

MARCH

HAPPENINGS

Northwest Hills United Methodist Church

7575 Tezel Road • San Antonio TX 78250 • 210.681.3751 • www.nwhills.org

Volume 32

Issue 3

March 2013

From the pastor...

March is already upon us, and we're starting to think about spring (Did we have any winter this year?), planting gardens, and Easter. But before we get to Easter (March 31), we have to go through the season of Lent. No, not the fuzzy stuff in your pocket and belly button. That's lint. This is LENT. This is preparation for Easter, a period of self-examination, recognizing that we sin and fall short of God's intentions for our lives. A significant part of our shortfall is that we are not recognizing our need for Christ, and so we try to do life on our own. Even as believers we sometimes don't understand the difference Christ makes in our lives. So during this Lent we're focusing on the difference he does make. (Check out the sermon schedule, and see if there's one that addresses the need of a friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member... or maybe yourself) The hope is that we'll all come away with a greater appreciation for what Christ has done for us, more awareness of what he's doing in our lives right now, and a better ability to articulate the good news for others.

Speaking of "others," it's time to think and pray about who you could invite to Easter worship (and before and after Easter). The people you know may be mostly nice people, but are they Christians? Oh, they might say they're Baptist, Presbyterian, or whatever. But are they living a daily relationship with Christ? And do they regularly participate in a church? Think through your neighbors, house by house. Your friends. Your coworkers. Maybe there's a member of your own family who might come in response to an invitation. Maybe you are a member who has not participated in worship for some time. Consider this YOUR invitation! This is the easiest time to start fresh, because there will be lots of new faces, not just yours. This is the single best time for a fresh start, since we'll be celebrating the ULTIMATE fresh start, the resurrection of Jesus!

Start praying about those invitations. And a couple of weeks before Easter, make the BIG ASK! And if they wonder what difference it makes, tell them about the difference Jesus makes in your life.

See you Sunday!



SERMON SERIES:

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

*March 3
Hope for Life*

*March 10
A Serving Life*

*March 17
Help for Life*

*March 24
Palm/Passion
Sunday
Joy in Life*

*March 28
Holy Thursday
Life of Belonging*

*March 29
Good Friday
Painful Life*

MORE THAN EGGS

*March 31
Easter
Early April Fool!*



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Natalie Long, Children's Minister

Prayer Group

Did you know that children at Northwest Hills are carving time out every Sunday for a prayer group? They are actually leaving their play time to go pray. It has been rewarding to see them become excited to pray for others. We have been praying for the children in Kenya that we've been supporting, our church congregation, leaders in our church, the unsaved and needy and for each other. Our children have decided that they would like to pray for Sunday school classes, so we are making a schedule and will be coming around to see you and pray for you in your Sunday school class. Be on the lookout for more information about this wonderful service the children are providing!

Park Play Date

Spring is coming so it's time to go play in the sun...well, almost! Kids of all ages are invited to meet at O.P. Schnabel Playground on March 9 from 3-5 pm. We'll provide water, cookies and entertainment by Sunshine, Ms. Natalie's famous yellow Labrador! RSVP is not needed for this event. If you have any questions, please call Natalie Long at 317-6787.

What is SOAR Sunday?

We celebrate SOAR Sunday the first week of the curriculum unit that we study in Sunday school.

What do we do differently on SOAR Sunday?

- We have our own SOAR band come and play worship music for us during Sunday school!
- We can all celebrate our learning by wearing our SOAR t-shirts. They are 7 dollars and are always on sale on SOAR Sunday.
- Our Bible Buck store is open! Bring your Bible Bucks!

How do the children earn Bible Bucks?

Teachers give Bible Bucks out at their discretion when they see kids doing something that is above and beyond expectations. They often give Bible Bucks to kids when they see them being kind to others, helping someone, when they observe children exceptionally engaged in a lesson, etc. Preschoolers may have more opportunity to earn Bible bucks as they tend to transition between activities more frequently. Children also receive Bible Bucks for bringing their Bible to church with them. They are encouraged to read along in their Bibles when appropriate. We are trying to instill this habit in them as young children. Kindergarteners-4th graders receive attendance awards for attending Sunday school 6/8 times.

Donations Needed

We can always use donations for the Bible Buck store. We can take items such as inexpensive toys, markers, crayons, journals, play jewelry, inexpensive sporting gear, Christian memorabilia, books, etc. Please contact Natalie Long at 681-3781 or by emailing her at Natalie@nwhills.org if you have a donation.

SAVE THE DATES

- Fishing Trip- April 20, 9:00-1:00
- Laser Tag- The children and youth group will be having a combined event at Lazer Legend on April 27 from 6:00-9:00 pm
- MAD Camp- Music, Art and Drama Camp for kids entering 4th, 5th and 6th grades. July 24-27

Kids Discover How to Stand Strong for God at Kingdom Rock VBC this Summer!

Kingdom Rock is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Sciency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the royally rockin' activities that help faith flow into real life. We need your help to make it happen this June 17-21! For more information, contact Cristina Tharin at cristina.tharin@gmail.com.

UNITED METHODIST MEN SPRING 2013 MEN'S ACTIVITY

Mission - Inspiration - Fun
March 14-17, Mt. Wesley, Kerrville

Lots of activities are planned for the week-end!

MISSION on Thursday, we will be setting disk golf traps at Mount Wesley.

Arrive at 10 am. You will get free lunch, dinner and a room for Thursday night.

INSPIRATION

Guest speakers, times for singing and worship.

FUN & GAMES on Friday afternoon.

Golf starting at 1 pm (bring your golf clubs)

Road Rally through the beautiful hill country. All types of cars are welcome.

Learn guitar. This is for those who do not play a note. If you have an instrument bring it; otherwise we will try to find one for you to learn with.

Saturday Night fun - Laser Tag or just kick back and relax

Registration deadline is March 1
Cost for the full weekend—\$140

We need your help! The Library is missing several items. Please check your favorite reading corner, bookshelves, underneath things to see if one of these items may have been placed there.



Books:

Emotions: Can you trust them by James C. Dobson

God's Gift of Touch by Kathryn Lutz

Discipline without shouting or spanking by Jerry Wyckoff

Taking the Guesswork Out of Applying by Jack Kuhatschek

31 Days Toward Passionate Faith by Joni Eareckson Tada

The Story of Jonah by Alice Jo Davidson

I Was So Mad by Mercer Mayer

Dr. Seuss's ABC by Dr. Seuss

30 Ways To Dump A Sister by Adele Bloss

DVDs:

Travel the Road by Michael Scott

2 VHS's checked out... V-ROA and V-FLY

Audio:

Captivating by Stasi Eldredge

Crazy Love by Francis Chan

There are still a few days in our Lenten journey. Check out the items in the Lent section. If you are looking for something, and unable to find it, please ask one of our staff. We are here to help you!



**Lynda Byrd
Chair**

In addition to beautiful songs, affirmations of faith, and prayers of confession, assurance and pardon, the *United Methodist Hymnal* contains a section titled "General Services." This section includes the Sacrament of Communion liturgy that we participate in on the first Sunday of the month, and at other special services throughout the year. Another section is the "Baptismal Covenant." Part of this section includes the *'Reception into The United Methodist Church.' This is used for all new members, whether first time members receiving the rites of baptism, or persons transferring from another United Methodist Church or another denomination.

Reception into The United Methodist Church includes four areas of commitment: prayers, presence, gifts, and service. By action of the 2008 General Conference, a fifth area of commitment was added: witness. Core commitments asked of each person seeking membership in The United Methodist Church consist of these five stewardship promises to uphold the church with 'your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness'. Each of these actions embraces Christian stewardship.

Consider this: Which of the five stewardship commitments is easiest for you to embrace and which is the most difficult? Identify one action that you can begin immediately that will enhance your fulfillment of both.

*The United Methodist Hymnal, 1989, p. 47.

THE PRAYER PATH: A CHRIST-CENTERED LABYRINTH EXPERIENCE

Saturday, March 23
8:00 am - 8:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

Have you considered enriching your relationship with God as we travel through this Lenten season? Have you slowed down long enough to spend time with God and appreciate all He has given us? Then make a plan to give God an hour of your day and experience our Prayer Labyrinth. It will be setup and run from 8am until 8 pm Saturday March 23 (the Saturday before Palm Sunday).

Can you imagine a better way to start Holy Week than to spend an hour in God's presence? Because space is limited you must reserve a time to be a part of this journey. Sign up will be available at the Connection Center.

What Is A Labyrinth?

The labyrinth is one of the oldest contemplative and transformational tools known to humankind, having been used for centuries for prayer, ritual, and spiritual growth.

Our participants will "journey" through the labyrinth guided by a CD that soars with devotional narration set against a worshipful music backdrop. Eleven stations on the journey will guide us to "let go" of busyness, hurt, and distractions that can spoil relationships. We will be lead to "center" our lives on God and spend time with him, and then reach out to the world with Christ's love.



Monthly Events

Next Class 101, Sunday, March 17

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, March 9, 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, March 16, 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, March 25, 11:30 am

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



SET YOUR CLOCKS
Ahead!

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME STARTS SUNDAY,
MARCH 10 - DON'T FOR-
GET TO SET YOUR
CLOCK AHEAD 1 HOUR
SATURDAY NIGHT!**

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 24

Palm/Passion Sunday

8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 am

Thursday, March 28

Holy Thursday Service with special children's service for ages 3 yrs-5th grade

7:00 pm

Friday, March 29

Good Friday Service with special children's service for ages 3 yrs-2nd grade.

7:00 pm

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

6:30 am, Sunrise Service

8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 am

*Nursery care is provided at all services for Holy Week & Sundays except the 6:30 am service.

THANK YOU!

Sometime after Christmas, an anonymous gift giver left very generous gift cards for each staff member. We don't know who or why. God knows, but he's not telling. But we're all very grateful. Thank you very much!

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank those who assisted in the painting and cleaning of the classrooms. We would also like to thank those of you who assisted in hanging all the new televisions. Thank you to the Sunday School class who donated televisions and a DVD player. And a special thank you to the private donor who donated the other televisions and the wall brackets, without you we would not be able to have all the new wonderful televisions.

Your Sisters in Christ,
Marleyna Davis and Rachelle Kight
Sunday School Coordinators

MARCH

Saturday, March 2

2:00 pm Matthew Willmann Eagle Court of Honor

Sunday, March 3

12:30 pm Amy Jorgensen Mission Talk

Monday, March 4

10:00 am Mom's Club

Tuesday, March 5

7:00 pm Troop 228 Panther Patrol

Thursday, March 7

6:30 pm Girl Scout Leader Meeting

Saturday, March 9

8:00 am United Methodist Men's Breakfast

10:00 am Northwest Park HOA Meeting

Sunday, March 10

6:30 pm Board of Trustees

NISD Spring Break, March 11-15

Thursday, March 14

6:30 pm Eagle Board of Review

Friday, March 15

The Way Youth Mystery Trip

Saturday, March 16

7:00 am Texas Ramp Project

The Way Youth Mystery Trip returns

Sunday, March 17

3:00 pm Class 101

Tuesday, March 19

7:00 pm Troop 228 Venture Crew

Saturday, March 23

The Way Youth Service Day

8:00 am Prayer Labyrinth

Sunday, March 24 - Palm/Passion Sunday

Monday, March 25

9:00 am Mother's Day Out Staff Meeting

11:00 am Mother's Day Out Board Meeting

11:30 am Prime Time Potluck Lunch

7:00 pm Administrative Council

Thursday, March 28 - Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Worship Service

Friday, March 29 - Good Friday

7:00 pm Worship Service

Saturday, March 30

9:00 am Youth Sunrise Practice

Sunday, March 31 - EASTER!

7:00 pm Troop 228 Patrol Leader Council

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 DATES

- World Day of Prayer, *March 1*
- Third Sunday in Lent, *March 3*
- Fourth Sunday in Lent, *March 10*
- Daylight-Saving Time begins, *March 10*
- Girl Scout Sunday, *March 10*
- Fifth Sunday in Lent, *March 17*
- First Day of Spring, *March 20*
- Palm Sunday, *March 24*
- Maundy/Holy Thursday, *March 28*
- Good Friday, *March 29*
- Holy Saturday, *March 30*
- Easter Sunday, *March 31*

HOSANNA BANNER

Offer Jesus our King praises by making this banner for Palm Sunday.

What you need:

- 6 sheets of green construction paper (8" x 11")
- Pencil
- Scissors
- 7 sheets of pastel-colored paper
- Rubber cement or glue
- 7 sheets of white card-stock (8" x 8")
- Hole punch
- Thin ribbon



What you do:

1. Fold the stack of green paper in half. Draw a palm branch on one of the folded sides and cut out all 12 branches.
2. On the pastel-colored paper, draw and cut out block letters to spell the word *Hosanna* – one letter per sheet. Then glue each letter onto a sheet of white paper.
3. Punch one hole in the top of each palm branch and two holes in each letter square (top left and top right corners).
4. Thread the ribbon through a palm branch, letter, palm branch, letter, etc. Tie a knot after each hole to keep the pieces from sliding.



When Jesus entered Jerusalem, a large crowd cheered for him. Complete this puzzle to discover what they used (also see John 12:13).

Directions: In the number grid below, draw lines by starting with the first number in each list and stopping at the last.

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 122-112-116-102-112 | 92-97-82-92 | 42-19-52-18-62-17-72 |
| 112-68-102 | 92-37-82 | 82-27-72-87-82 |
| 102-107-92-102 | 22-42-44-32-9-42 | 82-42 |
| 102-47-92 | 42-55-52-66-62-77-72 | |

•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
<i>Start</i> 	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132