

# NEWSLETTER

New World United Methodist Church

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# A PATH OF GRATITUDE & GENEROSITY generosity initiative 2022

A Path of Gratitude & Generosity is the title for this year's generosity initiative for the 2022 ministry support of New World United Methodist Church. This initiative is about giving from a grateful heart to partner in ministry that changes people's lives. A Path of Gratitude & Generosity is not about giving to fund the church's budget, but rather fund our mission and ministry out of generosity. Generosity is a way we show our gratitude for all that God has blessed and continues to bless us with.

Our generosity is how we contribute to making this a better world. Using The Giving Path as a model, this invites people to move along a path as they grow in their giving and deepen their faith. Based on biblical principles, each of us will be invited to pray, "God, where do You want me to be in my giving?" as we seek to grow in our life of discipleship.

In the coming weeks you will be invited to go on a journey of discovery and prayer. We will all be reading, through daily emailed devotions, "A Generous Life" as we are challenged to examine generosity from a biblical perspective. We will hear giving stories from people who are in different places along The Giving Path and learn how they have come to understand giving as an expression of faith.

When we take a step along The Giving Path, we are moving forward in our spiritual journeys, and deepening our relationship with God. How much should you give? That's between you and God. Prayer should be the focus as you seek the answer to this question: "God, where do You want me to be in my giving?" This promises to be an exciting time in the life of New World United Methodist Church and we invite you to join us on the Path to Generosity.

Rev. Leslie Byrd, Mike Sisson-Chair, Debby Gunn-Prayer Team, Brenda Richardson-Affinity Chair, Heather James-Financial Reporter, Sarah Duer-Communications, Kathy Alexander-Dir. of Children's Ministries, Caitlin Snoddy-Dir. of Student Ministries, Josh Bender-Media



### MARCH 2

On Ash Wednesday, all are invited to pass through the church driveway (on the Rocky Canyon side) for a special blessing or two.

One blessing is the traditional Ash Wednesday imposition of ashes to mark the beginning of Lent. A minister will place the sign of the cross on your forehead or hand, blessing you with a sacred reminder that "from ashes you came and to ashes you will return."

New this year, we will offer the opportunity for you to have your animals blessed, too! Animals of God's creation have a special place in our lives. Bring your furry, feathered, or scaly pets to be blessed in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi. A blessing for our animals is a way to thank God for our animal companions and to appreciate the ways our pets bring love into our lives.

After a day of driveway blessings, a soup supper will be served at 6PM, followed by the Ash Wednesday worship service at 7PM. Our 2022 Confirmation Students will assist at the service.

#### Ash Wednesday Schedule

- ASHES TO GO | 7:30AM 5:30PM
- LENTEN BIBLE STUDY | 12:15PM
- SOUP SUPPER | 6:00PM
- WORSHIP SERVICE | 7:00PM

Repent, and remember the Gospel!



LENT SERMON SERIES begins Sunday, March 6th

# WORSHIP SERVICES

9:30am |

10:00am |

11:00am

contemporary

online service

traditional



# **NEW STUDIES**

#### **EXPERIENCING GRIEF & HOPE IN HEALING**

Every vibrant church will eventually encounter a season of loss in membership due to those who are more senior in their years and those who experience illness. New World is in that season. We have encountered tremendous loss in our faith family. 2021 celebrated 23 persons on All Saints Sunday, and thus far in January of 2022, we have celebrated the lives of 5 persons.

These numbers do not include the memberships extended family members. Some families in this congregation have even experienced the loss of multiple family members. It has been a hard season in our faith journey and the grief is felt deep in our soul.

Grief is both normal and at the same time can step to the forefront when we least expect it. Grief must be expressed and experienced, yet it is something that human culture tries to avoid. The church understands our human need to grieve and to experience healing.

I will be offering an "Experiencing Grief and Hope in Healing" Series for 4-weeks on Wednesdays during the month of March and first week of April from 10:30-Noon. All materials will be provided. We will explore topics that offer guidance and hope. Everyone is welcome, and I invite you to share these dates with others.

Class Dates: March 9th, March 23rd, March 30th and April 6th

Contact leslie@nwumc.org for more class details!

# March Arms - Mrs. The Longest Lent SAYING YES AFTER A YEAR OF NO

#### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

"The Longest Lent: Saying 'Yes' after a year of 'No'"

Lent is traditionally a time when we give something up. In many ways, the last two years have felt like the longest Lent ever, like a time of having to say a holy "no" to too many things. This Lent, we will explore what it means to offer a consistent and faith-filled "yes" to God.

Starting Ash Wednesday, March 2, Rev. Erin will be leading a 6-week mid-day Bible Study on the book "The Longest Lent" by the Revs. Daniel Hawkins, Melissa Turkett, Katie Newkirk, et al. While Rev. Erin is leading the class, at least two of the book's authors will be guest study leaders!

Classes will meet in-person Wednesdays 12:15PM-1:30PM March 2-April 13 in the Adult Education Wing.

If technology allows, we will offer this class with an online option.



#### **MESSAGE OF HOPE**

We are all looking for a little HOPE in a world that struggles at times. Pastor Leslie offers a 5 to 7-minute message via Facebook live to carry with you throughout the week.

These words, based on scripture, offer us the opportunity to share this HOPE "as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."
(Hebrews 6:19)

# THE CHURCH ONLINE



#### **MORNING PRAYER**

Morning prayer is an online time of scripture reading, devotional and prayer available every weekday morning at 8:30AM CST.

It's a blessing to start each day in prayer. This ministry is open to anyone with access to Facebook and led by Rev. Erin.

NOTE: Morning Prayer will be taking a spring break March 14-18.



#### **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. You can participate just one month, or come and join the conversation anytime.

How it works: If a book looks interesting to you, read it on your own and then meet us on Zoom to discuss it together.

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

Sunday, March 28 – 7:00PM "Atlas of the Heart" by Brene Brown

erin@nwumc.org for more info

The word of God is alive and active

Hebrews 4:12



#### THE CHURCH AT WORK



#### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Every week we deliver weekend snack bags for children at our three adopted campuses,

Hill Elementary, Jones Academy and Turning Point School.

Your food donations are greatly appreciated!

- Drinks: Shelf-stable milk, bottled waters
- Breakfast Items: Individual cereal boxes/cups
- Healthy Snacks: Baked crackers such as Cheez-Its, Goldfish, Pretzels
- Small Meals: Macaroni and Cheese Cups, Tuna Snack on the Run Kits
- Fruits: Fruit cups with no sugar added, Individual Raisin boxes
- Love: Small handwritten notes or cards of encouragement

Donations can be brought to the large wood box near the Main Entrance of the church.



FOOD PANTRY - PACKING SNACK BAGS







#### **WORLD VISION GLOBAL 6K**

Saturday, May 21

For our third year in a row, we are participating in the World Vision Global 6K for Water!

#### What is it?

The Global 6K is a 6K fun walk/run fundraiser that raises money for World Vision. You can walk/run/dance/stroller-push with a group from the church meeting at 9AM that Saturday, or you can go the distance on your own. Our goal is to raise \$2500 as a team.

#### Why participate?

It's always fun to get a little exercise for a good cause. Globally, about 1000 children die daily from not having access to clean drinking water, and the averaged distance they have to walk to access water is 6 kilometers, or 3.7 miles. The funds raised help to provide clean drinking water, education and other necessary resources for kids in need around the world. Every dollar raised makes a huge impact.

How do you sign up?

https://global6K.worldvision.org/team/NewWorldUMC

Registration starts with a donation of \$50 per adult/\$25 per youth under 18, and includes a t-shirt, racing bib, medal, a fundraising page and lots of great information.

Contact Rev. Erin erin@nwumc.org for info



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Band Time is each Sunday from 10:30am - 12:00pm. The older children meet in the Adult Education Wing while the younger children are in Rooms 8, 9, 10 and the Nursery.

Come join us each Sunday as we have fun learning more about Jesus through video clips, games, crafts, etc. In March we will be studying more about the miracles of Jesus and begin looking at the Last Supper and Jesus' time in the Garden of Gethsemane.



Glen Lake Summer Camp registration dates for children and youth are OPEN NOW!

HEAD TO GLENLAKE. ORG TO REGISTER

# **STUDENT MINISTRY**

Join us this March as we Love God, Love our Neighbors, and Grow as Disciples! Youth Group Bands will meet Sunday mornings at 11:00am in the youth room. Our room will be open at 10:30am for students to join in fellowship and fun before class begins. This month's study focus will be THE SEASON OF LENT: LAMENT, REPENT AND ANTICIPATE.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON GROUPS: 4:00-5:30pm (except during Spring Break, March 13th). In March, we will begin a new lesson theme called UNCERTAIN, where we will be answering questions of Christianity. Topics will include *scripture*, *suffering*, *salvation* and more.



MARCH 6TH: PARENT MEETING NOON-1:00PM Fellowship Hall

We will be covering information on the summer schedule and the faith development between students and parents. We look forward to seeing you there!

To stay up to date with Student Ministries, join our weekly e-news and youth email list.

Caitlin Snoddy,
Director of Student Ministries
caitlin@nwumc.org

#### YOUTH BAKE SALE FOR MISSION TRIP







#### **BIBLE EXPLORATION EVENT**

On Sunday, March 27, the Youth and Children are partnering together to spend the afternoon digging into the Bible. We will begin at noon following Youth and Children's Band time with lunch provided. We will spend the afternoon, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm exploring the Bible in fun ways! From 4:00 - 5:30 PM we will have a Snack Supper and then have a fun event together.

Mark your calendars this is going to be a time of learning and lots of fun!

If you have any questions, contact:

Caitlin - CAITLIN@NWUMC.ORG OR Kathy - KATHYALEX@NWUMC.ORG

# NEW WORLD UMC STAFF

Rev. Leslie Byrd Senior Pastor leslie@nwumc.org

Rev. Erin Sloan Jackson Associate Pastor erin@nwumc.org

Heather James
Director of Operations
heather@nwumc.org

Sarah Duer Communications sarah@nwumc.org

Claudia Williams Receptionist claudia@nwumc.org Steven Couch Director of Music steven@nwumc.org

Kathy Alexander Children's Director kathyalex@nwumc.org

Caitlin Snoddy
Director of Student Ministries
caitlin@nwumc.org

Amber Walter Preschool Director preschol@nwumc.org

Josh Bender
Director of Audio Visual
josh@nwumc.org

Jim Penson Facilities facilities@nwumc.org



# New World UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Love God Love Neighbor Make Disciples



2201 N. DAVIS DR. ARLINGTON, TX 817.460.4212