



The Messenger

October 13, 2021
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When my youngest son, Jacob, was about 5 years old, he started asking about death and dying. He asked the usual questions that one would expect, but the questions keep coming. I knew there was some underlying concern, but I didn't know what it was. Then one night, Jacob asked who would take care of him if Serhat and I both died. That's not an easy question to answer, but I thought to myself, Let's start with God. So, I told Jacob that if that were to happen God would take care of him. Jacob burst into tears and cried out, "God can't drive, and Sam isn't old enough to drive! Who's going to drive me to school?" I proceeded to calm Jacob down and explain which relatives were named as guardians in our will. Jacob liked that answer a lot better. He just needed to know that someone would drive him to school.

At first glance, it's easy to think Jacob was just too young to understand how God takes care of us. Or maybe, it was my too simple of an answer. Jacob was correct; God does not drive. However, as followers of Jesus Christ, we *do*. The Holy Spirit calls upon us to act in loving service, and we faithfully respond with our actions. We take care of each other. That would have been a better explanation for Jacob to *hear*, but it's even easier to *see* here at Laurel Heights.

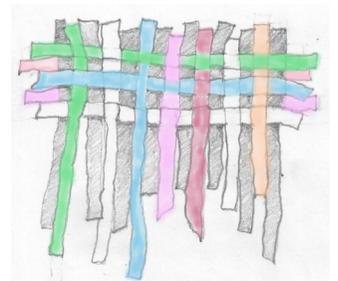
Our community at Laurel Heights continues to faithfully respond by driving gift bags to members' door steps, collecting diapers for mothers in crisis, delivering care packages to healthcare workers, and on and on. The "wordle" on the following page of this newsletter gives us a glimpse at some of these ways we are the extension of God's love in the world. These faithful actions represent connections that we make within our faith community and out into the world.

I'm so grateful to belong to Laurel Heights and share these connections with all of you. And as Jacob grows up, he'll have so many memories from Laurel Heights of how God really does take care of us.

On Sunday, October 24, the Stewardship Committee invites you to a Jazz Brunch on Rowe Plaza from 9:30 to 10:30 am to celebrate our *Connections: The Gift of Belonging*. A light breakfast—with freshly made beignets!—will be served or can be picked up to go. The consecration of our pledges and estimates of giving will follow during the Worship Service at 11:00 am. I hope you can join us.

Susie Guven, chair

LHUMC Stewardship Committee



Join us October 17, 2021 for worship

11:00 A.M. Sanctuary

Preaching : Rev. Paul Escamilla

Come & See Live

October 17, 2021

9:00am – 9:30am Sanctuary

Preaching: Rev. Paul Escamilla

Song Leader: Anaiah Montaño



**LAUREL HEIGHTS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS

Wednesday Prayer Gathering

October 20

from 5:30-6:00 p.m.

Though scattered, we are gathered in prayer
in the name of the One from whose love



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

LHUMC MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER, LET'S GET A HEAD START!



MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

Where do CROP HUNGER WALK funds go?

When CROP began in 1947 (under the wing of Church World Service, which was founded in 1946), CROP was an acronym for the Christian Rural Overseas Program. Its primary mission was to help Midwest farm families to share their grain with hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia.

Today, we've outgrown the acronym but we retain it as the historic name of the program. CROP Hunger Walks are interfaith hunger education and fundraising events sponsored by

What does CROP stand for?

CROP Hunger Walks help to support the overall ministry of Church World Service, especially grassroots, hunger-fighting development efforts around the world. In addition, each local CROP Hunger Walk

can choose to return up to 25 percent of the funds it raises to hunger-fighting programs in its own community.

CROP Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs. From seeds and tools, to wells and water systems, to technical training and micro-enterprise loans, the key is people working together to identify their own development priorities, their strengths and their needs something CWS has learned through some 68 years of working in partnership around the world.

I wonder, how much do you know about Godly Play?
I wonder if you'd like to learn more?
We would love to have you join us
every once in a while in the circle on Sunday morning.

Contact Laura Healy for more information.

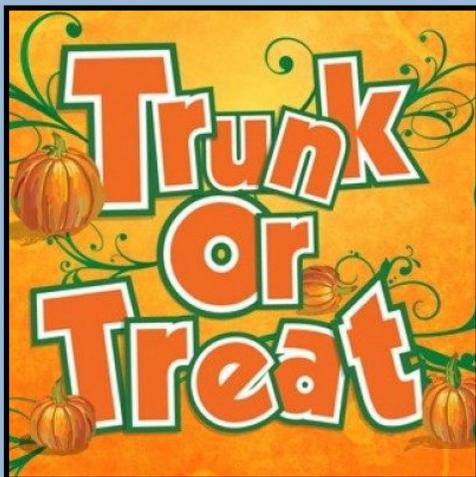
lhealy@mylhumc.org



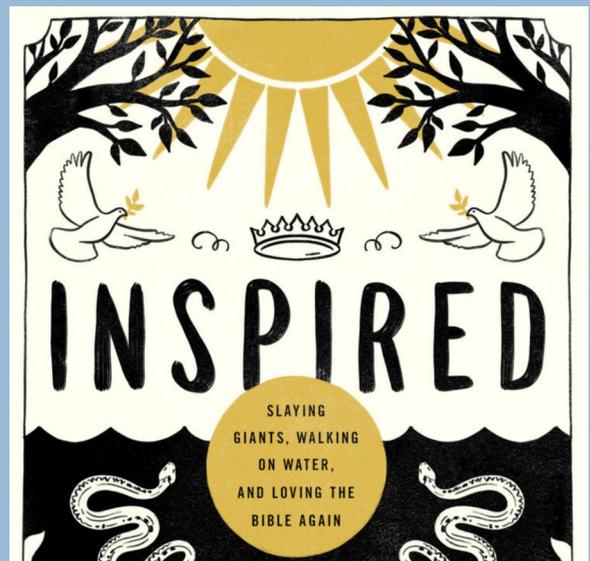
There is still time to
consider!
The "Inspired" bible study
begins Oct. 19th



LHUMC
Weekday School
Halloween Parade
When: October 29th
Time: 9am



Fill your trunk
with plenty of treats
October 31st
5pm-7pm
Belknap Parking Lot



TUESDAYS 7PM - 8PM

@ LAUREL HEIGHTS

8-week study of *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans

Starts October 19th

Questions & Registration: lhealy@mylhumc.org

October Mission of the Month



DIAPER DRIVE

- Diapers size 6 (girl / boy)
- Diapers size 7 (boy)
- Pull-ups size 2T-3T (boy)
- Bedtime underwear size s/m (boy)
- Bedtime underwear size l-xl (girl)



We will be collecting diapers, pull-ups, and wipes to help replenish their supply of baby products. We will be collecting items in the basket on the bench, located right inside the entrance off Woodlawn Avenue. Sizes needed are as below.



Catholic Charities are asking for donations of gift cards to help meet the immediate needs of Afghan refugees arriving in SA.

Gift Card Donation

Gift card donations to Walmart, Target, and H-E-B can be dropped off at our main office, 202 W. French Pl., San Antonio, TX 78212 during our business hours of 8:30am – 5pm, Monday – Friday.

Virtual Reading Buddies needed

Caring volunteers are needed to read with children in grades 1st-8th online via Zoom on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Volunteers can sign-up for one day or multiple days throughout the school year and no prior experience is needed! All Reading Buddy volunteers need to pass a criminal background check and will need to complete an online training prior to their first shift. If you were a summer and/or an online Reading Buddy last school year, training may be optional.

Click on the button below for full details and to sign up.

<https://projecttransformation.org/rio-texas/get-involved>



General Fund

In memory of
David Adams
Given by Juanita Souder

In memory of
Taylor Boone
Given by Juanita Souder

In memory of
Judy Davis
Given by Juanita Davis

Church Mice
In memory of
George Frame
Given by Juanita Souder



*Memorial
and
Honorarium
Gifts*

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of
Marjorie Hugo
Given by Tom Kurtz

In memory of
Judy Davis
Given by Mrs. Richard Chandler

Music Fund
In memory of
Rachel Castano
Given by Elizabeth Castano

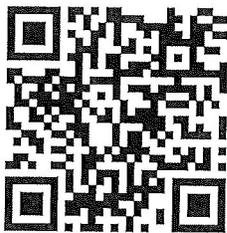
LHUMC Scholarship Fund

In memory of
Sydney Mae Thompson
Given by Cindy Birdwell

Giving to Laurel Heights

Online Gifts:

Please visit our website,
<https://www.laurelheights.org/give/>



*Or give through
our church QR code*

Text to give:

"LHUMC" to 73256

Checks: Please mail to LHUMC

Attn: Bookkeeper

227 W. Woodlawn

San Antonio, TX 78212

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our PRAYER

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

Happy
Birthday!

October 15 to October 22

10/15

Rex Parker
Rodney Smith

10/16

Jon Lowry

10/17

Ricky Bailey
Elisse De La Vega
Oliver Gannon
Steven Marrone
Jo Mascorro
Traci Rush
Garrett Townsen

10/20

Scotty Barrows
Mary Epstein

10/21

Andrew Gannon

10/22

Edward Adams
Laura Beuhler

We don't want to leave anyone out!
Please notify the church office if you
don't see your name on the birthday list.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Healing: Josh Beninger (*Susan Holloway*),
Jill Caldwell, Kay Carter,
Clifton Henry, Larry Howard,
Lucien Manchester,
Joe Palafos, Doug Semmes.

Those who Mourn:
The family of Marjorie Hugo
on her death.

God's Presence: For 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.

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

