

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial United Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



Vol. 13, No. 5

May 1, 2017



VBS Is Gearing Up!!

Remember that old saying it takes a village to raise a child? Well, your VBS team is looking for supplies for and from the villagers. Please take a look at the following lists and think of items you might be able to help supply us with. We have 2 sections in the list:

Borrowed & Donated. The

borrowed section is a set of items we only want to borrow for the week. If you have any of these items, and definitely want them returned, please label each item with your name and phone number and we will make sure you receive the items back by the Sunday after VBS is done. The remaining items are donations. They will either be partially or totally consumed during the week, and we therefore cannot guarantee that the condition will be the same for returning it. Thank you in advance for your help!

Your VBS team

Borrowed:

- * 30 inch bungee cords (2), 18 inch bungee cord (1)
- * Large funnel, 2 small funnels
- * Battery-operated LED lights (small string)
- * Hair dryer
- * 100% wool sweater
- * Vacuum hose with bristled attachment
- * Large electric fan
- * Leaf blower
- * Balloon pump
- * Rope lights
- * Fake food (various types)

(cont. on pg. 2)



Surprised by God

Let's face it; there are times when God simply catches us off guard. Day to day life has a way of lulling us into complacency. We believe that tomorrow will be just like today, just like yesterday. We know the system, the rhythms of daily life, and the habits of the Almighty as God relates to us. Our frame of mind tends to reflect the words of the Wisdom writer, that there is nothing new under the sun. Then when we least expect it, God shows up and surprises us with a "new thing."

If you have ever felt this way, you are in good company. Consider Moses, forty years removed from Egypt, living in

(cont. on pg. 6)

(cont. pg. 1) **Borrowed:**

- * 5 gallon bucket
- * 6 large buckets
- * Pool noodles (2 - blue, 2- yellow)
- * 9 hula hoops
- * 8 pieces heavy fabric/carpet
- * 1 bean bag
- * Oscillating sprinkler
- * Chef hat
- * 4 strands (50 foot each) parallel circuit Light Strings with working lights

New or used:

- * 5 gallon bucket (need 2- will have a hole in the bottom when done)
- * 4 inch PVC pipe (about 4 feet)
- * 4 inch 90 degree PVC connectors
- * Spray paint (3 colors, 1 can each)
- * Rolls of colored cellophane (4)
- * Styrofoam cups
- * Essential oil (preferably orange)
- * Paper towels
- * Trash bags
- * 3 foot cardboard tube
- * Fishing line

- * 16 oz plastic soda bottle (5, empty)
- * 1" styrofoam balls (10)
- * Natural-colored Googly eyes (20)
- * Various ribbons
- * Various yarns
- * Colored twine
- * Tennis balls (10)
- * Red stamp pads (2)
- * Plastic cups (60)
- * Fine tip markers
- * Clear duct tape
- * 10'x25' roll of heavy duty, 6-mil plastic sheeting
- * 5-6 rolls of crepe paper streamer
- * Ping Pong ball
- * 3 large sponges
- * Painters tape
- * 48" x 200' white butcher paper roll
- * 12 plastic food containers
- * 6 empty coffee cans
- * 4 butter/yogurt tubs
- * 2 new, unused plungers
- * Drinking straws (1/person)
- * Puzzles for age 3+

God is Good... All the Time!

You may have noticed a couple of new vehicles around the church grounds lately. The Methodist Day School is proud to have purchased a brand new van. We have been saving for quite a while and were able to pay cash for it. The children will be blessed with very nice, safe and reliable transportation. The church also recently surprised our pastor and his family with a 2013 Ford Escape. This church-owned vehicle was generously provided for the pastor's business travel as well as for family needs. We are so very excited that, because of the good stewardship of our people, we were able to make these purchases!





Dear RMUMC Family,
Thank you for your thoughtful gift of the prayer shawl you sent during my convalescence. It touched me deeply knowing that you all still care for me, and are praying for me and my family as we go through this process. I came through the surgery well and am recovering quickly. It amazes me what a great God we have! He touched my life incredibly through this whole process. I thank you all for your steadfastness in serving Him!
With much appreciation, gratitude and love,
James West

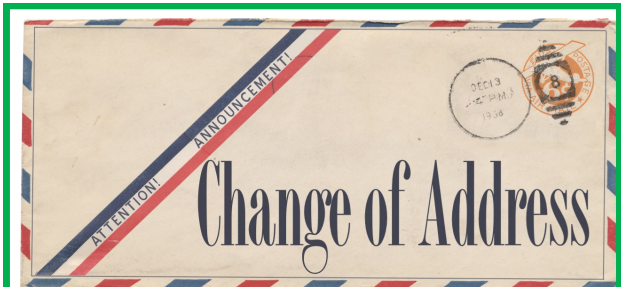
Your Kindness Makes a Difference

Dear Congregation,
Thank you so much for everything you did—whether you brought rummage, shopped, donated, or worked—to help make the Bucks for Books Rummage Sale a success! We raised over \$1,100 which gets us closer to giving a book to every WPISD student!

Sincerely,
Sherri Rowe
Community Outreach Coordinator



K6 Kids Choir & K6 Kids meet on Wed. evenings, 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm. Dinner is provided. It's always a great time!



Please note the following **correction** of address for Gerald & Lyn Haney and Ms. Lillian Cormier:

Gerald & Lyn Haney
550 VZCR 3718
Wills Point, TX 75169

Prestige Estate
Lillian Cormier
6928 Paluxy Dr. Apt. 217
Tyler, TX 75703
903-534-3770



Join us Wednesday nights from 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm. Dinner is provided, as well as a great time of fellowship and fun! Don't miss out! We will host a lock in for 5th-12th grade, March 10th, from 7pm until 6:30am. It's going to be awesome, plan on joining us!!

Calendar of Events for May



Dates to Remember!

Saturday, May 6, 11:00 a.m. UMW White Gloves and Hats Tea
 Thursday, May 18, 7:00 p.m. Day School Graduation
 Saturday, May 20, 9:00 a.m. Crafting with Christ
 Sunday, May 21, 7:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast
 12:00 p.m. Church Council
 Wednesday, May 24, Last K6, Youth of the School Year
 Saturday, May 27, 11:00 a.m. Neighbor to Neighbor
 Sunday, May 28—Wednesday, May 29, Texas Annual Conference
 Monday, May 29, Church Office Closed, Memorial Day

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!

Bob Gilbreth	5/2	Beverly Roddy	5/19
Carolyn Hawkins	5/2	Debbie Faulkenbury	
Gail Groover	5/2		5/21
Leslie Nychka	5/2	Joni Tunnell	5/21
Betty Pratt	5/9	Betty Manning	5/22
Margaret Fleming	5/10	Betty McCormick	5/22
Martha Hesse	5/13	Andy Anderson	5/26
Becky Hardy	5/14	Bob Bobbitt	5/26
Ken Aulich	5/14	Ed AuBuchon	5/26
Scott Teel	5/15	Kelly Teel	5/27
Jackie Fleming	5/16	Kathleen Bobbitt	5/29
Dean Hesse	5/18	Jordan Teel	5/31
Gary Keller	5/18		
Jim Hawkins	5/18		

May Worship Assistants

Altar Guild: Linda Malone (Chair), Phillis Humphrey, Lucy Hill,
 Betty Briggs, Charlotte Conn
Ushers: Danny Brown (Head), Karl Lybrand, Keeta Lybrand,
 James Brown



Our Presence and Our Gifts

	<u>April 2</u>	<u>April 9</u>	<u>April 16</u>	<u>April 23</u>
the early service	46	59	69	42
Sunday School	80	88	87	Brunch
Traditional Worship	109	105	184	95
	\$5,800.00	\$8,963.35	\$4,459.06	\$2,387.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group 6:00pm Trustees 6:00pm Scouts	2	3 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids	4	5 Birthday Treats at Primary School	6 11:00am UMW Tea
7 8:30 am Early Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	8 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group 5:00pm Day School 6:00pm Finance 6:00pm Scouts	9	10 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids	11	12	13 Hardman/Watson Playground Fund Raiser in Deen Building
14 8:30 am Early Service 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	15 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group 6:00pm Scouts	16 10:00am Grief Support Group	17 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids	18 7:00pm Day School Graduation	19	20 9:00am Crafting with Christ
21 7:30am UMM Breakfast 8:30 am Early Service 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:00pm Church Council 2:00 pm Crestwood	22 10:00 am Ladies Prayer Group 6:00pm Scouts	23	24 5:30pm Youth & K6 Kids (Last regular meeting for this school year)	25 10:00am Spa Day at Crestwood	26 WPISD Last Day of School	27 Neighbor to Neighbor Lunch 11 am—1pm
28 8:30 am Early Service 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	29 Church Office Closed	30	31			
Texas Annual Conference @ The Woodlands				Communion Offering will go to the .		

(cont. from pg. 1) the land of Midian. As he would eventually discover, not every day of tending flocks is the same as the rest. God had chosen to act on behalf of the Hebrew people, and Moses would be God's agent of freedom. I don't know about you, but the last thing I expect in a day is to encounter an angel of the Lord in a burning bush. When God showed up, Moses' life would never be the same. Surprise!

Then there was Saul, the "Hebrew of Hebrews" who surpassed others of his time in his zeal for God. Could there have been someone who was more convinced that his religious thinking and practice was correct? What a surprise he had when Jesus met him along the road. It was so overwhelming that Paul apparently had to go off by himself to "let it sink in" (see Galatians 1:15-17). Imagine the converted Paul saying to God, "I didn't realize I could have made such a big mistake about what you are doing." Surprise!

And how could we omit Mary? Her story hardly needs comment. This young maiden anticipated what most of us would describe as an unremarkable life. Then God showed up, and her life forever changed. She would be known through the century as the one chosen to bear the Son of God. Surprise!

There are many other accounts in scripture of God working in unexpected, powerful, head-scratching, even humorous ways. We could add Balaam's donkey, Jonah's fish, Abraham's promise, Peter's prison break; the list goes on and on. You just never know how God will choose to surprise us next.

One of our general miscalculations as followers of Jesus is that we lose our expectation of God's surprises. You might say that we subconsciously domesticate God, limiting our vision of God's action in the world to the ordinary rather than the extraordinary. We lose the sense of divine surprise, being able to expect—and embrace—the unexpected. The God we serve is a God on the move, always doing things that have the capacity to surprise us. Though we can't anticipate all that God will do, we can be sure that God *will* continue to surprise us, and those surprises have the potential to knock us off our feet if we are not ready for God to do a "new thing."

Awesome God, we your people stand ready. Surprise us!

Pastor Dave



The Diaper Changing and Nursing Area at the Bluebird Festival was a success! Thanks to several members who braved such a cold, blustery day, we were able to provide a comfortable changing area for moms, dads and their children. Even though we didn't have many visitors due to the weather, one particular family made it all worth our effort. There was an infant who has a tube connected to his little body that must be disconnected before every diaper change then reconnected. Our booth allowed that mom to attend to her child in comfort and out of the weather. What a blessing to be able to serve our community!

Remember in Prayer:

Alexis Leonard
Alice Kolb
Allen Thompson
Andie Kay Joyner
Andy & Sherry Anderson
Angie Smith
Annette & Gerald Clemmons
Billy & Dorothy Bruster
Dr. Bob & Fritz Gilbreth
Carolyn Choate
Chris Conn
Chuck & Nelda Currie
Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living
Daisy Bates
Darrell Pierce
Dave & Dee Lutzinger
David & Rene Cartwright &
Family

Dennis & Beth Basham
Denny & Betty McCormick
Don Wortman
Grief Support Group
Methodist Church (RMUMC)
Hershel LyBrand
Homeland Security
James & Brenda Brown &
Family
Jean Allred
Jennifer Barnett McCann
Jerry Bowden
Jim Ruckart
Joe & Ginger Hess
John Buffington
Larry Wampler
Liz Ellis
Mark Reed
Mark Welsh
Melinda Thomason

Mickey Chapple
Missionaries in Iraq
Nancy Deen
Norma Hundley
Our Armed Forces, America,
Our World
Mark Brown
Ramelle Sewell
Richard & Sherry Moore
Roy Deen
Sarah & Tim Patterson
Sherri Rowe
Students, Teachers, &
Administrators
Tristan Parsons
Ted Deen, Sr.
Theresa Turner
Windy Howard

Memorials/Honorariums

In memory of
Adele Monning
A memorial leaf was
Given by
Prayer Shawl Ministry.

In memory of Adele Monning
Given by
Tad & Shanna Ivy, Purinton Family,
Sue C. Davis, Johnnie B. Malouf,
Lucy Hill, Jim & Carolyn Hawkins,
Frosty & Joni Tunnell, and
Tommy & Linda Malone.

The Army is Coming!

An army of United Methodist youth will descend upon Wills Point July 9-15 this year. RMUMC will be hosting this group as they come to serve our community. One of the ways we will support them is to provide places where they can shower each day after their work. If you would be willing to have about 5 of those youth and an adult leader to come to your home each day for showers, please contact Pastor Dave or the church office. This will work better for those who live in or close to town, as the group will be returning to the Deen Building for their evening meals. Thank you in advance for your kind support .

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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



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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