

February 1, 2007

Issue 2

## Sunday Worship

8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 am

9:30 Worship offers  
Holy Communion

Sunday School at 9:30  
for all ages

## Welcome new members!

**Emily Ekesa**

**Ashley Davis**

## Our Mission

- ✠ Serve as the hands and feet of Christ
- ✠ Reach out to the community in witness and mission
- ✠ Grow by embracing new members and new ministries
- ✠ Care for our church family and community
- ✠ Celebrate Christ's love through prayer, study and worship



## “Worship Matters”

Friends,

After many months of praying and discussing “Worship Matters” we have come to the time to announce changes in our Sunday morning. Beginning Sunday, April 15, our new schedule will be: 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service; 10:00 a.m. Sunday School; 11:15 a.m. Traditional Service. It is our hope and prayer that this new schedule and format will allow us to live out our vision of “Offering God’s Love...Building Believers” in a better way.

At last night’s Church Council meeting (with 124 members present) I reviewed our long history of discussing a contemporary worship service. There were plans discussed more than 12 years ago for our 9:30 a.m. service to be held in this style. As I understand it, the lack of an adequate music team hampered this possibility. The launching of Grace Harbor in 2003 was a wonderful means of building the various teams necessary for having such a service. Today we have a stronger interest in such a service and people to make it happen.

Since last April we have had many discussions about moving to such a

schedule. The Action Planning Team efforts, “Worship Matters” meetings, Church Council and Church Conference meetings, and many other staff and committee discussions have built up a desire to make changes. Our goals have been to create such a new service, preserve the strength of our Sunday School, create fewer morning services with more people in each, and to enhance the fellowship of our congregation. We also have come to a time when people are more than ready to make the change and get on with our missions and ministries. Last night it was clear that members are ready to quit talking about “possible changes” and just make a change so we can get on with worshipping and serving God.

And so we will. WE will. There is a clear desire that WE come together and support this decision, that we build up a common commitment to unify our congregation in this effort, that we each contribute to the building up of our efforts to create a stronger church.

Yours prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service are needed by your church to make this happen, for the glory of God.

Yours in Christ,  
*Bill Henderson*

## United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet for refreshments at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 13 in room 102 of the Family Life Center. Installation of new officers and a short business meeting will precede our program. Rev. Dana Hamilton will lead our thoughts and feet through the beautiful and inspiring labyrinth. Remember to bring socks to wear as we walk this special concourse. Any and all women of the church are invited to any UMW meeting throughout the year.

## Memorials & Honorariums

### In Memory of Alpha Cannon

Tom & Bev Baker

### In Memory of Julia Inge

Traxel & Maxine Stevens, Jim & Carolyn Patterson,  
Don & Susan Hammond, Faye & Chuck Hartley,  
Joyce Walker, Betty Lynn Harrison,  
Kenneth & Elsa Inge

### In Memory of Jean Metcalfe

T. B. Metcalfe

### In Memory of Jeanne Penland

Frank & Bonnie LaBoon

### In Memory of Roger Dale Candler and Lucille Candler Strozier

Lula M. Candler

### In Memory of Luise Riddle

John & Joy Robertson

### In Memory of Lynka Johnson, Neill Gruver's sister

Dennis & Connie Ellis, Bruce & Robbie  
Kuemmel, Frank & Bonnie LaBoon

### In Memory of Ardath McGrane, Donna Gruver's sister

Bruce & Robbie Kuemmel

### In Memory of Marvin Cousins Adult Bible Study Sunday School Class

### In Honor of Corey W. Candler

Lula M. Candler

## 40<sup>th</sup> Charter Celebration February 25, 2007

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

Sunday School

Worship Service

Reception

We are less than a month away from celebrating our church's charter 40 years ago! Not only are we going to celebrate the charter but also honor those that were our charter members. Forty years ago these individuals had a vision for Northwest Hills United Methodist Church.

We will welcome our previous ministers by having them participate in the worship service. Rev. Jerry Jay Smith, our charter pastor, will provide the message. The banner committee will present a banner in honor of this celebration, there will be special music from all the choirs and *you* will be recognized.

Beginning Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> you will be asked to attach a ribbon to your name tag. This will be a ribbon to recognize how many years you have been a member at Northwest Hills United Methodist Church. This ribbon will be provided in the narthex. Be prepared to tell us how many years you have been a member!

In addition to receiving a commemorative program the day of our celebration, you will receive a cross made by Harold York and his crew from the wood of our old sanctuary.

You will have an opportunity to welcome our previous ministers, special guests and each other at a reception following the worship service in the Family Life Center! There will be a slide show that will be of interest to many of you!

By the time you read this you should have received your invitation. Please return your reply card to the church office as soon as possible to let us know how you can participate in this day of celebrating! If you have not received your invitation be sure to call the church office, 345-1743, leaving your name and address requesting your invitation. Also, be sure to let us know of those previous members that we might have forgotten to invite.

## Notes From Beth



### SING PRAISE

As the church approaches a new Sunday morning schedule of worship, we are excited about all the possibilities for the congregation to participate in music ministry. The Sanctuary Choir will continue to sing a wide variety of repertoire and the congregation will have the opportunity to hear the entire choir each Sunday! And what a joy it is to sing with 50 singers. There is room for you, too!

We also will have new opportunities for those who wish to participate in music leadership for contemporary worship – in a band, as a singer and more.

So today is the time to sign up by contacting either Beth or Corey at the church. Together we will make a joyful noise as God's people worship.

## North Hills Gallery presents works by

*Lisa Grant*

January 31 through February 25

Lisa's exhibit, "In Other Words" will include collages incorporating the use of words. The artist's reception will be held on Sunday, February 4, 12:15-1:30 p.m.

## El Buen Samaritano says Thanks!

Cynthia High, Community Relations for El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission wants you to know how thankful the mission is for the numerous children's gifts that were collected by Northwest Hills UMC and delivered to them. Jody Henderson and Marty Donley made the delivery and were able to observe the smiles on the faces of several of the children as they received a gift, perhaps the only one that they would receive. Once again, thank you for your generous response.

## Upcoming shows in the North Hills Gallery

**The Palette Club**  
February 28 - April 1, 2007

**Betty Jameson and  
Carolyn Patterson**  
April 4 - May 6, 2007

## Children's Ministries

The Children's Team will meet Sunday, February 4th after the 11:00 a.m. service in room 105. Everyone is welcome. This is a bring your own lunch meeting. Childcare will be provided.

February 10th is Parent's Night Out. Sign up by contacting Jean Marinus at 345-1743, ext. 101, or email her at [jmarinus@nwhillsumc.org](mailto:jmarinus@nwhillsumc.org). You can also use the sign up sheet in the narthex on Sunday, February 4th. The 10th is the church Valentine's Dinner & Dance with a big band orchestra playing. Call the church office for tickets.

Ash Wednesday, February 21st, children in kindergarten through 5th grade will meet in room 105 fifteen minutes

prior to the service and then we will sit together in the worship service. There will be childcare available for younger children.

February 25th is the Northwest Hills UMC 40th anniversary celebration. Sunday school will be at 9:30 a.m. and one service at 10:30 a.m.

Parent's of 3rd through 5th graders: I need your input as to what date you would like to go to Camp Tejas. In past years this has been either in April or May. This seems to be a very busy time for scouts, sports and other school activities. Would either June or August be better?

During this month of love, take time to give your child an extra hug and tell them how much you and God love them!  
*Miss Jean*

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



For the most current calendar, please visit  
the church website at  
<http://www.nwhillsumc.org> and click on  
"Calendar."



## Sunday Adult Education Classes

Are you looking for a small group of believers who gather weekly to study and grow in the knowledge and love of God? Check out our Sunday Morning Adult Education opportunities. This is a listing of our current studies:

### AAA (Adults of All Ages) Class: W & E 111

Our class will be working through an eclectic mix of studies. We will study 2 or 3 of the following:

- The Crusades – Lessons (based on books) about the West's attempts to "regain" the Holy Land, and how this set in motion the intertwining of Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths for centuries.
- Christianity in Texas – Lessons (based on study) about Christianity's roots in Texas history, and how our state's culture has been shaped by Christianity to the present day.
- Desire of the Everlasting Hills – Lessons (based on books) about how an obscure and minor prophet (Jesus) from a backwater of the Roman Empire became the central figure in Western civilization.

### Adult Bible Study: FLC 106

We are using the study by Dr. Mickey Efrid, *The Birth Narratives*.

### Bible Adventurers: W & E 109

Our class uses the quarterly study, *Adult Bible Studies*, which presents stimulating lessons that explore the biblical messages and how to apply them to daily life. The lessons are based on the International Lesson Series.

### Covenant: FLC 108

We are finishing the study, "What you don't have to believe to be a Christian." Then we will begin a Lenten study.

### Discovery:

The Discovery and Great Expectations classes will be meeting together in room 110 to study *Children of the Bible*. This book covers the stories from Cain and Able to the boy who shared his lunch of fish. Please join us any-time because each lesson of this 12-week study is independent.

### Discussion: W & E 114

We study a varied range of topics, including spiritual, historical and current events that are of interest to the class.

### Epiphany: FLC 104

TBA



### Great Expectations: FLC 110

The Discovery and Great Expectations classes will be meeting together in room 110 to study *Children of the Bible*. This book covers the stories from Cain and Able to the boy who shared his lunch of fish. Please join us any-time because each lesson of this 12-week study is independent.

### Impressions of Jesus: W & E 112

Our schedule for the month of February:

Feb. 4	Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
Feb. 11	Audio Review of The New Testament
Feb. 18	Mathew
Feb. 25	Mark

### Joshua\*: FLC 106 (\*Begins at 8:15 a.m.)

We are in our study of Maxie Dunnam's book, *What the Man Said; The Sayings of Jesus*. This is a 15-week study of Jesus' tough, demanding, comforting, bracing and judging sayings.

### Oasis Class: Ed II

We are going to study the book, *Battlefield of the Mind*, by Joyce Meyer.

### Parents of Teens: Ed II

The Parents of Teens Class will continue the book, *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee: Using Jewish Teachings to Raise Self-Reliant Children*. This book is currently a best-seller on Amazon and is written by a child psychologist who found tried and true wisdom in the spiritual teachings of the Torah and Talmud that can be used by parents of all faiths to raise children resilient enough to withstand the challenges of today's increasingly complex world. The author, Wendy Mogel, "offers strategies for encouraging respect and gratitude in children, and cautions against overprotection." Come join us for our in-class reading and discussion of this wittily-written and engaging book.

### Seekers: FLC 102

Seekers are doing a study on Revelation (same as the Wednesday night youth Bible study) for the next few weeks. We will begin a Lenten study after that.

### 2 x 2 Class: W & E 110

The 2x2 class is doing a study named, *Called to Be a Christian Community*, which uses insights into Paul's letters to the Corinthians as references for how we should respond to real-life situations today. We are discussing how we are called to serve, called to give and called to love, even in difficult circumstances.

## Tax Planning Suggestions

As you start planning for 2007, here are a couple of suggestions you might want to review with your tax, legal, and/or financial advisors.

If your itemized deductions are just greater than the standard deduction, consider lumping as much of your itemized deductions as you can in one year and taking the standard deduction in the subsequent year. For example, pay your property taxes in January and again in December of the first year, pay your last mortgage payment of the year early (so you have 13 payments instead of 12), and prepay

your pledge for the subsequent year to the church. Then the following year you have only 11 mortgage payments, no property taxes, and no pledge payments to the church and you can take the standard deduction.

If you are older than 70 ½ and have to take a Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA, note that in 2007 (as in 2006) you can have all or part of that distribution given directly to the church (or any charity) and it will not count as income to you. This is a way to reduce your taxable income without itemizing your deductions. If you itemize, this may not make any difference unless it helps you avoid the Alternative Minimum Tax.

## NWHUMC Financial Status January-December 2006

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$1,163,253	\$1,090,999
Expense	\$1,053,866	\$1,050,998
Net Income	\$109,387	\$40,001
	January 1	December 31
Mortgage and Building Loan	\$2,763,447	\$2,482,185

Our receipts in December were over \$42,000 above budget and our income year to date is \$72,254 above budget! We had budgeted receipts of \$40,000 in prepaid pledges for 2007 and actually received over \$66,000! Thanks to all who have been diligently watching expenses. The bottom line is that our income for 2006 was the highest we have ever received and we have about \$43,000 to carry over into 2007 in addition to the prepaid pledges. Unfortunately, although we have money to carry forward into 2007, we are still short of the pledges needed to fully fund our 2007 budget.

Check the financial report on the church's web site at <http://www.nwhillsumc.org>

**NEW VOLUNTEER  
POSSIBILITIES**

We're always looking for volunteers. Call the church office to get involved!

## My Job Workshop Saturday, February 3 First UMC

This workshop is for all leaders and potential leaders in the local church— lay leaders, committee members and chairpersons, Christian educators and Sunday school teachers. Participants will be able to attend two sessions and choose from a variety of topics. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Our new District Superintendent, Dr. Kim Cape, will be there to personally meet and welcome you.

Join with friends from around the Austin District to enrich your ministries and to celebrate with Bishop Joel Martinez at the Laity Celebration Luncheon beginning at 12:30 p.m. Lunch is \$8.00 and tickets are available at the door.

First UMC is located downtown at the corner of Lavaca and 13th streets, near the Capitol building.

## Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will meet February 12 at 10:00 a.m. for a review and discussion of *For One More Day* by Mitch Albom led by Millie Shimfessel. Please join us in room 109. All women of the church are invited. Please call Jan Broomall at 250-0177 if you have questions.



# February Birthdays

- |             |  |             |   |
|-------------|--|-------------|---|
| February 1  | Shirley Holland, Sue Hill, Elizabeth Cavnar  | February 15 | James McJunkin, Shawn Morris, Jared Warren, George Anthony                                  |
| February 2  | Don Schroen, Carolyn Patrick, Paula Coopwood, Paul Trulove                                 | February 16 | Jim Barron  |
| February 3  | Jana Lee Gondran, Chris McComb   | February 17 | Rick Means, Judy Varney, Gina McKallip, Ethan Baker   |
| February 4  | Gail Parsons   | February 19 | Joy Robertson, Edis Oliver, Jan Riepen, Kelly Beavers, Sue Webb, Catherine Fischer          |
| February 5  | Babs Yarbrough, Jennifer Tanner, Jackson Christian   | February 20 | Kay Johnston, Elliot Moulton  |
| February 6  | Carolyn Ellis, Janice Gandt, Karen Mullins, Michael Aldridge, Avery Weatherly              | February 21 | Georgia Willis  |
| February 7  | Kay Killough, Gary Hanson, Inez Grider, John Jefferson III, Claire Dennis                  | February 22 | Louise Davis, Tim Merriweather, Betsy D'Acierno, Heather Lyons, Catherine Hale              |
| February 8  | Mike Ratliff, Angel Bowker   | February 23 | Dick Smith, Stephanie Reid, Jacob Moody, Austin Cummings                                    |
| February 9  | Margaret Legge, Bill Cain Jr., Teresa Lay, Rex LaFitte, Kevin Kreiling, Jennifer Eddins    | February 24 | Jan Doyle, Betty Hallgren, Kelli Merriweather, Cathy Troutner                               |
| February 10 | Joe Longley, Ian Webster   | February 25 | Andy Wheatley, Tom Coopwood, Patti Bizzell, Bob Callison, Dee Dee Biggert, Michael Ghormley |
| February 11 | Charley Gallia, Gary Johnson   | February 26 | T. B. Metcalfe, Allen Kemp, Kelsey Shahan   |
| February 12 | Betty Wilkes, Nancy Crutcher, Katie Garrison, Bryan Dowling, Sophie Garza                  | February 27 | Ruth Koehler, David Baker   |
| February 14 | Mary Holder, Bill Walters, JoBeth Porterfield, Gail Bryant, Megan Hanson, Derek Fleischman | February 28 | Ed Fleischman, Will Black, Westley Campbell   |

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**Tuesday, February 20**  
**5:30 - 7:00 pm**

Bring the whole family on Tuesday, February 20, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. for yummy pancakes and sausage prepared and served by our youth and their parents. The cost is \$5.00 per person (children 2 and under are free) or \$15.00 per family. All proceeds go toward funding youth mission trips and other youth ministry events. Ticket sales begin on Sunday, February 4 between worship services in the narthex.



Jerrene Dishongh, Frieda Coughenour, Carrie Wheatley, Robbie Kuemmel, Angela McComb, Emmitt Wieruscheske, Trey Whiddon, Our Troops

Prayer concerns may be submitted to our Yahoo! Prayer Group by sending an email prayer request to:  
[NWHillsUMCPrayers@yahoo.com](mailto:NWHillsUMCPrayers@yahoo.com)

**For confidential prayer requests, contact the church office or send an email to:**  
PC Coordinator, Sharon Donley at:  
[martindonley@msn.com](mailto:martindonley@msn.com)

## Important Deadlines

### The Herald

**Deadline: Monday, February 19, noon**

Publish date: Wednesday, February 28, 2007

**Deadline: Monday, March 19, noon**

Publish date: Wednesday, March 28, 2007

### The Bulletin

The **deadline** for the weekly Sunday bulletin is

**8:30 a.m. every Wednesday.**

Please send articles to: [hnovielli@nwhillsumc.org](mailto:hnovielli@nwhillsumc.org)

For information or questions, please call the church office at 345-1743.

## Community Volunteer Opportunity

On behalf of Literacy Austin, Northwest Hills UMC will offer English as a Second Language (ESL) classes beginning February 27th. Anyone interested in learning more about tutoring for this outreach ministry should plan to attend a training seminar on Monday, February 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Family Life Center. For further information please contact Rev. Dana Love Hamilton at 345-1743. Lunch will be provided for this training seminar.



**LITERACY AUSTIN**  
Giving the Gift of Literacy to Austin since 1984



Northwest Hills United Methodist Church  
7050 Village Center Drive  
Austin, Texas 78731

Offering God's Love... Building Believers

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Austin, Texas  
Permit No. 2189