



Saginaw United Methodist Church

Focus Newsletter

Faith Opportunity Christ Unity Service

Vol. 10, Issue 11 November 2021

TRUNK OR TREAT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Trunk or Treat come back a success!



Upcoming Events

3rd-5th Grade Bible Camp

November 5-6

Lord's Acre

Saturday, November 6th

All Saint's Sunday

Sunday, November 7th

UMM Workday

Friday, November 12

Parent's Night Out

Friday, November 12 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Ladies Night Out

Thursday, November 11 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sisterhood Collection for Community Link

Saturday, November 13 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Festival

Sunday, December 5 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Newsletter Folding

Tuesday, December 7th 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Prayer List



These prayers have been shared with your church family. Please help us lift these requests to the Lord.

Prayers for the family and friends of Marva Evans of Marshall, TX. She was a lifelong friend of Lois and Bill Horton.

Prayers for our country.

Prayers for Betty Young and her husband who have been diagnosed with Covid.

Prayers for the Russell family and friends after a passing of a close one.

Prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of Christopher Anthony Calvano, great-grandson of Virginia Parrish.

Prayers for the healing of Millie Beavers.

Prayers for the JV football player from Keller Timbercreek HS taken away by ambulance during a football all game. Unknown injury but was not moving

Prayers of comfort for Caleb and Magenta Roberson after the passing of Caleb's dad due to Covid.

Prayers for people going through uncertain times.

Prayers for Diane and Al Watson.

Prayers of thanksgiving! Macen James court case is closed. Prayers for continued healing.

Prayers for Becky Watkins who is in the hospital with Covid.

Prayers for a friend facing multiple surgeries

Prayers for Randy Mann, son-in-law of Kaye and Brett Jenkins, who has been hospitalized after a fall.

Prayers of healing for Doug and Mary Witter, David's brother and sister-in-law. Doug has pneumonia and both have Covid.

Prayers of comfort for the Nolan family, friends of the Birkners, who are expecting soon the passing of Andrea Nolan as she is in the final stages of hospice.

Prayers of healing for Mary Kirby after her tonsillectomy on Friday, October 29. . Additionally Jerry's daughter has breast cancer and will determine what her best options are.

Prayers for Roger Umsted, father of Randy, who was admitted to the hospital on October 30th. He is 91 years old and has Covid.

Prayers for God to help in making June Miller's kidney surgery successful, sister to Susie Rhoades.

Prayers of thanksgiving on the return home of Max Pressinger safe and sound.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Memorials/Honorariums

Given to the Budget

In Honor of Dale & Londa Pontius

Given by Ray & Juanita Jordan

Given to Community Link

In Honor of The Sisterhood

Given by Jimmy & Barbara Henley

Given to the Endowment Fund

In Memory of Terry Spivey

Given by Jimmy & Barbara Henley

Given to the Memorial Fund

In Memory of Glen Baker

Given by Gary & Donna Anderson

In Memory of Glen Baker

Given by Linda Brown

In Memory of Joyce Byrd

Given by Gary & Donna Anderson

In Memory of Joyce Byrd

Given by Jay & Millie Beavers

In Memory of Joyce Byrd

Given by Linda Brown

In Memory of Joyce Byrd

Given by Adrian & Jenny Cardenas

Given to the Memorial Garden

In Memory of Glen Baker

Given by George & Linda Allison

In Memory of Joyce Byrd

Given by Tom & Karen Jumes

In Memory of Pastor Lawrence

(Mary Guess's Grandfather)

Given by Tom & Karen Jumes

Given to the Quilters

In Memory of Joyce Byrd

Given by Janet Page

In Memory of Joyce Byrd

Given by Jimmy & Barbara Henley

Finance Committee

Finance Committee is happy to report pledges and donations are being honored for 2021 income. We are currently a bit behind projections for the year. The expenses are over budget due to several unexpected weather and technical upgrades. If you are able to donate above your current level, it will allow for the expenses to come in close to the 2021 budget estimates. I also want thank everyone that has made a financial commitment and have returned their pledges for 2022. The Finance Committee will be compiling the preliminary budget during November and finalizing during December. Thanks again for your financial commitments.

Dale Pontius, Financial Chairperson.

Little Blessings

Little Blessings was recently able to be part of Trunk or Treat here at SUMC. In case you missed it, or were too busy passing out candy, we were located under the awning by the preschool, where we were listening to some Halloween tunes while kids and adults alike walked the cake walk for a chance to win a treat. After the event, two teenage girls came over to 'check out' the school. Through our conversation I discovered that both girls had been students at Little Blessings many years prior! It was fun to hear their memories and thoughts on Little Blessings

This conversation reminded me of one of the biggest gifts that comes with being part of Little Blessings. Seeing families come through the school, getting to know our student's families through the drop of line or at a preschool program, meeting new little brothers or sisters, or even being introduced to 'nana' who is in town for the weekend, are all such special moments that I am able to be a part of on a weekly basis. One of my favorite things about Little Blessings is the family feel, a small community of caring staff who put their heart into each and every one of the students that are currently attending Little Blessings, or whom have attended in the past.

LB families had an opportunity to spend some time together with our staff at our Open House and Family dinner night on October 21st. Even the SUMC family was able to be involved in this event! A **HUGE THANK YOU** to the women from the church who came to serve pizza to our families. Another **HUGE THANK YOU** is in order to the Watchmen for providing us security to hold our event safely. It is such a great feeling to know that behind the Little Blessings family is a larger family within the church.

As we go into this holiday season, it is my hope that each of our families are able to feel loved and supported by our LB community. Happy Holidays!



Children's Ministry

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers for the fall semester during Sunday School and Wee Worship. At this time we will continue with a one or two-room Sunday School format until we reach a level to increase our room numbers. All volunteers must be Ministry Safe current. It would be wonderful if you are able to dedicate a month at a time, but I completely understand that everyone has their own schedules to be mindful of. You can view the dates and times needed <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c45abaf2fabff2-fall1>. Thank you for your prayerful consideration to serving the children.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

We invite all children K-6th to join the Children's Choir! They will be meeting on Sunday's during the 11:00 service, after Children's Moment. If your child is interested please contact Sandra Young 2019sy-oung01@gmail.com or Charity Dragna children@saginawums.org.

NOVEMBER SERVICE PROJECT

For the month of November, the Children's Department will be collecting for *Stockings for Soldiers*. The holiday season can be especially difficult for deployed service members and veterans in VA Hospitals.

Let's come together and send them some holiday cheer.

Nothing can replace the sense of being with loved ones during the holidays, but receiving a stuffed holiday stocking will help to brighten the spirits of deployed service members and veterans.

On Sunday, November 28th, families are invited to bring their children for a **Family Service Night**, where we will eat dinner together and stuff and prepare the stockings for shipping.

Please look for our donation box in Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Charity Dragna at children@saginawumc.org.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Sunday, December 5th 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm will be our annual Christmas Festival. We hope to make this event even bigger and better than ever to become an annual event the community looks forward to like Trunk or Treat and the Easter Egg Hunt.

Plans are still in motion, but there will be caroling, hay rides, hot chocolate, and a visit from the big man himself! Please contact Charity Dragna if you are interested in more information or would like to volunteer. children@saginawumc.org

Upcoming Events: (stay tuned for more information)

- Glen Lake Bible Camp for 3rd - 5th graders - November 5-6
- Parent's Night Out - November 12
- Family Service Night - November 28th
- Parent's Night Out - December 4th
- Christmas Festival - December 5th
- Family PJ & Movie Night - December 12th
- Choir Performance - December 19th

Youth Ministry

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUTH

Youth Sunday School

We will be trying out a "new approach" to our Bible Study time for the next few weeks. It will be entitled "D&D"...NO!! Not "that" D&D...rather "Discuss and Discover"!! We will be picking a topic or topics at the start of our SS hour and will be diving into discussion and Scripture to discover what God has to say. We will begin this new format on November 7. All youth in grades 7-12 are invited to join us upstairs in the youth room beginning at 9:45am.

Advent Study

We will begin our Advent Study on November 28 with a series by Matt Rawle entitled: *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes-Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch.*

This study will explore the familiar classic "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" through the lens of faith and will reveal how Christ speaks to us through our culture. We will take a deeper look at the character of the Grinch, his struggles and his redemption. Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives? Come find out! All youth grades 7-12 are invited to join us beginning at 9:45am in the youth room.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Nov. 6 - Lord's Acre

Youth volunteers are needed up in the youth room from 12:15ish-2:00pm. SUMC Youth will be keeping watch over the "younger" members of the congregation while their parents participate in the Live Auction portion of Lord's Acre. We will be featuring a movie and simple crafts. We need YOUth!! If you are able to donate an hour or two of your time on this day, it would be greatly appreciated!! Please sign up in the youth room or contact Michelle Burkholder at michelle@saginawumc.org, if you are interested.

Nov. 14 - Friendsgiving Fellowship Event - 4:00-7:00pm

SUMC Youth will be hosting a gathering with our friends from Alliance, Couets and Smithfield UMC for a night of feasting and fellowship and packing Christmas Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child!! SUMC Youth will be supporting Alliance UMC in this Service Project as they supported our School Supply Drive in October. SUMC Youth have chosen the 10-14-year-old, boy/girl bracket. For a list of suggested items, visit: <https://www.samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Please bring all donations to the youth room on or before Nov. 14. If you are unable to purchase items for the shoe box, please consider a small monetary donation. All youth grades 7-12 are invited to join this festive night! For more information, please contact Michelle Burkholder at michelle@saginawumc.org.

UPCOMING SNY EVENTS (November)

Nov. 7 - Minute to Win-It Games and Challenges
Nov. 14 - Friendsgiving Fellowship *4:00-7:00pm (please note earlier time!!) Bring your donations!
Nov. 21 - Movie Night! Featuring the newest animated movie: "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (in preparation for our Advent study!) Hot cocoa and popcorn will be served.
Nov. 28 - Deck the Youth Room with Christmas Bows and Holly (stay tuned for more info)

What's Up Wednesday's is RETURNING!!

I apologize for the absence in our regular W.U.W. time these last two weeks! We are back in full gear NOVEMBER 3!! Meet up in the youth room from 5:30-7:00pm and let's catch up on all the latest happenings!! Bring your dinner, your homework or just you! All are welcome!

Connection Opportunities



Saginaw United Methodist Samaritans

People of Faith who respond to the needs of our church and community. We have a Sunday School class to learn more about what God wants us to do.

The Samaritans invite you to join us Sunday Mornings in Room C-20

9:45am – 10:45am for adult Bible fellowship (Live)

Or by Zoom

ZOOM MEETING ID: 730 753 4881 PW: 704 664

For information, please contact Bee Thompson @ 817.690.7784 or be.escobar.thompson@gmail.com

Choir

Greetings SUMC Family!

The SUMC Sanctuary Choir is back in full swing with rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. You are hereby invited to come join us!! Whether you've sung in the past or not, we welcome you!!

Saginaw Ringers

The SUMC handbells rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. Join us in the choir room!

Women 's Journey Group

The "Slightly Off-Balanced" Journey Group would like to invite any ladies who are looking for a small group to join us on Sunday evenings from 7 to about 8 p.m. The group has single and married women with high school and adult aged children. We meet by Zoom, so if it sounds good to you to stay home while taking part in Bible study and friendship, this might be a great fit for you. For more information or the Zoom link, please contact phrainone@gmail.com

Women of Grace

Sundays at 9:45am room C2. You are invited to join them and bring a friend. We are beginning our study of the Lord's Prayer in The Great House of God by Max Lucado. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Page, 210 846-5306 or Susie Rhoades, 765 748-0272.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study is a self directed discussion. We meet in room C-20 and via zoom each Tuesday at 7:00 pm. For more information, please contact the church office.



Lord's Acre is Saturday, November 6th!

We are excited to announce the return of Lord's Acre at SUMC on Saturday, November 6! Our committee is already planning for a wonderful day of fellowship, fun, and food.....and, of course, the wonderful auctions that benefit SUMC Capital Improvements. There will be a live and silent auction, handmade quilts, children's auction, lunch, and a delicious bake sale. More information will come soon! Donations will be accepted October 24th – November 3rd. If you have any questions, please email Jenny Cardenas at jlm2509@hotmail.com.

Stephen Ministers available

If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister, please let us know by contacting Donna Anderson, Director of Stephen Ministry, stephenministry@saginawumc.org 817-269-5919. Although these calls may be or different from a Stephen Ministry caring relationship, confidentiality aspects still apply, making it easier to share sensitive information or difficult feelings.

Methodist Men

November 6th. Methodist Men will prepare and serve pulled pork and hot dog lunches for Lord's ½ Acre. UMM will purchase all of the food items. All proceeds from lunch sales go to Lord's ½ Acre fund.

Nov 11 & 12. Finish the large project at Debbie Abel's house. Remove huge overgrown bushes, dismantle rotted deck and decide on replacement steps out the back where deck used to be. Gather at Debbie's house Thursday 9:00. We will spend the day working on the project. A dumpster will be put in the driveway to dispose of all of the debris. On Friday, we will meet at JR's for breakfast at 8:00 and go to Debbie's house afterwards to finish up. Dumpster will be picked up around noon. Debbie Abel's address is 216 Blue Ridge Trail, Saginaw. 817.232.3727

Connection Opportunities (cont.)

December Men's breakfast and work project will be Saturday, December 11. Meet at JR's at 8:00 for breakfast.

Sisterhood Updates on Women's Ministry at SUMC

LNO (Ladies Night Out)

Join us Thursday, Nov 13th, 7-9pm in the fellowship hall. We will have a short devotional and start planning for 2022. Please be thinking about what activities you would like to do for LDO & LNO. We're looking for suggestions and ideas. If you're unable to attend but have a suggestion please text or email Shirley Stephens, 817 683-5289, ss4541@swbell.net. Also, mark your calendar for our crazy "White Elephant Christmas Party" Dec 9th, 7-9pm in the fellowship hall. Check your attic and closets for an ugly, not wanted item! Wrap or bag it "pretty" so someone will select it and then the fun begins. Refreshments will be serve.

Community Link Donations

Our next collection date is Saturday, Nov 13th, 10-11am. We will be at CL's location, 300 S Belmont St, 10-11am. They are collecting items for Holiday Boxes. They could use stuffing, canned baked beans & green beans & yams & corn, gravy/gravy mix, chicken broth, cranberry sauce, large box mashed potatoes, cornbread mixes, can pumpkin, can milk/sweetened condensed, box hot chocolate, bag of candy (for stockings), cake mix, frosting. You can also give \$15.00 towards a turkey or ham with a check or gift card (no cash please). The next donation date is Dec 4th. Thank you for your generous spirit.

Presbyterian Night Shelter

Our church collected so many socks for PNS and in all sizes. They will be able to help so many keep warm. Thank you for your offerings.



Ronald McDonald House

We continue to collect pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Fort Worth. Parents and families are able to rest at the RMD while their children are at Cooks Children's Hospital receiving treatment. You can bring your pull tabs to our Community Link donations or you can bring them to church on Sundays. We have 2 glass containers located by the open doors for you to put them in. Thank you for helping in this worthy mission.

BIRTHDAY CARD MINISTRY

Ever wonder who sends the birthday cards to you from the church? We have a birthday card ministry that has been functioning for about 3 years now. The committee consists of JoAnn Avery, Linda Strauss, Dee Griffith, Betty Young, Terry Timms, and Paula Wood. Make sure the office has your birthday and updated address so that we can celebrate you each year. Interested in joining the committee? Contact Paula Wood at pjw627a@gmail.com or 214-675-3826



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Focus Newsletter Schedule

The Focus Newsletter a monthly publication of Saginaw United Methodist Church. The next publication will be December 7th with submissions due to office@saginawumc.org by November 30th. Visit saginawumc.org/contact-us/email-sign-up/ to sign up to receive the newsletter by email and to receive special e-news blasts.



[Facebook.com/saginawumc](https://www.facebook.com/saginawumc)

Sunday Morning Worship in person and online 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

www.saginawumc.org

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