



St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
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News from Becky!

Many thanks to all of you! Due to your generosity we have been able to donate 2,757 ½ pounds to the Food Care Center. Usually the center handles 60,000 visits a year. In the last 4 months, they have served over 100,000! Anything you can bring is a big help! Keep up the good work! Right now they are asking for pasta, rice, snack type foods and baby/infant food so keep that in mind when shopping! Watch for the freebies at the grocery store when you use a combo loco at HEB. Even if you don't want the item, someone else might. Looking forward to donating 3000 pounds in 2018!

The Mission/Outreach team thanks you for the 36 dozen cookies you baked! We took them to Georgetown where they were busy gathering lots and lots of boxes of cookies! The troops will love having a taste of home showing up. The estimated date of arrival overseas was Dec 23-25th. What a nice gift for each of those receiving them.

The UMW had their annual banquet on December 16th. At the banquet the manager and assistant manager (and special guest, Astro, looking for a new home) of the local Texas Humane Heroes came and talked about the shelter. Nina Spieler said that the items we donated would in fact be used that night! Thanks to so many of you donating **14 bags** of sheets, towels, blankets, quilts, etc. They use the sheets to keep puppies warm, towels to clean both dogs and the shelter, and everything else to make the dogs comfortable. She also talked about volunteer opportunities such as assisting the staff and socializing the animals. See Becky for info on how to contact them! Thanks again for helping to keep the least of these loved and cared for. Our Police officer was not able to attend because of police business (he got called out!) but I have been able to deliver 52 blankets to the police department to help comfort those who have been traumatized. This can be folks at a fire, children scared or harmed by domestic violence and more. Again, thank you so much! In addition, a new slate of officers was installed. Jeanne Ashley will be taking over from Anna Leach as President, Becky Hunt as Vice President, Judy Roundtree as Treasurer and Aurora Cepeda as Secretary. Thanks to the outgoing officers for your faithful service! In January we have several opportunities to join us – Hope Circle on Tuesday Jan 9th at 10:30 (bring a dish and join us for lunch!), Leadership meeting Jan 9th at 4:30 pm, Faith Circle on Tuesday, Jan 16th at 4:30 pm, and our General Meeting on Tuesday, Jan 23rd at 6:00 pm. Please come join us and have some fun!

If you would like to donate to our boomerang program to help provide weekend nourishment for children in need, please mark your check or envelopes as **BOOMER BAGS**. Every little bit helps! We provide bags for 60 children attending East Ward Elementary each Friday with healthy food items for the weekend.

The Beacon

*Come home to St. Andrew's United Methodist Church ...
 There's a Place for You Here!!.*



January 2018

*St. Andrews is a diverse family
 sharing God's transforming love
 with our neighbors*



Praying with Our Bodies
 By David Leach



When we pray we feel we are using our mind, spirit and soul, but would seldom feel we are involving our bodies. With our head bowed, eyes closed, and our hands folded we are seemingly trying to shut our bodies out of the process. We may even be trying to shut off all sensation from our bodies, so we can be present with God in our spirit.

Remembering that in being created by God we are given bodies and God proclaims our bodies as "good," our bodies must be important in our relationship with God. God cared about us so much that He came as a human in Jesus with a real body and all its bodily functions. What role does my body play in my prayer life and relationship with God? Surely it is more than my physical side which is simply to be disciplined and subdued as a rebellious presence. If God created my body good, and come in flesh Himself, then my body should play a positive role in my relationship with God.

I find that when worship involves body movement, it seems to have more power to move me spiritually also. My faith decisions that require me to act physically, seem more real and concrete, than simply speaking words alone. Take for instance, the sacraments of baptism and communion, which involve eating, drinking and washing. Confession which involves a physical movement, helps me to feel more unburdened and set free.

When I speak with God, I will seek to use my body and allow it to move in ways that seem appropriate to our conversation.

When I praise Him I could stand with arms uplifted and head raised, or maybe even dance before the Lord.

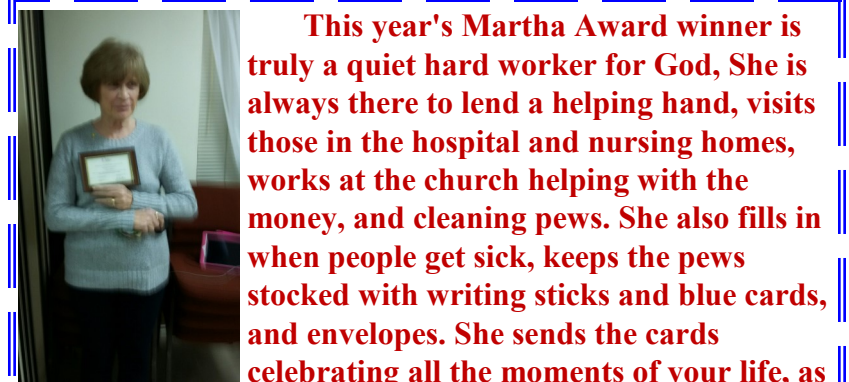
Anniversaries
 Chuck & Janet DeWeerd 2nd
 Shane & Michelle Guinther 9th



Happy Birthday!

Roseanne Dietze	2nd
Jeanne Ashley	7th
Adrian Knotts	11th
Kimberly Dietze	14th
Rosie Fairfield	18th
Cindy Parrett	19th
Bud Parrett	21st
Aurora Cepeda	22nd
Joe Pelletier	26th
Jean Wright	29th
Katrina Burton	30th

We are looking for drummers, tambourine players, guitar players, voices, or you can just clap your hands joyfully for the Lord. You can participate as often as you would like, once a month or once a week. Come make some joyful noise! If you are interested, please contact our music director, Gary Hunt.



This year's Martha Award winner is truly a quiet hard worker for God, She is always there to lend a helping hand, visits those in the hospital and nursing homes, works at the church helping with the money, and cleaning pews. She also fills in when people get sick, keeps the pews stocked with writing sticks and blue cards, and envelopes. She sends the cards celebrating all the moments of your life, as well as keeping the candy jar in the office filled and Judy and visitors happy with chocolate! She participates in Bible studies, Boomer bags, VBS, and collections for Food Care Center and does it all with a big smile! In her quiet way she personifies being a "Martha"- strong in her faith and a faithful servant of God.

Congratulations go out to Ethel Rowe!



Thank You!

Boy, you ladies of the church can keep a secret! I was very surprised and very honored to receive the 2017 Martha Award. I thank you all for this special recognition for doing the things that I love to do for my church and church family that are all so dear to me. Thank you again! Ethel

Rainbow Emmaus Gathering

The Rainbow Emmaus Group will meet Thursday, January 11th with covered dish and business starting at 6:30 pm and worship to follow. Remember to bring your worship book, cross and name tag. The gathering will be held at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church.



Saying Thank you is important. When Jesus does something for you, take time to thank Him.

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 If you are interested in Vacation Bible School, we will have our first meeting on January 13th at 9:00 am. We will be white water rafting this year, so strap on your life vests and plan on joining us! If you are interested in joining us, please come to this meeting so that we have time to get you trained in Safe Sanctuary. If you do not do this training you will NOT be allowed to be around the kids. I know we need several people to help with crafts, food, music, voice of the puppet and more! So come on down and learn more about this fun, exciting way to present God's word to kids (and adults also learn!) Again, that's Saturday, January 13th at 9:00 am –there will be coffee and snacks!

Congratulations Brian!!!



We wish you the best with your new assignment at Rogers UMC. We will miss you but we are very proud of all you have accomplished in such a short time.

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed	2 Lunch Bunch Golden Corral 12:30 pm	3 Upper Room Bible Study 9 am Our Centering Time women 3:15	4	5 Boomerang Bags 9 am	6
7 Communion Offering: Human Relations Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am Young Adult 4 pm	8 Domino Station 12:30	9 Joy Bible Study 9 am Emmaus Reunion 11 am UMW Hope 10:30 UMW leadership 4:30 pm UMM Dinner meeting 6:30	10 Upper Room Bible Study 9 am Women's Emmaus reunion 5:30 pm	11 Rainbow Emmaus 6:30 St Andrews	12 Boomerang Bags 9 am	13 VBS 9 am
14 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am Young Adult 4 pm	15 Domino Station 12:30	16 Joy Bible Study 9 am Emmaus Reunion 11 am UMW Faith 4:30 pm	17 Upper Room Bible Study 9 am Our Centering Time women 3:15 Women's Emmaus reunion 5:30 pm	18 Pinochle 12- to 4 pm Fowler Hall reserved 6 to 10 pm	19 Boomerang Bags 9 am	20
21 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am Young Adult 4 pm	22 Domino Station 12:30	23 Joy Bible Study 9 am Emmaus Reunion 11 am UMW general 6:00 pm February Newsletter deadline today	24 Upper Room Bible Study 9 am Women's Emmaus reunion 5:30 pm	25	26 Boomerang Bags 9 am	27 Board Meeting 9 am
28 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am Young Adult 4 pm	29 Domino Station 12:30	30 Joy Bible Study 9 am Emmaus Reunion 11 am	31 Upper Room Bible Study 9 am Women's Emmaus reunion 5:30 pm			