

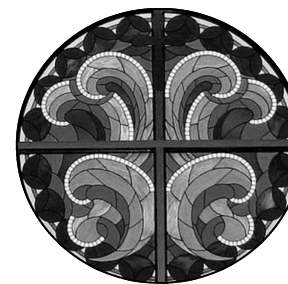
Wellspring United Methodist Church
6200 Williams Dr.
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All are Welcome, All are Accepted

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Wellspring- The Source

BRINGING *life* TO THE
COMMUNITY

A Monthly Publication - March 2013

Make the Connection

"I am the vine, you are the branches, those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."

John 15:5, NRSV



On Ash Wednesday, we began the journey from ashes to resurrection. For many people this is a time to think about what they will give up, but thanks to our Choir Director, Sallia Bandy, and all who assisted her, Wellspring is being challenged to travel a different path this Lenten Season. We are challenged not to focus on what we are giving up but what we will take on, to lead us closer to God and impact the world for good.

This Lenten Season each of us has an opportunity to pick seeds from the Kindness Tree and sow them throughout Georgetown. I am thankful for the first seed I picked and I look forward to picking others. And I know that if I pick a seed for something which I already do, I should put it back and choose something else. If I fail to do that, it would mean I am not really taking on anything, but more than that – I would miss the opportunity of experiencing God in a different way.

In addition to the Kindness Tree, we are also engaging in a church-wide Lenten Study written by Shane Stanford titled *Mosaic*. Shane has used an interesting concept in that each of his reflections begins with the letter "R," such as rebellion, restlessness, regret, etc. The Sermon Series using the book will be on Sundays, March 3- 17, and our topics will be Regret, Responsibilities and Resources. We are hopeful that each of you will participate in the study and join a small group for discussion. Currently, there are four groups discussions scheduled as follows:

- Sundays at 9:45 am – Journey Sunday School Class led by Carol Hoke
- Sundays at 11:00 am – Season of the Spirit Sunday School Class led by Maggie Walters
- Wednesdays at Noon – Class led by Pastor Debra
- Wednesdays at 4:30 pm – Class led by Lettie Lee

As we participate in these Lenten events we will arrive at Resurrection Sunday with a clearer picture of Jesus and a deeper and abiding faith. This will enable us to represent Christ to the world and to become the fruit bearers for God's kingdom. And Jesus makes it clear in his words to the disciples that we cannot bear fruit unless we are connected to him, *"I am the vine, you are the branches, those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."* (John 15:5, NRSV).

Join in, pick a seed, choose a study group and Make the Connection to God through Jesus Christ this Lenten Season.

Blessings,

Debra

Worship Times:

8:30 & 9:30am-Traditional Services
11:00 am-Contemporary Service

Wellspring Ladies Spring Luncheon Presents

"Gifted and Talented Christian Women"

Saturday, April 27, 2013

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Cowan Creek Amenities Center (Sun City)

\$13 per person



You are invited to attend our 2nd annual spring luncheon for the ladies of Wellspring and their guests. Bring your mothers, daughters, friends and family to this just-for-women event! The program will feature dynamic speakers, fun, fellowship and music.

Tickets can be purchased in March by contacting Louise Schock at (512) 943-9592 or louiseshock@gmail.com.

Tickets will also be sold every Sunday in April (prior to the luncheon) in the Wellspring Munch & Mingle area. We look forward to seeing you there!

Opportunities for Adults - Service, Mission and Prayer

Pastoral Care Team Commissioned

On Sunday, February 10, 2013, nine members of Wellspring were commissioned as the Pastoral Care Team. This new ministry will be a great addition to our church.

The main focus of the Pastoral Care Team is on the nurturing of each person's spirit in times of illness, death and bereavement, as well as celebrations of births, baptisms and weddings. Team members will minister to and with our shut ins, share the Word and Eucharist to those who are homebound, sick, and/or hospitalized. Unlike Stephen Ministers who provide long term care on a one on one basis with individuals, the Pastoral Care Team will provide short term care with contacts at least once a month, through visits, calls or cards, and prayers.

Team members were identified based on their spiritual gifts and have gone through a training program; they will continue to receive training on a scheduled basis. Members of the Pastoral Care Team work closely with the pastors of Wellspring and include team leader Laura Davis, Marie Boettcher, Gwen Guzanski, Herman Knodel, Jimmie McCracken, Earlene Scott, Dolly Shubert, Cheryl Russell (not pictured) and Jim Russell.

If you are aware of Wellspring members who are sick, hospitalized or homebound, or you are missing people at church who need to be followed up with, please call Jennifer in the church office or email Carol Hoke, Minister of Pastoral Care, at pastoral@wellumc.org. Please keep this new ministry in your prayers.



Needed: Leader for Congregational Care Committee

If you have the Spiritual Gifts of compassion and organizational skills, we may have a job for you! We are in need of a leader for the Congregational Care Committee. This ministry of the church is responsible for providing bereavement meals at the time of funerals or memorials, a birthday card ministry, transportation and gift baskets to members who are homebound or in nursing homes three times per year. We have a very dedicated group of individuals who lead these various components of Congregational Care. Now we need someone who can provide oversight to this Committee, as well as serve as the bereavement coordinator for the funeral or memorial service.

Please be in prayer for this important ministry in the life of Wellspring. If you think God is calling you to this leadership opportunity, please contact Carol Hoke at pastoral@wellumc.org or 930-5959 x225. Thank you!

*The Methodist Mission Home in San Antonio is now **Providence Place**. For more info about their new look and expanded services, visit www.provplace.org.*

Prayer Ministry

Jesus said, "My House shall be called a House of Prayer"
Matthew 21:13

Prayer

Our hope is that Wellspring UMC will become a house of prayer. We invite you to share in this ministry by praying for others and the sharing of your own joys and concerns. Jesus teaches us that prayer is everything - a duty as well as a privilege, a right as well as a responsibility. All that we do is grounded in prayer. We pray alone, in small groups, and as a community of faith. We want to encourage you to join us in this important ministry of this Church.

Prayer Ministry Team

The Prayer Ministry Team meets weekly on Monday at 1:00 pm in the Chapel. The focus is on praying for all prayer requests that have come to the church, for the church and church leaders, our community and our world. The team seeks to promote prayer by example and instruction as an essential discipline for all believers. We are seeking those that have the desire to pray for others to become part of this vital team of the Church. Join us on Mondays in the Chapel at 1:00 p.m. or contact Carol Hoke at pastoral@wellumc.org, or 930-5959 x225, for more information.

Staff Changes

Thank You Lisa!

It was announced to the congregation on February 10th that the SPR Committee received Lisa Grant's letter of resignation. Wellspring would like to thank Lisa for her ministry to our children and families over the last seven months!

Louise is Retiring!

After almost seven years of serving as Wellspring's Financial Secretary, Louise Beyer is retiring and moving to Oklahoma at the end of March. Louise has been a vital and integral part of our church's operations, and will be missed! Please take some time this month to share your appreciation with Louise for her ministry and service.

Keep the Staff in Your Prayers

Please pray for the staff and the SPRC during the search process for new people to fill the positions of Children & Family Minister and Finance Secretary. We are confident that God will call the right leaders to join us in ministry. If you know of anyone with experience who would be interested in applying for either position, resumes may be emailed to Jennifer Kendrick, admin@wellumc.org.

Youth Ministries

Confirmation on Easter Sunday

Please be in prayer for our confirmation class as they continue their preparation: Samantha Medart, Katie Moore, Jackson Moore, and Juliana Washburn.

One Great Day of Service

Everyone at Wellspring is invited to join other churches in Georgetown and Round Rock on April 13 for the annual One Great Day of Service. There are half-day and full-day opportunities available.

This is going to be one GREAT Day. Sign up now! The cost is \$25 per person or \$75 per family maximum until April 1st and includes a t-shirt and mission supplies and lunch for all day jobs.

For more information and to sign up, please contact our Youth Minister, Rodnei Williams, youth@wellumc.org or (512) 930-5959.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY SERVICES (Worship Center)

- 8:30 AM Traditional Worship
- 9:30 AM Traditional Worship
- 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES OFFERED

- 9:30 AM Chapel Dwellers (Rm 204)
- 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School (Rm 105)
- 9:45 AM Youth Sunday School (Rm 207)
- 9:45 AM The Journey Class (Admin Area)
- 10:45 AM Seasons of the Spirit Class (Rm 203)
- 10:45 AM Cornerstone Bible Study (Rm 204)
- 11:15 AM Children's Worship (Rm 106)

SUNDAY EVENTS

- 4:00 PM Youth Band Reh. (Worship Center)
- 5:30 PM MYF - Youth (Rm 207)

MONDAYS

- 1:00 PM Prayer Ministry (Chapel)

TUESDAYS

- 3:30 PM Handbell Choir Reh. (Worship Center)

WEDNESDAYS

- Noon Bible Study: Bk of Revelation (Rm 203)
- 4:30 PM Santa Rosa's Mass (Worship Center)
- 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Reh. (Worship Center)
- 7:00 PM Youth Boot Camp (Rm 207)
- 7:45 PM Praise Band Reh. (Worship Center)

FRIDAYS

- 10:00 AM Close Friends (Munch & Mingle)

Coming Soon:

- March 19: Church Council Meeting
- March 24: Palm Sunday and Choir Cantata
- March 28: Maundy Thursday - 6:30 p.m. service
- March 29: Good Friday - 6:30 p.m. service (Office Closed)
- March 30: Easter Egg Hunt - 9:00 a.m.
- March 31: Easter Sunday with Confirmation
- April 1: Easter Monday (Office Closed)

Scheduling Events and Meetings

Please fill out a calendar request form (located in the church office) or you may send an email to admin@wellumc.org if you have an event or meeting to schedule, or a change in date. All events will be posted on the church calendar and can be accessed through the church website at www.wellumc.org.

Financial Opportunities

Information re. IRA Tax-Free Transfers

Congress has enacted the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, which includes steps to strengthen America's retirement System while encouraging additional charitable giving. It offers tax-free giving to your church. You may contribute funds if:

- You are 70 ½ or older.
- The gifts do not total more than \$100,000 per year.
- You make the gift on or before December 31, 2013.
- You transfer the funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA.
- You make the gift to a public charity. This includes your church but excludes gifts made to charitable trusts, donor advised funds and supporting organizations.

For more info or 2013 forms, please contact your IRA admin.

How to Make a Stock Transfer to Wellspring

Always check with your tax advisor before making a donation of securities. Typically, it is prudent to donate appreciated securities, since you may deduct the appreciated value (average of high and low price on the day of the trade) and avoid paying capital gains tax. If the security has declined in value, it is better to sell the security to take the tax write-off, then write a check to Wellspring.

Procedure:

Contact your broker to initiate a broker-to-broker transfer to Wellspring's account at Scottrade.

Notify Louise Beyer, Wellspring's financial secretary, so that she can contact Scottrade, request a check from them, and properly credit your donation.

Wellspring Brokerage Account: Scottsdale Securities, Inc.

Local Office: Scottrade, Inc.
10710 Research Blvd., Suite 112
Austin, Texas 78759
(512) 339-3700 or (800) 947-1925
Wellspring Account #84351556

Herman Knodel is Wellspring's contact for the Scottrade account. (512) 931-0971

Have you turned in a Financial Commitment card for 2013?

Commitment cards can be turned in any time, and are very helpful to the Finance Committee in budgeting/planning for the year. Cards may be found at the Welcome Desk. Thank you!!

Lent and Easter Opportunities

Plant a Seed, Make a Difference

Wherever there is a human in need, there is an opportunity for kindness and to make a difference.

We're supposed to give up our dearest things for Lent. A sacrifice. Do we really make a sacrifice? We have so much in our lives and there is so much to do in this world, especially here in our community. We can't do everything and be everything to everyone, but we can do *something*. With this in mind, try to focus on giving or doing something during this Lenten season. Let's cover our community with acts of kindness like the powdered sugar on that donut that you are thinking of giving up for Lent.

Through Palm Sunday (March 24), take a kindness seed from the cross/tree in the Munch & Mingle area. Perform that act throughout Lent, or get a new one each week. Write your results on the back of the seed and bring it back to Wellspring. If you have an idea for a kindness seed, blank forms will be available for you to hang on the cross/tree.

Lenten Book Study

This year for Lent we will explore *Mosaic* by Shane Stanford. God uses the broken pieces of our lives to reframe our purpose, turning our discarded hopes and dreams into something beautiful and useful. Sermons series will be preached March 3-17; below are several additional study opportunities:

Sundays

9:45 am Journey Sunday School Class, led by Carol Hoke

11:00 am Season of the Spirit Sunday School Class, led by Maggie Walters

Wednesdays

Noon Class led by Pastor Debra

4:30 pm Class led by Lettie Lee



Palm Sunday ~ March 24th
Inspiring Music and Preaching – 8:30 a.m.
Easter Cantata – 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Special Holy Week Events: March 28th - 30th
Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service – 6:30 p.m.
Good Friday Special Service – 6:30 p.m.
Please note NEW TIMES for Thursday and Friday services!
Holy Saturday Children's Easter Egg Hunt – 9:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday ~ March 31st
Special Music, Confirmation, and Preaching
8:30, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.