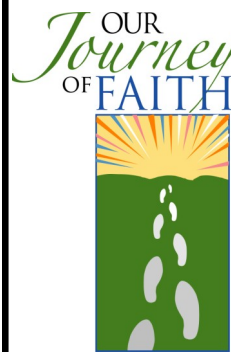


Handley Happenings

January 30, 2012

OPEN HEARTS OPEN MINDS OPEN DOORS
The People of the United Methodist Church



Our Gifts & Presence

Sunday, January 29, 2012
Total Worship.....106
Total Sunday School.....61
Budget.....\$4505

Called to Serve

Sunday morning in worship, we explored "The Call", God's call upon our hearts to be disciples. I made the statement that we all have a call, at least one purpose to fulfill for God's kingdom here on earth. Following that, I talked about ten of the points Bishop Robert Schnase has developed to recognize the authenticity of a call from God. Below, you will find the list. I then challenged everyone in worship to examine that possibility within their own lives. And I challenge all who read this article to look into your hearts. If you are feeling a call to some action, first pray and then check it against this list. But be careful, you might just find yourself moving into a new action for God's transforming work.

IT'S AN AUTHENTIC CALL WHEN. . .

1. the disciple called feels a Spirit-pull toward something
2. motives for doing are from the heart—do not expect to get anything out of it
3. it is Christ-centered—work is done by the mercy of Christ
4. it is personally addressed—matches up with individual's gifts and talents
5. there is a cost—humans tend to run from suffering, the call will pull disciples toward it
6. the disciple's passion is engaged
7. the disciple has doubt—"who, me?"
8. the disciple feels joy doing it—not always fun but joyous
9. it is a bigger task than the disciple can ever do alone
10. (most important) it is initiated by God.

If you are in a quandary because you are, at the moment, not feeling a call, then, take a look below. Listed are just some of the opportunities available for you to serve a call through the community of Handley UMC.

You may have noticed, we have more **children** in church. There is a great need for more **teachers and helpers** for more classes. Are You Called?

Our denomination's "Safe Sanctuary" policy requires two adults in the **nursery**. Are You Called?

You may have noticed, people come to visit or church. There is a need for a **hospitality team** who specifically plan out how we can make strangers welcome. Are You Called?

You may not notice our name around town. The world is starving for the love we have to share. How do we get the word out? There is a need for a **team to develop communication strategies**. Web and publicity are just two of the component. Are You Called?

Currently, we have 34 **members in homebound or fulltime care facilities**. That is a large number, so there is a need for lay help in keeping these members connected to the love of God. Are You Called?

Of course there is the "**Backpack Buddies**" ministry which always can utilize more helping hands.

Three times, Jesus said to Peter, "Feed my sheep." Where does he call you?

Blessed to serve with you,

Decee

RISE AND SHINE FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME

Isaiah 60:1

NEW SERIES

Here Come the Saints:

2nd in Series ""

BLESSINGS and DREAMS

Below, you will find a list of dates, times and locations. Because seating at any location is limited, I am asking you to **sign up, as soon as possible**, for the meeting you want to attend. You can sign up by calling or emailing us at the church. Let us know the date you want and we will confirm your request.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Thursday 2/2,	7pm	4917 Boulder Lake Rd, FW
Tuesday 2/7	10am	6221 Skylark Cr., FW (NRH)
Tuesday 2/14	10am	6100 Yolanda Dr., FW
Thursday 2/16	7pm	4900 Wareham Dr., Arlington
Saturday 2/18	2pm	7650 Meadowbrook Dr., FW

NEW LENTEN STUDY OFFERED

Lent, the season where we, followers of Jesus Christ, traditionally examine our lives in the reality of Christ on the cross. In a study *FINAL WORDS from the Cross*, Rev. Adam Hamilton takes us on a journey of exploration into Jesus' final words and into our own hearts. If you are interested in taking the journey this Lenten season, come join me in this six week study beginning Sunday, February 26, 4 to 5:30pm. The cost of the study book is \$15. There are a few scholarships available, so do not let the cost stop you from joining the group.

For more information or to register for the class, contact Rev. Decee Horton at 817-451-4321 or decee@handleyumc.org. Following the class, those wishing to participate, will share a meal together at a nearby restaurant.

From the Finance Committee

Our **Stewardship Campaign** for 2012 will run from December 2011 until **January 15**. Please give prayerful consideration to this and turn in your pledge card this week if you have not already done so!

If you have any questions, please see Mike Williams. Thank you very much!!

Children and Youth

We are in the planning stages for a pizza party in February. Stay tuned for more information!



In Memory of:
Major General Jim Pruitt
Wade & Elvie Walker

Bruce's Bible Study

This week, as we continue our mini-study of *Romans*, we look once again at chapter 13, in which Paul has already stated that we should support the powers that be, since authority comes from God. Last week we saw that governments which abuse that authority are liable to be plucked up, but Paul's basic idea was that, as long as a government is providing safety and protection for its people, it should be supported. He had not yet had to address the issue of what happens when a government commands its people to do something contrary to the faith--that was an issue by the end of the century, and Paul would have been the first to say the a government was *exceeding its authority* at that point and should be disobeyed (you'll find that scenario addressed in the book of *Revelation*). One of my dear British friends has a comical story to tell which illustrates Paul's teaching. Roger (who was the pastor of the church I attended in Edinburgh) said that, as a new Christian, he was on his way home from a night meeting. He was on his motorcycle and got stopped for speeding. The policeman (bobby) was about to issue him a ticket, and Roger told him that he (the bobby) was fully within his rights and was doing the right thing--and he pulled out his Bible and showed the policeman *Romans* 13. The bobby was so shaken up by Roger's good attitude and being confronted with the Bible that he let Roger go!

V. 7 has some important (and not always welcome!) advice to give, about honesty. It says we are to pay taxes to whom taxes are due--and with April 15 not as far away as it should be, we need to remember that! All of us groan about the taxes we have to pay, and it certainly is profitable to have a CPA or some tax expert look at our returns, etc. They know the laws and the loopholes that we can use--and not use. Our wonderful custodian, Elmer, says that his CPA is absolutely essential to him, because tax laws change from year to year, and CPA's are the ones who know about the changes when the rest of us don't! The good thing about being honest is that we don't have to keep looking over our shoulders--and if the IRS decides suddenly to slam us with an audit, we have nothing to fear. My Scottish blood rebels

against some of those taxes, too, but I'm still afloat!

Paul also says that we are to pay "respect to whom respect is due." Today it's fashionable to demonize those with whom we disagree, or to heap all sorts of insults on them behind their back. This verb seems to dictate against that! I've heard ministers go on tirades against those who would dare disagree with them (and those people, of course, are not present), and that's not a pleasant thing to hear. One of Barbara Kruger's New York cartoons shows a red-faced man yelling, "How DARE you not be me???" That captures the attitude superbly, and in my classes at Texas Wesleyan, I definitely try to play fair with all sides. I can say that I disagree with such-and-such at stance, but I don't have to resort to lampooning and ridicule to prove my point.

The last part of chapter 13 is juicy enough that I'd best save it for next week!

Bruce

Friendship Class

We had 16 present today, including Wade, our teacher. We missed the ones who were absent and hope they are all fine. Our prayers go out to them wherever they are. Our teacher was Wade. He had a wonderful lesson on John 9 and 10, about the man born blind who receives sight, where "Jesus said 'As long as I am in the world. I am the light of the world..,' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes says to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.' Then he went and washed and came back able to see." It was a very nice lesson and enjoyed by all. Thank you so very much, Wade.

God Bless everyone and hope to see each of you next week. God Bless and our Prayers are with each of you.

New Horizons Class

James compares the tongue to the bit in a horse's mouth, or the rudder of a large ship, in chapter three of the book of James. The bit can be used to turn the horse or the rudder can turn a large ship just as the tongue, a small part of the body, can talk about big things. A small flame can set the entire forest on fire, just as the tongue can flame evil thoughts and set the whole person's life on fire. But, we can also use the tongue to praise our Lord and Father. James writes that a spring cannot have both bitter and sweet water, so a tongue cannot have good and evil words. Our tongues should flow with good thoughts and words. What we think and say should be for the good of our brothers and sisters and to the Glory of God.

The class celebrated another member of the Texas Wesleyan Hall of Fame on Saturday. The Clifford Classic basketball game was played at the Sid Richardson Center; Patsy and the Clifford family were honored at half-time. This was the fifth Annual Clifford Classic celebration of the love and support the Clifford's shared with Texas Wesleyan Athletics.

Genesis Class

Say happy anniversary to Jim & June January 29, and happy birthday to Janie February 4.

Please keep in your prayers; the family of Beverly Kensinton, the family of Lee Pruitt, Cloud, Nancy, Nedra, Jerre, Tom's sister, April & Nova.

Bruce brought us a great lesson. Epiphany, meaning manifestation. What were some? Water into wine, Jesus to the wise men, Jesus' baptism and the dove which descended from heaven, to name a few. We went on to talk about the temptations of Christ. After His baptism, he went into the wilderness and fasted 40 days and 40 nights. Why fast? Religiously, it is kind of a prayer with our whole body!

On a church sign: *The devout have no doubt.*
Have a good week and see you Sunday!



**For the Clergy and Laity of the
Central Texas Conference**

Date: Saturday, Feb. 11, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

**Place: FUMC Brownwood Christian
Life Center**

**Cost: Registration—\$40 per person
(includes book, lunch and handouts)**

Deadline for registration is Feb. 3

Mail registration form below and fee to:

FUMC Brownwood

Attn: Tell Conference

2500 11 Street

Brownwood, TX 76801

Questions: (325) 643-1555

Website: www.leadershipnexus.org/tell.php

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number Attending: _____

Payment Amount: _____

The TELL training is based on Bob Pierson's book, "Time to Tell," and is designed to help you personally and your church as the body of Christ develop skills for sharing our faith in this new and secular society in which we all live. It is a fun and informative time that you do not want to miss.

Handley Happenings

January 22, 2012

2929 Forest Ave
Ft. Worth, Texas 76112

Address Service Requested

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Org.
U.S. Postage
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Fort Worth, TX
Permit No. 341

Handley Happenings

Church Office: 817-451-4321
Church Fax: 817-446-4013

FEBRUARY

Meeting Schedule

February 1

Backpack Buddies
Bruce's Bible Study
& Wonderful Wednesday

February 2

Cut-ups
Altar Guild
Blessings & Dreams Meeting
English as a Second Language Class

February 5

1st Sunday Breakfast
Hosted by UMM

February 7

Blessings & Dreams Meeting

February 8

Backpack Buddies
Bruce's Bible Study
& Wonderful Wednesday

February 9

Cut-Ups

English as a Second Language Class

February 11

UMM Workday

February 12

2nd Sunday Praise Service

February 13

Handley Neighborhood Assn.

February 14

Blessings & Dreams Meeting

February 15

Backpack Buddies
Bruce's Bible Study
& Wonderful Wednesday

February 16

Blessings & Dreams Meeting
Foodbank
English as a Second Language Class

February 18

Blessings & Dreams Meeting

February 21

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 22

Backpack Buddies
Bruce's Bible Study
& Wonderful Wednesday
Ash Wednesday Service

www.handleyumc.org

After hours: 817-269-3342

Sunday's Sermon:

New Series
Here Come the Saints
2nd in series: ""

Children's Sermon

02/05—Sally Norris
02/12—Brenda Clark
02/19—Dr. Bruce McDonald
02/26—Kala Clark

Cherub Church Earth Angels:

02/05—Clint & Heather Taber
02/12—Shaun & Shannon Burns
02/19—Clint & Heather Taber
12/26—Elvie Walker