



# FIRST NEWS

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



Dear FUMC Heath,

First, thank you to EVERYONE who served so tirelessly during Holy Week, and for all who participated: The Palm Sunday Worship Experience, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Stations of the Cross, the Heart of Heath 5K, and all our Easter Sunday worship and celebrations... it was an honor to remember and celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ at First Heath.

Second, barring anything crazy or unexpected, I am thankful to announce I will be appointed to another year as the pastor at First Heath. For those who don't know how our Methodist system works, pastors are appointed every year to their church. Part of our covenant vows as clergy is that we submit to go wherever the bishop sends us. Appointment years are from July 1 to June 30, and so this July I will begin my sixth year here.

Third, our United Methodist Book of Discipline calls for pastors to take a minimum four-week sabbatical every four years they are under appointment. I have been under appointment for twelve years (five here and seven at the University of Arkansas Wesley Foundation) and have not yet taken one. However, with the approval of our District Superintendent, Dr. Ron Henderson, and the blessing of our Church Board, I will be taking a six-week sabbatical from June 10 - July 22. Soon we'll have more information on who will preach and cover pastoral emergencies while I'm gone, but we are working with the staff and District Office on the details. My family and I are beyond thankful for blessing us with this opportunity, and for our staff's willingness to step in where needed (after all, this means they also get a break from me... so they win, too). Please pray for our whole family, that this sabbatical will be healing and restful for our bodies, minds, and souls.

I am thankful to serve as your pastor, and I look forward to the year ahead as we work and worship together to help our community know the love of God the Father through his son Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Love and Peace,

Pastor Omar



# OUTREACH

**H.A.T.S. (Heath Area Terrific Seniors)**  
**May 1, 11:15am**  
**Mystery Lunch**



Come join us for a HATS Mystery Lunch and shopping opportunity on Wednesday, May 1st. We will meet at the church at 11:15 and car pool to our destination.

The cost of the lunch is \$14 and will be collected at the church before we leave. This includes a lunch, desserts, beverage and gratuity. We will have sandwiches, pasta and homemade goodies. There will also be a chance to shop.

If you would like to join us and are not on our regular calling list, please contact Kerri at the church by this Friday. We need to call in our numbers that day.

We hope you can join us as this is not far, but a place you probably have not eaten. It will be fun!

Heath Area Terrific Seniors is a group that meets the first Wednesday of each month for fun and fellowship.

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## Genesis Center

The Genesis Center provides homes for both women and their children in a Christian based environment. FUMC Health supports this center through donations, financial giving, and time spent working in the warehouse or in the center. If you want more information on how you can serve this organization, please contact Barbara Rohde at 713-594- 2800. She would be happy to work with you in any capacity.

## Genesis Center Easter Egg Hunt and Hot Dog Dinner

Thanks to each of you for making the Easter egg hunt/hot dog dinner a huge success. As it was pouring down rain that Saturday morning, the event was moved inside but that did not stop the fun and festivities. In addition to the Easter egg hunt, the kids enjoyed face painting and coloring eggs. Thanks for each of you who supported this event with your time, with your financial gifts, and with the yummy desserts. We are scheduled already for 2020 for the Third Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Genesis Center.



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## Genesis Center Medical Clinic

On another note, if your heart so moves you and you desire to make a contribution to the health clinic, please send your check to the following and address your envelope to the attention of Gail:

Genesis Center 2675 N. Highway 34  
Kaufman, TX 75142

At the end of the year, Gail sends out letters totaling your financial contributions for your taxes. For any questions please reach out to Barbara Rohde at 713-594-2800 or [robbarrohde@aol.com](mailto:robbarrohde@aol.com).

## DISCIPLESHIP

### WALK TO EMMAUS

#### Women's Walk 278

11-7 - 11-10 at Sabine Creek

#### Men's Walk 277

9-26 - 9-29 at Lake Lavon

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](mailto:robbarrohde@aol.com).



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The  
Seedbed  
Daily Text

## Between You and Me

[SEEDBED.COM/DAILYTEXT](http://SEEDBED.COM/DAILYTEXT) - GUEST AUTHOR: OMAR AL-RIKABI

Pastor Omar is writing a daily devotional for the Seedbed Daily Text all May! You can read or listen to it every day at [Seedbed.com/DailyText](http://Seedbed.com/DailyText) (you can also subscribe to get it daily in your inbox).

# MUSIC MINISTRIES

## Choir Rehearsal

### Schedule:

**Bell Choir** (Bells' Angels)

Monday's at 6:00pm

**Flute Choir** (Grace Notes)

Wednesdays at 6:00pm

**Chancel Choir**

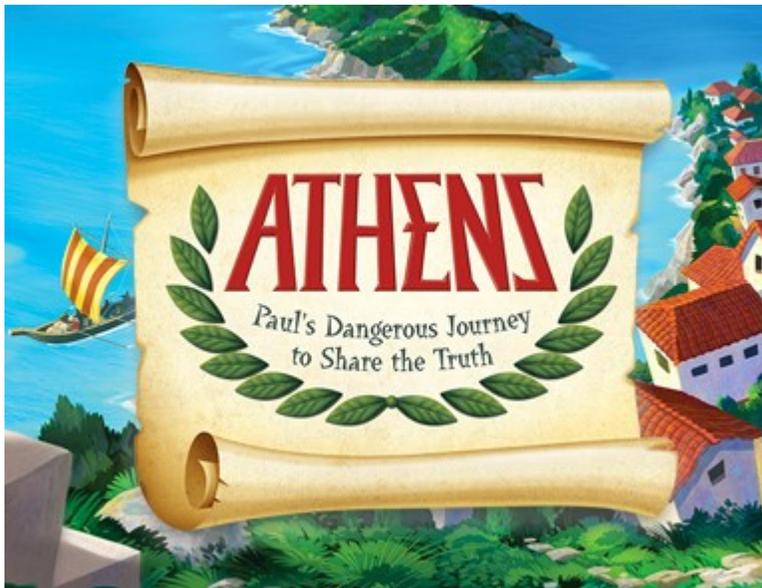
*Thanks*

to everyone who helped with  
Lenten and Easter services and activities this year.  
We couldn't do it without you!



For more information about  
Music Ministries, please contact  
Keum Hwang at  
worship@fumcheath.org

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES



## FUMC Heath VBS

Pre-K (4yrs) - 5th grade

July 28 - August 1st

4:30p - 7:00p

**\*Dinner Included\***

~Volunteer & Child Registration Open~

fumcheath.org

**\*\*FREE\*\***



May 5, 10:30am

Join us for youth Sunday where our youth help lead the service! They will sing, pray, and preach. You do not want to miss out on this great opportunity to see our future leaders in the church bring us into worship.



## Tracker's Family Party

Wednesday, May 22nd, 5:30p—7:00p

We invite all of our kids, parents, and adults to celebrate a successful first year!

We'll have dinner, games, and parents will get to hear some of the lessons your children have been learning!

## CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS

### May Birthdays

2—Spencer Thames  
10—Lou Johnson  
14—Shawn Keane  
19—Ian Gilliland  
Richard Lopez  
22—Dorothy Burriss  
27—Bird Bellamy  
28—Pete Snider

### May Anniversaries

10—Dennis & Tommie Wells  
25—Weldon & Donna Davis  
26—Larry & Faith Sarratt



\*If we missed a Birthday or Anniversary, we are so SORRY!! Please email [kerri@fumcheath.org](mailto:kerri@fumcheath.org) to get it added to our list.

## PRAYERS IN THE PARLOR

Prayers in the Parlor meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month 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 submit your prayer request by calling the church office or call/text or email Barbara at [713-594-2800](tel:713-594-2800) , [robbarrohde@aol.com](mailto:robbarrohde@aol.com).





The church office will be closed Fridays beginning May 24, 2019.



**READ PLEASE**



If you are dropping any items off at the church, PLEASE mark who it is for. If it is not marked, we will recycle.



When using the very back doors (by the youth loft), please use the door stop provided on the right side door.

Also, if you are the last to leave, please check to make sure all doors are CLOSED and locked.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1—HATS Mystery Lunch
- 5—Youth Sunday
- 12—Mother's Day
- 15—Choirs Resume Practices
- 27—Memorial Day—Office Closed

## 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

Last week an almost full can of paint was unknowingly spilled by the back door and left overnight. It wasn't until after Kerri Bergerhouse, our Administrative Assistant for the last 23 years had finished cleaning it all up (oh the things she does that aren't in her job description) that we realized that day was National Administrative Assistant Appreciation Day! Our church depends on volunteer servants, and Kerri not only works with the staff, but she also does so much to keep all the wheels turning here. From the plumbing to the kitchen to the newsletters and bulletins to just about everything... there is not one ministry, event, or issue at the church that doesn't come past her desk at some point.

So since we dropped the ball (and the paint) on celebrating her on her appreciation day, would you join us in helping celebrate her: Let's flood her with affirmation and appreciation through texts (her number is 214-697-8014) emails ([kerri@fumcheath.org](mailto:kerri@fumcheath.org)) or cards, letters, or food (or a beverage) to the church (140 Smirl Drive, Heath TX 75032). Thank you Kerri.... here's to 23 more years keeping us in line!

