

Servants of Christ

United Methodist Parish

Summer 2016

Newsletter



Words from Pastor Chris

Please listen, Lord, and answer my prayer! I am poor and helpless. Protect me and save me because you are my God. I am your faithful servant, and I trust you.

—Psalm 86:1-2

Every Note a Journey...

As a child, I listened to Elvis because that is what Mom and Dad had in the 500 - pound turntable console in the den. Elvis sang lyrics and you could pull out the liner notes and read them if you wanted to. There wasn't much of a story in most of the songs but at least I could follow along.

As a student I discovered classical music. This was scary because I didn't have the lyrics, just whatever notes came out of Mozart's or Wagner's imaginations.

Then I discovered jazz. Both with classical and jazz, words or not, a story was being told, but you had to feel it and experience through the notes. According to Ken Burns, before the Beatles, jazz albums made up 70% of all record sales in the US.

I remember the day I put on John Coltrane's masterpiece, "A Love Supreme." I thought, "What is going on here?" It was an album that could be played over and over again every day. Then I learned the story behind it: as with many jazz greats, Coltrane fell into heroin addiction in the 1950s in New York. He was even fired from Miles Davis' band in 1957. This was his rock bottom. Coltrane asked his mother and wife to lock him in his room until he detoxed. There, Coltrane reconnected with God. He prayed, "Lord, if you get me through this I promise I will write an album that glorifies you."

He kept his promise. In 1964, Coltrane and his cream-of-the-crop band recorded "A Love Supreme" in four parts, each part of his journey: Acknowledgment, Resolution, Pursuance, Psalm.

What music is your life playing today? Every day we write our score. Every note is a journey. Our journey. And God is there—in the locked rooms and on the stage. And it is a love supreme.

Oh yeah, Coltrane recorded his promise to God, "A Love Supreme," in just one day. Sometimes the music just overflows with the grace that brings it to us.

Honored to be with you on this journey!
Pastor Chris and Alice

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Sunday Schedule

- ◆ 8:00 a.m.—Breakfast (Activity Center)
- ◆ 9:00 a.m.—Watermark (Contemporary) Worship (Activity Center)
- ◆ 10:00 a.m.—Sunday School/Small Groups (Classrooms)
- ◆ 11:00 a.m.—Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)



Crossroads Corner

From a grandmother's kitchen:

*Thank God for dirty dishes;
they have a tale to tell.
While others may go hungry,
With home, health and happiness,
I shouldn't want to fuss;
By the stack of evidence,
God's been very good to us,*

Most of us can pray this prayer, but clients of Crossroads cannot. Most of them have no food, dishes to serve it on or a home to eat it in. Crossroads, a faith-based nonprofit that meets on our campus addresses the needs of those who must pray a different prayer.

In addition to breakfast and lunch Tuesday and Thursday, the dignity of clients is addressed with Bible study, laundry services, clothing closet, hygiene and first aid products, medical and social services, friendship and God's unconditional love provided by volunteers.

Although you may not be able to volunteer, you can support this important ministry. These are the top 10 needs:

1. Shoes
2. New or clean, gently worn, socks & underwear for men & women (M-XL)
3. Jeans, pants, and shorts, all sizes (especially size 29-36)
4. Backpacks (preferred) or tote bags
5. Metro bus tickets (\$2.50) or near-by fast food gift cards (\$5.00)
6. Belts & caps
7. Shirts & t-shirts (especially 2X)
8. Disposable razors, travel size toothpaste & deodorant
9. Laundry detergent, toilet paper & paper towels
10. Blankets, sheets and sleeping bags

If you are not able to donate any items above, EVERYONE can do the most important thing: PRAY for clients, volunteers, and those who have on their heart to donate. You might also bring things you have around the house:

- ◆ Books and magazines
- ◆ Food containers with lids for takeout food
- ◆ Plastic grocery bags used by the ladies of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church to crochet mats to keep people dry and warm
- ◆ Empty medicine bottles (prescription labels removed) for shampoo, conditioner and lotion

A client's story: Christopher came into Crossroads recently. He was ecstatic because he had gotten a job at Grocer's Supply. He said it all started at Crossroads with Mr. Eddie, who volunteers at the computers supplied by Technology for All. He applied for the job on the computer here and eventually was hired. See his smiling face on our Facebook page.

Upcoming event:

Golf Tournament at Bay Oaks
Monday, September 26, 2016
Scramble Format
with 9:00 a.m. shotgun start
Entry fees \$125 per golfer/
\$500 per foursome
Sponsorship \$400

If you can suggest a business that might sponsor a hole, contact Pamela Scheyer, 713-869-9898/
pamelascheyer@yahoo.com.

[Jesus] "I'm telling you the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who is being overlooked, that was me - you failed to do it to me."

—Matthew 25:45 (b)

Welcome, New Member



Please join us in welcoming Brandon Hernandez to our church family.



MissionWork Graduates

Early Childhood Enrichment/Mother's Day Out

MOTHER'S DAY OUT...what a program! Our Early Childhood Enrichment/Mother's Day Out program provides learning skills and special events for children from 18 months through five years of age. The fall session begins Tuesday, September 6, in the Children's Wing, in the Sanctuary building. The registration fee is \$25, and daily fees are \$17 per day; hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Our teachers are bilingual, and they love spending time with our children.

Early Registration with a reduced fee of \$15 will be Monday, August 8, and Wednesday, August 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the Children's Wing of the Sanctuary Building. Entrance faces Kingsley Street. Registration forms are available in the church office. We are looking forward to seeing you and your child or children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends! Please tell others about our Mother's Day Out Program!



We will be looking for You on Tuesday, September 6!



MissionWork

Last year, Mission Milby began a new program named MissionWork. This initiative focuses on placing persons in transition from our community into jobs within our community. By working with organizations such as Crossroads, homeless and jobless people gain skills such as computer literacy, job searching, financial management and more. Our most recent class finished on Thursday, June 16. The graduates include (left to right) Kasmin Brown, Charlie Dinh, Nathaniel Fleming, Charles Gilbert and Anthony Nelson. Two of these graduates found jobs by the end of the class. Please extend a warm congratulations when you see these changed people.

Servants of Christ United Methodist Parish

Church Family Prayer Calendar for August, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Carol Siler	2 United Methodist Women	3 Bobbie & Carroll Latham	4 Ruth & Bob Allen	5 Dorothy Hill	6 Alsine Ryan
7 Rev. Chris & Alice McNeill	8 Eleanor & Charles Robinson	9 Nancy & Bobby Malek	10 Barbara Krohn	11 Dennis King	12 Madeline & Paul McKneely	13 Bertie Jo & Oscar Bewley
14 Reggie Nelson	15 Bad Girls & Boys Bible Study Group	16 Nadine Bishop	17 Fun 'n Games 'n '16 Group	18 Annie Gaspar	19 Henry Shrake	20 Justine Baly
21 Tom Thompson	22 Virginia Jackson	23 Virginia Hardwick	24 Mary & E'mile Landry	25 Julius Trotter	26 Patsy & Walter Welsh	27 Epworth Game Day Group
28 Ann Hallmark Julie Stuckey Jesus Reyes	29 Carolyn Dean	30 Winna Bjornaas	31 Faye Stanley			

In honor of the church members who either are active, or have been active, in ministry in the church, this calendar has been created to solicit your prayers. Please pray for everyone, but specifically, for each person listed on a specific day.

"The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the Word of our God stands forever."

Servants of Christ United Methodist Parish

Church Family Prayer Calendar for September, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Lisa Battles & Roger Dunlop	2 Doris Grauerholz	3 Patsy & Walter Welsh
4 Rev. Chris & Alice McNeill	5 Gloria Rae	6 United Methodist Women	7 Sue McGinnis	8 Sarabelle Thompson	9 Margaret Nobles	10 Bernice Steele
11 Reggie Nelson	12 Bad Girls & Boys Bible Study Group	13 Ruth Scales	14 Martha Friedrich	15 Buddy Parham	16 Alma Flynn	17 Velma Beard
18 Tom Thompson	19 Peggy Michetich	20 Alfred Wendelken	21 Fun 'n Games 'n '16 Group	22 James Brooks Michael Brooks	23 Dorothy Hill	24 Epworth Game Day Group
25 Ann Hallmark Julie Stuckey Jesus Reyes	26 Davine Nethery	27 Phyllis Maddox Rogers	28 Dorothy Wilson	29 Annie Gaspar	30 Wilma Beverly	

May God grant You spiritual wisdom and understanding so that you may be able to see things from a spiritual point of view, and so that Your lives may be worthy of God, and pleasing to Him. And may you bear fruit in all that you do, and continue to grow in your understanding of who God is. And may God give you the strength you need to endure whatever comes with patience and even joy, always giving thanks to God who, through Jesus Christ, has given you new life.

Colossians 1:9-12

Memorials & Honorariums

Given in memory of Harvey Bjornaas

Given by Gerry Monzingo

Given in memory of Mildred Miller & Christina Burlison Bell

Given by Maria Helen Ferreira, Julia Wilson

Given on honor of Rev. LyAnna Johnson, Reginald Nelson, & Katy Sabayrac

Given by E'mile & Mary Landry

Thank You Notes

Please stop by the bulletin board in the office hallway and notice the thank you notes we have received from Will & Karen Reed. There is also other important information on that bulletin board that you may find interesting.



Fifth Sunday Celebration

On Sunday, July 31, we will have a special schedule for the day. We will begin with our community breakfast at 8:30 a.m., in the Activity Center. That will be followed by Sunday School and small groups at 9:30 a.m. We will all join together in a combined worship service at 10:30 a.m., in the Activity Center. Finally, we will celebrate and fellowship together over a pot luck lunch, as we welcome Pastor Chris and Alice to our church family. Please bring a large dish to share.

For more information, please contact the church office (713.454.6480).



MissionWork

*Personal Coaching
Skill-building Workshops
Resume Development
Computer Assistance*

Get Started & Signup at Crossroads!!

3827 Broadway Street, Houston, Texas 77017

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am to 11:00am

July 12th thru August 2nd

Mission Work Class BEGINS AUGUST 9th!!

Tuesday - Friday - August 9th - August 19th

JOB

Looking for a Job? We are here to assist you!!



Job Assistance

For more information:

Mission Milby Community Development Corporation

713.454.6464 www.missionmilby.org

Contact Pastors: Reggie Nelson or Chris McNeill

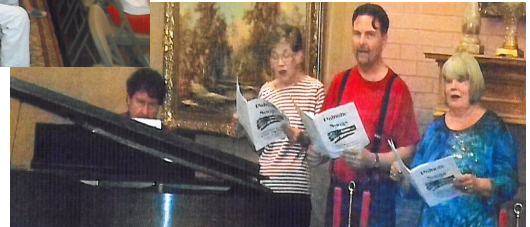
Happy 99th Birthday,
Wilma Beverly!



On Sunday, July 10, the church celebrated this wonderful lady.

UMW Hosts Patriotic Sing-Along

On Sunday, July 3, the United Methodist Women hosted a patriotic sing-along in the parlor, where a good time was had by all. It was great to have the opportunity to honor those who served and those whose family members have served in the military. Tom Thompson was at the piano, while Brent Lee, Madeline McKneely, and Julie Stuckey led the singing.



SERVANTS of CHRIST
United Methodist Parish
3827 Broadway Street
Houston, Texas 77017-3022
-Return Service Requested-



Making New Disciples—Transforming the World.
Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.