



The Messenger

August 2021

Office Staff

Rev. G. Metzger, Pastor
Loreen Rhodes, Secretary
Mindy Malatek, Pastor's Assistant
Ted Neely, Treasurer
Patsy Schmitt, Custodian

Church Council

Kelly Janak, President
Ross Jaster, Vice President
Emily Latimer, Secretary
Marianne Muehr, Worship
Hugo Richter, Property/PPR
Kristy Janak Janecka, Music
Ryan Schoeneberg,
Youth/Christian Education
Dora Vazquez, Fellowship
Mike Antosh
Missions/Wider Church/
Evangelism/Stewardship
Dickie Muehr, At Large

Volunteers

Deena Richter — Offering Contributions Record Keeper
Ed Hilley — Outside Church Sign Updates
Kenneth & Julia Krizak — Care of & Changing Altar Cloths
Chris & Gretchen Maddux — Keeping Oil in Altar Candles

Organists/Pianists

Karen Beken
Carolyn H. Dahse
Jenny Grohmann
Joan Hunsicker

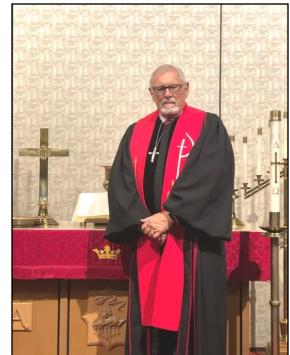
Choir Director
Susan Miculka

Song Leaders
Dickie Muehr
Ross A. Jaster

“Now the Lord said to Abram. ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.’” Genesis 12: 1.

For me, August holds a very special place. The “Call” for each of the churches I served occurred in August. Each new “Call” brought a freshness, an excitement of what might be possible if we trusted more in God’s future than in our past. Each brought a sense of fear about the vast unknown, and self-imposed questioning - “did God really call me to a new community?” This fear is what I imagine Abram felt when God called him to leave all that was familiar and begin anew.

Like Abram, a deep **TRUST** in God is the foundation for any new start. It is this trust which tampered my fears, and gave me the strength to pack up my household; moving to new lands. Through this trust, the church community needed to accept me. What we all know, without **TRUST** the door is closed to lasting, new beginnings.



For many of you, August holds special moments and reasons to stand on God’s **TRUST**. In current times, August is the threshold for a new academic year. Students are physically and emotionally preparing for the post-high school adventure. Overshadowing this fear infused excitement, there are plans for the new living space; the concern of how to not be late for classes; the joy of balancing freedom against responsibility. On the other side of this coin is the trust the parents are placing in their child and the institution. The parents and students are called to trust in their life long preparation for this moment.

As a community of faith, we are invited to continually share in each of these journeys through prayer. I would invite each of you to pray daily for the students, instructors, staff, and the parents.

On a less dramatic stage (but no less significant and stressful) there is the preparation for the opening of the high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools. Backpacks are being filled with required items; new clothes are being purchased; summer hair styles are being refreshed. Because we actively believe in Jesus’ ministry of sharing, we all participate in numerous “fill the bus” venues. In these ever changing times, fears and anticipation are shadowing our state of wonderment.

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As we prepare for the opening of the new academic year, we will bless the backpacks on **Sunday, August 15th, during our worship time.** We invite everyone to bring their backpacks to church on this day. This invitation is extended to teachers, administrators, and support staff - as well as students.

Along with these blessings, we are invited to be in continual prayer for the students and school personnel. I pray that each will feel our loving and supportive prayers as they face the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

For still others, August is the gateway for desperately needed vacations. By design, vacations are moments which allow us to get away and enjoy a few moments of re-creating. Vacations are those times we are allowed to be who we are rather than who others believe we should be. Not only are vacations about this moment in time, they are about the memories which last a life time.

As Karen and I prepare for our August vacation, I know we will find time to refresh, experience new sites, and spend quality grandparent time. Also, I will be able to share some of my youth-filled memories with Karen. Perhaps these memories will re-ignite smiles for many more days.

Love what God sees in you.

Pastor Gerry

Saved from Ourselves

"I do not do what I want," writes the apostle Paul in frustration, "but I do the very thing I hate" (Romans 7:15, ESV). Which of us hasn't felt disappointed in our own actions at some point? For spouting off instead of holding our tongue, turning in a mediocre assignment when we could have done better, turning away from a friend in need because of peer pressure or uncertainty?

Inner conflict is part of human nature. Consider part of William Cowper's poem-prayer "The Contrite Heart":

I sometimes think myself inclined
to love Thee if I could;
but often feel another mind,
averse to all that's good.

My best desires are faint and few,
I fain would strive for more;
but when I cry, "My strength renew!"
seem weaker than before.

So what can we do? "Who will deliver me from this body of death?" cries Paul in verse 24. But then his despair turns into a profound "aha!" moment: None of us can rescue ourselves. We are saved, again and again, by divine love and forgiveness. "Thanks be to God," we declare with Paul in verse 24, "through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

Heading Back to School Blessing of the Backpacks

The time has come when the children will be going back to school following the summer recess. This is a busy time making preparations.

As was done last year, we plan to have a "blessing of the backpacks" during worship on August 15th. Of course, all children need to bring their backpacks with them to church on that Sunday. Pastor Gerry will do the blessing.



Community Food Pantry

Thanks to everyone who has supported our local food pantry. For August, the suggested items are flour or sugar (small bags); however, any non-perishable food items are appreciated. The collection box is in the church foyer. Thanks to Jenny Grohmann for always transporting the collected items to the distribution center at Calvary Baptist Church.

What is Happening at Weimar United Church



August Volunteers

He who will unlock & lock-up the building and adjust the air early each Sunday —

Hugo Richter

Those who will care for the Sirnic Cemetery Plot —

Marianne Muehr & Gretchen Maddux

Thanks to All of you!

Newsletter Editors

Mindy Malatek & Loreen Rhodes

Sermon Titles/Scriptures for August

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| August 1st | Tenth Sunday after Pentecost—
Rev. Gerry Metzger
“Signs”
Psalm 78:21-29, Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15, John 6:24-35 |
| August 10th | Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost—
Rev. Gerry Metzger
“Taught by God”
Psalm 34:1-8, 1 Kings 19:1-8, John 6:35, 41-51 |
| August 15th | Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost—
Rev. Gerry Metzger
“Connection of Life”
Psalm 111, 1 Kings 3:3-14, John 6:51-58 |
| August 22nd | Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost—
Rev. Gerry Metzger
“Stay or Go”
Psalm 84, 1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43, John 6:56-69 |
| August 29th | Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Glen Schoeneberg
TBD |



Weimar United Church has an informative website. If you haven't looked at it, you might want to do so.

For your information, any donations made online can be “designated” for a particular purpose by pressing “donate” and following directions.

www.weimartxucc.com

\$1 for \$1 Offering
Council Stewardship Chairman, Mike Antosh, determined that during August, we will be collecting offerings designated for the Weimar Elementary School. Through your gifts, we will provide statement for the beginning of the new academic year.

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!



Your Evening Circle, at Work & Play

Reminder: The Evening Circle meets the second Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the library. This month we will meet on Tuesday, August 10th. Hostesses for our August meeting are Ava June Vachala and Marianne Muehr. We meet for about an hour and a half for fellowship time, which means delicious food, a brief meeting chaired by Sandy Kainer, and an interesting devotional presented by Julia Krizak.

Some of our recent Evening Circle Activities include: We are in the process of buying a dishwasher and new bathroom faucets for the parsonage. We continue our card ministry by mailing cards to shut-ins, and those we think might enjoy getting a card. We hope you enjoy the recipes we include in the church newsletters.

Elderfest will be on the third Wednesday of August, not Thursday. (*Changed for only this month.*) This will be August 18th at 11:30 a.m.. Everyone is welcomed to come to visit, eat some delicious food, and play dominoes and cards.

We were happy to have Joyce Ohnheiser as a guest at our July 13th meeting.

We invite all ladies to come and join or visit our Evening Circle group for a wonderful time of Christian Fellowship.

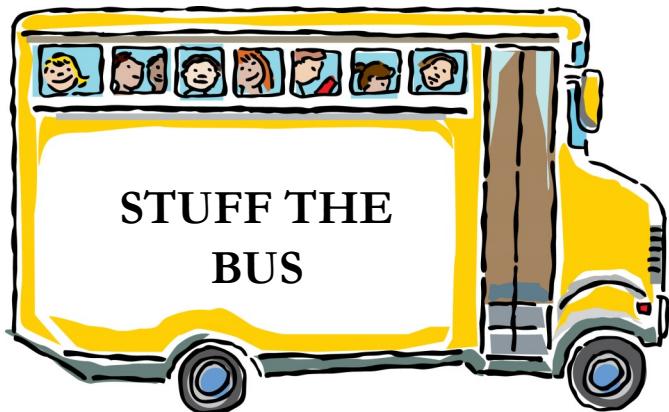
CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Jared Hedt! He has completed his studies and graduates on August 19th from Texas State Technical College—Rosenberg Campus. Currently, he is working at Hometown Metal Works in Needville. Electrical Lineman is the job he is seeking. Prayers and best wishes for Jared as he begins this new stage of his life.

Congratulations also to Rayleigh Huette for her successful journey to the 2021 USA Gymnastics Championships in St. Louis, Missouri. Rayleigh finished 2nd in the Junior Elite Trampoline Division and 3rd in the Synchronized Trampoline Event. Rayleigh was one of 13 named to the 2021 Trampoline Junior National Team roster. Great work, Rayleigh!

August Mission Opportunity

During August, you are invited to bring school supplies to church and place them in the boxes which are provided. These items will be given to the Weimar Elementary School in September. With each item provided, we will touch the life of God's incredible children. Please note that the tax free weekend will be August 6-8th.



ITEMS NEEDED

- Large backpack without wheels
- Large plastic school box
- Brand scissors (Fisk)
- #2 wooden pencils
- Large erasers
- Highlighter markers
- Glue sticks
- Large boxes of Kleenex
- Zip lock bags (gallon, quart)
- EXPO dry erase markers
- 1x5 index cards
- Yellow post-its notes
- Wide-rule notebook paper
- Multi-colored pens
- Pump bottle of hand sanitizer
- Clorox disinfecting wipes
- Spiral notebook (1-subject, wide-rule)
- Paper and Plastic Folders with pockets and brads
- Composition notebooks (1-subject)
- 24 count Crayola Crayons
- Crayola Markers (classic colors)
- 1 1/2" binder
- 1" binder
- Package of 5 dividers
- 9x12 assorted pack construction paper
- 1 1/2" binder with pockets
- Bottles of Elmer's Glue

In Memory of Mr. James Heger, from:

Marianne & Dickie Muehr (Evening Circle)

In Memory of Mrs. Gerdine Blome, from:

Ross A. Jaster (Evening Circle)

In Memory of Mr. Keith Hudec, from:

Marianne & Dickie Muehr (Evening Circle)

In Memory of Mr. Kerwin Vornsand, from:

Lorene Hasse (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Shirley Poppe (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Kenneth Rabel (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Leon Hattermann (General Fund)

Don & Doris Hoeinghaus (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Kenneth & Julia Krizak (Outside Storage Bldg.)

M-G Farm Service Center (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Ava June Vachala (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Larry & Cynthia Seydler (Outside Storage Bldg.)

In Memory of Mrs. Donna Trefny, from:

Phil & Cathy Holman (Evening Circle)

Mark & Valerie Harmon (General Fund)

Joyce Ohnheiser & Ricky Ohnheiser (General Fund)

Michael Loessin (General Fund)

Terri & Roy Christen (Evening Circle)

Dwight, Suzanne & Haley Mazac (Evening Circle)

Scott & Terri Kleimann (Evening Circle)

M-G Farm Service Center (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Hugo & Deena Richter (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Lee Beken (Parsonage Fund)

Marianne & Dickie Muehr (Evening Circle)

UCC Evening Circle (Children's Ministry)

David & Betty Boethel (Evening Circle)

Harold & Eliz. Brandt (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Tommy & Donna Tune (Building Fund)

Chris & Gretchen Maddux (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Billye Lynn Ratliff (Ratliff Music Fund)



In Memory of Mr. Arthur Brandt, Jr., from:

Marianne & Dickie Muehr (Evening Circle)

Cathy & Phil Holman (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Jane Lux (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Jacklyn Marak (Children's Ministry)

Douglas & Sandy Pesak (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Hugo & Deena Richter (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Butane Gas & Equip. (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Dickie & Marianne Muehr (Outside Storage)

Harvey & Linda Vornsand (General Fund)

Mark & Valerie Harmon (General Fund)

Julius & Clara Bartek (General Fund)

Gary & Cinthia Shaw (General Fund)

Lillian Zapalac (General Fund)

Alice Friedrich (General Fund)

Hallettsville Livestock Co. (Evening Circle)

Butane Gas & Equip. (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Kenneth & Julia Krizak (Evening Circle)

Janet & Kurt Mandeville (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Ava June Vachala (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Lanette Kahlden (Evening Circle)

Larry Kana (Evening Circle)

Bill & Gayle (Scott) Barnett (UCC Bldg Fund)

Doyle Moore (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Ben & Patricia Christen (Outside Storage Bldg.)

Harvey & Linda Vornsand (Evening Circle)

(Cut-off Date was July 26, 2021)

August Worship Assistants

Liturgists:

1st— Brandon Anders
8th—Zane Wanjura
15th—Edward Davila
22nd—Abigail Hilley
29th—Jane Armontrout



Acolytes:

1st—Chloe Brandt & Emily Wied
8th—Callie Janak & Brinson Huette
15th—Alex Vazquez & Caroline Koehn
22nd—Rylen Lopez and Brisyn Dixon
29th—Gavin Schoeneberg & Riley Kainer

Communion Stewards:

1st—Harvey & Linda Vornsand

Ushers:

1st & 8th—Chris & Gretchen Maddux*,
Kenneth & Julia Krizak
15th—Jane Armontrout & Amy Koehn,
David & Deanna Niesner
22nd & 29th—Dawn & Ed Davila*,
Travis & Bianka Vanicek

Greeters:

1st & 8th—Emily Latimer & Patsy Schmitt
15th—David & Shirlene Smith
22nd & 29th—Jane Armontrout & Mike Loessin

Altar Flowers:

1st—Bob & Bonnie Parish
In Memory of his Mother, Zell Parish, and her
Parents, Frank & Kim Briggs
8th—Brandon & Amarae Anders
In Memory of Grandma & Grandpa Banse,
Grandma & Grandpa Anders, & Grandpa Vazquez
15th—Jenny & Clifford Grohmann
In Honor of their Grandsons, Marshall &
Mason Munson
22nd—Bill & Gayle Barnett and Gloria Scott
In Memory of Courtney Scott Massey, Ernest
& Mable Ruth Scott
29th—Lanette Kahlden
In Loving Memory of Leslie Kahlden

**Altar Flowers — You will be assigned each year, hopefully around this same date.



Please Remember —
If for any reason you don't feel comfortable attending church during this time, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Heart of Texas

The South Central Conference now has a new Conference Minister, Phil Hodson. Phil comes to us from the Wichita United Church of Christ in Wichita, Kansas. During his ministry, the Wichita church formed from two congregations that merged and entered a new period of growth. Phil brings ideas and commitment about growing our Conference, along with experience in church planting. He went to seminary at Perkins School of Theology at SMU and came into the UCC from the United Methodist Church. He has already spent time in our Conference before his official start date in addition to meeting regularly with interim Conference Minister Campbell Lovett. Phil, his wife, and four children are moving to Galveston. He anticipates traveling throughout our Conference and churches to connect with all of us. He will bring new ideas and wisdom. It is an exciting time for the South Central Conference. Let's give Phil a big Texas welcome!

I also give thanks for the wise and excellent guidance and leadership of Campbell Lovett during this challenging year in the life of all of our churches. He has given stable leadership with his deep base of experience. Campbell is continuing to help with the transition. Let us send him off with our prayers for a rich life going forward and with gratitude for his ministry.

Starting in July, Charles Stark began a second interim ministry in the Heart of Texas Association. Charles is now the interim minister of St. Peter's Church of Coupland. In addition to his many years at Slumber Falls, Charles has served Lyons Evangelical, Faith UCC in Bryan, Friends Congregational, and, most recently (*as interim*),

St. John's Burton. Charles and his wife, Bonnie, will be living in Coupland. We give thanks for the ministry Charles and St. Peter's will have together.

We also welcome Christine Tata, as I previously shared, as interim minister at Trinity Church of Austin. Christine brings an earlier background in ministry, having served in this Conference in Dallas. She has worked in business and human resources, and has done a substantial amount of supply preaching. We rejoice with Christine and with Trinity as they begin their time together.

The Congregational Church of Austin is beginning a new era in the church's life as Amelia Fulbright begins her ministry there as the Designated Term Pastor. As some of you know, Amelia had her Ecclesiastical Council recently among us through the Privilege of Call process, supported by Congregational Church where she is a member. Earlier, she started the Labyrinth Progressive Student Ministry in Austin (*for University of Texas and other college-age students*) and also served as the Associate Pastor of University Baptist Church in Austin. Congregational (*my home church*) is excited to welcome Amelia on board.

Finally, I announce with sadness that Rev. Bill (Hudson) Phillips died recently, surrounded by his wife, Betty, and his daughters, Stephanie and Katy. Bill, a retired minister who served churches in Friona, Texas, and in New Orleans, as well as in campus ministry for a number of years, was part of marches and lunch counter sit-ins during the Civil Rights movement. He and Betty faced danger and stood firm for equal rights. Bill also served in social work for several years in Austin and was a gifted poet. I give profound thanks to God for his full and rich life.

Blessings in Christ,
Liz Nash, Association Minister

Worship Attendance

July 4th—48
July 11th—45
July 18th—42
July 25th—49

(July Average — 46)

These attendance records show how many folks attended the services in the sanctuary. Services are streamed, and an average of **80 views per Sunday** are being watched over Facebook and YouTube combined.

Weimar United Church Dates to Remember

- Blood Drive, August 5th, 11:00am — 5:30pm. Pre-Registration is required. Karen Kutac, 979-725-8919 or 979-743-0088.
- Rev. Gerry Metzger in residence August 8th—10th, and 15th—17th.
- Evening Circle Meeting, August 10th @ 4:00pm
- Blessing of the Backpacks, August 15th
- Ice Cream Social, August 15th @ 5:30 pm
- **Elderfest, August 18th, Wednesday (one time change) @ 11:30am (Bring a dish.)**
- August 19th, Hall reserved by Krizaks
- Rev. Glen Schoeneberg leads worship on Aug. 29th.



WEIMAR UNITED CHURCH

Post Office Box 188
Weimar TX 78962

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

August 2021

Stamp

Rev. Gerald Metzger—Pastor
Office: 979-725-8315
ucadmin@cvctx.com weimaruc@cvctx.com
Church is located at 403 West Main Street.

Sunday Worship Service — 9:30am
Services are streamed over
Facebook and YouTube. Weimar UCC

Weimar United Church
403 West Main Street
Weimar TX
(Mail: PO Box 188, Weimar TX 78962)



This is YOUR Invitation!!!

**We are getting back to our Annual Ice Cream Social.
Sunday, August 15, 2021 at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

Please bring ice cream, or sandwiches, or chips, or desserts.
We'll have it all. Bring the Family. Bring your friends. Bring your neighbors.
It's for everyone. Mark your calendar so you won't forget!