

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

July 4: 10:00 a.m.

July 11: 9:00 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School

No Sunday School July 4

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

July 4, 2010 Newsletter

This Week, pg. 2

Upcoming Events, pg. 3 - 4

Children & Youth Ministry, pg. 5

News & Notes, pg. 6

Congregational Care, pg. 7

Sunday School Notes, back pg.

Church Office Hours

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

The Church will be closed Monday, July 5th for the 4th of July Holiday.

- 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

VBS: Growing in Faith *by the Children's Ministry Team*

The first Vacation Bible School didn't happen in a church or even a school. No, the very first VBS took place more than one hundred years ago in a saloon on New York City's East Side, led by Mrs. Walker Aylette Hawes of the Epiphany Baptist Church. Mrs. Hawes began her Bible-based program as a way to help scores of immigrant children who had nothing to do in the summer outside of school.



That first VBS included worship music, Bible stories and scripture memorization. There were also games, crafts and cooking. By all accounts, the children had the time of their lives and surely, because Mrs. Hawes was a very determined Baptist lady, those children left there closer to God.

Next week, July 12-16, Mrs. Hawes' dream manifests itself this year in Galactic Blast, the theme of Saint John's UMC's VBS experience. Taking children on a hyperspaced journey through five incredible stories of the Bible, our version of VBS will include a virtual space station, satellite feeds from the Galactic satellite, and a purple gorilla that greets the children every day. It's a far cry, we're sure, from Mrs. Hawes' humble beginnings in the New York slums. But its objective to bring children together for praise, fellowship, and recreation is still very much part of what VBS is to the Saint John's congregation.

Our galactic journey through the Bible will include all of those wonderful bits of programming Mrs. Hawes introduced in 1893. We'll begin every morning in the sanctuary with a worship service and praise music, with Pastor Paul joining us for both. We'll spend time learning exciting new praise songs and creating out-of-this-world crafts. There will be wonderful Bible stories and recreation time and delicious snacks. And at the end of the week, when we are all exhausted from having so much fun, I know we'll all experience what the children at that very first VBS experienced so many years ago – we'll feel closer to God and each other. It really is the best part of VBS and what keeps us coming back every year.

I think Mrs. Hawes would be proud.

SUNDAY, JULY 4 IN WORSHIP

Sunday, July 4, we will have one worship service at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Paul Escamilla will share the message "A President's Prayer, a Prophet's Favor" with scripture reading from 2 Kings 5:1-14. Music is shared by the Cokesbury Choir, Chancel Choir and Jones Memorial Handbells.

Join us after worship for a 4th of July potluck lunch. We'll meet in the great hall to enjoy good fellowship and good food.

Calendar

Sunday, July 4

IHN through Saturday
 1000a Worship
 1100a Potluck Lunch, GH
 430p Prayer Group, A

Monday, July 5

Church Office Closed
 530p Aerobics, YH
 530p Al-Anon, A
 630p Communications

Tuesday, July 6

230p Tai Chi, 5900B
 700p Endowment Committee, 5900

Wednesday, July 7

900a Staff Meeting, 211
 1045a Cokesbury, MR
 530p Aerobics, YH
 730p Debtors Anon, A

Thursday, July 8

900a Postal Pros, 119
 700p AA, A

Friday, July 9

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

Saturday, July 10

No Events Scheduled

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

Happy
 Birthday!



July 4: Brittany Newsom, Julie Sieverman, Wanda Spooner

July 5: Bridget Kelly

July 6: Dan Stokley

July 7: Brogan House, Deirdre Walsh

July 8: Jennifer Cray, Amihan Jones, Callie Kloppe, Billie Mobley, Karen Stone

July 9: Mary Faithfull

July 10: Christine Dixon, Steve Peckham

July 11: Dora Barber

July 12: Amanda Boyle

Contact Us

452.5737 / 452.6145 Fax

2140 Allandale Road, Austin, TX, 78756

Web site: www.stjohnsaustin.org

Email: info@stjohnsaustin.org

Calendar information continued on Sidebar pg. 3

WEEK OF JULY 4

Communion Rail Offering this Sunday

This Sunday, July 4th, our communion rail offering will go to support Austin Interfaith. Austin Interfaith is a multi-ethnic, multi-issue coalition of 30 religious congregations, public schools, and unions who work together to address public issues that affect the well being of families and neighborhoods in our community. They are a broad based citizens' organization committed to promoting justice. They work to develop leaders and to provide opportunities for churches, schools, and unions to negotiate effectively through the political process with local government and community leaders around issues of common concern. Austin Interfaith is strictly non-partisan.

July 4th Potluck - This Sunday



Don't forget to bring yourself and a side dish (veggie, salad, bread, or dessert) to share after our one and only 10:00 a.m. worship service. We'll meet in the great hall to welcome our new pastor and his family and enjoy good fellowship and good food. ALL are Welcome!

Food Pantry Sunday - July 4

This Sunday, July 4th, is Food Pantry Sunday. We also have only one worship service and a potluck lunch that day. As you remember to bring your covered dish, please remember to bring canned or powdered milk for Hope Food Pantry.

Interfaith Hospitality Families here through July 10

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) is with us through July 10. During these two weeks we will feed and support these families as they try to become more stable and independent.

We currently have three families with us and this may increase to four as needed. Because they get to stay in one place for two weeks, the families will have less stress, especially the children. Please continue to pray for those receiving our hospitality and those who are giving their time and resources to a great program. We are a church that truly has Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors. I encourage anyone who is curious or even a little interested in the program to come by any evening after 5:00 p.m. If you come around dinner you can even eat with the families and the meal providers.

If you have questions about the program or want more details on how you can help, call me at 565-8702. For more information about the program you can go the website: <http://www.foundationhomeless.org/>
Thank you, Pat Stewart, IHN Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

There is a place for you to serve in VBS! - July 12- 16



VBS Registration closes Monday, July 5. Sign up today if you haven't already! Adults and youth, please prayerfully consider volunteering. Vacation Bible School is a blessing to those in the church, and many people outside of it. There is no way to have a successful VBS without a strong team of volunteers. Here are many ways to help.

Donations: This Sunday check out the Donation Board located in the gallery and consider what you might contribute to this fantastic ministry. Choose a star or two, purchase the items and return them to the collection box by July 11. Our VBS cadets will thank you.

Decorations and Preparation: All are invited to come help get ready for VBS. Saint John's VBS will touch the lives of nearly 100 campers in our church and community, in addition to numerous youth and adult volunteers. Won't you help us prepare?

Updated VBS Decoration Workshop Dates:

Tuesday, July 6: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 7: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Please contact Tracy Burger at tracy@stjohnsaustin.org or check out our online registration at www.stjohnsaustin.org for more information. All adult volunteers are welcome, even those with children participating in VBS!



Mom's Coffee - July 19 & 26

Mom's Coffee, Saint John's newest United Methodist Women's Circle, is a casual group of Moms with young children (babies through early preschool) who meet twice a month for coffee, conversation, and a well-deserved break while our kids are in free (FREE!) childcare.

What do we do? Projects (such as arts/crafts, scrapbooks, baby books, etc), book studies on issues of social justice and parenting and informal playgroups at the church and in the community. We are currently studying *Child of Mine: Feeding With Love and Good Sense*, by Ellyn Satter.

When do we meet? Twice-a-month on select Mondays from 10-11:30 a.m. Our upcoming dates are July 19 & July 26

Where do we meet? Moms meet across the street from the church at 5900 Wynona, while our kids play in the nursery in room 102. For childcare reservations, please contact Stacy Sparks at ssparks48@gmail.com one week in advance, if possible. For more information and to get on the Mom's Coffee email list, contact Ruth Airhart artpants2001@yahoo.com.



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 staff mailbox outside of the church office.

OUR PRESENCE:

Attendance Sunday, June 20

Renaissance Service	12
Wednesday Noon	16
Family Camp	115
Sunday School	136
Worship 9:00a	111
Worship 11:00a	186
Worship Total	440

Attendance Sunday, June 27

Sunday School	161
Worship 9:00a	130
Worship 11:00a	203
Worship Total	333

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.

Large Print Hymnals Available

Large print hymnals are available on the usher carts that are near the sanctuary entrance. 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 July/August issue of the Upper Room daily devotional is available for \$1.50 each on the Information table at the front entrance to the church.

Men's Clothes Closet

The United Methodist Men deliver clothes to ARCH every week. The "Clothes for Homeless Men" donation basket is in the gallery.

SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES

Tuesdays, 2:30: Tai Chai Class

Wednesdays, 10:45am: Sing with the Amazing Grays

Low Impact Aerobics Class: Mon., Wed. & Fri. 5:30 - 6:30

Movie Morning in Rm. 208, on 4th Thursdays, beginning July 22, 10 am

July 29: Trip to LBJ Library to see Cronkite exhibit; lunch at Hoovers.

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.

Paper Recycling at Saint John's to Raise Money

Grace Garden is the host of a recycling project that encourages everyone to stay green while earning money at the same time. The Abiti Paper Recycling bin is located across the street in the parking lot of Lamar Middle School. It is a very large yellow and green receptacle. You can't miss it. All you have to do is collect your used newspapers, magazines, shopping catalogs, junk mail, and other papers and bring them to the recycling bin. And then pat yourself on the back for not only recycling, but also for helping to raise funds for Grace Garden Child Development Center!

Lost and Found from Family Camp

The following items were left at Saint John's Family Camp last month. If you recognize something that might be yours, please contact the church office.

New Balance athletic shoes, size 9 white

Black socks

Deck of UNO cards

Small blue plastic Band-Aid holder

Small scissors with gray handle

Gray donkey watch

Small multi-colored cloth ball with "Charlie" on it

Tan/orange hand or kitchen towel

Black canvas bag with "Lancôme" in white

New Senior Adult Activity Planned - July 22

There are many activities designed especially for Senior Adults at Saint John's. Weekly activities include Tai Chi, Low Impact Aerobics, and singing with the Cokesbury Choir. There are day-trips or tours almost every month. On the first Thursday every month there is an opportunity to learn new table games (and enjoy playing some old ones.) The NEW monthly activity will be a chance to see a movie on a Thursday morning here at church. We will be able to project the movie onto a screen so that you can watch in air-conditioned comfort while you munch on popcorn, lemonade or other snacks. Afterwards, if you bring a sack lunch, we can discuss the movie while we eat together. There will be no charge.

The first "Movie Morning" is scheduled for Thursday, July 22, at 10:00 am in Room 208. The movie being shown is "The Bucket List" with Morgan Freeman and Jack Nicholson. The story is about a blue-collar mechanic and a billionaire hospital magnate who meet for the first time as hospital room-mates, where they are both diagnosed with cancer. Suggestions for future movies are welcome.

Help Needed to Plan Senior Activities

Have you discovered that at least half the fun of a trip often comes in the planning and anticipation? Well, those of us who help plan the day trips for Saint John's Senior Adults find this to be true. But we don't think that the fun should be limited to the same group of people all the time. Actually it is time for some of our present planners to rotate off the committee, so we need to recruit new committee members with fresh ideas. If you would like to join this lively group of seniors, meeting usually an hour or so one morning a month, please contact Jeanette Ball (452-5737, jeanette.ball@sbcglobal.net) or Gene Jarman (921-2850, genejarman@sbcglobal.net)

Seniors to See Walter Cronkite Exhibit - July 29

Senior Adults and their friends have planned a visit to the LBJ Library on Thursday morning, July 29 to see the Walter Cronkite exhibit. At noon they will plan to go to Hoover's on Manor Road for a delicious home-style lunch before returning to Saint John's. The church bus will leave for the library from the White Rock parking lot at 9:00 am (Please park your cars there too.) Please sign up on the clip board in the gallery. The cost is only \$5.00 (for the transportation fund) and the lunch is "on your own."

Attention Saint John's Pedalers

I hope your bikes have not been collecting dust since the Hill Country Ride for AIDS this spring. The Mamma Jamma Ride Against Breast Cancer is coming on September 25. Start thinking about signing up and getting some miles in on your bikes.



If you're not a regular cyclist, this ride has routes for all levels and the money raised goes to support ten local charities that serve those in central Texas with breast cancer and their families. Go to <http://www.mammajammaride.org/> and register under the Saint John's team. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Sparks at cmsparks@gmail.com or 452-3730.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Children's Events

July 12 - 16, 9:00 – 12:00: Vacation Bible School
Register at www.stjohnsaustin.org.

Sunday, July 25: Family Night at Deep Eddy Pool

Saturday, August 21: Children's Ministries Volunteers' Evening Out

Sunday, August 22: Back-to-School Bash

Children's Sunday School

There will be no Sunday school on July 4. May you and your family enjoy a safe and happy 4th of July. On **Sunday, July 11**, our children will be learning how we care for others through Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan. On **Sunday, July 18**, we will explore the value of being with Jesus as illustrated in His visit to Mary and Martha.

Children in Kindergarten – 5th grade meet at 9:50 a.m. in room 101 for music. All children may be picked up in their designated classroom between 10:50 and 10:55.

- 3 and 4 years (Rm. 105 - drop off in 106)
- K – 5th grade (Rm. 103)

Youth Events

MYF

Sunday, July 4: No MYF this week. Enjoy the 4th of July with your family.

Youth Sunday School:

Sunday, July 4:

No Sunday School this week. Enjoy worship and the potluck with our church family. Join us next Sunday, July 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the youth house.

WAYS TO SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Angel Heart Hospice

Angel Heart Hospice is seeking volunteers to provide services to patients and families such as: patient sitting, reading to patients, errand assistance, household assistance, light meal preparation. Training is completed at your own pace. Patients are seen at your convenience. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy Steinmacher, at nsteinmacher@angelheartospice.com or (512)342-8288.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

Consider volunteering for the Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D). Volunteers perform every step in the production process, including setting up textbooks, operating recording equipment, reading, quality control checking, and duplicating. No special knowledge is needed, as RFB&D will train. Volunteer opportunities are also available in areas of outreach, development and special events. Informational tours of about an hour are available. For information, call 323-9390.

Laptop to Spare?

Do you believe in second chances? We know of a young man who has really turned the corner who needs a new or refurbished laptop for job applications, etc., hopefully still furnished with software suitable for cover letters, résumés, and internet searching. Please contact Mike Renquist (mgrenquist@sbcglobal.net) or Steve Haag (stevenjhaag@yahoo.com) and we will take it off your hands and put it in the hands of someone who really needs it.

OUR SERVICE

Open Hearts Volunteer Opportunities in this week's newsletter

- Food Pantry, pg. 2
- IHN, pg. 2
- Vacation Bible School, pg. 3
- Plan Senior Activities, pg. 4
- Save Your Tabs, pg. 4
- Serve in the Community, pg. 5

NEWS & NOTES

One more thank you!

Since our last note in the newsletter acknowledging the overwhelming hospitality of the Saint John's congregation, many more expressions of welcome and care have found their way to our door! With the help of Sallie Sassano, Sunday school classes at Saint John's have provided us with special gift cards from some of their favorite places, such as Elsi's, Fonda San Miguel, Frisco's, Amy's Ice Cream, and others. We are already enjoying these family outings, and look forward to stretching them out all summer long!

Special thanks to these Sunday school classes for their gifts: Companions, Discussion Class, Fellowship Class, Happy Heretics, Journey, Crossroads, Open Circle, Seekers, Serenity, and the Wesley Class. Beyond the church family's hospitality, just the other day the Austin District hand-delivered a scrumptious care package to our door, and it bears mentioning that the Southwest Texas Annual Conference covered our moving costs to bring us here in the first place. Blessings abound in our first summer in Austin.

Thank you, friends, for extending such care and enjoyment. *The Escamilla family*

Montopolis Friendship Community Center: Miles Scholarship Fund

Montopolis Friendship Community Center is a mission of the Austin area United Methodist Women and serves the Montopolis neighborhood with a preschool, clothing resale shop, community meeting hall, and the Miles Scholarship Fund. This May, the MFCC board celebrated the graduation of two of the Miles Scholarship students with a luncheon at the Center. The Miles Scholarship is funded by Austin area UMW units and individual contributions. Currently, there are seven other young men and women attending college with Miles Scholarships. The photo includes, left to right, Billie Talley - Chairperson of the MFCC board, Ricardo Gonzales, graduate of Texas A&M, Larry Simpson, graduate of UT Austin, and Martha Renfroe - Chairperson of the Miles Scholarship Committee. Center is Bill Henry, a long time supporter of MFCC and the Miles Scholarship Fund.



Flowers for the Sanctuary

If you would like to provide a flower arrangement for the chancel area in the Sanctuary on one of the following Sundays, please contact Diane Randle, 346-2342. July 11, 18; August 22; October 3, 24, 31; Nov. 21.

Platters Needed for Hospitality

As you know we serve goodies every Sunday from our Hospitality table. As time has gone by, platters have gotten broken, they have disappeared, or have become unusable. In addition, we now have classes in houses across the street and platters are needed there for service. In this time of recycling and reusing, would you please peruse your cabinets and consider donating any glass platters you no longer use? If you would be willing to donate platters, please bring them to the church and put them in the kitchen with a note saying they are a donation.

Newsletter Schedule for July

Due to summer schedules, we will not have a newsletter **July 18**. Please keep this in mind if you have an activity coming up you would like publicized. Submit articles to holly@stjohnsaustin.org or leave articles in the church staff mailbox.

Want to Help Feed the Hungry This Summer in Austin? For You or For Your Group.

Urban Connection Austin (UCA) is providing a mobile summer food program and taking food directly to the apartments and neighborhoods where there are large numbers of eligible kids. These same students receive free lunches at school during the regular school year. This mobile feeding program will fill a much needed gap in the Austin summer feeding program. It is an easy involvement/commitment and doesn't take much time to make a huge difference. Go to <http://texasfaithandfood.org/UCA>. Questions: please contact Valerie valerie@stjohnsaustin.org.

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.

Deaths: Merle Williams passed away June 23. Graveside Service was June 26, Lockhart City Cemetery. Frank Kizlinski passed away June 20, in Inola, Oklahoma, (husband of Sallie Sassano's cousin). Naomi Fitzmorris passed away June 16, (neighbor of Saint John's). James Price passed away June 13, in Lawrence Kansas, (Jessica Foulkes' grandfather).

Hospital: Baby Andrew Duderstadt, E. C. Herber, Madeline Millard, Dorothy Mitschke

Prayers and Concerns:	Malcolm Ferguson	Dora & Charles McDonald	Pam Stone
Saint John's Family	Gail Fuller & Carrie James	Alice Miertschin	Sally Tanberg
Norma Barber	Mary Gielstra	Virginia Montgomery	Georgia Thompson
Nancy Basey	Frank Green	Alan Morris	Ella Jiao Tovo-Hurt
Keith Beasley	Joann Hedbawny	Richard Murph	Juanita Turner
Zach Benaya	Lin Henneke	Clyde O'Dell	Tonya Turner
B.J.	Elmer Hixson	Dorothy Parker	A. G. Walker
Michelle Braet	Tom Howe	Chris Piland	Flo Wojcik
Bill Callaway	Reva and Jack Jackson	Wade and Rayda Porter	Amy Wright
David Cappolino	Ollie Jones	Jenna Richbourg	Dorothea & Vernon Wright
Spencer Chaney	Tommye Jones	Bonnie Schroeder	Cy Zaleski
Liam Collier	Dale Kirtland	Vickie Shapiro	Ben Zieger
Angela Crisara	Beverly Massengale	Renee Speed & Jerry Morris	Jack Zieger
Phil Darby	Jim McCutcheon	Dan Stokley	

Military Service: Captain Luke E. Barber (Dora Barber's grandson), Shea Browning (Faye Byers' great grandson), Marine Riley Callahan (Jane Wilson's grandson), Eric Clakley (husband of Rachel Richey Clakley), 1st Lt. Dan Cohen (Geneva Curry's grandson), 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), 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 on the table by the front doors.

Reminder: No Sunday School July 4

Companions Class, Annex A

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

Crossroads, Rm. 201

The Crossroads Class is for young, single, partnered or married adults, 20 - 30 years of age. Crossroads represents where many young adults are: in college/grad school, or recently in the work world, a first or second job... at a crossroads, near a transition. The discussion-oriented class provides support in faith development, relationship building, work-life coaching, with curriculum and focus provided by Dr. Mike Renquist and socials engineered (for the time being) by the Journey Young Adult Class.

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 on June 20 was from Thessalonians again considering ways in which believers encourage one another in their commitment to God. Ralph challenged all of us to say words of encouragement to others with "face to face" greetings as often as we could. On June 27, Pat Thomas delivered the lesson from the book of

Thessalonians in which Paul wrote a letter to the people to remind them to continue to grow in their Christian commitment. Many members helped with the discussion about how we should continue to demonstrate our faith by the way we interact with others. We were happy to hear that Malcolm Ferguson is recovering from his injury at home now after two months in the hospital. Healing prayers are sent to E.C. Herber as he recovers in the hospital. Happy Birthday to Barbara Bowman and Kathy Crowe. No Class on July 4.

Happy Heretics, 5900 Wynona, Front

Have you ever wondered what Jesus actually looked like? Was he really a healer? How did his first followers hear his message? What was the Star of Bethlehem? Who was at the Last Supper, and what was the Holy Grail? How was he crucified, and why? Join the Happy Heretics as we hear from leading biblical scholars and archeologists in the National Geographic program, Science of the Bible.

Journey Young Adults Class, Rm. 207

The Journey Class meets Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in room 207 - the first room to the right at the top of the stairs. The Journey Class is a class for adults mostly in their 30s, many starting families (but certainly not required). We discuss spirituality, social responsibility, current events, and our shared story as Christians and as Methodists. Contact Hilary Marchbanks with questions.

Open Circle, Annex C

Singles and couples class that utilizes guest speakers, videotapes and Bible studies in a discussion format. All are welcome. 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 I Thessalonians 3 on June 20. Paul sent Timothy back to report to him about the Thessalonians' faithfulness. Blain Keith gave the lesson from I Thessalonians 4 on June 27. What we do in life is very important. We are to please God.

Please keep A.G. Walker, who had brain surgery and is home, in your prayers. Vicki Shapiro finished her radiation and will have muscle in the affected leg removed July 1. Frank Green (Barbara Holmes' brother) was moved to a nursing home. Elaine Baker's friend Kevin had a bad car accident in Maryland and needs prayers. Also keep Phil Darby in your prayers. Remember to come to church Tuesday, July 6, as our class is providing and serving food for IHN guests.
