



The Messenger

March 12, 2025
Volume 57, Issue 9

A weekly publication of Laurel Heights United Methodist Church

Dear Church,



The season of Lent is a time of deep reflection—a moment to look back with gratitude and forward with hope. How fitting it is, then, to share this news with you now. With a full heart, I write to tell you that Bishop Harvey and the cabinet of the Rio Texas Conference have appointed me to serve as the next Senior Pastor of Tarrytown United Methodist Church in Austin. This new calling is both a great honor and a deep surprise, but above all, it comes with a profound sense of gratitude for you—the church that has been my home and my joy for the past three years. From the moment Jim and I arrived in San Antonio, you welcomed us with open arms and open hearts, and for that, we will always be grateful.

Serving as your pastor has been one of the greatest blessings of my ministry. Together, we have worshiped, prayed, and grown in faith. We have celebrated new life in baptism, shared sacred moments at the Lord's table, and walked alongside one another through joy and sorrow. You have embodied what it is to be a church that loves well, serves faithfully, and embodies the gospel in real and meaningful ways.

Transitions in ministry are never easy, but I trust in the Spirit's leading. Just as God called me to Laurel Heights, God now calls me forward, and I trust that God's grace is at work in all of our lives. Laurel Heights is a strong and faithful congregation, and I have no doubt that the same love and faithfulness that have defined this church will continue into this next chapter. The good news is that we still have time together! In the weeks ahead, I look forward to cherishing every moment, sharing memories, and preparing for what is to come.

As we move through this transition, I ask you to join me in prayer: for Bishop Harvey and the Rio Texas Cabinet as they discern who will serve as Laurel Heights' next Senior Pastor, for our amazing staff as they prepare to welcome new leadership, and for Jim and me as we begin to plan for this next season of ministry.

Through it all, I hold on to the words that have always brought me comfort and strength:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)

With deep gratitude and love,

Pastor Lisa

2025 Easter Lily Order Form

We invite you to purchase Easter lily plant(s) to decorate and beautify the sanctuary for Easter Sunday.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____ Phone: _____

Number of Lily Plant(s) _____ **\$15.00 each** **Total Amount \$** _____

Please pay by check made payable to Laurel Heights UMC, "Lily" in the memo line.

Mail this form along with your check to
Laurel Heights UMC, Attn: Bookkeeper, 227 W. Woodlawn, SA, TX, 78212.

Or pay online at <https://onrealm.org/LaurelHeightsUn/-/form/give/default>



JOURNEY THROUGH THE SEASON OF LENT WITH THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

During our six week journey together we will discuss and practice some of the traditional spiritual disciplines. We will choose, as a group, which disciplines we will explore and then support each other and pray for each other as we practice them together. Our first gathering will focus on Prayer and the many, many ways to approach prayer in our daily lives.

We will meet on Tuesdays at 5:30 in the Parlor

Tuesday, March 18

Tuesday, March 25

Tuesday, April 1

Tuesday, April 8

Please contact Pastor Laura if you have any questions. lhealy@mylhumc.org



Church Calendar

Wednesday, March 12

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

Thursday, March 13

9:00 a.m. Church Mice

Friday, March 14

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 305*

Sunday, March 16

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

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

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, March 17

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 305*

10:00 a.m. Quilt Group - *Room 306*

Tuesday, March 18

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

5:30 p.m. Journey Through the Season of Lent with
Pastor Laura - *Parlor*

Wednesday, March 19

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 306*

10:00 a.m. Property Building Grounds Mtg.- *Parlor*

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

Thursday, March 20

9:00 a.m. Church Mice

2:00 p.m. June McManus Memorial & Reception

Friday, March 21

9:00 a.m. Exercise Class - *Room 305*

Sunday, March 23

9:00 a.m. Worship Service- *Sanctuary*

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

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

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

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

12:00 p.m. Finance Committee Budget Presentation

12:15 p.m. Youth Gathering & Lunch - *Youth Lounge*

12:15 p.m. United Women in Faith Mtg.- *Room 318*

Finance Committee

2025 Budget Presentation

March 23 at 12:00 p.m.

And

March 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Memorial Service for June McManus

Thursday, March 20 at 2:00 p.m.

LHUMC Sanctuary

Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall.



Cans for
C.A.M.

Don't forget
to bring a
can on
Sunday!

Cans for
C.A.M.

YOUR CAN (GIFT) MATTERS.

MARCH 30
12:00 P.M.

FIFTH SUNDAY

Potluck



Fellowship
Hall

Prayer Requests

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Healing

Lucien Manchester

Richard Parrigan

Gracie Huron

Juan Arturo Gonzalez

Jay Sconyers

Bert Clayton

Norman Roe

Elizabeth Diaz

Kay Craig

Cliff Henry

Joe Palafoes

For those who mourn

For the family and friends of June McManus
who died on Saturday, March 8, 2025.



HAPPY Birthday

3/14
Jerry Crocket

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

3/15
Melinda Flores
Molly Walden

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

3/16
Stephen Baily

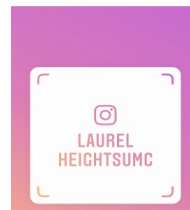
3/17
Camilo Dennis

*We don't want to miss
anyone!*

3/18
Angie Taylor



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<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

Monday - Friday 9am-4pm



Laurel Heights Staff

210-733-7156

Rev. Lisa Straus, Senior Pastor

Rev. Laura Healy, Associate Pastor

Laura Marty, Music Director

Dr. Melanie Randall, Assoc. Dir. of Music & Organist

Angie Taylor, Dir. of Young Family Ministries

Heather Weidenbach, Administrative Manager

Hannah Ortiz, Director of Communications

Debbie Cormier, Administrative Assistant (PT)

Susan Holloway, Super Adults Director

Yvonne Garcia, Wesley Nurse

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