



New World UMC *Newsletter*

July 2021

2201 N. Davis, Arlington, TX 76012 | 817-460-4212 | nwumc.org

“During the Great Awakening of the 18th century, John Wesley famously quipped that the key to the spiritual revival in England and America was the organization of Christians into various small groups, then called select societies, class meetings, and bands. The purpose of each was to pursue holiness together.”¹ We are standing at the threshold of another Great Awakening.

This post-pandemic awakening is one of people who have come to realize that God is most important in their lives and they need to reconnect, as well as those who discovered a need for God and faith in their lives and are searching for a place and a people to fellowship and grow alongside. We have the greatest opportunity for “each one brings one” by inviting others to a community of faith than ever before.

But people are not just looking for something else to do, they are looking for meaning and purpose. Wesley discovered this search in the first Great Awakening and created societies, classes and bands as a clear way of purpose. “Bands were voluntary cells of people who professed a clear Christian faith and who desired to grow in love, holiness, and purity of intention...Gathering in groups for spiritual accountability can help foster faith and growth in Christlikeness.”²

John Wesley developed Sunday school for a specific purpose. To teach the children who were working in the mines and factories how to read and write. Before child labor laws there was little regard for these children. Sunday school has a different purpose today. Today, we are helping children learn about Jesus and the stories of the Bible.

continued on next page

continued from previous page

We are helping children, youth and adults gather in spiritual accountability to foster their faith. We are creating **bands of people** invested in both their journey of faith and in the journey of others.

Beginning, August 15th, we will return to two in-person worship services and one on-line service for three services at New World. Between the two in-person services, we will be changing our verbiage from Sunday school to **BAND Meetings**. BAND at New World will stand for “**Being A New Disciple**”, emphasizing we seek to renew our faith walk and deepen our purpose through study, accountability to one another and Jesus Christ, and grow in our discipleship.

New BANDS will continue to be created as we move forward; at times both on Sundays or during the week. We have discovered that BANDS can meet on site or on-line and we want to encourage creativity and flexibility going forward with BAND meetings. We will have Children and Youth Band Meetings, and then our current classes will have the same name with Band Meeting replacing “Sunday school class”. Ex: Inquirer’s Band Meeting.

I am excited about all the possibilities this will create. Countless studies have proven that it is easier to create a new Band than to add to existing Bands – as people often drop out because they do not have the same history and relationships as those already in the group. Let’s work together for growth at New World in the coming season to create several new Bands of people desiring a deeper walk with Jesus.

Proud to be your Pastor,
Leslie

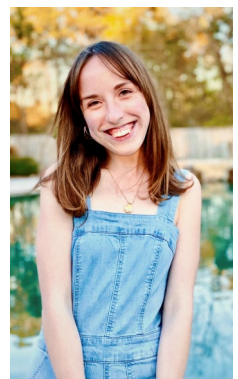
¹ [Wesleyan Band Meetings – My Seedbed](#)

² [John Wesley’s Small Groups: Models of Christian Community | HOLINESS TODAY](#)

Sarah Henson

Director of Youth Ministries and Social Media

At the end of May, our own Sarah Henson graduated from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary with her master’s degree in Student Ministries. Beginning June 1, 2021, she will continue her work in Student Ministries here at New World $\frac{3}{4}$ time and take on enriching our Social Media presence $\frac{1}{4}$ time using her undergraduate degree. Sarah will work closely with Gail on the Website and Facebook presence, as well as expand our presence and develop digital connection pieces for worship services. We are blessed to have such a talented staff who continue to move us forward in ways to reach as many people as possible for Jesus Christ. Sarah helps New World continue the vision to LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR AND MAKE DISCIPLES.





Project Transformation[®]

Project Transformation is Almost Here!

What's Project Transformation?

Project Transformation is a summer reading literacy day camp that's all about the "Three C's" - Children, College Students and Churches! It helps underserved elementary age children while also developing awesome Christian leadership in college student interns, hosted at a local United Methodist church!

What is our role?

New World serves as a Partner Church with First UMC Bedford. That means FUMC Bedford hosts the camp at their facility all summer, and we help by volunteering as reading helpers, providing intern and kid food support, and especially praying for and encouraging our partner site! *This is one of the most important mission ministries we do all year!*

How can you help?

Our biggest need: We need reading volunteers to spend a couple of hours a day reading with some great children during the mornings only on the week of July 12-15. *Per Project Transformation Central Texas's rules, volunteers must be age 13 and up and be willing to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination. It's so exciting that we'll get to read with the kiddos again this year!*

Times: There is a mandatory volunteer orientation **Sunday, July 11 3:30-4:30PM**. Volunteers are needed in the **mornings Monday-Thursday July 12-15** (volunteers are needed if you can volunteer 1 day up to all 4 days!)

Location: All reading and training happens at First UMC Bedford, 1245 Bedford Road, Bedford

How else can you help?

We need all sorts of supply support - school supply donations, backpacks, special treats for interns, notes of encouragement for the interns, supplies for intern lunches and weekend groceries for PT families. Pastor Erin could also use volunteer help with organizing donations and recruiting volunteers.

How can you get involved?

Please contact Rev. Erin (erin@nwumc.org) for all the information on specific supplies needed and to volunteer.

Student Ministry—July Activities

This July, we will continue meeting Sunday mornings after the 10:00 am service, as well as Wednesday hangouts.

This is what our weekly calendar will look like for July:

- **7/7:** Mid-Week hang out at the church from 12-2 pm.
- **7/14:** Project Transformation. We will meet at the church at 12:30, be sure to pack a lunch and we will head to Hurst UMC at 1. We will return to the church around 3.
- **7/20-22:** VBS. The youth will be helping with games the week of VBS. Meet at the church at 9:30 and pick up by 12:30.
- **7/28:** Mid-Week hang out at the church from 12-2 pm.

For Sunday mornings will meet for a devotional and connection time on July 11, 18, and 25. We will not meet on 4th of July Sunday.

On Sunday, July 18th we will be doing a service project for Project Transformation with the New World children's ministry. This will take place directly after the 10 am service, and will last from 11-12/12:15.



Donations needed for Project Transformation!



The youth and children's ministry are helping stuff backpacks with school supplies for 25 elementary age students. We are looking for 25 brand new backpacks to be donated to do this project.

The following items are also each needed for 25 students:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| *Crayons | *Dividers |
| *Dry Erase Markers | *Facial Tissues |
| *Glue Sticks | *Markers |
| *Pencils | *Pocket Folders |
| *Scissors | *Spiral Notebooks |
| *Ziploc Bags (Gallon or Quart size) | |
| *Construction Paper (colored, white, manila) | |
| *3 ring, 1.5 inch binders | |

Children's Sunday School Time



Children's Sunday school meets each week following the worship service in the Children's wing. During the month of July, we will focus on Communities Living Together and Communities Changing and Growing.

Our scriptures will be:

Now faith, hope, and love remain-these three things-and the greatest of these is love

Matthew 7:12

and

The Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

Come Join us!

*On **Sunday, July 19** during Sunday school hour, the children will help the youth fill backpacks for children in Project Transformation.



AISD Food Pantry Ministry

Have you had a chance to check out the new Food Pantry Ministry at our church? Feeding our neighbors is a very important calling for our church, and this has especially grown since March 2020. Every week of the summer, teams of volunteers are delivering food to about 100 people (over 70 children) and we'd love your help!

As volunteers travel during the summer, we are looking for a couple of substitute drivers to fill the gaps. Please **contact Rev. Erin** (erin@nwumc.org) if you are able to drive to a couple of families on a Friday morning.



We serve about 25 families a week, so another important way to help is to provide any of the following donations: **cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats, canned soups or any pantry goods such as dry rice, pasta or beans.** Donations can be dropped off weekdays 10AM-12PM at the church.

Looking forward: We will be delivering weekend groceries to families during the summer, and once the school year begins our ministry will shift as our partnership with local schools strengthens. Stay tuned for how we pivot to feed our neighbors as the school year begins!



Join the Cross Trainers for Breakfast

The Cross Trainers men's group is meeting at 7 AM every Monday morning this summer at the Division Street Diner (1800 W Division) for breakfast. We are taking the summer off from our normal studies and are concentrating on breakfast and friendly conversations instead. Please come join us for this low-intensity fellowship. No RSVP, just show up. If you can't make it this Monday, you can try for another Monday.



New World Stitchers

Stitchers is looking for more people to sew quilts. If you have a sewing machine and can sew a straight seam, and don't know anything about quilting but would like to learn, we would love to offer an instructional class to help you get started. You would not be obligated to make prayer quilts to participate in the class, although we'd hope that some will be open to joining our mission. The class would probably involve three or four sessions with some homework in between. Each participant would need to provide their own fabric and thread as well as bringing their own machine, but all other supplies would be provided. So, if quilting is something you would like to learn more about, please consider signing up. If you are interested or would just like more information, call, text, or email Debby Gunn at 817-360-8166 or debby.gunn@gmail.com. Please let me know if you would prefer a daytime or evening class time as well as providing your name and preferred contact information. If there is enough interest, we will try to get a schedule set up that works for everyone.



Discovery on Adventure Island
July 20-22, 9:00 - 11:00 am each day

We are very excited to be having Vacation Bible School in person this summer!!
Children from 4 years old to 5th grade.

We need adult volunteers to help in the areas of music, crafts, science, recreation, serving snacks, and shepherding children to the different stations

Please prayerfully consider helping in one of these areas. Thanks to those who have already volunteered to help!

Please contact Kathy Alexander at kathy-alex@nwumc.org or 817-460-4212

Click [HERE](#) to sign up. Don't forget to bring your friends!
(Only \$10.00 per child)

Stay Connected

Morning Prayer
8:30 am, Monday thru Friday

Message of Hope
9:30 am, Monday & Thursday

These online gatherings are located on our [Facebook Page](#)

Join us for In-person or Online Worship Sunday's at 10:00 am. The services can be viewed on our [Facebook page](#), our [website](#) or [YouTube](#)



Text to Give
(817) 789-4129

If you have any questions about online giving, contact Heather James, heather@nwumc.org