

Northern Hills Network

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2019

FAMILY TRADITIONS

"But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

What are some of your family traditions? Do you have "Taco Tuesday" or Saturday "River Walk" walk? Traditions bring to a family a sense of unity and meaning. Through that, it clarifies the identity of that family.

All of us (In Texan: Y'all) are part of an awesome family called "Northern Hills United Methodist Church."

As in any family, we have many great assets, areas of growth, places where we have beautiful memories, moments of grief and seasons of celebrations. We also have our traditions like Backpack Sunday, "Supper" Bowl Sunday, Christmas, Easter, etc. Those traditions bring us back to the uniqueness in our family.

The Scripture above was a moment when Joshua wanted to establish a new and clear tradition that became a statement of faith in the life of his family. He wanted to break the old customs of a family that was known to "go with the flow" and embrace different cultural beliefs. Joshua wanted to be very clear where his family was going: "You can pick whatever you want, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

In this new season of our NHUMC family with new members joining us and getting ready for new adventures together, we want to proclaim first of all, the strongest statement of faith of our family identity: **"As for me and NHUMC family, we will serve the Lord."**

How is that service going to unfold? We will continue in living under the mission of our church that is to Reach others for Jesus, Teach the ways of Jesus and Love the world for which Jesus died, so that God is glorified through His Son."

What are our tactics?

Radical Hospitality – We will have a heart for welcoming people not just inside of the building, but wherever we go. We want to be known as the people who takes the church outside of the building. Matthew 10:40

Love Everyone – Everyone means "all y'all" in the world. No exceptions. No limitations. No exclusions. We all were loved; therefore, we all can love. John 15:12

Challenge Everyone – As family in Christ, we come to this place as imperfect people in need to growth. We pray that NHUMC is a space where each of us can be vulnerable and open to allow the Spirit of God lead us and challenge us to confront areas where we need to mature. Romans 12: 2

Disciple – Jesus invites us to be his witnesses. What do we witness? We witness what we have become through Jesus and how we belong to the body of Christ, the Church. Through that action, we disciple. By telling others what the presence of the Lord has done in our lives, we witness, we disciple. Acts 1:8

What is our prayer?

Our prayer is as a Spanish Christian Song says: "One day at a time my Christ, give me the strength to live, one day at a time" ("Un día a la vez mi Cristo, dame la fuerza para vivir un día a la vez")

May those days with Christ become weeks, then months then years where we see God being glorified among us and the amazing extension of His Kingdom. NHUMC family, We will serve the Lord!

Bendiciones de Dios,
Pastor Lupina

CALENDAR

JULY

- 4 Independence Day/church office closed
- 5 Church office Closed
- 7 Youth City Camp (through 11)
- 9 Kid's Kamp begins
UMW Hope Circle, 6:00 p.m. B1
- 15 Youth Senior Trip at LBJ (through 17)
VBS at the Ministry Center (through 18)
- 16 Birthday Card Ministry, 9:00 a.m., Gathering Area
- 17 W.O.W—Missions—Liberia, 6:15 p.m.
- 21 SonShine Project begins
- 22 Youth High School Camp @ Camp Butman (through 26)
- 24 Family Fun Night at the Ministry Center, 5:30-7:00
- 28 Youth Middle School Camp @ Camp Eagle (through August 1)
- 31 Patrick Jackson & Family Welcome Reception, 5:30 p.m.

AUGUST

- 4 SonShine Project Due
- 7 Pastor Lupina Visioning Reception, 5:30 p.m.
- 10 Back to School Celebration at the Ministry Center, 11:00 a.m.
- 11 Prayers for Teachers
- 13 UMW Circle of Love, noon-2:00 p.m., B1
UMW Hope Circle, 6:00 p.m. B1
- 18 Backpack Blessing and Promotion Sunday
- 19 First Day of NEISD
- 20 Birthday Card Ministry, 9:00 a.m., Gathering Area
UMW Faith Circle, 10:00 a.m.-noon, B1
Network/Program Guide deadline (for October-December)
- 22 Day School "Meet the Teacher" Night, 6:00 p.m.
- 26 First Day For Day School
Women's BTS Brunch, 9:30 a.m., Wesley Annex

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day/church office closed
- 4 W.O.W. Hispanic Heritage Celebration, 5:30 p.m.
- 9 Monday Morning Moms and Precepts Bible Studies begin
- 10 Network Folders, 9:00 a.m., Gathering Area
UMW Circle of Love, noon-2:00 p.m., B1
UMW Hope Circle, 6:00 p.m. B1
Tuesday Night Bible Studies at the Ministry Center
- 11 W.O.W—Fellowship, Worship, Bible Studies and
Children's Activities begins
- 17 Birthday Card Ministry, 9:00 a.m., Gathering Area
UMW Faith Circle, 10:00 a.m.-noon, B1
- 22 Military Ministry Meeting, 12:15-2:15 p.m., B1 & B2
Leader Training for Youth and Children, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Worship Center

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR – PATRICK JACKSON

Patrick and his family are originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma. They have lived in San Antonio for 5 years enjoying the warm winters, summer pool life, and cedar fever.

Patrick has been in Children and Family ministry for 15 years. He is a local pastor in the United Methodist Church and holds a Doctorate in Ministry from Mid-western Seminary. He comes to us from University United Methodist Church here in San Antonio where he was the Family Pastor, Children's Director, and Leadership Coach. Patrick attended Oklahoma State University (Go Pokes!) and Asbury Seminary. Patrick likes quoting movies, participating in Go Rucks, reading, making new recipes for the family, folding laundry, and coaching his kid's latest sports endeavors.



PATRICK, STEPHANIE, PARKER (8) AND AMELIA (6)

Stephanie, is a CPA with a bachelors and masters from University of Arkansas (Woo Pig Sooie!). After work, carpool, and mom-duties, she likes to clear her mind with a long run. Parker enjoys basketball, gymnastics, and all things science. Amelia loves drawing, ballet, and is an aspiring veterinarian. Jack (the dog) spends his days napping and stealing chicken nuggets. In the family's spare time, they love to bake and eat cookies from scratch, take family bike rides, enjoy new eclectic cuisines around town, and have impromptu dance parties.

Patrick and his family are excited to join the families of Northern Hills in July.

ATTENDANCE:

These figures include Wednesday and Sunday worship services.

March	April	May
3/3: 805	4/7: 644	5/5: 1036
3/10: 812	4/14: 845	5/12: 817
3/17: 842	Holy Week/	5/19: 794
3/24: 852	Easter: 1631	5/26: 705
3/31: 815	4/28: 890	

DOLLARS OF HOPE THANK YOU

I want to thank your Dollars of Hope program for the gift that I received. It was extremely helpful, and I am very grateful and appreciative of such a generous gift!
Thank you and God Bless!

Sincerely, Lois

ADULT CHOIR

The Sanctuary Choir will be back in action September 4th! Join us for practice, Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This is a great chance to share your gift of music. We will have a fun time of fellowship, singing, and growing closer together as we join our voices in song!



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.

July: Burbon Street
August: Salsalitos Cantina
September: Delicious Gardens

W.O.W. - WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11

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

6:15-7:00 p.m. Wacky Wednesday (for K-5th grade)

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

7:00-8:00 p.m. Godly Play (1st-3rd grader)

7:00-8:00 p.m. Bible Activity Time (4th & 5th grade)

7:00 p.m. Traditional Choir practice

BIBLE STUDIES/CLASSES

More information coming on these
Bible studies/classes coming mid-summer.
Check the website, www.nhumc.org

**Beginning on September 10
At the Ministry Center Campus**

Tuesday Bible Study
Guitar Class

**Beginning on September 11
At the 1604 campus**

Citizenship Class
Teen Parenting Class
Marriage Class
Women's Study
Men's Study
NHUMC ACTION Class
Self-Growth Class
Financial Peace
Monday Precept Class
Monday Morning Moms

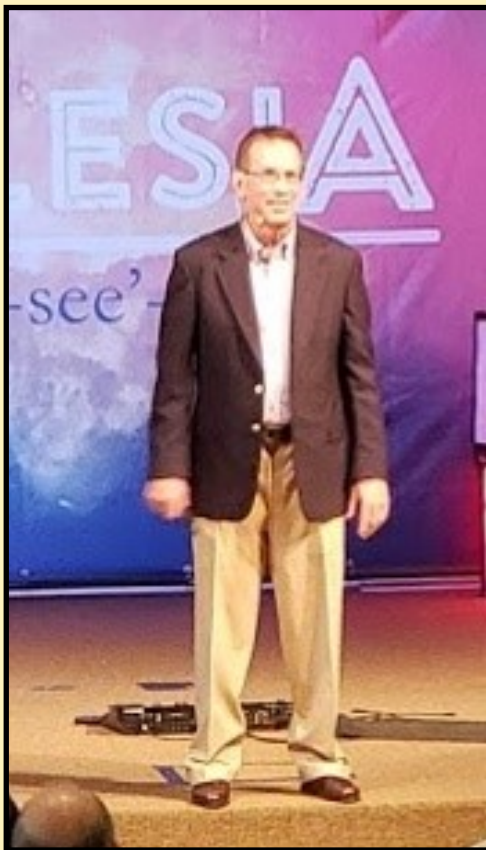


FAREWELL PASTOR MILTON

THE TIME OF MY DEPARTURE HAS COME

When Paul said those words (2 Timothy 4:6), he was referring to his imminent death. He was referring to the end of his life. When I say those words today, I am referring to the end of my career in active ordained ministry and the end of my 30-year run as senior pastor of Northern Hills. This is an emotional time for me. I have deep love for The United Methodist Church and for NHUMC especially. I have been here to baptize babies and later to officiate at their weddings and then to baptize their children. That's a long run. We have been through so many ups and downs together, I wouldn't know where to begin to chronicle them, nor which ones to chronicle. I have much fulfillment, and I have some regrets. That's life. And now that the time of my departure has come, I plan to continue living fully and to embrace fully this new season known as "retirement."

A retired pastor's advice was, "Now you go from being an ordained minister to being a disciple." I get that. I am still ordained, and I may yet perform some of the functions of the ordained, but my primary identity now is not that of pastor but that of disciple. Now I ask myself, "What does it mean to follow?" "What is Jesus teaching me?" "Where and to whom is Jesus leading me?" Of course, I've always asked myself those questions but with application to my position as a pastor and spiritual leader. Now I ask them as an ordinary person, an ordinary follower, and I am eager to discern the answers.



John Fehlauer said that in his retirement he was determined to do three things: (1) have fun; (2) give back; and (3) learn/do something new. Thank you, John. That's going to be my framework, and I plan to do all three! Trips, people, and more cycling are in my immediate future. Sallie and I will continue a pledge to NHUMC. We believe deeply in our common ministry and will support NHUMC to the best of our ability. I will be alert to new opportunities to learn and to serve, opportunities of which I'm already catching glimpses. I pray for continued good health, and I promise God to be thankful for it and to use it for good as long as I have it. When the season of diminishing health arrives, I'll still look for ways I can serve and give even as my "jar of clay" begins to chip and crack.

What a tremendous congregation you are! Thank you for your support through the years. Thank you for following my lead, for your bold faith, and for bearing with me, and lovingly correcting me when I fell short. I don't know the exact nature of our relationship going forward, but I do know – to borrow another line from Paul – I will "thank God for every remembrance of you, for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

(Philippians 1:3-4)

Grace and Peace,
Milton Lewis

MINISTRY CENTER

SUMMER IS HERE!

A time for fun, travel and activities for most of us. While many churches take a break from activities during this season, this is a very busy time at the Ministry Center, as we host Project Transformation (P.T.) for a third year. This reading-focused summer camp provides a variety of fun and educational activities to children from lower-income families in our community.

By the time this article is published, P.T. will be in full swing. Our P.T. interns will be mentoring the 75 plus children enrolled in the program. Our first "Family Fun Night" will have been planned and ready to go. Volunteers will have already started reading with the children, and our "Welcome Team" will have been providing hospitality to the P.T. families.

Our volunteers find that serving in this program is especially rewarding because they have a direct and positive impact on the children of our community. Last year, 97% of the children who were enrolled in P.T. increased or maintained their reading level (up from 93% the previous year). This program works and has a long and lasting impact on our children's lives.



Last year I provided the following statistics from San Antonio Youth Literacy, and it is worth sharing again:

- *Research shows that young children who are not fluent readers by the end of 3rd grade may never catch up with their peers.*
- *1 in 6 children who are not reading proficiently in 3rd grade do not graduate from high school on time. That is a rate that is 4 times greater than that of proficient readers.*
- *In San Antonio, every 4 minutes a student drops out.*
- *40% of Bexar county inmates do not have a high school diploma.*
- *68% of people who are arrested for all crimes in the U.S. are illiterate.*

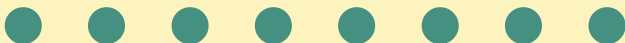
These alarming statistics remind us of how important it is to focus on helping our children to read well.

That is why we provide and support programs that encourage literacy for children and adults. In addition to Project Transformation, we have an after-school program at the Ministry Center and a homework-help program at local apartment complexes. We support the "Reading Buddy" programs at local elementary schools and provide English as a Second Language classes throughout the community.

I encourage you to consider volunteering for one of these literacy programs. It will be one of the most rewarding activities you will experience this year.

You can learn more about PT, as well as our other literacy programs, by contacting us at MinistryCenter@nhumc.org

Blessings,
Pastor Abdon



MINISTRY CENTER

PROJECT TRANSFORMATION — June 12-August 1

FAMILY FUN NIGHT 1 — Wednesday, June 26, 5:30—7:00 p.m.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT THE MINISTRY CENTER — July 15-18

FAMILY FUN NIGHT 2 — Wednesday, July 24, 5:30—7:00 p.m.

BACK TO SCHOOL CELEBRATION — Saturday, August 10, 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Look for more information about these events at a later date.

If you would like information on how to volunteer at the Ministry Center:

Visit the Northern Hills UMC website at www.nhumc.org

Call us at: 210.236.6810 or

Email us at: MinistryCenter@nhumc.org



MINISTRY AND MORE

COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

Northern Hills recently established its Council on Ministries, providing a forum for the leaders of our church's ministries to get together periodically. The Council's purpose is to improve the efficiency, collaboration, communication, and synergy of our ministries and, more importantly, to get the word out to you about service opportunities within the church.

We are each commissioned to "...go and make disciples of all nations..." Through its 45 ministries, Northern Hills provides many opportunities for you to plug in to serve our community. For now, you can learn about these ministries through the quarterly "Network" newsletter or through the "Program Guide," both available, hard-copy at the church and on-line at nhumc.org. The "Connect," "Serve," and "Care" links on the website provide additional information about our ministries.

Look for new ways to learn about and participate in our church's ministries in the not-too-distant future. For example, we are working on an enhanced Program Guide and updating the website to provide you with detailed information about each ministry and how you can get involved. We are also planning a Ministry Fair on World Communion Sunday, October 6, when each ministry will be represented, giving you a chance to connect face-to-face with the people in ministry areas to which you may be called.

We look forward to serving you, so you can serve and glorify God!

MILITARY MINISTRY

As good neighbors in Military City U.S.A., Northern Hills has an opportunity, maybe even an obligation, to serve the military families who serve us. That's the mission of the Military Ministry.

If you're a military family new to Northern Hills, please contact us so we can welcome you and help you get settled in. If you're a military family that's been with Northern Hills a while, we're here for you, too. Let us know how we can serve you.

The Military Ministry will be teaming up with one of the many veteran service organizations in San Antonio to find ways to serve veterans around the city. Watch for your opportunity to sign up for this service project soon.

FLAMINGO FUN



NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY!



JIM & CAROL CALDWELL



DAN & CONNIE SCHLIMGEN



MIKE & MICHEL ELDER



CLIFF & JESSICA WILLIAMSON
CLIFTON & GG



PATRICK & AMANDA JASTER
CADE



RYAN & DRISTIN CHANDLEE
DYLAN & LEAH

2019 CONFIRMANDS

Drew Harris, Sydney Lloyd, Josh Said,
Sterling Sparks, Pedro Stewart
and Ellie Waters



CHILDREN

VBS @ THE MINISTRY CENTER

VBS at the Ministry Center is July 15-18. Come with us as we bring Vacation Bible School to the children attending Project Transformation. To volunteer, please contact Katherine at 210.654.0881.

KIDS KAMP: JULY 9-AUGUST 8

Kids Kamp is for children age 12 months through those that have just completed kindergarten. The program runs Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. We provide fun, activities and snack, you provide lunch. Registration is on-going. The registration fee is \$50 (due at registration), and tuition is \$500 (due July 9). Print registration forms online at www.nhumc.org, or stop by the Children's office. Contact Jennifer Baier at 210.654.8406 for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION-AUGUST 18

New Kindergarteners:
Room 8 in Children's hall
New 1st-3rd graders:
Room 10 in Children's hall
New 4th-5th graders:
Children's Annex 1 & 2

THE SONSHINE PROJECT

Each year we provide opportunities for NHUMC to help supply the on going needs of our friends from the Ministry Center. Visit the gathering area beginning July 21, take a request tag from the gathering area and bring the items back (unwrapped) by August 1. Send a child to school with all the "supplies" to succeed!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT HAPPENINGS!

Resumes September 11

Kinder—5th grade
6:15-7:15 p.m. Wacky Wednesday
7:15-8:00 p.m. Godly Play (Kinder-3rd grade)
7:15-8:00 p.m. Bible Activity Time (4th-5th grade)
Childcare provided until 8:00 p.m.

Wacky Wednesday will be a fun, active, faith and fellowship hour for our kids to unwind, be creative and enjoy each other's company. Our activities will change each week, and fun is guaranteed.

BACKPACK BLESSING AUGUST 18

We want to send our kids—preschoolers, elementary, middle and high school—back to school with a special blessing. Bring your children with their backpacks to worship at 8:30, 9:45 or 11:00 a.m. for a blessing of the backpacks. They will be dismissed to Sunday School afterward.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 10 - Kids Kamp begins
July 21 - SonShine Project begins
July 15-18 - VBS Ministry Center
August 4 - SonShine Project due
August 18 - Backpack Blessing & Promotion Sunday
August 19 - First Day of NEISD
August 22 - Day School Open House
August 26 - First Day of School for Day School
September 11 - Wednesday Nights begin

BE BLESSED, BE A BLESSING, BE A SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEER

This fall we have an opportunity for you to share God's love with our 1st through 5th graders on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. We do all of the preparation, you come, have fun, learn with the kids; play games, watch skits and share God's love with our children. Contact Katherine Reed at 210.654.0881, if you are interested or have any questions.

YOUTH

FROM THE LONESTAR TO THE LONESTAR

The Liberia Team would like to thank you for all of your support as we went to Gbarnga Liberia to partner with T Gray Methodist School. We are excited to share with you about our experience. Please join us on July 17 for our Liberia report and worship.

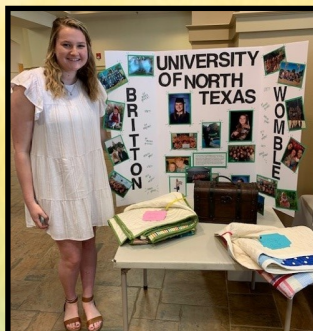


IN SEPTEMBER

Basketball and small groups will begin on Tuesday September 10, 6-8:30pm.

Middle School and High School youth groups will begin meeting Wednesday September 11, 6:30-8:00.

CONGRATS SENIORS!



ARE YOU READY FOR AN INCREDIBLE SUMMER?

JULY 7-11 - 100 students will be taking over the 1604 Northern Hills Campus for City Camp! We have Bandera UMC, Seadrift UMC, and St Lukes UMC joining us for a week of worship and service! Please keep this incredible crew in your prayers as they serve all around the San Antonio and Bandera communities.

JULY 22-26 - The High School is heading off to Camp Butman in Merkel Texas! We will be studying Shalom. Throughout Scripture, the word Shalom, or peace, is used to refer to a state of well-being or tranquility. This peace is a blessing, an expression of divine grace. We will spend the week in a balance of relaxation and play as we find what it means to have Shalom in our world and in our lives.

JULY 28-AUGUST 1 - The Middle School will be attending Camp Eagle. We'll spend the week in the great outdoors, hiking, swimming, and team building in a variety of high ropes and low ropes elements. The theme this year is "Encore," Love God, Love Others, Repeat.

The youth will be taking the month of August off as students return to sports, band, school, and other activities. We will meet back on September 4 for Hispanic Heritage night.

We are looking for volunteers to help at both our Middle School and High School groups, as well as in our small groups. If you are interested in helping, please contact Carly at carlyp@nhumc.org.



Northern Hills United Methodist Church
3703 N Loop 1604 E
San Antonio, TX 78247

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
San Antonio, TX
Permit No. 3316

English

as a

Second Language



ESL classes offered this Fall through
Northern Hills UMC:

At The Ministry Center

(4306 Naco Pass, 78217)

Mondays, Sep 30—Nov 18, 6:30—8:00 p.m.

At Stahl Elementary

(5222 Stahl Road, 78247)

Wednesdays, Oct 1—Nov 20, 9:30—11:00 a.m.

and Steubing Ranch Elementary

Wednesdays, Oct 1—Nov 20, 9:30—11:00 a.m.

(5100 Knoll Creek Dr., 78247)

At NHUMC

(3703 N Loop 1604 East, 78247)

Thursdays, Oct 2—Nov 21, 9:15—10:45 a.m.

For more information or to register:
www.nhumc.org or ESL@nhumc.org