



FIRST NEWS

“Helping people grow to love Jesus and each other.”



Dear FUMC Heath,

This month we enter into one of the holiest seasons in the Church; the season of Lent. It is an opportunity for looking inward and allowing the Holy Spirit to show us those places where we are hurting, holding back, or need some course correction. Lent is a holy time for confessing, being forgiven, and forgiving others.

But the goal of Lent is not to beat us up, but to help us travel down with Jesus to the place of

crucifixion, to the place we are awakened to the Holy Love of Christ. This is a time of solemn prayer and transformation for individual believers, as well as for us a church community.

This month in worship we will continue our series through the Gospel of John while asking *what does it look like when Love comes to town?* If you haven't been with us in a while, I invite you to join us as we journey through this story during this sacred season.

Love and Peace in Christ,



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & MISSION

H.A.T.S.

March 1

1:00 pm

Heath Area Terrific Seniors is a group that meets the first Wednesday of each month for fun and fellowship. The March gathering will feature harpist, Carol Almassi for St. Patrick's Day.

HEALTHY CHURCH INITIATIVE (HCI UPDATE)



Our HCI prescription encourages us to: “[utilize] existing data from your Self-Study, including the Mission Insight and the Community Survey, to gain a better understanding of the mission field for the purpose of identifying needs and developing strategies for the church to be in ministry with the greater Heath community.”

Our staff and Church Board understand this as a call to intentionally and regularly share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through word and deed to our surrounding community. We believe it is important to make this a priority of the life of our church, while at the same time continuing wonderful work that has been set up in the past.

We understand that a church our size is limited in the resources of people, money, and time, and so intentional planning is needed to reach this goal. One of the aims of the new, simplified Church Board is to provide guidance and oversight to all ministry committees of our church, making sure all we do helps us meet our mission of “helping people to grow to love Jesus and each other.”

The new Church Board began its work in January, which included discerning our final HCI prescription on outreach. We believe that if we can share the gospel in our community and see our church grow, it will allow for more opportunities beyond our city.

The Nominating Committee agreed that we would wait to nominate a new Missions Committee until the Church Board could finish this work. The Board met on January 21 and February 7, and will meet again on March 7 to continue this process.

Once the Church Board has finalized its work on this prescription, we will hold a “town hall” to discuss where we are going as a church in this area. If you have any questions or concerns, please bring them to any of the three of us at any time.

Omar Rikabi
Pastor

Tom Davidson
Board Chair

Catherine Conder
Lay Leader

DISCIPLESHIP

WALK TO EMMAUS

Men's Walk 267 April 20 -23 at Mt. Lebanon

Women's Walk 268 June 15 -18 @ Camp Copass

Men's Walk 269 September 21 -24 at Sabine Creek

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all." For information about Emmaus Walks please call Barbara Rohde at 713-595-2800 or robbarrohde@aol.com.

GRIEF GROUP

This is a 10 week study of the 10 touchstones of a grieving heart through loss. With help from journaling, Journey Through Grief will help those with a loss in the grieving process.

If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Cherry Conner, 214-244-6963, conner.cherry@sbcglobal.net.

Informational Meeting
March 26
Immediately following church
This will be a brief 15-30 minute meeting.



Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TASK FORCE

We are starting to plan for this summer's VBS! Our theme is...

"Maker Fun Factory: Created by God and Built for a Purpose"

July 16th-20th

We need your help to make this year's VBS the best yet for our kids! If you would like to take part in the planning process, please contact Abie (abie@fumcheath.org).



TALENT SHOW 2017

Thanks to everyone who participated!

Over \$900 was raised to help our Youth go to camp this summer!



MUSIC MINISTRIES

As we get ready for Lent, choir is fully engaged and rehearsing for Holy Week. Please keep your music ministry in prayers as we ready ourselves for the holiest of holy week in Christian calendar.

Ever wonder what your voice can do?! Well, here's a great opportunity to get to know your voice the 'Keron' way! Keron Jackson, an opera singer, missionary through music, minister, gospel singer, all over the world, will come to do a voice workshop March 22nd, 7:00-8:00 pm, in choir room. Anyone who's interested in learning to sing better/proper is welcome! NO agenda of joining the choir will be added by Keum.

Here's a link to his sound (the web can only capture glimpse of what he truly sound like). If you have any questions, please ask any of the H.A.T.S. ladies and gentlemen. They've heard him for last two years.

<http://www.keronjackson.com/>

Sample: Not Too Far From Here
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=46&v=nh32qAhCzcg



Choir Rehearsal Schedule
6:00 pm Bell's Angels
7:00 pm Chancel Choir
worship@fumcheath.org

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS

March Birthdays

3—Elijah Roach
Colton Fisher
6—Taylor Fisher
12—Gail Gould
Taylor Prothro
13—David White
14—Tom Davidson
15—Natalie Farrington
25—Jenn Rikabi
28—Mark Eaton
20—Cherry Conner

No March Anniversaries!

*If we missed a Birthday or Anniversary, we are so SORRY!! Please email kerri@fumcheath.org to get it added to our list.

PRAYERS IN THE PARLOR

Meets each Wednesday (off-site) to pray for the needs of our congregation, community and the world. If these "Prayer Warriors" can pray for you or a loved one, please click [here](#) to submit your prayer request or call the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1—HATS Gathering, 1:00pm
March 1—Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00pm
March 12—Daylight Savings Time, 2:00am
March 13-17—Spring Break



STAFF

Kerri Bergerhouse—Administration
kerri@fumcheath.org

Keum (Kim) Hwang—Worship
worship@fumcheath.org

Abie Alford—Youth & Children
abie@fumcheath.org

Ellyn Jacobson—Director, Lil' Voyagers (MDO)
lilvoyagers@fumcheath.org

Omar Rikabi—Pastor
omar@fumcheath.org

CONNECT

Web: fumcheath.org
Facebook: /fumcheath
Twitter: @fumcheath
Email: info@fumcheath.org
Phone: 972-771-6732

Office:
140 Smirl Drive
Heath, TX 75032
Mon-Thu 9am-3pm
Fri 9am-12pm