

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BANDERA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

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"...believe me that angels hand is there; the gift is there..."

I find myself at a loss and coherent thought seems to have disappeared like a vapor. And the earth shakes and the hurricanes keep spinning. Terrorists terrorize and our leaders disagree disagreeably! When all things seem bleak I turn to these words that I found going through my Mom's old Christmas cards years ago and I have it pinned to my wall of inspiration. Beautiful words originally composed in 1513 as a Christmas Eve letter; I first read them as poetry and so I pass them on to you in the same manner.

So keep them close to your heart and they will bring you joy.

There is nothing I can give you which you have not; But there is much, that while I cannot give it, you can take.

No heaven can come to us unless our hearts find rest in today. Take heaven!

No peace lies in the future which is not hidden In this present instant. Take peace!

The gloom of the world is but a shadow. Behind it, yet within reach, is joy. There is a radiance and glory in the darkness, could we but see, and to see we have only to look. I beseech you to look.

Life is so generous a giver, but we, judging it's gifts by

their covering, cast them away as ugly, or a heavy or hard. Remove the covering, and you will find beneath it a living splendor, woven by love, by wisdom, with power.

Welcome it, grasp it, and you will touch the angels hand that brings it to you. Everything we call a trial or a sorrow, or a duty, believe me that angels hand is there; the gift is there, and the wonder of an overshadowing presence. Our joys too: be not content with them as joys. They too, conceal diviner gifts.

And so, at this time, I greet you. Not quite as the world sends greetings, but with profound esteem and with the prayer that for you now and forever, the day breaks, and the shadows fly away.

Fra Giovanni Giocondo, Franciscan friar, Renaissance pioneer, archeologist and classical scholar and Elizabeth, many hands one heart

Elizabeth Scott

United Methodist Women



UMW will gather Thursday October 12 in the fellowship hall at 9:30 for refreshments, mission news and fellowship. Jesse Parks from Helping Hands will be the speaker as Helping Hands is a local mission that BUMC supports. The service project will be bringing wash clothes and soap for Helping Hands. The washcloths can be gently used and the small bars of soap such as hotels use are fine. If you can't attend but would like to donate cloths and soap please take them to the church office before October 12th.

All women are welcome and invited to bring a friend to enjoy a time of Christian fellowship, learning, and serving.

At the September meeting the ladies prepared welcome bags to give to worship service visitors.

For more information, call Carol Wolf (210-381-3002)

Figure 1 United Methodist Women preparing welcome bags

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

4th Jeanine Donahoo 4th Lily Davis 5th Catherine Gauldin 5th Amanda Word 12th Esther Everett 12th Wayne Cameron 12th Kinlee Lawlis 18th Nancy Langford 18th Duane Taylor

20th Kayla White

20th John David Kassai

21st Sam Bell

25th Phil Jeffery

25th Alex Espinosa 28th Russell Zickler

28th Jared Cook

13th Geoffrey Zickler	29th Ruth Juren	
14th Lorri Cargill	30th Baylee Parks	
14th Dalton Parks	30th Carol Gelsone	
16th Don Davenport	30th Larry Henson	
17th Waylon Dale Bailey	i i	
18th Mona Lawrence		

Helping Hand

Helping Hand has been able to help many families affected by Hurricane Harvey. At least 20 individuals have been helped and 3 truckloads of food, household items, diapers, and other various needs were delivered to the coastal area. At Lowe's grocery store, Helping Hand has a donation box and those items will be used for disaster relief.

In August, Helping Hand helped 325 individuals, 182 families, and 45 new families. Monetary value we gave away through August: Food \$95,050; Clothes \$28,250; Household Items \$23,000; Toiletries \$8,000; Furniture \$21,000; All totaling \$175,800 helping those in need in Bandera County.

October special food items will once again be **dry beans and rice**. We all know these items cooked and used at the same time make for a complete protein meal, and they go so far in meal planning.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, October 12, as Jesse Parks, Director of Helping Hand, will be speaking to United Methodist Women at our meeting. It starts at 9:30 and she be sharing a lot of info with our UMW. Try to join us.

Thank you so much for supporting Helping Hand in so many ways as we continue to try to assist the needy of Bandera County.



Stephen Ministry: "Christ Caring for People through People"

The goal of Stephen Ministry is to help those in need. Beginning this past month, Stephen Ministers began a new program of taking communion out to those who are not able to come to church because of illness or other concerns. This is a great service to include those who are either permanently or temporarily homebound to include everyone in the fellowship of our church.

The Stephen Ministry program is currently conducting a class to train new members and has 3 new Stephen Ministers in training. They are Debbie Chastain, Marilyn Argo and Lisa Warden.

For more information, please contact Roberta Himebrook at 830-460-0242



