

November 1, 2007

Issue 11

Sunday Worship

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

9:00 a.m. worship offers
Holy Communion

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.
for all ages

Welcome new members!

Laine Perez

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



Someone once sang “the times they are a-changing.” A subtle change occurs when we move from October to November. Our mind shifts toward the holidays- the Holy Days, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Fall falls into place, the time does change (or at least Daylight Saving Time), we welcome wool back into our wardrobe and take some delight in weather change.

Church? There's a subtle shift for us as well. Summer vacations behind us, school and football schedules now ingrained, September “Open House” and Stewardship Month now gone (or if you'll turn in your pledge card it will be gone!). This past month of “celebration and challenge” gave emphasis to all the ways in which we hope our life together has been faithful to our vision and mission of “Offering God's Love.” We lifted up ways in which renewed commitments will carry our ministries into the future. Now perhaps we'll shift to “celebration and thanksgiving.” We'll be tempted to fall into the stresses of shopping in this season, but pray this does not interfere with our “holy days” and our focus upon God and the gift of his son.

For sure, “stresses” are a part of our life and challenge the mood shift to “celebration and thanksgiving.” Recent deaths in our congregation and among our member families bring certain burdens to our souls. Surgeries and serious illnesses also weigh upon our members and families. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan still rage on affecting friends

and family. Fires burn on one coast, water dries up on the other and people in between worry about economic downturns as corporate greed and global market dislocations affect us all. Stress? Recent studies indicate that indeed stress is a major part of the lives of many, affecting the mental and physical health of millions.

Celebrate? Be thankful? Yes, indeed. God's people always celebrate and give thanks to God. Whether it was an ancient psalmist recalling the mighty acts of God's steadfast love, shepherds in a field believing an angel when she proclaimed “Be not afraid,” a colonial governor calling upon his diminishing Plymouth Rock pilgrims to feast in thanksgiving, or a joyful congregation watching children reenact the manger scene, we face stress with a certain peace. “We are called to be the church.” Praise God we hear the call and have become the church- a people of God making flesh the presence of Christ for one another. Praise God for all the ways in which this church has cared for those enduring terrible struggles, the ways in which we continue to uphold one another in the face of all the strains and stresses of life.

Bob Dylan sang of the convulsions that come when the times are a-changing. Yet may we be a people that always sing the Lord's song of thanksgiving. For we believe “in life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.”

Peace,
Bill

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday, November 13 at 9:30 a.m. in room 109. Rev. Madeline Carrasco Henners will lead the group in a Missions Study on Israel and Palestine. All women of the church, visitors and friends are invited to join us for this interesting and insightful meeting. Please call Millie Shimfessel at 926-8402 if you have any questions.

Women's Book Group

The next book group meeting will be November 5 at 9:30 a.m. in room 109. Please note the change of day and time. Lucy Milliron will review *Facing the Lion: Growing up Maasai on the African Savanna*. All women of the church, visitors and friends are invited to join us. Please call Jan Broomall at 250-0177 if you have any questions.

Annual Church-Wide Thanksgiving Potluck

Please plan to attend this wonderful event on Sunday, November 18, at 5:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. We will repeat the successful format of last year. Turkey and dinner rolls will be provided. Dishes are assigned by the alphabet and you are asked to bring a dish that will serve at least 8 people.

- A-H veggie or salad
- I-P stuffing/rice/potatoes
- Q-Z dessert



Calling All Turkey Cookers

We will need at least 15 to 20 turkey cookers for this year's Annual Thanksgiving Potluck dinner on Sunday, November 18th. If you prefer not to carve your turkey, please deliver it to the Family Life Center kitchen by 5:15 p.m. Sunday evening and a team of carvers will take care of it for you. Please email Julie or Charley Gallia at jwgallia@hotmail.com or crgallia@sbcglobal.net if you are interested so they can get an accurate count of the turkeys being cooked. See you there!



NWHUMC Financial Status September 2007

	September		Year to date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Receipts plus				
Carryover	\$71,734	\$89,920	\$824,607	\$826,879
Expenses	\$90,241	\$90,455	\$780,803	\$823,729
Net Income	(\$18,507)	(\$535)	\$43,804	\$3,150
	Dec. 31	September 30		
Mortgage and Building Loan	\$2,488,286	\$2,409,613		

Our receipts for September are well below budget and our receipts year to date are slightly below budget. Our expenses for September are about on budget and year to date are well below budget. Note that we have paid down our mortgage/building loan \$78,673.00 so far this year because of continued building fund contributions. Check the financial report on the church's web site at <http://www.nwhillsumc.org>.

Preparing the Sanctuary for Advent

The Worship Committee is looking for a few individuals who would be able to assist with preparing the sanctuary for Advent! The job basically entails changing banners and altar paraments, etc. The hours are flexible and this would be an excellent way to serve your fellow parishioners without a long time commitment! Please contact Lea Moody at 349-2836 or JMoody2@austin.rr.com. Thanks!



Children's Ministries

Jean is recovering at home and we all ask God to bless her as richly as she has blessed all of us! Roz Johnson, chair of the Children's Council, parent volunteers, and church and My Friends House staff are all working diligently to try to fill Jean's shoes in Children's ministries. It is an impossible task and we are praying that God will enable us to keep the ministry alive and vital to honor God and our well-loved Miss Jean until she is able to return to us.

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT for Sunday, December 2, at 4:00 p.m. is already in rehearsal! Children in grades 3-5 will have speaking parts and will need to come to CELEBRATION each Sunday in November at 4:00 p.m. to rehearse. Mary and Joseph will be selected in the usual manner from the 2nd graders. Grades K-2 will have non-speaking parts but will also need to be

at CELEBRATION in November to practice since this is a new pageant this year! Children at My Friend's House will be animals at the manger. All children are learning the pageant songs at school, Sunday school, and CELEBRATION. Everyone will need to come to dress rehearsal to get costumes and to rehearse on **Saturday, December 1, at 10:00 a.m.** in the sanctuary.

CELEBRATION will sing in worship on Sunday, November 18 at the 11:15 a.m. service.

Don't forget the all-church Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, November 18, at 5:30 p.m. Bring a dish to serve at least 8 people.

Watch for more information on the November Parent's Night Out. The tentative date is November 10.



Notes from Beth

Austin Classical Guitar Society will present Thomas Viloteau in concert on Saturday, December 1, at 8:00 p.m. Please call 300-ACGS for tickets.

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat..." Well, if you are in a handbell or singing choir rehearsal it appears that Christmas is just around the corner! We are busy rehearsing music that will enable our Advent and Christmas worship services, as well as preparing for the Children's Christmas Pageant and the combined choirs' Christmas Concert. Mark your calendar and plan to attend all of these very special events!

Sunday, December 2, 4:00 p.m. **Children's Christmas Pageant.** (FREE!)

Sunday, December 9, 4:00 p.m. **"Sounds of the Season"** presented by all the choirs of the church. (FREE!)

Saturday, December 15, 4:00 p.m. **Children's Holiday Concert** presented by the Austin Vocal Arts Ensemble and the Ring of Faith Handbell Choir from Northwest Hills. (FREE!)

Sunday, December 16, 4:00 p.m. **Sing-It-Yourself Messiah** with Chorus Austin and the Sanctuary Choir of Northwest Hills. For tickets, contact Chorus Austin at 719-3300. (Scores are available to rent or you may borrow one from the church if you contact Beth in advance.)



Advent Devotional Books

This year our Advent Devotional Book will feature devotionals written by members and staff over the past few years. Each day's devotional includes a scripture, a brief meditation or story and a prayer from December 1 through Christmas Day. These are written and designed to focus our thoughts on the coming of our Savior. The cost of the book is only \$2.00 and they will be available in the nar-

thex on Sunday mornings at the end of November. The devotionals will also be available in the church office.

There are also a limited number of special Advent candles that may be purchased for only \$1.00. The candle may be lit at the beginning of each devotional to signify the coming of the light of the world.





Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

For the most recent calendar of events, please visit the church website at <http://www.nwhillsumc.org> and click on 'Calendar.'

Advent Bible Study

Hail the Heaven Born

Led by Rev. Bill Henderson

During the advent season, the scriptures call us to “prepare the way” of the Lord. All three synoptic gospels have John the Baptist announcing a high-way by quoting these words from the prophet Isaiah. He announced more than a highway, however. He announced a coming Messiah. What changes can we expect as a result of preparing the way of the Lord? How do we prepare the way of the Lord?

Kevin Baker invites us to look at the sights and sounds of the advent season as signposts leading to a deeper reflection on these questions. As we “prepare the way of the Lord,” life as we know it may never be the same. We can discover renewed hope in the power and presence of God in Jesus Christ.

Class begins on Sunday, November 25 at 5:30 p.m. in room 102 of the Family Life Center. The class fee is \$10.00. Please call the church office (345-1743) to sign up for this class.

Join the Yahoo! News Group

Would you like to be one of the many Northwest Hills UMC members who gets news updates via the Yahoo! News Group? These updates are usually comprised of immediate news, reminders and outside events of interest to church members.

Joining this growing group is fast and easy! On the church website (<http://www.nwhillsumc.org>) you just have to click on the Yahoo! Groups link under the News heading. This will take you to a list of all the Northwest Hills UMC groups that you can join, including the news group, prayer alerts, youth news group, Emmaus news group and more! Follow the subscription directions on that page and you’ll be receiving updates in no time at all!



Youth Ministry

The NWHUMC Youth have several opportunities to meet each week for worship, study and fun.

<u>Graffiti Lounge-</u>	Sundays 9:45-10:15 a.m.
<u>Sunday School-</u>	Sundays 10:15-11:15 a.m.
<u>UMYF-</u>	Sundays 4:00-5:30 p.m.
<u>Youth Handbells-</u>	Sundays 5:30-6:30 p.m.
<u>Youth Dinner-</u>	Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.
<u>Youth Bible Study-</u>	Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m.

For more information about these weekly events, or any other Youth events, call Jenny at 577-9247.



Bike and Build

On behalf of everyone at Bike & Build, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$2,700.00. Thanks to contributions from people like you, Bike & Build has been able to make a significant impact on the affordable housing crisis in the United States over the past five years.

Your contribution will enable our riders to travel thousands of miles, garner widespread awareness about the affordable housing cause and contribute to local housing efforts across the United States through advocacy efforts, affordable housing construction and financial contributions.

In addition to the work that was done on the road this summer, Bike & Build will donate to affordable housing groups throughout the country, funding student-led projects to construct affordable homes in various communities. Your contribution will have a lasting effect on the affordable housing landscape in communities across the nation. It will also involve more students in affordable housing efforts, empowering these young adults to better address the problem, and creating a new class of young social entrepreneurs.

Again, many thanks for your contribution. I hope that you will follow our cyclists’ and organization’s progress through our website, www.bikeandbuild.org.

All the best,
Amelia Hanley
 Executive Director

Help in Crisis

Are you or someone you know going through a crisis in life? These crises happen in all of our lives at one time or another: depression, the loss of a job, grief at the death of a loved one or a relationship, the necessity of hospitalization, the birth of a child. When crises come, it is helpful to have someone who cares to help you through it. This is the ministry of the Stephen Ministers, at NWHUMC. When your crisis comes, make use of their ministry. Call the church office or a Stephen Minister and a Stephen Leader will contact you to explain the details and assign someone to help you.

Since we have begun using the Stephen Series here at NWHUMC, we have seen the great value of lay caring ministry. We are, therefore, going to have another training class for Stephen Ministers beginning January 7, 2008. Please give serious consideration to this question: Would my gifts and talents be put to good use as a Stephen Minister?

You can find application forms in the church office along with information about the Stephen Ministry program. Or you can come by the Stephen Ministry office after one of the worship services on Sunday morning and visit with a Stephen Minister. The office is in the back hallway, just off the church staff hallway.

Church Conference

**Tuesday, December 11
7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

The Church Conference is our annual church-wide meeting led by our District Superintendent, Dr. Kim Cape. Everyone is invited to attend and all confirmed members of Northwest Hills UMC have voice and vote.

Receive the Herald Via Email

Would you like to receive this newsletter via email every month? It is emailed out on publication day and you'd have the latest news instantly! If you're interested in this service instead of receiving a hard copy, please contact Helen at hnovielli@nwhillsumc.org.

Are You a Sanctuary Choir Alumni?

If so, you are cordially invited to sing with the Sanctuary Choir on Sunday, November 25, for the 11:15 a.m. worship service. We will be gathering at 10:30 a.m. that morning to rehearse "With a Voice of Singing"—an oldie but goody— and all you need to do is come to the choir room! If you have questions, please contact Beth at the church or Terri Sloan at 345-0992 or msloan@austin.rr.com.



Upper Room Disciplines

It's time to order 2008 Upper Room Disciplines. For those not familiar with this book, it is a daily devotional printed by the Upper Room. Millie Shimfessel will be ordering the books for us in late November.

The books will cost about \$10.00. Place your order by calling the church at 345-1743 or by calling Millie at 926-8402. You can also stop by the church and sign up at the front desk. Payment will be due when the books are picked up at the church later this year. You will receive a call from Millie when the books come in so be sure to leave your phone number when you place your order.

Time to Order Poinsettias

Each year during the Christmas season we decorate our sanctuary with poinsettia plants donated by *you*, our church family. You may order poinsettias and dedicate them in memory or in honor of a loved one. The list of dedications will be published in the Sunday bulletin. The cost of each poinsettia plant is \$10.00. To order, look for the Poinsettia Order forms in Sunday worship and the church office or contact Catherine Bailey (346-4516 or catherineb@flash.net) or Chris Cavner (345-4237 or cccavner@aol.com).



November Birthdays

November 1 Nancy Einhorn
 November 2 Bradley Bizzell, Mike Shafto, Danny Moynihan, Greg Judd, Tom Waggoner
 November 3 Nathan Jones
 November 4 Mike Rhodes, Cindy Moringy, Kristen Alex
 November 5 Jeff Eddins, Isaac Oehring
 November 6 Tim Duke
 November 7 Jay Blond, Norma Watson, McKay Trulove, Britta Garza
 November 8 Ashley Kever, Anna Wilkins
 November 9 Brenda Barron, Dan Utley, Janey Moore, Nancy Richter, Susan Fischer
 November 10 Kimberly Wilson, Todd Shade
 November 11 Alexandria Moulton, Steven Brewer, Hunter Atchison, Dirk Jameson, Diane Lyerly
 November 12 Geneva Clardy, Ellen Johnston, Valerie Bennett
 November 13 Nancy Williams
 November 14 Erin Cravey, Marcus McLaurin
 November 15 Elizabeth Kraft, Gary Zeigler, Mil Rhodes
 November 16 Clare Hawkins, Given Lee, Chad Humphrey, Brendan Hale

November 17 Christian Kreiling, Marian Sherwood, Bob Mettlen, Ed Gardner, Jr., Robert Payne, Randy Tesch
 November 19 Lois Foster, Phyllis Davidson, Linda Stein
 November 20 Christian Brewer, Emma Scheller, Emily Goulet, Colin Campbell
 November 21 Dot Perkins, Jacqueline Eddins, Charles Allen Brown, Theresa Snow
 November 22 Randy Christian, Grant Jones, Jonell Clardy
 November 23 Ken Moyer, Katey Blacksmith, Autie Doerr
 November 24 Jeff Lofley, Elsa Ringgenberg, Dennis Ellis
 November 25 Haley Finley-Jones, Jean Hanson
 November 26 Ellen Webb, Eddie Hardcastle
 November 27 Dorothy Schroen
 November 28 Santiago Mejia, Sue Bennett
 November 29 Judi Mettlen, Emily Houston
 November 30 Sarah Stokes, Kevin Alex



Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Linda Judd

Katherine Miller, Bob & Karen Bowker, Robert & Carol Biggar, Terry & Patrice McElroy, Donna Pirkle, Marian Sherwood, Patti & Bradley Bizzell, Neill & Donna Gruver, Rick & Brenda Ransdell, Revelations Sunday School class, Geoffrey Connor, Frank & Bonnie LaBoon, Cathy Troutner, Mark & Nancy Kimsey

In Memory of Elizabeth Scheller

Bob & Karen Bowker, Bonner Landrum

In Memory of Dan Davidson

Cathy Troutner, Gordon & Betty Hamilton

In Memory of Robert Jerkins, Joe Jerkins' brother

Frank & Bonnie LaBoon

In Memory of Pat Cousins

Robert Franklin

In Honor of Jim McComb

NWHUMC United Methodist Women



Frieda Coughenour, Carrie Wheatley, Robbie Kuemmel, Emmitt Wieruscheske, Trey Whiddon, Lexie Christian, Carol Bruney, John Eddins, Jean Marinus, VJ Barre, Bob Spickelmier, Jeannine Dixon, Our Troops

Those we love who are in nursing homes

Vernen Liles, Mary Alice Smith, Billie Stout, Virginia Thomason, Lilian A. Curd, Sara Moïse, Clara Mae Mann

Prayer concerns may be submitted to our Yahoo! Prayer Group by sending an email prayer request to:

NWHillsUMCPrayers@yahoo.com

For confidential prayer requests, contact the church office or email PC Coordinator, Sharon Donley at: martindonley@msn.com

Offering God's Love... Building Believers.

Important Deadlines

The Herald

Deadline: Monday, November 19, 12:00 p.m.

Publish date: Wednesday, November 28, 2007

Deadline: Monday, December 10, 12:00 p.m.

Publish date: Wednesday, December 19, 2007

The Bulletin

The **deadline** for the weekly Sunday bulletin is **10:00 a.m. every Wednesday.**

Please send articles to: hnovielli@nwhillsumc.org

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



Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to all those who worked on my beautiful prayer shawl. I really appreciate it.

Joyce Austin

North Hills Gallery presents

Sue Bishop & Pam Lamoureux

October 30, 2007 - November 26, 2007

Opening reception: Sunday, November 4
at 12:30 p.m.

The Capitol Art Society

November 28, 2007 - January 1, 2008

Opening reception: Sunday, December 2
at 12:30 p.m.



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

Offering God's Love... Building Believers

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The Herald