

New World *newsletter*

October 2021

A Word from our Senior Pastor **Vital Signs of a Thriving Church**

Numbers and statistics are interesting to me. While I realize that numbers and statistics can be skewed or selected to prove a point by individuals, but if recorded with honesty and integrity, they can tell a great deal about something. For instance, when I step on the scales (which is both a dreaded and sobering moment) the number I am given is a truth about what is happening in my life. And often, I do not like the number I see.

But, let's be honest...that number tells me and my doctor what needs adjusting, addressing or when it goes in the right direction, what needs to be celebrated. The same is true in the life of the church. Every church in the Central Texas Conference is required to report specific numbers that help measure the vitality of a given faith community.

Currently, we are asked to report: Worship attendance in-person, worship attendance online, professions or re-dedications of faith, small groups that meet, giving each week and a narrative story about what our church has been doing during the week to make disciples and serve in God's world. These reflect the health of a church.

As you might expect, the numbers for worship in-person are varying because of COVID. Our average over the last 3 months is: 201-online and 105-in person. Since August 15th with offering 2 services each Sunday, our numbers are higher. Our professions of faith are consistent, yet our small groups are rising as we return to meeting both on-line and in-person. Our giving is slightly down and we must always honor our commitment to God, but our narrative tells the story each week of how we are reaching out to love and care for our neighbors through missions.

Continued on page 2...

Continued from previous page

We are a church with strong ties to mission and outreach and our narrative is that we will always care for those in our midst to the best of our ability in the face of all that is going on in the world.

So, as we look to the future and grow our numbers in all areas of the life of the church, we call upon every person who loves this church - and the work of this church - to share the Good News that New World continues to thrive and seeks to grow with every person who journeys alongside this family of faith.

Proud to be your Pastor,
Rev. Leslie Byrd

Opportunity to Love Our Neighbors!

We are adopting a local elementary school, Jones Academy, and helping to make sure children in need have enough healthy snacks to pull them through the weekends. **You can help in three big ways:**

1. **Volunteering to assemble snack bags** in the New World food pantry.
2. **Volunteering to deliver** assembled bags to the elementary school.
3. **Donate healthy snack items such as these:** Beef sticks, Mac & cheese cups, Applesauce, Ramen noodles, Oatmeal, Vienna sausages, Nutrigrain bars, Individual cereal boxes, Cheese crackers, Juice boxes (100% juice), Tuna packets, Chef Boyardee cups. (Please avoid items with peanuts/tree nuts)

Love Your
Neighbors

To get involved, contact Rev. Erin (erin@nwumc.org)



Communion Assistants Needed to Help The Pastors

Currently, for your safety, we are offering communion with individual pre-filled packages and receiving those as we enter the sanctuary to partake of in our pews due to COVID/variants and rising numbers. We still speak the liturgy and partake together.

While we will not be serving communion by intinction for some time, we have ordered trays with individual disposable cups and pastors Leslie and Erin will offer a broken piece of bread when we are able to return to coming forward to receive Holy Communion and kneel at the rails.

At that time, we are looking for some additional volunteers to hold the tray of cups and hand a cup to the person coming forward. We need 2 per 1st Sunday to serve for a quarter and it could even be two persons from one household.

Our needs are:

Oct/Nov/Dec – 11:00 OR Jan/Feb/Mar – 11:00

If you can assist, please contact Pastor Leslie – leslie@nwumc.org

New World Book Club

Love to read and want to talk about books from a faith perspective? The New World Book Club meets 7:00-8:00PM CST once a month on a Sunday evening via Zoom meeting (Meeting ID 256 774 719). The book club is simple and open to everyone! How it works: if a book looks interesting to you, read it on your own & then meet us on Zoom to discuss it together!



- **Sunday, September 26** *"Permission to Feel: Unlocking the Power of Emotions to Help Our Kids, Ourselves, and Our Society Thrive"* by Marc Brackett
- **Sunday, October 10 (NOTE DATE CHANGE)** *"The Untethered Soul"* by Michael Singer
- **Sunday, November 21** *"The Five Invitations"* by Frank Ostaseski

If you have any questions, contact Rev. Erin (erin@nwumc.org)



Cowtown Brush Up

NWUMC is again a sponsor for Habitat for Humanity Cowtown Brush up this fall. We need volunteers to come and paint on Saturday Oct 2nd from 8AM-3PM. You can participate all day or a few hours. We have always had great participation for this wonderful charity event. See attached **FLYER** for more details. The address for the house we will be painting will be available a few days prior to event and I will send that out.

I need the following info from volunteers:

- T-shirt size,
- cell phone #
- Hours that you can participate

Needed: Paint ladders and tall extension ladders (I can start collecting them in mid-September) All other paint supplies will be provided by Habitat. We plan to do sack lunches and water/ Gatorade will be provided.

Thank you,
Sherri Lucas
817-456-0652

Stock the Shelves at Turning Point Secondary School!

The school next door to New World, Turning Point Secondary School, often includes students facing homelessness or lacking basic items at home. Their new counselor is hoping we can help stock the shelves of their supply closet for families. You can help by bringing donations of **laundry detergents, cleaning supplies, toothbrushes, hygiene items (both full and travel size), and small packages of period products.** Donations can be brought to the church throughout the week. Contact Rev. Erin to get more involved. (erin@nwumc.org)

Sunday

Sunday Mornings for Children!

The Nursery is OPEN for both Worship services. We staff our nursery each week with 2 adults who love caring for children. In both Worship services we have notebooks available with colors and coloring sheets and blank paper for the children to use during the worship service. Sometimes children can listen better to what is going on when they have something to do with their hands, sometimes they draw or write about what they are seeing and hearing. It is so much fun to go through the notebooks each week before the next Sunday and find children's art work.

We have Children's Band (Becoming A New Disciple) Time each Sunday morning following the 9:30 am Worship Service.

- The children ages 4 – 3rd grade gather in the Children's wing in the first classroom on the right, Rooms 8,9,10.
- The 4th and 5th graders gather in Room 27 in the Adult Education wing.

We begin with a snack time, and then transition to a Bible lesson and are finished at 12:00 noon.

Student Ministries



For the month of October, we will continue to meet in our Band groups (Becoming a New Disciple) each Sunday morning. Bands will officially start at 11 am but the youth room will be unlocked at 10:30 am after the contemporary service and youth are welcome to come to hang out.

Our band time will be based on discussion questions around the morning's sermon, a devotional, games, a snack, and time in fellowship. Youth ages 6th-12th grade are welcome during this time!

Upcoming Student Ministry dates to note:

- **October 3rd:** service project with Mission Arlington. Meet at the church after Youth Bands at noon for pizza. We will then head to Mission Arlington from 1-3 pm for a service project with them. Pick up back at the church at 4 pm!
- **October 24th:** Trunk or Treat from 4-5 pm at the church! The youth will arrive an hour before Trunk or Treat starts to help with games as well as pass out candy. Costumes are encouraged, meet at the church at 3 pm!



It is Halloween Time!

We will have Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 24 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

Get ready to dress up and hand out Halloween Candy!
Watch for more information in the E-news.

Schedule a Time to Meet with Rev. Erin

I don't know about you, but over the last several months, it has been easy to feel disconnected, hasn't it?

I'd love to get the chance to get to know you better, to pray with you and to share life. If you'd like to meet with Rev. Erin for a phone call, face-to-face meeting, lunch meeting, spiritual direction or coaching, here is your chance.

Just go to this link and schedule a time that works for you! https://calendly.com/rev_erin

Blessings,
Rev. Erin



NOVEMBER 5 & 6

GLEN LAKE CAMP

BIBLE CAMP

3, 4, & 5 GRADERS

Mark your calendars for November 5 & 6 - Glen Lake Elementary Bible Camp

This overnight camp is an opportunity for children, 3rd-5th grades to experience Glen Lake camp and gain skills and knowledge in navigating the Bible. The camp will focus on being a follower of God from the obedience of the Israelites

that faced Jericho, the story of the tax collector, Zacchaeus and repentance, and from the strength and confidence of the Apostle Paul in a shipwreck.

Registration is open now and can be found at, glenlake.org/biblecamp

Total cost for the camp is \$45.00 and the registration closes on October 21, 2021

Campers will receive a confirmation letter and a packing list for the weekend upon completion of the online registration or receipt of registration by mail.

Camp begins Friday evening at 7:00 pm for check in and will conclude at 4:pm on Saturday November 5th.

Opportunities while at camp are fishing, biking participating in arts & crafts, playing games, learning how to use our Bibles in breakout sessions (broken up by age levels) and worshipping together.

Wintercamp 2022

February 25-27, 2022 - Wintercamp 2022: Wintercamp will take place from February 25-27 at Glen Lake Camp. All youth grades 6-12th are invited to join for a retreat away from life and school in order to connect with one another as well as other churches. Registration opens on October 6th and can be done here: <https://www.glenlake.org/wintercamp>

For more information, contact our Director of Student Ministries, Sarah Henson, sarah@nwumc.org





All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday – November 7th

All Saints Sunday is a time in which we recognize those in our faith family who have gone on to life eternal since last All Saints Day. Members of their family are invited to light a candle during the reading of their name.

Join us for this beautiful day of remembrance and celebration at

both 9:30 and 11:00 am, and the morning message about the presence of Community. The congregation will have the opportunity to come forward and light a candle for someone they have lost in their family during the service.

Student Ministry Parents:

Sarah wants to come and cheer your student on at their sporting game or event! If your student has a game, concert, tournament, etc, please let Sarah know so she can come to support your student this semester.



In November we will be doing a service project with Nichols Junior High as well as an after-church event at Trinity Forest Adventure Park. More information to come!

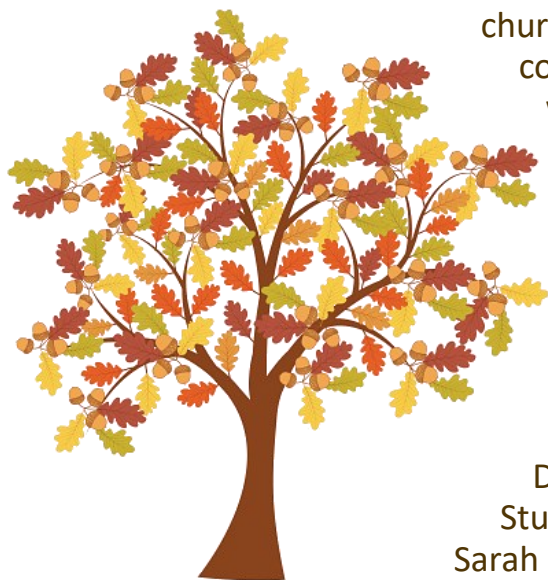
The best way to keep in touch with Student Ministry events is our monthly newsletter, weekly

e-news through the church constant contact, the church website and Facebook page, and the student ministry emailing list. To be added to the emailing list or to get a student involved, contact our Director of

Student Ministries,

Sarah Henson,

sarah@nwumc.org.



Stay Connected

- ♦ **Morning Prayer**
8:30 am, Monday thru Friday
- ♦ **Message of Hope**
9:30 am, Monday & Friday
(The items listed above can be found on our [Facebook Page](#))



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Give online

Text to Give (817) 789-4129