent Coach
5:30-7:00 Octoberfest - DR, Gym

Saturday, October 29

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

8:30 & 11:00 *Worship Service - 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 (6th-12th Grade) - Choir Room
10:00 *Sunday School for all ages
10:00 LHUMC leads worship at Chandler
4:00 Disciple Green - Library
4:00 Middle School Student Ministries (UMYF) - 319
5:30 High School Student Ministries (UMYF) - 319
6:30 Disciple 1 - Library

Monday, October 31

9:00 Body Recall (M-W-F) - 312
1:00 Knitpickers - Laurel Room
3:00-7:00 SA Youth @ LHUMC (Mon.-Fri.) - Gym
5:00-7:00 Treats from Our Trunks - Belknap Parking Lot
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous - 313-B

Tuesday, November 1

7:45 Taco Tuesday Devotions (Paul Seeman) - Alamo Hgts. Jr. High
8:45 Yoga Class - 312
9:30 UMW Executive Committee - Parlor
10:30 Positive Parenting Promotions (Tue. & Wed.) - 319
12:30 MELD Parenting Group -DR
2:00-9:40 Olan Mills (by appt)- 312
6:15 Stephen Ministry - 313-B

Wednesday, November 2

8:45 Church Staff Meeting- 313-B
2:00 *Disciple 1 - Library
2:00-9:40 Olan Mills (by appt)- 312
4:30 Line Dancing - 312
5:30 *Supper - Dining Room
6:15 Handbells- Sanctuary Balcony
6:15 *Worship / Communion - Scott Chapel
7:00 Chancel Choir - Choir Room

Thursday, November 3

MESSANGER DEADLINE
7:00 Super Adults to College Station / Bush Library - Regent Coach
8:35 Parents & Pastries - Parlor
9:00 Church Mice meet for fellowship and to do repairs around the church
2:00-9:40 Olan Mills (by appt)- 312
6:00 Church under the Bridge - Leave from Woodlawn Lot
6:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B

Friday, November 4

7:30 Weekday School Staff Development - WDS

Saturday, November 5

8:30 Gamblers Anonymous- 313-B
Time Change: Turn your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed.

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.

Special news section on UMC and higher education

Included with this edition is a 12-page pull-out section United Methodist Reporter has done on The United Methodist Church and higher education. The lead story looks at a range of sustainability efforts by UMC-affiliated colleges and seminaries, covering everything from solar panels to community gardens to LEED-certified buildings. They look at colleges that have distinguished themselves in community service and at the presence of retired United Methodist bishops on campuses, either as advisors or administrators or instructors, or all three. There are also commentaries in the section, including one describing a day in the life of a United Methodist campus minister, and another from a United Methodist pastor explaining why he teaches college courses on the side.

Please note that those reading *The Messenger* online won't have access to this special section. Nonetheless, you can still obtain a copy at the church, while supplies last.



Active Military

Our new pictorial directory will have a special section for our active military. For details, call Elizabeth Jackson at 733-7156 ext. 12.



OCTOBER

23 Alexandria Medellin
24 Eileen Dodds; Tony Guerrero; Evelyn Oleson
25 Webb Myers; Karon O'Ferrall; Shelly Vaughan
26 John Parsons
27 Nancy Carver; Emma Elizabeth Rodriguez
28 Tristan Michael Jones
29 Melissa Nardi; Andrea Puentes
30 Sharon Boland; Betty Hughbanks; Bonnie Scott
31 Diane Boehme; Luke Campbell

NOVEMBER

1 Becky Dunn
2 Lucy Perales; Rick Yancey
3 Connie Aguilar; Bonnie Henry; Pleasant McNeel; Elizabeth Woods
4 Fran Randall; Robert Records
5 Ryan Ramirez

GIFTS IN HONORARIA

Bell Tower
PAUL BILLINGSLEY'S
100th BIRTHDAY
by
Juanita Souder

Faith in Action
PAUL BILLINGSLEY'S
100th BIRTHDAY
by
Friendship Forum/Aldersgate

General Budget
PAUL BILLINGSLEY'S
100th BIRTHDAY
by
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Campbell

by
Evelyn Galbreath
by
Helen Moseley

by
Dorothy Swartwout

JIM & KERCIDA MCCLAIN
by
Dinah Tanner

DINAH TANNER
by
A Friend

Imagine No Malaria
SARAH HUDSON'S
BIRTHDAY
by
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kurtz

Christmas Poinsettias

The coupon to order will appear in the next issue of *The Messenger*. Cost is \$10 each.



Healing: Patti Vaughan; Charles Schneider; Geraldine Douglas; Roxane Darnell; Vane Hugo; Fred Vaca; Lucille Warren; Sheila Sims; and Annalynn Jackson.

God's Presence: Charles Davis; Henrietta Hopper; Bill & Jane Magavern; 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@mylhmc.org.