



The Messenger

February 24, 2021
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A weekly publication of Laurel Heights United Methodist Church

Show Us the Way . . . Walking with Jesus

The Laurel Heights labyrinth draws from a centuries-old practice of essentially going in circles in order to experience God's nearness, determine a direction for our lives, or arrive at something understood.

Solvitur ambulando is a Latin phrase attributed to St. Augustine, 5th century bishop of Hippo that means "it is solved by walking around." The phrase was often placed near entrances to circular labyrinths as an invitation to the practice. But how is anything solved by walking around, by going in circles? The idea strikes us as counterintuitive and even counterproductive.

The wisdom of the ages is that this is precisely the point of a labyrinth—to lift us briefly from the routine ways we proceed from point A to point B in order to give us a clearer set of coordinates for our journey. "By indirection," Shakespeare wrote, "find directions out."

We have a shining example of going in circles in Jesus of Nazareth. If we trace Jesus' steps in ministry as narrated by the gospel writers we plot a zigzag, looped-around, meandering course that only toward its end finds a more linear focus as Jesus sets his face to go to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51).

We might say that to travel along the labyrinth is to trace the footsteps of Jesus. Put another way, it is to allow time and opportunity for God to enter our thoughts, emotions and frame in a way that lead us to deeper awareness of God's presence, purpose, and power in our lives.

One year the church I served had a Vacation Bible School theme of "walking with Jesus" during which, in the course of the morning, children were invited to walk a labyrinth. The idea that this practice was a way of being close to God—that walking the labyrinth was like walking with Jesus—must have registered. One day during Bible school I overheard a young boy named Browning ask his older brother as they were leaving the building, "Did you get to walk with Jesus today?"

I invite you to walk with Jesus by traveling the labyrinth at Laurel Heights during the season of Lent. Consider it a playful exploration of an ancient and trusted practice; consider it a personal spiritual exercise; consider it your part in our congregational practice of listening for God's guidance and direction as we journey through the season of Lent, moving from dying to rising, from death to resurrection.

Grace and peace.



The Laurel Heights labyrinth is for all ages. It is located in the gym during the season of Lent, and available by reservation on Sundays from 8 am to 10 am and 4 pm to 6 pm. Call the church office at 210-733-7156 or click on the link below to make a reservation:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c49afad23a64-walk>

Join us for a Worship Watch Party
on zoom
Sunday morning at 11 am,
hosted by
Paul Escamilla and Laura Healy



To join Zoom Worship Watch Party, click here:

<https://zoom.us/j/93061803014?pwd=ZkpTeHFpMEJ2L294SFBSYjFjWkpOQT09>



FOOD DRIVE

Neighborhood Faith Convening is collecting food items to distribute to our area schools for families with food insecurity before Spring Break.

We have been assigned jars of peanut butter and canned chili as our collection items.

You may drop off your donations in the basket just inside the Woodlawn door or you can leave your donation on the bench outside the door and we will bring it inside for you!

We will collect through March 1st.



*Show us
the way...*

**Walk the Labyrinth Sundays during Lent
February 21 - March 28
8-10AM & 4-6PM by reservation**

**The Laurel Heights United Methodist Church Gym (2nd Floor)
227 W. Woodlawn Ave.
San Antonio, TX 78212**

Make your reservation today | (210) 733-7156 

Or

Click on the link below to make your reservation:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c49afad23a64-walk>

Wednesday Prayer Gathering

February 24

from 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Though scattered, we are gathered in prayer in the name of the One from whose love nothing can separate us.



*A time to
to pray for one another
and the world...*

Click on this link: <https://www.zoom.us/j/130214408>

OR
Call (346) 248-7799, and when prompted,
enter the Meeting ID: 130 214 408

ZOOM BOOK STUDY ON *GILEAD*

FEBRUARY 28 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

Plans are underway to launch a Zoom book study at Laurel Heights on four Sunday nights, beginning on February 14. The Rev. Dr. Mark Doty will lead the study of *Gilead*, the Pulitzer Prize winning novel written by Marilynne Robinson and published in 2004. *Gilead* is the first of four novels in a series which details the history of a pastor's family. The Zoom class will meet from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM on each of the evenings.

Copies of *Gilead* are available through local bookstores or by ordering from Amazon.

In order to register for the Zoom class, please call the Church Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Healy lhealy@mylhumc.org.

Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on this link: <https://zoom.us/j/98154876717>

Meeting ID: 981 5487 6717

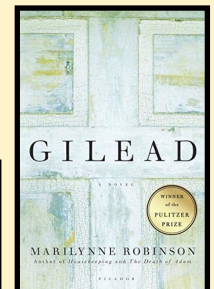
One tap mobile

+13462487799,,98154876717# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 981 5487 6717



Read for discussion:

Feb. 28: Pages 124-185

March 7: Pages 186-247

LHUMC Mission of the Month - February 2021

Wesley SA/Campus Ministries

The Wesley Foundation of San Antonio is the Methodist Campus Ministry for San Antonio College, Trinity University, and UTSA campuses.

We seek to create intentional and authentic Christian communities in and around our Campuses. We engage with students in order to live out faith on campus as well as in mission efforts and worship opportunities. We seek to create a culture of change and growth through empowering and equipping student leaders.

Bible Study and Prayer time on Zoom Urban Faith Missions SA project

Movie Nights Scholarships for UM Army projects

“Sock”tober collection Annual Angel Tree for SAC

For more information, please contact Rev. Valerie Vogt – Campus Minister, Brenda Meneses- Ministry Administrator, or Alex Ruiz – Program Coordinator at (210-733-1441) or visit our website <http://saumcm.org>.

The Wesley Foundation of San Antonio
102 Belknap Pl.
San Antonio, TX 78212
saumcm.org
(210) 733-1441 office
Email office@saumcm.org



Thursday, February 25 – SUPER ADULT DAY

Another day in the Woodlawn Parking Lot. Bring a chair to put in front of your car (or we will provide one) as we practice social distancing and wave royally to Super Friends. There will be special Valentine cards on which to write notes of appreciation to Front Line Workers in the fight against Covid 19.

Come at 11 a.m. to receive cards for writing and lunch delivered to your car – “Super Adult Curb Service.”

Enjoy your lunch which today is: Green Salad with Love Apples, Chicken with Artichoke Hearts

Love Knot Rolls, Chocolate Covered Strawberries Cost \$6.00

Call to make your reservation at 210-872-8031



Bring a jar of Peanut Butter to add to food bags being collected by the Faith Convening Group for distribution to area schools for students who might otherwise go without during Spring Break.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our PRAYER

You can offer a prayer of gratitude or concern by emailing prayers@mylhumc.org, through [Facebook Messenger](#), or calling the church office (210) 733-7156.



Memorial Gifts

General Fund

In memory of
Curtis Gunn
Given by Vicki Ferguson

In memory of
Mary Alphin
Given by Vicki Ferguson

In memory of Ginna Lynd
Given by Carolyn Hierholzer

Music Fund

In memory of
Hazel Dowdy
Given by Dr. Jan Garverick

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of
Mary Alphin
Given by Kitty Grantham

Giving to Laurel Heights

Online Gifts: Please visit our website,

<https://www.laurelheights.org/give/>

Text to Give:

Please text "LHUMC" to 73256.



Checks: Please mail to

LHUMC, Attn: Bookkeeper 227 W. Woodlawn, SATX, 78212.

Thank you, Laurel Heights, for your faithfulness in giving.



February 26 – March 4

2/26

Thomas Sanders

2/27

George Rohlfis

2/28

Henry Holloway

Amelie Lanoux

3/1

Nancy Haney

Lizzie Hartson

3/3

Karen Angelini

Genny Campbell

Jose Mercado

Zoe Moore

3/4

Luke Galindo

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Healing: Tony Arredondo, Norma Balderas, Betty Benson, Ellen Berky, Whit Birdsong (*Kitty Grantham*), Jim Crews, Judy Davis, Gena (*Thad Dorsey*), Marvin Gregory (*Carrie Clemens*), Jim and Brandon Lloyd (*Jeanette Morton*), Lucien Manchester, May O’Neal, Doug Semmes, Bob Walden.

Those Who Mourn:

Debbie Regalado on the death of her mother, Cynthia Regalado.

God’s Presence: for our country, parents, teachers and students both face to face and remote, those affected by the COVID-19 virus and their families, as well as for the caregivers and researchers working to treat those affected and combat the spread of the disease; homebound members, the incarcerated, and women and men in our military.



Photo Credit: Anthony Castillo, LHUMC Facilities Manager

Contact Us

To reach the office staff by phone, please call (210) 733-7156.

For an appointment with Yvonne Garcia, RN, our Wesley Nurse, please call (210) 272-7921.



www.LaurelHeights.org



Laurel Heights UMC
February 2021

Photo Credit:
Anthony Castillo,
Facilities Manager