

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial United Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



Vol. 18, No. 5

May 1, 2022

Building Bridges

Most of us have neighbors. Depending on where we live, the neighbors may be close or they may be at some distance. Where I live the neighbors are so close that we can hear when they pull into their driveway or close their back door. For others you may have to drive up the road to see your neighbors. Near or far, the neighbors are there, and to some extent we probably know who they are and we know something about them.

Then there are the less known neighbors. These are the ones we know are there, but we rarely see them, and we don't know much about them. We see the house and we know someone lives there. The light is on and the car is in the driveway. On occasion we see them leave the house, but we don't know where they may be going. It is possible that we don't even know their names, and likely that we don't know anything personal about them. They are, in a sense, our mystery neighbors. To those of you who live on a street where "everybody knows everybody," this may sound very strange. Trust me, there are plenty of folks who know just what I am saying.

To many people in the community, a church can be like the mystery neighbor. They know we are here. They see people coming and going, never knowing who most of them are. Though they have perceptions, accurate or not, they really don't know what the mystery neighbors are doing when they are inside the building. Should they dare visit the mystery neighbors? How much of a risk would that be? What kind of reception would they receive? Would they even like the neighbors? Whether out of apprehension or simple apathy, the church will have a multitude of potentially well-known neighbors who will remain unknown simply because *they* will not take the initiative to make the connection.

Yes, a few will dare to come. They will take a chance on the mystery neighbors on South Fourth Street. For this reason, it is imperative that the church *always* have the "welcome mat" out. To borrow a phrase from Nathan Hillum, we should always bring our "A game" of hospitality when we are gathered. Those who come through our door are our honored guests, and should receive that message in every way possible.

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Whereas a few will dare to come, there are scores who will not. If the connection is to be made, it will be up to the church to make it. A bridge must be built between the church and the community, and God has designed the church to be in the bridge building business. I realize that to some this may sound intimidating. "Is the preacher talking about the e-word?!" What I'm talking about is relationships, connecting with people in a way that a bridge is built between the life they live and the life of Christ through the people of Christ's church. In order for that to happen, the people of the church must connect with the people of the community in increasingly meaningful ways, and much of it will happen on their turf, not ours.

Bridge building can be intimidating. I encourage you to do it anyway. You will find that building bridges is blessed work. It is blessed work because it is God's work. God never intended for His church to be mystery neighbors.

Pastor Dave



Youth Gathering

There will be a gathering on Wednesday, May 4 for youth of Russell Memorial and Cheatham Memorial churches. Cheatham Memorial will host the event, which will begin at 6:00. Food, fun and fellowship will be the focus.



Tiger Supply Run

The 5th Annual Tiger Supply Run 2022 is FAST approaching! Join us on Saturday, June 11. Race starts at 8:00 a.m. at Gospel for Asia. Online registration is coming soon. Not a runner? No problem! You can help by donating water, Gatorade and/or snacks! Proceeds from this event will benefit the Wills Point ISD Back to School Fair which supplies children in need with the necessary supplies to start back to school.



United Methodist Women 11th Annual Linda Glover White Gloves and Hats Tea

Join us on Saturday, May 14th, 11:30 a.m. for a day of food, fun, and fashion. Your \$20 ticket includes, a delicious meal, a fashion show from Wills Point's own Sweetheart's, door prizes and fellowship. Wait service is provided by our very own RMUMC men. Get your tickets in the church office (903-873-2569), or from Theresa Turner (214-728-9036). Don your white gloves and hat and come out for a great time! The proceeds from this event will help to fund our UMW mission work.



New Address
Lucy Hill has moved! Her new address is:

Lucy Hill
The Bentley Independent Retirement Living
3362 Forest Lane #225
Dallas, TX 75234

I'm sure she'd love to hear from you!



Character

Leadership

Scholarship

Service

We would like to congratulate our youth that were inducted into the National Honor Society at WPHS this April. The new members from the church are AJ Galope, Johanna Cartwright, Frances Groover, Gaybrie and Grayce Malone. Current members include Angelina Fields, Clair Huff, Maggie McDonald and Cole Roberts. We are so proud of the hard work and dedication you have all shown.

Calendar of Events for May

Dates to Remember for May



Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. Adult Choir practice in the Sanctuary, all are welcome

Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. Revelation Bible Study in the Deen Building, this study is currently in session, but visitors are encouraged to join.

Wednesday, May 4, 6:00 p.m. Youth Gathering @ Cheatham in Edgewood

Saturday, May 14, 11:30 a.m. Linda Glover Annual White Gloves and Hat Tea, presented by the United Methodist Women in the Deen Building, contact the church office (903-873-2569) for more information.

Saturday, May 21, 9:00 a.m. Crafting with Christ in the Deen Building. All crafters are welcome to bring their projects and fellowship with others.

Sunday, May 22, 11:15 a.m. Senior Recognition Potluck lunch in the Deen Building. Bring your favorite dish and celebrate with us!

Happy Birthday!

| | | | |
|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| | | Dean Hesse | 5-18 |
| | | Gary Keller | 5-18 |
| | | Janet Nantze | 5-18 |
| Carolyn Hawkins | 5-2 | Beverly Roddy | 5-19 |
| Leslie Nychka | 5-2 | Debbie Faulkenbury | 5-21 |
| Jack Fleming | 5-10 | Betty McCormick | 5-22 |
| Martha Hesse | 5-13 | Betty Manning | 5-22 |
| Becky Hardy | 5-14 | Bob Bobbitt | 5-26 |
| Ken Aulich | 5-14 | Ed AuBuchon | 5-26 |
| Scott Teel | 5-15 | Kelly Teel | 5-27 |
| Margaret Fleming | 5-16 | Kathleen Bobbitt | 5-29 |
| Jim Hawkins | 5-18 | Jordan Teel | 5-31 |

Just Be One T-Shirts



Did you order a Just Be One T-shirt from the youth? If you did, please see Jerry Don Huff, he has them! If you didn't, why not?! You can still pick one up for the low, low price of \$15. They still have several available and would love to set you up with some. Contact Jerry Huff, 214-458-2004.

Our Presence and Our Gifts

| | April 3 | April 10 | April 17 | April 24 |
|---------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Worship | 88 | 108 | 159 | 100 |
| Giving | \$5,335.00 | \$8,933.41 | \$3572.00 | \$5,740.00 |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 6:00pm Trustees | 3 | 4 6:00 pm Youth Gathering in Edgewood 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:15pm Choir Practice | 5 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study | 6 | 7 Rotary Golf Tournament |
| 8 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service | 9 5:00pm Day School 6:00pm Finance | 10 | 11 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:15pm Choir Practice | 12 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study | 13 | 14 10:00 am Safety Team 11:30am United Methodist Women Annual Linda Glover White Gloves and Hats Tea |
| 15 8:00 am UMM Meeting 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15am Admin Council | 16 | 17 | 18 7:15pm Choir Practice | 19 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study | 20 | 21 9:00 am Crafting with Christ (in George Hall) |
| 22 Senior Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15am Potluck Lunch | 23 | 24 | 25 7:15pm Choir Practice | 26 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study | 27 WPISD Last Day of School | 28 WPHS Graduation |
| 29 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| <div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Annual Conference</div> | | | | | | |



Food Giveaway in Wills Point

Looking for the perfect opportunity to volunteer?! Well, look no further. Bread for the Hungry is working with the East Texas Food Bank in our area. They are handing out food on Fridays from 4:00-7:00 p.m. If that time doesn't work for you, they load the food bags on Fridays from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (You aren't required to stay the entire time, work what's best for you). They also need help on Saturday mornings loading a truck to deliver to Myrtle Springs and Rolling Oaks (just loading trucks, not delivering). Contact

Nancy Roberts, 214-354-6780, for details and to sign up.



Memorials

In memory of
Jack Golden
A leaf has been give
To the memorial tree
By the
Seekers Sunday School Class.



Dearest Members of the Church,

Can anything be more comforting, more soothing than to snuggle into one's own blanket? We all know those anxious feelings.

When you donated the lovely crib, lap and crocheted blankets to the ABC Room, you gave those very feelings to children in crisis. Those blankets are definitely more than warm covers. The children can keep them forever as reminders of how you, at RMUMC, cared.

We are always grateful for your generous hearts and support of our mission.

The ABC Room Volunteers

Remember in Prayer:

Family of Harry E Liston
Family of Bobby Petillo
Family of Wayne Rhodes
Family of Charlotte
Youngblood
Family of Joseph Parker
Family of Jack Golden
Aneya Williams
Alana Simpson
Alice Kolb
Angelina Fields
Andy Anderson
Arthur Galope, Jr.
Becca Rowe
Betty Manning
Billie Cade
Bobbi Smith
Carl Fulton
Caroline Edwards
Chad Ash
Cheryl Bradley

Cheryl Shaw
Christy (Culpepper's
granddaughter)
Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living
Dave Edwards
Dianna Perry
Elizabeth Greenwald
Eric Johns
Evan Mayone
Eyal Family
Harrison Mayone
Hunter Haney
Isaac Bullard
Jared McDonald
Jeannie Deen
Jennie Helfin
Jim Freeman
Jim & Sandra Smith
Joe Madden
John Buffington
Kay & Bennie Mitchell

Karl & Keeta Lybrand
Krisann Gunter Stegall
Laura Bates
Linda Greenwald
Lucy Hill
Mark Brown
Marigrace & Mike Lang
Margie Evers
Mary Bullard
Matt James
Maxine Page
Mike Lamb
Military
Nancy McDonald
Paul Cain
Randy Scott
Roger Moore's brother
Sherry & Lynn Mullins
Students, Teachers & Admin.
Sunday School & Church
Terry McDermott
Virginia Cockerham



Summer Camp

Lakeview Methodist Camp is prepared once again to host children and youth for summer camp. Lakeview is a beautiful facility, and those attending will notice ongoing improvements being made to the grounds and to programming. Each week of camp runs Monday through Friday, beginning on June 13. Campers are welcome from those entering 3rd grade through graduating seniors. Information, registration and payment are available at www.lakeviewmcc.org.

rightnow MEDIA

Right Now Media

Don't forget about the amazing offer of rightnow media offered through the church. Text RMUMC to 49775 for an invitation to set up your account, or contact the church office to request help.

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Rev. David Cartwright, Pastor

John Ross, Minister of Music

Theresa Turner, Ladies Hand Bells Director

Jackie Cockerham, Financial Administrator

Nancy McDonald, Office Administrator

Fritz Gilbreth, Organist

Kelli Huff, K6 Kids Coordinator

Jerry Don Huff, Youth Director

Join us Sunday Morning!

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday

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201 S. Fourth Street

P. O. Box 335

Wills Point, TX 75169

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED