



2018 NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SOMMER

After Easter

Jesus is alive and is with us today! This is a reason to celebrate, but it is also something much more that we are called to BE all year long.

As Christ followers who believe in the Risen Savior, we are to act out our belief in a certain manner. So, let's talk about three things that are important for us as a Church of The Way, The Truth, and The Life.

WORSHIP: This means more than for one hour. This means more than music that makes us feel good. This is more than hearing a sermon. It is all these things but much, much more! We worship together on Sunday mornings as a group of believers for fellowship and instruction. But true worship is a way of life for the true follower of Jesus. We sing songs of Praise because they describe who God is, what God has done, and what God means to us. These songs can be sung by us throughout the week; in our car, with family and friends, at any time. All of us should be praying for those mentioned during our congregational/intercessory prayer time throughout the week and beyond. I encourage you to read Scripture and tell others what certain passages mean to you, proclaim the Truth and the Good News. All of these are acts of worship and will make worship your life!

As a congregation, we will be exploring ways to make our Sunday morning worship time together even more meaningful. But also, providing everyone opportunities and resources to *take worship with you*.

DISCIPLESHIP: This means more than attending Wednesday Night Life and/or Sunday School for one to two hours a week. While you reading scripture, are you sure you are understanding it? While you pray, how comfortable are you, really? Can you share your faith with others, with wisdom as well as with confidence? Maybe our couple of hours of community study isn't enough?

As a church, I am looking into offering more studies. We already have a group that meets on Monday night for Disciple Bible Study. There is another that meets on Wednesday nights at Dorton. But there are other resources we can use that I know, and trust will help all of us dive deeper. Let us also not forget the pure value of getting together in small groups to talk about where we need God in our life and where God is working in our life. There are a few people who are deciding to gather for various purposes in "Small Groups" that will undoubtedly help each one grow in their faith. Would you like to start a small group, what is on your heart? Please let me know! More on that later.

OUTREACH: We do missions well. We help locally with our Food Pantry that serves hundreds a month. We help globally with Raise the Roof Academy. I look forward to hearing from Marlene SSebulime from Raise the Roof on April 27th during our Sunday morning worship. But what more can we do? How do we spread the gospel with those who are outside the walls of our church? How can we really be the church and be recognized as such? Does our community really know we care? Does our community see us sharing the gospel? Please note some calendar changes, especially in May! We are reaching out, we are going into our community and it is exciting!

It is my plan for us to do more person-to-person outreach and inviting. We may have a time of learning exactly what evangelism means, which may not be exactly what you think. It is also not as hard as many fear.

We are the Church, we are Homestead UMC, whether we are inside the walls of the building or not. Our life is Worship, Discipleship and Outreach!

Trudy's Corner

Trudy Hill

Christ Followers

Can you be a Christ follower without following Christ? I have seen the evidence of such in real life, but is that what one sees when observing the New Testament Scriptures? Many times I have met one who says they are a believer of God, Jesus and even the Holy Spirit. It is not uncommon to find someone who says they are a Christian, but is it the case that such a one would also say that they believe that the life they are leading is one that God would approve of? Oh I don't mean a life that consists of living inside a church building or one that can be described as having no personal possessions. I'm talking about a life that is surrendered to Christ in all things, in your job, family and church life.

How can we follow Christ? What does it look like to be a Christ follower? Is it merely an attitude of the heart? Or does it also mean obedience? If you should decide to be a true follower will you be required to sell all that you own and become a missionary across the world

somewhere? Honestly no one can tell you what that would mean for you, but it could be any scenario. I can however tell you this; whatever it means it will be the most fulfilling life you could ever hope for. It will be challenging at times and other times it may be downright hard, you may wish to give up and go home, you may even want to walk away from God and go your own way. You are not alone, take heart my brothers and sisters, for the darkest hour comes just before the dawn. Don't give up right before the blessing comes. Don't give up!

The Lord says to you this day, "do you trust me? Trust me now."

Be encouraged this day, be strengthened today, the testing has come to you and if you will endure you will be strengthened through it. Rejoice for this is the day of testing and enduring and strengthening! I tell you the truth—our God is a faithful God! Blessed be the name of the Lord!!!

www.thevisiontrudyhill.wordpress.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 25th—June 28th

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Oh, God...

Oh, God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me
to remember the jobless;
When I have a warm home,
help me to remember the homeless;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer;
And remembering, help me
to destroy my complacency
and bestir my compassion.
Make me concerned enough
to help, by word and deed,
those who cry out
for what we take for granted.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me...." Matthew 25:35

Stewardship

Stewardship and Sacrificial Giving

Stewardship means receiving the many gifts that God showers upon us, managing these gifts wisely, and sharing a portion of these gifts with others. Sacrificial giving means we put God’s priorities before our own, and we put the support of God’s church and its mission before our own pleasure and comfort.

Christian giving is sacrificial giving. Is your giving a clear sign of your love of God and your commitment to Christ and the Church? Giving is a response to God’s sacrificial giving in Christ. Our motive should be our appreciation of God’s giving to us—especially God’s sacrificial giving through the life and death of Jesus (John 3:16)

Christian giving is a measure of our desire to spread the gospel.

Everything we have is from God and for God. Our giving should be an act of praise to God. Sharing and spreading, through our gifts, the good news of God’s saving grace, should be especially important to us. This is the work of the Church. (Matthew 28:16-20)

Christian giving is a priority in our personal spending. Our giving for the work of God’s church should be a priority in our personal spending, as it was for the Israelites who were expected to bring the “first fruits” to God. (Deuteronomy 26:1-11)

Christian giving is a generous proportion of our income. Some of us have larger incomes than others have and so our offering can be a proportion of our income, rather than a fixed sum of money. When our offering is a response to God’s giving to us, it can be a generous, even a sacrificial, proportion of our income. (Psalm 116:12)

Christian giving begins with prayer. We thank God for all of his gifts to us: for life in his wonderful world; for space and time to enjoy our gift of life; for talents that bring us a sense of fulfillment. We thank God for coming as Jesus to show us how much he loves us; to forgive us through the cross of Calvary; to raise us with Christ to new life. We thank God for his Holy Spirit: his presence to guide us day by day; his power to support us day by day; and his assurance of continuing love.

“For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.”

(2 Corinthians 8:12)

Food Pantry

March Food Pantry Stats:
142 Clients Served
363 Total in Household
100% USDA Eligible

NEXT FOOD PANTRY - APRIL 14TH

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

Raise the Roof Academy

Homestead and Dorton have sponsored a child thru Raise the Roof Academy in Uganda. This sponsorship will allow him to receive education, medical screening, health and hygiene care, school uniform, meals, recreational activities and scholastic materials. Here are a few things to know about our child.

NAME:	Bashir Kyambadde	CHORES AT HOME:	Gardening
BIRTHDAY:	September 10, 2006	CAREGIVER:	His sister, Zaina
FROM:	Kitabyama, Uganda	SIBLINGS:	Zaina
SEX:	Male	FAVORITE FOOD:	Rice and beans
FAVORITE SUBJECT:	Math	WANTS TO BE:	Mechanic
FAVORITE GAME:	Soccer		





The Bulletin Board

Church Office Hours:
 Monday 9:00 - 2:00
 Wednesday 9:00 - 2:00
 Thursday 9:00 - 2:00

NOTE: NEW WEDNESDAY HOURS!!

Chicken and Rice Casserole

- 1 Box Rice-A-Roni (chicken flavor)
- 1 Can Cream of Chicken soup
- 1 Can Water chestnuts
- 15 Ounces(2 Cups) chopped rotisserie, grilled, or cooked chicken
- 7 Ounces Green chilies (chopped, not drained)
- 4 Ounces Sour cream
- 2 Cups Pepper Jack, Mexican cheese blend, or Cheddar (shredded)

Preheat oven to 350. Prepare the Rice-A-Roni as instructed on the box. Spray a 9 X 13 baking dish with non-stick spray. Add the cooked Rice-A-Roni.

Combine all the remaining ingredients except the cheese. Stir until blended. Place over rice mixture. Top with cheese.

Bake *uncovered* until mixture is bubbly and cheese is melted but not browned (45-60 minutes). If the cheese starts to brown, cover for the last 10-15 minutes.

Serves 6-8

Can be made ahead and refrigerated. Allow 2 hours to come to room temperature before cooking or allow extra time to heat thoroughly. Leftovers freeze well.

Contributed by Cathy Tipton

METHODIST COMMUNITY PICNIC

Saturday, June 9th
 11:30 am—2:30 pm
 At the Methodist Campground

All are welcome and
 Encouraged to attend!!

Church Cookbook

Pull out those favorite recipes and send to Jackie ASAP. We are going to print a church cookbook for Homestead and Dorton to sell as a fund raiser. All categories of recipes are appreciated!!

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE RECIPE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? EMAIL TO JACKIE AT HOMESTEADERSECRETARY@GMAIL.COM

Dates to Remember!!

- Apr 1 Easter
- Apr 4 Parent meeting for Summer Sizzler-5:30
- Apr 14 Food Pantry
- Apr 22 Gift-A-Gallon bags due back to HUMC
- Apr 29 Raise the Roof Sunday
- May 6 Church Council
- May 20 Worship at Camp Ozone 9:00 am
- Jun 2 HUMC Outdoor clean-up service
- Jun 9 Methodist Community Picnic 11:30-2:30
- Jun 25-28 Vacation Bible School

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary please contact Jackie in the church office.



Charles & Ella Loveday April 22
 Sean & Vickie VanHoose April 26

- Apr 2 Bert Kydd
- Apr 2 Melissa Lewis
- Apr 5 Steven Honcoop
- Apr 9 Karen Whittenburg
- Apr 11 Lacy Upchurch
- Apr 16 LeeAnn Dayton
- Apr 16 Jennifer Goodwin
- Apr 16 Eli Turner
- Apr 17 Melanie Sherrill
- Apr 23 Ricci Saeger
- Apr 24 Mallory Bastian



April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter	2 Disciple IV 6:00 at HUMC	3	4 WNL/Dinner 5:00, Class 6:00 Dance 3:00 - 5:00 Parent Mtg/Summer Sizzler at 5:30/\$50 Deposit Due	5	6	7
8	9 Disciple IV 6:00 at HUMC	10	11 WNL/Dinner 5:00, Class 6:00 Dance 3:00 - 5:00 Disciple I - 5:30 at DUMC	12	13 Food Pantry Prep - 5:00 pm	14 Food Pantry Distribution 8:00-10:00 am 7:30 am for helpers
15	16 Disciple IV 6:00 at HUMC	17	18 WNL/Dinner 5:00, Class 6:00 Dance 3:00 - 5:00 Disciple I - 5:30 at DUMC	19	20	21
22	23 Disciple IV 6:00 at HUMC	24	25 WNL/Dinner 5:00, Class 6:00 Dance 3:00 - 5:00 Disciple I - 5:30 at DUMC	26	27	28
29 Raise the Roof Marlene Ssebulime	30 Disciple IV 6:00 at HUMC					

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1			
			2			
			3			
			4			
			5			
			6			
<i>Church Council</i>			7			
			8			
			9			
			10			
			11		Food Pantry Prep - 5:00 pm	
			12			Food Pantry Distribution 8:00-10:00 am 7:30 am for helpers
			13			
<i>Mother's Day</i>			14			
			15			
			16			
			17			
			18			
			19			
			20			
Service at Camp Ozone - 9:00 am			21			
			22			
			23			
			24			
			25			
			26			
			27			
<i>Youth Sunday</i>			28			
			29			
			30			
			31			