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# COLLEGE MOUND GAZETTE

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“meeting the spiritual needs of the future while preserving the traditions of the past”

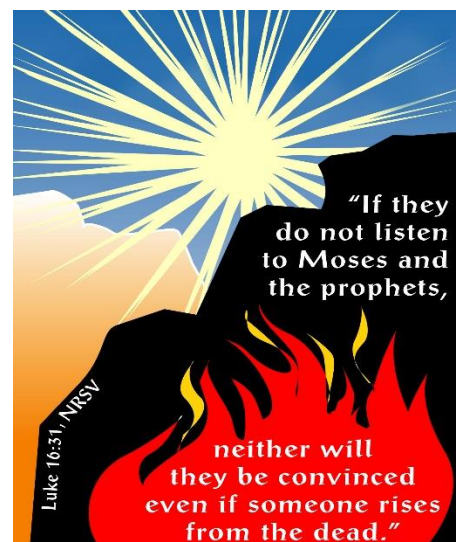
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## *Prayers & Joys*

Our nation, our leaders, our troops, our law enforcement officers, and relationships during these challenging times, for the Healthy Church Initiative (HCI), folks traveling, those impacted by flooding, Joy that the UMW East District meeting went very well on Saturday, Family and Friends of Dawn Puckett, Diana Ferguson (Will be going home to receive home healthcare), Lem Pierce, Kathy Boltin, John Rounsavall, Bill Russell and Family, Marilyn Cowen and Family, Vickie’s neighbor Julie Dubois (stage 4 cancer), Kasey King, Jan and Tom Williams, Chase and Destiny Arredondo, Phil Allen, John and Robyn Savage, Pat Curran, Dotty Burton, -Fay Lumley, Colt Powell, Maxine Tankersley, Mike Jungjohann, Pam Hogan’s mother passed away

## **This Week at College Mound Sept. 29-Oct. 5, 2019**

- ☞ **Game Night:**  
Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- ☞ **United Methodist Women:**  
Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- ☞ **Bible Study:**  
Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12 noon and 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- ☞ **Supper Club:**  
Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. at a restaurant TBD
- ☞ **Birthdays and Anniversaries:**  
Wes & Sammye Gentry – Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>



Last Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

Attendance in Sunday School: 30

Attendance in church: 62



Scripture: Luke 16:1-13 Jesus tells the parable of the unfaithful servant.

Sermon: "Identifying the Real Crisis"

This parable tells of a rich man who discovered his servant had squandered his money. But the rich man commended the servant for being shrewd to his earthly friends. Jesus is telling us that what we do on earth should be in preparation for our heavenly home. The real crisis, according to Jesus, is when sin separates us from God.

## AUCTION UPDATE

Countdown to Auction: 6 weeks

Distinct Donors: 15

Donated items: 88

Tickets are now available from Kathy Boltin. Grab a bunch and sell them around town! And send your items list to [becca10000@aol.com](mailto:becca10000@aol.com) as soon as you can.

Ladies of the church, please note that the United Methodist Women will be meeting **this week** on Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited to attend!



Here's a unique item that will be in the Lord's Acre Auction. It's a framed antique punched paper embroidery of the Ten Commandments, donated by Thelda Flanery. Beautiful!

Mark your calendars for October 12<sup>th</sup>! We will be having a church workday to clean up and around the Pavilion, in advance of our Lord's Acre Auction. Come out if you can, starting at 9 a.m.

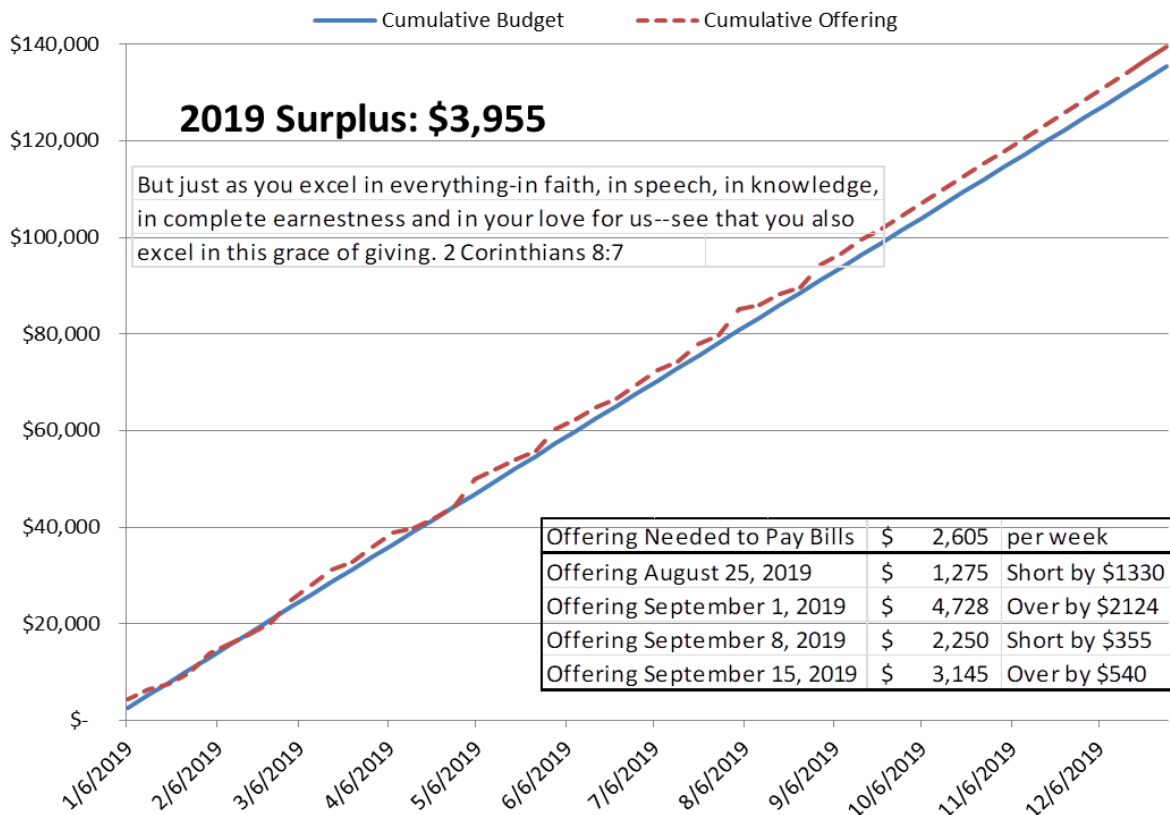


Don't let anyone be the cause why you leave

# CHURCH

They are not the reason why you go to church in the first place.

## Church Budget at 9/15/19



Would you like to see world class golfers up close and personal? They will be in our neck of the woods this week. This is the LPGA Volunteers of America Classic at Old American Golf Club in The Colony (web site is [www.voaclassic.com](http://www.voaclassic.com)). Single day passes are \$15. Crowds are usually smaller than the men's tournaments, so you would be able to follow a favorite golfer for the whole round or pick a place to watch and be at the rope the entire time. These ladies are very interactive with the patrons that have come to watch. Some of the concession stands will be gathered into one big tailgate party next to the Old American Clubhouse. Woody Bishop will be a Hole Marshal Captain on the fairway and green just behind the Old American Clubhouse.

Me on my way to talk to God



Me coming back after talking to God



## HCI Update Part One

Over the next few weeks, I will be giving you an update on the Healthy Church Initiative (HCI).

There are three phases in the initial HCI process. Ten congregants participated in Phase 1 which began in January and concluded in May of 2018. Phase I was primarily a learning phase about the HCI process and its goals. From June through September of 2018, CMUMC completed Phase II of the HCI, which was a data gathering phase involving the entire congregation. We approved the prescriptions that were presented to us in September of 2018. Phase III began in 2019 and will continue in 2020 and beyond.

As I indicated from the very beginning, HCI is no silver bullet that will magically fix everything in a short two-year time span. If it were that simple every church would do it. HCI is a long-term process to bring about transformation and church renewal.

The first prescription we received was to develop a Vision Statement. The Vision Statement describes what we're all about. Here is our Vision Statement:

### ***“Connecting the Community with the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ”***

So how do we do that? It begins inside the church. We cannot reach people with the transforming love of Jesus Christ if we are not being transformed ourselves. I'm a firm believer that solid biblical preaching and Bible study are foundational to transformation and church renewal. During this initial two-year process Bible studies have been well attended. The Wednesday lunchtime and evening Bible study sessions have consistently had 10 people in each session. I ordered 25 books for the most recent session and had to order more because I ran out. Sunday School participation has also been strong during this two year time period. We've seen Sunday School attendance in the 30's and even the low 40's occasionally. These are good positive signs of transformation and renewal.

Nowadays people are more likely to visit a church's social media pages before they visit the church in person. We've improved our social media presence. Sarah King developed and has been maintaining our Facebook Page. We have some 100+ plus people who have liked the page and friends of those 100 people probably see references to College Mound so that helps get the word out. I redesigned our website in 2018. People can now easily see what is going on College Mound UMC. People also have access to the sermons and the Gazette on our website as well. Amber Warner is now helping me maintain the website. We've also recently developed a visitor packet to give to folks who visit the church in person.

We've also reached out to folks in the community. Members of the church have visited the local RV parks to let them know we're down the road. Our hope is to have some type of event there in the future and to see more folks from the nearby RV parks attending church here at College Mound UMC. You'd be surprised how many people have never heard of College Mound UMC and don't know where we're located. Many of you have been using our new church business cards to hand out to people as you're out and about in the community. The business card provides folks with basic information about College Mound UMC and a map on the back so they know exactly where we are located.

In the next installment, I will highlight some additional areas where I see the bearing of fruit.

Blessings,

Pastor Bob