

Mountainside
United Methodist Church
Connecting People to Jesus

**The
Beacon** No. 171
11.2018

On Growth



Occasionally, someone from our church will comment that there are a number of people here that he or she doesn't know. That person might wonder if we are getting too big. To which I always try to reply: "Praise God! Isn't it amazing how many people God is inviting to this adventure at Mountainside United Methodist Church?!"

It is not necessary to know everybody in order to show warmth, hospitality, caring, and grace to everyone we meet. We can never grow too big to be able to care. We are always able to pray for one another, no matter how large the crowd in the sanctuary. We can be thankful that God continues to send more and more people to be a part of this work to be a beacon on the mountainside.

I believe that the growing number of people and the presence of first-time guests in our worship is a sign that God is doing a mighty thing among us. The truth is that our mission—"to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world"—is really God's mission before it we name it as our purpose. When we say that mission statement, we are simply stating the belief that it is God who desires to make disciples of Jesus Christ and that we are the workers who have the privilege (and responsibility) to share in God's work. As the church grows beyond the

number of people you can know by name, give thanks that God's will is being accomplished in our midst.

Now, as we come to the end of our *Stride* series, God is inviting you to consider how you will grow in closer relationship to Him. Consider the spiritual disciplines that are important to you and the disciplines that are important to our congregation. Consider how those disciplines invite you to focus on your own need, on the needs of our congregation, and on the needs of our world. What discipline is God calling you to work on? Where do you need to take a step in faith? God will meet you where you are and draw you to the next place.

On Sunday, November 11th, you will be given an opportunity to acknowledge your personal plan for growth in the spiritual disciplines.

I look forward to seeing you in worship this Sunday and each Sunday, and to being in ministry with you.

Pastor Mills



Stride Series Celebration

Celebrate your commitment to God and making the changes the Stride series has inspired you to make on **Sunday Nov. 11**. Sunday group classes will be at **9:00AM**. There will a single service at **10:15AM**, followed by a pot luck lunch in the MAC. We will provide the main course.

Families with the first letter of the last name are asked to bring something the their category:

- A-F appetizers
- G-N sides/salads
- O-Z breads/desserts

We look forward to enjoying this fellowship time with everyone.

Coming Up in November

On the **first Sunday of November, All Saints Sunday**, we will remember in prayer those from our congregation who died in the last year. And we will remember all those who have died but who were instrumental in our spiritual journey.

November 11th, there will be only one worship service, at **10:15AM**. It will be followed by a pot-luck lunch. The worship service will feature an all-star, all-Veterans choir and a tribute to those who served in the armed forces. As part of the service, you will be invited to prayer and to make your private dedication of yourself to spiritual growth.



Looking Further Ahead

Advent, the time of preparation for Christmas begin on December 2. We will hang the greens at **4:00 in the afternoon on December 2nd**.

An Evening Prayer service will be held on the three Wednesdays of Advent, **December 5, 12, and 19, from 5:45 to 6:15PM**, in the sanctuary. Let us be in prayer together!

The Classic worship service, 9AM, on December 16 we be a service of Lessons and Carols; and the **Contemporary worship at 11:10** will feature the Expressions of Joy musical group.

On Christmas Eve, we will hold two worship services. The first, at **4:00PM**, is a “family” service which will include leadership of youth and children. The second service, at **7:00PM** will be a Classical worship service, including the choir, candles, and communion.



The theme of our next Messy Church service, on **Sunday, November 25th**, is messy thanksgiving. The whole community is invited to a messy potluck of Thanksgiving left overs. Bring your favorite dish, or the one you are happy to get rid of (!), or any dish you would like to share and be part of the fellowship.

Christmas Food Boxes



MUMC will partner with the East Mountain Food Pantry to help our neighbors during the Christmas season! This outreach has been proven to cure the toughest cases of “Holiday Blues” as we see God’s love in action. Bring non-perishable food donations

to the church each Sunday and place in the boxes in the Narthex marked Christmas Food Boxes. **Please try to adhere to the listed items and check expiration dates before donating.** Donations of small sturdy cardboard boxes (printer paper boxes are ideal size) are also helpful. Checks are also welcome and can be made out to MUMC with Christmas Boxes on the memo line. Also, we are collecting new and gently used items for the Christmas “shop” such as toys, clothes, etc. A complete list of food items needed will be available in the Welcome Center and also in the November and December newsletters. Many volunteers are needed to assemble the food boxes on **Saturday, December 22, 9:00 to 12:00. Any questions or concerns, please contact Julia Beach at 505-281-7061 or jbeach50@comcast.net**

Food items needed are:

- canned meats: tuna, chicken breast, Spam, etc.
- peanut butter
- jelly/preserves
- canned green beans
- canned corn
- canned beans, re-fried beans
- canned soups (especially cream of mushroom)
- canned cranberry sauce
- canned pumpkin, pumpkin pie spices
- salad dressings, gravy, salsa
- boxed stuffing, cornbread mixes
- dry beans and rice
- cake mix, frosting and pie filling
- candy canes
- flour, sugar, oil,
- evaporated milk

Help will be needed for sorting food and assembling boxes on **Saturday, December 22 at 9:00AM.** Please plan to join us!

If you or your group uses the church facilities...

‘Tis the season for all critters to try to stay warm and they would love to stay warm in our church. Please remember to keep the doors to the church closed when you are using the facilities for your events (no propping the doors open). Please remember that we are all responsible for our own clean up...trash needs to be taken out, lights turned off, crumbs vacuumed, thermostats reset, doors locked... all of these actions make us good stewards of our church. When you take the trash to the dumpster please make sure that the dumpster lid is completely closed and no trash is sticking out; otherwise, our bears get the blame for our human error. Mountainside is a very busy facility so let's all do our part to keep it a clean, critter free one.

Mission News

From the McFredericks in Brno

- Praise for “You Version” (Bible reading app) as it helps disciple new believers.
- Praise for a recent church retreat and strengthening Christian ties.

Prayer List:

- Conversation Club Bible Study starting October 10th.
- Harvest Party Outreach to Brno community October 20th.
- Conference for women leaders November 2 – 5 (10 are going from Brno)
- The Growing Youth Group.

S.E. Coleman is in the states currently and will be at our church November 11th.

Diane Turner

Elizabeth Chambers

Elizabeth Chambers, daughter of Bill and Mary Chambers, arrived safely in Afghanistan and will be there until Summer 2020. She replaces a chief financial officer who moved to Jakarta to take her place. Please keep her in your prayers.

Asbury Pie Café A Success In 2018

2018 marked the 59th year of the Asbury Pie Café which Mountainside and 11 other churches supported, selling pies at the NM State Fair to generate funds for food charities in the Albuquerque area. You may know that it started in the Goat Barn at the NM State Fair and has been in the present building on Main Street since the early 1970s. In 1987-1993 St. Stephen's United Methodist Church joined with Asbury UMC to expand the volunteer workers and supplement the outreach of the café. In 1993 St. John's UMC joined. The 3 churches shared in all aspects of the café, such as picking fruit, processing fruit, making pies, and running the café. Since that early time, other churches have joined the team and this year we had 12 churches and one charity participating in the café:

For 2018 there were 12 churches and one charity participating in the café:

Asbury United Methodist
Heights Cumberland Presbyterian
Cornerstone United Methodist

Mountainside United Methodist
Covenant Presbyterian
Paradise Hills United Methodist
Covenant United Methodist
St. John's United Methodist
Faith Lutheran
St. Stephen's United Methodist
First United Methodist
Rio Rancho First Baptist
Silver Horizons

This year there are 12 charity organizations that will be funded, these are:

The Storehouse
Meals on Wheels
First UMC Grace Meal

The Rock @ Noon Day
South ABQ Coop Ministry
Good Shepherd
Family Promise
ABQ Street Outreach
East Mountain Food Pantry
Asbury UMC Breaking Bread
Silver Horizons
Rio Grande Food Project

Members from the participating churches provide all the pies at no cost to the café which makes the profit margin substantial. Every penny of the profit goes to helping twelve food charities that feed the needy. This year the total number of pies sold was 1843 and the total income was \$70,000. After paying expenses and allowing for startup funds for next year, \$50,000 was distributed to the twelve charities (one of which was the East Mountain Food Pantry (EMFP)). Mountainside has a significant presence in the EMFP through food donations, volunteers at the Pantry, and Winnie Pearsall who has served as co-director.

A special thanks to the more than 50 Mountainsiders who made, baked, and served (down at the State Fair) this year. We delivered around 110 pies and I have it on good authority that every piece was delicious! God be praised!!



Dear Upward Youth Sports Prayer Partners,

Thank you again for another year of faithfully joining in to pray as ceaselessly as possible for the youth's Christian sports program. In addition to all that you can think about to pray for the many Upward activities, below are 50 more items, one per day!

The Upward annual program runs almost all year around but with more intensity for everyone's special needs during the 100+ days from the middle of October to the last Saturday in February.

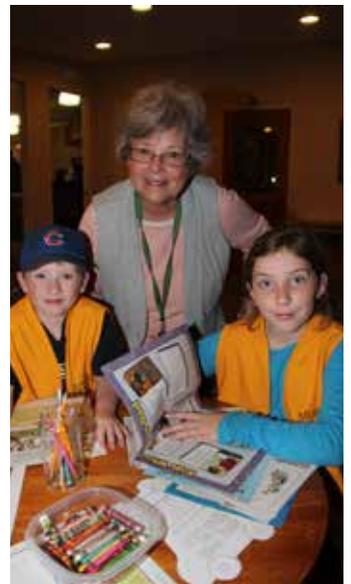
We are SO BLESSED to have SO MANY Volunteers. Let's keep praying for each and every participant!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>A wonderful spirit among all involved</p> <p>Scholarships for those who cannot afford to participate</p> <p>Parents to volunteer to coach</p> <p>Parents to volunteer to referee</p> <p>Others volunteer to coach</p> <p>Others volunteer to referee</p> <p>Children to encourage friends to play basketball and cheer</p> <p>Coach and referee training to go well</p> <p>Parents considering entering their children in the league</p> <p>Volunteers to help with basketball evaluations and cheerleading orientations</p> <p>Evaluation and orientation 1 to go smoothly</p> <p>People entering data from evaluation and orientation 1</p> <p>Evaluation and orientation 2 to go smoothly</p> <p>People entering data from evaluation and orientation 2</p> <p>Late registrations to arrive before the deadline</p> <p>Evaluation and orientation 3 to go smoothly</p> <p>People entering data from evaluation and orientation 3</p> <p>Encouragement for league administrators</p> <p>Good, even teams to be drafted</p> <p>Carpools to work properly</p> <p>Practice times to work out</p> <p>Coaches contacting their players or cheerleaders</p> <p>Coaches and parents to begin good relationships</p> <p>Team and squad parents to volunteer</p> <p>First week of practice to be a good experience</p> <p>Coaches to be patient</p> <p>Children to listen and want to learn</p> | <p>Parents to be encouraging</p> <p>Uniform distribution to go smoothly</p> <p>New friendships</p> <p>Open hearts</p> <p>Last few coaching positions to be filled</p> <p>Referees to be secured</p> <p>Halftime leaders to be secured</p> <p>Recreation area staff</p> <p>Practice time devotions</p> <p>Non-Christian players and cheerleaders</p> <p>Non-Christian parents</p> <p>Maintenance and upkeep of recreation area</p> <p>Safety for all players and cheerleaders</p> <p>Coaches who need spiritual growth</p> <p>Our pastor</p> <p>A spirit of sportsmanship among parents</p> <p>Team and squad parents</p> <p>Coaches as they share devotions with players and cheerleaders</p> <p>Preparation of the hearts of those who will hear the gospel</p> <p>A smooth and organized first game day</p> <p>(First game day) Those leading halftimes today</p> <p>Safe travel to and from practices and games</p> <p>A smooth practice week</p> |
|---|---|

To follow the Mountainside United Methodist Sports ministry visit our website at:
<http://MUMSM.org/> (This is the Church's FB Page)
 Facebook "Upwards at Mountainside" (This is the Upward Program FB page)
 Tweet to #MUMSMupward (This is the Upward Program Twitter page)
 for participant and related program information
 e-address: upwardsports@mountainsidemethodist.org

Upward Sports

Upward Sports basketball and cheerleader registration for the 2019 season took place here at MUMC this past month. Children from K-8th grade were registered and evaluated for skills that would determine their team placement within their respective grade level. Many volunteers are needed to assure the success of the Upward program from registration in October to the end-of-season celebration in February. The registration staff includes people to welcome and help families sign up their new and/or returning players and cheerleaders. Other tasks to be accomplished at registration are program orientation, uniform fitting and skills evaluation (in Wagner Hall). Skills evaluations includes defensive slide, dribbling and lay-up shots. Cheerleader evaluation includes very basic flexibility and tumbling exercises. After skills evaluation is complete their registration forms are turned in and it's time for pizza. Practices will start in November and continue through December. The season begins in January and ends mid February. We have 153 signed up so far for basketball and cheer. **Registration is still open.**



Upward Sports



Budget Report

As of 10/31/2018

MONTHLY			YEAR TO DATE		
	Budget Needs	Actual Expenses		Budget Needs	Actual Expenses
October Budget Needs	\$30,104.00	\$35,466.00	Year to date Budget needs	\$346,975.00	\$337,842.00
October * GF Contributions	\$32,257.00		Year to Date *GF Contributions 2018		\$352,280.00
Difference	-3209.00		Difference	+14,438.00	

We have been blessed with some substantial pre paid annual pledges, giving us a solid financial start to the year, which places us ahead of our budget income projection.

*GF (General Fund)

"Juntos is the one consistent thing in my life..."



Everything else is always changing but I stick with this," said the young man leading us in worship for our leader retreat this past weekend. We were all sitting around the campfire, just chatting about life when the subject came up. "Why," I asked, "do you think that is true - that you stick with this and not other things?" He thought for a moment and replied, "I have never thought about it. I guess because I believe in it. I know what it did for me as a kid."

This was the encouragement that I needed in that moment! We have had several tragedies among our Juntos families this fall and general "growing pains" as we figure out what it looks like to be in our own building, expand programs and meet new kids.

But in the midst of these challenges, there are leaders like this young man (who has been with us since Juntos began in 2005 when he was a 5th grader) and those pictured below at a volunteer training. Also encouraging have been our Monday night large group lessons. Our high schoolers have been courageous to stand up in front of the 50ish kids in attendance and act out lessons, share personal stories and teach what they are learning about walking with Jesus.

Please praise the Lord with me for His faithfulness, abundant provision and gift that each of these young leaders and volunteers is!

Blessings, Laura



Good Intentions

The team was meant to work on this building for the Navajo Reservation near Chinle AZ...but the skies had other intentions. After getting rained out, a different team from Christ UMC was able to come in a couple of days later and roof this building. Don't worry though, we are scheduled to go out in 2019 and continue building!



Ignite

Come to IGNITE! –our youth program at Mountainside. All youth, grades 8th- 12th, are invited to come. Bring a friend and join us for food, fun, and fellowship **Saturdays, twice a month, at 5:00PM** at Mountainside UMC.

We are currently looking for adults who would be interested in becoming part of a host team for IGNITE! This includes contributing to a meal, activity, or leading a study for our youth.

If you have any questions about how you can be a part of this ministry, **contact Jack Brisbin at 505-206-0026 or Lu Brisbin at 804-832-0606.**



Pet Blessing a Success

Our annual Pet Blessing had perfect weather. The time of worship was inspiring, with music by Dawn Houck and Judy Robinson. Dr. Clark from Western Trails had a table and handed out coupons for vet services and treats for the critters. Jim Dvorak from Edgewood Animal Control was there for anyone who needed to micro chip their pet or someone looking to adopt. We filled half of a truck bed with pet food and donated it to the East Mountain Food Pantry and Edgewood Animal control. A pet bed and carrying crate was given away by drawing. About 20 family units presented their critters for blessing by Pastor Doug Mills, and retired Pastor Linda Mizell. Many of those attending the blessing were not members of the church. Hopefully some of them will come and visit us on Sunday. We have gained some new members from past blessing events. We would like to extend a special thanks to the youth group for coming to help us set up all the chairs and tables.





Mountainside United Methodist Church

4 Penny Lane
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

office@mountainsidemethodist.org
www.mountainsidemethodist.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

If you have an article or photos you would like to submit to the Mountainside United Methodist Church's newsletter, *The Beacon*, please follow these guidelines:

Submit articles as a pdf, Word document, or within the body of an email to office@mountainsidemethodist.org or to the Newsletter Editor at jeanneillustrates@gmail.com.

For photos, please always send separate jpg files attached within the email with each photo titled in this manner: ArticleTitle_MonthYear An example might be FoodBoxes_Jan2018.

The deadline for submission is the **20th of every month**. We are especially interested in Mission oriented messages. Thank you for submitting to the newsletter.

November Birthdays

- 11-3 Claudia Broadwater
- 11-4 Ceil Kleinschmidt
- 11-5 Dennis Bateman
- 11-8 Jennifer Cashman
- 11-9 Matthew Miszkiel
- 11-9 Cody Cashman
- 11-10 Judy Robinson
- 11-11 Jessica (Hall) White
- 11-11 John Merkley
- 11-12 Bruce McDonald
- 11-13 Lucian Balestri
- 11-13 Dave Miller
- 11-15 Paula Michel
- 11-15 Anne Merkley
- 11-18 Bryan Hardesty
- 11-18 Shawn West
- 11-23 Anne Mitchell
- 11-24 Pat Luna
- 11-27 Jim Morris
- 11-27 Philip Krout