

THE VOICE

May 9, 2017



Seniors L-R: Grace Stark (Spring Hill), Michael Hanson (Longview), Will Harris (Pine Tree), Payton Long (Spring Hill), Maggie Hanley (Longview Christian), Meagan Everett (Spring Hill), Anna Callender (Pine Tree) and Taylor Morgan (Pine Tree)

Congratulations Seniors CLASS OF 2017

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS OF 2017

Our graduating seniors were celebrated at the 10:50 a.m. Traditional service on April 30. Several of the students participated in the service and gave witness to their faith growth at FUMC. In addition, special offertory music was performed by students of the Youth Ministry and two of their College student leaders, Jake Hall and Victoria Gannon. After the service, the seniors and families were served lunch and enjoyed sharing stories and photos of the students' middle school and high school church life.



The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church of Longview
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Church News

LIVING THE RESURRECTION, WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

"Living the Resurrection" by Eugene Peterson facilitated by Roy James and Steve Jones from 6:15–7:15 p.m., Wednesdays, April 19–May 10 in the Heritage Room

Christ's friends were utterly transformed by His resurrection. Their friendship, their work, and even their meals together took on a new meaning and purpose. The same can happen to us today. Eugene Peterson, beloved pastor, scholar, and translator of *The Message*, takes you back to Jesus' time so you can experience the Resurrection through the eyes of biblical witnesses. You'll be a participant in the story, so its meaning and wonder can enliven your soul as never before.

TORNADO RELIEF IN CANTON

Canton, TX and the surrounding area were hit very hard by a string of tornados last week. County officials have now opened the county for volunteer teams. The work on this call out will involve tree and debris removal, roof tarping, and assisting homeowners sort through what remains. During site assessments west of Canton, very few homes with minor to moderate damage. Homes were either spared or completely destroyed. Reports from TAC Disaster Ministries personnel in other nearby communities indicate there are some outlying homes with repairable damage.

There is a need for chainsaw crews and clean up crews. Teams interested in assisting can contact Rev. Alan Van Hooser, TAC Chair of Disaster Ministries, at (254) 203-4868. He is the on-site coordinator for this event. If you are coming from an area within driving distance of Canton, you may consider 1-day trip, returning home at night. If you are coming from outside driving distance there will be housing and showers available at FUMC Canton. Rev. Van Hooser can help you make those arrangements.

The Mission Center in Conroe has already responded with UMCOR Cleaning Kits and tarps from the existing inventory. At this time there is not a need for additional kits. As with any disaster, financial donations may be made to UMCOR US Disaster Response, Advance #901670. 100% of these funds go to assistance for disaster survivors.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER, MAY 10

Meatloaf, Roasted Potatoes, Lima Beans, Salad Bar, and Assorted Desserts

RSVP by emailing Sarah Mays, Event Director, at smays@longviewfumc.org or call at (903) 753-4463. If you have any food preferences such as gluten free, vegetarian, vegan, or sugar free, please let Sarah know.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDIES

JULY 12–AUGUST 9

Mom to Mom

Wednesdays from 4–5 p.m.

In the Heritage Room

"Trusting in Christ (Jesus Calling Bible Studies)"

Wednesday Night Dinner

Wednesdays from 5–6 p.m.

In the Fellowship Hall

Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays from 6–7 p.m.

In the Heritage Room

"Trusting in Christ (Jesus Calling Bible Studies)"

'MARY POPPINS' COMING TO MAY 11 PIONEERS

Join us for a delightful program of selections from Christian Heritage School's spring musical "Mary Poppins" featuring some very talented students under the direction of Beth Sheffield. Pioneers meets 11 a.m. Thursday, May 11, in the Faith Center. Chef Debbie will be preparing a delicious meal: Beef Taco Salad, Spanish Rice, Chips, Salsa and Churros for dessert. Cost is \$5.

Those with May birthdays will be recognized and receive a birthday cake compliments of United Methodist Women. Bring a friend! Invite your neighbors! Pioneers welcomes anyone, especially those who are retired or of retirement age. Please call the church office (903) 753-4463 to make a reservation for lunch.

SENIOR ADULT TRIP

The senior adults will be hosting a trip to Josephine Davidson Chapel on Saturday, May 20. The van leaves from North Parking Lot at 10 a.m. We hope you plan to attend.

Click here to RSVP for
WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

BEYOND THE BROKEN HEART GRIEF CLASS

Tuesdays from 4–5 p.m., May 9–June 6, in the Heritage Room

We grieve because we love. How does the heart understand grief when it is broken by the death of a loved one? To survive and live forward, those who grieve must find answers. As we grieve, slowly we understand that grief is not a crisis of faith—it is a crisis of the heart. Here you will find comfort, guidance, and spiritual support on your journey through grief. The hope is that these resources will lead you toward renewed hope and fullness of life as you emerge at last from the darkness of grief into the light of new life, your soul restored through the steadfast love and faithfulness of God. Please register in the church office. For more information, please contact Mary Collier at (903) 753-4463.

UMW TO HOST GRADUATION SHOWER FOR TWINS IN FOSTER CARE, MAY 21

The United Methodist Women will be hosting a graduation shower from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, May 21, in the Cook Foyer in honor of Ladarius and Ladarian, twin foster care seniors who plan to attend college in the fall. Both are heading to Tyler Junior College and majoring in nursing. Please join us as we congratulate these hard-working young men on a job well done and help provide items they will need as they begin to live on their own in college.

Both are registered at Target under College Registry: “Ladarius UMW” <http://www.target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=9f0338fe55d74734afad52f18bc8fdae>

“Ladarian UMW” <http://www.target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=e2450c4c27b4402c9e1838cd619b9eac#1>

Gift cards to Best Buy, Walmart, etc., are also welcome. Gifts may be brought to the shower or delivered to the church office. Shopping assistance is also available. Checks may be made out to “UMW” and delivered to the church office. UMW members will purchase and wrap gifts and include a card for you.

For more information, please contact Patty McLeroy at (903) 452-4307.

“LAITY LISTENING SESSIONS”

Four informal meetings with District Superintendent Chuck Huffman and the members of our local churches have been set up to offer open discussion on any topic, sharing of thoughts and ideas, questions or concerns. Rev. Huffman will lead the conversation and answer your questions. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. The meetings will be held in each of the four quadrants of the district. The meetings will begin at 6 p.m. on the following dates and locations in our district. We hope you will make plans to attend.

May 15—Marshall First UMC
May 18—Hardy Memorial UMC

May 16—Pittsburg First UMC
May 22—Greggton UMC

BACH'S LUNCH ORGAN RECITAL ON MAY 12

Our organist, Jay Callender, will be the featured artist in a recital at Trinity Episcopal Church, 906 Padon Street, on Friday, May 12, as part of the Longview Symphony Bach's Lunch recital series. The recital begins at 12:20 p.m. and should conclude by 1 p.m. The church dining hall will open at 11:45 a.m. for those who might want to bring a lunch. Please make plans to attend.

SFLC LIMITED OPENINGS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

SFLC has limited openings available for Summer, as well as, Fall 2017–Spring 2018.

Please call the School Office at (903) 753-3121, or email Dallas Lemmon at dallas@longviewsflc.org if you have any questions.

OUR STEWARDSHIP AS OF 3/31/2017

Dollars Changing Lives/Saving Lives For the Month of March

Income	\$140,159
Expense	\$157,742

Mar YTD	Budget	Actual
Income	\$531,550	\$510,650
Expenses	\$530,970	\$456,552
Variance	\$580	\$54,098

Other Gifts March YTD—2017

Dollars for Missions	\$1,174
Society of St. Stephen	\$2,955

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The church library book sale will be Saturday, September 9, and Sunday, September 10. If you would like to donate books (any except encyclopedias), DVDs, or CDs for the sale, please take them to the church library workroom (located near the church office) at any time. We are already sorting and pricing books for the sale.

WOMEN, LADIES & GIRLS

Come join our newly established Emmaus Reunion Group.

This is a time of bi-weekly reflection of our daily lives. Helping us to remember where we were successful in our faith walk and reminding us of where we could do more on our faith walk. We have established a time and place for these Reunion meetings. We will meet every second and fourth Thursday of every month, at 5:30 p.m. in the Parlor. You are Welcome anytime you can make it! We can't wait to see you.

Children and Youth News

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

FUMC PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY HEALTHCORE

FUMC Student Youth Ministry is partnering with Community Healthcore to offer two important classes for youth workers, adult volunteers in youth and children ministries, clubs or schools, as well as for parents. The mental health first aid training is certified and is much like taking a CPR course for certification. All classes will be led by certified trainers and counselors from Community Healthcore. As our children and teens face many challenges in the world, it is important for us to be ready to aid them in mental health as well as spiritual and physical health.

Building A Stronger Connection will train leaders and volunteers how to interact, teach, play, and help students in a positive way for each student to thrive in the body of Christ. God has made each of us His precious creation. In doing so, we respond, interact, and verbalize in many different ways. Our goal is to provide each student a place to prosper and grow in Jesus Christ and learn their identity in God's world that is productive, positive and enriching.

Any questions, please call Janice at (903) 753-4463 or by email at jcrane@longviewfumc.org. This is open to all churches, groups and individuals interested. Being better trained, better educated, and better informed make us the best leaders for our younger generations.

DEADLINE, DEADLINE, DEADLINE APPROACHING!!

Our middle school mission, Big House, has a few spots left if you are planning on going we need you to "pester" mom or dad to get your form and payment into Janice, fearless leader of middle school missions. We have great plans for work, worship, and fun (Janice is in charge of the FUN!!) Forms are available in the church office or youth room. Cost is \$135 by May 15; \$160 after May 15-May 30

MYSTERY RAMBLE IS JUNE 3-5!!!

Wanting an exciting time and some great devo led by our high school leaders? You need to sign up NOW! You can't make us tell you the secret first. You just have to sign up. Registration is \$100; forms are in the church office. Parent questions may be referred to Janice, youth director, at jcrane@longviewfumc.org. Scholarships are available.

SUMMER SLAM!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

SummerSlam!, June 18-21, is a district wide pre-teen mission open to kids entering the 4th-6th grade in the fall. They will overnight at Longview FUMC and spend the days in mission projects around town. Registration is open now at <https://goo.gl/forms/xljO7dXa0mt7q1Rz1>. Because it is a multi-church event, registration must be completed through this website if your child is planning to attend SummerSlam! Scholarships are available. Contact Nathan Firmin at nfirmin@longviewfumc.org

VBS, REGISTER TODAY!

VBS will be June 26-30 from 9-11:30 a.m. VBS is open to all children ages 4 years as of September 1, 2016 through those entering 6th grade in the fall of 2017. You can register online now through June 22 at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd5Y_VL9qA8gfe1MAFNNnH0HhMwPKIoEig-q9riSQ0V82k-Mw/viewform?c=0&w=1. Registration is online only. Please contact Rachel Geist at (903) 753-4463 if you have any questions.

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VBS is still seeking 12 shepherds to accompany children between activity stations from 8:45 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Duties include welcoming children, checking roll, escorting children to activity stations every 20 minutes, signing children out at end of the day's session. Come for free snacks and meeting lots of new friends. To serve, please contact Nathan Firmin at nfirmin@longviewfumc.org or (903) 753-4463.