

the faith journal

Arlington Heights United Methodist Church

www.ahumcfw.org

August 2015



HEIGHTSights



Twenty kids in our first-ever Music and heARTs Camp had a great week exploring instruments and art at Arlington Heights UMC, July 26-30!



◀ On July 20, a *Celebrate Life!* group visited Fort Worth's Beth-El Congregation for a docent-led tour.

▶ On August 2, Middle School Youth enjoyed a Sunday Funday at Flight Deck.



▲ The July 8 *Celebrate Life!* Lunch and Birthday Bash honored July birthdays and joys.

▼ John and Susanna Wesley were special guests in worship on July 26.



Financial Report: First Half of 2015

TOM GOOCH
2015 Finance Chair

Through the end of June, our income is \$471,744 – almost all gifts from members. Our expenditures through the end of June are \$542,144, which is \$70,399 more than our income. As is often the case, we have spent more than our income in the first half of the year. In most years, the income for the church tends to come in late in the year, while expenditures are even throughout the year. Fortunately, we started the year with over \$130,000 in the bank, and that has covered the difference – we still have \$64,000 in the bank.

The table below is a summary of the actual income and expenditures

for AHUMC in the first half of 2015. For comparison, the table also includes the 2015 annual budget, the 2014 first half data, and the difference between 2014 and 2015.

Our income is down slightly from last year. Our expenditures are up substantially compared to 2014, with the biggest change being the Trustee category, primarily due to needed repairs to our facilities.

Your continued support is what makes the many good things our church is doing possible. Any extra giving you can offer will help keep our mission going strong.

If you have a question about our finances, feel free to contact 2015 Finance Chair Tom Gooch, 817.602.0492 or tcg@freese.com.



Arlington Heights
United Methodist Church

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Fort Worth, TX 76107

(817) 737-3161

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Detailed information about
church events:

www.ahumcfw.org

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top of the homepage



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Arlington Heights UMC First Half 2015 Income and Expenditures

Category	2015 Budget	Actual Expenditures and Income		
		1st Half 2015 (Jan-Jun)	1st Half 2014 (Jan-Jun)	Change in 1st Half from 2014 to 2015
Total Income	\$1,083,966	\$471,744	\$487,898	-\$16,154
EXPENDITURES				
Connectional	\$135,548	\$67,166	\$62,160	\$5,006
Missional Giving				
Administration	\$32,600	\$19,635	\$18,234	\$1,401
Christian Formation	\$3,750	\$924	\$1,153	\$212
Congregational Care	\$2,400	\$441		
Evangelism	\$15,200	\$4,979	\$8,201	-\$3,222
Personnel	\$569,968	\$263,574	\$267,841	-\$4,267
Trustee*	\$294,400	\$177,663	\$136,616	\$41,047
Worship*	\$12,050	\$3,474	\$3,991	-\$517
Children's Ministry*	\$10,550	\$2,967	\$2,618	\$349
Youth*	\$6,000	\$1,321	\$3,463	-\$2,142
Missions*	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$1,083,966	\$542,144	\$504,277	\$37,867
Net Income	\$0	-\$70,400	-\$16,379	-\$54,021

* Note: There are significant additional expenditures in these areas from special funds, outside of the budget.

Online giving is available through Elexio. Use your phone app or visit www.ahumcfw.org to make a one-time or recurring contribution. You may also contact Angela Hill, ahill@ahumc.com.

Our Church Staff

Rev. Mary Spradlin | Senior Pastor

Dr. Jim Pledger | Associate Pastor
of Stewardship, Church Development
& Welcoming

Rev. Grant Palma | Associate Pastor
of Congregational Care, Young Adult
& Senior Adult Ministries

Rev. Allen Lutes | Associate Minister
of Missions & Food Truck Ministry

Addie Klemm, Jason Kocur
Ministry Interns

Dr. Steve Simons
Director of Chancel Choir

Frank Shroyer | Music Associate

Alan Kerr | Organist

Wendie Lunsford | Children's Director/
Assistant to the Senior Pastor

Josh Ingram | Youth Director

Angela Hill | Financial Administrator

Tani Simons | Children's Choir Director

Anne Bloesser | Haupt Preschool Director

Gwen Patteson | Office Manager/
Administrative Assistant

Missy Matthews | Communications Director

Rick Trevino | Lead Building Steward

Paula Trevino | Building Steward



For the Children of North Hi Mount Elementary

Many children of North Hi Mount Elementary go hungry from the time they leave school Friday afternoon until they return Monday.

Pack-A-Sack is a ministry of AHUMC that helps feed these children on the weekends. Food is donated and sacks are packed with about ten food items that require no cooking.

The sacks are delivered to 60 children of North Hi Mount Elementary School each Friday. This will be the third year for the project; the hope is to grow this ministry to include more children.

Please donate food items for Pack a Sack:

- Peanut Butter To Go (1.5 oz. individual servings)
- 100% Juice Boxes
- Vienna Sausages
- Fruit Cups (single serving canned fruit).

There will be a collection table in the Atrium August 9–30. If you would like to help with this ministry, contact Gale Boyd, 817.296.5629.



Celebrate Life! At Any Age!

Lunch & Birthday Bash

Wednesday, August 12 • Noon
Atrium • Cost: By donation

Celebrate August birthdays and joys! We might have a Dog Day surprise!

Family Game Night

Thursday, August 27
6:30–8:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall • Cost: FREE
(4th Thursday of each month)

Bring a snack to share!

Lord's Acre will be October 17

As the temperatures hover around 100 degrees here in the middle of summer, it's not too early to think of cool fall days, college football games, pumpkins, and Lord's Acre.

What is Lord's Acre? Lord's Acre is a day when we come together as a church community to celebrate and give thanks for our blessings.

We also raise money. Where does this money go? A portion of the proceeds go to the Trustees to be used for the beautification of the church facilities and a portion goes to various mission outreach areas that AHUMC supports. Last year, \$11,190 was designated for trustees and \$8,952 was given to 11 mission

and service organizations.

Lord's Acre will be on Saturday, October 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are looking forward to a great day of fellowship with our friends and family of AHUMC and our neighboring community.

There will be hand-crafted items, baked goods, sweets, and canned items in the Blessing Country Store. The silent auction will feature many collectible items, as well as gift baskets and larger craft items. There will be a live auction under the tent at 12:30 p.m. Great items will be available here, including quilts, paintings, group dinners, and many other exciting things.

How can you help? Like our

pledge to the church, you can support Lord's Acre through your prayers, your presence (save the date on your calendar and plan to attend), your gifts (donations of crafts, food, and auction items make this day a success), your service (volunteers are needed to serve in all areas), and your witness (invite anyone and everyone to come to Lord's Acre).

Forms for donations will be available in Sunday School classes, at the Welcome Center, and in the church office. For more information, please contact Tommy and Gale Boyd, 817.296.5629.

Don't miss this great day of fun, family, and fellowship!



**From Patriot House volunteer
Ginny Butterfield:**

"I look forward to going back and building a relationship with these new friends. I always feel blessed by those that I go to serve."



FIVE & TWO UPDATE

Five & Two has been busy since our dedication on June 7! We have served more than 2,000 people and have established a regular rotation at the Presbyterian Night Shelter.

We serve 30 homeless veterans at the Patriot House each third Thursday and more than 100 women and children each second Monday. All are invited to be a part

of these outreach ministries; contact Rev. Allen Lutes.

We are also closer to the reality of offering crock pot cooking classes in the fall to the clients of WestAid, stay tuned for more information on that and the other many opportunities to serve our neighbors with the Five & Two Food Truck Ministry!

Upcoming Events:

September 7: Crestline Neighborhood Labor Day Parade (the food truck will be part of the parade). Meet at Rivercrest Country Club at 9 a.m.

September 12: Run For Life, Heart of the Ranch at Clearfork, 7:30 a.m.

September 15: National Justice for Our Neighbors Meeting, Grapevine UMC, 11 a.m.

September 19: WestAid Trinity Trek, Trinity Park, 7:30 a.m.

Shop to Support Five & Two!

Keep Shopping at Kroger! By linking your Kroger Rewards card to AHUMC, you help support the Five & Two Food Truck Ministry. Kroger not only helps to subsidize

our individual Food Truck Ministry outreaches, but gives back a portion of the money you spend there. In June, AHUMC received our first check from the program for \$177!



Mission News

WestAid

Our partner in ministry, WestAid, is a primary provider of emergency food for families in West Fort Worth. WestAid serves more than 16,000 individuals annually, and the need is growing. They need your help! Please bring macaroni and cheese, canned meat, canned fruit or pork and beans to help stock the shelves of their food pantry. There will be a table in the atrium during the month of August. Thank you for your generous hearts.

Como Food Pantry

Join us the third Friday of each month as we distribute food to hundreds of our neighbors in need of healthy food for their families. All ages are welcome for this fun mission opportunity. Meet at 8:30 a.m. August 21 at the Como Community Center, 4900 Horne. For information, contact Rev. Allen Lutes, alutes@ahumc.com. Plastic grocery bags are needed for use at the Como Food Pantry; please bring them to the Atrium.

Union Gospel Mission

Every third Saturday, members of AHUMC assist in feeding people who are homeless at Union Gospel Mission. Meet at the Mission at 4 p.m. Saturday, August 22; serving will be completed by 7:30 p.m. All ages are welcome. For more information, contact Rev. Allen Lutes, alutes@ahumc.com.

Trinity Trek

Trinity Trek is the primary fund raiser for WestAid. The 5K and 1 mile fun run will be September 19 at Trinity Park. AHUMC is a sponsor of this year's event. The Five & Two Food Truck will provide breakfast for the runners and volunteers. Come out to race and support a great cause! Registration is available online at www.active.com, search Trinity Trek.

Thank You!

Day Resource Center: Thanks to your generosity, we were able to collect over 700 bottles of water for the Day Resource Center. Water is such an important resource during these extremely hot days for our neighbors who are on the streets.

Christmas in July: Thank you to all who donated items and money! Contributions from the North District UMW for the United Community Centers totaled more than \$8,000 – \$4,000 in merchandise and \$4,131 in monetary donations.

AHUMC Youth

For youth updates via text messaging, please enter phone numbers into Elexio. Elexio can be accessed through the church website ahumcfw.org. Please make sure your e-mail is also correct in Elexio so we can get you up to date youth group information.

August 9: Middle School:

Swim Party, 5–7 p.m.

Sr. High: Meet at 7 p.m.

at Starbucks (on Hulen, across from AAHS).

UPCOMING:

August 16:

School Year schedule begins:

• Middle School: 4–5 p.m.

• Dinner: 5 p.m.

• Sr. High: 5–7 p.m.

August 23:

Airhogs Game (Grand Prairie)
for CTCYM Night

September 6: Late Night Fun!

8 p.m.–1 a.m.

Meet at the church for a movie on the lawn and midnight games. *Bring a friend!*

All Youth Bible Study: Wednesday in the youth room, 6–7 p.m. Middle School Wednesday Bible Study will start in September at the Jones' house.



begins September 13!

Watch for details.



August 9: Strong Families Sunday

On August 9, AHUMC will focus on strong families with a special presentation from Strong Fathers / Strong Families during the Sunday School hour.

J. Michael Hall will meet with children and families for an interactive Bible story lesson at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Mr. Hall will also be our guest speaker at 10:50 a.m. to encourage and inspire us as a faithful community to work, support and love children and their families in our very busy lives. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, caregiver or neighbor who knows a child, please plan to attend this special day.

Mr. Hall will continue share his engaging activities at a lunch following worship – you won't want to miss it. We'll end our time together by cooling off with Kona Shaved Ice! We will conclude by 2:30 p.m. (Continuing Education Units will be offered to those who work with children.)

J. Michael Hall has been a special education teacher and is a "recovering" middle school principal. As an educator and founder of Strong Fathers / Strong Families (strongfathers.com), he has presented to more than 100,000 parents at local schools, Head Starts, and national conferences.



August 16: Sending Forth

This special Sunday will honor our recent high school graduates and send forth those who are returning to college. We'd like addresses and email addresses of college students so that we can keep in touch; please send them to Rev. Grant Palma, gpalma@ahumc.com.

August 23: Blessing of the Backpacks

As a new school year begins for students in grades K-12, we will affirm that God's love, and the love of this congregation, is with us wherever we go. Students, bring your backpacks to worship for a special blessing!

News Briefs

Carter Blood Drive: AHUMC will host a blood drive on Sunday, August 30, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please consider giving the gift of life!

Come represent AHUMC and be part of the Crestline Labor Day Parade. Meet at Rivercrest Country Club at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, September 7. This will be the first time the Five & Two Food Truck appears in a parade.

Bible Camp for Kids: Registration is underway for the Bishop's 3rd and 4th Grade Bible Camp at Glen Lake Camp, September 18-19. Cost is \$45. Register at glenlakecamp.com/bc15/

Bishop's Bible Camp: All adults are invited to attend a special study on the Book of Romans with Bishop Mike Lowry on Saturday, September 19, at Glen Lake Camp. Take some time apart to focus on a world in pain and God's deep love — still at work today — to reconcile the world. Cost is \$10 (includes lunch and study guide).

Journeyman Bible study for men meets first and third Sundays at 5:30 p.m. at the T&P Tavern in Fort Worth, 221 W. Lancaster Avenue. For information, contact Rev. Grant Palma, gpalma@ahumc.com.

Men's Prayer Breakfast meets at 7 a.m. Mondays at Ol' South Pancake House, 1509 S University Dr.

Gentle Yoga and Devotional Time: 9 a.m. Tuesdays in room 354. Suggested donation of \$5 weekly. *Yoga will not meet August 11.*

Children's Choirs will have kick-off parties on August 30, and will begin Sunday rehearsals on September 13: 4-5 p.m. (grades K-3) and 5-7 p.m. (grades 4-6). Contact Tani Simons, tsimons@bisdmail.net.