



The Wesley Word

REJOICE!



Jesus Invites Us Into His Presence

By Jayne Wolfe

The Church is guided by the Spirit of God Who embraces all in His infinite simplicity. The Holy Ghost is her life and He is also the source and mover of her prayer. The Holy Ghost prays in the Liturgy and, when we pray with the Liturgy, the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Christ, prays in us. He teaches us how to pray by praying in us. He not only gives us words to say and sing, He also sings them in our hearts. And when, as must inevitably happen, we fall far short of understanding or appreciating what the prayers mean, the Spirit of God "helps our weakness," asking on our behalf, with a fervor of infinite love we shall never be able to comprehend.

Thomas Merton. *Bread in the Wilderness* (New York: New Dimensions, 1953): 41

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March 8th was a blessed day, filled with the joy of the Lord, of seeing brothers and sisters in Christ we had not seen in a long time. We worshiped God with joy, sang His praises, steeped ourselves in God's Word, and cried Holy, Holy, Holy. We are still basking in the afterglow. Does any of this sound familiar? Check out Revelation, chapter 4.

Wesley is grateful to the Centennial Team who worked for a year planning, inviting, creating displays of each location in which we worshiped, creating stoles for all of the pastors, cooking, serving, making sure that each one knew they were welcome. Also appreciated are those who assisted the team with various projects.

As we look forward to the opportunities God has planned for the next 100 years, we invited Christ the Lord to reign down His life giving presence upon us on Easter Sunday and throughout the days that follow. Let us prepare the way for this extraordinary visitation by on-site prayers within our church and our community. May our grateful praise for many answered prayers become a crescendo of welcoming worship of Christ the King.

Christ is risen! Hallelujah! He is risen indeed!

*We have received so many blessings because of Christ
and what He has done.*

*This Easter, may each one He gives be a special
reminder of how much*

He loves you.

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16 KJV



April is a busy time here at WCP as we celebrate our risen Lord at Easter! We will also participate in "Noah's Ark" themed Field days and practice our songs for graduation programs in May. Parent conferences begin April 27th. Fall enrollment is continuing.



We are happy to announce a **summer program opportunity** for preschool children aged 2-5 (by Sept 1st). The summer session runs from June 29th-July 31, Monday/Wednesday/Fridays 9:30-12:30. We will be having weekly Christian themes, creative art projects, and outside summer fun. The classrooms will be staffed with our current preschool teachers. We are looking forward to this opportunity to serve preschoolers and their families in this summer ministry.

Call the preschool office for registration details!

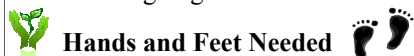
SAMARITAN INN

The second Saturday of each month is the designated time for Wesley UMC to provide groceries to the Inn. The ingredients are purchased based on a list provided by the kitchen and delivered to the Inn by 6:00 PM. The ingredients will be used for a future meal to be prepared by the Inn's personnel. The cost of the groceries is approximately \$200.

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Matthew 24:40

Sign up now for 2009, call the church office or David Coburn (214)726-0182

See below the months that are open and prayerfully consider being the Hands and Feet for this on-going mission.



Sign up for 2009

January	Individual	July	Open
February	Individual	August	UMW
March	Oasis SS Class	September	Open
April	Church Council	October	Quest SS Class
May	Koinania Class	November	Church Council
June	Fellowship Class	December	Open

PRAYER VIGIL

Tuesday, April 21 9:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

As we continue to give God praise for His Holy Presence, let us gather in the Prayer Room for a spring Prayer Vigil. During the time Christ arose and the day He ascended to God the Father, he appeared many times to the disciples and to close followers. Let us begin a time for prayer at Wesley that will lead us to Ascension Day, May 21st. We will praise God, pray for our community, the needs of our brothers and sisters, the joys and concerns that you put on Prayer Request forms. We will also continue our prayers for those seeking jobs and for the economy, and those who make choices concerning how the finances of our nation are handled. Sign up in the Narthex and join us for a day of prayer.



**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
May 7, 2009 12:00 p.m.
Historic McKinney Square,
East Side**

McKinney will host Prayer on the Square to participate in the National Day of Prayer. Wesley is again coordinating this time of prayer with our brothers and sisters throughout McKinney and surrounding communities. We will also continue the tradition of reading through the Bible after the prayers are lifted up. Jayne Wolfe is coordinating this for the community. Wesley will need 15 readers. Please let Jayne know if you are free to read on this day. In the evening there will be pockets of Prayer held in homes, churches, and schools. Each church is being asked to have two pockets of Prayer. Carol Boston will coordinate this for Wesley. Your participation at noon and in the evening will bless our nation, our community, and our church. **Be a Part of the Blessing!**



*Happy April
Birthdays*

- 3rd Barry Smith
- 4th Emily Jozwiak
- 4th Audrey Natal
- 6th Ryan Brinkman
- 6th Eric Brinkman
- 7th Matthew Kardos
- 8th Blessmore Chitanda
- 9th Carol Boston
- 10th Terry Young
- 13th Lilly McDonald
- 15th Kaley Priestley
- 15th Tom Tolbert
- 16th Julie Brinkman
- 16th Craig Hartnell
- 16th Bill Priestley
- 16th Dylan Schutte
- 17th Robert Miracle
- 18th Howard Graham
- 19th Max Zappe
- 20th Gina Lambert
- 21st Marissa Full
- 22nd Eddie Tinsley
- 26th Meaghan McDonald
- 27th Valerie Brinkman
- 28th Alexander Young
- 29th Nina McClellan



Kids Night Out

- When:** April 3rd
- Time:** The evening will run from 6: to 10pm.
- Cost:** The cost will be \$10 (one child)
\$15 (two children)
\$20 (three + children).
- Limit:** 20 children total. Reservations HIGHLY recommended
- Who:** Children walking age thru 5th grade.
- Where:** Fellowship Hall—Wesley UMC
- Sponsored by:** The Confirmation Class of 2008-09

Come and have some fun!

Call Valerie Brinkman 972-540-6290 to make your reservation.



UMW'S APRIL MEETING (off site)

Saturday April 18

Wesley UMW will attend the Sherman-McKinney District "Morning Apart" meeting held at the Prosper United Methodist Church. If you plan to attend, please meet at Wesley parking lot at 7:45 a.m. and we will carpool to Prosper.

- When: Saturday, April 18
- Time: 7:45 a.m.—12 noon
- Where: Prosper United Methodist Church

If you have questions, please feel free to contact one of the following officers:

Pat Chadwick countrymusicmemories@yahoo.com

Betty Bailey bettybailey@tx.rr.com

Carol Bichler cbichler@jcpenny.com





*“Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice”
Let us rejoice as we present ourselves before our loving creator.
Welcome to Wesley, Welcome to this house of God.*

Our New Baptized Members

Jordan Allen
Evan Mosley
Ashleigh Quinn
Natilee Quinn
Wesley Jozwiak
Emily Jozwiak
Andrew Ryan Jandoc

Our Newest Members

Michael & Nycol Mosley
Megan Mosley
Susan Quinn
Mark & Jonelle Jozwiak
Kristina Kaszowski
Joe & Jan Wimmer

Join other Wesley women at the **WOMEN OF FAITH conference “A Grand New Day” on August 21 & 22nd** at the American Airlines Center.

At a Women of Faith weekend experience the people you’ll see and hear onstage (and in the audience) are like you. They’ve been through good times and bad – and they’ve learned a thing or two along the way.

You’ll have the opportunity these two days to:

- Recharge your batteries,
- Receive encouragement,
- Relax and enjoy yourself,
- Relish girl-time with your friends, and
- Rest in the knowledge that God loves you just as you are.

Cost: \$99 for both days and even includes two box lunches!

Friday daytime features: Sandi Patty, Marilyn Meberg and Steve Arterburn.

2009 Women of Faith Team: Lisa Harper, Allison Allen, Shelia Walsh, Mandisa, Patsy Clairmont, Luci Swindoll, Nicole C. Mullen, Marilyn Meberg, and Lisa Whelchel.

Call Valerie Brinkman 972-540-6290 for more details. Once she receives your payment, she will reserve your spot! Let her know if you'd like to make monthly payments....even \$25/month for 4 months would be fine. Sign up list will also be in the Narthex.

Come join us for two days of fun and laughter! You’ll be blessed!

The Lord’s love never ends; his mercies never stop. They are new every morning. –Lamentations 3:22-23 NCV



UP COMING EVENTS

- 3rd Kids Night Out
- 4th Relay for Life Garage Sale
- 5th Worship Committee
- 5th Youth Parent Meeting
- 6th Trustees
- 8th Weight Loss Support Grp
- 9th Maundy Thursday
- 10th Good Friday
- 11th Samaritan Inn Meal/ Hands & feet Church Council
- 12th Easter, 7, 8:30, & 11 a.m.
- 13th Finance
- 14th WCP Board Meeting
- 16th Prime Timers
- 17th WCP Staff Meeting
- 18th UMW/offsite Prosper UMC
- 20th Church Council
- 27th SPRC



Holy Week
Worship

Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
Good Friday TBA
Easter Services: Sunrise 7:00 a.m. and Regular Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

SHARING THE JOURNEY by Terrilee Schober

Through the years following God calling me to Wesley, I have learned much about what it means to be obedient and to do what the Lord wants me to do. Having Him show me my disobedience has at times been embarrassing and burdensome. However, when I've been obedient, it's been so joyful and so telling of His greatness and perfection.

I recently had the opportunity to experience, in a very dynamic way, that God not only wants to lead me in ministry to His Church but also in the details of my personal life; that I not only have to trust and obey Him in the large and small details of ministry but also in the very personal details of my earthly life, even to the depths of my inner most being.

My dad had gotten sick over Christmas last year and was admitted to a hospital in New Jersey shortly after New Years. He had been in for a week and the updates coming from my brother via the nurse practitioner, not directly from the doctors, were vague at best. I was becoming concerned that they were not really willing to get him well. I understood that dad was not their patient and that managing his heart and lungs were tricky, but I needed them to work with my brother to get a plan together so we could get dad and mom back to California. God gave me the words to instill confidence in my brother when speaking to the doctors and hospital staff. Then, God orchestrated people and timing and further stabilized dad so that he could be discharged on January 15th. What a work God did.

During the week before dad's discharge and the week of his discharge, it became clear that I was going to be taking my parents from New Jersey to California and once there, tend to their care until God either healed them or assisted services could be arranged.

God had planned this at least as far back as 1984 when Chuck and I went to work for a company that would eventually outsource our jobs to a company in Texas. Not knowing what condition my parents would be in when we finally arrived in California and not trusting myself to be able to deal with all the details of caring for them, I had to do something foreign, I asked my brother and sister for help: to make sure the beds were made, buy some groceries and make doctor appointments for dad. God had given my parents four children who love the Lord and are ready to step up and help one another. The more I thought about all that was going to be involved in this trip, I became scared! No, I was terrified!! I stress out going through airport security by myself, now I'm going to be taking my sick dad with a pacemaker, my mom with COPD and pins in her hip, and their oxygen tanks through the check-in process, through security, to the gate, on the plane, across the country, to the house, call doctors, etc, etc, etc!!! I was overwhelmed!!! I can't do this!!! I don't work well or think straight when I'm in unknown situations!!! What if no one at the airport is willing to help me?!!! I won't be able to be strong for my parents!!! I'm going to be a crying mess!!! I can't handle seeing my dad weak and ill!!! I won't know what to do if either one of them stops breathing!!! I won't know what to do if my dad has a heart attack. I can't do this!!! I'm not the right person to do this!!! I shouted to God!!! I cried out to Him!!! I can't do ANY of this without You!!! I lay in a huddled mass at His feet.

Knowing I was going to have to do this, I pressed on, trusting Him from deep inside, not in my head. Then, one by one, things came together. My brothers, at either end, could get an escort pass and accompany me, dad and mom to and from the gate. Dad did not need oxygen.

God had stabilized mom's COPD so that she would not need to deplete the batteries on her oxygen concentrator during the flight. When I saw dad, he was weak and not very mentally alert, but when I touched his hands, they were still strong and God's peace filled my whole body.

God drove His point home at the airport. As we exited the car at the curb, my brother went in to get a wheelchair for dad and the next thing I knew a Southwest employee was taking dad inside, another employee was directing mom into her wheelchair and directing a third employee to get mom out of the cold, while taking 3 drivers licenses to the curbside check-in counter, confirming the number of checked bags, printing out boarding passes and claim checks. I was so stunned and overwhelmed that I couldn't move. I stood at the curb watching as my parents were ushered into the terminal and responding to the employee at the check-in counter from twenty feet away. God had employed this wonderful employee years before we got to the airport and arranged her work schedule well in advance of our arrival. The three employees went through security with my parents, brother and me. Two employees then wheeled my parents all the way to the gate, where, to my surprise, my parents weren't the only ones in wheelchairs. Mom used only 1/3 of her battery on the flight and dad slept most of the time. My other brother met us at the gate and two employees wheeled my parents all the way out of the terminal to the car. Then, my gracious brother took dad to his doctor appointment and I stayed home trying to take a nap. God had left slots open in several doctors' schedules so that dad could see all that he needed to within 10 days of our return to California.

Continued on page 7

News From **YOUR LIBRARY**



We have received several new books given in memory of Charles Williamson.

They are:

Billy by William Paul McKay and Ken Abraham, is the untold story of a young Billy Graham and the test of faith that almost changed everything.

Just Give Me Jesus by Anne Graham Lotz

The Freedom and Power of Forgiveness by John F. MacArthur, Where there is forgiveness, there is a heart that God has touched—and a life that God can bless.

Riven a novel by Jerry B. Jenkins, When a condemned man with nothing to lose meets a weary man of God with nothing to gain, everyone washed by the endless ripples of that encounter will forever recall the day a little bit of heaven invaded a whole lot of hell.

Why? By Anne Graham Lotz, Trusting God when you don't understand.

Other additions are:

Dominion by Randy Alcorn

Luke's Story (a novel) by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins

How and When to Tell Your Kids about Sex by Stanton L. & Brenna B. Jones, A life long approach to shaping your child's sexual character.

Book 1 God's Design for Sex by Stan and Brenna Jones for ages 3-5

Book 2 Before I was Born by Carolyn Nystrom for ages 5-8

Book 3 What's the Big Deal? Why God cares about sex by Stan and Brenna Jones for ages 8-11

Book 4 Facing the Facts, The Truth about Sex and You by Stan and Brenna Jones

Book 1 An Introduction to Family Nights by Jim Weidmann and Kurt Bruner, If you want to build a spiritually strong family—these tools can help make your task easy and fun!

These books will be on display for a while. Check them out. Read them. Enjoy your Library.

Library Ministry
Sue Rominger

Snapshot of UMC

Here's what the U.S. Religious Landscape Survey showed about United Methodist' beliefs and practices:

- 96 percent are "absolutely" or "fairly certain" that God exists
- 42 percent say they attend church at least once a week; 14 percent say they seldom or never attend church
- 59 percent say their prayers are answered at least once a week; 28 percent say their prayers are seldom or never answered
- One-fourth believe the Bible should be taken "literally, word for word;" 21 percent say it's written by men, not God; 44 percent say it's the Word of God but probably shouldn't be taken literally
- 82 percent believe there is more than one way to interpret their religious teachings
- 85 percent believe many religions can lead to eternal life
- 51 percent believe Homosexuality is a way of life that should be accepted by society" 39 percent disagree
- 59 percent believe abortion should be legal in all or most cases; 29 percent say it should be illegal in most cases
- 42 percent believe the U.S. should be active in world affairs; half said we should focus more on problems here at home
- 29 percent say stricter environmental laws would hurt the economy; 63 percent say it would be worth the cost
- 47 percent lean toward or are Republican; 42 percent lean toward or are Democratic

Taken from the United Methodist Reporter

—Robin Russell



To All Hands In Puppetry Ministers:

We can't believe how "AWESOME" you were and are. The congregation is still talking about you and the children have asked when you will come again! We want you to know that you are always welcome anytime you can possibly make it back... please keep us in mind & prayer as we will all of you!

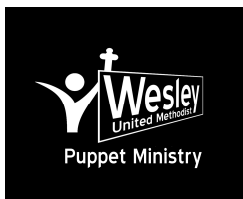
Whitesboro FUMC
Children's Ministry



WOW!!

Our confirmation retreat was so much fun! We learned about sin, baptism, vows, and prayer. We, also made these cute picture frames with puzzle pieces and glue. I got the glue all over my self! We explored the camp site and read letters from people, who are supporting us in our confirmation. After we read our letters, we went to the cross outside our cabin. When everyone arrived, we went around in a circle and said how we see Christ in each other. I think this retreat made us closer with each other, God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. I am thankful for all the people who support us and made this retreat possible.

Kristen Coburn



On the Road God has put a challenge before us this year to share his word out in the community. We had a wonderful opportunity to do just that on the 1st Sunday in March. The Puppet Team traveled to First UMC in Whitesboro. We left McKinney at 6:30 am and were blessed with a beautiful sunrise along the way. FUMC welcomed us with open arms and open hearts. We shared "God is the God of Second Chances" during their Children's Moment in both services. Between services, our youth visited their Youth's Sunday School Class. After church, we shared lunch at a great Mexican restaurant. What an amazing experience doing God's work and being blessed with new friends along the way. We hope to return the hospitality and host their youth in the near future.

Lifting our Hands in Praise During the Centennial Celebration, the puppets helped the choir out by "singing" along and raising our hands in praise to God (something that's hard for the choir to do while holding a music folder). A big thank you to Mario and the choir for letting us join in.

Help Wanted: The Puppet Team has an urgent need for a Creative Director. Please pray for the person God will be sending us - is it you?!

Do You Have a Dresser to Donate?: As the Puppet Ministry has grown, so has our inventory of puppets, props and costumes. We are looking for a large dresser to store these items in. If you have one you want to donate - we can pick it up. Call Stacey at 214-726-1000.

A note from the director...

WHAT, we're not going to Mexico?? When I heard this news, my heart broke!! All I could think about was all that talk and planning, all the people who sacrificed and worked so hard. "Lord I don't understand"...You know when you are sure, without any doubts that you have heard from the Lord, then you are left standing shaking your head and wondering if you really heard from Him at all? "Lord was that really you?" BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD. Shana Kelly does NOT like to be still. I am a Sarah (I like to take matters into my own hands if things aren't moving fast enough). I have learned in the past though, that this kind of action is detrimental to your health and the health of your ministry. Oh, there is ACTION required, but the action is to pray, ask and listen. Soooo, I am "still" waiting on the Lord. I'm "still" praying for La Vid, and "still" asking every day for direction. I know the Lord is working because I can feel Him. I am still and I KNOW HE IS GOD.

The Sarah in me would love to tell you where the mission puppets are going, but I will wait on the Lord. Tune in next month for the continuing saga - when you will hear the Puppet Director say, "Lord, you are going to do what?" BUT, it will be the Lord's will...and timing, not Sarah/Shana's!



Sharing the Journey continued from page 5

The next four weeks were a combination of waiting on God to heal dad, visiting with mom, grocery shopping, phoning doctors, driving my parents to doctor appointments, making meals, running errands with mom, watching God heal dad, meeting dad's students, seeing friends at the church I grew-up in, starting to plan for my parent's future, trusting God that He could take care of my family without my help, trusting God that He would take care of His family at Wesley without my help.

The joy: to be in the moment and see God at work, to look back at the big picture and see how God had been at work well before the moment, to be able to bless my parents in their time of need, and to know I just have to be willing to trust and obey and God does the rest. Obedience and trust are a wonderful thing and joy is a marvelous reward.

***This column is a new addition to the monthly newsletter and will appear regularly. How have you been blessed by a ministry or an individual at Wesley UMC? Will you consider sharing your story? Please email our Lay Leader, Carol Boston, at: carolboston@swbell.net**



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Enrolling for the 2009/2010 preschool year beginning Feb 9th

- ❖ 2,3, 5 day Classes available
- ❖ Must be aged 2, 3 or 4 by Sept 1 to be in respective class.
- ❖ Christian curriculum including weekly Spanish, Music/Movement and Chapel
- ❖ 5 day Transitional Kindergarten offered for older 4's or 5 year olds
- ❖ Hours Mon-Thurs. 9:15-2:15 Fridays 9:15-12:45
- ❖ Following MISD calendar holidays with the exception of the starting and ending dates. Starting date Sept 7th.
- ❖ Low ratios, qualified & caring staff
- ❖ Licensed by State of Texas