

Here's what we have for this week!

Wow! I can't believe that summer is already drawing to a close. That means, close on the heels of back-to-school time, our worship series on Robert Schnase's "Five Practices of Fruitful Living" is also quickly approaching! I would highly encourage any who are interested to read along in the book, as we go. I think that if we take this material seriously, it can bless us all as individuals and as a church. If you need a copy of the book, I can get one for you for \$10.00. There is also a leader-guide, if you want to lead a small group, which is also \$10.00. Of course, you can do like Mary Sansom, and develop your own leader-guide for small group discussion as well! She'd probably share it with you, if you ask nicely! Just inform the church office, if you'd like me to order one for you.

Order now, if you'd like to get one or more of our new church-logo polo-style shirts. The design is simple: It's an embroidered United Methodist cross and flame logo, above the words, "Gaddis Church". I'd like to place the order in the next week or two, so please let us know soon!

If we are able to order thirty of them, they will cost \$22.00 each. They are great to wear to church on Sundays, particularly when we're feeling more casual, but I think an even greater use for them would be to wear them out in the community. I've done so a few times, and if I am wearing my church shirt, or my church nametag, I usually get someone who asks me about the church, and then I have an opportunity to talk with someone about the church, and more importantly, Jesus. In fact, I'm ordering a "cobalt blue" one (which looks an awful lot like Bobcat blue) to wear to football games, basketball games, volleyball games, track meets, etc.

They are a high quality shirt, crafted from 100% cotton pique weave. They're available in sizes XS-6XL in the following colors:

- Brown
- White
- Tomato red
- Black
- Green oasis (light green)
- Cobalt blue
- Maize yellow
- Oyster (kind of a light beige)
- Dusty Orange (More of a Tennessee than an Austin ☺)
- Moonlight blue
- Navy
- Emerald Green

If you would like us to order one or more for you, please let us know what size and color. You can reply to this email, call the church office, or write it on the sign-up sheet on Sunday. (I'm attaching a file that has examples of the shirt colors.)

Our Annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon is quickly approaching (Tuesday, August 17th) and we still need some help. We are grateful for the many who have stepped forward to work that day. We now have all of the volunteer slots filled on the sign-up sheet plus some extra.. Now our greatest need is for financial assistance. If you can make a second-mile (over and above your regular giving) contribution, we would greatly appreciate it. This is one of our highlight events of the year. Help us to really shine and let our educators know how important they are to us, and how much we appreciate their hard work.

Senior Christian Retreat at Mount Wesley – September 14 – 16

Mini Courses include:

- Making your own hiking stick
- Woodworking
- Life Keeps Going
- Body Recall
- Cooking for 1 or 2
- Watercolor for Everyone
- New Ancient Ways to Pray
- Butterflies

For more details, point your web browser to www.umcswtx.org/seniorchristianretreat

Women's Fellowship Gathering, Saturday, August 14th at 9:15 am – Immanuel Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall – Freewill offering benefits the Kendall County Battered Women's Shelter and the Hill Country Mission for Health.

Bible Study – *"To Love as God Loved"* Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the Hughes Building Conference Room. Contact Mary Sansom (995-3905) for more details.

Starting next month, our newsletter will no longer be mailed, except to our homebound and nursing home residents, unless you call or email to let us know that you would prefer to continue to receive it by regular mail. There will be several hard-copies made available in the narthex of the church each month, and we will send out a link to the electronic version, as soon as it is ready each month. Please make sure that we have your correct email address on file, if that is your preferred way of receiving it.

Weekly Update

8/4/10

There will be a blood drive on Sunday, August 15th from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm in the parking lot. There is a sign-up sheet available in the narthex. All donors will be entered for a chance to win one of five \$150 Academy gift cards. (Once upon a time, your pastor won a pair of Spurs tickets in a donation drawing!)

Are you ready for some football?! Gaddis Memorial United Methodist Church will be hosting "5th Quarter" after home varsity football games. The dates are 9/3, 9/17, 10/8, 10/22, and 11/5. We need volunteers to help chaperone, provide refreshments, etc. If there is something you can do to help, please contact E'Lisa Young by email at elisayoung@aim.com or by phone at 995-2177. Our advertisement in the Comfort High School Football program this year includes an invitation to 5th Quarter!

Have you ever wished you could sing in the choir, but don't think you have the talent or training? Don't be so sure! Come to the Choir Reading Camp on Saturday, September 11, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, with lunch at noon. This workshop is intended for those who already sing in the choir, as well as those who think they might want to. Come find out! Bring someone new! This is a good time to strengthen our existing choir, as well as add some new members. If you have any questions, please email Verne Wortman at englishinaction@hotmail.com or call (210) 322-3511.

Don't forget! We're starting a new contemplative worship service in September on Saturday evenings at 5:00 pm. If you know someone who cannot come to worship on Sunday mornings, this would be an ideal time to invite them into the life and ministry of Gaddis Memorial United Methodist Church.

May God bless you, your family, and your ministry!

In Christ's love and service,

Jason A. Teague, Pastor