

Are you my neighbor?

When we moved into our house, we asked about the schools, the parks, the kitchen countertops, but we didn't even think to ask about the neighbors. On one side of us are Katherine and George, a delightful couple with two children in their early 20s. While we aren't close, we are friendly. Then, there's the *other* neighbors. We tried at first to smile and engage them, but it just wasn't ever reciprocated. In fact, every other Saturday night they have a party with music playing in their backyard until around 11 PM right next to our bedroom window. We're pastors; we go to bed by 9 PM most Saturdays and our best God-given selves don't always shine on these party nights.

It's sometimes hard to be a good neighbor. And yet, Jesus teaches us the two most important commandments in Matthew 22: to love God and love neighbor. In the world we live today, loving our neighbor, truly loving them, may be one of the most radical things we can do to profess our faith and share the love of Christ. It doesn't mean we'll vote like them, or look like them, or eat the same food. So what does it mean? Well, we will spend much of our summer exploring that together.

I want to invite you to do a few things as we move into the summer heat and the days get longer. First, pray for your neighbors—the ones who live next to you and across from you. Better yet, ask them how you might pray for them over the summer! Make every effort to attend our block party on June 22—look inside the newsletter for more information—and invite some of your neighbors. Even if they say no, they'll still know you care about them and hopefully that God cares about them.

Over this summer, I want you to consider three questions that Adam Hamilton asks his church regularly, and I would love to hear your answers.

- 1) Why do people need Jesus?
- 2) Why do people need the church?
- 3) Why do people need Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist?

When we have answers to these questions, not only does it make us better disciples of Jesus Christ, but it truly helps us to transform the world around us. So, let's practice being neighbors and see all that God might do in and through us this summer.

This Issue

- Vacation Bible School
 - Theology on Tap
 - Block Party
 - The Art of Neighboring
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Children's Sunday School—starts **June 10** at **9:15 AM**

We will have Sunday School for children Pre-K through 5th grade. Older youth and adults are welcome to be helpers. Please bring your kids, grandkids or volunteer to help in this new ministry.

THE ART OF



NEIGHBORING

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship

Our neighborhoods are much more than collections of houses. We all have a need for genuine community on more than Sundays. How can we build relationships with our neighbors to connect our story to the stories of our neighbors and God's story? How might we truly embrace Jesus' command to love our neighbor and see how it changes our world and our lives?

June 10: **Who Is My Neighbor?** | Luke 10:25-37

June 17: **The Time Barrier** | Luke 10:38-42

June 24: **The Fear Factor** | Numbers 13:17-20, 25-33

July 1: **Stranger to Neighbor** | Luke 5:27-32

**Average Presence in
Worship for May:**

59

Total Offerings in May:

\$19,581.32

**YTD Receipts vs.
Expenses:**

\$807.51

Upcoming Events

- 4th: **Grief Support**
1 PM
- 6th: **AUM Food Pantry**
8:30 AM
- 9th: **UMM Meeting**
9 AM
- 11th: **Threadbenders**
7 PM
- 12th: **UMW Meeting**
NO MEETING
- 19th: **Trustees Meeting**
4 PM
- 22nd: **Block Party & Ice Cream Contest**
6 PM
- 25th: **Threadbenders**
7 PM

Chair Yoga

Wednesdays at 10 AM

Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1 PM

Lunch Bunch

Wednesday at 11:30 AM

- 6/6: **Cotton Patch**
6/13: **Jay Jay's Café**
6/20: **Italy**
6/27: **Coker's BBQ**

Theology on Tap

Join us at Legal Draft Beer Company* on Thursdays beginning June 14 at 6:30 PM as we try to connect with our neighbors and examine things we've often said that might unintentionally hurt people like:

Love the sinner, hate the sin.

Everything happens for a reason.

God helps those who help themselves.

If you know someone struggles with church, invite them for a drink and let's all explore together. *500 E. Division Street, Arlington

Block Party & Ice Cream Contest

Friday, June 22—6 PM

Join us for a block party to dive into our summer sermon series. We will invite our neighbors. Please invite your neighbors for fun, music, and a homemade ice cream contest. Please let the church office know if you plan to enter so we can be sure there is enough ice cream for everyone.



Welcome to Madison!

Madison just finished her sophomore year at Hardin Simmons and is exploring pastoral ministry with us this summer. We're so excited to see what God does through her this summer.

Her first Sunday is June 10th!



Back to Grace

Save the dates of Sunday, August 26—Tuesday, August 28 to plan to join all the United Methodist Churches in Arlington for a special 3-day event where we celebrate all it means to have a Wesleyan theology, especially in this day and age. If you're new to faith or the UMC, it's a wonderful opportunity to hear what we stand for and meet other Arlington neighbors. It will be in the evenings with dinner at 6:15 PM, program from 7—8 PM



Contact Us

Church of the Good Shepherd

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Website:

www.cogsumc.org

or find us on **Facebook**

@cogsumc

Vacation Bible School will be here from **July 23—27**.

Dinner begins at 5:30 PM and VBS at **6—8 PM**. To register a child or volunteer, please contact the church office. We **ALWAYS** need more volunteers. Think of those adults who nurtured your faith and give that gift to a child in our congregation or community.

Help Wanted: Money Counters

We need people willing to count Sunday offerings either after church or sometime on Mondays. Please contact Pastor Molly if you're willing to serve!

Arlington Charities Item of the Month:

Jelly

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Church of the Good Shepherd UMC

2020 S. Collins Street
Arlington, TX 76010

PLACE
STAMP
HERE