

A decorative header featuring a dark red background with numerous autumn leaves in shades of red, orange, and yellow scattered around the text.

# New World *newsletter*

November 2021

## Living In The Liminal

I have been listening for several months to many opinions, views, thoughts, anger, despair, stories, and proposals about the time the world is in right now. It is hard, exhausting, frustrating, eye-opening, and reflective listening. Such listening requires an abundance of prayer and meditation on God's nudging and direction. In this prayer, meditation and reading time, I keep running into this word, "Liminal" as a reminder for me to sit in the present with a both/and attitude.

Liminal – is defined as *"relating to a transitional or initial stage of a process."* For something new to be born, something old must die. The world is so busy trying to hold onto that which we have always known in our lifetime and "fix" what feels broken, but what if God is doing a new thing because what was old has run its course or become obsolete? We will not discover God's prompting toward a more clearly defined purpose, if we are holding on to things that no longer work.

The frustrating thing about "liminal" is that the "new things" have not yet reached their full potential yet. As **Susan Beaumont**, a leader at ***The Congregational Consulting Group*** writes, "Much of our overwhelm comes from trying to preserve or adapt things that are meant to fail. What if we shifted out of the 'something is broken' mindset? What if we embraced the seismic shifts before us, acknowledging that they are beyond our knowing or control? What if the problems you feel pressured to master aren't relevant in the greater scheme of all that is unfolding?" (I invite you to click on the link below and read her entire article – good stuff!)

Liminal is a season to return to "surrendering ourselves" to God. It is a time to look at our future purpose, our future direction and ask ourselves, "God, where would you have me make a difference in today's world?" The things that feel broken are a new opportunity. They feel broken, because they are shifting – i.e., volunteers, leadership teams, basic discipleship paths toward a common vision, removing the formulations and bringing a depth of soul, intentional invitation, and purposeful service using our hands and feet to impact deeply.

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As we move into the “liminal” season of transition, I invite you to join me in what will become mighty and revitalizing work for our Lord Jesus here at New World UMC. We can be even more for Jesus to those in our community and offer the love of Jesus and an invitation to gather with a body of believers who want more from a walk with Christ than just formality.

Proud to be your Pastor,  
Rev. Leslie Byrd



## All Saints Sunday, November 7

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us. Hebrews 12:1*

Each year at the end of the liturgical calendar, we celebrate All Saint's Sunday. During this service, we read the names of all those who have passed on since the last All Saint's Day. It's a day of remembrance and a day of celebration. We remember their lives, we recall beautiful stories and we grieve. Simultaneously, we celebrate their gifts, the work that they did for the Body and the wisdom and bravery that they showed us all.

This year several of our church body has passed on to become a part of that 'great cloud of witnesses'. We will remember and celebrate on November 7, 2021 at 9:30, 10:00 (Online) and 11:00.

As the day grows near, I always think of all of those 'witnesses' in my life. I love to remember them at this time and also celebrate them. If you listen closely on Sunday morning, you might hear their voices in addition to the ones in the room. They sing, they celebrate and they gather with us in spirit.

Joy to you all,  
Steven Couch  
Director of Worship and Music

## Mark Your Calendars

**November 2** - Election Day

You can vote at New World  
7:00am-7:00pm

**November 7** - Daylight Savings Ends

Don't forget to change your clocks

**November 7** - All Saints Sunday

**November 22** - Deck the Halls

9:00am-4:00pm

**November 23** - Deck the Halls

9:00am-4:00pm

**November 24 - 26**

Church Office Closed

**November 28** - Advent I

**December 5** - Advent II

**December 11** - Choir Dress

Rehearsal, 10:00am-12:00pm

**December 12** - Advent III

Gloria, One Service, 10:00am

**(Face masks become optional  
on December 12)**

**December 12** - Blue Christmas

5:00pm

**December 19** - Advent IV

**December 24** - Candlelight

Communion Services

6:00pm and 8:00pm

**December 26** - One Service

10:00am

**December 27 - 31**

Church Office  
Closed



## United Methodist Student Day Offering

United Methodist Student Day is one of six church wide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church. This year it is celebrated on November 28th. United Methodist Student Day calls the church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge.

Together, we educate  
students so they  
can make a  
difference  
in the world.



www.umcgoing.org/UMSD



The special offering provides scholarships for qualified United Methodist applicants. I was the recipient of this offering as a student and donate to this very worthwhile fund every year to pay it forward for other students. Students in our own church qualify if we are a church that is a donor to the UM Student Day offering. Please join me in continuing the legacy of developing students of faith who give their learning to God's holy church.

## AISD Families in Transition Mission Projects

### 3 Ways To Help AISD Families

In November and December, we will be reaching out to Arlington ISD families in our area in three big ways:

**First, we need donations and volunteers for the AISD Food Pantry ministry.** Currently, we are delivering weekend snack bags to approximately 55 elementary students every week for our

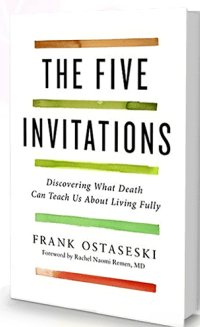
adopted schools Jones Academy and Hill Elementary. You can help by volunteering to deliver or donating items. Our most needed items are: 8-12 oz. water bottles, 100% juice boxes, macaroni and cheese and cereal individual bowls, and goldfish crackers. With Thanksgiving this month, it's a great time to pick up a few extra items when you are getting groceries. All donated items can be brought to the church Monday through Thursday.

**Second, it's time to get ready for The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Giving Tree!** This is our holiday gift-giving ministry in partnership with Arlington ISD where we each have an opportunity to buy Christmas presents, school uniforms and needed items for a local child. We will have wish lists available from the school district starting November 14<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, be on the lookout for special gifts that will bring a smile to kids in our neighborhood. Gifts will be collected at the church November 15-December 8.

**Third, we are having a COAT DRIVE!** As the weather turns colder, students need coats to keep warm. We are collecting new and gently used coats for all sizes of kids from toddlers to high school students. Donations can be brought to the church November 14-December 1.



## November Book Club: “The Five Invitations: Discovering What Death Can Teach Us About Living Fully”



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!

### Next Meeting:

**Sunday, November 21 - 7:00PM**

“The Five Invitations” by Frank Ostaseski  
*In this book, author and teacher Frank Ostaseski offers five invitations to consider what death can teach us about living fully: “1. Don’t wait. 2. Welcome everything, push away nothing. 3. Bring your whole self to the experience. 4. Find a place of rest in the middle of things. 5. Cultivate don’t know mind. You are invited to read this book and then join us for a discussion through the lens of Christian faith.*

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



Wishing You A  
Blessed  
Thanksgiving



## Observe Advent at Home (and in person) this Year

The season leading up to Christmas called Advent begins on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. During this season, we prepare our hearts for celebrating the arrival of Jesus Christ and center ourselves on the holy wonders of the time.

Last year, we created Advent at Home kits to connect while we could not worship together in person. While this year we are offering in person worship, we invite you to extend worship from the sanctuary or online service to your home during the week!

Each household is able to receive an “Advent at Home” kit with a daily devotional and supplies to practice Advent anticipation at home. Elements of the kit will also be used for interacting with online worship and morning prayer. Our prayer is that these kits will be a blessing to your household.

Advent boxes will be available for pick up at the church building beginning on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to make it to the building for any reason, we are happy to deliver the boxes to you! Extras for a suggested donation of \$20 will be available if you have friends, family members or neighbors who would be blessed by having one!

Contact Rev. Erin if you have any questions ([erin@nwumc.org](mailto:erin@nwumc.org))

## DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

As we continue to develop a clear discipleship path at New World UMC, we are looking for people of commitment, who care deeply about learning about the faith and growing deeper in our walk with Jesus, to serve on the newly forming Discipleship Team.

**Discipleship Team members should be people who:**

- Are committed to the mission and vision of the church.
- Are mature in their relationship to Christ and have a demonstrated history of seeking to grow in their faith walk through study, prayer, regular worship and service.
- Are tithing or committed to working toward a tithe.
- Are willing to share the joy of growing in their faith with others.

**Responsibilities of the Discipleship Team include but are not limited to:**

- A personal desire for study and growth in their own walk with Jesus Christ.
- Planning alongside Program Staff a multi-year Discipleship plan for growth at New World UMC and how this church invites persons to take “next steps” in growing their faith.
- Demonstrating how study, learning and putting into practice what one has learned – helps accomplish the mission and vision of the church.
- Facilitating the telling of stories about how lives are being changed by biblical understanding of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.
- Making sure that all age groups are engaged in biblical learning.
- Making sure new members are invited to connect with the Discipleship plan for growth.
- Building into church life – opportunities for people to intentionally live out what they are learning through missions and outreach.



If God is nudging you, placing upon your heart a call to serve on this team, or inviting you to step out in trust – please contact Pastor Leslie as we begin to shape a team of people. Contact pastor Leslie at [leslie@nwumc.org](mailto:leslie@nwumc.org)

## Morning Prayer

Every Weekday 8:30AM, Facebook Live

*"New every morning is your love, Great God of Light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us a desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors and all creation, and to devote each day to your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen"*

Start your mornings with 15-20 minutes of scripture and prayer with Rev. Erin. (Morning prayer will take a break November 22-26 and December 20-31)





## Student Ministries



For the month of November, 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!

We will also meet for outdoor youth group on Sunday afternoons from 4-5 pm. We will meet on November 7th, 14th, and 28th. We will not meet on the week of Thanksgiving break for youth group - Sunday, November 21st.

We will be doing a service project with Nichols Junior high this November. More details to come!

On Sunday, November 21st the youth will be helping with both the contemporary and the traditional services. Meet at the church at 9:15 that morning to help. This will take the place of our normal Sunday morning Bands.

Mark your calendars for progressive dinner on Sunday, December 5th. More details will come via social media and student ministry email updates!

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](mailto:sarah@nwumc.org).



### Wintercamp 2022

Winter camp registration is now open! 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>



## Children's Ministry



Our nursery is open on Sunday mornings for Worship and Band Time. We have 2 people each week that care for the children. Bring your child to the nursery, sign your child in, leave your cell phone number and where you will be in the building. Your children will be loved and cared for while you are gone.

For the children attending worship, there are notebooks with coloring sheets and crayons in the Narthex. You would be surprised what a child will retain while having their hands busy. Pick up a notebook for your child at the beginning of worship and return it as you leave. We would love to share any art work your children create if they are willing to share.

I would like to invite all the children to attend Children's Band time each Sunday. We meet from 10:30 – 12:00 noon. The younger children meet in the Children's Wing in the Nursery and Room #8,9,10. The older children meet in the Adult wing in Room # 27 We have lots of fun and learn more about the stories in our Bible.

We are using a new curriculum in the Children's classes named WONDER. During September we focused on Joseph, his colorful coat and his reconciliation with his brothers. In October we focused on Moses and how the Hebrew people were rescued from danger in Egypt. In November we will look at what happened next with the Israelites, their time in the Wilderness, the Ten Commandments, and Building the Tabernacle. Then we will move into the Christmas story on the last Sunday in November beginning with Elizabeth and Zechariah.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Alexander, [kathyalex@nwumc.org](mailto:kathyalex@nwumc.org).

### Friendly Reminder's



**Daylight Savings** ends on Sunday, November 7. Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour.

#### Office Hours

As of May 2020, the Church Office hours are 9:00—5:00, Monday through Thursday. New World Preschool is in the building on Fridays if you need to drop something off.



### New World United Methodist Church

2201 N. Davis, Arlington, TX 76012  
817-460-4212  
[nwumc.org](http://nwumc.org)

### Sunday Morning Worship Times

9:30 - Contemporary Service  
10:00 - Online Service  
11:00 - Traditional Service



Text To Give, 817-789-4129

**GIVE ONLINE**  
CLICK HERE

