



Faith

news

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OF FUMC HENRIETTA
JULY 2017



How Do You Experience and Express Love?

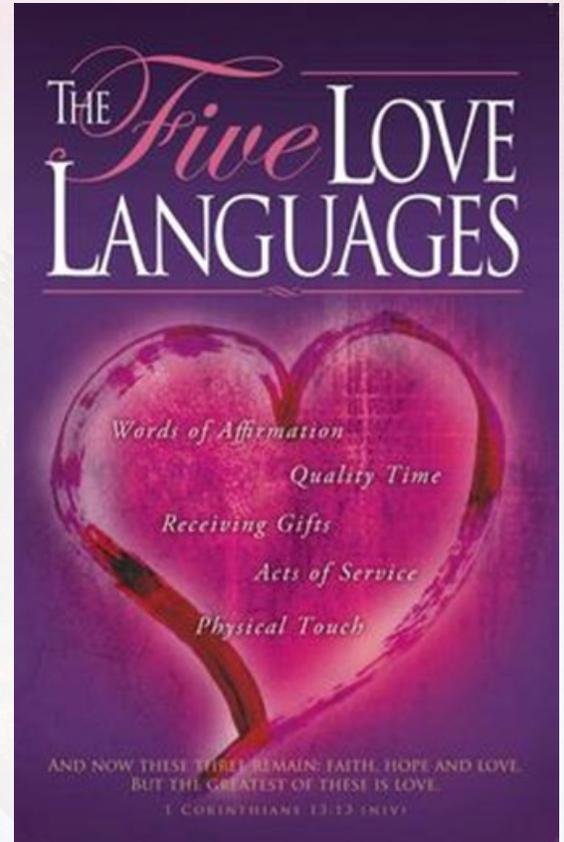
by Dr. Keva Green

Relationships are important! We live in community, and we all have a desire for love. But did you know that even though we all want to be loved that we may not experience love in the same way? Because we are all different and have had our own unique ways of looking at life then we may expect love to look a little different than what someone else expects. Where one person may feel most loved when someone tells them they love them, someone else may feel more loved when they are hugged or given a gift or someone does something for them.

We are presently doing a sermon series based on Gary Chapman's book *The Five Love Languages*. It is a great reminder that God created all of us differently and so we may need to use different love languages to make various individuals feel loved. The 5 languages that we will be examining each week include: Quality Time, Acts of Service, Words of Affirmation, Physical Touch and Receiving Gifts.

You probably have a dominant language that you relate to the most in feeling loved. If you would like to determine what your primary love language is you are welcome to go to the following link <http://www.5lovelanguages.com/profile/>. It will take about 5 minutes to do the quiz that consists of 30 pairs of statements where you determine the one that you relate to the most.

Join us each Sunday as we learn more about how to demonstrate love to others through the different languages, as well as examining the different ways that we can use these different languages to experience and show our love to God. After all, God is love – so he speaks all of the languages.



Children's Summer Camp

by Ryan Elms

Summer camp is one of those things kids remember for the rest of their lives. I was so privileged and blessed to be able to take some of the third through fifth graders from our church to camp this past week! Chase Roberson, Callie Martin and Wyatt Elms were able to go, and I am sure if you ask them they would love to tell you all about camp.

We got to camp ready for the fun and excitement, and that is exactly what it was all week long for us. Our daily schedule included waking up at about 7:30 a.m. (in the boy's cabin) and getting ready to head out to breakfast at 8:00 a.m. At breakfast we would go with our cabin group, so that is who we would eat breakfast with. Here is a portion of my cabin group!



After breakfast we would go to interest groups. I led hiking each day which was a lot of fun. Once interest groups were over, we would have a devotional time with our family group. This is the family group I was a part of, we would also eat lunch as a family group after our morning devotional, then we would go back to the cabin for my favorite time on the schedule..... horizontal hour!



After that we would go to another fun activity like swimming or shaving cream fights on Thursday! Here is Callie with her family group at lunch!



Late afternoon we would meet again for an afternoon devotional time as a family group prior to going to dinner and evening worship which was always a very moving time.

We also had theme days, crazy socks, super heroes, mustaches, neon and camp shirts the last day. So if you look closely at the pictures you can tell what day we were in.

On the last day we topped it off with a slide show and afternoon worship on Friday! All in all camp was a wonderful time. I talked to the kids and know that each had their own personal part they liked the most. They had ample opportunity to grow in Christ, share his love, and make new friends all at the same time.



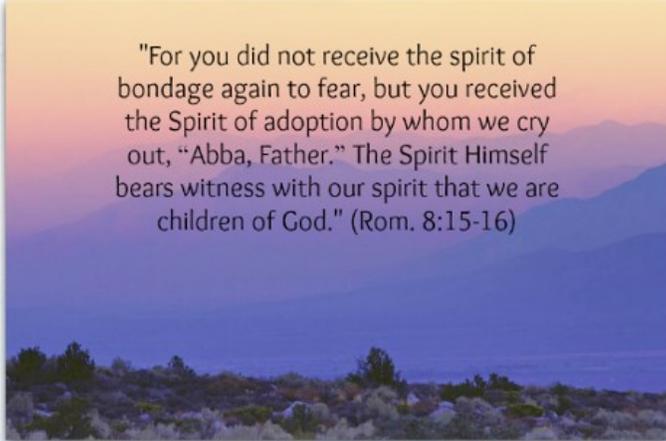
I am so blessed with good friends who have been there to support me. Father's Day was a few Sundays ago and several of you knew that it was going to be really tough for me to preach since I had just recently lost my own father. Jennifer Browning was especially helpful. She knew my theme for the week and decided to help by writing a sermon to give me ideas of what could be said. It was really great. I ended up preaching something else, but her sermon was so good I asked her if I could share it with you in the newsletter. Enjoy hearing God as He speaks through Jennifer: -Keva

"I am your father"

How many of you are familiar with Star Wars? I would imagine most of us here have seen at least one episode of the saga. (cue theme song and opening scroll). Luke Skywalker is a young Jedi in search of the Death Star but even more importantly, his true identity. Luke has spent time in training to become a Jedi pilot and fighter. As a baby, Luke was taken after his birth mother died to be raised by his aunt and uncle. Luke was loved by his adoptive family. He worked and trained hard, but for what purpose? Ultimately, he was going to fight the greatest enemy of the "force." The force, the power of good over evil. The ability to do the right thing when the wrong thing is so much easier and more popular. Young Master Luke is told many times throughout the continuing saga that the "force" is strong within him. This proved to be true, as Luke comes face to face with the most powerful and formidable antagonist. If you went to the theater and saw *The Empire Strikes Back*, you no doubt silently gasped as Luke heard Darth Vader say for the first time, "I am your father." What horrific news for a young Jedi trained and ready to fight all that is on the dark side for what is best and right. Luke didn't know that he would ultimately have to fight his own father. Luke believed that Darth Vader had killed his father, but that's not what happened, and now Luke is faced with the knowledge that his father, a onetime up and coming Jedi, often referred to as the "Chosen One," was in fact the epitome of all that is wrong in their universe. Wow! What an awful surprise. Luke, a good boy, a good young man, from a man who was just bad.

Everyone who has ever lived has a biological father, except Adam and Eve who were not born, but rather created. Some fathers are gentle, tender, and loving. They coach little league, teach us how to ride a bike, and help us to learn what it means to have character. The part of us that does what's right even if no one is watching. Many fathers have helped buy first cars, helped with student loans or tuition. Fathers are celebrated for being the "heads of the family." Fathers teach little boys how to become men who know how to treat ladies. Fathers teach little girls how to be those Ladies.

Not every child born has a biological father like the one just described. Some fathers are more like Darth Vader than they are Robert Young from "Father Knows Best." But there's good news.....2000 years ago, there was a baby born to a young couple. His stepdad was a carpenter. He no doubt learned the trade while playing in the workshop with his step brothers and sisters. Joseph was a remarkable stepfather to this little boy. As Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, he began to fully grasp who he was and his purpose. He was actually born with that information, because He had been from the beginning of time. We know nothing about his formal education other than when he was 12 he went to the temple because it was his father's house, and taught while he was there. When the time was right, Jesus went to the Jordan River to be baptized. If you remember, scripture states that when he came up out of the water, a dove descended on him and a voice said, "This is my son with whom I am well pleased." That certainly clears up who his real father was. His heavenly father pronounced and proclaimed that day that Jesus was his son. After being baptized Jesus began his ministry spending his time telling about His heavenly father. He told stories, parables, healed, and forgave. Jesus wasn't rich; in fact, he didn't have a home. Members of his own family were unaccepting of his ideas and preaching, but Jesus continued. He continued all the way to the cross. Jesus went to the cross so that we, the ones who are less than perfect, often times broken, and sometimes unsure of our value, could look to the heavens and hear with spiritual ears, the words that Luke Skywalker heard. However, when we hear them, they're not spoken by our mortal enemy; in fact, it's quite the contrary. We hear the words through the act of total love and sacrifice. No matter who we are, where we've been, what we've done or been a part of, we hear through the outstretched arms on the cross, "I Am your Father."



"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." (Rom. 8:15-16)

Guest Preacher from England

Mark your calendars: at the end of July and first of August our church will have the opportunity to host a guest preacher from the United Kingdom. Rev. Sean Adair was my Circuit Superintendent when I served in The Methodist Church in England. He is a wonderful preacher (even if he does it with an Irish accent)! Sean will be on sabbatical in the United States and has agreed to spend a couple of weeks here. I know you will want to welcome Sean and his wife Alison to Henrietta. They have been to Texas before, but we all know that you really have not experienced all that there is until you have been in our great community.



UMW

By Sue Murray

On July 11 at 9:30 a.m. the UMW will meet to complete the study on The Will of God, by Leslie D. Weatherhead. If you have not attended regularly, make plans to come as we discuss and do a re-cap of this informative book. Mr. Weatherhead's book was written during WWII, but it is very timely for us today. This study has caused many of us to change our thoughts about why things happen. Many times we blame God, but God did not cause them. It is not God's intention for us to suffer.

The group will not meet in August, but plans are to meet in September. All women are invited. Arrange your schedule for the new school year to join us for good fellowship and learning.

June Memorials

In memory of Kenrick Pitts from:

Paul & Lynette Gill

In memory of Jerry Lefevre from:

Greg & Diane Borgman

Donna Reeves

Paul & Lynette Gill

Billy & Connie Johnson

In memory of Will Leaverton from:

Donna Reeves

Victoria Bell

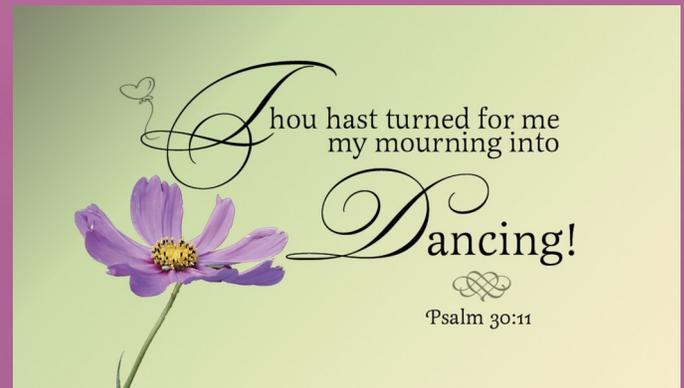
In memory of Lee Harrison from:

Donna Reeves

Emry & Deborah Clark Birdwell

In memory of Sandy Douthitt from:

Billy & Connie Johnson



Jesus' Ten Keys to Joy

Today, by the power of the Holy Spirit

1. I will fix my eyes on Christ instead of my circumstances.
2. I will look to God as the source of everything I need.
3. I will use the name of Jesus with reverence and pray in faith knowing that through His name I have access to the Father.
4. I will honor the Lord with my time, resting in Him and allowing Him to work through me.
5. I will bless and honor those who gave me life.
6. I will give life with my heart, mind, words, and actions.
7. I will walk in ways that are pure and right.
8. I will be a giver, not a taker.
9. I will use my words to bless, edify, and encourage others.
10. I will give thanks in all circumstances.

Report for North Texas Annual Conference

by Cindy Leaverton

It was my privilege to attend the Annual Conference this year. This was my first Annual Conference and I enjoyed learning more about how the conference conducts business. I also learned more about all that the United Methodist Church is doing to bring Jesus into the lives of people in the North Texas region. I was impressed by the many outreach programs that the Conference supports in the North Texas region.

I enjoyed the worship services on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. They have both amazing music and thoughtful messages. The speakers of Dr. Greg Jones and Matt Miofsky were both inspiring speakers. Rev Miofsky is pastor at The Gathering in St. Louis, Missouri. This church is the third fastest growing United Methodist Church in the United States. He presented some ideas on how to reach people who are not attending church.

I appreciated the chance to learn more about the North Texas Conference.

Proverbs 22:17

"A merry heart does good like medicine"

Junior High Camp

This past June we were able to send four of our junior high youth to camp at Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center for a week of fellowship and growth in Christ.

"At camp this year we did many fun things. One of the things we did was learn how to decorate cakes. We learned about how we are the people of God. While I was there, I made some new friends. This made camp a lot easier considering I was the only girl from our church. Anyways overall camp was awesome, and I had a great time." -Sarah Klyn 7th grade



A Note from the Lay Pastoral Care Committee

As most of you are aware, Warren Coody had an accident a couple of weeks ago and is now in HealthSouth Room 129. He is enjoying all of his visitors, and he loves receiving cards. He will be in HealthSouth for at least three weeks. Once he is home, we will be setting up a Care Calendar to arrange meals for him, so be watching the bulletin for that information.



Our VISION:

Is to serve as the heart, hands, and feet of Christ by...

- * strengthening our personal relationship with Christ daily
- * growing internally within our church family, and
- * connecting externally throughout

Costa Rica Mission Trip

by Katie Eubank

From June 10 to June 20, three youth and two adults from our church ventured to Liberia, Guanacaste, Costa Rica for a week of mission work. We traveled with First United Methodist Church of Denton, who brought ten adults and twenty-seven youth. We were welcomed with big loving arms by Iglesia Metodista Fuente de Gracia (Fountain of Grace Methodist Church). Our job was to work on three houses, start a second floor for a youth and children's education wing, as well as lead VBS and paint murals in classrooms.

Our team of five along with three members of FUMC Denton were sent to a church member's home. The family's house was only made of corrugated steel siding causing the house to be extremely hot. We were able to put



up sheetrock as well as add in a wall and doors between the children's and the parents' rooms. Originally the whole family had shared a bedroom. When we were leaving, the mother wrote a letter to us that our translator read aloud. She told us that no one had ever shown her kindness



the heart, hands and feet of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:27)

before. When they first moved into the house, they had no electricity or running water for six months, but she knew that God would help her and she trusted in Him. In this way, the youth were able to see how they were

Another group on the mission trip was able to work at the home of another family, a single father with a brain tumor trying to provide for his ten year old son. With the family's uncertain future, the stress of his prognosis was made worse by their roof beginning to fall in. With a group of hard working youth, they were able to put a new roof up before the original collapsed. Back at the church, VBS and pouring concrete for the second story were both put on hold due to the unpredictable rain showers. But by the grace of God the sky cleared up the last two days we were there. During the church service we were able to share our VBS stories with over twenty local children and on Monday we were able to work from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. putting down concrete for the



second floor.

The youth also completed over nine murals around the church. On Wednesday night we were able to witness a women's group singing and worshipping in a semi circle around one of

the murals. One of our own, William Elms, was asked to create a mural in the church's sanctuary as well as in a children's classroom.

After a week of hard work, the youth were treated to a fun weekend at two resorts where we zip lined through the jungle, traveled on horseback to hot springs, got covered in volcanic mud, and swam in the ocean. I am so proud of everyone who went on this trip! They went above and beyond to show the love



of Christ to everyone they met.

Acts 1:8
"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."



VBS 2017 Hero Central: Discovering Your Strength in God

Wow!! I don't even have the words to describe this week's VBS. First of all, the decorations! Heather did such an amazing job on organizing the decorations. She had such great ideas and everything looks fabulous! What a wonderful job she did organizing and leading VBS this year! She had many people come in throughout the week prior to VBS to help with the decorating and we can't thank all of you enough. We would also like to thank everyone of our volunteers, whether you volunteered as a teacher, a kitchen helper, a floater, or brought supplies, we were blessed by your graciousness. We had a great turnout with anywhere from 64-76 kids daily learning how to be Heroes of God. This year we had an average of 44 adult and youth volunteers daily. Wow! Way to come together as a church family.



Youth

Getting right back to work!

After camp and mission trip our youth got right back to being the heart, hands and feet of Christ in Clay County helping at the Outreach.



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Our MISSION:

is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for
the transformation of the world
from the heart of Clay County.

Church Events

- July 4th: Office Closed for Independence Day
- July 5th: Lay Pastoral Care Committee Meeting 5 p.m., First Wednesday Dinner 6 p.m.
- July 9: HCI Discipleship Team Meeting 3:00 p.m.
- July 11: UMW Meeting 9:30 a.m.
- July 19: HCI Dream Team and HCI Chairs Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- July 20: Fun Bunch: going to Gene's Tasty Burger, 2310 Holliday, Wichita Falls, meet at the back of the church at 6:00 p.m.
- July 23: Christmas in July
- July 25: Board of Trustees Meeting 6:00 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting 6:45 p.m., Administrative Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- July 26: Community-Wide Family Pool Party 6-8 p.m. at the City Pool hosted by FUMC