

SAINT JOHN'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Creating a community where
God's love changes people
and God's people change the world.



Sunday Morning Worship

February 28: 9:00 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School

9:55-10:50 a.m. (some start earlier - see brochure on information table)

February 28, 2010 Newsletter

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Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed Fridays

1 *We believe in:* making disciples of Jesus Christ for transformation of the world.

2 *We live by two kinds of holiness:* Personal, Social

3 *We follow three simple rules:* Do no harm, Do good, Stay in love with God

4 *We work in four areas of focus:* Develop leaders, Create places for new people, Eliminate poverty, Improve health globally

Our Life Together by Georjean Blanton

As I am writing this article, emergency teams are digging through the destruction of a building just a few miles from our church, searching for survivors. By the time you read this, the news of our world and our community will have likely moved on, but at this moment, many are asking why. Why would a person who friends report to have been pretty normal, a kind, fun man, who loved his wife and step-daughter and enjoyed making music with a pick-up band, decide, seemingly out of the blue, to burn down his house and fly a plane into a building?



Like any tragedy, there are a multitude of answers, most of which we are unlikely to ever know. Reflecting on this horrible event, though, has caused me to think about a conversation several members of the Intentional Faith Development staff were having earlier this week about, of all things, getting committed, spiritually grounded teachers for our children's classes---and the importance of faith formation for young children. The essence of our conversation was that what we are doing on Sunday mornings with our children and youth is important. It is giving them the spiritual tools they need for a lifetime.

Sally Rodgers and Tracy Burger put it this way, "We feed our children healthy foods. We make sure they get plenty of exercise, not play too many video games or watch too much TV. We want them to have long lives here on earth. Don't we want them to be just as healthy spiritually? The answer is, of course, yes. We want them to grow to know God and the Bible, to practice kindness and the Biblical ethic of how people are to live together. We want them to know a gracious God who is real and accessible through life's joys and sadness. Most of all, we want them to develop a personal, sustaining relationship with God. It's intentional faith development, and it starts at a very early age."

It would be much too simplistic to suggest that the answer to why someone would fly a plane into a building is because he did not have good Sunday school teachers, but as we are considering this terrible tragedy, I think we can and should ask what we can do for our children and youth now to give them the spiritual resources they need to sustain them in difficult times throughout their lives. Lent is the season in our Christian year when we are reminded that the God we worship walks with us through all the trials of our lives. It is never too early to teach our children that lesson; and it is one that we all need to learn again and again, regardless of our age.

"Our Life Together" continued on page 2

FEBRUARY 28 IN WORSHIP

This second Sunday in Lent, Rev. David Gilliam brings the message "God's Sanctifying Grace", based on 1 John 4.13-18 and 1 Thessalonians 4.3a. Music is shared by the Chancel Choir at the 9:00 a.m and 11:00 a.m. services. Children's special music offering at 11:00 a.m.

Calendar

Sunday, February 28

950a Kids On A Mission, GH
1000a Lenten Class, FH
1000a Host Training & Social, Chapel
1200p SPR, 5900B
1230p Missions, 5900F
200p Flute Choir, MR
300p SAI Alumnae Benefit, Sanc.
430p Prayer Group, A
530p UMYF, YH
630p Tex-Mix, 5900B

Monday, March 1

1230p Eclipsing Empire, 211
530p Aerobics, YH
530p Al-Anon, A
600p Radical Hospitality, Offsite
630p Communications, 5900F
630p Heart of Christianity, 5900B

Tuesday, March 2

230p Tai Chi, 5900B
630p Acts of Disciples, 5900B
700p Trustees, 5900F

Wednesday, March 3

900a Staff Meeting, 208
1030a GG Chapel, Sanc.
1045a Cokesbury, MR
130p Intro to Group Spiritual, Chapel
530p Aerobics, YH
545p Jones Handbells, Sanc.
600p Trinity, MR
630p Way of Forgiveness, 208
630p Primer on John Wesley, 119
630p Beginnings, 211
630p Chancel Choir, Sanc.
730p Debtors Anon, A

Thursday, March 4

900a Postal Pros, 119
930a Games Day, 208
1000a GG Music, 101
1100a Communion Bags, 211
100p Grace Garden Art, 102
600p Miriam Circle, 5900
700p AA, A

Friday, March 5

1200p Girls in Grace, A
530p Aerobics, YH

Saturday, March 6

500p Wesley SS Class Chili Supper, 5900

A, B, C = Annex Classrooms (5906 Wynona)
FH = Fellowship Hall
GH = Great Hall
MR = Music Room
Sanc. = Sanctuary
YH = Youth House (5908 Wynona)
5900= 5900 Wynona: F=Front B=Back

Contact Us

452.5737 / 452.6145 Fax
2140 Allandale Road, Austin, TX, 78756

Contact information continued on Sidebar pg. 3

Not everyone has the same gifts, but we all have a responsibility to raise the children of this church. We make that commitment when they are baptized. And it is a promise we must keep. Whether you are a teacher or a shepherd, a helper or a healer, the children of Saint John’s depend on you to help them grow into spiritually mature adults whose faith will sustain them through difficult times. If you feel you are being called to be part of this important ministry, please let Tracy, Sally, or me know. You may be saving a life!

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28

Hospitality Meeting and Social for Ushers and Greeters

We will be having a meeting of all ushers and greeters for both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services **this Sunday**, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel. We will be serving refreshments, meeting each other, talking about the duties, giving contact information and working out some small kinks. Please let Sallie (ssassano@stjohnsaustin.org) know if you are unable to attend. If you are interested in greeting or ushering you are also welcome to attend. We need more volunteers! Can’t wait to see you there.

Kids to Put Together Giggle Bags! - This Sunday

Kids On A Mission is assembling Giggle Bags for young hospital patients in Austin. Please join us in the great hall at 9:50 a.m. If you’ve ever been in a hospital, you know that even spending a few hours there can be boring and not much fun. Our hope is that these bags, filled with fun items, will bring joy to children.



KOAM is in need the following items for Giggle Bags:

- brown paper bags
- bubbles, puzzles
- handheld games
- any small, silly items that can fit easily into a bag.

If you have questions about what to bring, please email sally@stjohnsaustin.org. KOAM is set for once a month throughout the year. Please see Children’s Corner for a list of all other events coming up in Children’s Ministry.

Lenten Study on Prayer - Begins February 28

Starting this Sunday, February 28 at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall, Georjean Blanton will lead a four week discussion about prayer, what is it, why do we do it, how do we do it, what difference does it make? All Sunday school classes as well as those who are not part of a regular Sunday school class are invited. No experience or text is required: simply a desire to know more.

Scholarship Benefit Concert at Saint John’s - Feb. 28

A benefit concert will be presented in the sanctuary at Saint John’s UMC on Sunday afternoon, February 28 at 3:00 p.m. by musicians of the Austin Alumnae chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota. Performers include Kay Race, well-known local pianist; Cina Crisara, music director at Saint John’s UMC, singing and playing; and Saint John’s choir member Penny Griffy, playing a flute duo with Sally Grant. There is no charge for the concert, but donations for the SAI scholarship fund for young women musicians from the University of Texas and Texas State University will be welcomed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Meet the Pastor - March 7

If you are visiting Saint John's and would like to have an informal, small group Q&A time with Rev. David Gilliam, please come to the Meet the Pastor on Sunday, March 7, at 10:00 in the Chapel which is to the right of the sanctuary.

Stress Free Sunday - March 7

Busy schedules, full calendars and even discomfort with public profession can hinder folks from joining the church. So we are having a "Stress Free Sunday" and hope to take down some of those barriers. If you have been baptized and wish to join Saint John's we invite you to come to the chapel (just out the Sanctuary Doors and to the left) at the conclusion of either worship service on March 7. If you have not been baptized and would like to join the church you can contact one of the pastors to help you with that process.

First Sunday/Food Pantry Sunday - March 7

Hope Food Pantry is in need of a large supply of canned and boxed soups to finish out the winter food needs. In 2009, Hope Food Pantry distributed food to 9560 individuals, of those almost half were children. This is an increase of 1,176 more clients than in 2008. Saint John's contributions do make a difference. Please remember your soups and/or dollars on March 7th.

CROP Walk is Coming March 6-7

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 6 and Sunday, March 7 for the annual CROP Walk sponsored by Austin Area Interreligious Ministries (AAIM). This is a city wide fundraising event that raises money to relieve hunger both locally and world wide. It really doesn't require much. The walking part of the event usually lasts only about 30-45 minutes. Along the way we socialize with each other and meet up with friends from other churches throughout the city. If you can't participate yourself, I hope that you will be able to donate funds for people who will be walking.

This year will be even more special because the walk will take place at a different location. Just imagine a nice refreshing walk around Walter E. Long Metropolitan Park (6614 Blue Bluff Rd. off Decker Lake Rd., near the Travis Country Expo Center). 25% of the money raised locally stays locally to support food needs in local agencies. The remaining 75% helps to support the overall ministry of Church World Service, especially the grassroots, hunger-fighting development efforts of partner agencies in some 80 countries. CROP Hunger Walks help to provide tools of hope that empower people to meet their own needs. From seeds and tools, to wells and water systems, to technical training and micro-enterprise loans, the key is people working together to identify their own development priorities, their strengths and their needs.

Saint John's had nearly 20 walkers and many more supporters who participated in last year's event. Look for the display in the gallery this week which will have sign up sheets, a poster with pictures from last year and the not-to-be-forgotten donation container. If you have questions, contact Pat Stewart (home 506-8367 or cell 565-8702). I look forward to getting out and meeting everyone and enjoying a beautiful day to help with a wonderful cause.

Saturday Registration at 9:30 a.m.; Walk begins at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Registration at 1:45 p.m.; Walk begins at 2:30 p.m.

Web site: www.stjohnsaustin.org

Email: info@stjohnsaustin.org

News by Email - Contact the office by phone or email and give us your email.

Newsletter deadlines!

Newsletter submissions are due the previous Thursday (yes, 10 days before!) for inclusion in the following Sunday's newsletter. Articles may be edited for style and length. Submit to holly@stjohnsaustin.org or leave your article in the church staff mailbox outside of the church office.



March 2: Sarah Coffman, Kerry Tate
Catherine Foster, Christy Johnson

March 3: Joe Birdwell,
Dorothy Munson

March 4: Rita Brock, Holly Jurbergs,
Dick Senn, Stephanie Tiedeken

March 5: Barbara Curran,
Mikayla Harper, Katherine Mullin

March 6: Colin Brown, Sarah Howell

March 7: Tina Bauguess, Jenny Shaw
David Cappolino, Dennis Moad,
Buddy Oliver, JoAl Sheridan,
Doug Simmer

March 8: Zach McCullough,
Patti Summerville

OUR PRESENCE:

Attendance Sunday, February 21

Ash Wed. 12:00p	39
Ash Wed. 6:30p	79
Contemplative Worship	5
Sunday School	191
Worship 9:00a	114
Worship 11:00a	232
Worship Total	469

Worship Service CD's Available

If you know someone who would like a CD on a weekly basis, give the name to Jeanette Ball. We also need people to deliver them to our homebound. Sunday's Worship CDs are available for pick-up in the church office on Thursday mornings, and a limited number of CDs are available for anyone on Sundays in the Gallery.

SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES

Feb. 10: Cokesbury at Grace House
Tuesdays, March 2 - March 30 :Tai Chi
Class at 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 4: Games Day

Thursday, March 11: Cokesbury sings
at Crestview UMC

Large Print Hymnals Available

Large print hymnals are available on the usher carts that are near the entrance doors to our sanctuary. If you know someone who has special needs, please let the church know. We will do our best to accommodate them.

Upper Room Devotional

The March/April issue of the Upper Room daily devotional is available for \$1.50 each on the Information table at the front entrance to the church.

Save Your Tabs!

Save the pull tabs on your fruit, veggie and meat cans, as well as soda cans and put them in the specially marked "Ronald McDonald House" boxes attached to the can recycle containers around the church. Ronald McDonald House receives money for these tabs to support their "home-away-from-home" for families of children with serious illnesses.

Hope Food Pantry Help

The Discussion Class (Room 119) collects clean grocery bags, clean newspaper sleeves, clean plastic water bottles with lids, and the coupons that come with the local Sunday newspaper. This is a project that helps with the Hope Food Pantry that is a neighborhood source of food for the low income families who are in need of assistance. Questions? Contact Margaret Wood at mboucherw@yahoo.com.

OUR SERVICE

Open Hearts Volunteer Opportunities in this week's newsletter

- Ushers and Greeters, pg. 2
- KOAM, pg. 2
- Food Pantry, pg. 3
- CROP Walk, pg. 3
- Save Your Tabs, pg. 4
- Easter Egg Hunt, pg. 4
- Galveston Mission Trip, pg. 4

Moms' Coffee - Monday, March 8

The next Moms' Coffee is Monday, March 8, when we'll continue our discussion of Immaculée Ilibagiza's amazing autobiography "Left to Tell." Ilibagiza's life was transformed dramatically during the 1994 Rwandan genocide when she and seven other women spent 91 days huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's house. She entered the bathroom a vibrant, 115-pound university student and emerged weighing just 65 pounds to discover all but one family member had been brutally murdered. Crediting her survival to faith and prayer, after her escape she found it possible, and in fact imperative, to forgive her family's killers.

Join us at 9:00 a.m. at 5900 Wynona for pastries and hot coffee. We will go through the book together and meet every other week to discuss. Free childcare provided. Please email sally@stjohnsaustin.org if you would like it. You may purchase the book beforehand through Amazon.com. Copies of the book are also available at Austin public libraries. The cost of the study is free. On May 1, Immaculée will be at the Paramount to talk about her remarkable life. We will plan to attend this special event as a group.

Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Lunch - March 28



Children 5th grade and younger are invited to participate our annual Saint John's Easter Egg Hunt event. Each child needs to bring one dozen "stuffed" plastic eggs for the Easter egg hunt. Please place Easter eggs in the labeled containers in the Gallery prior to the 11:00 a.m. worship service. After the service, parents and children will gather at 5900 Wynona. Join us for lunch after the egg hunt. Sandwiches will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Be looking for a sign up sheet in the gallery beginning February 28. For questions or to volunteer, please contact Tracy Burger at tracy@stjohnsaustin.org.

Back to the BEACH...to Work!

Saint John's has another adult mission trip scheduled April 11 - 16 on Galveston Island. There are still 2000 homes in need of repair. Options include three to five days, leaving Sunday and returning Friday inclusive. Cost, approximately \$100. We will have a short meeting soon to answer questions. For information or questions, contact Mike Renquist, 663-9868 or mgrenquisit@sbcglobal.net.

3-2-1 Blast Off! Galactic Blast VBS - July 12 - 16

Let the countdown begin...Galactic Blast launches off at Saint John's the week of July 12 - 16. Cadets ages 4 through entering 5th grade are invited to join us from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon each day for Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God! At Galactic Blast, your children will become cadets on the starship Galactic Praise as we learn more about our wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, awesome God. Through music, crafts, science activities and games, kids will witness how our mighty God is at work in the world. Online Registration begins Sunday, April 4.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Children's Events

Sunday, February 28: Kids On A Mission at 9:50 a.m., great hall
Sunday, February 28: Special Children's Music Offering at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday, March 21: Kids On A Mission at 9:50 a.m.
Sunday, March 28: Children's Palm Procession at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Special Music Offering at 11:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt at 12 noon, 5900 Wynona

July 12 – 16: Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School from 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Children's Sunday School 9:50 a.m.

Sunday, February 28:

Children Kindergarten - 5th grade meet at 9:50 a.m. in the great hall for Kids On A Mission. We will put together Giggle Bags for young hospital patients in Austin.

Children ages 3 - 4 years meet in their regular Sunday school room.
(Rm. 105 - drop off in 106)

Youth Events

Sunday, February 28:

MYF - The Rev. Dr. Georjean Blanton will be our guest speaker as we wrap up our month-long series "Why I am a follower of Jesus." Georjean will lead us through the Labyrinth. Free dinner and a wonderful program. Please join us in the youth house from 5:30-7:30p.m.

Youth Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. in the Youth House

Sunday, February 28:

• **Confirmation Class:**

We continue our study "Claim the Name."

• **7th - 8th grade:**

This is our last Sunday in our series on "Jesus" led by Valerie Vogt.

• **9th - 12th grade:**

This is our last Sunday with Micheal Harper and "Living the Questions."



Grace Garden Happenings

This past week the Busy Bees have been learning about the great state of Texas. I was very proud that they all knew what state they lived in, especially since I am a native Texan myself! We learned about the state bird, the state tree, and our state motto. Did you know that the state motto for Texas is Friendship? I feel that Grace Garden demonstrates this feeling as soon as you walk inside the halls. The children's desire for learning keeps us on our toes and helps us to remember why we are here. The Busy Bees are looking forward to another exciting week learning more about Texas and all that this big state has to offer. I might end up learning a thing or two myself! *Ms. Jessica, Busy Bees Teacher*



NEWS & NOTES

Communion Rail Offering

The Communion Rail Offering the first Sunday in March will go to the Southwest Texas Chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA). Founded in 1907, the MFSA calls upon the United Methodist Church to expand its understanding and embodiment of the radical call of the Gospel to be the inclusive, justice-seeking, risk-taking Body of Christ. The Southwest Texas Chapter has been accredited since 2007. We have sponsored or co-sponsored events such as the Creating a Culture of Peace Workshop, the showing of the film “Nobelity”, a Batteries-Oil-Paint-Antifreeze (BOPA) recycling event, and several programs to encourage responsible environmental stewardship. We have participated in the MLK March and various events calling for peaceful rather than military actions to resolve differences with U.S. adversaries. We are currently learning about various local programs to help reduce poverty and its effects in our community and will choose one of them to support actively later this year. Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Rowland or Janice Curry (836-7004) or Anne Mund (343-0803). Join us!

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening is the leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings in the US. Currently, in neighborhoods like ours, Life Line Screening is screening approximately 1 million people each year, adding to the 6 million previously screened since their beginning in 1993. Cardiovascular disease is the #1 killer in the United States of both men and women—and a leading cause of permanent disability. You may think that your physician would order these screenings if they were necessary. However, insurance companies typically will not pay for screenings unless a person has suffered symptoms. Unfortunately, for so many people, the first sign of a stroke is a stroke. That is why having a Life Line screening is so important to keep you and your loved ones healthy and independent. We encourage you to talk to your physician about Life Line Screening. Life Line screening will be held at Saint John’s on Monday, April 19. Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-690-6313.

Lost and Found

Please see if any of these items belong to you. Anything left in the lost and found box at the end of February will be donated to charity. Lost and found is located under the desk just outside the church office.

- Round tin blue Christmas tray
 - Child’s blue quilted zip-up vest
 - Child’s size 5 white sweater with 2 dark red roses on front
 - Child’s swimsuit, aqua blue with colored dots and pink sash
 - Small stuffed Daisy duck
 - 3 pet bowls: small yellow w/cat; small multicolored w/dog; large grey dog bowl
 - Several umbrellas
 - A black heavy wool ladies coat is hanging in the church office.
 - Ladies medium Guess tan suede zip-up jacket in church office.
-

Newsletter Schedule in March

Due to spring break schedules, we will not be publishing a newsletter on March 21. Submissions for the March 14 issue are due Thursday, March 4. This issue will cover events and news through March 27. Please plan ahead and submit articles to holly@stjohnsaustin.org or leave your article in the church staff mailbox.

Invite Someone

Did you know that 26% of our new members who join our church services come because they have seen Saint John’s as they passed through the neighborhood, but 63% come because one (or more) of you invited them! Have you extended such an invitation?

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Saint John's staff and prayer group members pray for these people each week. We encourage you to include them in your prayers as well. To have your prayers of joys and concerns added to the list, please submit them in writing to the office, or to info@stjohnsaustin.org. Include your name and phone number.

Hospital: Jane King, Don Curry

Deaths: Willa Frances (Fran) Wyatt McComas passed away February 18. Funeral Service was February 22 at Saint John's UMC; Burial at Capitol Parks Cemetery, Pflugerville.

<i>Prayers and Concerns:</i>	Naomi Fitzmorris	Dale Kirtland	Janice Speaks
Saint John's Family	Theresa Kotara Fohn	Frank Kizlinski	Becky Stathos
Norma Barber	Gail Fuller & Carrie James	Bill Lust	Rev. Henry Swafford
Keith Beasley	Linda Greenhaw	Dora & Charles McDonald	Sally Tanberg
Bill Brewer	Jeff Haynes	Ryan Melton	Rita Tanberg
Sara Burden-McClure	Bill Henry	Marge Michalchick	Jerry Todd
David Cappolino	John and Lainie Hettrick	Scott Millard	Kathie Tovo,
Rick and Spencer Chaney	Elmer Hixson	Virginia Montgomery	Tom Hurt and family
Allyson Clynch	The Tim Horner family	Alan Morris	Flo Wojcik
Sonny Cochran	Brent House's family	Richard Murph	Amy Wright
Liam Collier	Reva and Jack Jackson	Dorothy Parker	Dorothea & Vernon Wright
Jill Deckman	Christy Johnson	The Piland family	Karen Young
Chris Deloach & Angie M.	Ollie Jones	Barby Pool	Cy Zaleski
Gary Dittmar	Terry Jones	Wade and Rayda Porter	Ben Zieger
Muriel England	Tommye Jones	Scott Rust	
Bob Favret	Mildred Keithly	Chris Sparks	

Military Service: Captain Luke E. Barber (Dora Barber's grandson), Shea Browning (Faye Byers' great grandson), Marine Riley Callahan (Jane Wilson's grandson), Tim Campbell (Kathie Tovo's nephew), Eric Clakley (husband of Rachel Richey Clakley), Wesley Ebbers (Susan Harrelson's nephew), PV2 Amanda Fain (Renee Speed's niece), Wesley Iley (Cecil Allert's grandson), Stephen Jarman (Gene Jarman's son), Brandon Kloppe (Elissa Kloppe's husband), Cpl. Justin Kloppe (Elissa Kloppe's brother-in-law), Tech Sgt. Chad Knox (Lynn Lindsay's nephew), SSG (P) John M. Lewis (Nona Gold's great nephew), Michael Scott Meischen, US Navy (Sue Meischen's grandson), Alexandria Ogg (Elissa Kloppe's cousin), Sean Pavelka (Kim Graley's cousin), SSGT Hans Pugh (Tim Pugh's son), Rudy Rosales (Melissa Rosales' husband), Cpl. Peyton Sackett (Randi Wardian's friend), Col. Kenneth Tovo (Kathie's brother), Thomas Walker (Johanna's husband), Chester Wall (Karen Young's nephew), Holden Wilkie (Sally Tanberg's son), Tyler Wilkins (Georjean Blanton's great nephew), Scott Zaleski (Judy & Cy Zaleski's son). Jason Zirkle (Leif Dove's cousin), Megan Montgomery's husband, Mark.

PLEASE NOTE:

Prayer requests are listed for one month and then automatically roll off, unless you advise us otherwise. If you know of a listed concern that no longer needs our prayers, please let us know.

Please take a moment to write a note, on a Prayer Post Card, to individuals for whom you are praying. Prayer Post Cards are available in the pews. If you do not know the address, cards may be placed in the offering plate or left in the church office for mailing.

SAINT JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS NOTES

For a full description of Sunday School Classes at Saint John's, please see the brochure at the table by the front doors.

Companions Class, Annex A

For progressive 40-something couples, singles and partners. Part of the Reconciling Ministries Network. Contact: Cathy Kyle, 450-0919.

Discussion Class, Rm. 119

People in this class consider relevant books and papers within the context of the Bible and our Faith. The class discusses the intersection of current social issues and Christian Faith. Contact: Bill Harris, 454.1052 or billandlibharris@sbcglobal.net

Fellowship Class, Rm. 210

Our lesson today was about transformation and change. When the disciples were allowed to see the transformation of Jesus they were afraid of what was to come. We are reminded that change is a form of growing not only outwardly but spiritually as well. Our singing was enhanced today by the large number of members present. We sang Happy Birthday to Jennie Lou Knobloch. We also had one visitor, Ruth Armstrong. The beautiful weather was a welcomed site.

Happy Heretics, 5900 Wynona, Front

On February 7, the Happy Heretics began a 7-part study of the Book of Ruth with a new series from Living the Questions called "Uppity Women of the Bible". Each session features a 10-15 minute video segment from Dr. Lisa Wolfe, Professor of Hebrew Bible at Oklahoma City University followed

by lively and engaging discussion (from you). This is a really fun class. I hope you can come.

New Young Adults Class, Rm. 207

This gathering of young adults (20s and 30s) that meet upstairs in room 207. We meet weekly, supporting each other and discussing topics of interest. Visitors highly encouraged!

Open Circle, Annex C

January 10, we began the churchwide study, The ENOUGH Initiative: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity. This Scripture based study on generosity and simplicity is quite relevant to our current economic crisis. It promises some fresh understandings of our faith in today's world. Themes of loss, materialism and change will also be covered. All are welcome to attend this study or visit. Feel free to contact Beth Siever if you have any questions at: bsiever@austin.rr.com.

Seekers Class, 5900 Wynona, Back

Singles and couples in their 30s to 50s seeking to become better disciples of Christ through primarily scripture-based studies. Class time is informal yet enriching through education, prayer and support for each other. The class also enjoys family-oriented service and social events.

Serenity Class, Rm. 206

Our class serves as a bridge between the church and those of us who struggle with our own compulsive nature, whether it involves work, food, alcohol, drugs, focusing on other people, etc. Whatever is shared within

the class remains confidential. We use scripture and the 12-steps of AA as guides for our discussion but the class is not a 12-step meeting.

Wesley Class, Rm. 208

Ina Gay gave the lesson from Matthew 17 about the transfiguration of our Lord, with a comparison of the event in the gospels of Mark and Luke. LaVonne handed out new printed roll of members. We will meet in the church's new house Saturday, March 6 for our annual chili supper at 5:00 p.m. Members should bring a salad or dessert. Ollie Jones will need more surgery. Keep Tommye and Ollie in your prayers. Keep Sheryl (Housh) Stack and her daughter in your prayers.

