

New World *newsletter*

NEW WORLD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | 2201 N. DAVIS, ARLINGTON, TX 76012 | 817-460-4212 | NWUMC.ORG
JANUARY 2022

A new year always brings new possibilities. We don't know all that the new year holds, but we know the One who does. And, we can trust that He is in control and is holding us close and guides us with love as we do our part.

Part of what we will be doing to the glory of God the first part of this year is a Stewardship Campaign through Horizons Stewardship. Our Administrative Board, upon the recommendation of the Finance Team, has approved an emphasis on what it means to be a Steward in God's church. We are stewards of all kinds of things and it began with the Garden. God gave humans responsibility for the earth and all that is in it. In the life of the church, God has given humans the responsibility of taking care of the body of Christ called the church through service and resources.



When Horizons interviewed several of our membership and leaders last July, the overwhelming response was, "We are not really sure what Stewardship means." So, through devotions, prayers, sermon and offering moments, we will together find out more about being a good steward with this beautiful faith community called New World UMC and how that reaches out into the community here in Arlington.

Be watching and listening for more information and stories shared about how we can offer from grateful hearts a mission and ministry that changes people's lives. As we begin Confirmation, start Bible studies, bring a soul-filling time of worship, and engage small groups ministry, we are practicing stewardship that changes lives. I am very excited to see all that we will accomplish together in 2022.

Proud to be your Pastor,
Rev. Leslie Byrd

Confirmation Class 2022

Confirmation is for any current **5th, 6th and 7th grade students** who wish to explore what it means to follow Jesus. Classes for 2022 will begin Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m., January 26th with a snack supper provided. If you and the young person in your family are interested, we are compiling a list so that we have all the materials you will need for this exciting part of your faith journey.

Parents, **please contact the church office with the name of your Confirmation student at 817-460-4212.** Rev. Leslie Byrd will be leading the Confirmation experience assisted by Mrs. Kathy Alexander.



A very important meeting with Confirmands and at least one parent or guardian will be held on Sunday, January 23rd from 12:15 to 12:45 in the Coffee Bar area of the Education wing. We will go over the schedule, give some instructions and hand out some materials you will need.

This is an exciting time in the life of a young person exploring what it means to be a follower of Jesus. **Confirmation Sunday will be APRIL 24th, 2022.**

Let's Fill the Shelves!

Every week of the school year, we deliver 55 weekend snack bags containing 12 specific, nutritious snacks each to our two adopted elementary schools. That's 660 food items every week, 2640 per month! The food we provide is a tremendous blessing to school children who may not have enough food to get through the weekends, and it is a lot of moving inventory for our food pantry.



During the break between semesters, I would love to stock up our food pantry for the spring! You can help by donating any of the following items:

- **Drinks:** Bottled Waters, Shelf-stable milk, 100% Juice boxes/pouches
- **Breakfast items:** Oatmeal pouches or cups, Individual Cereals, Breakfast Bars
- **Healthy Snacks:** Granola Bars, Sandwich Snack Crackers, Baked Crackers such as Cheez Its, Goldfish, Pretzels
- **Small Meals:** Chef Boyardee Individual Cups, Macaroni and Cheese Cups, tuna snack on the run kits
- **Fruits:** Applesauce, Fruit Cups with no sugar added
- **Desserts:** cookie packs, gummy fruit snacks

Donations can be brought to the donation box near the front doors. If you have any questions, or if you would like to learn about volunteering with the snack bag ministry during the spring semester, contact Rev. Erin (erin@nwumc.org)



A Letter From Sarah Henson, Director of Student Ministries

New World,

After three and a half years at New World, my season here as the Director of Student Ministries will come to a close on January 2nd.

As I consider my time here at New World, I want to thank you. When I began at New World I felt surrounded by newness - having started seminary, a grad program, and moved to a new city. I was met with encouragement from the staff and congregation as I got to meet and work with our youth. Over three years spent here is enough time to see students graduate, young students growing up to be leaders, and an upcoming class of confirmation kids ready to join the youth group.

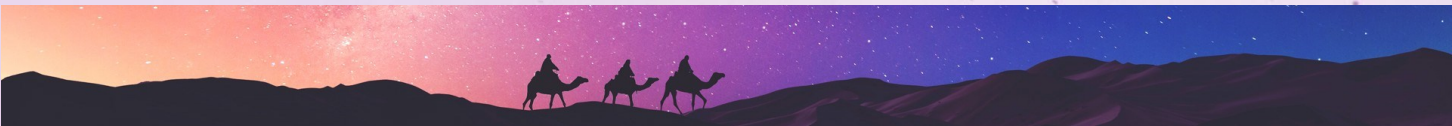


In my time here I have felt immensely loved and supported. Everything from kind words on a Sunday morning to donations given specifically to take the youth group to Sonic or send a kid on a retreat reminds me how this church cares about their young people. I have enjoyed getting to be part of each of your ministries and time here and it has truly been a privilege to share my journey of faith with you. Through seasons of change, joys, difficulties, flexibility during a pandemic, we have gotten to support one another, interwoven by what God is doing in each of our individual lives as well as the collective.

As I reflect on my time at New World I am reminded that part of being a follower of Christ is knowing that we go through seasons, and I am immensely grateful for my season here. As I prepare for a new season, I am filled with both excitement and sadness, ready for what is to come as well as reflecting on the relationships I have formed here. When I started my seminary grad program, we gathered a few rocks on the grounds of our seminary and wrote phrases on it that we wanted to instill in ourselves and our ministries, things that would hold weight and matter to us. One of my rocks is still sitting on my desk, and it says "equipped to be sent". As I worked to equip our youth with the knowledge that God loves them more than anything and that they are uniquely sent to spread this good news in their own little corners of the world, I too was equipped by this church to be loved, be creative in ministry, to learn and try new things and be bold with what God has for me. I look forward to hearing of the ways God continues to work in this church and all of its ministries, equipped to be sent as those who love God, love neighbor, and make disciples.

To my New World youth - I love you and am proud of you! You are leaders in the church, your schools, and the community. I am excited to see what God does in your life. Thank you again New World for being a church that supports and encourages young people.

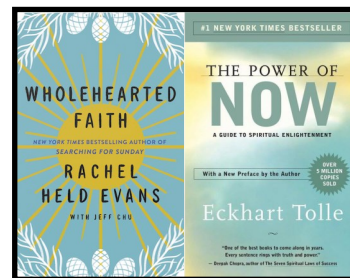
Love,
Sarah



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!



Next Meeting: Sunday, January 31 – 7:00PM
"Wholehearted Faith" by Rachel Held Evans

Sunday, February 28 – 7:00PM
"The Power of Now" by Eckhart Tolle

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



Another Opportunity to Love Our Neighbors

"Looking for a little more Merry & Bright? We invite you to consider our newest New World opportunity. We have now "adopted" our first senior facility, The Waterford on Cooper right in our neighborhood. They are an assisted living facility with residents that would love to see some New World faces at Bingo, Saturday devotional or for their men's group. Being able to socialize with the residents and create community connection can be so rewarding for you and them! Thank you to our children's choir for singing for the residents in December. And thank you men of Cross Trainers for stepping up to volunteer for their men's group! For additional information for volunteer or donation options, please contact Lisa Alexander at 972-765-7809 or lisa.alexander28@yahoo.com."

Morning Prayer & Message of Hope

will be on a break December 20-31 and will resume in January.
Stay connected with our [Facebook](#) page.





**New World
KIDS**

Love God Love Neighbor Make Disciples

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends! Children's Band Time will not meet on December 26.

There will be one worship service at 10:00 am. We will resume our time together on January 2. We will begin with

Jesus as a twelve-year-old boy in the Temple. When Mary and Joseph go to leave, Jesus is missing! Join us on Jan. 2 to find out what happens next! Our Bible verse for the month is

"You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness." Luke 3:22

CARING FOR GODS HOUSE WITH LOVE

- We are in the process of finding and repairing leaks in the irrigation system in order to prevent the water run off we've been experiencing in the main parking lot.
- Trustees are working on getting bids to clear the area underneath the new picnic tables and install crushed granite
- The HVAC system in the attic over the adult education wing has been put into winter mode to prepare for freezing temps. A remote thermometer has also been installed to track the temperature in the attic.
- Our parking lot tower lights are currently out (the square lights are ours, the round ones are Oncor's). We are in the process of getting bids to fix the ones that we own.
- Creative Nightscapes has repaired our office entrance parking lot and tree lights.
- The fabric covering the HVAC units on our tower has been cut off due to wind damage



Important Dates for 2022

- 01/04/22 - 6:00 pm Trustee Team Zoom
- 01/11/22 - 7:00 pm PPR In Person
- 01/18/22 - 7:00 pm Finance Team Zoom
- 01/25/22 - 7:00 pm Ad Board In person

Questions about Online Giving?

Please contact
Heather James,
heather@nwumc.org

**Click Here to
Give Online**

**Text to Give
(817) 789-4129**