

Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity

One of Jesus' great teaching parables involves a sower who cast seed along the ground. The sower hoped the seeds would sprout, grow, and bear good fruit. Some seeds did just that, producing a great harvest. But others, Jesus said, fell among thorns and, though they began to grow, these good plants were quickly choked out. Jesus said the thorns were "the cares of the world and the lure of wealth" (Matthew 13:22).

In a culture where having "enough" seems to have become a never-ending pursuit, Jesus' parable remains incredibly relevant. Many of us are chasing the American dream in ways that lead to stress, anxiety, and fear—thorns that can rob us of the ability to enjoy the abundant lives of purpose that God intended for us.

All of us have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore. This is why, over the next four weeks, we will be having a church-wide study and worship emphasis called *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. During this time we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management through corporate worship and small group study. See page 3 for details about small group study opportunities. We'll hear expert advice and stories about what others have learned by working through financial challenges. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical foundation.

At the conclusion of the emphasis, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments in worship the first two Sundays in November.

I hope you will join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

- Pastor Molly

This Issue

- Enough
 - AUMM Fundraiser
 - Community Opportunities
 - Pastor's Roundtable
-

Please join us for

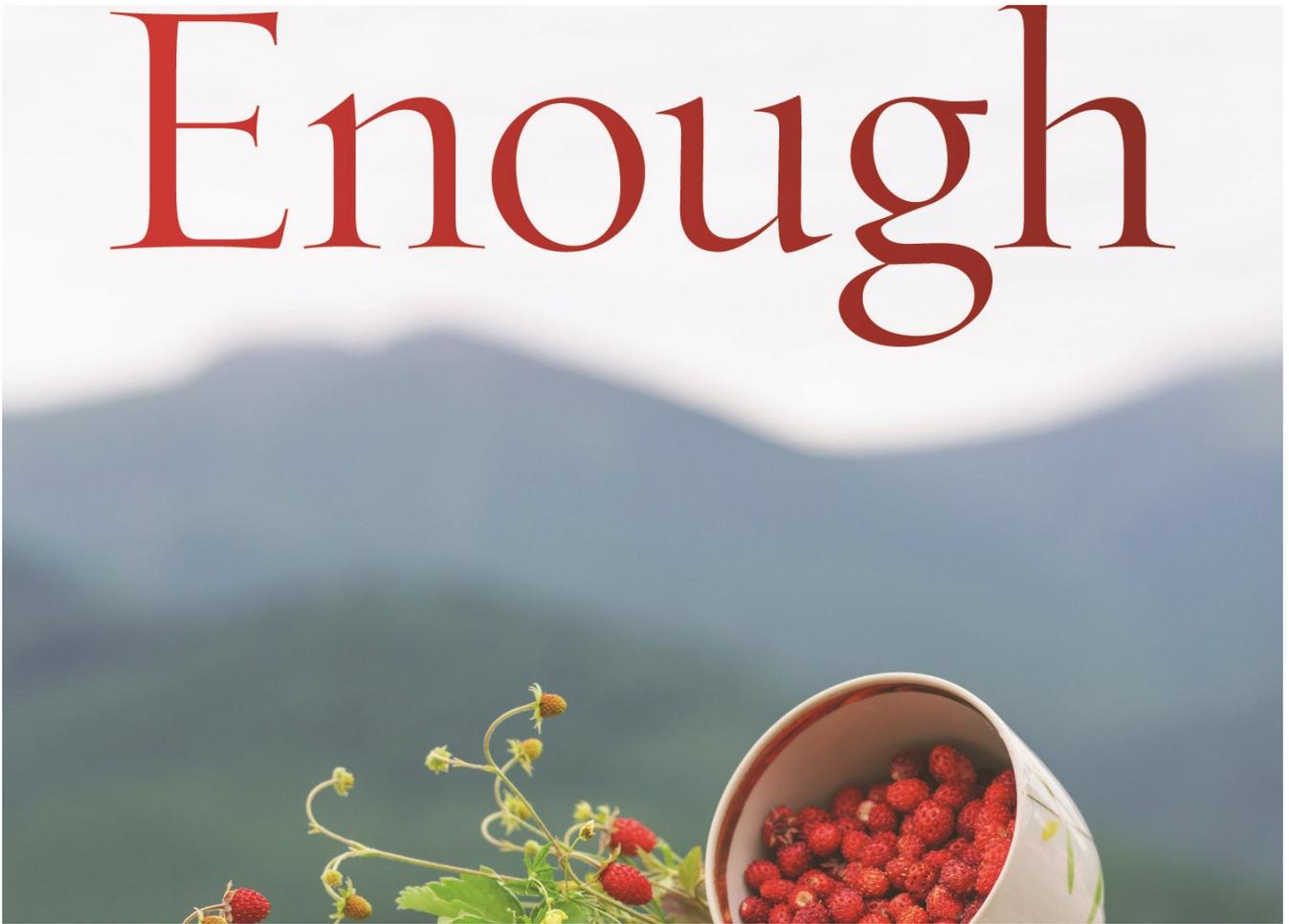
Pastor's Roundtable

Sunday, October 20,

3 PM

On Sunday,
November 10,
AUMM invites you to
join them for their
Hamburger Cookout
and Auction starting
at noon at Covenant
UMC.

Enough



9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship

Christ followers are known not as much by what they believe but by what they do. Join us as we explore the essential pieces of being a well-balanced disciple of Jesus.

October 6: *When Dreams Become Nightmares*

1 Timothy 6:10b; Matthew 16:26; Ecclesiastes 5:10

October 13: *Wisdom and Finance* | Proverbs 21:5, 20

October 20: *Cultivating Contentment* | Hebrews 13:5-6

October 27: *Defined by Generosity* | 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Pastor Molly is teaching a short term Sunday School class every week on the faith practice we're exploring in worship. Join us for one or all at 9:15 AM on Sundays or during Bible Study on Wednesdays at 1 PM.

**Average Presence in
Worship for August:**

63

**Total Offerings
in August:**

\$18,350.59

**YTD Receipts vs.
Expenses:**

\$3,449.49

Upcoming Events

- 5th: **Blessing of the Animals**
10:30 AM
- 7th: **Grief Support**
1 PM
- 8th: **UMW Meeting**
10 AM
- 12th: **AUMM Meeting**
9 AM
- 14th: **Threadbenders**
7 PM
- 16th: **UMW Luncheon**
11:30 AM (Chili!)
- 20th: **Pastor's Roundtable**
3 PM
- 28th: **Threadbenders**
7 PM

Chair Yoga

Wednesdays at 10 AM

Pastor's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 1 PM

Lunch Bunch

Wednesday at 11:30 AM

- 10/2: Skillet 'N Grill
- 10/9: El Fenix
- 10/16: **UMW Luncheon**
(Chili!)
- 10/23: Cotton Patch
- 10/30: David's BBQ

Volunteers Needed



Art Club

We are looking for crafty volunteers to spend 3:30 PM—5:00 PM on Wednesdays as we try something new with Blanton Elementary

students afterschool. We will meet for 6 weeks beginning either September 25 or October 2 (pending AISD background). Let Pastor Molly know if you're willing to help kids with crafts or bring a snack (no peanuts). Pray for this new ministry opportunity!

Pastor's Roundtable

On Sunday, October 20, 3:00 PM, come discuss your ideas, our opportunities, the Collins Street construction, the future of the UMC, and other things on our heart and mind with Pastor Molly and others. We will have a short church conference to vote on Madison Boboltz as candidate for ministry.



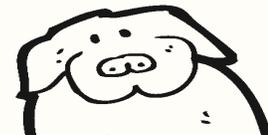
Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

2020 S. Collins Street
Arlington, TX 76010

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5
10:30 AM

All animals welcome with their human



OUT AND ABOUT

MAKE A FRIEND, INVITE OTHERS TO COGS. LEARN SOMETHING NEW.

Harvest Decor

OCTOBER 4
10 AM - 11 AM
DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

JOIN OTHER ADULTS 55+ TO MAKE DECORATIONS FOR FALL. REGISTER ONLINE AT LIBRARY WEBSITE OR CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE.

Take Control of Your Money

NOV. 7 & 14; DEC. 5 & 12
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

LEARN TO BE INTENTIONAL WITH YOUR FINANCES AND WAYS AND PLACES TO SAVE FOR THE FUTURE & EMERGENCIES

A Guide to Medicare

OCTOBER 9
1PM - 3 PM
LAKE ARLINGTON LIBRARY

ARE YOU IN OR APPROACHING RETIREMENT? DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE DIFFERENT MEDICARE CHOICES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU? JOIN LESLIE SHIELDS, LICENSED INSURANCE AGENT, AS SHE EXPLAINS THE INS AND OUTS OF MEDICARE.

**PLEASE NOTE:
THERE WILL BE NO
TRUNK OR TREAT THIS
YEAR!**



**THANKSGIVING BAGS FOR
ARLINGTON CHARITIES ARE
AVAILABLE FROM THE
COLLECTION CENTER.
PLEASE RETURN FILLED
BAGS BY SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 3.**

Contact Us

**Church of the
Good Shepherd**

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Arlington, TX 76010
817-275-1033

Website

www.cogsumc.org

or find us on **Facebook**

@cogsumc

MIDWINTER YOUTH RETREAT

JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 2
GLEN LAKE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

Join youth from across the Central Texas Annual Conference (like mission trip) for a weekend of fun, worship, learning, and making new friends. You must let Pastor Molly know you're interested in going by November 1st in order to discuss cost and fundraising opportunities.