

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial United Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



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June 1, 2022

Country Clubs and Mission Outposts

“When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.” (Luke 9:1-2)

In his episcopal address to open this year’s annual conference session, Bishop Scott Jones spoke briefly about the contrast between what a local church is intended to be and what a local church often becomes. The images he used were of mission outposts and country clubs. Realizing the natural tendency to drift from the former to the latter, it may be a healthy practice to consider which our congregation most resembles.

Though I have never been a member of a country club, I think the concept seems pretty uncomplicated: you pay your membership dues, which then allows you to enjoy the services and opportunities provided by the club. Sure, some members may be called to step up and actually work by serving on a board of directors or in other various ways, but this is not necessarily a requirement. In general, country club membership boils down to pay, consume and enjoy.

In contrast, a mission outpost is a base established so that a person or organization can pursue the purpose of their existence in a distant location. Though the mission may be initiated from far away, the outpost provides a way for the mission to be carried out regularly and effectively. It is an extension of the “home office,” so to speak. The United States has military bases throughout the world. Governments have embassies in foreign countries. Explorers establish base camps and scientists build research stations. All of these illustrate the concept of a mission outpost. We “set up shop” wherever the work needs to be done.

Don't get me wrong; there is nothing wrong with country club membership. My point (as was Bishop Jones’ point) is that the local church was designed to function like a mission outpost. Observing Jesus’ ministry as described in the gospel accounts, or the ministry of the apostles in Acts, it is difficult to picture their life bearing much resemblance to country club membership. Whether during his earthly life or after his resurrection, Jesus understood himself to be on a mission. He also


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compelled his disciples to live with a mission mindset. How we see our life together in the local church affects the mentality we adopt. If we see our life together like a country club, the mindset we will likely develop is one of *rights*. We've made the investment, and now we have a right to the benefits. On the other hand, if we see our life together like being sent to a mission outpost, the mindset we develop will be one of *responsibilities*. We have agreed to take the mantle of the one who called us, and we now live as servants of the given mission.

Jesus established a regional ministry out of Peter and Andrew's home (Mark 1:29-34). It was a mission outpost, not a country club. Lydia offered her home in Philippi to the ministry of Paul, Silas and Timothy, another example of a mission outpost. In these and other instances we could say that the Kingdom of God added another outreach station, a place established to serve the purpose of the Gospel. Our local churches are meant to be the very same thing. The local church isn't established for the benefits of members. It is established for the work of Jesus Christ in a local community. For those of us who have been in church for a long, long time, that is a truth we know very well, yet forget very easily. Let us not forget, my friends, that we are on a mission. Our comfortable facility on South Fourth Street is not our country club. It is our mission outpost.

Pastor Dave



5TH ANNUAL 5K
TIGER
SUPPLY RUN
20 **BENEFITING THE WPISD BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAIR** 22

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 open at <http://www.TigerSupplyRun.com>. Not a runner? No problem! You can help by donating water, Gatorade, money 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.

Celebrating Our 2022 Graduates

A huge congratulations to our 2022 graduates! Graduating from Wills Point High School, Angelina Fields, Gracye Malone, and Clair Huff. Angelina will be attending University of Kansas next year to study Engineering. Gracye is going to East Texas Baptist where she will play tennis and study Nursing. Clair will attend Hawaii Pacific University where she will study Nursing.

We would also like to congratulate Sarah Cartwright. She graduated Southern Methodist University with her Masters of Education degree in Higher Education. We are so proud of you all.



Calendar of Events for June

Dates to Remember for June



Sunday, June 5, 11:15 a.m. Administrative Council Meeting
 Saturday, June 11, 8:00 a.m. Tiger Supply Run
 Monday, June 13, 5:00 p.m. Day School Meeting
 Saturday, June 25, 9:00 a.m. Vision Retreat #3

Happy Birthday!

Rene Cartwright	6-4
Shari Smith	6-4
Beau Poteet	6-7
Frosty Tunnell	6-9
Mary Keller	6-10
James Brown	6-11
Vera Lofland	6-12
Johanna Cartwright	6-13
Martha Todd	6-15

Amy Goodson	6-22
Riley Moore	6-22
Katie McDonald	6-25



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

	<u>May 1</u>	<u>May 8</u>	<u>May 15</u>	<u>May 22</u>	<u>May 29</u>
Worship	88	108	97	103	
Giving	\$6,429.00	\$6,287.00	\$6,125.00	\$3,305.00	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:15pm Choir Practice	2	3	4
<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> WPISD in Deen Building </div>						
5 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Admin Council Meeting	6	7	8 7:15pm Choir Practice	9	10	11 8:00am Tiger Supply Run 10:00 am Safety Team
12 8:00 am UMM Meeting 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	13 5:00pm Day School	14	15 7:15pm Choir Practice	16	17	18 9:00 am Crafting with Christ (in George Hall)
19 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	20	21	22 7:15pm Choir Practice	23	24	25 9:00am Vision Retreat #3
26 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	27	28	29 7:15pm Choir Practice	30		



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.



Welcome New Members

Please join us in welcoming our newest members. Garry & Diane Thompson, 10614 Lago Vista Quinlan, TX 75474. Also, Nicole Mills has recently joined our church family. Her address is 2653 VZCR 3804 Wills Point, TX 75169. Be sure to let them all know how happy we are to have them as part of our family!

Recipe Correction from the RMUMC Cookbook



The Pecan Pie Mini Muffins from the UMW tea were made with a recipe from our own cookbook (given by Becky Hardy). The recipe has an error. The corrected recipe follows:

1 cup brown sugar	2/3 cup butter, melted
1/2 cup all purpose flour	2 eggs, beaten
1 cup chopped pecans	

In a bowl, combine brown sugar, flour and pecans; set aside. Combine butter and eggs, mix well. Stir into flour mixture just until moistened. Fill greased and floured, or paper lined miniature muffin pans 2/3 full. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until done. Remove immediately to cool on wire racks. Yield: about 2.5 dozen.

Remember in Prayer:

Family of Jackson Adams
Family of Harry E Liston
Family of Bobby Petillo
Family of Jack Golden
Family of Charlotte
Youngblood
Alice Kolb
Arthur Galope, Jr
Andy Anderson
Bernadette Kolb
Betty Manning
Billie Cade
Bobbi Smith
Carl Fulton
Chad Ash
Cheryl Bradley
Christy (Culpepper's
granddaughter)
Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living

Darin Richardson
Dianna Perry
Evan Mayone
Eric Johns
Eyal Family
Harrison Mayone
Henry Hallman
Hunter Haney
Isaac Bullard
Jan & Roger Moore
Jared McDonald
Jim Freeman
Jim & Sandra Smith
Joe Madden
Jim Buffington
Judith Hollister
Judy Powers
Kay & Benny Mitchell
Karl & Keeta Lybrand
Krisann Gunter Stegall
Laura Bates
Linda Greenwald

Lyn Haney
Mark Brown
Marigrace & Mike Lang
Margie Eyers
Mary Bullard
Maxine Page
Military
Paul Cain
Randy Scott
Roger Moore's brother
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

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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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED