



# Wesley United Methodist Church

972-542-2228-www.wumcmckinney.org

2705 Virginia Parkway. McKinney, TX 75071

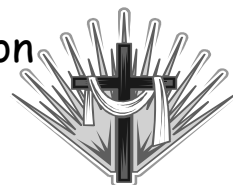
March 1, 2008

## Living in the Present With God

By Jayne Wolfe

*Holy Father, as we continue our journey from being marked with the ashes of our prayers on Ash Wednesday to rejoicing with our whole being that "Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed." on Easter Sunday, we are grateful for the opportunities you have given us to be present with you, to serve you in Mexico and McKinney, and to be in mission and ministry in faith-deepening ways. You are the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, and the great I AM. All praise, honor, and glory are yours. Amen.*

## March - Death and Resurrection



I am finding this month's newsletter a little challenging to write. March is an experience of contrasts, opposites and dichotomies.

Take the seasons, for instance. Most of March is still in winter. We think of leafless trees, dormant grass and cold weather. Lifeless comes to mind. Yet March 20 is the first day of Spring. Even though it may still be cold, our minds already begin thinking of budding trees, green grass and warm sunshine. Life comes to mind. What a contrast.

These contrasts are also observed on the Church calendar. Most of March is the season of Lent. We seriously recall Jesus' death on the cross. We engage in honest self-reflection and intentionally repent. Though Lent is not gloomy, it is solemn. The colors – purple and black – evoke the senses and bring to mind the seriousness of our King's death, as well as the seriousness of discipleship.

Yet the end of March is the Easter Season. Beginning at sunrise of March 23, we celebrate the resurrection of Christ and the season of Easter begins. This season declares our Lord's victory over death and the promise of eternal life for all who believe. The color – white – symbolizes victory, purity and eternal life. Easter also reminds us, as Max Lucado puts it, "God Still Moves Stones". Jesus says it best, "With God, all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26).

The observances of Lent and Easter seem so different. One seems to express pain, sacrifice and death while the other expresses joy, blessings and resurrection.

These contrasting experiences remind me of life itself. There's no denying the reality of sorrow, sadness and struggle. Everyone experiences these. And yet, believers claim God's victorious love through it all. We know that despite the circumstances, God is faithful and will never leave us nor forsake us. We know that God has the last word, no matter what happens.

I just hung up the phone with Ronnie Fisher. Ronnie's wife, Lori (Thirty-nine year old mother of two small children) passed away yesterday morning. Many of you knew Lori and know her family. Ronnie gave me permission to share some of the conversation and I wanted to share it with the Church. His words reminded me of the contrasts of life. He spoke of his deep love for Lori and mentioned signing the papers to remove her from artificial assistance. He said, "I paused as I was signing to look and see if any of my family wanted to stop me. I trust my family and I needed to know if I was doing the right thing." I said, "Ronnie, you were put in a terrible situation. I cannot imagine what that felt like." He replied, "It was very very painful." I cannot even grasp that form of pain and sorrow. And yet, he also spoke words of courageous faith and hope. He imagined the beauty of heaven and how Lori's presence made it more so. He recognized the need for him and his children to live on. He testified to Life. He reminded me of March.

Blessings,  
Ed Lantz

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**“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**

**Jenna Shae Williams 2-10-08**

**Stella Mae Jones 2-17-08**



February 5, 2008

Dear WUMC Family,

I have been very remiss in not expressing my gratitude for all of the cards you have sent to Mary and me over the past several years. Your last cards touched me deeply because the “family” remembered her passing a year ago. You have helped me get through a week of very special memories, Thank you!

*Mike Michaels*

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Thank you Wesley for all the cards, prayers and flowers. You all are such a blessing to me. Pastor Ed and I would also like to thank all the volunteers who covered for me while I was out. God Bless you all.

*Sandy Ragland*

## Be Our Guest!

### Did you know?

1. Most church visitors decide in the first 10 minutes whether they'll visit again?
2. It only takes 3 minutes for a visitor to exit the church?

### What can you do?

1. YOU can be an important key to making a visitor feel welcome.

### How?

1. Make a special effort to greet people you don't know. Especially when they arrive.
2. Don't talk to other members in the first 3 minutes after worship service. Talk to only those you don't know or people you know are guests.

### What do I say? Here are a couple of conversation starters:

1. Offer a handshake and say, **"Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and your are ....."**  
Wait for a response and repeat the person's name so you make sure you get it right and you can more easily remember it. Be sure to introduce yourself to everyone with the guest.
2. If you think you know the face but can't recall the name. Try this: **"Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_. I believe I've seen you here before but I don't know that we've had the opportunity to meet. What is your name?"**

Don't be embarrassed if you're greeting a member and don't know that person's name - or be offended if someone doesn't remember yours. We need to offer grace to one another, just as we would to new people.

*Greetings in the Bible from Paul, Silas & Timothy 1Th 1:1: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*



## MISSIONS AT WESLEY UMC

# SAMARITAN INN

1710 N. McDonald Street, McKinney, TX 75071

The Samaritan Inn is the only homeless shelter in Collin County. The Inn is helping individuals and families regain independence through Homeless Prevention, Emergency Shelter, Case Management and Supported Transitional Living.

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 \$200.00.

Serving the residents for the Saturday night meal is a wonderful opportunity to fellowship and to share your faith.

The body of Wesley has continually supported the Inn through the years. Please consider participating in service to your brothers and sisters that are less fortunate. A Sunday School class; Youth group; Children's ministries; Bible Study class; Men's Prayer Group; Prime Timers; Piece Makers; any of the administrative or programmatic committees or individuals are encouraged to be the "Hands and Feet of Christ".

*"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me". Matthew 25:40*

Blessings!

Ken Hollingsworth-Chair

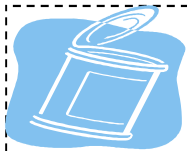
Carol Boston

### DATE: HANDS AND FEET

<u>January 12</u>	<u>Individual</u>
<u>February 9</u>	<u>Individual/Fusion Served</u>
<u>March 8</u>	<u>Oasis SS Class</u>
<u>April 12</u>	<u>Open</u>
<u>May 10</u>	<u>Fellowship SS Class</u>
<u>June 14</u>	<u>UMW</u>
<u>July 12</u>	<u>Open</u>
<u>August 9</u>	<u>Open</u>
<u>September 13</u>	<u>Open</u>
<u>October 11</u>	<u>Open</u>
<u>November 8</u>	<u>Open</u>
<u>December 13</u>	<u>Open</u>

Sign up now for 2008, call church office or Ken Hollingsworth 972-547-0878

### FOOD PANTRY DRIVE



In February we had a special request from the Community Food Pantry for 18 oz jars of Peanut Butter. Thank you so much for your contributions. In an average month they use 600 + 18 oz jars.

There is an on going need at the Pantry. In 2007 they provided food for 108,960 meals.

"Please bring any kind of canned goods (regular size cans) and or dry goods to the church to be delivered to the McKinney Community Food Pantry. Items donated go to needy families in the McKinney area. Thank you for showing God's love in this very special way. It touches so many in the community.



### Up Coming Events

March 3	Trustees Meeting Worship Team Meeting
March 6	Spring Time Ladies Study
March 8	Samaritan Inn Meal– Hands and Feet Oasis Sunday School Class
March 9	SLB/Taco Salad Mission Trip Fundraiser
March 9	*Reserve your appointment with Olan Mills for Portrait taken
March 10	Finance Meeting
March 12	Mexico Mission Prayer Service
March 14-15	Youth go to Battle Cry
March 15-22	Mexico Mission Trip
March 15	UMW Meeting
March 16	*Reserve your appointment with Olan Mills for Portrait taken
March 17	Church Council Meeting
March 23	Confirmation Bake Sale
March 23	*Reserve your appointment with Olan Mills for Portrait taken
March 24	SPRC Meeting
March 25	WCP Board Meeting
March 30	Healing Service

**\*Dates portraits will be taken are: April 10, 11, and 12th.**

### DATES FOR KIDS NIGHT OUT



Kids Night Out is here! This is a time for parents to drop off their kids for a fun time at the church while the parents get to go out on a date or do something fun as well...just by themselves!

**When:** The second Friday every other month. Feb 8, April 11

**Time:** The evening will run from 6:00 to 10:00 pm.

**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 2007-2008

Come and have some fun!

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

### 2008 OLYMPICS IN CHINA

The eyes of the world will be on China leading up to the Olympic Games which will be held August 8-24, 2008, in Beijing. It's not too early for Christians to blanket China in prayer while counting down this historic event.

To help believers unite in prayer for China, Open Doors USA is sponsoring a special prayer campaign called "One Minute/One Year/One Country." Christians are asked to pray for China at least one minute each day, if possible at 8 p.m. Beijing time. The current time in Beijing as well as a countdown clock to the start of the Olympics are featured on the Open Doors USA website, [www.openDoorsUSA.org](http://www.openDoorsUSA.org).

Believers who register for the campaign will receive a monthly prayer email calendar and a brief daily email. Both will include updated information on China and specific prayer requests. "The Beijing Olympics present an awesome opportunity for believers in the West to unite in prayer...not only for our fellow Christians but for the Communist government of China to grant religious freedom to all worshipers, especially house church members," said Open Doors USA President and CEO Carl Moeller.

To register for the campaign, go to [www.openDoorsUSA.org](http://www.openDoorsUSA.org) and click on the rotating banner on the upper right of the homepage.

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### HOLY

### WEEK

March 16 Palm Sunday, A Presentation of an Easter Musical created by Steve Moore and David T. Clydesdale by the Wesley Choir 8:30 and 11:00 am

March 20 Maundy Thursday at Wesley UMC. Members of Wesley and Wellspring UMCs will lead and participate in this service. 7:00 pm

March 21 "Come and Go" Good Friday Communion Service at Towne Lake. Members of Wellspring and Wesley UMCs will lead and participate in this service. Exact time TBA, but it will be in the evening.

March 23 Easter Services: 7:00 am (Sunrise), 8:30 and 11:00 am.

# Happy Birthday

## MARCH

Candi Morris	1st
Hannah Marie Pieratt	4th
Liz Smith	5th
Josh Kardos	6th
T.J. Kerr	6th
Hannah Young	6th
Tony Annett	8th
Judy Brown	9th
Craig Zick	10th
Dane Anderson	13th
Brittany Crow	13th
Barry Hines	14th
Kyle Billings	15th
Ed Lantz	15th
Carson Full	16th
James Kleker	20th
Tia Marie Pieratt	22nd
Kelsey Priestley	22nd
Gregg Dupree	23rd
Josh Crow	25th
Brianna Turner	26th
Lauren Brauen	27th
Claire Hastings	29th
Pat Chadwick	30th
Craig Moorman	31st



If you see fire trucks or police cars in the church driveway, there is not an emergency; the preschoolers are just learning about safety! The McKinney police and firefighters will demonstrate their sirens and let the kids climb in their vehicles during safety week.

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

Blue Ribbon Cookie Dough Sale: Karen will be selling on Sunday's between services through March 24th.

We will celebrate Easter with a special chapel, celebrations in the classroom and an Easter egg hunt.

The preschool is closed during Spring break, March 17-21<sup>st</sup>.



## News from your Wesley Library

by Sue Rominger

The following Memorial Books have been placed in the Library in memory

of *Imogene Williams* by Hattie and Bill Lair and Doyle Williams:

*NIV Archaeological Study Bible*: Experience a visual journey through Biblical life and times. A study tool that highlights the archaeological, historical, and cultural background of the Bible.

*Home to Holly Springs* by Jan Karon (fiction)

*Same kind of different As Me*: a modern-day slave, an international art dealer, and the unlikely woman who bound them together by Ron Hall & Denver Moore (non fiction) 976.4 HAL

*Why Is There a Cross?* By Kathleen Long Bostrom (children's book) J 232.96 BOS

*The Ultimate Life* by Jim Stovall (fiction)

*Mark's Story (a novel- The 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Jesus Chronicles)* By Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins

The following Memorial Books are in memory of *Shelby Hatfield*:

*Mommy, Please Don't Cry...There Are No Tears in Heaven* by Linda Deymaz (children's book) J 242.4 DEY

*A Grief Observed* by C. S. Lewis 242 LEW

*Enjoy Reading.*

*Enjoy your Library.*



We will be praying for our Mexico missionaries.

We are continuing to enroll for the 2008/2009 preschool year. Stop by the office for a packet of information if you or someone you know is interested  
Karen Stein

Preschool Director

## MEXICO MISSION PRAYER PARTNERS



HOW EXCITING!!

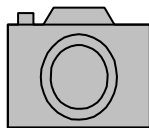
The opportunity is here again to serve God and God's people by being a Mexico Mission Prayer Partner. The opportunity is ours to begin now to pray for all the behind the scene workers, the youth, parents, leaders, Wesley UMC, and the Community.....all of whom have a vital part in preparing for this trip. Sign-up sheets to pray for an individual will be on the Prayer Table in the Narthex and will be available in various groups within the church.

By signing up you will be partnering with God to bless others and will find yourself greatly blessed. We will need 40-50 prayer partners and you are one of them!



### MEXICO MISSION PRAYER SERVICE MARCH 12 IN SANCTUARY 7:00 pm

Wednesday March 12th, in the Sanctuary, we will gather to be in prayer for our Mexico Missionaries. This is a special time when we find out who our prayer partners are and have an opportunity to pray with them. Everyone is invited to attend. The Holy Spirit works mightily on this trip; we are blessed to have a small part in carrying God's love to others. Prayer partners and missionaries who are unable to attend will be notified later about their prayer partners.



## Pictorial Directory

Our church is going to publish a new pictorial directory through Olan Mills. Reserve your appointment time in the WUMC Narthex March 9th, 16th, or 23rd. Each family/household that comes for photography and portrait viewing at the church will receive a complimentary directory and a 8x10 Custom Color Portrait. You will be able to view and select your portraits electronically from a variety of poses. Additional Olan Mills portraits will be available for purchase. Your entire appointment will normally take less than one hour.



### HEALING SERVICE

**March 30, 2008 Sanctuary, 6:00 pm**

### COME TO THE REFRESHING WATERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Drink deeply from the river of God's delight. This is what we will do at the HEALING SERVICE, Sunday March 30, at 6:00 pm., as we kneel before the throne of glory and experience God's healing grace enfolding us with the beautiful healing light of Christ, the Healer. Everyone is invited. Everyone is welcomed.

Proclaim God's love in the morning and God's faithfulness in the evening. Psalm 92:2



**"Relay for Life" garage sale** being held in the gym **April 5th**. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. Donations accepted the Week of March 31st. Please do not bring your donations before the 31st.



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

### MARCH 15 MEETING

Wesley women and guests are invited to attend the UMW's March meeting:

When: Saturday March 15, 2008

Time: 9:30 a.m.—12 noon

Where: Quilters Room

Bring your favorite brunch food. After we share our food, we will be blessed with an uplifting program. You will find Christian fellowship and a kinship among the women.

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

- Barbara Miller, President  
bamiller1234@yahoo.com
- Pat Chadwick, Vice President  
dillwick@juno.com
- Betty Bailey, Secretary  
bettybailey@tx.rr.com
- Carol Bichler, Treasurer  
cbichler@jcpenney.com



### SPRING TIME LADIES STUDY



March 6th—May 22nd 9:30-11:00am

New Thursday Morning Bible Study begins March 6th.

**"Ill Bring the Chocolate -Satisfying A Women's Craving for Friendship and Faith" by Karen Porter**

Let by Deana McGarr (469) 742-0080 or dmcgarr@tx.rr.com for more information. Childcare provided.

Location TBA



MY BUCKET LIST, MY BUCKET PRAYER  
By Laura S. Smith

A "Bucket List." Where to begin.  
So much to consider when facing the end.  
Well, here are a smattering of items I've picked  
To experience before "the bucket" is kicked:

**A perfect vacation, family time,  
Gourmet food, fine wine,  
Spa treatments, a shopping spree,  
A makeover, I might also need,  
Private concerts, one last party with friends,  
A few mornings of totally sleeping in,  
Maybe some lessons in Latin dance,  
And a dreamy night filled with sheer romance,  
Scuba diving, a space shuttle ride,  
One more bite of every candy I've ever tried,  
I want to train with and star in Cirque du Soleil,  
Oh wait. Before I get anymore carried away...**

There is nothing here that I must do or see,  
No earthly experience a priority.  
If heaven is truly in the works,  
Superfluous are these worldly perks.

For something unimaginable and unending awaits  
Beyond those illustrious pearly gates—  
A peace and pleasure that only God can provide,  
Reserved for the ones who choose to abide.

So allow me to make my "Bucket List" more concise,  
Being mindful of the One who paid the ultimate price.  
There are really only three things I need to achieve  
Before dying, if indeed I do believe.

But these three items I can't check off on my own;  
I need the Lord's help to accomplish each one.  
So instead of a list, I may need a "Bucket Prayer,"  
To keep me on track for the rest of my stay here:

**"Lord, before I die, let me love You, unencumbered,  
Remembering my days here on earth are numbered.  
And, Lord, help me to open my spiritual ear,  
So Your will for my life I might gratefully hear.  
Finally, Lord God, give me the strength to obey  
And live as You intend every moment, every day.**

**Amen."**



## Wesley United Methodist Church

2705 Virginia Parkway  
McKinney, Texas 75071  
Return Service Requested

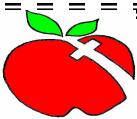
Phone: 972-542-2228  
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Church E-mail: [wumc@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:wumc@wumcmckinney.org)

PRST STD.  
Non Profit Org.  
PAID  
Permit No. 228  
McKinney, Texas

### Church Staff

**Ed Lantz, Pastor,** [pastor@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:pastor@wumcmckinney.org)  
**Jayne Wolfe, Deacon in full connection,**  
[jaynewolfe@aol.com](mailto:jaynewolfe@aol.com)  
**Zachary Balch, Youth Director,**  
[youthmin@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:youthmin@wumcmckinney.org)  
**Curtis Clark, Treasurer,**  
[Treasury@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:Treasury@wumcmckinney.org)  
**Mario Major, Director of Music,**  
[music@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:music@wumcmckinney.org)  
**Sandy Ragland, Administrative Asst,**  
[wumc@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:wumc@wumcmckinney.org)  
**Terrilee Schober, Interim Children's Director,**  
[kidstime@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:kidstime@wumcmckinney.org)  
**Karen Stein, Preschool Director,**  
[Wcp\\_karen@wumcmckinney.org](mailto:Wcp_karen@wumcmckinney.org)

The best mathematical equation I have ever seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.



## Wesley Christian Preschool

*A Ministry of Wesley United Methodist Church*

*Licensed by the Texas Dept. of family and protective services*

### “Tending God’s Orchard with Love and Learning”

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Tuesday, Thursday classes available or Monday thru Friday combined classes available.
- 5 day programs available for 4 Yr. olds and Transitional Kindergarten
- Now Enrolling for 08/09 school year
- Christian Curriculum including Spanish, Chapel time, Music/Fitness class
- 9:00—2:00 Monday thru Thursday, 9:00—12:30 Fridays

Registration for new students begins February 4, 2008, 9:00—2:00 pm. School starts August 8, 2008. If you have questions, please see Karen or Nikki at the Preschool office.

*Karen Stein (Director)*

*Nikki McDonald (Admin)*

**972-542-4778**