

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial United Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



Vol. 13, No. 2

February 1, 2017

A graphic illustration featuring a red fork on the left, a large red heart in the center, and a red knife and spoon on the right. All elements have a textured, hand-painted appearance.

UMW Valentine Luncheon

Our annual Valentine luncheon will be held on February 11, at 11:00 a.m. and all ladies of the church and your guests are invited. Please join us for fellowship, good food, and door prizes. The luncheon will be a potluck event with each of us bringing soup, salad, or a sweet. There is no charge for the luncheon, but a love offering will be taken. Our speaker will be Rev. Alan Van Hooser, pastor of Cheatham Memorial U.M.C. in Edgewood. Please plan to attend and bring a friend for a day of fellowship. Reservations are not required, but would be appreciated. Call:
Lois Butts (903)560-0795
Church Office (903)873-2569



An Isaac Moment

“(The angel) said, ‘Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.’” - Genesis 22:12

When reading the Gospels, it becomes obvious that being a follower of Christ involves commitment. Jesus seemed to make that obvious with language such as "take up your cross." We read about people who made radical life changes in order to be disciples of Jesus. Fishermen "left their nets" in order to follow him. Hoping to follow their

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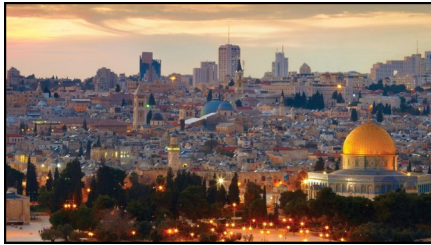
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Wills Point Rotary Club's All "F RE" Kids

Charity Golf Tournament

Are you looking for a way to help the children of Wills Point? Well, the Wills Point Rotary Club has a great opportunity to do just that. Friday, March 24th at the Van Zandt Country Club, WP Rotary will be holding their annual golf tournament to raise money for projects involving the youth of our community including: Felix Massey Educational Grants, The Playground at Lester Park, and the Backpack Program of the East Texas Food Bank. There are a few ways to help, you can become a sponsor, bring a team, or simply make a donation. For questions, please call Randi Duckworth 469-474-9451 or email willspointrotary@gmail.com



Have you ever wanted to experience for yourself the land of our Lord? Here is your chance to literally walk where Jesus walked. Pastor Dave is coordinating a trip to the Holy Land. You will have the opportunity to share the experience with your pastor and other pilgrims from your congregation. The 10-day trip will depart on November 13, 2017 from Dallas. An outline of the trip can be found by going to eo.travelwithus.com and searching the Holy Land Classic 2017 trip. Brochures with details are available at the church office. Sherri Rowe has also prepared a comprehensive cost estimate to supplement the brochure. Don't miss this opportunity to see and learn about the land of the Bible.



Safeguarding Our Seniors (SOS) A Crime Prevention Lifeline

The SOS program provides valuable information and resources to Van Zandt County Seniors and other qualified registrants, helping them protect themselves from crime and unpredictable emergency situations. If you, or someone you know, may be in need of tools and training that will assist you to protect yourself against crime, please contact Gerard Brohman (903)873-2307, precinct 3 coordinator.

Reading Opportunities

How long has it been since you read to a young child? If it has been a while, you may have forgotten how rewarding it can be to see the interest in their faces. The primary school has invited us to send people to read to the kindergarten and first graders there. A calendar is posted on the classroom door to indicate open dates and times to go. Take 30 minutes and bless the lives of our young students by reading to them.



Dear RMUMC,
Thank you all for your prayers, well wishes and concern during my recent hospital stay. I also want to thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl that was given to me as well. I am humbled by your kindness and grateful for your continuing love and support. God bless.
Love,

Jennifer Barnett McCann

Thank you so much for your recent donation to the ABC Room. Your loyal support allows us to continue helping some precious kiddos see some love in this world. We appreciate your generosity.

ABC Room Board

Thank you for helping to make Christmas 2016 special for some very needy Wills Point families! Together with your generous contribution, we were able to provide Christmas (clothes, shoes, coats, toys) for 309 kids and food (including a turkey or hen) for their 112 families. Without your generosity, this would not have been possible. Thank you again!
Sherri Rowe, Coordinator
Wills Point Community Angel Tree

Dear Friends,
It is my honor to serve as bishop of the Texas Annual Conference and to witness the vision displayed by both clergy and laity.

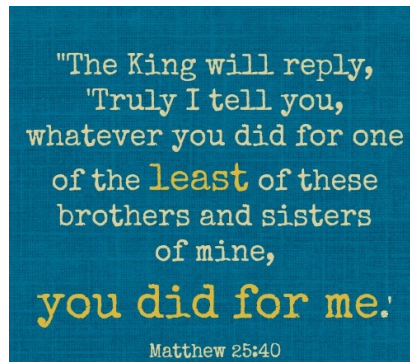
Thank you so much for your contribution and for your support of the Emerging Leaders Initiative. I am pleased this program touched your heart and that you responded with such generosity.

Your contribution will be part of the raising up of the next generation of clergy leaders. The impact of your gift will be felt for many years to come.

Grace and Peace,
Scott J. Jones

We would like to give a HUGE thank you to the United Methodist Men for all the hard work and help they gave during the holiday season. They loaded, delivered, and placed our new nativity (even rearranged a few times!) with no complaints. They even built a wonderful place for us to store it so it won't be in the way or get damaged. Your dedication to the church is, as always, greatly appreciated! We could not do without you all. Each of you is a blessing to us all.
Thanks again,

RMUMC Altar Guild and Church Family



Calendar of Events for February



Dates to Remember!

- Feb. 4th, 10:00 a.m. Cake at Crestwood
- Feb. 9th, 11:00 a.m. Wills Point Riding Club Chili Luncheon (All invited, free meal!)
- Feb. 11th, 11:00 a.m. UMW Valentine Luncheon
- Feb. 14th, 10:30 a.m. Methodist Day School Valentine Party
- Feb. 18th, 10:00 a.m. ABC Room Bunco Celebration
- Feb. 19th, 7:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast, 12:00 p.m. Church Council,
2:00 p.m. Crestwood
- Feb. 21st, 10:00 a.m. Grief Support Group
- Feb. 23rd, Spa Day at Crestwood
- Feb. 25th, 11:00 a.m. Neighbor to Neighbor

Community Outreach Program

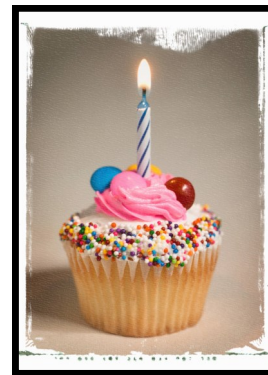
Neighbor to Neighbor Lunch
11 am-1pm
Fourth Saturday of each month
Deen Building - George Hall
OPEN TO ANYONE
WHO CHOOSES TO COME



Please contact the church for details
(903-873-2569).

Happy Birthday!

Gerda David	2-4	Linda Dennis	2-28
Claire Watson	2-6	LeiLanie Galope	2-29
Dana Hullum	2-8	Marigrace Lang	2-29
Ted Deen, Sr.	2-10		
Brad Malone	2-11		
Peggy Kinney	2-13		
Vanessa Roberts	2-14		
Justin Galope	2-15		
Cody Rowland	2-16		
Bernadette Kolb	2-18		
Phyllis Mayo	2-20		
Linda Malone	2-21		
Debby Roberts	2-22		
Diane Sandifer	2-27		



February Worship Assistants

Altar Guild: Kathleen Bobbitt (Chair), Judy Powers, Becky Hardy,
Theresa Turner, Fritz Gilbreth

Ushers: Cyndi Fields (Head), Ernie Fields, Beau Poteet, Linda
Poteet



Our Presence and Our Gifts

	<u>Jan. 1</u>	<u>Jan. 8</u>	<u>Jan. 15</u>	<u>Jan. 22</u>	<u>Jan. 29</u>
the early service		50	58	44	47
Sunday School		84	106	86	Brunch
Traditional Worship	107	89	96	136	89
	\$6,482.75	\$6,523.00	\$5,691.00	\$4,251.10	\$3,080.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:30pm Adult Choir	2	3	4 10:00am Cake at Crestwood 6:00pm Rene Cartwright's Small Group Study
5 8:30 am Early Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 5:00 pm Disciple Bible Study	6 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group 6:00pm Trustees	7	8 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:30pm Adult Choir	9 11:00 am WPR Club Chili Lunch All are welcome!	10	11 11:30am UMW Valentine Lunch 6:00pm Rene Cartwright's Small Group Study
12 8:30 am Early Service 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Disciple Bible Study	13 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group 5:00pm Day School 6:00pm Finance 6:00 pm Scouts	14 10:30am MDS Valentines Party	15 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:30pm Adult Choir	16	17	18 9:00am Crafting with Christ 10:00am ABC Room Bunco Celebration
19 7:30 am UMM Breakfast 8:30 am Early Service 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Church Council 2:00 pm Crestwood 5:00 pm Disciple Bible Study	20 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group	21 10:00am Grief Support Group	22 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:30pm Adult Choir	23 Spa Day at Crestwood	24	25 Neighbor to Neighbor Lunch 11 am—1pm 2:00pm Baby Shower
26 8:30 am Early Service 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Disciple Bible Study	27 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group	28				
				Communion Offering will go toward the feeding the community.		

(cont. from pg. 1)

example, we continue to challenge ourselves today to be fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. I like to think that I have total commitment to Christ, but how do I really know?

In his book entitled *All In*, Mark Batterson speaks of something called an "Isaac moment." It is a reference to the scriptural story where Abraham was told by God to sacrifice his son Isaac, the child of promise for whom Abraham and Sarah had waited so long. I can't imagine being in Abraham's sandals. How hard would it be to put on the altar the thing in your life that is most precious? As difficult as it must have been, Abraham did it. And when it became perfectly clear that he would follow through on God's request, the angel of the Lord stopped him. The fact that God stopped the act at the last moment is not the point. Rather, it is the fact that Abraham was willing to go all in. It must have been clear to God (and to His messenger) that nothing was going to stand between Abraham and his obedience to God. If he had brought the knife down, the act would have been irreversible. And that's the point. Total commitment is illustrated in those moments when we go all in for God.

Don't get me wrong; I'm not saying that I am not totally committed to God. The question I am raising for myself is this: how do I know? Saying it is one thing. Illustrating it is another. As I reflect upon my life, I'm not sure I can put my finger on anything that I would consider an Isaac moment. Even my decision to leave a career as a professional driver and return to school wouldn't qualify. After all, I could have always returned to driving if the ministry track didn't work out. Maybe the majority of Christians never really have an Isaac moment. If so, I suppose that's okay. Still, it will not keep me from posing the question, for myself as well as for others who journey along side me. If God asked you to go all in—putting your most valued possessions on the altar in order to be faithful to God—would you be able to do it?

Pastor Dave

Math Help

We have school students looking for X and Y. Some are just trying to resolve $2x^2$. Can you help? We need extra people to help with math tutoring before school. Currently we have tutoring that happens at three of our campuses. We especially need helpers on Thursdays at the middle school. Call the church office for more details.

Remember in Prayer:

Mimi Miles' family
Alice Kolb
AJ Boswell
Allen Thompson
Andie Kay Joyner
Annette & Gerald Clemmons
Beth Butler
Billy & Dorothy Bruster
Chris Conn
Chrystal (Vann) Adams
Chuck & Nelda Currie
Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living
Dave & Dee Lutzinger
David Cartwright & Family
Dennis & Beth Basham
Denny McCormick
Don Wortman

Donna Gonzales
Grief Support Group
Methodist Church (RMUMC)
Homeland Security
James & Brenda Brown &
Family
Jean Allred
Jennifer Barnett McCann
Jim Smith
Joe & Ginger Hess
John Buffington
Larry Wampler
Liz Ellis
Melinda Thomason
Mickey Chapple
Missionaries in Iraq
Norma Hundley
Our Armed Forces, America,
Our World
Phil Evans

Mark Brown
Rick Forester & Family
Richard Moore & Family
Sherri Rowe & Suzanne
Stanley
Students, Teachers, &
Administrators
Tristan Parsons
Ted Deen, Sr.
Theresa Turner
Windy Howard



Memorials/Honorariums

**In honor of
RMUMC Youth
Given by Beverly Wingo Purinton.**

**In memory of
Deborah Glinski
Given by
Becky & F.G. Hardy,
And Billy & Dorothy Bruster.**

**In memory of
G.L. Shepard
Given by
Molly, Bill, & Brad Brittain.**

**In memory of
Karen Forester
Given by
Robert & Linda Greenwald.**



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Rev. David Cartwright, Pastor
Nancy McDonald, Office Administrator
Theresa Turner, Ladies Hand Bells Director
Kristy Adams, Pianist
Amy Goodson, K5 Choir Director

Dr. Bob Gilbreth, Music Director
Fritz Gilbreth, Organist
Kelli Huff, K5 Kids Coordinator
Jackie Cockerham, Financial Administrator
Jerry Don Huff, Youth Director

 201 S. 4th St. in Wills Point



russellmemorialumc.org



[russellmemorialumc](https://www.facebook.com/russellmemorialumc)



903.873.2569



rmumc@sbcglobal.net



[rmumc](https://www.instagram.com/rmumc)

Join us Sunday Morning!

Contemporary Worship @ 8:30

Sunday School @ 9:45

Traditional Worship @ 11:00

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday

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P. O. Box 335
Wills Point, TX 75169

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED