

# MEADOWBROOK MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF MEADOWBROOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter

[www.mbrookumc.org](http://www.mbrookumc.org)

August 1, 2018

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:

### *Amazing and Faithful Meadowbrook UMC!*

I have just finished my first month as senior pastor here at Meadowbrook UMC! Thank you to everyone for such a warm and gracious welcome for me and my family. I'm blown away by you guys. I've been part of lots of churches, but I've never seen volunteers like you. The office crew are as dependable and conscientious as anybody on salary ever was. We have a remarkable team of folks who make sure that the screens are ready for worship, that you all receive a weekly newsletter, a monthly newsletter, and communication from Sunday school classes. I saw dedicated people at the church every single day during Project Transformation to make sure that the program ran well and that the children had caring people to listen to them read. And then there are the fantastic musicians in our choir. WOW! This is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to how committed the people of Meadowbrook UMC are to this faith community. What a delight to get to know you.

I'm also learning about the mission ministries that speak to your hearts. Clearly, Meadowbrook Elementary is a focal point. I'm excited to see all that our church is doing to support those students and the staff. You are also deeply connected to Eastside Ministries, the Union Gospel Mission and more. It's inspiring to see all the ways that the Meadowbrook family serves God and neighbor.

For the next month or so, I am hoping to learn as much as I can about the powerful work already being done and to discern with you what God is calling us to do next. Please share your vision with me. I hope to bring us together to create some very clear objectives and goals. One important goal is to pay down our debt that still exists from the necessary repairs to the HVAC system. It will feel fantastic to be debt-free! Also, I would love to see us focus in on how to grow even deeper as disciples of Jesus Christ and to seek out the role that God would have us play as a light to our community. This is work done together! Vision-casting takes prayer and conversation and boldness of Spirit. I can't wait to see what God is wanting to do through us!

Again, thank you for welcoming me so warmly to this beautiful family of faith. I am so grateful to serve alongside you all.

- Rev. Ginger Watson

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## Back To School



**Only two more weeks to bring crayons, pencils, pens, paper, notebooks, backpacks and other elementary school supplies Put them in the boxes outside the parlor or in the office. Pastor Ginger will bless them on Back-to-School Sunday, Aug. 19.**

Continuing a 5-year tradition, MUMC will take breakfast to the staff of Meadowbrook Elementary on Friday, Aug. 17, the day teachers organize their classrooms for the Aug. 20 student start. Contact Vern Salzman if you want to bring a dish and or help serve it.

**Church Members**

Mary-margaret Belota Trish Christensen  
 Joyce Fry Grace Johnston  
 Ron Kline Billie Beth Moore  
 Maria Romero Claudia Roper  
 Ray Ross Elaine Shumate  
 Penny Tanner John Zacheus

**Home and Care Centers**

Dortha DeManche Ruth Grimm  
 Jim Horton Pat Kuhler  
 Hester Landers Mary Reynolds  
 Doris Thomas

**Church Friends and Family**

Kevin Boyd (Friend of Ron & Elaine Shumate)  
 Nancy Carr (Daughter of Marjorie Williams)  
 Anita Casburn (Mother of Tracy Casburn)  
 Tom Cassady (Friend of Mark Miller & Frank Ramirez)  
 Katie Daniel (Daughter of Laura Daniel)  
 Hugh Davidson (Father of Elaine Davidson)  
 Susie Doan (Friend of Debbie Martin)  
 Christina Garner (Daughter of Wanda Hayat)  
 Deke Gray (Relative of Joy Guthrie)  
 Tommy Haddix (Father of Pastor Marilyn)  
 Stella Hales (Great-niece of Laura Williamson)  
 Thomas Hurlbut (Nephew of Kay Hofer)  
 Margaret Joyce (Friend of Sharon Conger)  
 Denise Lamb (Friend of Sharon Conger)  
 Diana M. (Friend of Trish McDaniel)  
 Rita McDaniel (Mother of Rick McDaniel)  
 Andy Parker (Father of Kylie Reynold's friend)  
 Allen Peloquin (Son-in-law of Llano Carlisle)  
 Edward Ramirez (Brother of Frank Ramirez)  
 Gloria Ramirez (Mother of Frank Ramirez)  
 Cara Reed (Cousin of Craig Maxwell)  
 Eugene Semana (Nephew of Mary-margaret Belota)  
 Hannah Stout (Granddaughter of Mary Stout)  
 Charlie Tremayne (Nephew of Ron & Elaine Shumate)  
 Robert Walters (Cousin of Billie Beth Moore)  
 Chuck Weeth (Friend of Elaine Davidson)

**Our prayers and sympathy** are extended to family and friends of Jimmy Nance, who died July 24. The service celebrating his life was held on Saturday,

**August 2018**

**Average Presence**

Sunday School.....52  
 Morning Worship.....70

**August Giving**

Budget..... \$22,317  
 Communion.....\$170  
 \$\$'s for Missions.....\$895  
 Noisy Offering (School Supplies) .....\$94  
 Second Century.....\$1,000

**Communion Offering August 5  
 will Benefit Eastside Ministries.**

The hot summer causes special problems for the homeless and for persons who are living in homes without air conditioning. Sometimes we forget how fortunate we are in our air-conditioned homes and automobiles, but it takes only a glance out the window to be reminded of our neighbors who are unable to escape the heat.

Through our partnership with Eastside Ministries (also now known as Eastside Community Assistance), we can touch these lives in caring and compassionate ways. Because the agency is always seeking additional financial resources, our Communion Offering this week will be directed to ESM.

Many of its clients are already stressed by the significant heat they have been enduring. Just imagine what added frustration and fear they must feel when they are needing food and clothing for themselves and their families. With MUMC's financial support, ESM can purchase more food from the food bank and coordinate with area grocers who allow them to pick up designated food items that otherwise would be discarded. Operating expenses at ESM must be addressed every month, and that in itself is never easy. In their mission to adequately address the food insecurity issues of our neighbors, ESM staff and board members are constantly appreciative and aware of the importance of monetary contributions from individuals and area churches.

If you are able to participate in this opportunity for "second-mile giving," please leave your donation at the communion rail on Sunday morning. Remember, too, that we are always looking for food and clothing donations for ESM, which can be left in the hallway outside the chancel area. Thank you for your kindness and your generosity!

Outreach Committee

**Save the Date!**

Saturday, August 18  
 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
 Community Life Center  
 Annual 4-H Pancake  
 Breakfast  
 Tickets: \$5.00 for Pan-  
 cakes, Juice, Sausage,  
 Coffee, Watermelon.



## It's Time: Join the 2018 Birthday Club if you were born in August

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE BORN IN AUGUST!

All of you who have been Methodists for a long time know about the importance of "connectional giving" and how those dollars fund Methodist involvement in not only local, but world-wide ministries. Meadowbrook is proud to be part of that "connection" and wants to pay its fair share into this fund. EVERY DOLLAR we collect through the Birthday Club goes directly into connectional giving; so when you join the Birthday Club, you are helping so much in our meeting this commitment!

If you were born in August, it's time for you to send in your check for membership in this elite Club of MUMC members (and friends). Remember, your check should equal the number of years you are celebrating in 2018...or you can round it up (or down) to \$100 if you want to keep your actual age a secret.

### August Birthdays

8/7	Jane Maxwell
8/10	Jim Chandler
8/12	Helen Nelson
8/17	Sherry Reynolds
8/17	Anita Bowers
8/22	Dorothy Dahl
8/22	Alysia DuVall
8/24	Betty Moore
8/26	Phil Robbins
8/29	Barbara Conrad
8/30	Amy Estes
8/31	Debbie Martin

If you need an address to send a birthday card to one of these special people and cannot locate the current address in your church directory, feel free to call the church office and ask for the information you need. Also, If you know of someone else whose name should be on the list below and it's missing, please contact that person and urge him/her to provide us with the missing date. Working together, we can get our computer records in great shape!

Again, here are the ways in which you can become a member of the Birthday Club: 1) You can make a "second-mile" gift to the church in a dollar amount that matches your 2018 birthday age. (Your check should be marked "Birthday Club.") 2) You will become a member of the Club if someone else contributes \$50 or more to this campaign in your honor. If the donor wants to remain anonymous, we'll let you know the gift was received but keep the donor's identity a secret.

## New Birthday Club Members Celebrated

Thanks to these generous church family members for July donations to the Birthday Club.

**Dick Bogusch**  
**Gary Cumbie**  
**Jane Cumbie**  
**Jim Nance**

Each of you is a blessing! Your gifts are very much appreciated and will be credited immediately to our Connectional Giving fund.

Remember that donors 11-20 to the 2018 Birthday Club campaign will participate in a drawing for dinner for two at Dixie House Cafe! We're almost there. Even you "belated birthday celebrants" who forgot to sign up during your birthday month will be eligible to win this drawing if you make it by number 20.

*Happy birthday to you; happy birthday to you.  
God bless you for joining! Happy birthday to you!  
Cha cha cha....*



### NEW PRINCIPAL

Suzelle Birkmire is no stranger to students, parents, staff and volunteers at Meadowbrook Elementary, where she was assistant principal five years before being promoted to succeed Terri McGuire as principal.

As she begins her 24th year in education, Mrs. Birkmire is excited about building on academic achievements; nurturing the PTA she revived last year; using her bilingual skills to involve more parents; and working with MUMC volunteers to help students.

### UMW Burning of the Candle

It's time to think about the 2018 Burning of the Candle to support mission work with women, children, and youth. A gift of \$24.38 will burn the candle for ONE MINUTE in memory or in honor of someone. Please consider rounding up to \$30, \$35, \$40 or even more. We hope that those who have done this regularly and others will participate. Forms for Burning of the Candle are available from Sharon Conger and in the church office. Please make checks payable to Central Texas Conference United Methodist Women or CTC-UMW and give your check and form to Sharon Conger, Mary Stout or leave in the church office. The deadline is August 8, 2018.

## Covenant Class News - Room 221

Please keep Jim and Dana and their family in your prayers, and reach out to them in any way you can during this time of mourning to let them know how much they mean to us.

In other news, we've been having a wonderful study on Moses led by the inimitable Eve Hamilton. It is based on the book and video series by Adam Hamilton, whom Eve swears is no relation. At any rate, it is an excellent series. If you have missed some of the segments, please don't let that keep you from coming. It is divided in such a way that you can plug in at any point. A particularly important scripture that Eve highlighted on Sunday is one that is applicable to us today. It is Exodus 14:14. The NIV translation puts it this way: "The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." Pretty powerful, don't you think? And very reassuring.

Last Sunday we were delighted to have some visitors: Ann and Will Reynolds, who live in the neighborhood joined us, as did our own Diane Griffin. We are so happy to have them visit and hope they will return.

Other Updates: (1) Nancy Estes is recovering nicely from knee surgery. (2) Claudia Roper still needs our prayers as she continues to recuperate. (3) Keep Hannah Stout, Mary's granddaughter, in your prayers as she had emergency surgery of a very serious nature, and is facing a lengthy hospital stay and an even lengthier rehab. This is all the result of her Crohn's Disease. If you'd like to send her a card, she's in Room 614, Medical City Children's Hospital, 7777 Forest Lane, Dallas TX 75230.

The Lesson and Snack schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:

DATE	SNACKS	LESSON/TEACHER
Aug. 5	Shumate	Eve Hamilton – Moses
Aug. 12	Smyth	Jim Nance – Daniel
Aug. 19	Stout	Jim Nance – Daniel
Aug. 26	Williamson	Jim Nance – Daniel

That's all I've got. Please make every effort to be in class. It's now at 10:30, so no excuses. Of course, you'll still have to come up with excuses for why you're late for or missing church at 9:30, but I digress. Hope to see you in class. We miss you when you're not here. Keep each other in your prayers - always!

~ Mary-margaret Belota

## Koinonia Class News - Room 202

In July, Koinonians resumed our periodic review of "250 Events in the Life of Christ - a Harmony of the Gospels," spending four weeks on Jesus' teachings told only in the Gospel of John. Ron Golightly will continue leading discussions of those events on Aug. 5 with Jesus' warning of coming judgment in John 8:21-30; on Aug. 12 with John 8: 32-47, Jesus speaking about God's true children; and on Aug. 19 with John 8: 48-59, Jesus' assertion that he is eternal. On Aug. 26, we'll switch to Luke 10: 1-16, with Jesus sending out 72 messengers. With Sunday School now starting at 10:40 a.m., we're making coffee but skipping snacks to save room for lunch. Pray for Trish Christensen, who will be going home after recuperating at Garden Terrace from her long-delayed second knee replacement surgery. See you Sunday!  
-Martha Deller

## Wesleyan Class News - Room 112

If you haven't been able to attend class, please know you are missed. If you are ill, you are on our prayer list! Mary Reynolds has moved to Ridglea Assisted Living and is adjusting well and improving. Joe Ballem has moved to Lakewood, a "satellite campus of MUMC." June Spencer's son has been hospitalized and needs our prayers.

On July 1st the Wesleyan Class ended early to attend the reception welcoming Pastor Ginger Watson and her family to MUMC.

Members of the Wesleyan class enjoyed the fellowship, ice cream, and fireworks show at Mary Strom's July 4th.

Mary Strom announced a combined Sing-Along with members of Poly Tech and other Methodist churches on August 4th at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Ice cream and cookies will be served after the Sing-Along.

Jane Maxwell updated the Wesleyan Class member roster and brought copies to pass to the class. Thanks to Marjorie for manning the piano in Martha's absence July 15th.

JoAnn Hamm remembered the class with a card and a check for \$300.00. Wesleyan Class members should recommend to Vern ways to dedicate the funds.

Save the date Saturday, November 24, and plan to join the class in attending Arlington Theatre's production of "Meet Me in St. Louis."

Please keep each other and our mission work in your prayers. Remember "Grace = Undeserved Love" - We are loved and blessed!

-Kay Hofer

The Wesleyan Class  
invites you to a  
**GOSPEL SING-A-LONG**  
in the Meadowbrook Fellowship Hall  
Saturday, August 4 - 2:00 p.m.  
Song Leader - Mary-margaret Belota  
Pianist - Martha Wachtel

*Ice cream and cookies follow the singing!*



## It's A Wrap: 2018 Project Transformation A Roaring Success!

Another successful session of Project Transformation has come to a close for 2018. Our celebration banquet for our three local churches was held Thursday, July 26, at FUMC Hurst.

We started MUMC'S 2nd summer reading camp June 6 with two concerns: fitting 97 prospective campers into 80 slots and recruiting enough volunteers to read one-on-one with the children for eight weeks. Within three weeks, enrollment stabilized at 76 and we had 35 regular reading volunteers from MUMC, Poly, McMillan and 4H. Other partner churches helped host two Family Fun Nights. Our fears that we'd lose many campers after the July 4 holiday also proved unfounded. More than 50 children continued reading - with time out for water fights and other fun with their college student counselors - through the last day, July 25. The combined efforts paid off at the MUMC and two other PT sites, according to statistics shared at the July 26 closing banquet. More than 220 children attended the three camps, reading more than 3,000 books with volunteers who donated 1,350 hours. "About 99 percent of campers improved or maintained their reading levels," said Executive Director, Julie Harding, who also shared that many of the 4,000 books donated to PT were given to campers to encourage reading at home.

**MEADOWBROOK**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## CLERGY TEAM

### *Pastors*

*Rev. Ginger Watson*  
*ginger271@sbcglobal.net*

*Rev. Denise Blakely*  
*niecie4him@aol.com*  
*Associate Pastor of Community Missions*

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### **Worship Opportunities**

Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:40 a.m.  
Rejuvenate Community Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Saturdays

### **Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Weekly Calendar

### **Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Morning Worship  
10:40 a.m. Sunday School  
2:00 p.m. Karate (CLC)

### **Monday**

12:00 p.m. Rotary (FH)  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 12 (SH)

### **Tuesday**

### **Wednesday**

10:00 a.m. E.C.M. (L)  
1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry (P)  
2:30 p.m. Games Day (113)  
7:00 p.m. Choir (CR)

### **Thursday**

### **Friday**

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (SH)  
6:30 p.m. Daisy Scouts (SH)

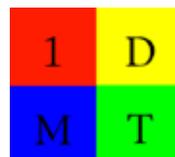
### **Saturday**

10:00 a.m. Bible Study (P)

## Additional Dates

2:00 p.m. Aug 4  
9:00 a.m. Aug 11  
Sunday, Aug 19  
5:30 p.m. Aug 22  
Sunday, Aug 26

Gospel Sing A Long (FH)  
4H Pancake Breakfast (CLC)  
Back to School Sunday  
Leadership Mtg (FH)  
Noisy Offering Sunday



Tentative Work Day, August 4.

*Newsletter*  
**DEADLINE**

**Articles are appreciated by Wednesday, August 22.**  
**The next newsletter will be published August 28, 2018.**  
**Thank you Diane & Martha!**