# FUMC Newsletter

## AUGUST 2016

426 St. Paul, Gonzales, TX 78629
Phone: 830-672-8521 Fax: 830-672-4612 www.fumcgonzales.org fumc@gvec.net

### Bishop Robert C. Schnase Returns to Rio Texas Conference

The South Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church approved the appointment of Bishop Robert C. Schnase to the Rio Texas Conference on Saturday, July 16. He returns to Rio Texas after serving as the Bishop of the Missouri Annual Conference since 2004.

Schnase is the author of the bestselling books *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations, Five Practices of Fruitful Living, Practicing Extravagant Generosity*, and *Seven Levers: Missional Strategies for Conferences*. His latest book, *Just Say Yes: Unleashing People for Ministry*, is written for people whose passion has been simmering for years, who yearn to be told Yes! Schnase examines the systems and attitudes that restrain and control ministry. He demonstrates practical ways church leaders can rethink fundamental assumptions about organizations and leadership.

Before his election as bishop, Schnase served for 15 years as senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in McAllen, Texas, a congregation that became widely known for its extensive mission and outreach, for reaching younger generations, and bicultural ministry. He also served congregations in Harlingen, Texas and in Great Britain. Schnase is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and Perkins School of Theology. He enjoys birding, fishing, canoeing, and traveling in Central America. Schnase is married to Esther and they have two adult sons, Karl and Paul.

To learn more about Bishop Schnase's work, please visit robertschnase.com

## Thank You

Brooke, the kids, and I would like to thank you for the ways you have welcomed our family into the First UMC family. The warmth and generosity we have experienced through you has been such a blessing to each of us. We all feel at home here among you. We all share in Nate's (6) recent statement: "We're staying in Gonzales forever!" We look forward to continuing to get to know each of you, and serving together for the cause of Christ. A journey that starts off this well is sure to be a blessing.

Blessings,
Pastor Matt

**Would you prefer to receive your monthly church newsletter by email?**
**If so, contact Felicia at the church office to set up online newsletter delivery.**

**Pastor's Corner**

From Pokemon to History, God's Up to Something!

I have really enjoyed learning about the rich history of First United Methodist Church, as well as the history of Gonzales. If you have not yet picked up a copy of the latest FUMC History Book that our History and Archives committee has produced, I hope you will. Our history is important because it serves as the bedrock from which we can grow into the future.

I have been thinking about a couple of phrases I've heard and read as I've learned about Gonzales. The first is, "The Birthplace of Texas Freedom," and the second, "The Mother Church of Methodism in Texas." I like both of these because they represent something greater than us; they represent the beginnings of movements.

I'm excited about the next chapter of this movement. I'd like to propose a couple of questions for you: What if First UMC Gonzales was the Mother Church of a fresh revival of Methodism and the Wesleyan Holiness movement? What if Gonzales was the foundational point on the map of Texas where a fresh wind of revival sparks? What if the time is now for each of us to live our lives through the power of the Holy Spirit, and share the love of Christ and the call to live a life of holiness with Him?

We live in the midst of the tragedies these days. It seems like there are too many to list some days. The reality we live in is this: In the midst of the chaos of our world, God is at work for good! We can join in with Him. We can be the force of peace, love, and the embodiment of Christ…today. I believe the power of Christ's love and grace still transforms lives. I believe the power of God's Word in our lives through the Holy Spirit's lead to enable us to live into the fullness of life in a relationship with God. He created us for just this. I believe the people in our community need to know it by the way we live, and the truth that we share with outrageous love and grace.

It is interesting to see the latest smart phone based game "Pokemon Go" leading people to visit areas they're not familiar with and even places they have never been to advance in the game. I hope we as a Church will learn something, and remember Jesus' call for us, the Church, to go and advance the Kingdom, knowing that He would always be with us! When we do…that revival we're hoping and praying for will take root and new life will spring up all around us. I'm honored to be on the journey with you! It's an honor to be your pastor.

Blessings,
Pastor Matt

## STATISTICAL REPORT JUNE, 2016

| DATE | 8:30 | 10:45 | TOTAL | SS | OFFERINGS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 108 | 120 | 228 | 91 | $ 14,748.59 |
| 12 | 65 | 76 | 141 | 65 | $ 5,765.10 |
| 19 | 165 | 252 | 417 | 98 | $ 11,966.54 |
| 26 | 76 | 77 | 153 | 43 | $ 4,746.00 |
| **TOTALS:** | **414** | **525** | **939** | **297** | **$ 37,226.23** |
| ***AVERAGES:*** | ***104*** | ***131*** | ***235*** | ***74*** | |

**TOTAL EXPENSES FOR THE MONTH: $ 40,537.17**
**NET GAIN OR LOSS FOR THE MONTH: $ 3,310.94**
**APPORTIONMENTS PAID TO DATE: 50%**

## *Altar Flowers for August are given by:*

### *August 7*

Sascha Kadosz
In Memory of Yvonne "Vonnie" DuBose

Ellen and Bryan Denman
In Memory of Dr. W. B. Denman

### *August 14*

Steve and Kathleen Ehrig
In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Ehrig, Sr.

### *August 21*

David Bivins Family
In Memory of Blaxton and Melva DuBose

### *August 28*

Billie J. Bruns
In Memory of Harold Bruns

**Staff**

Rev. Matt Pennington, Senior Pastor
Willa Keck, Children's Ministry Director
Felicia Cantu, Office Manager
Rosemary Hindman, Business Manager
Janelle Lester, Wesley Nurse
Bekah Barnett, Interim Youth Director
Craig Aamot, Music Minister
Christina Menking, Organist
Bill Meadows, Pianist
Sandra Jandt, Happy House Director
Rosannah Green, Attendance
Lupe Longoria, Custodian

Thank you for letting us use your van for our Light House 2911 Summer Camp. We really appreciate it.

Paul Smith & Paul Beard

A big, big, thank you to Mrs. Willa and all the volunteers for Vacation Bible School. I had so much fun, I could hardly wait until it was time to go. My favorites were Bible Adventures, crafts and Mr. Crabby singing and dancing. Everyone was great. Thank you to the kitchen volunteers for all the great food.

Chance Boyd

Dear Church Family,
Words can not express the gratitude the entire family felt after the loss of our loved one Connie Blundell Riley. The meal after the service was so well planned and was delicious and enjoyed by all. We extend our appreciation for all the fresh flowers, plants and sprays, the many prayers, phone calls, food and memorials in her memory. It is so wonderful to have such a loving and caring church congregation. Out of town family members were so impressed with the beauty of our church and the caring of the members.

With much love,
Bill & Juanita Blundell, Carolyn Cain,
Phyllis Snoga, Wendy O'Rear,
Renee Lindemann, and her grandchildren

# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---|---|
| 8/01 | Glenna Reese |
| | Haley Clampit |
| | Melissa Clampit |
| 8/02 | McKenzie McGuffin |
| 8/03 | Andy Gindler |
| | Houston Keck |
| 8/04 | Travis Fairchild |
| | James Gottwald |
| | Rowdy Ehrig |
| 8/06 | Emily Neuse |
| | Kevin DuBose |
| 8/07 | Teresa Reed |
| | Stewart Frazier |
| | Sascha Kardosz |
| 8/08 | Jo Ann Leifeste |
| | Stacey Havel |
| 8/09 | Crystal Gray |
| 8/10 | John B. Lester |
| | Larry Gray |
| 8/11 | Caeleigh Riedel |
| 8/12 | Barbara Atkinson |
| | Norma Jean DuBose |
| | Tom Lester Jr. |
| | Cortney Tuch |
| 8/13 | Donnie Tenberg |
| | Mia Schauer |
| 8/14 | Tara Carleton |
| | Blaine Davis |
| 8/15 | Ann Keck |
| | John Daniel |
| | Faith Lester |
| 8/16 | Barbara Bowen |
| | Greg Peterek |
| | Josie Stowers |
| 8/17 | Leann Wilkerson |
| 8/18 | Bryce Watts |
| | Wade Miller |
| | Paige Cantu |
| | Kailyn Lyles |
| 8/19 | Scott Keck |
| | James Dreyer |
| | Natalie Tenberg |
| | Gary Clack |
| 8/20 | Thomas Stulting |
| | Lee Williams |
| 8/21 | Stacey Dawson |
| | Rick Frazier |
| 8/23 | Kathy Jurek |
| | Ricky Lester |
| 8/24 | Tracey Neitsch |
| | Taylor Davis |
| 8/25 | Herbert Thigpen |
| | Nancy Burns |
| | Mike Davis |
| | Sue Boothe |
| | Dylan Mills |
| | Keri Hornung |
| 8/26 | William Ploetz |
| | Bill DeBerry |
| | Kamrynn Zella |
| 8/27 | Bitsy Henderson |
| | Bethel Lester |
| | Allison Davis |
| | Stephanie Gacke |
| | Madalin Kocian |
| 8/28 | Donna Hisey |
| | Marian Gindler |
| | Erwin Ckodre |
| | Debbie Robinson |
| | Dana Williams |
| 8/29 | Terry Towns |
| | Mary Carter |
| 8/30 | Bill May |
| | Ray Logan |
| | Clayton Baker |
| | Jon Dawe |
| | Kenneth Hodges |
| | Michael Mercer |
| 8/31 | E.T. Gibson |
| | Frank Hurt |

| | |
|---|---|
| 8/2 | Steve & Laurie Taylor |
| 8/7 | Bill & Juanita Blundell |
| 8/8 | James & Janie Massey |
| 8/9 | Dwayne & Kaylin Petras |
| 8/10 | Daniel & Tiffany Lester |
| 8/13 | Jerry & Julia Oakes |
| | Kurt & Heather Ramsey |
| | Kenneth & Elsie Mosher |
| | Bill & Ann Reaves |
| 8/17 | Tom & Tammy Lester |
| | Kenneth & Doreen Fink |
| | John & Edith Lucas |
| | John & Leslie Whiteside |
| 8/19 | Vic & Sally Brown |
| 8/20 | Bill & Coylene Oliver |
| 8/22 | Ralph & Lori Raabe |
| 8/23 | Houston & Peggy Munson |
| 8/24 | Dick & Dana Hamilton |
| 8/25 | Derrick & Janelle Lester |
| 8/26 | Herbert & Barbara Thigpen |

Please contact Felicia at the church office, 672-8521, if your information is missing or incorrect.

# AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

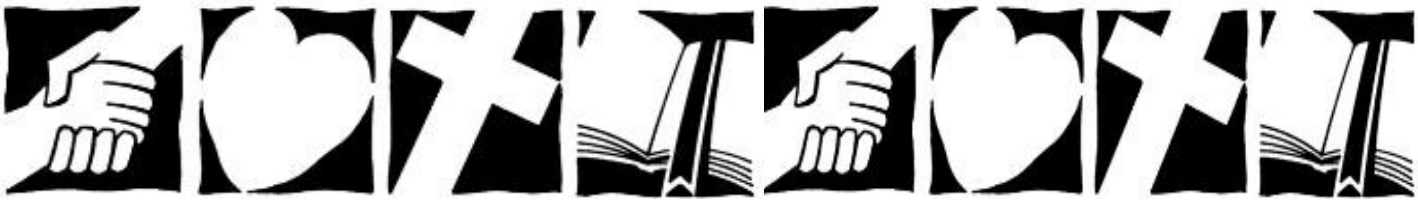
| August 7, 2016 | 8:30 A.M. SERVICE | 10:45 SERVICE | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Megan Tenberg | Weston Ruddock | **ACOLYTES** |
| | Mallory Clack | Macy Sample | |
| | Natalie Tenberg | Weldon Holub | (cross) |
| | Emmitt Currie (Lead) | Pal Lester (Lead) | **USHERS** |
| | Ronnie Menking | Mike Davis | |
| | Greg Sengelmann | Bitsy Henderson | |
| | Gary Clack | Eldon Farek | |
| | Steve Taylor | Jeffery Braune | |
| | Maydell Pankey | Lisa Gindler | **LITURGIST** |
| | Kiley Allen | Kiley Allen | **CHILDREN'S SERMON** |

Communion Service

| August 14, 2016 | 8:30 A.M. SERVICE | 10:45 SERVICE | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Brody Borrer | Parker Storey | **ACOLYTES** |
| | Hadley Borrer | Kylee Watson | |
| | Ancel Atkinson | Sadie Morgan | (cross) |
| | Emmitt Currie (Lead) | Pal Lester (Lead) | **USHERS** |
| | John Whitt | Jim Benedict | |
| | Martha Jo Whitt | Jenice Benedict | |
| | Sue Boothe | Dick Goss | |
| | Billy Boothe | Shirley Goss | |
| | Amanda Smith | Eldon Farek | **LITURGIST** |
| | Lisa Gindler | Lisa Gindler | **CHILDREN'S SERMON** |

| August 21, 2016 | 8:30 A.M. SERVICE | 10:45 SERVICE | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Cole Boothe | Baron DuBose | **ACOLYTES** |
| | Morgan Boothe | Morgan Farrar | |
| | Quinn Atkinson | Peyton Ruddock | (cross) |
| | Emmitt Currie (Lead) | Pal Lester (Lead) | **USHERS** |
| | Jimmy Borrer | Greg Griffin | |
| | Herman Grauke | Cheryl Meadows | |
| | Bill DeBerry | Tom Lester, Sr | |
| | Erwin Ckodre | Bobby Morgan | |
| | Shirley Spoon | Dick Goss | **LITURGIST** |
| | Commie Hisey | Commie Hisey | **CHILDREN'S SERMON** |

| August 28, 2016 | 8:30 A.M. SERVICE | 10:45 SERVICE | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Braden Clampit | Slone Gibson | **ACOLYTES** |
| | Addyson Kardosz | Nicholas Casares | |
| | Sydney Clack | Seth Gibson | (cross) |
| | Emmitt Currie (Lead) | Pal Lester (Lead) | **USHERS** |
| | Kenneth Fink | Ray Neitsch | |
| | John Lucas | Leslie Ploeger | |
| | Commie Hisey | Justin Pope | |
| | Joe Britt Hindman | Mary Tomas | |
| | Terry Towns | Shirley Goss | **LITURGIST** |
| | Allison Davis | Allison Davis | **CHILDREN'S SERMON** |



If you are unable to serve on the date scheduled, please contact the church office, 672-8521.

# August 2016

August 2016

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

September 2016

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| **11** | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jul 31 - Aug 6 | **Jul 31** | **Aug 1**<br>Lego Camp-N & FC<br>5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP<br>6:00pm Dominoes-N | **2**<br>10:00am Staff Mtg-L<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-CR | **3**<br>1:00pm Alzheimer-Dementia Support Group-BP<br>5:00pm Jr. & Sr. Youth | **4**<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-CR | **5** | **6** |
| Aug 7 - 13 | **7**<br>COMMUNION SUNDAY<br>8:30am Worship-S<br>9:45am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship-S | **8**<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP<br>6:00pm Dominoes-N | **9**<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-FC<br>12:00pm Cancer Support Group-BP<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:15pm Children's Ministry Meeting-EB<br>5:30pm Wesleyan Circle-N<br>6:00pm Happy House B<br>6:00pm Quilt Group-FC | **10**<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:00pm Jr. & Sr. Youth | **11**<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC | **12** | **13**<br>12:00pm Private Event-S |
| Aug 14 - 20 | **14**<br>8:30am Worship-S<br>9:45am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship-S | **15**<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP<br>6:00pm Dominoes-N | **16**<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC | **17**<br>11:00am Teacher Appreciation Luncheon-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:00pm Jr. & Sr. Youth<br>5:15pm Praise Band Practice-S<br>6:15pm Choir Practice-CR | **18**<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC | **19** | **20** |
| Aug 21 - 27 | **21**<br>8:30am Worship-S<br>9:45am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship-S<br>4:00pm 4-H-FC | **22**<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP<br>6:00pm Dominoes-N | **23**<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC | **24**<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:00pm Jr. & Sr. Youth<br>5:15pm Praise Band Practice-S<br>6:15pm Choir Practice-CR | **25**<br>9:30am Book Club-L<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC | **26** | **27** |
| Aug 28 - Sep 3 | **28**<br>8:30am Worship-S<br>9:45am Sunday School<br>10:45am Worship-S | **29**<br>9:00am Happy House Transition Day-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:30pm Prayer Shawl-BP<br>6:00pm Dominoes-N | **30**<br>10:00am Staff Mtg-L<br>11:00am Flex & Tone-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC | **31**<br>9:00am Happy House Transition Day-FC<br>2:00pm WN Exercise-FC<br>5:00pm Jr. & Sr. Youth<br>5:15pm Praise Band Practice-S<br>6:15pm Choir Practice-CR | **Sep 1** | **2** | **3** |

# Children's Corner

CHILDREN'S Ministry NEWS

Hello everyone! Thank you for all your support, donations, love, prayers and hard work for Surf Shack VBS!! VBS week is an exciting, busy week that flies by! And at the end of that week, we realize we have helped children and families grow in their faith and love of God! And that is the whole reason for churches to have VBS! "Remember That the Lord is Great And Awesome!" Nehemiah 4:14b

Our UMCOR Mission Project during VBS was collecting supplies and monetary donations to fill Disaster Relief Cleaning Supply Buckets. VBS children, parents, and volunteers donated enough supplies and money to complete 14 buckets. Thank you for your generous support of this project! You contribution will help someone that is in the middle of a disaster!

On July 24, 18 campers, (Samantha, Cole, Morgan, Sawyer, Tyler, Kaden, Bethany , McKenzie, Landon, Emily, Hayden, Christian, Tommy, Paisley, Weston, Emily, Parker, Kylee), 4 volunteers (J. Lynn Barnick, Jake Barnick, Sam Barnick, Allison Davis, and myself left for Basic Training Camp at Cathedral Oaks. I am so proud of my campers and all my volunteers for attending and helping with this camp!

Lego camp is back! During August 1-5, The Narthex and Fellowship Hall will be filled thousands and thousands of Legos and more importantly, with very creative minds of children! This week is spent in learning engineering, physics, and architectural terms. The children build specific projects, but also work in teams to complete larger projects. It is amazing what they create from Legos, from working conveyor belts to drawbridges!

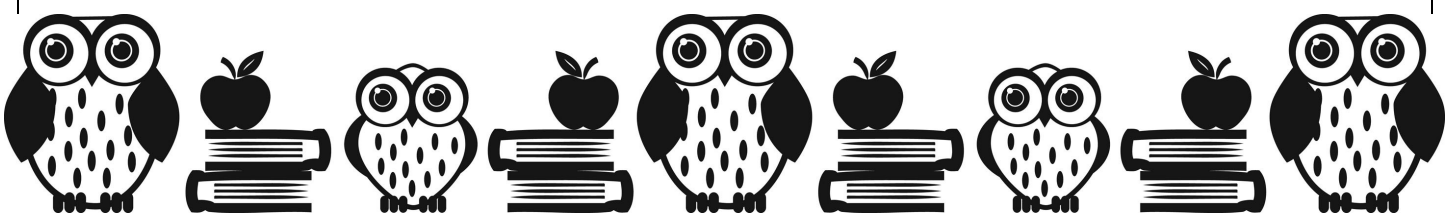
LEGO CAMP

You are invited to participate in an upcoming outreach and service project! Children's Ministry is working with Janelle Lester, our Wesley Nurse to host a Back to School Supply Drive with Kick Off on August 7! When you are out shopping for your children's supplies, can you purchase one or two extra items to donate to our GISD elementary schools? We are also collecting new or gently used shoes for children. Please see Wesley Nurse Ministry Newsletter article for all the details of what is needed! A collection site is in the Narthex to accept donations through August 31. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

The Annual Teacher Appreciation luncheon is Wednesday, August 17 in the fellowship hall. Children, youth and parent volunteers are invited to serve drinks and desserts and help with clean up! 10:45am to approximately 1:00pm. Come say hello to your old teachers and meet your new teacher! Wear red church t-shirt. New shirts can be purchased for $7.

**Calendar:**

- Aug 1-5 - Lego Camp!
- Aug 9 - **Children's Ministry Meeting @ 5:15pm.** Progressive or Choir Room. Let me know if childcare is needed.
- Aug 17 - Teacher Appreciation Luncheon-**children, youth and parents invited to assist.**
- Sept 6 and Sept 8 - **Pioneer Club Registration** 5:30pm Fellowship hall or Narthex.
- Sept 11 - Busy Sunday!! **Back Pack Blessing! Sunday School Promotion; Presentation of Bibles; Sunday School Teacher; Pioneer Club Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition.** Stay tuned for all the details!
- Sept 14 or Sept 21 - **Start of Pioneer Club,** dependent on all volunteer positions filled.



# Wesley Nurse News ~ "Life Transitions"

Dear Church Family:

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" -2 Corinthians 5:17*

Life never stays the same. There are several stages with unique challenges that make each one memorable. As new parents you add new responsibilities and a baby to your life while trying to establish yourselves as a couple. This new role means sharing your partner with someone else so make sure you talk to each other, have a date night, and share your struggles. Adjustment is easier when you know what challenges exist.

*"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." – Proverbs 22:6*

Sending your first child off to school can be scary for everyone. As a parent, try to put your fears aside and look for the positives: your child is beginning an adventure that will teach him many new things. Before school starts, go to the school and arrange a tour if possible to take the fear out of the new surroundings, remind him/her that others will be nervous about school and there will be many new friends to meet. Talk about the exciting things he/she will be doing during the school day and make it an adventure for both of you. If you have worries about his/her health, be sure to meet with the school.

*"The Lord detests double standards; he is not pleased by dishonest scales." - Proverbs 20:23*

Gender differences of size, weight, and cellular structure impact the absorption of all types of medications. These issues are initiating new pharmaceutical studies to determine the most effective dosage for the treatment of men and women. Current knowledge shows that menstrual cycles may affect certain antidepressants, liver proteins affect some blood pressure medications, and physical size affects most medication dosages. So the next time you experience a medication adjustment or have your weight recorded at the doctor's office, know it is part of the process to determine the best prescription for you.

*"Test me O LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind." - Psalm 26:2*

Research shows that heart disease impacts men and women differently. Women tend to display heart disease 10 years later than men, but with a more serious outcome. In either sex it is important to know the signs of a heart attack. Men tend to have the classic symptoms of severe chest pain, a squeezing sensation in the chest for 5-10 minutes, profuse sweating, pain radiating to the left arm, and/or a feeling of depression. Women tend to have atypical symptoms of shortness of breath, indigestion, heart palpitations of more than 10 minutes, jaw/shoulder/back pain in excess of 5-10 minutes, nausea, or extreme fatigue. In either case, seek help immediately and call 911. The quicker the response of professional help, the better the outcome.

*"For those commands are a lamp, this teaching is a light, and the corrections of discipline are the way to life." - Proverbs 6:23*

Culture also impacts the differences between men and women. Biologically, men tend to be risk-takers with speed and dangerous activity, but cultures also foster that behavior. Men are often encouraged to act impulsively or macho while women are taught to be cautious. The Harvard Health Letter states that men with a high sense of masculinity will not seek attention for medical issues or treatment viewed as feminine such as intolerance for pain or eating fruits and vegetables. This research shows that educational material and promotions need to be sensitive not only to culture but also to gender.

Your Wesley Nurse,
Janelle Lester BSN, RN

Reference: Merila, N. & Slutz (2009) Seasons of Wholeness Monthly Themes and programming for faith community ministry, Volume VI. International Parish nurse resource Center; St. Louis, Mo.Centers for Disease Control-www.cdc.gov

Continued on page 9

Wesley Nurse News continued…

Upcoming Events –

- The Dementia-Alzheimer's Caregiver Support group meets on the first Wednesday of the month. This month we will meet on August 3rd at 1 pm in the Bridal Parlor.
- The Cancer Support group will meet on the second Tuesday of the month. This month we will meet on August 9th at noon in the Bridal Parlor.
- The Walking class meets Monday – Thursday at 2 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and join us for fun, fellowship, and a good workout!
- The Flex and Tone exercise class on Tuesday and Thursdays at 11 am, in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcomed to join us in light weight lifting and fellowship!
- The Wesley Nurse Ministry is teaming up with our Children's Ministry to hold a "Back to School Supply Drive." We will be accepting donations August 7th- August 31st. If you would like to "Adopt a Child" and supply them with this year's school supplies, pick up a school supplies list, located in the Narthex. If you would like to donate supplies in general, the supplies listed below are common needs from all lists.

| | |
|---|---|
| -Large pink erasers | -Wooden pencils (no mechanical) |
| -Composition books (black/white) | -Spiral notebooks (wide ruled- solid colors – 70 pages) |
| -Large glue sticks | -24 count CRAYOLA crayons (brand requested) |
| -Construction paper | -Folders with brads and pockets |
| -Blunt Fiskar scissors | -1 ½" 3 ring clear plastic front binders |

Backpacks are not listed, but necessary for children. New or gently used shoes (sizes 9 – kids 4) are also a large need in our school system. Please drop off donations in the Narthex or church office at your convenience. If you have questions, please contact Janelle at 830.672.1031 or Willa at 830.672.8521. Thank you for your support!!

## *Earth Angels*

Earth Angels did not have a regular meeting in July. Instead, members met at Craft Crossing for a Sew Day. Several quilt tops were constructed from the primary color blocks. Once they are quilted, the quilts will be given to those in need of being wrapped in God's love.

Women who are interested in quilting make up our group called Earth Angels. Meetings are held at 6:00 PM on the second Tuesday of each month, in the FUMC Fellowship Center. A typical meeting involves an inspirational reading followed by the mentioning of persons who may be in need of prayers or a quilt. Four quilts were given out recently. Members also learn from interesting programs, share ideas, show quilts they have made, and engage in quilting projects. Fellowship and sharing play a major role in Earth Angels. Feel free to visit our next meeting on August 9, 2016; we'd love to have you.

## Book Club News

At our July meeting, we discussed The Castaways by Elin Hilderbrand. Hilderbrand lives on Nantucket Island and all of her nine novels have been set there. A beach mystery seemed like a light-hearted way to celebrate summer for our club. We discovered that this story of friendship and forgiveness was not light-hearted. A group of six couples are left to care for two children after a mysterious boating accident claimed the life of one couple who were celebrating their wedding anniversary. Investigation into the accident and the examining of the lives of these eight adults led to intriguing reading.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, August 25 at 9:30 in the church library. Our August selection is The Sound of Gravel, a memoir by Ruth Wariner who was born into a polygamous Mormon family who lived in Mexico because of their beliefs. Ruth's grandfather was actually the founder of the particular sect. She spent part of her time in California with non-polygamous grandparents and part in Mexico with her mother. This is a in-depth look at a different religion and lifestyle.

Anyone is welcome at our meetings! Please join us even if you have not read the book. The discussions are worth your time. Call 672-9307 if you have questions.

Martha Jo Whitt

First United Methodist Church
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Gonzales, Texas 78629

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# Annual Educator Appreciation Luncheon
# Wednesday, August 17th

**We will be treating the Gonzales Independent School District Employees and other area educators to an appreciation luncheon in our fellowship hall. We will serve from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and anticipate approximately 400 guests.**

**The menu will include:**
**Sandwiches, Salads, Chips, Crackers, Relishes**
**Lemonade, Tea, Coffee & Sherbet**

**We're asking the congregation to provide salads and we need volunteers to work in the kitchen. Call the church office if you can help.**