

Northern Hills Network

January-March 2020

Chain of Sharing

"Return home and tell how much God has done for you. So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him." Luke 8:39

The Scripture above is one of my favorite statements of Jesus. This comes from part of the story of salvation about a demon-possessed person. Jesus did not waste a second as soon as he saw him. Jesus wanted him to be free, to be healed, and to be able to reintegrate himself back into the community. What comes after is a testament of compassion from Jesus. He uses his authority to bring healing and freedom to the man. If I was he, I would probably have liked to do exactly what this man wanted after he was healed: follow Jesus. However, Jesus told him something very specific, "Return home and tell how much God has done for you," and he did.

Sharing our story about Jesus has a powerful result for our lives and for the lives of others. Can you imagine the many people that this man touched through his witness? Maybe you and I are here because somehow a person who listened to that man shared about Jesus; as a result the chain of sharing has gone all the way until 2020 in San Antonio, Texas.

So what is your story? What can we share with the world about "how much God has done for us?"

My story is about the power of answered prayers from the Lord:

My Mom prayed at age 5 saying "Jesus I want to find you," and when she was 53, she was able to receive Jesus as her Lord and Savior. This relationship is sustaining her now in the midst of challenging times.

When I was 6 years old, I had my first communion as a Roman Catholic member. I told the Lord, "I want you to be my friend, and I want to know you better." Since then, He has conquered my heart with His love, and His grace is always present in my life with the evidence of my abundant mistakes and weaknesses.

My Dad said a prayer that he never changed and that he prayed before every meal: *Lord bless the food that we are going to eat. May it nurture us to continue in your service until the end of our days. Amen.* This was the reality of his life, to serve the Lord ... until the last day of his life.

"Give us our daily bread" is a real statement in my life, especially in my younger years. Food and other resources were limited. However, we learned that all that we had, which was not a lot, came from the Lord. We learned that He is the provider and that tithing was not my gift to God but the way in which to remember that God is the one who provides for us.

So, what is your story? I hope you will email me:

LupinaS@nhumc.org or send me a YouTube video about your story. You can also choose to write me a letter about your story so that I can learn more about you. I will have a "story and prayer sharing" box outside my office where you can drop it off. I look forward to learning more about each of you.

I hope and pray that God can use both your story and mine. I hope that through our stories, God will tell us to "return home" and share our experiences with Him with our co-workers, schools, neighbors, etc... so that they can also experience the love of Christ.

May 2020 be the year for us to receive from the Lord His love and grace. May we all be fulfilled through His love. May we all be empowered to *return home and tell how much God has done for you.*

Your Pastora Amiga,
Lupina Stewart

Calendar

January

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 6 Church office resumes regular hours
- 8 W.O.W. Winter Kick-Off, Dinner - 5:30 p.m., Movie - 6:15 p.m.
- 14 UMW Circle of Love, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., B1
UMW Hope Circle, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., B4
- 15 W.O.W. Worship, Bibles Studies/Classes, Youth and Children's activities begin
- 17 All Youth Winter Retreat (through January 20)
- 21 UMW Faith Circle, 10:00 a.m. - noon, B1
- 25 Lone Star to Lone Star Trivia Night and Chili Cookoff, 6:00 p.m., in the Worship Center
- 26 NHUMC ACTION "A" Ask & Acquire class, 12:15 - 1:45 p.m., B1 & B2
- 27 ESL Class at the Ministry Center begins, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 29 ESL Class at Steubing Ranch and Stahl ES begins, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
- 30 ESL Class at NHUMC begins, 9:15-10:45 a.m.

February

- 2 Super Bowl Sunday—Care Bags
Join the NHUMC Team Sunday
- 8 Family Day of Service, Children's Ministry, 9:00 a.m.
- 11 UMW Circle of Love, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., B1
UMW Hope Circle, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., B4
- 14 Mexico Mission Trip for High School Students (through February 17)
- 18 UMW Faith Circle, 11:00 a.m. - noon, B1
- 23 NHUMC Action "C" Commit & Connect, 12:15 - 1:45 p.m., B1
- 24 Day School Open Registration, 9:00-11:00 p.m., Gathering Area
- 26 Ash Wednesday
"Ashes to Go" at the Ministry Center, 5:30 a.m.
"Ashes on the Go" in the Gathering Area, 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
- 29 UMW "Let's Celebrate" Leap Year Event, 6:00 p.m., in the Worship Center

March

- 6 World Day of Prayer
- 8 Daylight Savings Time
Team World Vision Marathon
- 8 Spring Break , no Wednesday night activities (through March 14)
- 10 UMW Circle of Love, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., B1
UMW Hope Circle, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., B4
- 17 UMW Faith Circle, 10:00 a.m. - noon, B1
New Life Emmaus Gathering, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., Sanctuary and Gathering Area
- 20 Lenten Study begins, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Day School Pasties for Parents program, 9:00 a.m., in the Worship Center
Youth Leadership Training, (through March 29)
BUNCO, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Wesley Annex

Attendance

These figures include Wednesday
and Sunday worship services.

September:	October:	November:
9/1: 731	10/6: 822	11/3: 850
9/8: 928	10/13: 732	11/10: 775
9/15: 851	10/20: 753	11/17: 750
9/22: 784	10/27: 720	11/24: 754
9/29: 781		



Ministries

The Moving On Group

The Moving On Group is a Christian fellowship group for widows and widowers. We meet monthly for food and fellowship. We'd love for you to join us! Contact Maxine at 210.451.9162 or maxinewebber@att.net.

January 18: Bourbon Street
February 15: Salsalitos Cantina
March 21: Delicious Gardens



The Moving on Group enjoying their Christmas luncheon at Chili's.

Rambunctious Retirees

We meet every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch followed by Mexican Train Dominos in the Wesley Annex.

United Methodist Women

Our Circles groups have plans for next year.

Circle of Love meets the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m., in B1. We will be studying the teachings of Billy Graham. Contact Diana Poerner at 830-980-6053 for more information.

Hope Circle meets the second Tuesday of each month from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in B4. Join us for an evening of fellowship, working with our hands (Proverbs 21:13), and gathering with other sisters in Christ. Contact Angela Sparks at 210-215-3555 for more information.

Faith Circle meets the third Tuesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. - noon, in B1. Contact Donna Roeder at 830-980-5108 for more information.

Save the Date

February 29 - Let's Celebrate Leap Year Event
March 27 - Bunco

All the ladies of the church are invited to join Northern Hills United Methodist Women. Come join in the fun and fellowship in 2020. Look for details on upcoming events soon.

Our Fun, Food & Follies was a sold-out event this year. Our congregation has some very talented people and we were privileged to enjoy their entertainment. Your continued support allows us to provide funds to local and national missions. Thank you.



UMW enjoyed a tour of Morgan's Wonderland.

W.O.W.

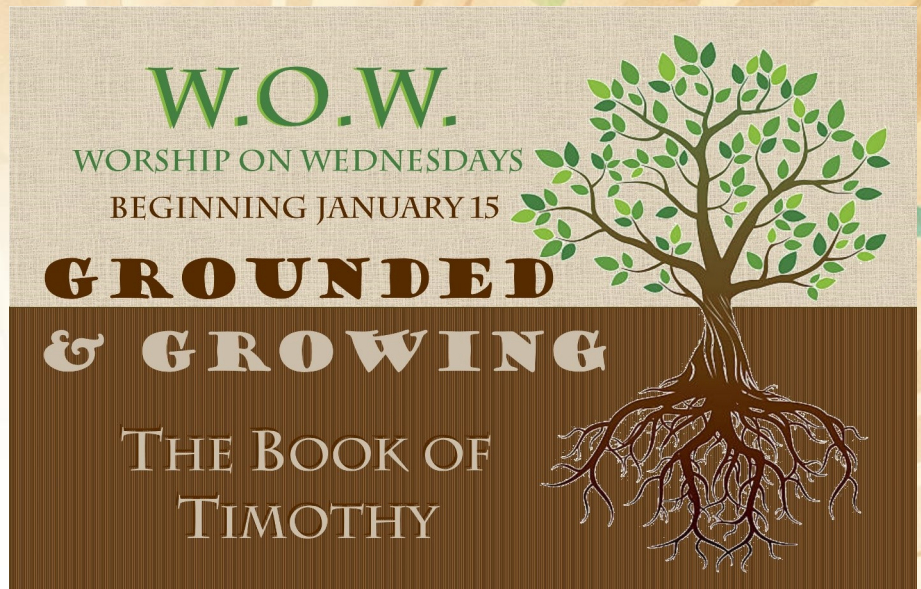
Worship on Wednesday

Begins
January 15

5:30 p.m.- Fellowship in the
Gathering Area

6:15 p.m. - Communion Service
in the Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. - Bible Studies/Classes



Other Ministries/Activities

6:15-8:00 p.m. Childcare is available for Infants to 5 years

6:15-6:50 p.m. Welcome and Worship (for K-5th grade)

6:30-8:00 p.m. Youth Group

7:00-8:00 p.m. Bible Adventure Time (1st-3rd grader)

7:00-8:00 p.m. Submerge (4th & 5th grade)

7:00 p.m. Traditional Choir practice

Bible Studies/Classes

Monday Study

Precept Bible Study: The Book of Acts (beginning January 27, 9:30-11:30 a.m.)

Wednesday afternoon class

Devo & Dance Exercise Class (beginning January 15, 1:00-2:00 p.m., in the Worship Center)

Wednesday evening studies

Beginning January 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Women's Class
Citizenship Class
Creation Care and Climate Change
Men's Class

Simple Gospel Prayer Training
The Book of First Peter
Youth Parent's Group

Pastor Patrick's Page



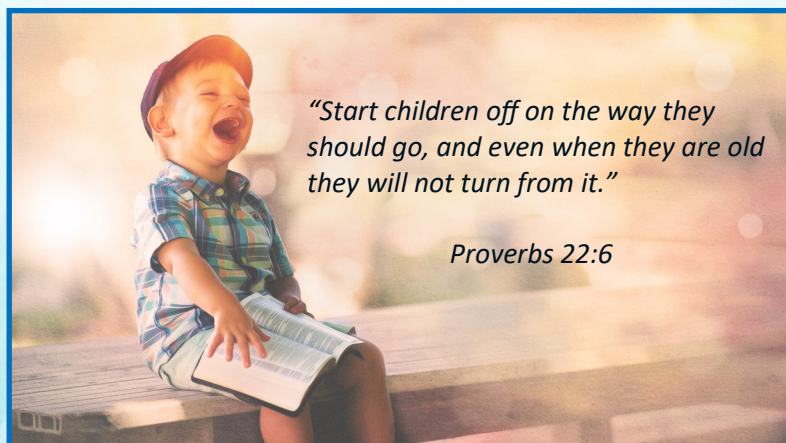
A few members have asked me about my doctoral program. Three years ago, I graduated with my Doctorate of Ministry from Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Missouri. My focus was church leadership. I chose to study leadership inside the church, because I believe that leadership is one way in which the church can become healthier. My focus for my dissertation was on the leadership of parents and children to each other while working through a Bible study together. From five years of study that my two years of dissertation work, one truth that I discovered is, intergenerational ministry is a key component of the church.

I will not bore you with the details of my dissertation (even I find it a little tedious), but I will tell you this: I believe the family is a key way that the gospel moves. Moreover, I believe the family itself is patterned after God. In God, we have God the father, God the son, and God the Holy Spirit. Father of course takes on the fatherly role: the rule maker, the rule enforcers, the benign loving dictator. Jesus takes on the role of the son or the children: being born an innocent child, growing in the areas of life, and fulfilling his calling in favor with God's favor with man. I believe the Holy Spirit takes on the role of the mother: the keeper, the advisor, the one who takes care of the needs. Please do not see these descriptions of traditional family roles as a mandate, but merely an explanation. My nuclear family does not fall into these strict roles; Stephanie makes most of the rules in our home.

Because of this knowledge and belief in family ministry, I value intergenerational ministry. One of my favorite things to see on Sunday morning is a family sitting together, worshiping together, and praying together. It means something to me that children and their parents are learning the same thing at the same time. It's the perfect place and time to model to each other. I believe so many intangibles and unmeasurable are communicated by just worshiping and serving the Lord together.

One of the reasons I value Northern Hills is that it values family. It's a place that values teaching the ways of Jesus. This includes fathers, mothers and grandparents teaching children and teens their spiritual heritage.

Blessings,
Pastor Patrick



Ministry Center

Jesus replied, "My Father is still working, and I am working too."

John 5:17

"Y'all saved my life" said a young man who was sitting in the lobby of the Ministry Center. I had seen him many times before, while he was waiting for his bus in the afternoons. We would greet him, and he was always polite but not very talkative. Every now and then he would ask if we had a snack bag available.

So, when he said "Y'all saved my life," it caught me by surprise. He went on to say: "Don't you remember? Y'all called EMS for me when I was in a very bad place. I was really sick and y'all made sure they got me to the hospital." At that moment, I remembered that in June a homeless young man, who occasionally came for a snack bag, stumbled into the Ministry Center. He was very ill, and we decided to call EMS.

When the paramedics arrived, there was some hesitation on whether he should go to the hospital or not. We insisted that he be taken, and we later learned from others that his condition was serious enough to warrant a longer stay. I realized that this was the same young man, but he had changed so much that I did not recognize him.

He said, "Pastor I have been clean for 6 months, I have a job and I'm getting a car soon. My life is back on track and thank y'all for saving my life." We praised God for his new life and brighter future. As I thought about this young man and the timing of our conversation, I don't think it was a coincidence that he chose to remind us of his experience on our first day of 2020.

Most of the time we will never know what kind of impact our ministries have on others, but occasionally God gives us a snapshot that can be shared. When this young man used the word y'all, it resonated with me. To him, y'all means all of us, y'all means our church, and y'all means Christ's disciples.

Y'all are saving lives, not just figuratively, but to this man, y'all literally saved his life. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in the community in so many ways. Our presence in the community is making an impact. Everything you do in service for the Lord makes an impact. Even the small things like providing a snack bag for someone who is hungry is offering hospitality, that can open a door and that can save a life.

Thank you for allowing Christ to work through you!

Blessings
Pastor Abdon



New Members

Welcome To Our Church Family!



HANEEN SABA
JUDE



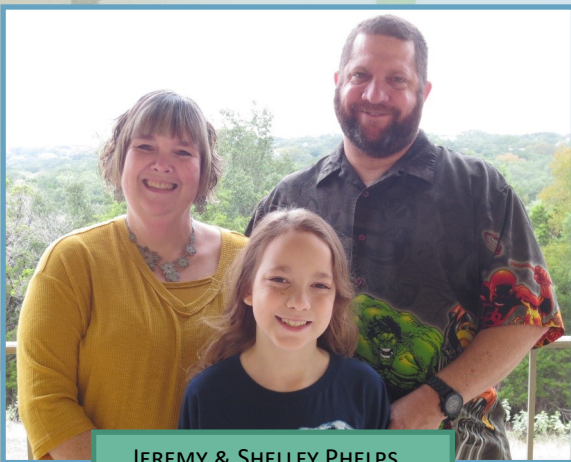
AMBER LANPHIER



DICK & JANIE NASH



PHILIP MARTINEZ &
MEG WOODALL



JEREMY & SHELLEY PHELPS
DAVID



ERIC & TONIA MCGEE
ANNABELLE

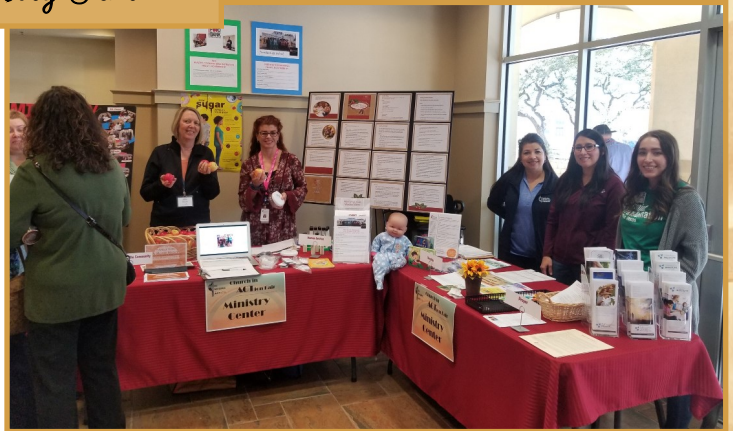
Happenings



Trunk or Treat



NHUMC Ministry Fair



LC Rutledge Homework Help



Children's Christmas Posada

Happenings

NHUMC ACTION Class C Training



Lay Servant Training



Our Leaders



Super Granny Prayer Warriors



3 new American Citizens

*They all went through
Citizenship class at the
Ministry Center*

*United Methodist Men
Fall Retreat*



Children

Wednesday Nights

Resumes January 15

6:15-8:00 p.m.— Infant-5 yrs. Childcare

6:15-7:00 p.m.—K-5th grade—Welcome & Worship

7:00-8:00 p.m.—1st-3rd grade—Bible Studies

7:00-8:00 p.m.—4th & 5th grade—Bible Studies

Ash Wednesday

All families will be encouraged to attend the Ash Wednesday service together on February 26 at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will not be having Welcome and Worship that evening so that we may attend the Ash Wednesday service. Regularly scheduled Bible Study will happen after the service from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Family Day of Service

Saturday, February 8

We will be having our first Family Day of Service. This is a time for families to come together and volunteer out in our community as the Northern Hills UMC Children's Ministry. Details are still coming together for this event, but we are organizing volunteering opportunity with the Northeast Senior Center in the morning, followed by a fun trip to Armadillo Boulders, a bouldering gym in the afternoon. This event is still subject to change, so please keep an eye out for more details coming soon! Sign ups will be available once all details have been solidified.

No W.O.W. over Spring Break

We will not be having W.O.W on Wednesday, March 11, as that is the week of Spring Break. Please take this time to enjoy your families during the break!

DAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Our Day School is preparing for the 2020-2021 school year! Open registration is Monday, February 25, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Please bring your child's shot records, child's doctor and hospital address/phone numbers, plus your \$100 registration fee. Please remember, the line forms early, and spots are limited. For more information or a tour of the school, please contact Jennifer or Nadia at 210-654-8406.



Breakfast with Santa



Children's Christmas Program



Giving Tree

Youth

Core: Love Jesus and love like Jesus - Matthew 22:37-39

We value scripture as the foundation to grow spiritually and build faith.

We value building sincere relationships.

We value Servanthood.

Happy New Year!!!

What a decade 2010's was! Are you ready for a great new year? A new decade? A clean slate?

When you think about this new decade we are stepping in to, we have a lot to get ready for. Did you know that all of the current youth in our program will graduate in this decade? This is the class of 2020, 2021, 2022...you get the point! We take the job of preparing our students for the real world very seriously. The youth program is not just a bunch of fun things we do now, but it is a focus on how to bring these students into a relationship with Christ that lasts through college and adulthood. Our goal is that as these students leave the youth program, they will be encouraged to find a church or a small group and grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ and to love God and others. What an exciting mission to be a part of!



For more information, contact Carly at CarlyP@nhumc.org to join the email announcement list, or follow us on Facebook and Instagram:

Facebook: Northern Hills Youth

Instagram: [northernhillsyouth](#)

[Nhumc_hs](#) (High school)

[Nhumc_ms_youth](#) (Middle School)

[Nhumccc](#) (College/Careers)

Coming Up!

Here's what's coming up this year!

January

- 13 Weekly programming resumes
- 17-20 Winter Retreat
- 25 Trivia Night

February

- 14-17 Mexico Mission Trip, High School (must have a passport)
- 26 Ash Wednesday, all youth participate in Ash Wednesday Service

March

- 14-17 NEISD Spring Break, no youth activities
- 27-29 High School Leadership Retreat, current students in 9-12 grade who are interested in being leaders for Middle School and possible children's camps.

April

- 17-19 Confirmation Retreat

May

- 3 Confirmation Sunday
- 16 Global 6k for water
- 17 Senior Sunday

June

- 6-13 High School Mission Trip to SOS, (Service Over Self) in Memphis, Tennessee. For those currently in grades 9-12
Registrations are out now!
- 28- July 2 City Camp - Middle School Mission Trip. This is for those currently in grades 6-8, and high school helpers serving on work crew.

July

- 6-10 High School Camp Butman - For those currently in grades 8-12
- 7-31 Middle School Camp Eagle, for those currently in grades 5-8 and selected high school leaders

Northern Hills United Methodist Church
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San Antonio, TX 78247

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Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 8: Fellowship, 5:30 p.m. and Communion service in the Sanctuary, 6:15 p.m.

Thursday, April 9: Holy Thursday Communion service in the Sanctuary, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 10: Good Friday in the Sanctuary, 7:30 p.m.

He is Risen

Come, worship the Risen Christ at one of our 5 Easter Sunday services, April 12.

7:00 a.m.	Sunrise Worship Service @ the Ministry Center
8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Sanctuary Choir in the Worship Center
9:45 a.m.	Contemporary Worship in the Worship Center
11:00 a.m.	Blended Worship with Sanctuary Choir and Contemporary Praise Team in the Worship Center
1:00 p.m.	La Roca English/Spanish Communion Service @ the Ministry Center

For more information, please call the church office at 210-654-0881 or www.nhumc.org