

Volume 32 Issue 3
April 2013

nwh HAPPENINGS

SERMON SERIES:



MORE THAN EGGS

*March 31
Easter
Early April Fool!*

*April 7
Beyond the Grave
1 Corinthians 15:12-20*

*April 14
Eternal Life NOW
Romans 6:1-12*

*April 21
A New Creation
Romans 8:19-23*

*April 28
No Boundaries*

From The Way Youth...

The Way Youth Ministry's 30-hour famine is raising money for a new organization this year, but one that is familiar to many at Northwest Hills. The 30-Hour Famine will be April 19 and 20. The fast starts at 7 am on Friday and ends Saturday at 1 pm. The last two years, the funds raised went through Child Reach for 120 children at a school in Ecuador. Over those two years, the youth raised over \$6,000.



This year, we are raising money for Hannah's Hope, a residential care center in Peru. Many will remember that David Castillo led a group of church members on a trip to Peru in 2010. Some of our youth attended that trip and returned with great stories and experiences.

This year, the youth will again be looking for sponsors among friends, classmates and family. At church, we will conduct our fundraising a little differently. We will set up a small table in the foyer with youth stationed there between services. In addition, we will have youth who were a part of the Peru mission team visit Sunday school classes asking for monetary support of our 30-hour famine.

Also, the youth will be looking for projects that will help our church family and the community around them. If you, or someone you know, have a project or need, please email or call Chris Baxter (442-9790 or chrisb@nwhills.org).

(Hannah's Hope Facility)



Northwest Hills United Methodist Church

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From the pastor...

When you read this, Easter may be in your rearview mirror. As I write this, I'm looking forward to one of the biggest days of the church year. But even for you it's not really in the past. When I was in youth choir (so long ago we were accompanied by Neanderthals banging rocks on logs) we sang a song that said, "Every morning is Easter morning from now on." That's true. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive forever more! So the church says, "He is risen! He is risen indeed!" With that truth, with that objective reality, everything is changed.

When we stand at a graveside, missing a loved one, we grieve, but not as if we had no hope. (1Thessalonians 4:13) We miss them now, but we know we'll see them again if they and we are united in Christ. When we face our own death, we know it's not the end for us, that there are wonderful things waiting for us. When you find yourself put down, mocked, or rejected because of your faith and values, you know that Jesus wins it all in the end; he has, in fact, already won over the last enemy, and you already have a share in his victory. When facing tough obstacles in life, you remember that Jesus overcame the most formidable obstacle of all, and he will help you cope with the ones you face. When all seems lost, you have a reason to hope, because you know all things are possible with God. (Matthew 19:26) The resurrection means there are no boundaries for God, nothing too big, nothing too difficult for him to do. ALL things are possible with God! And for those who follow Jesus.

That means you! And me. And Northwest Hills as a congregation. It's time for us to dream about what God has in mind for us and our ministry. What does he want us to do and be? But don't just dream. Dream big. Dream HUGE. Dream outrageous dreams for the kingdom of God. Jim Collins, a business consultant/guru, says great leaders and great organizations pursue BHAGs: Big Hairy Audacious Goals. If we have a God who overcame the powers of sin and death, a Jesus who rose from the dead and is alive forevermore, and his Spirit dwelling in us, we can pursue God's BHAGs and fulfill them.

What might that look like? What if people in our community knew us not just as the Pumpkin Patch Church, but as a community of people who really love each other? Who actively serve their neighbors in love? A place where God seems real, present, and active? Where you'd better show up early if you want a good seat in worship? A church where everyone is plugged into a little group of friends who take care of each other in good times and in bad? A church where everyone rolls up their sleeves to do ministry in some way? Where pocketbooks readily open to meet needs? Where hearts and marriages are healed?

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Now we know all things are possible with God! Dream some BHAGs! And let's go get 'em!

See you dreamers on Sunday!



From the Lay Leader

Hi everyone! Can you feel the excitement at NW Hills? We are ready for a spiritual growth spurt! It seems to me that our members want to go deeper into God's word and they are hungry for opportunities to serve - not in colossal ways, but in ways that make a real difference in the community around our church. Remember Phillip's sermon in March? Service is a pure expression of love back to God, a natural response to Christ in our lives, in step with God's will and models true greatness. I also hear people talk about their own spiritual growth and "aha" moments during personal Bible study. This is where I have the best job in the church as Lay Leader. Would you please share with me what God is doing in your life? What "aha" moments have you had? What was a recent service activity? Part of my role is to have the pulse of our congregation. Another part is to help find resources for you. Do you have a small group that wants to meet, but is having trouble finding material? Please let me know and I'll do some research for you. I already have some small group materials to share. Need a personal devotional? I've got four copies of "Momentum: Ignite your faith in 25 days." I can order more! Please give me the opportunity to serve you.

Grace & Peace,
Todd Duke
Lay Leader
duketk@sbcglobal.net

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Sunday School is available for all ages at 9:45 and adults at 11:00 am. Discipleship Cafe will be hosting a Fellowship Sunday in May to introduce new adult classes that will be offered for the summer session. Please see the Sunday bulletin or May newsletter for more information. Toddlers are "Getting to know God" during their class time while the children ages 3 through 5 grade are "Living Inside Out." The Youth are in the second year of a seven year study where they will study the entire Bible. Please join us on Sunday Mornings!



Lynda Byrd
Chair

Prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness are stewardship behaviors. We often limit our perceptions of stewardship to our financial giving. And financial giving is a vital part of our stewardship as it is a tangible

example of how we live out our faith. Scripture tells us “for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Luke 12:34 NRSV). And yet, stewardship is so much more than our money. Christian stewardship is a lifestyle. It touches and defines how we care for our bodies with proper rest, food choices and intake, and exercise. Stewardship shapes our relationships, how we care for others and express our caring. Stewardship is an outward manifestation of our obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Consider this: If every church had all the money available to it, would that take care of the sick and homebound being visited; teachers for Sunday School; preparing Christmas Dinner for those who might be alone or without the resources for a Christmas meal; cleaning up after a disaster of fire, tornado, hurricane or earthquake; or building a ramp to create access for the physically disabled? Presence and service make immeasurable contributions in our lives. Consider a place in your environment where you can increase your stewardship gifts?

THE MISSION IS UNDERWAY!

A servant-hearted group of 19 adults will be headed to New Orleans, Louisiana this July for mission. The team is made up of 5 men and 14 women with varying degrees of mission specific experience. What is completely clear at this point is they all have a heart to serve and to share the love of Christ with those they will meet in New Orleans. This mission is still very much in the planning and preparation phase, but it is certain they will get to serve in a variety of ministry settings. Some of the possibilities include VBC type activities with neighborhood children, construction, homeless ministry, nursing home care and food pantry work. Please support our mission team with your prayers for preparation of team members and those they go to serve, that God would go before them and make the way clear. Pray for safety and that God would protect their time regarding preparation and time off work to participate. Pray that our team would grow close to each other and closer to Christ during this time and that all they do, they would do for Him, for His Glory! Thank you for your support!

Kelly Voorhies
Volunteer & Mission Coordinator



MEMBER CARE

The first quarter of 2013 has come & gone. We have sent out many cards & delivered many flowers to our members. We want to bring comfort & love to your day. When you received flowers, did you feel God’s love? You can make several people’s day by signing up to give flowers. They bring color and beauty to the Greeter table on Sunday morning and then are carried out to member families who have suffered a death or illness. You can wish someone a happy birthday, happy anniversary, remember someone who has blessed you! You can volunteer to deliver flowers. To see the joy on someone’s face when you walk in with flowers is amazing! Many thanks to all of you who have purchased flowers! There are spots still available on the Flower calendar which is located in the workroom in the Education building.

1 Kings 18:36 At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command."

Pray, care & share,
Karen Montgomery

VOICE RECOGNITION

I was preaching on the fourth Sunday of Easter, when many churches hear the gospel about Jesus as the Good Shepherd. I explained how Middle Eastern shepherds, of old and today, call their sheep from a commingled flock; across the hillside in various tones is heard: “Manah! Manah!” — Arabic for “Follow me!”

I imitated this call throughout my sermon, pointing out that Jesus also calls us in a distinct voice. Suddenly, from the back of the sanctuary, my 16-month-old son unexpectedly helped make my point. He answered my fourth or fifth “Manah!” with his own little “Manah!” and the congregation — and preacher — burst into laughter.

My son recognized his mommy’s voice from the pulpit, and I, without a doubt, knew the response came from *my* child, not another. Likewise, Jesus knows us individually. We learn his voice by listening to it daily, and there is true delight each time Shepherd and sheep come together.

—Heidi Mann





FROM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Natalie Long
Children's Minister

Nursery Spotlight

We are so fortunate to have the reliable, loving nursery staff that we do! Did you know that we have three nursery employees that come every Sunday morning and Wednesday night to care for the babies of NW Hills? Mimi Pickel, Joyce Heath and Renee

Dominguez have worked in the nursery a combined total of 42 years! WOW! They sure have given out a lot of love! Our nursery staff also works all of our special holidays like Good Friday, Easter and Christmas Eve and usually miss out on Sunday services as well. I say we have a lot to be thankful for! If you have a moment, stop by and acknowledge the dedication these ladies show to our church.



Mimi Joyce Renee

Fellowship Events

The children have been busy at play! Fellowship is so important for all of us but especially for kids. Positive Christian fellowship helps children feel loved, valued and that they have a place where they "fit in," not to mention it builds social skills and they are spending time with GOD himself! The kids are learning that where two or more are gathered in Jesus' name, He is right there with them- thank you, GOD!



The kids have not been lacking in the fellowship department. We had a great day fishing in late February. During Spring Break we had a craft day in the fellowship hall where the kids made their own "Me Books", went bowling and went to see a movie! We will be going fishing again on April 20 and will be heading to play Laser Tag on April 27.

There will be more information on these events coming soon. Also, please mark your calendars for June 2 from 3-5 pm as we will be having our 2nd annual Splash-a-palooza where there will be large blow up slides! You won't want to miss it.



(Bowling)

MAD CAMP (Music, Art and Drama)

I am SO EXCITED for this year's MAD Camp! Last year was a blast and brought our kids (and adults!) some major blessings. Remember the Star of Wonder musical that our kids performed back in December? Well, the 7 children who went to MAD Camp at Mt. Wesley last year were the ones who helped us teach the entire musical to all of our kids who attend Wednesday nights. This year will be no different. The kids who attend this four day, three night camp at Mt. Wesley in Kerrville, TX, will have a blast learning a new Christmas musical called Camel Lot. They will eat wonderful home cooked food, have nice cabins to sleep in, wonderful fellowship with other Christian children all over the state, fantastically fun rotations where they learn the songs by a wonderful music teacher, learn the choreography by yours truly and make all the props for the show! The kids will also get to be a part of a talent show if they choose, swim daily and receive some devotional and worship time too. This camp is for all children entering 4th, 5th or 6th grades. More registration information will be available very soon. Please contact Natalie Long, Children's Minister, with any questions you may have.



(Craft Day)

NORTHWEST HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2013

First Full Year of Service

`86 Senior Pastor (pd staff) J. David Trawick

ADMIN

`12 Chairperson, Administrative Council Todd Duke
 `11 Recording Secretary and Parliamentarian Laura Mick
 `12 Lay Leader Todd Duke
 `10 Lay Delegate to Annual Conference Chuck Roach
 `10 Lay Delegate to Annual Conference Steve Smith
 `10 Lay Delegate to Annual Conference Diane Smith
 `10 Alternate Lay Delegate Susan Roach
 `13 Trustees Chairperson Joe Nelson
 `96 Treasurer John Dinsmore
 `03 Finance Committee Chairperson Bill Henry
 `01 Financial Assistant Debbie Winfrey
 `09 Financial Secretary (pd staff) Valerie Martin
 `06 Membership/Communications Sec (pd staff) Debi Duke
 `12 Pastor/Parish Rel. Committee Chairperson David Van Buskirk
 `11 Evangelism Chairperson Desiree Teele

WORSHIP

`12 Worship/Music Chairperson Keith Carr
 `05 Worship Minister (pd staff) Mike Turner

FELLOW

`13 Fellowship Chairperson
 `13 Membership Care Chairperson Karen Montgomery
 `12 Archives and History Representative Dale Kuehnhoff
 United Methodist Men's President George Hampton

DISCIPLE

`13 Discipleship Chairperson Chris Collins
 `12 Wednesday Night Coordinator Gerry Kimsey
 `12 Sunday School Superintendent Marleya Davis
 `11 Prayer Ministries Tim & Krista Boezinger
 `11 Library Cyndi Wheeler
 `12 Emmaus Coordinator Nina Semingson

SERVICE

`10 Volunteer & Mission Coordinator (pd staff) Kelly Voorhies
 `13 Local and Global Outreach James Voorhies
 `13 Stewardship Chairperson Lynda Byrd

WOMEN

`12 Women's Ministries Coordinator Kelly Hart

YOUTH

`08 Youth Minister (pd staff) Chris Baxter
 `11 Youth Member - Sr. High Michael Wisniewski

CHILDREN

`11 Children's Minister (pd staff) Natalie Long
 `04 Mothers' Day Out Director (pd staff) Jennifer Staver
 `08 Scouting Representative Melissa Crum

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Class of 2013	Class of 2014	Class of 2015
Steve Smith	Jeff Long	Lana Arrant
Scott Bellair	Vickie McLean	Donald Wearden
Mandi Brought	Linzey Bryant	Teri Hill

Also: Lay Leader, Pastor, and Volunteer Coordinator

COMMITTEE ON PASTOR/PARISH RELATIONS

Class of 2013	Class of 2014	Class of 2015
David Van Buskirk	Duane DePuy	Pam Dahlquist
Wes Burns	Nathan Clark	Marcelle Conte
Steve Smith	Cristina Tharin	Scott Bellair

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2013

Becky Johnson, Joe Nelson

Class of 2014

Karen Stamm, Andy Davis, Jeremiah Carnes

Class of 2015

Kathy Meyer, Joe Rudd, David Castillo

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Bill Henry (Chairperson), Todd Duke (Ad Council Ch), Valerie Martin (Fin Sec), Debbie Winfrey (Asst Fin Sec), John Dinsmore (Treas), Representative from Trustees, Lynda Byrd (Stewardship Ch), David Van Buskirk (PPRC Rep) Duane Spinelli, Darla Nelson, Jim Brown, Steve Novosad

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Class of 2013

Brett Knight

Rachelle Kight

Chair from Trustees -

Also includes representatives from the finance committee.

Class of 2014

Sherry Ross

Chuck Roach

These are the officers that will serve NW Hills for 2013. We still have some openings available. Is God calling you to step up and serve more? Some committees meet once a month, others are as needed. Please contact David Trawick or our Volunteer Coordinator, Kelly Voorhies if you would like to know more information about serving and where God is calling you.



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER!

"Like" us on Facebook at Northwest Hills UMC or follow us on Twitter at NW Hills UMC.

You can also follow other NWH ministries on Facebook:

SOAR Northwest Hills UMC Children's Ministry

The Way Youth Ministry NW Hills UMC and NW Hills UMC Mother's Day Out

Monthly Events

Next Class 101, Sunday, April 21

3:00 to 6:00 pm

What it means to be a Christian

What it means to be a United Methodist

What it means to be a member of Northwest Hills UMC



This class is for anyone wanting to find out more about becoming a Christian, about the United Methodist Church, and about being a member of Northwest Hills Church. Class 101 is required before becoming a member of Northwest Hills. Class is led by Pastor David Trawick.

There is a sign up sheet at the Connection Center if you wish to attend the next class or call the church office at 681-3751 to reserve a place.

LADIES OF LEISURE

Every Friday, 11:30 am

The ladies meet each week at a different restaurant just for fun. If you would like to be included in the fun or would like more information, contact May Lang at (210) 679-5774 or email maylang@sbcglobal.net.

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 13, 8:00 am

Meet at the church and then drive to Denny's on 410 off Ingram Road. Contact George Hampton at 372-0969.

TEXAS RAMP PROJECT

Building Freedom for the Homebound

Saturday, April 20, 7:00 am. Meet at the church.

If you like working with power tools and get satisfaction in doing a job that betters another person's life, this is for you! Sign up at the Connection Center. For more information contact Ron Gloyd at (210) 673-3796.

PRIME TIME POTLUCK LUNCH

Monday, April 22, 11:30 am

Anyone age 60 and older is invited to attend. Bring a yummy dish to share and stay for a fun activity.



For those who enjoy using their smart phones and tablets as their Bible, WiFi is now available on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings.

The Mystery of Montley's Manor Dinner Theatre

Well it appears good old Montley was murdered...or was he? Join us **Saturday, June 9, at 12:00 or 6:00 pm** for *The Mystery of Montley's Manor*, a mystery dinner theater performed by the NW Hills Youth Choir. The lunch and evening performance will be full of unpredictable fun as the cast, made up of participants in our youth choir, portray the zany and hilarious characters in Montley's world. Things aren't always as they appear as the bickering money-grubbing relatives and eccentric butler, klutzy maid, drill sergeant cook, oh-so-snobby sister and gold-digging ex-wife try to uncover the Mystery of Montley's Manor.

You are invited to be our guest for dinner, the show, and to help solve the mystery by asking your own "whodunit" questions. Tickets will be available in May, so start making your plans now!

CHECK IN AT THE OFFICE

We have a Mother's Day Out program that is in session Tuesday through Thursday from 9 am-2 pm. They use the whole facility with about 120 kids enrolled in the program. Because it is a licensed program, we ask that you check in at the church office when you come up to do volunteer work at the church. We cannot allow people walking through the facility while MDO is in session. If possible, please try to plan your visit after MDO is over or on Monday or Friday. Thanks!



David's sermons are now available on iTunes for free to download. Go to Northwest Hills UMC for a listing of sermons.

APRIL

7:00 pm Troop 228 Panther Patrol *Tuesday, April 2*

6:30 pm Girl Scout Leader Meeting *Thursday, April 4*

8:30 am TOPS Recognition Program *Saturday, April 6*

6:30 pm Troop 228 Committee Meeting *Sunday, April 7*

7:00 pm Troop 228 Venture Crew
7:00 pm Troop 228 Panther Patrol *Tuesday, April 9*

6:30 pm Eagle Board of Review *Thursday, April 11*

8:00 am United Methodist Men's Breakfast *Saturday, April 13*

6:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting *Sunday, April 14*

7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting *Monday, April 15*

7:00 pm Troop 228 Venture Crew *Tuesday, April 16*

7:00 am The Way Youth 30 Hour Famine *Friday, April 19*

7:00 am Texas Ramp Project
1:00 pm The Way Youth 30 Hour Famine Ends *Saturday, April 20*

3:00 pm Class 101 *Sunday, April 21*

11:30 am Prime Time Potluck Lunch
6:00 pm Girl Scout Meeting
7:00 pm Leader Training *Monday, April 22*

7:00 pm Troop 228 Patrol Leader Council *Sunday, April 28*

9:00 am Mother's Day Out Staff Meeting *Monday, April 29*



WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday:
12:00 pm AA
3:00 pm Youth Choir
5:00 pm Youth Group
6:30 pm Church Prayer Group
7:00 pm AA Women

Monday:
11:00 am Home School Group
12:00 pm AA
1:00 pm Needle crafters
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 228
7:00 pm AA

Tuesday:
9:00 am Mother's Day Out
5:15 pm Worship Band Practice
7:00 pm AA
7:30 pm Adult Choir Practice
8:15 pm AA Spanish

Wednesday:
9:00 am Mother's Day Out
5:30 pm Snack Supper
6:30 pm Wednesday Night Activities
7:00 pm Hand bells
8:00 pm NA 12-Step Program

Thursday:
9:00 am Mother's Day Out
7:00 pm AA
8:15 pm AA Spanish

Friday:
11:30 am Ladies of Leisure Lunch
12:00 pm AA
7:00 pm AA

Saturday:
9:00 am AA
10:00 am TOPS Weight Loss
7:00 pm AA Spanish

Special Date

- Administrative Professionals Day, April 24



