



# NORTHERN HILLS Network

Oct-Dec 2016

## Building a Healthy Temple

In the Bible, temples are not just made of brick and mortar, they are also made of flesh and blood. The Apostle Paul tells the Corinthians that their physical bodies are “temples of the Holy Spirit” and calls them to “honor God with your bodies” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

You see, the Corinthians had a faulty “dualistic theology,” where they believed that only the immortal soul mattered to God, and the mortal physical body was of no ultimate consequence. They had therefore concluded that they could indulge the body with pleasure, gluttony, and immoral actions, since the body would just rot in the grave while the soul soared off to be with God.

But Paul differed. Paul said that the body is sacred to God and should be treated with care and self-respect. The body is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. The body belongs to God. The implications are significant.

This fall we will be unfolding a ministry called *Building a Healthy Temple*. It's supported by a Foundation administered by UTSA, who “trains the trainers” to implement the program at NHUMC. We will hear messages about holistic health – mind, body, and spirit. We will have a Bible study on Wednesday evenings beginning September 14 and focusing on what the Bible teaches us about living a healthy life. There will be a nutrition teaching component, where we can learn more about a healthy diet. An activity component will encourage us to take better care of our bodies through exercise and physical activity.

We can't control every aspect of our health, but we can all do better at nurturing a healthy body, a healthy mind, healthy emotions, and a healthy soul.

I hope you'll consider joining in on some or all of the components of this important ministry. The better care we take of our whole selves, the better we will feel, and the better we will be able to serve our Lord and glorify him with our lives.

Health is a good thing to pursue. Let's find out together how we can improve it.

Sincerely,  
Milton Lewis, Senior Pastor



# Calendar

## October

- 1 UMW Fun, Food, Follies, 2 - 4 p.m., Worship Center
- 10 UMW La Roca Círculo de Esperanza, 6:15, Children's 8  
UMW Hope Circle, 6:30 p.m., Children's 10  
UMM meeting, 7 p.m., Acts café, kitchen
- 11 UMW Circle of Love, noon, Acts 1
- 15 Groundbreaking and Prayer Service at the Ministry Center, 10 a.m.  
Parent's Night Out, 5:30—9:30 p.m.
- 18 Birthday card ministry, 9-10 a.m., Gathering Area  
UMW Faith Circle, 10 a.m., Acts 1
- 24 Emmaus Gathering, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Acts café, kitchen
- 30 Trunk or Treat, 6 p.m.

## November

- 5 Golf Tournament, 8 a.m., Northern Hills Country Club
- 8 UMW Circle of Love, noon, Acts 1
- 12 Church Work Day, 8 a.m.—2 p.m.
- 14 UMW La Roca Círculo de Esperanza, 6:15 p.m., Children's 8  
UMW Hope Circle, 6:30 p.m., Children's 10  
UMM meeting, 7 p.m., Acts café, kitchen
- 15 Birthday card ministry, 9-10 a.m., Gathering Area  
UMW Faith Circle, 10 a.m., Acts 1
- 18 Bunco Night, 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Ministry Center hosts Thanksgiving lunch at LC Rutledge Apartments, noon
- 20 Decorating the church for Christmas begins, 12:30 p.m.
- 23 Church office closes at noon
- 24 Church office closed/Happy Thanksgiving!
- 25 Church office closed
- 27 First Sunday of Advent/Giving Tree begins
- 30 Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal, 6:15-7 p.m., Sanctuary

## December

- 3 Breakfast with Santa, 9-11 a.m.
- 4 Prayer Tree up
- 6 Network Folders, 9-11 a.m., Gathering Area
- 7 Children's Christmas Program, 6:15-7 p.m., Sanctuary
- 9 Youth Greatest All-Nighter Ever, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Parent's Night Out, 5:30-9:30 p.m.
- 12 UMW La Roca Círculo de Esperanza, 6:15 p.m., Children's 8  
UMW Hope Circle, 6:30 p.m., Children's 10  
UMM meeting, 7 p.m., Acts café, kitchen
- 13 UMW Circle of Love, noon, Acts 1
- 14 Christmas Posada at LC Rutledge Apartments, 5:30-7 p.m.
- 17 Ministry at the Center
- 18 Blood Mobile at NHUMC
- 20 Birthday Card ministry, 9-10 a.m., Gathering Area
- 22-23 Church office closed
- 24 Christmas Eve worship: 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11 p.m.
- 25 Christmas Day Services: 8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m., Sanctuary



# Ministry and More

## UMW (United Methodist Women)



When you think United Methodist Women, think missions. One of our favorites is the Mission U Service Project, perhaps because it is “hands-on”. This year 29 colorful totes were sown by Mary Trafton and a raft of helpers collected school supplies with which to stuff them. A fun-filled assembly line was the perfect conclusion to this worthy project.

Fun Food & Follies is a labor of love and the financial cornerstone of our mission endeavors. Twelve ladies host tables organized around the months of the year for which they choose a clever theme. Delightful décor, delicious munchies and creative entertainment await you Saturday, Oct. 1st in the Worship Center from 2-4 p.m. Be sure to bring along the guys. There is fun for all! Tickets are on sale now. Also, the silent auction is NOT to be missed.

Parents' Night Out: Oct. 15 and Dec. 10 Enjoy a Saturday evening out (5:30-9:30 p.m.) while the kids have fun at church! Infants through 5th grade. Childcare is \$10 per child with a maximum of \$25 per family. Reserve your spot with sbroome@satx.rr.com.

Bunco: Nov. 18. This dice game is lots of fun and a delightful way to mingle with church friends. Potluck starts at 6:30 pm followed by play from 7-9 in the Wesley Annex. The \$5 donation benefits a different mission each quarter.

Shopping with a Purpose: Nov. 26 we will sponsor the Wesley Health & Wellness Center's Adopt a Family Program at the Wurzbach Parkway & Blanco Rd. WalMart. It works like the angel tree. Come by our table, select from a list of needed items, shop for the item(s) and then turn it in at the same table. How easy is that? Oh, and thank you very much!

Save the Date for the UMW Christmas Party (offsite): Dec. 4

### Circle Meetings:

FAITH (3rd Tuesday 10 a.m. Acts II Café)

Oct. 18, Nov. 15

Focus: Bible study, lap quilts, etc.

Contact: Sue Bohlen & Alvina Mitchell  
AlvinaKayMitchell@gmail.com

ESPERANZA/HOPE

*Esperanza and Hope Circles have recently combined.*

(2nd Monday 6:30 p.m. Children's 10)

Oct. 10, Nov. 14

Focus: Fellowship, mission and service projects.

Contact: Martha Phelps  
MarthaTrevinoPhelps@gmail.com

LOVE (2nd Tuesday noon Acts II Café)

Oct. 11, Nov. 15

Focus: Bible study, making lap quilts, etc.

Contact: Diana Poerner  
teapott53@aol.com

## ESL (English as a Second Language)

Our ESL ministry is growing and thriving! Thank you to all of our volunteers who have given their time to teach and mentor. The only requirements to be a mentor are to speak English and love Jesus ... we do all of the class preparations ... you get to participate in the ministry of presence and conversation!

### Fall ESL Classes & Mentor Orientation:

ESL Classes at Thousand Oaks Library

Mondays, September 12—October 17, 6:30—7:30 p.m.

ESL Classes at Steubing Ranch & Stahl Elementary

Wednesdays, September 28—November 16, 9:30—11 a.m.

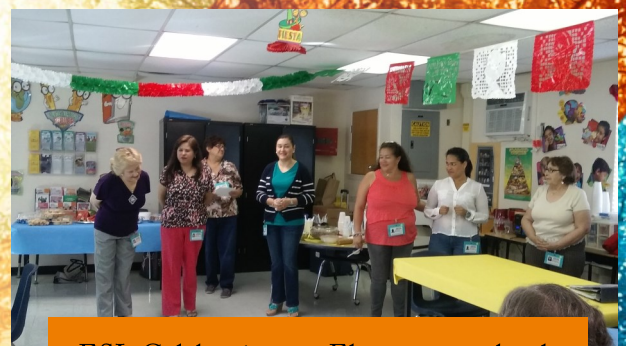
Mentor Orientation: September 21 at 9:30 a.m. at NHUMC

ESL Classes at NHUMC

Thursdays, September 29—November 17, 9:15—10:15 a.m.

Mentor Orientation: September 22 at 9:30 a.m. at NHUMC

To volunteer, attend a class or for more information: Ministerio@nhumc.org.



ESL Celebrations at Elementary schools





# Announcements

**The Moving On Group:** The Moving On group is a Christian fellowship group at NHUMC for widows and widowers that has been meeting for about 11 years. We meet on the third Saturday of the month at different restaurants to enjoy good food and fellowship. We'd love to meet you so please join us at the following get-togethers. Reservations are required. Please call Maxine at 210-967-0294 or email maxinewebber@att.net no later than noon the day before we meet.



October 15<sup>th</sup>: Pompeii Italian Restaurant located at 16109 Nacogdoches Rd. We will meet at 11 a.m.

November 19<sup>th</sup>: Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant, located at 14535 Nacogdoches Rd. at 11 a.m.



December 17<sup>th</sup>: Special holiday luncheon at Salt Grass Steakhouse, located at 16910 San Pedro at 11 a.m.

Follow us  
on Social Media!



Facebook: Northern Hills United Methodist Church



Instagram: NorthernHillsUMC



Twitter: @nhumchurch

## Breakfast @ The Current

Join us every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Worship Center for coffee, a light breakfast and fellowship before The Current!

Breakfast team volunteers are needed. Contact SusanB@nhumc.org if you are interested in helping.

**Church Work Day:** Mark your calendar for the Annual Fall Church Work Day: Saturday, November 12. More information to follow.

## Attendance:

These figures include Wednesday Worship and Sunday morning services.

<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
5/1: 877	6/5: 890	7/3: 723	8/7: 823
5/8: 982	6/12: 728	7/10: 820	8/14: 905
5/15: 848	6/19: 835	7/17: 771	8/21: 1029
5/22: 838	6/26: 870	7/24: 771	8/28: 913
5/29: 718		7/31: 821	



# Music Ministry

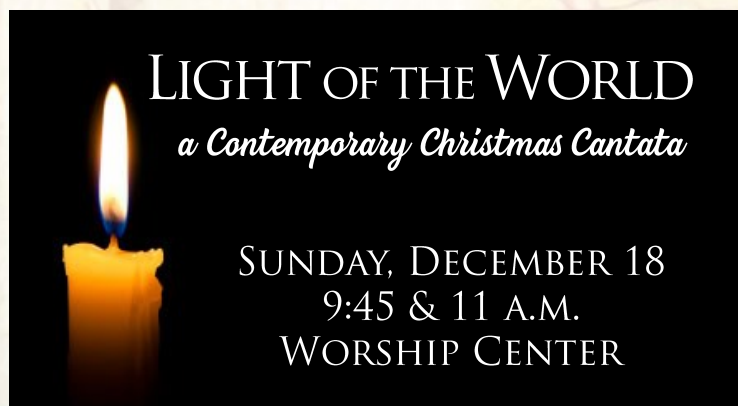
Percussionists needed for special occasions! I am looking for youth, college or adult percussionists to play on occasion with the choir. September 25<sup>th</sup> is the first Sunday we need auxiliary percussion. Please call 210-654-0881, sign up online or email [AndreaR@nhumc](mailto:AndreaR@nhumc) to help!

Youth Choir resumes September 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The first Sunday for singing in worship will be an exciting combined event with the adult choir and percussion. We need 25 youth at a minimum participating for the Youth Choir to make. Why the number? We are going to take the message of the Gospel of Christ on the road next summer with a summer Choir Tour to Washington D.C.! Yes, invite your friends! No, they don't have to be members to sing or to go on tour. What you need to be a member of Youth Choir and to go on tour is: 1. a heart for serving God. 2. A growing relationship or a desire to grow in relationship with God and 3. You like to sing! (notice I didn't say you had to be on the Voice or AGT!). Come join in the fun as we learn challenging music and grow together in Christ! Sign up on-line, by e-mail to [AndreaR@nhumc.org](mailto:AndreaR@nhumc.org) or call 210-654-0881.

Adult Choir: The Sanctuary Choir is back in action! Join us now if you want to sing in the cantata; we're singing Handel's Messiah on December 11<sup>th</sup> with instruments in the Sanctuary at all three services. If you are a soloist and would like to participate, this is a great chance to share your gift of music.

Instrumentalists are needed on occasion to join with the choir on a special anthem, play in worship or just offer God your music during an offertory. Welcome pianists, brass, woodwinds, percussion, strings, even banjo! You don't have to be a professional to play! Come share your love for serving God through your gift of music. Sign-up online, email or call the church office to participate.

Worship Volunteers: We have so many opportunities for volunteers to get involved! Be looking for your invitation to join Planning Center, a unique way to schedule your time to volunteer, whether that's to read scripture, serve communion, help at the ministry center, sing or play in worship! If you haven't signed up for volunteering in a while, Katrina Gonzalez may be contacting you to schedule a time and place for you to fulfill your membership vows of service.



## Wednesday Nights

5:30 p.m. Supper Lite

If you need a gluten-free meal, please send your request at least one week prior to [MarthaTrevinoPhelps@gmail.com](mailto:MarthaTrevinoPhelps@gmail.com).

**6:15 p.m. Wednesday Worship: The River of Life-Reflections on our Faith Journeys**

This fall, different members of the congregation will share reflections/testimonies of their faith journey during Wednesday Worship.

**7 p.m. Bible Studies/Classes**

Go to [www.nhumc.org/connect/adults](http://www.nhumc.org/connect/adults) for a full list and description of the classes offered this Fall.

Other ministries/activities: 6:15 p.m. Kids Choirs practice; 6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group/High School Small Groups; 7 p.m. Traditional Choir practice; 7 p.m. Bible Activity Time (for K-5th grade)



# Ministry Center

*This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." - 2 Corinthians 9:12-13*

This verse reminds me of our Northern Hills UMC congregation and how the Lord is using each of you in ministry. God is working in some amazing ways and I thank Him for this congregation and your willingness to reach out and connect with the Ministry Center community this summer. Whether it was your:

- Prayers for the ministry center, the volunteers, and the community
- Presence and service at one of the fourteen Friday morning prayer services this summer
- Gifts of school supplies and back packs to the Sonshine project
- Service at the Avistar Crest Apartments "Back to School Party" community event
- Service at one of the "Good Neighbor Days" clean up events
- Service with English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at the San Antonio Public Library
- Service at the Avistar Oaks Apartments "Pool Party" community event
- Service at the "Back to School Party" at the SA Housing Authority LC Rutledge Apartments

All of these actions are a "witness" to the Glory of God and a way that we show our faith to the community through our works. You are truly living out your promise to faithfully participate in ministries through your Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service and Witness.

I wanted to take a moment and share just one of the many blessings that we experienced this summer.

While sorting school supplies and backpacks in preparation for the "Back to School Party" at the L. C. Rutledge Apartments, we prayed for each child that would be receiving a backpack and we placed a small cross inside each backpack. During the party it was amazing to see the NHUMC-Ministry Center volunteers, Housing Authority employees, Northeast ISD Teachers, University of the Incarnate Word Nursing program students and Community Residents, all working together at the event. We worshiped the Lord through a children's puppet show and the entire community was engaged in the service. In addition to fun and games, much needed services and items such as immunizations, backpacks, and school supplies were provided to the 110 children who live at the complex and the community.

It was a blessing to receive this text from a mother who received backpacks for her children: *"we appreciate all you helped us with. My kids love everything, especially the little crosses, we put them in a safe place".*

This congregation is living out the verse "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God".

Blessings, Pastor Abdon - Community Pastor

You are invited to the  
Ministry Center  
Groundbreaking  
and  
Prayer Service

Saturday, October 15  
10-11 a.m.

4306 Naco Pass



# Ministry Center

## SONshine Project



You donated over 180 backpacks and countless school supplies that we were able to give to the residents at the LC Rutledge Apartments during the Back-to-School community event that we coordinated. Thanks for your generosity!

## Back-to-School Community Event at the LC Rutledge Apartments (near the Ministry Center)



We distributed school supplies, provided lunch, had a puppet show and visited with the residents.

## Good Neighbor Events



## Friday Morning Prayer



## Pool Party at the Avistar Apartments





# Ministry of “Everywhere”

*“Then Jesus said to them, “So wherever you go in the world, tell everyone the Good News.” –Mark 16:15*

I am at a store and one of the employees looks at me and says “I go to Northern Hills, please pray for me”. Then, I go to my son’s Middle School orientation and I see one of our church leaders guiding kids to their classrooms. I keep walking and I see the smile of a beautiful grandma who is a member of our congregation and she is with her grandson in the same school that my child attends. I go to the hospital and a nurse smiles and says “I go to Northern Hills, do you need help?”

Reflecting on all of these encounters, we can say that Northern Hills UMC is present everywhere. How wonderful it is to see that this congregation, through their members, has been able to be present everywhere and have the opportunity to testify the love of the Lord Jesus Christ through their presence, actions and testimony.

This is not a coincidence. This is God’s work, allowing our congregation to be in “ministry everywhere”... throughout San Antonio, in diverse neighborhoods, different socio-economic levels, even in not “common” locations. All of that with one purpose: “To tell everyone the Good News.”

You are a valuable part of our congregation. First; because of who you are. You come to Northern Hills UMC and by that we know your story and we learn about the power of God in

other’s lives. Your story shapes my story and together we grow in faith.

Second; because of how you are equipped. God provides gifts and talents to you that in “acompañamiento” (accompaniment) with others creates wonderful and powerful voices and actions of hope.

Third; because of the times that we live. While technology changes, political powers change, distribution of wealth changes, one thing never changes ... the need of the redeeming power of the Cross. Christ died for the people of the beginning of the century, Christ died for the people in the 70’s and Christ died for the people of today’s time. We all need His love and we, as the church, are the ambassadors of that love. “We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors...” 2 Corinthians 5:20.

So it is our prayer, that through the different activities that this congregation offers, inside and outside our main campus and at the place where you live, where you work, where you are, may you become a powerful ambassador of the “ministry of everywhere.”

Bendiciones de Dios,  
Pastor Lupina Stewart

## The ministry of “everywhere” ... in action!



Liberia



Posada



Bishops from Mexico &  
West Ohio at NHUMC



Blessing  
of the Bikes



# New Members



Bob & Marcia Parks



Connie Blake



Lindsay & Rease Young



Robert Harriss



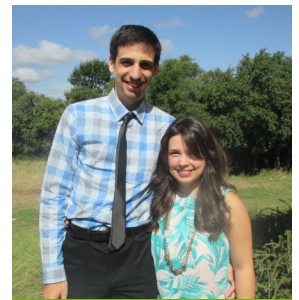
Jeff McMillan  
& Addison



Nick and Janet Cassiano  
Hannah & Austin



Ben & Julie Harrison  
Preston & Jacob



Charlie & Valerie  
Winfrey



Matt & Melanie Krauchunas  
Tanner, Caleb, Adeline, Alexia,  
William, Evie & Rhett



David & Jennifer Ramos  
Alex & Charlie



Christopher & Carrie  
Lefelhocz  
Julianne & James

Welcome  
to the  
NHMC  
family



Carole Laubach



Bill & Debbie DeCamp



Louise Frakes

Members of the 2016 Confirmation Class: Stephanie Grimes, James Johns, Lauren Loveless, Haley McDonald, Nicholas Ostrowski, Anthony Rodriguez, Courtney Smith, Robert Walton and Rease Young.



# Children's Ministry

## TRUNK or Treat

Sunday, October 30, 6–8 p.m.  
in the church parking lot

Trunk or treat is a fun, safe alternative to trick-or-treating. You park your car, open your trunk and kids go from trunk to trunk to collect candy. You're welcome to decorate your car or trunk ... prizes are given for the best decorations! Join us for hot dogs, a cupcake walk, the trunk decoration contest and FUN!

### Wednesday Night Children's Activities

6:15–6:45 p.m. Cherub Choir (4 years old—  
kindergarten, room 14)

6:15–7 p.m. Kings Kids Choir (1<sup>st</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> grade,  
Children's room 10)

7 p.m. Godly Play (1<sup>st</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> grade); Bible  
Activity Time (BAT) (4<sup>th</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> grade)



## Children's Christmas Program

Our Children's Christmas program will be on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our Kings Kids and Cherub Choirs will begin working on the music soon. If you would like your child to be a part of our Christmas program, please plan to have them here for choir practice on Wednesday nights. Refer to Wednesday night schedule below for choir practice times.

Important Rehearsal Dates:

Wednesdays in November: 2, 9, 16

Dress Rehearsal: Wed., Nov. 30, 6:15 p.m.

Christmas Program: Wed., Dec. 7, 6:15 p.m.



Join us on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> for Breakfast with Santa, 9–11 a.m. Bring your children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, your camera and your Christmas spirit! A light breakfast will be served and Santa will be there for pictures. Take this time to choose an ornament from the Giving Tree.

● If you have a 3rd grader that has not received their Bible, please see Ms. Wanda. ●



# Youth Ministry

## HAPPY FALL Y'ALL!

Our goal as a group or as individuals is to intentionally come in to an awareness of God's presence. We have a lot of opportunities this fall to do this! I hope you'll join us!

October 7-9: Middle School Retreat. Cost: \$25. Spaces are limited. Deadline to sign up is September 18. Sign up online at [www.nhumc.org/connect/youth](http://www.nhumc.org/connect/youth). We are heading out to Camp Buckner deep in the Texas Hill Country. Enjoy God's beauty as we worship, play, and pray together!

October 2: Confirmation Class begins, 11 a.m. in Children's Annex 3.

October 30: Fall Fun Day! Join us for a day at the South Texas Maize, then come back and help with Trunk or Treat. The only cost to you is money for lunch. Bring your friends and get lost in the maize, enjoy a wide variety of fall fun activities, and enjoy a day out with the youth group! Sign up online by October 23.

No youth group November 23 or 27 ... enjoy Thanksgiving weekend with your families.

November 30: Middle school youth group Christmas Party! Last middle school youth group for 2016. Join us for an ugly sweater party and white elephant gift exchange.

December 9-10: Greatest All-Nighter Ever Part 2. A night of mystery and adventure! Destination unknown for all youth. Cost: \$25 6:30p.m.-8 a.m.

December 11: Senior high youth group Christmas party. Last senior high youth group for 2016. White elephant gift exchange and ugly sweater party.

No youth group December 21-January 4. Senior high starts back up on January 8, middle school starts back up on January 11.

Looking ahead: Mid-Winters Retreat January 13-16 at Camp Zephyr

**For more information follow us on Facebook! Northern Hills Youth**

**WE HAD A BLAST THIS SUMMER! THANKS FOR BEING A PART OF NHUMC YOUTH!**





Northern Hills United Methodist Church  
3703 N Loop 1604 E  
San Antonio, TX 78247

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## Christmas Schedule

### Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24

Worship Center: 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m.

Sanctuary: 2 p.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m.

Communion served at all services.

### Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25

All services in the Sanctuary at

8:30, 9:45 and 11 a.m.

No Sunday School or La Roca.

More details to follow.

For more information, please call the church office at 210-654-0881.