

# The Herald

Offering God's Love...  
Building Believers.

*A monthly publication of Northwest Hills United Methodist Church.*

January 1, 2007

Issue 1

## Sunday Worship

8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 am  
9:30 Worship offers  
Holy Communion  
Sunday School at 9:30  
for all ages  
7:00 p.m. Grace Harbor

## Welcome new members!

**Doug, Mandy &  
Alaina Goss**

**Jeff Lofley**

**Haley Finley-Jones**

**Brian Nowotny**

## 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



As I write this we are still in the midst of Advent, enjoying the many special celebrations of our church. It is exciting to be your pastor watching the many ways in which the "glad tidings" of Christmas are shared – with great joy! I pray you are also enjoying a wonderful "Holy Day" celebration of the gift of God at Bethlehem.

This season is also revealing of the strength of our ministries. I hope you have noticed and are celebrating this as well. The month of December began with a strong showing of our children and youth ministries. Celebration Singers (about 38 children strong) sang in the morning's 11 o'clock worship, almost 100 children sang in the afternoon Children's Christmas Pageant, and the Activity Center filled up with children, parents and grandparents for great fellowship. Our new Youth Handbell Choir, Redemption Ringers, also played for all 3 services that morning.

The following weekend showed further strength in ministries. More than 350 joined Saturday in a crowded Activity Center making Gingerbread Houses and enjoying more fellowship. Then a wonderful congregation showed up on Sunday afternoon for our Chancel Choir concert. Let us thank Doyle and Kristen Hudgins for all their work on the Gingerbread House party. And Jenny, Jean and Beth for their fine work on the concerts.

And to come? Corey and Harbor Light will offer a wonderful "contemporary cantata" this Sunday. And Jenny? She's taking 40 of our youth to a lock-in of 500 area Methodist youth (perhaps even worshipping here before the long night begins elsewhere).

I've seen mission outreach in several ways via our Committee and Sunday School classes. And more. It just is enough to make me glad and proud of what has happened and still *is* happening in the life our church this year.

Next year? New leaders elected at our Church Conference will continue to build up our ministries, with training and planning to take place in January. The New Year looks to be exciting and challenging.

Can you help? Indeed. One major challenge still facing us is our budget. That is "normal" but still a frustrating challenge. We had hoped to have all in place early this year. Unfortunately, old habits here are unchanging and we come to the end of the year without all your commitments in place. We've passed a tentative budget; however, it is discouraging to staff and leaders. It means cuts rather than advances! To staff and to ministries.

Can you help? Indeed. Remember your church during this season of giving. I pray NWHills is your favorite charity! And the means by which you help God in this community. Special donations during December will allow us to carry over money for the New Year. And your pledge? Have you made that yet? Please do. There are several scores of members who pledged last year that have not yet done so for this year. It would really help in planning and revising the budget "up" to where we need it to be.

Can you help? I pray so. There is so much to celebrate in the strength of our ministries. There is still so much else to accomplish for God's sake. We can, by God, in Christ's name.

Merry Christmas,  
*Bill*

## Prayer Ministry News

"My house shall be called a house of prayer." Isaiah 56:7

**Monthly Prayer Hour**  
**Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Wesley Chapel**

Everyone is invited to come for an hour of prayer and praise. The meeting will be led by Dr. Dale Williams and will include a time of prayer for individual needs. The Monthly Prayer Hour will be held on the third Thursday of each month from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you'd like to participate in the Prayer Shawl Ministry, but don't know one end of a crochet hook from another, here are some other ways you can help:

- You can commission us to make a shawl for someone you know who is facing a difficult time or a special celebration;
- You can help deliver shawls;
- You can donate yarn or make a contribution to help offset the cost of supplies.

For anyone interested in knitting or crocheting shawls, regular meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room (room 100) in the Family Life Center. Beginners are welcome and attendance at meetings is not necessary! Contact Eyvonne Williams at 451-2101 for details.

# ***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!***

***Thank you to everyone who stopped by the office to bring us holiday treats! We really enjoyed them!***

*From the staff: Bill, Dana, Beth, Corey, Jenny, Pam, Jean, Helen, Amanii, Deryl*



## Notes From Beth



### A SINGING OR RINGING NEW YEAR!

All of the choirs resume rehearsals following the busy holidays and we would love to have you join us!

Sanctuary Choir:	rehearsals Wednesday 7:30-9:00 p.m. (no audition!)
Adult Handbell Choirs:	rehearsals Monday and Wednesday nights (contact me at the church)
Youth Handbell Choir:	rehearsals Sunday 3:00-4:00 p.m.
CELEBRATION:	Sunday 5:00-6:15 p.m. (for children K-5 <sup>th</sup> grades)

Sing and Ring praise to God!



### HYMNS FOR ALL PEOPLE

A concert featuring American hymns will be presented in our Sanctuary on Sunday, January 14, at 2:30 p.m. Join the Conspirare Symphonic Choir and special vocalist Cynthia Clawson for an afternoon of cherished American hymns—from Shaker to Southern Harmony— from a variety of faith traditions. Tickets for the concert are available only through Conspirare at 476-5775 or [info@conspirare.org](mailto:info@conspirare.org).

## Upcoming shows in the North Hills Gallery

**Cindy Martin**

*January 4 - 28, 2007*

Reception January 7 at 12:15 in the gallery.

**Lisa Grant**

*January 31 - February 25, 2007*

Reception February 4 at 12:15 in the gallery

## Children's Ministries



Christmas is past and we received some wonderful presents. Presents from and for the children, like the most awesome Christmas Pageant ever! The warm fellowship of those gathered to make gingerbread houses, children's smiles and shyness having breakfast with Santa, and families worshipping together are just a few of the memories made. We have celebrated the gift God has given us in Jesus. As we begin a new year may we focus on another gift from God, the gift of time. What a wonderful gift time is. The Bible says that all times give us the opportunity to praise God: "I will praise the Lord at all times; His praise is always on my lips." Psalm 34:1, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1. What gift will we give back to God in 2007? My prayer for the children's ministry at NWHUMC is a constant focus on how we can raise our children to adore God.

I would like to thank Kim Hoffman for her dedication to the children's ministry team as chairperson for the past three years and the nursery chairperson the year prior. I know that I can rely on her assistance in years to come. Welcome aboard as the new chairperson, Roz Johnson. To

everyone involved in the life of our church, Roz & I welcome your support in the life of our children.

A very special thank you to the Gusler family in their donation of the church Advent devotional and candles to the parents of My Friend's House!

I would be amiss not to mention the teachers and nursery workers who have found it a part of their gift to nurture and support the children. Their continued efforts in 2007 will not go unnoticed. Have you hugged a teacher lately?

**Celebration continues January 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Children in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, we will begin work on the musical "Elijah! God's Faithful Prophet."**

Parent's Night Out is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month: January 13<sup>th</sup>, February 10<sup>th</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup>. We start at 5:00 p.m. (send a supper) and finish at 9:30 p.m. This is time for a parent's dinner and movie date. Look for sign-up sheets in the narthex the Sunday before each PNO or e-mail [jmarinus@nwhillsumc.org](mailto:jmarinus@nwhillsumc.org).

In the peace & joy of service to our Lord,

*Miss Jean*

## January

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

For the most current version of the January calendar, please visit the church website at <http://www.nwhillsumc.org>.

## Sunday Flowers 2007

It's time to sign up to donate flower arrangements for Sunday worship in 2007. The cost is \$35.00 and you may dedicate the arrangement in honor or in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special occasion. To reserve your date, look for the bright yellow "Sunday Flowers 2007" order forms in the narthex and church office or contact Chris Caverner at 345-4237 or [cccavner@aol.com](mailto:cccavner@aol.com). We especially need orders for January and February.



## Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will meet January 8 at 10:00 a.m. in room 110. Maurine Atwood will review and lead a discussion of *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Ken Edwards. All women of the church are invited. Please call Jan Broomall at 250-0177 if you have questions.

The Bunton family (Deryl, Deryl Jr. and Elijah) would like to thank Marty Donley, the Adult Bible Study class and the entire Northwest Hills UMC family for the thoughtful gifts that helped make this holiday season special.



## Texas Impact Conference

Texas Impact is coordinating a one-day conference on Saturday, January 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., to assist congregations in starting or strengthening social justice advocacy efforts. "Faith-Based Advocacy for Social Justice: Building Skills and Relationships" will address why social justice advocacy is an important part of a faithful life, tools for being effective, how to engage congregational membership and how to deal with common problems. The Reverend Emilee Whitehurst, Executive Director of Austin Area Interreligious Ministries will be the keynote speaker. A \$10.00 donation is requested to cover lunch. Sponsors of this event include Central Texas Muslima, the Amos Commission of the District Office of the United Methodist Church, Faithful Citizenship Committee of the Catholic Diocese and the Baptist Christian Life Commission. For more information and to sign up go to [www.texasimpact.org](http://www.texasimpact.org), call 472-3903 or email Gaye Kopas at [gtkopas@msn.com](mailto:gtkopas@msn.com).

## 40th Birthday Update

As we prepare for our 40th Birthday celebration, we are trying to locate contact information for all of our charter members. Please look over the following list and contact Mary Frances Markley at 346-2856 or [mfmark@swbell.net](mailto:mfmark@swbell.net) if you are able to give us an address or phone number, or if you have any information about a charter member.

Martha Alison Booth  
 Lisa Carol Booth  
 Robert & Mary Ann Brister  
 Ozro Luke Davis, III  
 Cynthia Brown Firth  
 Kendall & Shirin Gardner  
 Dewana Green  
 Lee & Dot Hagen  
 Sandra Lee Hagen  
 Robert & Nina Hill  
 Kathleen Anne Huston  
 Chris Knox  
 Neenah Lang  
 Caroline Schleuter Lashare  
 Jacqueline Lord  
 Barbara Kay Mann  
 Charles S. Mann, Jr.  
 Charles & Catherine Mann, Sr.  
 Barr & Carole McClellan  
 Virginia Rogers  
 A.R. & Nan Seefluth  
 Lewis & Nancy Skeens  
 McRee & Voncile Smith  
 Tamara Smith  
 Tristan Smith  
 Philip & Barbara Swartz  
 Philip & Shirley Thomas, Jr.  
 Vicki Veale Thornill  
 R.L. & Jewel Vincent  
 Kathryn Ann Young  
 Robert & Bootsie Young  
 Ruth Ellen Young  
 Vicky Young



## IT'S COMING SOON TO AN ACTIVITY CENTER NEAR YOU!

### M.A.D.

(Movie and Dinner)

When: January 13, 2006  
Where: Family Life Center- Activity Center  
Who: Families and friends  
Time: 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

MOVIE: *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*  
Genre: Comedy  
Rating: PG-13

DINNER MENU:  
Fried This (Country Fried Steak)  
Fried That (Potatoes and Onions)  
Green Beans and Biscuits  
Drinks (Iced tea, or ice water)



MOVIE SNACKS:  
Pecan Pralines and Mississippi Mud Coffee

## Disciple I Class Begins January 9<sup>th</sup>

**Disciple I is right for you if:** you are ready to explore the Bible in depth and begin to gain a better understanding of God's word for you and the church. OR you always intended to read the Bible but just couldn't get started or finished. OR you sat down and read the Bible like it was any other book and came away wondering what it was all about. OR you took Disciple I years ago and are ready to go back and fill in the gaps. OR just because it is!

Disciple I is a 34 week class covering about eighty percent of the Bible. Class materials from Cokesbury include a short video for each class meeting and daily lesson plans. These materials, plus weekly class discussion and sharing of ideas, are a wonderful setting in which to study the Bible, making it fun and much more meaningful than trying to absorb it by yourself or reading it in a piece-meal fashion.

Class begins on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$45.00 and discreet scholarships are available. To sign up, please call or email Greg Judd at 423-6407 or [disciplesignup@accent-travel.com](mailto:disciplesignup@accent-travel.com). Please include your name, preferred phone number, email address and if you need child care. Hope to see you in class!

**Remember to recycle your paper!**

## Adult Children of Aging Parents Support Group

*"The Frailty Syndrome in Older Adults"*

**When:** Wednesday, January 17, 2007  
7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Education Building  
**Who:** Tom Parker, MD FACP  
Medical Communications/Consulting  
Community Cardiovascular Consultants

Dr. Parker will share new information and approaches based on research done at Johns Hopkins. The Frailty Syndrome is an increasingly common problem of aging, one associated with increasing dependence and multiple other adverse health outcomes.

Dr. Parker is an author and public speaker. He has been a principal investigator in many clinical research studies. He

is currently involved in *Clinical Nutrition/Pharmacology* working in the development of an interactive program to manage the Metabolic Syndrome and prevent cardiovascular complications of diabetes. He served until recently as *Director of Cardiovascular Services* for the nation's largest geriatrics practice. He is continuing the same activities in 2006 for community based, locally-operated Community Cardiovascular Consultants and the Community Care Consortium.

*"Dr. Parker is considered by many a gifted communicator, able to translate complicated medical concepts into everyday lingo, using humor, anecdotes and analogies. He has been a top national speaker for several major pharmaceutical product launches and a favorite of many regional audiences."*

*-Quote from director of a major national medical communications firm*

This is a forum to *nurture and recharge* concerned Adult Children caring for their loved ones as they age. Please contact Nancy Nickerson, 837-3741, with questions.

# January Birthdays

January 1	David Walters	January 17	Harvey Jones, Sharon Donley, Bruce Fullerton, Lisa Osswald, Brian Brushwood, Paige Diver, Christina Maletta
January 2	Kathi Doolittle	January 18	Erie Nagel, David Ellis
January 3	Pat Damron, Gale Copeland, Jim Connolly	January 19	Michael Norman, Rita Collier
January 4	JoeAnn Scott, Gail Haberman, Lindsey Moringy, Kendall Connolly	January 20	Frieda Coughenour, Barbara Jarman, Connie Croslin, Brenda Ransdell, Chuck Krueger, Marla Menchaca, Pierrette Tyson, Jennifer Newton, Charlotte Einhorn
January 5	Bev Holfus, Susan Anthony, Melissa Dudley, Andrew Watson	January 21	Betty Hamilton, Connie Doland, Anita Wagner, Mike Burgh, Katie Lang, Chris Barron, Claire Wirht
January 6	David Chestney, Julie Gallia, Stacey Trulove	January 22	Joanne York, Mike Dallas, Ella Johnson
January 7	Neill Gruver, J.P. Stallworth, Zoe Penner	January 24	Tami Anderson
January 8	Joseph Toth, Mike Vaden	January 25	Ruth Ann Trulove, John Michael Garrison, Alex Dallas
January 9	Kari Means, Barto Arnold, III, Lisa Hardcastle, Randy Atchison, Kathy Bowers	January 26	Becky Travelstead, Pamela Krueger
January 10	Ryan Hamilton, Brian Lengel, Madeline Goulet	January 27	Jeff Jones, Mary Elder, Mary Frances Markley, Matt Dudley, Kim Allen
January 12	Heather McKenzie, Mollie Beaves	January 28	Art Cook, Bree Lyerly
January 13	Sara Moise, Kendall Smith, Lauren Hoffman	January 29	Diane Crawford, Sutton Stallworth, Zach Scott, Sarah Vaden
January 14	Judy McGray, Jordan Wilfley	January 30	Frank LaBoon, Kay Tyson, Britian Darr
January 15	Jay Johnston, Doray Lendacky, Charlie Clark, Clay McComb	January 31	Carolyn Baker, Lane Garrett, Bonnie Brushwood, David Nutt
January 16	Kim Talley, Gray Bryant, Judith Buck, Michelle Davidson, Kelsey Beavers		

## Memorials

*In Memory of Michelle Ellis  
Robert & Karen Bowker*

*In Memory of Emma Lucas  
Robert & Karen Bowker*



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

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

[NWHillsUMCPrayers@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NWHillsUMCPrayers@yahoogroups.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)

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## Important Deadlines

### The Herald

**Deadline: Monday, January 22, noon**

Publish date: Wednesday, January 31, 2007

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

Publish date: Wednesday, February 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.

## Have you moved? Did you transfer to a new church?

We are always actively trying to update our database to make sure that we have the most current information. This ensures that you are getting good information in a timely manner.

If you have moved and are getting this newsletter forwarded to your new mailing address, please contact Helen in the church office and give her your new address. Also, if you transferred to a new church when you moved, please let Helen know so that she can send a certificate of transfer to your new church home.

Thank you so much for your help in keeping our membership rolls and our database current!



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

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