



# Pleasant Retreat UMC

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Each Week @ PRUMC

## SUNDAY

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
- 12:30 p.m. Confirmation

## SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

7:00 p.m. Administrative Council

## TUESDAY

- 10 a.m. L.A.M.B.S.
- 5:30 p.m. Emmaus Reunion Group (2nd & 4th)

## WEDNESDAY

- 6:45 p.m. Prayer in the Chapel
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

## SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

8:00 a.m. Bacon, Bull and

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**WANT TO BE THE FIRST TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER AND SAVE POSTAGE TOO??**

Just send an e-mail to ministerterry@hotmail.com with PRUMC Newsletter as your subject to receive your newsletter by e-mail.

February 1, 2012

The season of Lent begins on February 22 - Ash Wednesday. There are 40 days in Lent, mirroring Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness being tempted by satan. These were the 40 days of preparation for the beginning of his ministry. The number 40 must have been an important number in Judeo/Christian history. Remember that the Israelites wandered for 40 years in the wilderness before they entered the Promised Land.

Lent began as a time of preparation for converts to Christianity. Easter was the traditional time of baptism for the early church. Persons who were going to be confirmed would go through a period of prayer and fasting in preparation for their entry into Christianity. This time of preparation evolved into a season that all Christians observed – a time to prepare for the observance and remembering of the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Christ.

The time of preparation for baptism in the early church could not be done alone. The community became involved in helping faith to grow and mature. Candidates for baptism often spent time in peoples' homes, learning from the experience of daily life what was meant by discipleship. The entire congregation was involved in prayer for those who were led by the Spirit in this journey.

Still today we are called to learn and pray together; to have our lives shaped through the community of faith and fellowship. The Sunday night study groups, special times of worship and Sunday School provide many opportunities for each of us to prepare well to hear again the stories of God's redeeming love.

## SUNDAY NIGHT LENTEN STUDY GROUP

Beginning on February 26 we will meet at different homes each Sunday night at 6 p.m. for a simple meal and an interesting study. Please let Pastor Terry know if you would like to participate. We will use the book 'Small Things with Great Love' to guide our conversation (see pg.3). The first meeting will be at the parsonage on Feb. 26. Books are now available for \$9.50 each.

### Celebrate Valentine's Day at *Bacon, Bull and Blessings*

**The hosts of the monthly Men's Breakfast invites all ladies of our church and community to attend a special breakfast and program on Saturday, FEBRUARY 12 at 8 A.M.**

**Guys are asked to bring their gal (or sister, mother, daughter, neighbor...) and ladies are encouraged to invite a gentleman who has not yet experienced this friendly group. You don't need a 'date' to attend—there's company enough for all who want to come!**

## SUNDAY SERMONS



**February 5**  
Mark 1:29-39 Healing Our Fevers

**February 12**  
Mark 1:40-45 God's Touch

**February 19**  
Mark 9:2-9 Thin Places

**February 26**  
Mark 11:1-11 First Sunday in Lent  
Jesus Enters Jerusalem

“Not all of us  
can do great  
things. But we  
can do small  
things with great  
love.”

— Mother Teresa

### In Our Prayers



Grace Hall	Glen Anders	David Pritchard
Darlene Biehle	Charlene McDaniel	Shirley Ling
U.S. Armed Forces	Pioneer Mission	Jerry Hill
Betty Nutt/Rose	Michael Deutsch	Sue Rogers
Brian Roger/Kovar	Beverly Scott/Pritchard	Berdie Gambrell
JerryBrown/Lucas	New Tribes	James Dawson/Hobbs
Bob Scarborough	Caregivers	John Michaels/ Dougherty

### Current Prayer Concerns

Amy Nordhousen	Michael Goldman	Nancy Foster
Graham Dickerson	Smith Family	Client Murphy
Barbara Rogers/Kovar	Bruce Hendricks	Fire Victims
Jerry Guillote	Rose Culp	

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Janice Caffey	2/1
Graham Dickerson	2/1
Katherine Page	2/5
Martha Kovar	2/7
Louise Grose	2/8
David Pritchard	2/10
Kayla McCoy	2/13
Michele Hairston	2/16
Carolyn Lewis	2/17
Ken Alexander	2/19
Lauren Hairston	2/21
Terry Rose	2/21
Mickey Organ	2/25
Grace Hall	2/26
Rickey Heine	2/28
Anthony Vicknair	2/28



### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Douglas and Janice Caffey	2/11
Henry and Judy Jordan	2/12
Anthony and Vicki Niemtschk	2/14
Ken and Brenda Pritchard	2/16
David and Karen Clawson	2/26

*Three things will last forever - faith,  
hope and love - and the greatest of these  
is love.*

*1 Cor 13:13*

**Is This Fast...**

In

Lent is a season the church has traditionally set apart for self-reflection in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday is a day to remember our mortality; from dust we came and to dust we shall return. During Lent many people seek to practice some of the spiritual disciplines, particularly fasting. Even those who do not attend church regularly consider giving something up for Lent, thinking that somehow God will be pleased with them.

The problem is that God does not work like that; our good works do not move him. Salvation comes to us by grace through the cross of Jesus Christ. The people of Isaiah's day thought that, if they just fasted, all would be well with them. They fasted but without repentance. They sought the Lord daily and wondered why their lives remained the same. The problem was that their actions did not reveal repentant hearts. They continued to abuse their workers, and take advantage of the poor in their midst.

God desires that we love him with our whole being and love our neighbor as our self. This season as we seek the Lord's forgiveness, let us concentrate on living lives that reflect God's concern and passion by dealing kindly with all those we come in contact with. Sacrifice is good, but seeking to love God and others fully is better.

**Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 Ash Wednesday Service with the imposition of ashes will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**



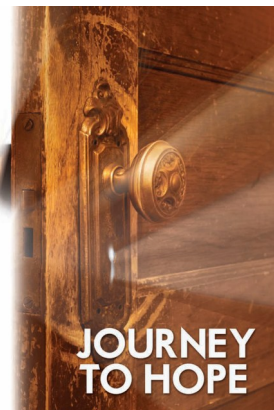
thirty brief chapters, Margot Starbuck invites you to “choose your own adventure”—one that fits who you are—in authentically loving those around you who are often overlooked.

Yes, she knows: just the thought of adding something more to your life sounds exhausting. But here's the fantastic truth she's discovered in her own journey: “We don't have to add lots more overwhelming activity to what we've already got going. The regular stuff of our lives—the commute to work and the potlucks and home improvement projects and errands and play dates—are the exact places in which we express and experience God's love for a world in need.”

Read more at [http://www.margotstarbuck.com/Small\\_Things.html](http://www.margotstarbuck.com/Small_Things.html)

Join us on Sunday nights during Lent to explore how we can do small things with great love!

Holy Week is a sacred time for Christians everywhere, but the week passes by so quickly that we don't have the time to reflect deeply on what it means. This year we are going to slow down and spend the entire season of Lent on the events that took place during Holy Week. On each of the six Sundays in Lent we will walk through the last week of Jesus' final days in Jerusalem, using the Gospel of Mark as our guide. Mark's Gospel chronicles Jesus' last week on a day-by-day basis—and, at the end—hour by hour. This Journey will help us to understand better the road that led to a cross on a hill. It is a journey of hope because God leads His son, and us, through the most terrible and frightening times and places to the new life we celebrate at Easter—resurrection!



## Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church in Mission

The following is a list of our mission activities in 2011. Many of them will continue in 2012 and more may be added. If you are interested in learning more about any of these projects or have ideas about new ways to serve our community and world, please contact Marlene Coffman. Marlene is the Chair of our Mission/Outreach Ministry Team.

- Donate to local Food Bank
- Ronald McDonald House - Pop Tops
- Send \$ donations to New Tribes Mission - Howe Family in Brazil
- Crochet Prayer Shawl/Afghan
- Bake for Christmas Cookie Plates for Shut-Ins
- Send \$ donations Pioneer Mission - Lewis Family in Turkey
- Sew Hospice gowns/catheter bags
- Military Care Packages
- \$ Support a member on Mission Trip
- Donate \$ to Methodist Children's Home
- Down Home Ranch - Poinsettia Sales
- Donate \$ Smile Train
- Pet Therapy Teams - Reading Program and Hospital visits
- Bacon, Bull & Blessings Men's Breakfast
- Make Children Activity books during church
- Make Welcome Bags to visitors
- Collect Box Tops for Education for Local Schools

Jerry and Marlene Coffman will travel to Tomsk, Russia for three weeks in July, 2012. They will be in ministry with other UMCs at an orphanage there.

In the coming months we will have opportunities to support their mission. Please contact the pastor if you wish to make a contribution to support their work. Any amount will be appreciated.

The UMC has been partners in ministry with the people of Tomsk for decades. Please talk to Jerry or Marlene if you desire more information about this mission opportunity.



**CHURCH-WIDE POT LUCK and CLEAN-UP**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 following Sunday service**

Some say that mission begins right at home. The Mission/Outreach Team is sponsoring an opportunity for church members and friends to have a time of fellowship and to serve our church. There are lots of little chores to be done around and in our church buildings. There are jobs for persons of ANY age. Wear your work clothes (or bring them with you) to church. See how much fun we can have working for the Lord together!

***An Invitation from Rick Carpenter, chair of the West District Early Response Team...***

I've registered a 12 person team for a week-long mission trip to the Bastrop area for June 11-15 (arriving June 10), but the response has exceeded that number. If you are interested in joining us, let me know sooner rather than later so that I can arrange for the team to be expanded.

By June, this will not be an ERT operation anymore, it will have moved into regular recovery phase. That means you don't have to have ERT or any other special training, it also means that we will be assigned tasks according to our skills and Bastrop's needs.

If you cannot commit for a week, we can accommodate you for fewer days. Come, serve, bless, and be blessed.

Rick Carpenter  
936.662.7119

## Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church Officers, 2012

### **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL**

Chairperson	Mark Drumm
Lay Leader	Shirley McCoy
Chair, Staff-Parish Relations Committee	LaVerne McDaniel
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Shirley McCoy
Alt. Lay Member of Annual Conference	Susan Rose
Chair, Finance Committee	Jerry Coffman
Treasurer	Wanda Hobbs
Financial Secretary	Peggy Weise
Chair, Trustees	Wayne Luker
Recording Secretary	Theresia Goetz
Sunday School Superintendent	TBN
Membership Secretary	Marlene Coffman
Chair, Nurture and Care Committee	Linda Kennedy
Chair, Worship Committee	Linda Grimm and Brenda Pritchard
Chair, Mission/Outreach Committee	Marlene Coffman
Rep, Children's Ministries	TBN
Chair, Youth Ministries	TBN
Chair, Communications	Martha Kovar
Chair, Historical Committee	Nettie Dee Harper
Youth Representative	Amanda Hall
At-Large Member	James Lockhart

### **STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: LaVerne McDaniel  
 2012: Laverne McDaniel, Bill Shaver, Edith Gray  
 2013: Merle Culp, Virginia Stolte  
 2014: Bruce Kennedy, Susan Rose  
 Lay Leader: Shirley McCoy

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Jerry Coffman  
 Chair, Admin. Council: Mark Drumm  
 Lay Leader: Shirley McCoy  
 Chair, SPRC: LaVerne McDaniel  
 Financial Secretary: Peggy Weise  
 Representative, Trustees: Darrell Gambrell  
 Treasurer: Wanda Hobbs  
 Member at Large: Mickey Organ  
 Member at Large: Terry Rose

### **HISTORICAL COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Nettie Dee Harper  
 Olive Olive, Birdie Gambrell, Barbara Smith

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Linda Grimm and Brenda Pritchard  
 Ruth Smith, Barbara Smith, Martha Kovar

### **NURTURE AND CARE**

Chairperson: Linda Kennedy  
 Linda Grimm, Martha Kovar

### **USHER COMMITTEE**

Robert McCoy, David Pritchard, Ken Pritchard

### **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Pastor  
 2012: Debbie Sorenson, Wayne Luker  
 2013: Susan Rose, Kevin McCoy  
 2014: Brenda Pritchard, Marlene Coffman  
 Lay Leader: Shirley McCoy

### **TRUSTEES**

Chairperson: Wayne Luker  
 2012: Walter Lucas, Diane Mead, Wayne Luker  
 2013: Darrell Gambrell, David Clawson, Martha Kovar  
 2014: Theresia Goetz, Terry Rose, Ricky Heine

### **PARSONAGE COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Peggy Weise  
 Merle Culp, Edith Gray, Doug Caffey, Keith Sowers, Dave Clawson, Darrell Gambrell

### **MISSION/OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Marlene Coffman  
 Janice Caffey, Susan Rose, Jeff Fisher, Rebecca Fisher

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Chairperson: Martha Kovar  
 Elizabeth Hall, Diane Mead, Jim Hall

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### MISSION

*The mission of Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church is to reach out and welcome all peoples to become disciples for Christ.*

### VISION

*The vision of Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church is to be a community of Holy Spirit inspired people providing facilities and ministries to enable us to make disciples for the transformation of the world.*

**We're on the web!**  
[www.umcthorndale.com](http://www.umcthorndale.com)

### DATES TO REMEMBER

LAY SPEAKING SCHOOL  
February 11 and 18  
Christ UMC, College Station

BACON, BULL & BLESSINGS  
Saturday, February 11—8:00 a.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL  
Monday, February 13—7:00 p.m.

POT-LUCK LUNCH AND CHURCH  
CLEAN-UP  
Sunday, February 19—following worship

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE  
February 22—7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY NIGHT LENTEN  
STUDY BEGINS  
February 26—6:00 p.m.  
At the parsonage

### LOOKING AHEAD

EMMAUS GATHERING  
Hosted by PRUMC  
Saturday, March 3— 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY NIGHT LENTEN STUDY  
March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1

TENEBRAE SERVICE  
Thursday, April 5—7:00 p.m.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER  
Good Friday, April 6  
Holy Saturday, April 7

EASTER SUNDAY  
April 8

THE CHURCH NEEDS YOUR USED PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES. PLEASE PLACE THEM IN THE BOX NEAR THE CHURCH FRONT DOOR OR BRING THEM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE. THESE CARTRIDGES WILL HELP OFFSET THE COST OF CHURCH OFFICE SUPPLIES. (s.a. the paper used for this newsletter!)

**Remember to bring your canned goods on the first Sunday of each month to support the Food Pantry at Shiloh Baptist Church.**

### Adult Sunday School

Our Adult Sunday School class meets in the “old kitchen” area behind the Sanctuary. Class begins at 9:45 a.m.

In December the class begins a new unit “God Establishes a Faithful People.” Studies in Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Galatians.

No reservations needed—just come ready to learn!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH BEGIN AT 10:15 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY!**



### LOVE FUND

**Otherwise known as the pastor's discretionary fund. A fund has been established to enable the pastor to meet emergency needs of church and community members. You are invited to contribute on the first Sunday of each month with an offering placed on the Communion rail.**

Hope you enjoy our monthly newsletters. If you have announcements, articles or pictures that you want to submit for January 1 issue, please submit them to Pastor Terry no later than February 22th.