



# Wesley Circuit Rider

united methodist church

Volume XXXXI, Issue 13

April 5, 2007

## Living Cross

Everyone is reminded to bring their fresh cut flowers to be placed in the living cross on Easter morning. A living cross will be placed in both the Sanctuary and Praise & Worship Center. Bring your flowers to the front before worship to help create a beautiful reminder of new life on Easter Sunday.



## Lenten Tree

### Lenten Tree Addition for April 8: The Butterfly

A butterfly is often used to symbolize Jesus' resurrection. A caterpillar, entombed in a chrysalis, seems to have died. And yet, suddenly, as if born again, a beautiful butterfly appears. This reminds us that Jesus was killed, but God raised him from death to life.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Help is needed** from men, women, and children to set up and decorate the church Saturday, April 7, at 1:30 p.m.

Remember to wear your **NAMETAG** on Sundays, especially on Easter Sunday. If you need a new nametag, contact Malana in the church office.

## ~ Holy Week at Wesley ~

### Prayer Path

Wednesday-Friday, April 4-6  
See more information on page 7.

### Good Friday

**Tenebrae Service**  
Friday, April 6  
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary

### Maundy Thursday "He is Alive Forever," Cantata Part II

Thursday, April 5  
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary

### Eggs-travaganza Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 7  
10:00 a.m.

### Easter Worship Services Sunday, April 8

#### Sunrise Service

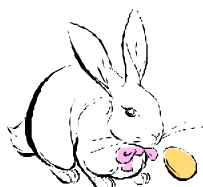
6:00 a.m. Parking Lot

#### Traditional Worship

"He Is Alive Forever," Cantata Part III  
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

#### Contemporary Worship

9:15 a.m. Praise Center



## Easter Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 7

10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

**10:00 a.m.—Parade:** Each child is encouraged to bring a bike, tri-cycle, wagon, or scooter decorated for an Easter Parade.

**10:15 - 11:00 a.m.—Games:** Jump Rope Race, Yarn Ball Toss, Stilt Race, 3-Legged Race, Egg Challenge, Egg Push, & Wheelbarrow Race. We will have pictures with the Easter Bunny, cookie decorating, lemonade, and popcorn.

**11:01 a.m.—Egg Hunts** begin by age level.



You are invited to experience the Prayer Path this Wednesday-Friday. For times and more information, read the article on Page 7.

The people of Wesley United Methodist Church are called to know God and to make God known.



## From the Pastor

### Passing on a Blessing

There was an article in Reader's Digest some years ago that I think is worth repeating. The article was entitled, "What Good is a Tree?" It explained that when roots of trees touch, there is a substance present that helps link roots of different

trees, even of dissimilar species. A whole forest may be linked together. If one tree has access to water, another to nutrients, and a third to sunlight, then the trees have the means to share with one another.

Like trees in a forest, Christians in the church are there for each other to help one another through prayer and loving support.

Folks, God established the church, making available to all Christians the Holy Spirit. And through the Holy Spirit, we are more able to tap the power of God. Through worship, prayer, fellowship, and service, we expose ourselves to a much greater share of our Christian inheritance.

Isn't that a blessing we should be sharing? If you know someone, outside the regular fellowship of church attendance, write their name down on a piece of paper. Place that name in a place you'll see every day. Pray for them 14 days straight, asking God to deliver them into the church. Then on the 15th day, begin asking God for an opportunity to invite the person to church. God will most certainly bless you with that opportunity. Make the most of it! You could be passing on a blessing that will change that person's life forever!

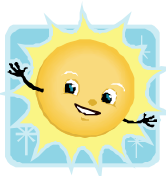
Easter is a perfect time to invite someone you know to church. Look around at your work place. Look around at your school or in your neighborhood. On Sundays as you drive to church, who do you see at home? Start there....and see what a difference it makes!

*Robert*

Take notice of the special worship events that are to happen this week and then I'll see you as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior!

## Preschool & Mothers' Day Out

### Register NOW for Summer Fun Days!



Registration is now open for Summer Fun Days! Summer Fun Days will begin Tuesday, June 5, for children two years old and older. The cost is \$225 per child with \$25 due at the time of registration. You may pick up a registration form in the Mothers' Day Out office in the Preschool hall. For more information call Kelli Reyes at 782-0234 or 892-7012.

**The Preschool is selling cookie dough to purchase new risers for the children's programs.** Forms are in the church and preschool offices. The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, April 10.



## Thank You

I would very much like to thank all of you for your prayers, cards, the flowers, telephone calls, emails and, of course, the wonderful food during my recovery from surgery. Your thoughtfulness is such a blessing. I love my church family!

*Jocelyn Frank*

Dear Wesley Church Family and Childcare Ministers,

Thank you so much for all your love, support, and grace during Brian's father's illness and death.

Words cannot express how much it meant to our entire family that Rev. Bunch visited Curt in hospice and prayed with our family.

We also thank you for the donation made in his name. Curt Pearson was a devoted family man and his grandchildren have been a true light in his life over the past few years, so that was an apt and fitting tribute. We are continually blessed to be part of this church family.

*Love, Amy, Brian, Curt, & Luke*

Thanks for thinking about me during my two outpatient procedures. This time they made five holes in my spine—one has really been hurting; I couldn't help but think about Jesus on the cross, and he didn't have a Darvocet to take!

Thank you for the cards.

*Jalle' Porter*

Dear Wesley Prayer Team,

Thank you all for your prayers. You're the best! I thank God every day for all of your prayers. I know with His help you send me wonderful blessings which help me to grow stronger each day.

*Nona Butler*

God bless and thank you for all the prayers and calls. It has meant so much.

*Juanell Beckham & Family*

# Children's Ministry

For more information, contact Pam Besser  
at pbesser@wesleyumc.com

## Parent's Night Out Friday, April 13 6:00–10:00 p.m.

PNO is an opportunity for your children, nursery through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, to enjoy an evening at the church with their friends while you enjoy an evening out. The cost is \$5 per child for the entire evening. Come to the Praise Center entrance and sign your child/children up for a great evening.

If you have questions, please contact Kelli Reyes @ 782-0234 or Rev. Pam Besser @892-7733.

A very special thank you to Don Hanson for bringing his donkey to church on Palm Sunday.



## Wacky Wednesdays in June

"Wacky Wednesdays" in June are for children ages 3- 6<sup>th</sup> grade (2007-2008 school year). I am, however, asking for a parent to accompany any children that are pre-school age.



Cost: \$15 every Wednesday

(includes rental vans, gas & snacks)

Time: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Bring lunch every day. Snacks will be provided.

June 6, Moody Gardens, Galveston  
(IMAX Theater & Aquarium)

June 13, Old McDonald's Farm, Humble

(petting zoo, train & pony rides, duck pond, playground, hay barn, crawfish pond, & swimming pool) Bring your swimsuit and a towel!

June 20, Children's Museum, Houston

June 27, Waterpark in Sulphur, La.—(Bring swimsuit and towel)

Questions or Information: Call Rev. Pam Besser 892-7733 (church)  
866-1117 (home) Please register before May 31<sup>st</sup>.



# Youth Ministry

For more information, contact Drew Swanson  
at dswanson@wesleyumc.com

## Youth Ministry Needs

You may have heard the Youth are planning their own version of the popular show Trading Spaces. We will be working to create worship space, add some personality, and provide a space that lets visitors know a bit more about our group and our quest to follow Christ. We need some help, though. Below is a "Wish List" of some items that would be useful as we begin the transformation. If you have anything that you have been thinking about getting rid of, we would love to be the recipient. Please call Drew by April 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss your donations.

- Leftover latex paints (water based)
- Kilz Primer paint
- Coffee/End tables (gently used-not broken)
- Accent lighting (gently used-not broken)
- Interesting Art Pieces (pottery, sculpture, framed art)
- 6' of kitchen cabinets (upper and lower) and counter top



**Trading Spaces  
Wesley Youth Style  
Sunday, April 15th**

## Attention Youth! Need Service Hours?

Wesley's youth will be serving in many ways this spring. A few ministries include the Children's Eggstravaganza, Easter Sunrise Service, and Heritage Sunday, on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you, or someone you know, needs service hours for school please contact Drew ASAP. A minimum of 4 hours will be awarded for each event

## Youth ASCENT

Wednesday Night Studies

6:00–7:15 p.m.

Join us for a meal at 5:00 p.m.

April 4 – What's Your Rep?

April 11 – What's Your Motto?

## Maybe You Can Help

If you can knit or crochet, we'd like your help. The Knitting in Knots Group here at Wesley is taking a siesta for a while and meeting only monthly on the third Sundays in Room 102 at 5:00 p.m. Anyone who knits, crochets, or would like to learn is invited to join us for an hour of gabbing and working.

But if you aren't interested in joining the group, you can still help us make blankets for the homeless (we donate them through Goodwill and the Warm-Up America program). Using any color of machine-washable yarn, knit or crochet some "squares" - 7" x 9" - and bring them to Kathy in the church office. We will assemble them into colorful, warm blankets for the 2007 winter season.



## God's Gifts to Seniors

This year's annual Texas Conference Senior Adult Spring Retreat is called "God's Gifts to Seniors" and will be held May 1-3 at the Lakeview Methodist Conference Center in Palestine, Texas.

Celebrate old and new friendships and learn to treasure the life God has given you! The keynote speaker for this special event will be Dr. Mark Young, our former District Superintendent. It will be a time of spiritual growth, exuberant fellowship, and hearty relaxation for all senior adults. If you are interested and would like more information or registration forms, please contact Kathy Haskins in the office.

## The Monday Group Invites You!

You are invited to come and join this fun-loving, interesting discussion group as they begin their new study on Monday, April 9, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 104. The class will start with the first in the *Faith Lessons* series: *Faith Lessons on the Promised Land*. It's a round trip to ancient times, places, and customs, and back again. With wonderful videos filmed in the Holy Land, explore what it meant to follow the God of the Hebrews, to follow Jesus in the first century, and what it means to follow Him today. Further sessions will include: *Faith Lessons on the Prophets & Kings of Israel*, *Faith Lessons on the Life & Ministry of the Messiah*, *Faith Lessons on the Death & Resurrection of the Messiah*, *Faith Lessons on the Early Church*, *In the Dust of the Rabbi*, and *Walk as Jesus Walked*. Anyone who's interested in a study with great people and good food, be there on Monday, April 9, to begin *Faith Lessons*.



## Two Ways to Enjoy the Ladies' Luncheon—May 5th

The second annual luncheon for the women and girls of Wesley is set for Saturday, May 5, at 11:00 a.m. All "Women of Wesley and Friends" are invited to attend. The meal will be catered by Bando's; our guest speaker will be the humorous Rev. Wanda Bess of McCabe-Roberts Avenue UMC; and we will hear wonderful music by Noel Turner. Celebrate the females in your life by bringing mothers, sisters, aunts, cousins, grandmothers, daughters, and friends! There are two simple ways to enjoy the luncheon:



1. Buy tickets at \$13 each—they will be available outside of each worship service in April.

2. Become a hostess! Hostesses will decorate their own tables for 8, using any theme they like. Details about being hostess will be provided when you register. Hostesses may buy as many of the seats (\$13 each) at their tables as they want. The rest will be available to the congregation. Classes and groups are encouraged to consider doing a table together!

Child care will be available for infants and toddlers, but girls are welcome and we encourage you to include them in this special event! Contact Kathy at 892-7733 or [khaskins@wesleyumc.com](mailto:khaskins@wesleyumc.com) to reserve a table.

## Louisiana Trip! Are You on the List?

We've chartered a bus and are making plans for the great trip April 30-May 1 to go see the wonderful plantation homes. It looks like a full bus right now. If you haven't filled out a registration form, please do it immediately and get it to Kathy right away to be sure no one thinks they are going but aren't on the list! Or call Kathy at 892-7733 to make sure you're registered. Thanks.



## Coming Soon!

### Garage Sale For Missions May 11-12

Hey! Hey! It's Spring Cleaning time!! Time to start setting aside those things for which you want to find a new home.

The Society of St. Stephen Garage Sale is scheduled for May 11-12. The group will receive items and set up on Thursday, May 10.

Clean out those things you don't want any more and come buy some new things to take their place! For more information, contact Lynda Follmar at 892-4361.



## Memorials

*Due to Circuit Rider publication deadlines, memorials are printed a week after their submission to the office. Thanks for your understanding.*

### Gifts as of March 25, 2007

#### Prayer Garden Fund

In Loving Memory of Susan

Amidon

By: Carolyn & Raymond Hudler

#### Budget Fund

In Loving Memory of Andrew

Clawson

By: Pat & Jim Cornelius

#### Parsonage Fund

In Loving Memory of Betty

Winstanley, Margie Moses, &

Norma Carlisle

By: Betty Powell

## Calendar

### Sunday, April 8:

6:00 am

8:00 am

9:15 am

9:15 am

10:30 am

10:30 am

### Monday, April 9:

6:30 am

8:30 am

9:00 am

11:00 am

1:30 - 2:30 pm

6:30 pm

7:30 pm

6:30 pm

7:00 pm

### Tuesday, April 10:

8:30 am

1:30 pm

9:30 am

5:30 pm

5:30 pm

5:30 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

7:00 pm

7:30 pm

### Wednesday, April 11: Rita Recovery Team-San Antonio

7:00 am

9:00 am

9:30 am

12:15 pm

3:30 pm

4:15 pm

5:00 pm

5:45 pm

6:00 pm

7:00 pm

7:15 pm

7:30 pm

7:30 pm

### Thursday, April 12: Rita Recovery Team-San Antonio

12:00 pm

12:30 pm

6:30 pm

7:00 pm

7:30 pm

### Friday, April 13:

6:00 - 10:00 pm

### Saturday, April 14:

7:00 am

7:30 pm

### Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service, Parking Lot

Worship, Cantata Part III, "He Is Alive Forever," Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship, Praise Center

Sunday School, Classrooms

Worship, Cantata, Part III, "He Is Alive Forever," Sanctuary

Second Hour Sunday Classes, Classrooms

Crosstalk, BISD—McDonalds

Attendance Volunteers, Workroom

Counters, Conference Room

Program Staff Meeting

Staff Meeting, Conference Room

**Caller Team Training & Assignment #1, Choir Room**

**Hospitality Team Training & Assignment, Parlor**

Monday Evening Study Group, Room 104

Boy Scouts, Youth Center Green Room

Cook at Some Other Place

Crafters, Room 104

**Caller Team Training & Assignment #2, Choir Room**

**Advance Commitment #4: Fellowship Host Orientation, Parlor**

**Health Care Ministries Team, Room 108**

**Missions Ministry Team, Room 104**

**Adult Ministries Team, Room 108**

**Caller Team Training & Assignment #3, Choir Room**

**College Ministry Team, Conference Room**

**Youth Ministries Team, Youth Center**

**Staff Parrish Committee, Parlor**

Al Anon, Rm 101, AA Meeting, Rm 112

Crosstalk, HJISD, Day Break

Circuit Rider Volunteers, Teacher's Lounge

**Pre School Board Meeting, Rm 102**

Communion, Sanctuary

Prayer & Card Ministry Meeting, Conference Room

King's Kids Choir, Choir Room

**Wednesdays @ Wesley**

Dinner

Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Adventure Club studies for children, Youth Ascent, Adult Bible

Studies, Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting

Chancel Choir Practice, Choir Room

Confirmand, Mentor, & Parent Meeting, Sanctuary

North Major, St. Francis Women & Men AA, Rm 101,112,106

Overeaters Anonymous, Room 108

Brown Bag Bible Study, Parlor

Senior Games Day, Youth Center Building

MOSAIC Mission Meeting (2593 Sunflower Lane)

Deborah Circle, Parlor

Al Anon, Rm 101, AA Meeting, Rm 112

### Friday, April 13: Rita Recovery Team-San Antonio

Parent's Night Out

### Saturday, April 14: Rita Recovery Team in 4/14-4/24

**Rita Recovery Team-San Antonio leaves**

Church lawn maintenance (volunteers are appreciated)

St. Francis AA Meeting, Room 112

# Our Faithfulness

## Our Attendance

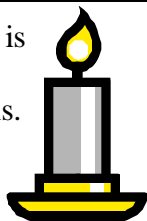
<b>Sunday Worship</b>	April 1st
8:00 a.m.	190
9:15 a.m.	225
10:30 a.m.	456
Total	871
<b>Sunday School</b>	April 1st
Children	152
Youth	38
Adults	245
Total	435
<b>Adventure Club</b>	March 28th
Total	99

## Our Gifts

<b>2007 Church Budget</b>	<b>\$1,257,029</b>
<i>(incl \$274,884 for debt service)</i>	
Needed Each Week	24,174
Received This Week	33,756
Needed Year-to-date:	314,257
Received Year-to-date:	310,423
Difference (short)	(3,834)
<b>Non-Budgeted Gifts Received:</b>	
Building Funds	\$1,050
Society of St. Stephen	50
Flag Ministry	200
Utila Fund	960
Parsonage Fund	200
Missions	50
<b>Monthly Debt Service:</b>	<b>22,907</b>

## Sanctuary Gifts

The Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week in honor of Marie Stephens.



Special thanks to Carl Johnsen Florists for donating the altar flowers for worship each week.

*Special Thanks to*  
**The PRINTery**  
 We appreciate The PRINTery for donating our weekly bulletins and *Circuit Rider*.

## Staff

Rev. Robert Besser, Pastor  
 rbesser@wesleyumc.com  
 866-1117 home, 790-2748 cell

Rev. Mark Bunch, Pastor  
 mbunch@wesleyumc.com  
 892-2534 home, 781-0357 cell

Rev. Elvis Davis, Pastor  
 edavis@wesleyumc.com  
 866-4296 home

Rev. Pam Besser  
 Children's Minister  
 pbesser@wesleyumc.com  
 866-1117 home

Rev. Josh Hale  
 College & Young Adult Minister  
 revjwhale@gmail.com  
 751-4154 home, 790-9844 cell

Kathy Haskins  
 Adult Ministries Director  
 khaskins@wesleyumc.com  
 860-5107 home, 790-3549 cell

Drew Swanson  
 Youth Ministries Director  
 dswanson@wesleyumc.com  
 782-6042 mobile

Noel Turner  
 Music Ministries Director  
 nturner@wesleyumc.com  
 861-1751 home

Malana Hearn  
 Administrative Assistant  
 mhearn@wesleyumc.com

Reba Sonnier  
 Congregational Care Director  
 rsonnier@wesleyumc.com  
 892-5525 home, 656-5371 cell

Renee' Cash  
 Financial Secretary  
 rcash@wesleyumc.com

Erin Bunch  
 Communications Director  
 ebunch@wesleyumc.com

Beau Hicks  
 Facilities Manager  
 bhicks@wesleyumc.com  
 892-2595 home

Bruce Klumpp  
 Lynette Klumpp  
 Denise Richard  
 Custodians

Dwight Peirce  
 Orvaley Husband  
 Organists

Aleta Gibbs  
 Nursery Coordinator  
 agibbs@gt.rr.com  
 924-9987

Preschool & Mother's Day Out  
 892-7012

Linda Carroll,  
 Preschool Director  
 Kay Bender  
 MDO Director

# Guests

- Richard Adams
- Joshua Amos
- Arthur Baize
- Chris, Brett, & Kaitlyn Black
- Joe, Melanie, & Michael Bleuel
- Sharon & Amanda Boldt
- Joann Cherry
- Kristi Craig
- Nancy Crawford
- Ted Dailey
- Lee Decuir
- Shanoe & Kendra Dillard
- Barbara Duncan
- Joe Fisher
- Matthew & Melinda Fortenberry
- Herman & Sherrie Gonzalez
- John Griffin
- David, Connie, & Jamie Grimes
- Henry & Virgie Harper
- Lillian Howard
- Sylvia Hughes
- Cynthia Johnson
- Wanda & Don Lanham
- Terry LeGrande
- Rob LeMaster
- Debbie Lene
- Kimberly, Jamila, & Ariana Levine
- Clay Lindsey
- Lou Ann Lott
- Bob & Jill McCampbell
- Lynn McLain
- Sue McNeely
- Kim Miller
- James, Karen, & Kevin Parsley
- Ginny Pope
- Kris & Tara Revia
- Meghan & Stefani Rudd
- Jeremy & Maxine Russell
- Ann, Crystal, & Summer Sandifer
- Wendi, Max, & Darlene Smtih
- Brett, Shelly, Tyler, & Carley Tripp
- Carl, Rebekah, & Caroline Tucker
- Wanda Underwood
- Ann Williams
- DeAnn Young
- Travis & Maegan Yust
- Charles & Tammy Yust

*For more information about joining Wesley United Methodist Church, contact Rev. Mark Bunch at mbunch@wesleyumc.com.*

# News and Coming Events

## UMW News

The United Methodist Women served dinner to UMCOR workers from Kilgore, Texas, and Lincoln, Nebraska, on March 12. The ladies enjoyed the fellowship and opportunity to serve.

Mary Sue and Betty Lou Kovar gave the UMW the gift of a Bible Dictionary for a Library. It will be well used! Thanks girls!

This past Sunday, the UMW and many guests welcomed Kathy Berhman from Houston's Westbury UMC. Kathy presented a one-woman show on the "women who didn't make the Book."

## Scouting News

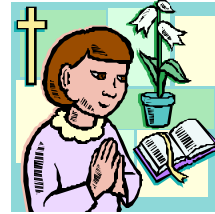


Troop 65 member Matthew Bender received his Eagle Award at a Court of Honor at Wesley on Saturday, March 24.

Matthew is the son of Kay and Eric Bender and the brother of Becca. The event was especially important to his family as Matt is the first young man on both sides of the family to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout. He is a senior at West Brook High School, employed by Babin Machine works, and plans to attend Lamar University and major in Engineering. Matthew's Eagle project was Phase I of the Billy Fairchild Memorial Gazebo which included the foundation, the structure, and the roof. Phase II, the finishing of the gazebo, was Logan Smithey's Eagle project. Matthew would like to extend his heartfelt gratitude to Wesley staff and members who helped him in many ways. He says he "could not have done it without them."

## Open your eyes...Open your ears... Open your heart...Encounter God.

Visiting the Prayer Path is a journey through a Christ-centered labyrinth experience. Set against a worshipful music backdrop, you will find eleven stations which will help you to "let go" of the busyness, hurts, and distractions that can spoil relationships, "center" your life on God, and reach out to the world with Christ's love. Everyone (teens will find it



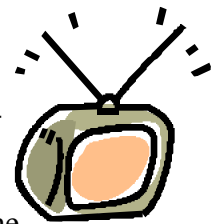
fascinating) is invited to come and experience the Prayer Path as a wonderful part of their Lenten season. It will be in the Praise Center and the hours are:

Wednesday, April 4—Noon to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 5—Noon to 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 6—Noon to 6:30 p.m.

## Wesley UMC On Demand



The video of the 9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service at Wesley is now available on Time Warner Cable's Video On Demand service. Video on Demand is available to Time Warner Cable customers who subscribe to the Digital Cable Package. The video will be uploaded about one week after the Sunday worship service.

If you are a Digital Cable subscriber, you can access the service by going to channel 1, move through the pages of choices and select GT ON DEMAND, select FAITH & RELIGION, select WESLEY UMC, and select the week to view. The Wesley UMC services are free to Time Warner Cable subscribers with the Digital Cable Package. We look forward to the outreach potential of this new project and we thank our Multimedia Ministry Team for their dedicated service in this ministry.

## Sharing Our Faith



### Just a Moment...

Have you ever bought stock in a company, made a small wager on the outcome of a sporting event, or simply purchased a lottery ticket? Did it make you more interested in the stock market, the game, or the winning lotto numbers? In these instances, it seems our hearts are where our money is.

On the other hand, have you ever made a donation to an organization or a group because "it was a good cause," or "they were working hard to earn money?" How did it make you feel? Did you feel good because it was something that you wanted to do or knew that your donation would make a difference? In these instances, it seems that our money is where our hearts are.

Where is your heart?

*Father, I open my heart to You so that it may be filled with the Holy Spirit. Please give me the strength to follow where You lead and give me the opportunity and courage to demonstrate my Faith; for it is in Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*



3810 North Major Drive  
Beaumont, Texas 77713

(409) 892-7733  
(409) 892-8350 Fax  
www.wesleyumc.com

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*Circuit Rider* deadline is each Thursday.  
Email articles to [circuitrider@wesleyumc.com](mailto:circuitrider@wesleyumc.com)

*The people of Wesley United Methodist Church are called to know God and to make God known.*

## Happy Birthday!

*Listed are those of our church family who are celebrating a birthday next week. Keep these persons in your prayers for that day. Let's pray in unity for each other! It is our desire to have every Wesley member's birthday listed. If your birthday is not listed, please inform the church office.*

### April 8

Jim Barras  
Jeremy Dale  
Meredith Hughes  
Glenda Menefee  
Kimberly Rose  
Scott Smith  
Marie Stephens

### April 9

Kathy Heiner  
Robert Hobbs  
Eisha Killian  
Robby Raykovich

### April 10

Maurine Behrens  
Trent Bond  
Layne Wilson  
Tom Winstanley

### April 11

Jenny Haskins  
Carri Jeanis  
Seth Jones  
Tristan Killian  
Karen Stewart  
Roy Tiller  
Courtney Yust

### April 12

Hillary Erickson

### April 13

Kyle Hanson  
Tanner Marsh  
April Morreale

### April 14

Gerri Barnes  
Jami Davis  
Cory Marsh  
Rebecca Poppe  
Leslie Shelton  
Barbara Summers