

# GraceNOTES

The official newsletter of Grace United Methodist Church in Arlington, Texas

July 2019

[www.Graceumcarlington.org](http://www.Graceumcarlington.org)

## SHARING THE GOSPEL (GOOD NEWS) TODAY?

**Rev. Penny Stemley**

When you hear or think of the word “Evangelism,” what comes to mind? How do you feel? Does it make your heart palpitate to the point that you’re dreading even talking about it- much less going door-to-door with someone? God forbid!

Several years ago I went with a group to do door-to-door evangelism. This was our first time putting our training to practice; and believe me I was trembling in my boots! We went in groups of three: one person knocking on the door, another person observing and another person taking notes. We’d rotate in and out of these three positions. When it was my turn to knock on the door, I knocked as softly as I could and prayed that no one would open the door. When the lady opened the door, I took a big gulp and went through my “speech.” Needless to say she wasn’t interested. I felt like a failure and vowed I’d never do that again. In retrospect I realized I was more focused on myself than the woman I was supposed to be ministering to. I know now that it’s not about me.

To address the critical need of understanding the “**why, what and how**” of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ (Evangelism), **Grace UMC Arlington** is developing a spirit-led and meaningful way for our church to become more Evangelism-minded. We want Evangelism to become (for us) a life-style where we literally have “a heart of compassion for the lost”. The first opportunity for leaders and members to understand and develop this will be during a working lunch on **Saturday, July 27th from 11 am to 1 pm.**

During this introductory training session, we will do an overview of the book “Conversational Evangelism: Connecting with People to Share Jesus.” This book teaches a pre-evangelism methodology. It is the WHAT of evangelism. The method recommended is that we “first” establish (**continued on back**)

PASTOR FRED BATES, JR.  
GRACE UMC ARLINGTON

*Pastor*  
APPRECIATION  
*Celebration*

SUNDAY JULY 14TH 8:30 AM  
2020 S. COLLINS ARLINGTON, TX 76010

### Grace UMC Media Team

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**Grace UMC Arlington** seeks to bring people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ by making disciples through our words and actions in cooperation with God’s Grace.

2020 South Collins Street | Arlington, TX 76010 (817) 323-6276

**Sharing the Gospel** (continued from front) a relationship with someone one prior to sharing the gospel. The book planned for deeper study during Sunday school is: "Unscripted – Sharing the Gospel as Life Happens". It's about the HOW of Evangelism. Most of us are in various relationship(s) but are often unaware of the numerous opportunities presented to share the gospel. Well, this book teaches us that sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ (Evangelism) is

a process and it's not scripted. It's not going from step A-Z, but prayerfully listening to the Holy Spirit and then telling your story.

We praise God and look forward to following the Holy Spirit in this opportunity to "...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever! Amen (2 Peter 3:18)

# Announcements

All volunteers and leaders that work with children, youth and vulnerable adults must complete **Ministry Safe Training**. The process involves an application, webinar and brief test. Certification is good for two years and is needed for participation in VBS, Mission u and leading/substitute Sunday school leaders. We encourage all members interested in these ministry areas to get Ministry Safe Certified. Please contact the church office for application process.

*Thank you!*

**Pamela Pinkerton-Whitley**



## Save the Date!

**August 5–Mission u  
East District 1 Day**

**August 10–Back to  
School Event**

### Things to do this summer:

How about an old-fashioned movie at an old-fashioned drive in?  
**Visit Coyote Drive - In  
Fort Worth Water Gardens,  
1502 Commerce Street, Ft. Worth.**



## July

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Praise Team 6 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	3 Worship Meeting 6:15 pm Prayer 6:30 pm Bible Class 7 pm	4 <b>Independence Day! Be Safe!</b>	5	6
7 VBS Vol Training 4-5 pm Decorate @ St Andrews VBS 12:30 – 4 pm	8	9	10	11	12	13 College Prep 8-10 am Food truck St. Andrews 8 am volunteers
<b>Vacation Bible School St. Andrews 6-8pm</b>						
14 <b>Pastor's Anniversary 8:30 Worship Start Time</b> Communion Stewards Meeting 11:30 am	15	16 Praise Team 6 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	17 Prayer in sanctuary 6:30 pm Worship mtg 6:15 pm Outreach 6:15 pm Bible Class 7 pm	18	19	20 Prayer 9 am
21 St. Andrews - Corsicana	22	23 Praise Team 6 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	24 Worship Meeting 6:15 pm Bible Class 7 pm	25 <b>Info for Grace Notes DUE TODAY!</b>	26	27 Prayer 9 am UMW / UMM 10am SPPRC 11am
28 <b>Confirmation Class Celebration</b>	29	30	31			