



The Messenger

October 11, 2023
Volume 55, Issue 39

A weekly publication of Laurel Heights United Methodist Church

Meet Your Church Family

From time to time we will offer these small profiles of members of our Laurel Heights church family.

Getting To Know You: Margot Duque

Name: Margot Duque

Job: Senior at UTSA, French Teacher at the International School of San Antonio

How long attending LHUMC: Since January 2022

My gift: Tongues

Hobbies: Volleyball, drawing

Favorite hymn: To A Maid Engaged To Joseph

Getting To Know You: Will Hughes

Name: Will Hughes

Job: Senior at UTSA, Undergraduate Research Assistant at UTSA

How long attending LHUMC: Since January 2022

My gift: Wisdom

Hobbies: Reading fantasy novels, weightlifting

Favorite hymn: Blessed Assurance



Turn to page 2 to learn more about Margot Duque & Will Hughes

Stewardship Talk

Will: We've been attending Laurel Heights since January of 2022. I thought it was funny when Mark asked us to cover stewardship, because when I was completing the Spiritual Gifts inventory, one of the gifts it listed a little lower down on my list was giving. The only reason it wasn't higher is because I had to "disagree" with statements like, "I am able to give generously", because I'm a college student and don't have a lot of commas in my bank account yet. Hopefully once I graduate things will change.

Margot: We came to Laurel Heights initially because my mom is good friends with Wyndee. I'm happy to say that Will and I are also now good friends with Wyndee, and her work with college students has led us to become very devoted members of this church. Will is Baptist and I was raised Catholic, so it was important for us to find a church that felt comfortable for both of us. After just one service with Laurel Heights, we knew we had found the right place. I grew up very culturally Catholic but my family didn't discuss our faith much, nor did we regularly attend church, so it was initially a bit intimidating to begin attending every week with Will. Through the openness and welcome from all of our wonderful pastors and the friendly waves and greetings from church members after each service, I quickly felt at home in these pews. It was also new to me to think deeply about God and apply his teachings so directly to my own life.

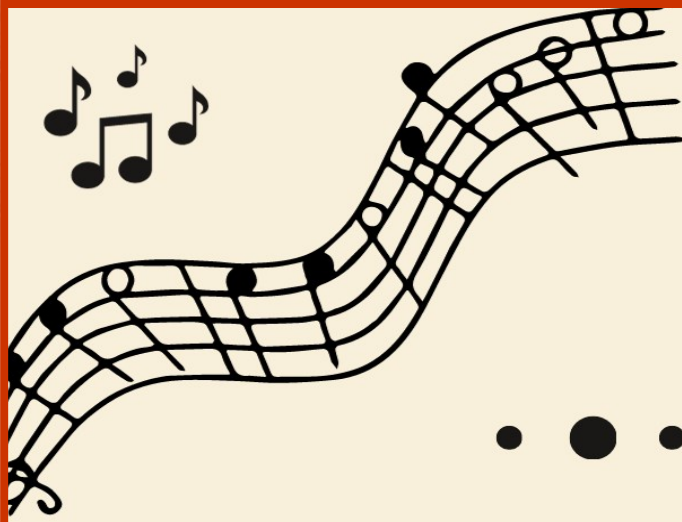
I would struggle to see and feel God through Scripture, silent prayer, or traditional rites alone. At Laurel Heights, I began to see God for the first time - through the community that exists and thrives in this church. Listening to Pastor Lisa's sermons on the power of our community and witnessing the conviviality of our members before and after each service is what has brought me to God. Every week, I watch my anxieties about school or the future float away whenever a member of our congregation asks me about how I'm doing because they genuinely care, and when they listen to my worries or stresses and reassure me that such things are only temporary.

Coming here every week and sharing in the Lord's grace with our membership allows me to look at life with a broader perspective and reflect on those things that matter most. The community we found at this church is why we find stewardship so important. We give to the church because we love the church, and because we feel that it loves us back. We give to the church because we feel like the congregation loves us and we love them. We want to support what the church is doing for us, the congregation, and the San Antonio community as a whole.

Will: One of my favorite parts of attending Laurel Heights is beginning each week with children's time with Pastor Laura. It brings me a unique joy to see the little ones excited to learn about the bible. Proverbs tells us "Start children off in the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not depart from it". One thing my parents made sure to impart to me was the idea that every good thing came from God, and it is my responsibility to respect and honor those gifts from God.

James 1:17 tells us, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." God shows his love for us in a myriad of ways, including providing material goods of course, but also in the relationships we form with people, the positions we hold at our jobs, and our knowledge, skills, and spiritual gifts. One way we can show our love back to God is to use what he's given us to further his kingdom and to love others around us. This includes faithful and generous monetary giving as well as offering your time to God through acts of service or visiting the sick, incarcerated, or lonely, and it includes using the gifts and talents God has blessed us with to serve the church and to love others.

Margot: To us, this church and its congregation are truly a gift from God. Many generations of families have grown up in this historic building, and we'd like to start that cycle for our own lineage. In order to keep up the legacy of this church, we must be stewards of it - both by giving generously as we are able and by treasuring the building, staff, and congregation that make up the name Laurel Heights United Methodist Church.



Laurel Heights UMC is hosting the Alamo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists for their Fall member recital.

Performers include LHUMC's current organist, Melanie Randall, and LHUMC's former music director Geoffrey Waite.

The recital is free and open to the public.

23

Oct.

Laurel Heights UMC - Sanctuary

7:30 p.m.





Sunday Worship Services

Come and See...

October 15, 2023

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon: Rev. Lisa Straus

Liturgist & Song Leader:

Jeanette & Valerie Morton

Scripture - Matthew 25:14-19

Fellowship Gathering

9:30am to 10:00am

Fellowship Hall

Coffee, Tea & Light Refreshments

Thank you to Epworth class for providing refreshments for Sunday, October 15.

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/

and on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/LaurelHeightsUMC



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

October 15, 2023

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon: Rev. Lisa Straus

Liturgist: Melinda McFarland

Scripture - Matthew 25:14-19

Church Calendar

Wednesday, October 11

- 9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*
1:00 p.m. United Women in Faith Meeting - *Parlor*
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - *Choir Room*

Thursday, October 12

- 9:00 a.m. Church Mice
6:00 p.m. Tai Chai Class - *Room 312*

Friday, October 13

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

Sunday, October 15

- 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 Meeting - *Laurel Room*
1:00 p.m. Lively Spirits Meeting - *Parlor*

Monday, October 16

- 9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*
7:00 p.m. Safety Task Force Mtg. *Parlor*

Tuesday, October 17

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 18

- 9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 312*
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - *Choir Room*

Thursday, October 19

- 9:00 a.m. Church Mice
6:00 p.m. Tai Chai Class - *Room 312*

Friday, October 20

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

Sunday, October 22

- 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*
12:00 p.m. All Church Meeting - *Sanctuary*
12:15p.m. Administrative Council Mtg.- *Room 312*

Laurel Heights UMC
presents

Trunk or Treat

October 31
5:00 - 7:30 PM

Belknap Parking Lot



Laurel Heights UMC
Super Adult Day

Immunization Clinic

October 26th
10-11:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Flu Shots will be available.

For more information, contact our Wesley Nurse, Yvonne Garcia at 210.733.7156



SAVE THE DATE
LHUMC
Blood Drive November 12

Laurel Heights UMC Mission Committee

CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY (CAM)

110 MCCULLOUGH, 78215

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY
SAT. OCTOBER 14

9:00 A.M.

Park between CAM & Grace Lutheran Church

Volunteers will gather at warehouse

For more information, please contact the church at 210-733-7156.

Sign-up to volunteer

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COA49ABAC2AAA8-camsaturdays/117670810#/>



Laurel Heights WDS
presents

2023 annual

Fall Festival

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

LHUMC IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST THE LAUREL HEIGHTS WDS DURING THE FALL FESTIVAL.

SHIFTS ARE JUST ONE HOUR LONG BETWEEN 5:30-8PM.

27 OCT
2023

CONTACT LAURA HEALY
TO SIGN UP!



Prayer Requests

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Healing:

Lucien Manchester
Sonny Landers
Richard Parrigan
Natasha Garza
Barbara Miller
Kaylyn LeFevre
Benny Souder
Donna Semmes
Gracie Huron
Mark Grantham

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,
through [Facebook Messenger](#),
or calling the church office (210) 733-7156.

Happy Birthday

10/13

Andrea Hemingway

10/14

Norma England
Florence Pace
Diana Sanchez

10/15

Chris Hayes
Rex Parker
Rodney Smith

10/16

Jon Lowry

10/17

Jeanette Curby
Elisse De La Vega
Oliver Gannon
Steven Marrone
Jo Mascorro
Traci Rush
Garrett Townzen

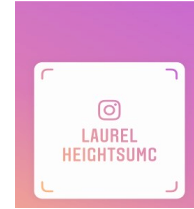
*Are we missing
your name
on the birthday list?*

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

*We don't want to miss
anyone!*



Follow Us On Social Media



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

Sanctuary Offering

Online Giving
Please visit our website:
<http://www.laurelheights.org/give/>

MANY WAYS TO GIVE AT LAUREL HEIGHTS UMC

Text to give:
"LHUMC" 73256

Or use our QR code

<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

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 - 210.733.7156

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