

This month is the beginning of Lent. It starts on Ash Wednesday, February 22. (I hope you plan to eat pancakes that night at 6:00 to support our youth mission trip and come to worship at 7:00 to support our confirmation class.) Lent is a season of the church year which lasts forty days plus six Sundays. These forty days remind Christians of the time that Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for his mission on earth. The season of Lent is a time to prepare ourselves for the mystery and good news of Easter. Many people think of Lent as a time to give up something, but Lent can also be thought of as a time to *let go* of what is past in order to *receive* what is new.

Every year I try to think of something to give up during this holy season so I can remember the sacrifice of Christ. You are supposed to give up something you love and will miss – something you will miss. That rules out cabbage, fish and brussel sprouts for me because I don't like those and wouldn't miss them. In the past I've given up coffee, diet Dr. Pepper, fast food and listening to music in my car. All of them challenged me and I missed them so each time I did, I thought about what Jesus endured and it put it into perspective.

A friend of mine sent me a list of things he is contemplating giving up this Lent. I thought it was challenging so I'm passing it along to you. See if there isn't something on this list that might speak to you.

GIVE UP grumbling! Instead, "In everything give thanks." Constructive criticism is OK, but "moaning, groaning, and complaining" are not Christian disciplines.

GIVE UP 10 to 15 minutes in bed! Instead, use that time in prayer, Bible study and personal devotion.

GIVE UP looking at other people's worst points. Instead concentrate on their best points. We all have faults. It is a lot easier to have people overlook our shortcomings when we overlook theirs first.

GIVE UP speaking unkindly. Instead, let your speech be generous and understanding. It costs so little to say something kind and uplifting. Why not check that sharp tongue at the door?

GIVE UP your hatred of anyone or anything! Instead, learn the discipline of love. "Love covers a multitude of sins."

GIVE UP your worries and anxieties! Instead, trust God with them. Anxiety is spending emotional energy on something we can do nothing about: like tomorrow! Live today and let God's grace be sufficient.

GIVE UP TV one evening a week! Instead, visit some lonely or sick person. There are those who are isolated by illness or age. Why isolate yourself in front of the "tube?" Give someone a precious gift: your time!

GIVE UP buying anything but essentials for yourself! Instead, give the money to God. The money you would spend on the luxuries could help someone meet basic needs. We are called to be stewards of God's riches, not consumers.

GIVE UP judging by appearances and by the standard of the world! Instead, learn to give up yourself to God. There is only one who has the right to judge, Jesus Christ.

Challenging ideas for Lent – remember this was his list not mine! I'll keep you posted on what I'm giving up! Let me know what you decide as well.

In His Grip,
Kissa

The mission of Troy United Methodist Church is to be a Bible based community church where people are transformed by the Spirit of God into deeply committed followers of Jesus Christ.

OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TO...

ASSISTED LIVING/NURSING HOMES

Brooksie Curlee ~ *Meridian, Temple*
 Vi Howell ~ *Garden Estates, Temple*
 Johnnie Krumnow ~ *Temple Living Center, Temple*
 Wil Long ~ *Park Place, Belton*
 Margaret Maedgen ~ *Park Place, Belton*
 Henry Olejnik ~ *Wm. Courtney Home, Temple*
 Laverne Reinhardt
 Alma Smith ~ *Temple*
 Ruth Taylor ~ *Weston Inn, Temple*
 Louis Zaleski ~ *TLC Western Hills, Temple*

HOME/CONTINUING CARE

Grace Allison	Tom Clark
Donette Collier	Wanda Dorsey
Gary Doughty	Steve Ellis
Dean Farrell	Laurie Herring
Janet Klement	Don & Minnie Knepp
Kenny Knepp	Billy Joe Ledger
Lynn Owens	June Payne
Rowan Sebek	

We appreciate updates on those on our prayer list.

FRIENDS OF TROY UMC

Jesse Alford	Randi Allen
David Barta	Berndt Family
Jerry Beene	Roger Boone
Patti Branscum	Dylan Brown
Maudie Bulls	Billy Bush
Earl Butts	Corbin Burke
Shawn Cambell	Brent Cogburn
Jacque Collier	Jim Collins
Nayda and Lorabel Collins	Charlie Dupree
Kathy Edmundson	Alma Rose Ellis
Jack Flinn	Gabe Frampton
Gene Fricke	Dan Gressett
B.J. Hice	Wayne Honeycutt
Bobby Johnson	Bobby Jones
Cameron Jordan	Shirley Kelly
Judith Koke	Sandy Lansford
Jeannie Lynn	Weldon Mahan
Barbara Massey	Mary McGuire
Lori Meyer	Ed & Francis Miller
Deborah Muller	Leona Murrah
Mrs. Henry Olejnik	Annette Ortiz
Freddie Parker	Marsha Perry
Michelle Price	Sharon Richards
Margaret Richter	Sarah Fawn Romero
Al Ruppert	Adam Russell
Connie Salsiccia	Nancy Snead
Eugene Tedford	Libby Threadgill
Sharon Walker	Larry Wharton
Jeff White	Marsha White
Perry White	Brian Woodbury
Betty Zook	

IN MEMORY OF

Loyce Sullivan
 Jamie Thomason
 Jo Ann Everett
 Iva Boyd



OUR SERVICES

Sunday Worship Services
 8:30 am (Contemporary)
 11:00 am (Traditional)

Sunday School
 9:45 a.m.

United Methodist Youth Fellowship
 Jr. and Sr. High
 5:00 ~ 7:00 p.m.

They share a light meal each week.

Coffee and doughnuts are served before Sunday School each week. Join us!!





In memory of

Kay Cox

Larry and Sarah Stewart



In memory of

Loyce Sullivan

{Kissa Vaughn's aunt ~ Jan. 8, 2012}

Larry and Sarah Stewart



In memory of

Jamie Thomason

{Jan. 16, 2012}

Lou and Janet Klement

Larry and Sarah Stewart

Katherine Maedgen

Barbara Thompson

Tooter and Susan Creech

Clinton and Oneta Taylor

Richard and Betty Hester



In memory of

Iva Boyd

{Lynn Owens' sister ~ Jan. 20, 2012}

Barbara Thompson

Katherine Maedgen

Larry and Sarah Stewart

Charlie & Janice Porter



In memory of

Jo Ann Everett

{Pam Lewis' sister ~ Jan. 18, 2012}

Barbara Thompson

Katherine Maedgen

Larry and Sarah Stewart

Charlie & Janice Porter

FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS



- 2 Dean Farrell
- 4 Susan Neal, Baylee Crawford
- 9 Eddie Luna
- 10 Wayne Drummond, Jarrett Mackie
- 12 Nancy B. Sammons
- 13 Jared Ranly, Tyra Allison, CJ Porter
- 14 Gary Doughty
- 15 Luke Williams
- 17 Jalee Luna
- 18 Erin Sims
- 19 Barbara Thompson
- 21 Tom Ecker, Christin Ivey
- 22 Robert Sammons, Cindy Cashman, Emily Aust
- 24 Carol Doughty, Sean Allison
- 27 Amber Cullison

ANNIVERSARIES



- 11 Charles & JoAn Beechem
- 23 Russell & Joyce Reinhardt



Dear Friends,

Thank you for the farewell reception as I begin my next adventure in Tennessee. I will truly miss being part of a church that cares for many people who know nothing about the Troy United Methodist Church, but once they find our church and get involved, they become part of a wonderful church family.

Linda Robinson

SERMON SERIES

Questions We Ask God



In this series, we are tackling some of the tough questions we would like to ask God. If you have been searching for answers to some of life's toughest questions, you won't want to miss the remainder of this series.

February 5

Why can't I see God's will for my life?

February 12

Why God's love will prevail?



We will be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 5. You are asked to bring a can of soup (individual sizes can be used for our Snack Buddies program) and \$1.00 to help feed hungry people in our community.



Confirmation

Calling all 5th grade and older students who have not been through Confirmation classes!!! Kissa will hold these weekly classes beginning February 6 in the evenings ~ those choosing to do so will be confirmed into the church on April 15. Please contact the church office if you have a child who will be participating.



Join us on Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 as we begin the Lenten season. The service of ashes is very meaningful as we look toward Easter.

At 6:00 that evening we will come together for a pancake supper, provided by the Men's Fellowship. Proceeds will go toward the youth mission trip this summer.



There will be NO Choir Practice or Praise Team Practice on Wednesday, February 1st.



**FROM THE
YOUTH DIRECTOR**

Thanks to all of you and your generosity, the youth were able to do amazing things during the holiday season. They packed and delivered 23 Thanksgiving dinners to needy families. They were able to provide gifts for a family with 6 children in Troy. YOU made this possible!!

With summer approaching, we will be doing some fundraising to help support our mission trip in north Texas (July 15-20). We need something special for this year's trip—YOU!! We need at least 6-8 adults to go (according to projected numbers of youth going). Please prayerfully consider going with us! Joey



Let the youth serve you a delicious spaghetti dinner on Sunday evening, February 19. They will be accepting donations for the meal ~ all proceeds will go toward their mission trip this summer.



Yes, it's early, but we are making plans for the Easter Eggs-travaganza on April 7. We will be needing lots of candy to put in plastic eggs, as well as help in many areas that day. We hope you will be available to help wherever you may be needed.



I have begun VBS planning and will be needing lots of help making that successful! Training is available through Group Publishing in April and I would love for station leaders to attend. The dates have not been set, but please remember to include VBS in your summer plans!!

Thanks in advance....*Christin*



**SAYLEIGH OLVEDA
BENEFIT LUNCH**

There will be a Benefit Lunch at our church on Sunday, February 12 from 11:00-2:00 to help the family of 10 month old Sayleigh. Her

mother grew up in Troy—you will remember her as Cathy Gilliland.

Sayleigh suffers from Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a condition that affects her muscles making it hard for her to swallow or even breathe. Cathy has been forced to quit her job to devote all of her time to the care of Sayleigh and her twin brother, Parker. Her husband Nick continues to work and help as much as possible.

Tickets for the chicken dinner are \$8.00 a plate and will be available at the door or in advance from Tooter's BBQ. A benefit account has been set up at Extraco Banks. If you would like to make a donation, send it to:

Benefit Account for Sayleigh Olveda
Extraco Banks
P.O. Box 6101
Temple, TX 76503





Serving in February...

GREETERS

	<u>8:30</u>	<u>11:00</u>
5	Russell Reinhardt	Matt Jarma Karen Machalek
12	Gary Doughty	Kay Nan Ledger Bill Tyler
19	BJ Finch	Becky Baker Norman Baker
26	Russell Reinhardt	Matt Jarma Kay Nan Ledger

USHERS

5	Darin Crawford Gary Doughty	Gaylon Ivey Bill Tyler
12	Don Havard Lou Klement	Barrett Ledger Bill Ledger
19	Russell Reinhardt Bill Tyler	Norman Baker Gaylon Ivey
26	Don Valenta Sherri Valenta	Matt Jarma Norman Baker

LITURGISTS




5	Nancy Birdsell
12	Courtney Ledger
19	Doug Vaughn
26	Larry Stewart

YOUTH MEAL PROVIDERS

5	Eddie & Peggy Luna
12	Mark & Susan Maedgen
19	Buddy & Elaine Roberts
26	Gary & Lori Roessler



February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Kissa has written a new Lenten devotional for this Easter season. There will be some hard copies of these for you to take if you want those. These will also be sent via e-mail each day. Please be sure we have your current e-mail address so you don't miss a day of these thought-provoking devotionals!</p> 			<p>1 Quilters 10-2:00 Staff-Parish Relations Team Meeting 7:00</p>	<p>2 Men's Fellowship 5:15 Cub & Boy Scouts 6 & 7:00</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 Souper Bowl of Caring Bring a can of soup and \$1.00 to help feed the hungry in our community</p>	<p>6 Cub & Boy Scouts 6 & 7:00 Confirmation Class</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Quilters Choir Practice 6:00 Praise Team Practice 7:00 United Meth. Women 7:00</p>	<p>9 Men's Fellowship Cub & Boy Scouts</p>	<p>10</p> 	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Benefit Dinner for Olveda Family 11-2:00 Tickets are \$8.00</p>	<p>13 Cub & Boy Scouts Confirmation Class</p> 	<p>14 <i>Valentine's Day</i></p>	<p>15 Quilters Choir Practice Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>16 Men's Fellowship Cub & Boy Scouts</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>What Are You Giving Up?</p>
<p>19 Spaghetti Supper prepared and served by youth—proceeds go toward mission trip this summer</p>	<p>20 Church Office closed Cub & Boy Scouts Confirmation Class</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Pancake Supper 6:00 Service of Ashes 7:00</p>	<p>23 Men's Fellowship Cub & Boy Scouts</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Scout's Pinewood Derby at TUMC—morning</p>
<p>26 First Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>27 Cub & Boy Scouts Confirmation Class</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Quilters Choir Practice Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES... Contemporary Worship 8:30 Sunday School for all ages 9:45 Traditional Worship 11:00</p>		<p>All youth meet from 5-7:00 on Sunday evenings. They share a meal provided by church members.</p>