



# The Messenger

August 23, 2023  
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August 20, 2023

## **Walk to Emmaus at Laurel Heights UMC**

David E. Smith,  
LHUMC Church Member

Sunday (August 20), I talked to both Laurel Heights United Methodist Church worship services about upcoming Walks to Emmaus and reviving the Emmaus Community at Laurel Heights UMC. What a joy to see many hands raised when I asked how many have completed a Walk!

First a little Walk to Emmaus background. As related in the Gospel of Luke Chapter 24 verses 13-35, there were two disciples of Jesus walking along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus sharing their deepest concerns about the death of Jesus. An unknown person joined them and explained the scriptures as they walked. When they arrived at home, toward the end of the day, they asked the stranger to stay and eat with them. As the stranger took bread, blessed, broke, and shared it with them, their eyes were opened, and they recognized the risen Christ! Jesus vanished from their sight, and they rushed back to Jerusalem to share the good news with the other disciples.

The Walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian renewal beginning with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way, as God's grace and love are revealed through other believers.

The objective is to inspire, challenge, and equip church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and places of work. The Walk to Emmaus lifts up ways for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

*cont. on pg. 2*

About twenty-five years ago a friend talked about the Walk to Emmaus and concluded saying, “You owe it to yourself to attend a Walk to Emmaus.” When he finished, I turned to my wife, Carolyn, and said, “I think I can do that.” A few years later the opportunity to attend came up and I reluctantly went to Mount Wesley, in Kerrville, Texas. I was so reluctant, I took our then new cellphone, loaded up with 30 minutes talk time a month, and told Carolyn if it wasn’t right I would call her to come rescue me! I never made that call. As a recovering heathen, it was the best thing I’ve ever done for me spiritually because I learned that by God’s Grace and at the cost of Jesus Christ on the Cross my sins are forgiven.

Due to restrictions begun during the recent Covid-19 pandemic, Emmaus Walks and Community meetings have not occurred and it is time for a new beginning! The Care Bexar Emmaus Community is sponsoring Men’s Walk to Emmaus #125 at Mount Wesley in Kerrville, September 14-17, 2023. If you are interested in participating this Walk, or would like to sponsor someone for this Walk, please contact me! (Text: 210-844-4991 or Email: [smithde9@sbcglobal.net](mailto:smithde9@sbcglobal.net).) I have Walk applications and brochures explain the Walk to Emmaus in detail.

The Care Bexar Community is sponsoring Women’s Walk #126, at Camp Capers near Comfort, Texas, April 25-28, 2024. They are preparing the Walk application now.

A very important aspect of the Walk application process is every applicant must have a sponsor, who has completed a Walk, to assist them with the application process and if you want to go and don’t have a sponsor, ask me—I’ll help you find the right person! They may be sitting next to you in worship.

Part two! Many of you know retired Pastor Jon Lowry who has served here at Laurel Heights UMC as senior pastor and now attends and sings in the Choir during the 11 o’clock service. When Carolyn and I began attending Worship here a few weeks ago, Pastor Jon suggested a need to reestablish regular Emmaus Worship here at Laurel Heights UMC. I believe with God’s help and some participation all things are possible. If you are interested gathering our Emmaus Community here at Laurel Heights UMC occasionally (perhaps quarterly) please text :210-844-4991 or email [smithde9@sbcglobal.net](mailto:smithde9@sbcglobal.net)

A reminder, Emmaus Community meetings are not a secret society! They are open to all for eating, singing and praising our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

Two things to remember: If that still, small, quiet voice tells you the Walk to Emmaus has a place for you, members of this congregation can tell you about it and help you go on your personal Walk.

The Laurel Heights UMC Emmaus Community needs to come together to revive this wonderful ministry—email or text me.

Finally, no matter where you are in your faith journey, the Walk to Emmaus will take you further. De Colores!

[David E. Smith is a new member of Laurel Heights UMC and serves on the board of the Care Bexar Emmaus Community]

## Youth Families Ministry

LHUMC YOUTH AND CHURCH FAMILY

LET'S PLAY!

PICKLEBALL & LUNCH  
INVITE YOUR  
FRIENDS!

AUGUST 26,  
11:00 AM-1 PM CHURH  
LHUMC GYM

WANT TO HELP?

CONTACT: WYNDEE HOLBROOK  
859-200-9880



LAUREL HEIGHTS  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

# Save THE Date

## New Sermon Series

**GIFTED**



Sermon Series  
begins Sunday, Sep. 3

## Covenant Prayer Team Training



Join us Sunday, Sep. 10 at 12:15 in the parlor to learn how you can serve others through prayer. A light lunch will be served. Questions? Ask Pastor Laura for more information.

## Reception Celebration!

Join us in welcoming our College  
Students and honoring  
Pastor Wyndee Holbrook  
Sunday, September 10 @ noon in  
Fellowship Hall.

Stay tuned for more information.





# Sunday Worship Services

## Come and See...

August 27, 2023

**Thirteenth  
Sunday of Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Worship Experience

Sermon: Dr. Steve Haney  
Liturgist & Song Leader:  
Tom & Jeanette Morton

Fellowship Gathering

9:30am to 10:00am

Fellowship Hall

Coffee, Tea & Light Refreshments

Thank you Believers Class  
for providing refreshments  
for Sunday, August 27

Sunday School

10:00 a.m. to 10:45 am.

Worship / 11am / Sanctuary

The 11 am service is live-streamed at:

[www.laurelheights.org/online-worship/](http://www.laurelheights.org/online-worship/)

and on our Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/LaurelHeightsUMC](http://www.facebook.com/LaurelHeightsUMC)



## Church Calendar

### Wednesday, August 23

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*

5:30 p.m. Bible in 90 Days Small Group - *Laurel Rm*

### Thursday, August 24

9:00 a.m. Church Mice

6:00 p.m. Tai Chai Class - *Room 312*

### Friday, August 25

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*

### Saturday, August 26

11:00 a.m. Pickleball Party - *Gym*

### Sunday, August 27

9:00 a.m. Come and See Worship - *Sanctuary*

9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - *Fellowship Hall*

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - *Sanctuary*

12:15p.m Administrative Council Mtg. - *Room 312*

6:30 p.m. Bible in 90 Days - *Zoom*

### Monday, August 28

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*

10:30 a.m. Bible in 90 Days Group - *Laurel Rm.*

5:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting - *Parlor Rm.*

7:00 p.m. Safety Task Force Meeting - *Parlor Rm.*

### Tuesday, August 29

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, August 30

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - *Choir Room*

### Thursday, August 31

9:00 a.m. Church Mice

10:30 a.m. Super Adult Day - *Gymnasium*

6:00 p.m. Tai Chai Class - *Room 312*

### Friday, September 1

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*

### Sunday, September 3

9:00 a.m. Come and See Worship - *Sanctuary*

9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - *Fellowship Hall*

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - *Sanctuary*

12:15 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting - *Laurel Rm*

HAPPY  
**LABOR  
- DAY -**

WE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4  
IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY.



**LAUREL HEIGHTS**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

**Family Fun Events**

**Sat., Sep. 30 @ 5pm  
Game Night**

**Tues., Oct. 31 @ 5pm  
Trunk or Treat**

**Sat., Nov. 11 @ 5pm  
Movie Night**

**Sat., Dec. 9 @ 10am  
Letters to Santa**

**Sat., Jan. 27 @ 10am  
Valentine-Making**

# *Prayer Requests*

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### *Healing:*

Lucien Manchester  
Sonny Landers  
Richard Parrigan  
Natasha Garza  
Stacey Halim  
Laurel Welch  
Ellen Evans  
Barbara Miller

### *God's Presence:*

For those affected by the COVID-19 virus and homebound members;  
the incarcerated; and women and men in our military.



**Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our PRAYER**

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

# Happy Birthday

8/24

Mason Clemens  
Lyn Ford

*Are we missing  
your name  
on the birthday list?*

8/27

Betty Beck  
Lucille Lindsey

*Please notify the  
church office  
at 210-733-7156  
so we can update  
our records.*

8/28

Nancy Dugger  
Mary Frakes  
Letty Jones  
Lyle Lindquist

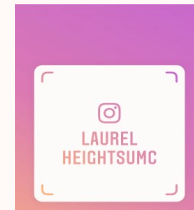
*We don't want to miss  
anyone!*

8/29

Terry Mergele



## Follow Us On Social Media



<https://www.facebook.com/LaurelHeightsUMC>

An infographic titled "MANY WAYS TO GIVE AT LAUREL HEIGHTS UMC". It is divided into four quadrants: "Sanctuary Offering" (with an icon of a hand putting money into a tray), "Online Giving" (with a website URL and an icon of a person at a computer), "Text to give:" (with a phone icon and the number "LHUMC" 73256), and "Or use our QR code" (with a QR code icon). A central white circle contains the title. At the bottom, there is a website URL: <http://www.laurelheights.org/give/>.

## Church Office Hours

9:00am to 4:30pm

Monday through Friday

## Contact Us

210-733-7156

## Laurel Heights Staff

Rev. Lisa Straus, Senior Pastor

Rev. Laura Healy, Associate Pastor

Rev. Wyndee Holbrook, Pastor in Residence

Laura Marty, Music Director

Dr. Melanie Randall, Organist

Heather Weidenbach, Administrative Manager

Debbie Cormier, Administrative Assistant (PT)

Susan Holloway, Super Adults Director

Yvonne Garcia, Wesley Nurse - 210.272-7921

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