



THE HILLTOP NEWS

2820 Laredo Dr., Fort Worth, Texas 76116
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February 20, 2018

The purpose of Western Hills United Methodist Church is to continue the ministry of Jesus by making disciples through faith, hope and love.

Wednesday—February 21

10:00 a.m., ESL Class
6:00 p.m., Lenten Study
6:30 p.m., Disciples Choir
6:30 p.m., Handbell Choir
7:00 p.m., LaVida Cristo Centrica
7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir

Thursday—February 22

9:00-11:00 a.m., Food Pantry

Saturday—February 24

8:00 a.m., UMM Breakfast

Sunday—February 25

9:00 a.m., Culto de Adoración
9:30 a.m., Sunday School
10:30 a.m., Escuela Dominical
10:50 a.m., Worship Service
5:00 p.m., U.M.Y.F.

Monday—February 26

10:00 a.m., ESL Class
5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts

Tuesday—February 27

9:00-11:00 a.m., Food Pantry

Wednesday—February 28

10:00 a.m., ESL Class
6:00 p.m., Lenten Study
6:30 p.m., Disciples Choir
6:30 p.m., Handbells
7:00 p.m., LaVida Cristo Centrica
7:00 p.m., Chancel Choir

Thursday—March 1

9:00-11:00 a.m., Food Pantry
4:00 p.m., Alzheimer's Support Group

Saturday—March 3

6:00 p.m., Praiz'n

Sunday—March 4

9:30 a.m., Sunday School
10:50 a.m., Worship
5:00 p.m., U.M.Y.F.

Monday—March 5

10:00 a.m., ESL Class
1:30 p.m., Stephen Ministries
5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts

Tuesday—March 6

9:00-11:00 a.m., Food Pantry
1:30 p.m., Heavenly Needles

There are events in life that shake us to the core of our being. The mass shootings in Parkland, FL last week is one such event. Stoneman Douglas High School, a school of close to 3000 students became the crime scene that has haunted the lives of Parkland's residents and the whole nation. It is alarming to know that the mass shooting that killed 17 students and injured 14 happened on the Christian Year's second day in Lent. I make this observation because it is helpful to be in prayer and take this horrific event in perspective.

The violent disrespect for human life and the killing of it is a sin. It goes against the commandments of God where awareness of God as Creator and giver of life is implicit to the giving and receiving of God's Law. (Exodus 20) Jesus adds to the understanding of the Law by adding that one is to love the neighbor as oneself. (Matthew 22:34-40) Somehow along the way, segments of humanity have forgotten that reverence for life is a life giving and affirming value that allows us to strive and thrive for survival.

On Ash Wednesday Worship Service, we as a church gathered to begin the Lent season of prayer, meditation, contemplation, as we seek to grow in our Christian faith. The culmination of the worship service was the imposition of ashes on our forehead in the sign of the cross. The words that were pronounced were, "Dust you are and to dust you shall return. Repent and believe in the Gospel." In my personal experience one cannot but identify with the victims of the mass shootings in Parkland, FL. The incident brought the event to the core of my existence. I, like the victims, am vulnerable to have life snatched away by some evil act at any moment. So I must depend on God to guard me and protect me and, if I was to perish, to know that I still rest under the protection of God. As the Affirmation of Faith of the United Church of Canada helps me to declare, "In life, in death, in life beyond death God is with us. We are not alone." Paul in the fourteenth chapter of Romans puts it this way, "Whether we live or whether we die, we belong to the Lord.

Let us, in what in the time that is ours in this season of Lent, affirm our mortality and allow our lives to rest in the eternal hope of God in Christ Jesus our Lord in the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray for those who suffer at the hands of evil acts. I pray to see you in the holy moments when we celebrate the acts of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Raul

Supporting My Church

Current Prayer Concerns:

Dollie Bedwell; Katherine Clemens; Phil Craig, father of a friend of Ben Hawk; Chris Denton, friend of Barbie Brewer; Sammie Ellis; Liola Allison Lester, daughter of Margaret Lester; Meddough Family, friends of Barbie Brewer

(Current prayer concerns will be posted for one month unless a request is received for the name to continue on the prayer list)

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Renee Brown, Penny Comparini, Beverly Contakos, Kaylan Covan, Mike Dobbs, Ted Evans, Jan Fisher, Dale Ford, Jessica Gray, Jann Green, Mike & Carolyn Grimes, Kenneth Holley, Aaron Jennings, Mike Magee, Doug & Jean McGlaun, Ethel Meads, Mildred Rankin, Camille Redden, Ann Tolleson

Our Military:

Sam Brooks, Jason Busby, Garret Comparini, Sarah Davis, Dan Fagan, Sarah Harris, Angela Herrington, Trinity Herrington, Christopher Moore, Thomas Morton, Robert Newman, Richard Ray Owens, Jr., Nicholas Perez, Jacob Rangel, Chris Sotello, Blake Strack, Johnny Waldrop, Melvin Williams, Brandon Wilson

The deadline for the next newsletter is

Monday, March 5, 2018 by 12:00 p.m.



With Presence

Sunday School Attendance:

February 11th	65
February 18th	55

Worship Attendance:

February 11th	86
February 14th	57
February 18th	122

Spanish Worship Service

February 18th	18
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Praiz'n

February 17th	13
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Gifts of Money Needed for General Budget each week: \$5,000.00

February 11th

General Budget	\$3,118.01
Heifer Fund	44.00
Memorial Fund	80.00
U.M.Y.F.	35.00

February 18th

General Budget	\$2,464.00
Heifer Fund	8.00
Food Pantry	150.00
UMCOR	300.00



SECURITY TEAMS/ LOCK UP TEAMS

February 25

Security: Jerry Warburton

Lock Up: Jerry Warburton

March 4

Security: Don Brooks

Lock Up: Don Brooks

If you are unable to work on your assigned day, please make arrangements for a substitute.



Interested in Becoming a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministry is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in our congregation.

Stephen Ministers equip and empower lay caregivers (Stephen Ministers) that provide high-quality, one-to-one, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. The best way to understand how Stephen Ministry works is to take the 50 hours of training for Stephen Ministers.

A Stephen Minister provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour. Twice a month, Stephen Ministers gather with their Stephen Leaders for supervision and continuing education.

The only qualifications needed to be a Stephen Minister would be a person that can keep information confidential, want to learn to listen and want to help others journey through life's struggles with help. We all journey in this world of struggles and crisis and it seems to me it would be better to have company during the journey.

The next training session will be starting in April. Please pick up an application from Terry.

March Birthdays



1—Nikki Taylor

1—Betty Jo Robinson

2—Debra Rue

3—Bobby Joyce

4—Jim Strack

4—Angela Whittle

7—David Tidwell

8—Bill C. Whittle

8—Vickie Peach

9—Allan Johnson

15—Annette Cochenour

15—Pepe Shamba

17—Emily Tschetter

19—Ethel Meads

19—Caleb Smith

21—Mike Elrod

23—Frankie Adams

23—Beverly Newman

23—Henri Zombil

23—Kirsten Bartlett

25—Dwayne Robinson

26—Randall Brown

28—Kim Livingston

29—Rodger Busby

31—Julie Mystic

March



March

Anniversaries

Anniversaries



5—Jerry & Anna Fry

10—James & Sharon Fowler

15—Mary & Dave Clark

19—Erick & Adrainne Pruitt



When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven-year-old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"