METHODIST MEN

“THANK YOU!”

We have just wrapped up our run at Blue Hills ending on 1 April. Another successful event! We want to say THANK YOU to those who have worked a day or worked many days during this spring show. We also want to give a special thanks to those who spent many hours in the church kitchen preparing the delicious chicken salad. The crowds have been there even though there are now so many venues for them to go to which means we had a great volume of food going out the window for the eating enjoyment of the antiquers. You have all helped us generate funds to continue to support our church, LGFUMC, local charities, organizations, and missions beyond our county borders. We’re doing God's work together. Thank you again and blessings on all of you.

~ Methodist Men BBQ committee

SHALOM Dear Friends in Christ!

One must wonder why this year’s senior prom falls on April 1. That truly becomes an occasion for countless bad jokes, puns, and opportunities to make gag gifts galore. While people are mostly hesitant to show their true feelings and emotions out of fear of being hurt in the process, many hope for expressions of true love, care, and vulnerability.

I still remember the sweaty palms and nervousness when it came to dance opportunities, and serious conversations about two people considering spending dedicated time with each other – I think many people call that “dating”. Complete honesty seems to bring severe vulnerability with it. Many imagine GOD as being this remote being, far removed from the daily grind of human existence. Overseeing everything but keeping an almost clinical distance from hurt, pain, suffering, sin, and brokenness. Often people think that GOD is too holy to mix with mere humanity. Some people are convinced it takes special exercises to conjure up a fleeting presence of GOD.

We all know that this is far from the reality described in Scripture. According to the Word of God, the testimony of the four Gospels as well as the letters to the Corinthians, the Romans, the Ephesians, etc. GOD sent His only begotten Son Yeshua (Hebrew for Joshua – and that name means “GOD saves”) we call Him Jesus, the “Anointed One” (Messiah” in Hebrew and “Christos” in Greek). He came in the flesh, dirtied diapers, worked for a living the first thirty years of his life, made friends, lost friends, cared, shared, was misunderstood, tired, and yet without sin.

The audacity of faith is that we carry the conviction that the divine Creator of the universe came to prepare a way for us to live in peace and harmony with our Creator and each other. That is not some cruel April fools gag, that is the truth of the Gospel – of the Good News of GOD’s love for all of us. GOD is not interested in a fleeting amorous fling, instead HE came to commit and stay. How do we know? Christ promised that after His departure the Holy Spirit would become every believer’s constant, yes even eternal, companion.

While temperatures are rising and some hormones might be raging, while longhorns are standing in blue bonnets, pictures of prom dresses are floating through the internet, corsages are being made, and finals are written there is the eternal truth that literally makes the world go around:

“GOD so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

(John 3:16, NKJV)

Our friends and neighbors need to know! What a remarkable opportunity to be genuine and sensitive, while at the same time keeping “the main thing” the main thing. Invite your friends to celebrate truly eternal love that goes beyond prom night and / or graduation. Invite them to join us as we celebrate the Risen CHRIST, Sunday, April 16, 2017, at 7:00 am at the Monument Hill State Park, 9:00 am and 11:10 am at our church location.

In CHRIST’s Unfailing Love,

Pastor J. Paul <<<
Choir Notes by Nancy Hajek

I truly appreciate those of you who have said to me, “I really liked the hymn we sang last Sunday. It is one of my favorites.” Having spent all of my years growing up and leading worship in the Lutheran church, sometimes MY old favorites come up and I have to tell myself that it may not be one of YOUR favorites! But I thank you for your input on the “I wish we would sing…” sheets. If you’ve been attending church regularly, I hope you’ve noticed that I really am incorporating at least one from someone’s list each week.

But I would like to explain why sometimes I DO choose one of the unfamiliar hymns, and it’s quite simple. I really like to tie in the hymns with the scripture readings for the Sunday as much as I can. I feel that this makes the whole service more meaningful. I use The United Methodist Music & Worship Planner to help with my hymn selections; it gives suggestions of hymns to go with the specific biblical texts from the lectionary for that Sunday. If you don’t like the tune that we are singing, you could just read the text, and maybe understand the ‘method to my madness.’ Just a thought.

I would also like to remind you that while the choirs appreciate your applause and you want to acknowledge your appreciation for the sounds we create, not all pieces of music should be ended with applause – maybe just a silent ‘Amen’ would suffice – especially when a piece ends quietly. After all, none of us is singing, ringing, or playing for praise or ourselves: it is all for GOD’s glory! So maybe next time, just lift your hands up in praise to God, and you can thank us individually after the service if you are so moved.

As always, if you are interested in joining either the Chancel Choir, Glory Tones, or Lifesong praise band, simply contact one of the members or, if you are new to the church, call the church office to get the details on when we meet to rehearse. You are always welcomed.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Nancy

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

We will have an Easter Breakfast again this year. We will begin serving about 8 a.m., after the Sunrise Service. The menu this year will be pancakes, bacon, sausage, and fresh fruit. There will be an alternative selection for diabetics.

Each Sunday, Nadine Meek will be in the Fellowship Hall during the Fellowship time before Sunday School with a sign-up sheet for donations and helpers.

Or you may call Nadine at 242-5742 or email her at vmmeek@cvcxt.com to volunteer to help. Helpers will be needed for a couple of hours at the church on Saturday, April 15th and will be needed Easter Sunday morning from about 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. We will be working in shifts. We especially need two helpers that attend late service that can stay in the kitchen during early service.

Your help is very appreciated.

FUMC SECOND CHANCE WORK WEEKS FOR 2017

May 2-6	June 20-24	Aug 8-12	Sept 19-23	Nov 7-11

Many of our teens along with adults will be participating in UM Army again in July. We will be going to Bracketville, TX. We always welcome help with supplies and funds. We would welcome gift cards to Walmart or HEB. If you would like to donate goods, please contact me at thefarm@cvctx.com or (979) 966-9003 to find out what the camp needs are. ~Jann Schwarz

LGFUMC will host a UM ARMY CAMP in June 2017. If anyone knows of someone that could benefit from the youth doing some work for them please contact the church office @ 979-968-8323 with their name, address and best phone number.

~Jay Watson

Stephen Ministry is a win-win-win situation. Suffering people win, Stephen Ministers win, and Pastors win. We are always looking for ways to move past the boundary between church and community and help our people reflect Christ in their everyday lives. Stephen Ministers do a great job of walking alongside people going through tough times—times of grief, divorce, separation, sickness, or loneliness. They bring Christ’s healing love to people in such situations, so it’s a perfect fit as we move toward a more missional focus in our church. We’ve seen that even people who find it difficult to accept the church appreciate being comforted when they’re hurting. They welcome relationship. So we connect our Stephen Ministers to people in the community who are hurting, and our Stephen Ministers meet with them, care for them, build a relationship, and introduce them to God’s Love.

YOU'RE INVITED TO BE A PART OF LGFUMC RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

*STARS OF HOPE*

The Relay For Life of La Grange will hold its Survivor Dinner on April 20th @ the LG Rec Center at 653 E Pearl St. The full event will be held on April 22nd from 6:30pm to 11:30pm at Leopard Stadium. We would like to thank all those that made our chicken plate fundraiser a great success! Our fundraiser at the event this year will be Stars of Hope “Floats”! We will be selling soda floats! Please stop by and show us your support and cure your sweet tooth. There is still time if you would like to join our team. You can sign up on-line at relayforlife.org/lagrangetx or you can call 1-800-227-2345. If you would rather donate a needed item for our booth feel free to call Noreen Dopslauf @ 979-966-3164, Bruce Dopslauf @ 979-966-3163 or the Church Office @ 979-968-8323.

Please join us in our FIGHT against Cancer!!

Stars Of Hope Team
817 Ed Murphy
Your Brother In Christ,
Please look for opportunities to participate in this ministry in the Narthex each Sunday in April.

The most important support we need is prayer. We ask that you pray for the inmates—we call them our “brothers-in-white”. Pray for the warden, the corrections officers, the chaplain, and for the volunteer team that will conduct the weekend.

Please look for opportunities to participate in this ministry in the Narthex each Sunday in April.

Ed Murphy

We continue to prepare to send a team of Christian men from many denominations into the Stevenson medium security prison in Cuero on May 4-7. We are excited about the prospect of sharing Christ’s love with 42 brothers-in-white. Logistically, we will take 34-35 men into the prison and will have approximately 20 women and men working on the outside support team. Throughout prisons in the United States, Kairos brings Jesus’ Good News to 20,000 incarcerated women and men. Jesus reminds us that He loves the men and women in prison as much as He loves you and me. Many of you have asked how you can support this ministry besides committing to praying for 30 minutes for the inmates during the Kairos weekend. As symbols of God’s love (agape) we take in prayer chains, notes of encouragement, placemats made by children, fresh fruit and vegetables, cookies, and meals including BBQ brisket and chicken—in the form of our “brothers-in-white”.

We are asking folks to bake cookies for the 42 participating inmates. You may contribute directly for specific items we will be taking into the prison, for example:

- Bake 10 dozen two-inch cookies
- 12.50 for a dozen of bakery made cookies—we will need 1600 dozen for each of the inmates
- $50.00 for a brisket
- $10.00 for a meal
- $250.00 to sponsor an inmate for the entire weekend

The most important support we need is prayer. We ask that you pray for the inmates—we call them our “brothers-in-white”. Pray for the warden, the corrections officers, the chaplain, and for the volunteer team that will conduct the weekend.

Please look for opportunities to participate in this ministry in the Narthex each Sunday in April.

Our Methodist Men’s group would like to keep the congregation informed with what we have planned for our monthly meetings. The following organizations will be program presenters in 2017:

April - The Family Crisis Center will provide the program for the Methodist Men’s group meeting on Thursday, April 20. The MEN of FUMC are invited to attend. Dinner is promptly served at 6:30 p.m.

May - Neighbor To Neighbor (Fayette County) June - Habitat For Humanity July - LCRA

Questions? Contact Ed Collins at 979-702-9781.

Danny Pierce 4/1 Leslie Sparks 4/10 Marvin Nolen 4/21
Matthew White 4/2 Andrew Bennett 4/11 Jessica Fleck 4/22
Bob Allen 4/3 Aaron Bremer 4/11 Tim Evans 4/23
Rene Smith 4/3 George Ann Carroll 4/14 Scotti Rhodes 4/23
Camille Thomas 4/5 Joy Learned 4/14 Sara Gutierrez 4/24
Sherri Van Dreser 4/5 Miranda Matthews 4/14 Sara Hajek 4/24
Milam Teas 4/6 Steven Banks 4/15 April Horn 4/25
Michelle Pittman 4/7 E.J. Gray 4/15 Patrick Caballero 4/26
Beverly Banks 4/8 Mary Lou Scaggs 4/15 Mareena McLean 4/26
Sierra Ehlers 4/8 Laura Sparks 4/15 Charles Busch 4/28
Mary Tinnette 4/9 Katherine Bailey 4/19 Jo Anne Hill 4/29
Broaden Wilder 4/9 Monica McCafferty 4/19 David Jenkins 4/30
Ashlyn Golan 4/10 Marjorie Sinclair 4/19 Donella McLean 4/30
Naomi Schramm 4/10 Leonard Petrich 4/20

Jenna’s Corner
April 1: Youth Rally - Seguin
April 9: Youth @ Jefferson Place
April 23: VISION
April 16: NO YOUTH - HAPPY EASTER
April 30: VISION

Jennifer.Purdy@lgfumc.org - (830) 837-6393

Jenna
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<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm Bible Study</td>
<td>9:00 am Traditional Service</td>
<td>10:00 am Sunday School</td>
<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
<td>12:30 pm VISION YOUTH</td>
<td>3:45 pm Spanish Class</td>
<td>5:00 pm Bible Study</td>
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<td>3:45 pm Spanish Class</td>
<td>10:00 am Sunday School</td>
<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
<td>12:30 pm VISION YOUTH</td>
<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
<td>10:10 am Sunday School</td>
<td>9:00 am Traditional Service</td>
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<td>12:30 pm VISION YOUTH</td>
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<td>12:30 pm VISION YOUTH</td>
<td>10:10 am Sunday School</td>
<td>9:00 am Traditional Service</td>
<td>2 PM Bond Presentation</td>
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<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
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<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
<td>12:30 pm VISION YOUTH</td>
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<td>3:45 pm Spanish Class</td>
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<td>9:00 am Traditional Service</td>
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<td>10:00 am Sunday School</td>
<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
<td>12:30 pm VISION YOUTH</td>
<td>3:45 pm Spanish Class</td>
<td>5:00 pm Bible Study</td>
<td>6:00 pm Healing Service</td>
<td>6 PM Office Closed</td>
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<td>9 Sunday of Hope</td>
<td>10:00 am Sunday School</td>
<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
<td>12:30 pm Youth @ Jefferson Place</td>
<td>3:45 pm Spanish Class</td>
<td>5:00 pm Bible Study</td>
<td>7 PM Office Closed</td>
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<td>10 Holy Week</td>
<td>9:00 am Sages &amp; Saints</td>
<td>10:00 am Revival Group</td>
<td>Sanct</td>
<td>11:30 am Worship Team</td>
<td>Sanct</td>
<td>6:30 pm Office Closed</td>
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<td>11 Holy Week</td>
<td>9:00 am Revival Group</td>
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<td>11:30 am Worship Team</td>
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<td>12 Holy Week</td>
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<td>11:30 am Worship Team</td>
<td>Sanct</td>
<td>12:00 pm Emmaus Women’s</td>
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<td>13 Holy Week</td>
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<td>Sanct</td>
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<td>Sanct</td>
<td>12:00 pm Emmaus Women’s</td>
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<td>14 Holy Week</td>
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<td>Sanct</td>
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<td>15 Holy Week</td>
<td>10:00 am Revival Group</td>
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<td>11:30 am Worship Team</td>
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<td>12:00 pm Emmaus Women’s</td>
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<td>16 Easter Sunday</td>
<td>7:00 am Sunrise Service</td>
<td>M.H.</td>
<td>8:00am-12:00am Easter Breakfast</td>
<td>9:00 am Traditional Service</td>
<td>10:00 am Sunday Egg Hunt</td>
<td>11:10 am New Life Service</td>
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<td>12:00 pm Emmaus Women’s</td>
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<td>18 Office Closed</td>
<td>10:00 am Revival Group</td>
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