



Update on Clear Springs Initiative

Pastor Cathe Evins

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven”
(Ecclesiastes 3:1)

About 18 months ago, our church was asked by the Rio Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church to be the mother church for a new church start on Hwy 46, near the Avery Park Subdivision. The new church start project was titled Clear Springs United Methodist Church Initiative and Rev. C.J. Tillinghast was appointed as the new church start pastor for that initiative.

Our part was to provide financial support for Clear Springs in conjunction with support from the Conference office. We were also to provide some administrative support and of course, prayer support. A launch team of 14 persons came together to assist C.J. His part was to develop relationships within the Clear Springs area, to begin forming worship gatherings and small groups, and to keep our church apprised of on-going developments.

Despite C.J.'s hard work and the support of

his launch team and our church, the goals and benchmarks that were set for this new church start have not been met. In light of this, the Conference office has decided that it is no longer feasible to move forward with the Clear Springs Initiative. Effective March 31st, the Clear Springs Initiative will be discontinued.

We can be thankful that we were given the opportunity to partner with this initiative and we can also be sure that in God's time, other plans will unfold for new church development in and around the growing area of Central TX. Please keep C.J. and his family in your prayers through this time of transition and our Conference leadership, as they continually seek to discern new opportunities for ministry in the mission field that is the Rio TX Conference of the UMC. Blessings,

Pastor Cathe



First Annual Women's Retreat!!

Get away from the busyness of life as you relax with friends, share laughter and stories, and spend time with God. Join us at our Sweet Life Cafe retreat to experience all this and more!

April 27, 6 - 9 p.m.

and

April 28, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Texas Lutheran University

*Registration \$30
(Forms are in the church Office)*

*Space is limited
to first 54 participants*

*Registration Deadline:
April 22*

*For more information,
contact the church office.*

Be Refreshed at the

Sweet Life Cafe





Church Calendar

Sunday, April 1
 6:45a Easter Sunrise Service followed by breakfast
 8:00a Worship, Sanctuary
 9:15a Sunday School and Easter Egg Hunt
 10:30a Worship, Sanctuary
 10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC
Monday, April 2
 7:00p Wesley Foundation, Room 203
Tuesday, April 3
 9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Room 200
 4:00p Circle of Angels, Room 10
 6:30p Missions Team Meeting, Library
Wednesday, April 4
 5:30p Confirmation/Youth to Thrive, CLC
 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, MR
Thursday, April 5
 10:30a Mind Fitness, HH
 6:30p Safety Team Meeting, HH
Sunday, April 8
 8:00a Worship, Sanctuary
 9:15a Sunday School
 10:30a Worship, Sanctuary
 10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC
Monday, April 9
 7:00p Wesley Foundation, Room 203
Tuesday, April 10
 9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Room 200
 10:00a Alzheimer's Support Group, Parlor
 4:00p Circle of Angels, Room 10
 6:30p Foundation Comm Meeting, Parlor
Wednesday, April 11
 5:30p Confirmation/Youth to Thrive, CLC
 6:30p "Unsuper Mommy" Bible Study, HH
 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, MR
Thursday, April 12
 5:30p TLU Water to Thrive Benefit, CLC
 6:00p Weekday School Board Mtg, Library
Sunday, April 15
 8:00a Worship, Sanctuary
 9:15a Sunday School
 10:30a Worship, Sanctuary
 10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC
Monday, April 16
 7:00p Wesley Foundation, 203

Tuesday, April 17
 9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Room 200
 4:00p Circle of Angels, Room 10
 6:30 Finance Meeting, Library
Wednesday, April 18
 5:30p Confirmation/Youth to Thrive, CLC
 6:30p "Unsuper Mommy" Bible Study, HH
 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, MR
Thursday, April 19
 6:00p MOPS, HH
 6:30p Board of Trustees Mtg, Library
 7:00P PFLAG
Saturday, April 21
 District Celebration, Bastrop Convention Center
 8:00a Habitat for Humanity Workday
Sunday, April 22
 8:00a Worship, Sanctuary
 9:15a Sunday School
 10:30a Worship, Sanctuary
 10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC
Monday, April 23
 7:00p Wesley Foundation, Room 203
Tuesday, April 24
 9:00a Butterfly Quilters, Room, 200
 4:00p Circle of Angels, Room 10
Wednesday, April 25
 5:30p Confirmation/Youth to Thrive, CLC
 6:30p "Unsuper Mommy" Bible Study, HH
 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, MR
Thursday, April 26
 6:00p Whole Food Plant Based Potluck, HH
Friday, April 27
 6:00p Women's Retreat, TLU
Saturday, April 28
 9:00a Women's Retreat, TLU
Sunday, April 29
 8:00a Worship, Sanctuary
 9:15a Sunday School
 10:30a Worship, Sanctuary
 10:30a Seasons Worship, CLC
Monday, April 30
 7:00p Wesley Foundation, Room 203

New Members



**Leon & Liz Tisdale
 Caitlyn Tisdale**
 Joined this congregation on March 11.



**Zach & Erin Doss
 Remy**
 Joined this congregation on March 11.

Year-to-Date Financial Report February 2018

Donations	\$118,311.00
Expenses	\$137,751.00
Expenses Exceed Donations by:	\$19,440.00
Checking Account Balance	
Beg. Balance as of 1/1	\$69,191.00
End. Balance as of 2/28	\$49,751.00
Renovation Project Fund Loan Balance	\$556,469.00

Calling all Moms

We are so excited to be offering a Mom's Bible Study. We will be studying "Unsuper Mommy: Release expectations, embrace imperfection, and connect to God's superpower" by Maggie Combs. This 6-week study will begin on April 11 and run through May 16, meeting Wednesday nights from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The cost for this Bible study is \$25 and includes the book and child care. Scholarships are available. We hope this study will not only strengthen your relationship with God but help to build an amazing relationship with other moms through fellowship and study. For questions or to register for this class, you may email, Erin Doss at ez.doss@gmail.com or Pastor Mel at pastormelissa@funcseguin.com.

Vacation Bible School

We need your help to host another outstanding year of VBS for the young people in our church and community. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Lauren Schumann at lauren.e.schumann@gmail.com. VBS dates are June 25th-28th from 6pm-8:30pm. We will be hosting an informational meeting on March 4th during Sunday School in the Young Adult classroom for those who would like more information.

New Bible Study "Invitation to John" Beginning Soon

This eleven-week Invitation to John is an in-depth, video-based study of the Biblical text. There will be weekly preparation and participation in small group discussions, as well as viewing a video.

In the very first chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus issues two invitations: "Come and see," and "Follow me." They echo the invitations of this study: to come and see this Jesus – to hear him speak, to see his signs – and to consider anew what it means to be his followers.

Please join in responding to Jesus' invitations... Thursday mornings beginning April 5 for 12 weeks from 9:30 to 11:00 in the church library. Participant book is \$4.00. Scholarships are available.

If you have any questions about this study, please call the facilitator, Judy White, at 870-275-0120.

Weekday School Registration Opens

The Weekday School is opening up Registration for the 2018 – 2019 Fall School Year to church members and current students March 1st for 6 months – 4 years old. Registration forms can be picked up in the school office. Please call (830) 379-4116 with any questions.

The Weekday School is starting a new Summer Program for ages 6 – 11 years old, June 1 – August 31, Monday – Friday. 8:30 – 5:30. Registration opens March 1; spaces are limited. Please sign up in the school office. Any questions please call (830) 379-4116.



Melissa Lind, Associate Pastor for Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Spring is here! With winter coming to an end spring brings not only warmer weather, but the wrapping up of another confirmation. This year the confirmation class has been so much fun with a great group of students exploring their faith together. Watching their relationship with Christ grow stronger, as well as the relationships they have with one another was truly an honor. The confirmation students and youth enjoyed mid-winter camp at camp Tejas in Giddings, Texas during the month of March. The camp worship was amazing with the theme being that we are all made in God's image. Small groups focused on issues faced by the youth each day touching on dating, mental health, and science verses biblical theology. The fun activities included ziplining, a large mud pit, basketball, smores, an 80's themed dance, and sled sliding. It was a joyous time of connection, as a youth group and together building our relationship with God.



Memorials Gifts

In memory of:
 Amy Schriewer Boyer
From:
 Jane Donegan & Buddy Nagel
In memory of:
 Dorothy Wilke McGinty
From:
 Steve & Sherry Baker
In memory of:
 Arline MyCue

From:
 Antonette Tynan, Bud & Alice Kirkendall, Nell Martin, Cynthia Voss, Millie Watson, Molly Pogor, A.G. and Susan Hodges, Martha Lewis, Clarence & Joyce Voss, Joyce Briscoe, LaNell Meckel, Bea Turner, John & Susan Brannan, Frances Wegner, Mary and Kerry Koehler, Bill & Rozanna Rule, Ruby Lindeman, Gloria Winters, Alan & Rebecca Pyburn, Cheryl Erxleben, Conny Core, Jim & Judy Price, Xi Epsilon Omega Beta Sigma Phi, The Stollewerks, Ray & Martha Erxleben, Bill & Sherry Isbell, Kari & Carl Cloudt, Jo Blake, Lorraine Richey

Honorariums

In honor of:
 Jerry Evins
From:
 Paulist Sunday School
In honor of:
 Choir
From:
 Ray & Martha Erxleben
In honor of:
 Marie Nisson
From:
 Lorraine Richey

Volunteers Needed

Sunday School Volunteers: We are still in need of assistance teaching the Pre-K-3rd grade classes or the 4th-5th grade classes. Please contact Jenalee Cook cjenalle@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping.



Pastor Ron Welborn

Do you have a word for me?

Words - we use them on a daily basis. Sometimes we use them to encourage or console a friend. Sometimes we use them to belittle or ridicule a coworker. Words have power, perhaps greater power than we realize and it is always wise to think before speaking.

The letter of James was written by one of the church's early pastors and it shows the skill of a man who knows how to confront, diagnose and deal with areas of misbelief and misbehavior in his congregation. He has a wonderful insight into human nature: insight that comes from not just living life but insight that also comes when one makes God a center of daily living; insight gleaned from a rich prayer life steeped in the Holy Spirit.

If you want to hurt someone – really, really want to hurt someone – words are much more devastating than fists or stones. The old adage that “sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me” is pure nonsense. Words can hurt. They can wound. They can devastate.

You're a loser.

What's wrong with you?

You'll never amount to anything.

Jesus also knew the power of words. He

knew how effective speech could be.

Come unto me and I'll give you rest.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

You are forgiven.

Words have the power to break down barriers and forge new friendships. Words have the power to give new meaning to old friendships. And words have the power to restore broken friendships.

What are some of the phrases that give you a glimmer of self-confidence or comfort? What words restore your trust in someone who has betrayed you? What are the words that help you see a spark of light in a dark world?

I'm sorry. Can we try that again?

You know, maybe you're right and I'm wrong.

Thanks so much.

What can I do to help?

Please forgive me.

Can I sit with you? Pray for you? As the Season of Lent draws to a close, here's a prayer that words will matter a little more each day.

Ron

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Nurse's Notes

**Danna Dyess, RN
Wesley Nurse**

Mind Fitness

Are you keeping your brain healthy? Do you wonder how to prevent dementia/Alzheimer's?

The Five Pillars of Brain Fitness

Thursday, April 5, 2018 10:30am-11:30am
Hierholzer Hall

The Five Pillars of Brain Fitness class will teach you how to keep your mind active.

Brain health habits will be discussed. Brain health habits may significantly decrease your risk of having dementia, preventing or at least delaying onset of symptoms. Join the class as Pete Goodwin from Brainstorm Mind Fitness discusses how to keep your mind sharp! The class is free and open to the public.