

July 1, 2009

Issue 7

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!

Marshall and Helen
Stogner

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



Thank you for joining in our exploration of *The Shack* and our conversations about faith matters. Your comments, your emails, your reflections in our “after-church” discussions have been part of a great dialogue that has helped shape my own thoughts and sermons. *The Shack* is a provocative book, stirring the heart and mind in wondering of God and God's place amidst this world's torments. I hope your reading of the book, your participation in worship and discussions have sent you back to your Bible, to your own experiences and given you a deeper understanding of your own faith.

What's next? Well, our “Sizzling Summer Sermon Series” continues in August with focus on another book. Madeline and I, plus church leaders, hope our reflections on this book will shape the strong beginnings of another strong church year. We'll preach throughout August on topics from this book and several Sunday School classes will also be studying it.

The book is *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, written by Robert Schnase, bishop of the Missouri Area of the United Methodist Church and former pastor in our Annual Conference. He wrote it to describe the five core practices of congregational life as he saw them in his ministry among us and among his Missouri congregations. The book, and many accompanying resources, has become widely used across our church and

other denominations. It includes a chapter on each practice plus a chapter on excellence and fruitfulness. The practices include

- Radical Hospitality
- Passionate Worship
- Intentional Faith Development
- Risk-taking Mission and Service
- Extravagant Generosity

As pastor Kenneth Carter writes in a review of Bishop Schnase's book, these words are “dangerous, edgy and provocative.” The intent is to push the boundaries: from welcoming those like us to hospitality with those unlike us; from good worship to worship at its very best; from education that is stable and stagnant to faith development that is intentional and lifelong; from mission that is safe and predictable to service that is risky and sacrificial; and from stewardship that is constricted by scarcity to generosity that is extravagant in response to God's abundant grace.

Our hope is to use the book and our reflections to bring a stronger commitment and effort to shape a September that truly calls all of us back into the “new church year” and calls us to welcome and serve the neighbors who come among us looking for God's grace, a place to receive and share love, and a direction for their own life of caring for this world.

We hope you'll be with us in these Sunday worship reflections and add Bishop Schnase's book to your summer reading.

Yours in Christ,
Bill Henderson

Children's Ministry

When you receive this article the children will just be finishing their discovery of God's wonders of the word! Look for their beautiful faces as they share with us in worship on July 5th. At VBS this year the words were: Rejoice, Pray, Seek, Tell and Ask. Each child has collected trading cards to help them remember the stories, Bible memory verses and activity starters for family conversation time. If your family makes get well cards for those in the hospital and would like the pastors to deliver them please bring them to my office. Thank You to the many volunteers who gave so generously of their time! A special thanks to VBS co-chairs Kim Hoffman and Krista Payne.

A reminder that there will not be Parent's Night Out in July and August.

I'm looking at Sunday school for the fall, winter and spring and with your help and children's team chair, Elizabeth Gunter, we are hoping to have teams of four for each of the eight classes. That means 32 adults who have searched their hearts and have felt the call to serve in this wonderful ministry. Training and prayer are provided. If interested contact me at jmarinus@nwhillsumc.org or 345-1743 or in person Sunday through Thursday at church.

I will be going to a conference the end of this month for Christian educators working with children. Many of the classes will be discussing children in worship such as "The Sanctuary: If God is Present, Why Aren't the Kids." I'm looking forward to new ideas for you and your children to experience God.

In the Joy of our Lord,
Miss Jean



Calling All Sun Canopies!

Do you own a sun canopy that we could use for the 2nd Annual North-west Hills Community Carnival? We are in need of 10 canopies to shade different booths, etc. on Saturday, September 12. We would really appreciate it if we could borrow yours on that day. If you have one you can lend, please contact Lea Moody at moody.lead@att.net or 349-2836. Thank you!



New Quilt in Narthex

Please take a moment to view the beautiful handcrafted quilt in the narthex in the children's area (by the rockers) that has been graciously made and donated by the Nite Owls Quilt Bee. This quilt was designed by Maxine Stevens and Katherine Kinnell and the quilt blocks were stitched by the members of the quilt bee. The blocks were then assembled and completed by Barbara Jarman. Each quilt block has a different biblical reference and aligns with a scripture reference. There is a matching journal and diagram located on the table near the rockers that explains each one's meaning. Take a moment to enjoy this wonderful gift that has been bestowed upon us as a thank you for our providing meeting space for the Nite Owls Quilt Bee, part of the Austin Area Quilt Guild. **Thank you, Nite Owls Quilt Bee!**

Financial Status May 2009

	May		Year to date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Receipts plus Carryover	\$78,942	\$84,473	\$438,831	\$440,364
Expenses	\$78,220	\$83,336	\$418,046	\$438,970
Net Income	\$723	\$1,136	\$20,784	\$1,394
	12/31/08	5/31/09		
Mortgages	\$2,177,556	\$2,132,821		

Our income for May was \$5,531 below our budget and our expenses were \$5,173 below the budgeted amount, leaving us with budgeted income \$414 below budgeted expenses for the month. With the exceptional results we have experienced this year prior to this month, our income year to date is \$20,784 above our expenses. We paid down the principal on our mortgages \$44,736 so far this year, \$19,713 from our operating budget and the remainder through continuing contributions to our building fund. Check the financial report on the church's web site at <http://www.nwhillsumc.org>

North Hills Gallery

The July show is *Inspired Expressions* by Sandra Martin and Debbie Willhite, from July 1-August 3. Please joins us for a reception Sunday, July 12 at 12:30 p.m.

Ask Me About My Solar System

Don Hammond

Kyle asked me how Mars and Jupiter were doing. Nathan asked if I knew how many jelly beans there were in outer space. I didn't know. "There're 24 jelly beans in outer space. They floated away from the Space Shuttle astronauts." Nathan said. He could be right. We had just returned from an overnight Cub Scout campout at NASA near Houston.

The boys were prompted by my new t-shirt from the Austin Energy Solar Rebate program that says "Ask me about my solar system" on the back. We had just had a 3.2 kilowatt solar panel system put on the back of our roof by a solar company and the Austin Energy inspector gave me the t-shirt and some compact fluorescent light bulbs.

For less than \$3,800 we got a system that will produce about half our energy needs for the next 30 years. The solar company said it could pay for itself in 5 years if electricity prices keep going up, or maybe 10 years if they stay the same. The Austin Energy rebate and the Federal government's 30% tax credit puts this in reach of many Austin homeowners. The price of panels is coming down so Austin Energy's rebate just came down. If the panels produce more power than what we are using, the extra is put back into the grid.

The more energy conserving and energy efficient Austin houses there are and the more that have panels will help Austin Energy hold off on building power plants.

According to the solar company, it will keep 227,409 gallons of river water clean from mercury poisoning. It will prevent 1,471 pounds of nitric oxide and sulfur oxide emissions (smog and acid rain causing pollutants). And it will prevent 255,501 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions—the amount that would take 535 trees to absorb. They also estimate that it will produce 122,400 kWh of electricity.

It's best if the panels are facing south. Ours are facing southeast. It took 3 days to put up and wire. They take up 250 square feet and they're away from the trees that shade some of our house. It's best to put the panels on when the roof is fairly new. We had one-inch hail before the panels were put on, so I asked about the panels' durability. The solar company said that for all the houses they've done only one has ever had panels damaged by weather—a house in Hurricane Ike that was also missing the roof. The 2 families I know with panels and who had hail, had no damage.

Using clean energy is one of many ways to be God's stewards on earth. Psalms 8:5-8 says "Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beast of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas."

Nathan says that there are now 23 jelly beans in outer space— 2 crashed into Mars. Kyle says that would make 22, but Nathan replies, "That's because the astronauts let another one get away."

Prayer Corner

Members of the Prayer Ministry, Stephen Ministry and our Pastors and staff were honored at an Appreciation Luncheon in June. It was a time to acknowledge the prayers and service of our prayer teams that make up the Prayer Ministry and the Stephen Ministers, our Pastors and staff who love and care for us with their prayers and support. We had a wonderful meal catered by Doyle Hudgins and volunteers from the Prayer Team and others that helped serve and clean up.

Our Thursday Night Prayer Service continues through the summer months on the third Thursday of the month in Wesley Chapel in the FLC at 7:00 p.m. Come join us for a time of worship, music, communion and prayer led by Rev. Madeline Henners.

Be watching for the new brochure from the Prayer Academy announcing study opportunities for fall. Daniel Dodson will be leading a study about what the Bible has to say about hunger, Claudia Biel will be teaching how to make Anglican Prayer Beads on a Saturday in October, Teri Shapiro continues to give crochet lessons on the first and third Tuesdays of the month and some other studies yet to be confirmed will be announced.

Please keep our Pastors and staff in your prayers as well as our Financial Committee and PPRC as they continue to work through the financial challenges facing us all. Pray for discernment, wisdom and God's guidance and protection around them and each of us as we support them in their work. And of course continue to love and pray for one another. Blessings and grace to each of you.

2009 Seniors

Sidne Campbell

Bonita & Percy Campbell
Cedar Park High School
Louisiana State University
Computer Engineering

Daphne Einhorn

Nancy & Ken Einhorn
NYOS Charter School
Texas State University
Psychology

Julianna Gardner

Jackie & David Gardner
St. Stephen's Episcopal School
Bowdoin College
undecided

Katie Garrison

Jane & Mike Garrison
Anderson High School
Georgia Tech
Engineering

Eunice Lee

Dong & Chang Lee
Anderson High School
Syracuse University

Audrey Loeffler

Michael & Terri Loeffler
Hyde Park Baptist
University of Texas
Electrical (computer) Engineering

Lindsey Moringy

Cindy & Chris Moringy
Anderson High School
Southwestern University
Cultural anthropology, Animal behavior

Emily Smith

Diane & Archie Smith
Anderson High School
University of Florida
Pre-Veterinary Studies

Kat Stuckman

Bruce & Leigh Stuckman
Cedar Park High School
Texas A&M
Electrical Engineering

Timmy Willingham

Jody & Scott Willingham
Anderson High School
Texas State University
Business



UMARMY

United Methodist Action Reach out Mission by Youth

We appreciate your prayers for our UMARMY Mission Team! Here's info on our mission trip.

What: High school mission trip

When: July 5-11

Where: Seguin, TX

Cost: \$225

Work: Minor construction and home repairs for those unable to afford or do the work themselves.

Our Team

Guys: Patrick Brinkmann, Tyler Cline, Reid Cline, Sean

Cotter, Mark Dudley, Thomas Lowrey

Girls: Amy Maletta, Maddie Brown, Bess Wirht, Rita Collier, Carly Montero, Elizabeth Lowrey, Katherine Lowrey

Adult Roles: Scott Roberts and Jenny Roberts (Camp Co-Directors), Bill Cain (Tool Coordinator), Don Dudley (Site Coordinator), Lane Garrett (Safety Coordinator), Terry Maletta (Kitchen Assistant), Randy Collier, Dave Cline and Deborah Johnson (Work Team Adults).

NWHUMC will be joined by United Methodist volunteers from Boerne, Fredricksburg and Ganado. We appreciate our adults using a week of vacation and our youth taking time from their summer freedom to serve together. We appreciate **your** support via stock shares and prayers!

Dimes for Darfur

The children of NWHUMC began a mission project during VBS and we would like to invite you to join them. For the next several months the children will be collecting dimes to be sent to Sudan Shalom Ministry. This is an advance special program approved by the UMC General Board of Global Ministries that supports children orphaned by the war and HIV/AIDS. The distance from Austin to Darfur is almost 8,000 miles and the goal is to collect at least 8,000 dimes (or quarters if you prefer!) to "reach out" from Austin to Darfur to help the children. If you would like to be a part of this project, collection boxes and information will be available in the narthex on Sunday mornings or in the church office. We will plan an event to symbolically lay out the dimes all the way to Darfur in 2010. Please help the kids achieve this goal.



July Birthdays

- July 1 Scott Martin
- July 2 Bill Reynolds, Beverly Brown
- July 3 Harold York, Ron Harrison, Bob Wilkes, Sam Watsham
- July 4 Alexandra Bouzid, Brian Sloan
- July 5 Marsha Gray, Torrey Wilkins
- July 6 Nancy Pellerin, Jan Jordan
- July 8 Jean Marinus, Marci Shafto
- July 9 Terry McElroy
- July 10 Matthew Johnson
- July 11 Joel Wise, Jeffrey Norman
- July 12 Greg Scott, Lila Kirkendall
- July 13 Robert Bowker
- July 14 Ron Montgomery, Barbara Hays, John Glock, Kevin Reed
- July 15 Greg Watson, Wendy Ellis
- July 16 Kathy Bouldin
- July 17 Michael Belohlavy, Ken Einhorn, John Thomas
- July 18 Mildred Foxworth, Sue Watson, Sarah Mettlen, Nicole Perdue, Steven Chen
- July 19 Nancy Gibson, Pat Mullins, Staci Thomas, Michael Bistline, Matt Wood
- July 20 Rene Crosby, Daniel Renfro
- July 21 Carol Pinckard
- July 22 Chris Cavner, Scott Tyson
- July 23 Sterling Sasser, Suzanne Chaney, Brian Walters, Kate Alex
- July 24 John Landers, Bob Walters, Glenn Johnson, David Menchaca, Allison Kemp
- July 25 Kelly Johnson, Lilly Alexander
- July 26 Mickey Moore, Thom Lang, Katy Merriweather
- July 27 Emily Webb, Erin Hudgins
- July 28 Bob Watson, Eric Fuchs, Clay Mullins
- July 29 Beth Gillham, Barbara Wray, David Cline, Thomas Lowrey, Elizabeth Lowrey, Chloe Krieg
- July 30 Krista Payne
- July 31 Les Broomall, Mark Clardy, Kay Tyson, Daisy Yeh



Monthly P.E.T. Trip July 9

A group from NWHUMC will be traveling to Luling on Thursday, July 9 to build personal transportation devices (P.E.T.). These devices navigate uneven terrain better than wheel chairs and are sent to third world countries to be distributed to the disabled. If you'd like to help, please contact Charlie Sauer at sauer@technologists.com. For more about P.E.T. go to <http://www.petinternational.org>.

Russian UMC in Crisis

Our sister congregation in Vologda, Good News UMC, has an emergency. Every year the church has camps for kids. This is the primary way they introduce the love of Christ to children, particularly those in foster homes. This outreach has led to over 60 children being involved in on-going Sunday School programs. Plans are underway for 2 Texas teams to go in July and August to help with VBS camps. These camps take place at a small facility in the country that was purchased with funds raised from churches in our Conference.

The emergency is that someone has dumped diesel fuel in the only well at the camp. Well water is used for bathing, washing, and dish clean-up. The church already hauls in water for drinking and food prep as the well water is not pure. Now they have no water and the summer camps are in jeopardy. Money for a short-term fix to bring water from the river is needed immediately. Money for a long-term fix of digging a deeper well to pure water and a pump to bring it up is needed to make the camp a safer, more efficient environment.

Russia Initiative was the Communion Offering in May. If you were unable to give then, but would like to help with this emergency, please make checks out to NWHUMC with "Russia" in the memo. Let's help Good News UMC in their ministry to the children.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Carrie Wheatley, Trey Whiddon, Robbie Kuemmel, Lexie Christian, Carol Bruney, Karen Green, Cathy Troutner, Sharon Bistline, Our Troops

Those we love who are in nursing homes
 Vernen Liles, Mary Alice Smith, Billie Stout, Sara Moïse, Clara Mae Mann, Melba LaFitte

Prayer concerns may be submitted to our Yahoo! Prayer Group by sending an email 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, July 20, 12:00 p.m.

Publish date: Wednesday, July 29

Deadline: Monday, August 17, 12:00 p.m.

Publish date: Wednesday, August 26

The Bulletin

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

10:00 a.m. every Wednesday.

Please send articles to: hnovielli@nwhillsumc.org

Apples for Comfort House

In July NWHUMC will support Comfort House through the communion offering and a new program, "The Apple Tree." There will be a tree in the narthex with apples featuring the photo of a child served by Comfort House along with their sizes for new school clothes. You may either take an apple and purchase a complete set of clothes or you may donate towards the purchase of clothes by writing a check to NWHUMC, noted Comfort House communion offering, or by purchasing a gift card from Target and leaving it in the basket under the tree on Sunday mornings. Remember what it felt like to put on that new, special, first day of school outfit when you were a kid and help a child in East Austin have that same special feeling.

Notes From Beth

Explore Handbells! Monday, July 13, noon to 1:30 p.m., come explore how much fun it is to ring handbells! **No prior experience** is necessary and all youth and adults are invited to participate. The exploration will be in room 116. If you have questions, contact Beth at the church!

Join Sanctuary Choir and See the World! Well, maybe that is a bit of an exaggeration, but if you join the Sanctuary Choir, you will be experiencing the wonderful world of singing your faith! Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. and all you need to do is show up in the choir room and there will be a special place reserved for **you**. Sr. High Youth and all adults are welcome. Nursery can be arranged by calling the church office.



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

 **The Herald**