

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

How is it with your soul?

A couple of years ago, I preached on this question and told you that I would not let it drop off our radar. I vowed to return to it from time to time. So, here I am...bringing it up again.

If you missed or have forgotten that particular sermon, or if you don't remember your Methodist history, this question was asked at the beginning of class meetings with the original Methodist groups that John and Charles Wesley formed in the mid-1700s. A Methodist "Class" was a small group of people that met together on a regular basis to study the Bible and to hold each other accountable for Spiritual Disciplines. It would be the equivalent of a Sunday School class or an accountability group today.

When these groups would meet, the first question asked to everyone in the group was, "how is it with your soul?" This was more than just an ice breaker exercise. This was a carefully thought out, spiritually significant question that everyone was to ponder. If we are going to study God's word together...if we are going to hold each other accountable to Spiritual Disciplines and a Godly way of life, we should begin with periodic introspection of our own self. Think of it as the airplane oxygen mask analogy...you can't help someone else if you are in bad shape yourself. So, on an airplane, when oxygen masks appear, you are told to put yours on first to ensure that you are safe and then to begin helping those around you who need assistance.

If we are going to hold each other accountable spiritually, we need to examine our own spirit first. So, thus arises the question...How is it with your soul?

The importance of this question cannot be overstated. You see, we have a tendency, as humans, to let our souls get tired and weary. We focus so much of our effort outward that we forget to look inward. In the church, we start to love and care about other people so much that we start pouring ourselves into them. Often, we do this at the peril of neglecting ourselves.

When I began preaching, I was told that I needed to worry about this question a lot because it was so easy for pastors to pour themselves into others that they forget to let someone pour into them. And then they become empty spiritually. And if they are empty spiritually, then they have nothing left to pour into others.

So, I will answer that question for myself as your pastor, and I will encourage you to spend time truly contemplating it for yourself. As for me, my soul is strong and healthy right now. I feel so certain that we, as a church, are following God's plan for us. You, as a congregation, have been so giving to us and have cared and loved on us so much that you have filled us up. This allows me to pour into you.

To make certain that my soul stays healthy and filled, I am going to take a couple of weeks away with Audrey on a trip that I'm sure will prove to be "the trip of a lifetime." I will be out of the pulpit for a couple of weeks in January, spending time with my wife, relaxing, and letting God pour into my soul so that I can come back healthier and stronger than ever before.

And I encourage you to spend some serious time looking inside yourself and answer the question, "how is it with your soul?" If you need some time away to refuel...take it. If you need healing...pray for it. If you need prayer...ask for it. If your soul is healthy and strong and your oxygen mask is on...help those around you who need help. That's what family is for.

I love you all,
Scott

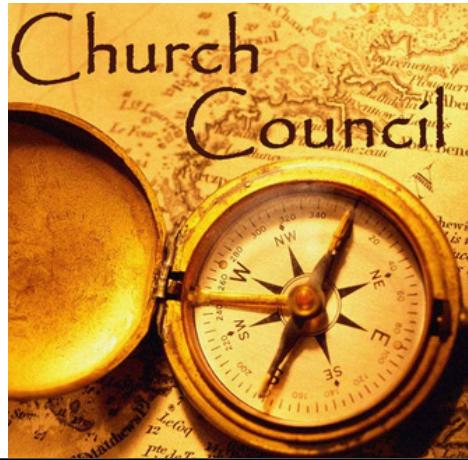


November 9, 2025 we had the honor and pleasure to be a part of Scott's Ordination. Audrey Young, Debbie and Jim Moore, and the Administrative Council oversaw the event.



Santa's Helpers was a big success this year. We had over 420 children receive gifts. We were blessed with excellent volunteers from SHSU Honors, Wesley Foundation, FFA members from Huntsville High School, and of course, our very own volunteers. A big Thank you to Kay Bayne and Keith Certa for all of their fundraising efforts.





The next Administrative Council meeting will be Tuesday, January 6th at 6:00pm. There will also be a meeting of the Ministries Committee at 5:00pm. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend. We'll be discussing the opportunities and challenges facing our church.

As the outgoing Administrative Church Council Chair, I want to thank each one of for the outpouring of love that you, my church family, expressed on Sunday, December 7th. My heart is full.

Four years ago, as we began transitioning to a one-board model of administration in this church, the Lord put me in the right place, at the right timer, with the right skill set to help the church move into the “new way of doing thing”. But I certainly did not do this alone, and we certainly could not have accomplished anything without your prayers and support. The Church Council members that you elected have been remarkable and true to this church’s spiritual beliefs in making many tough decisions, especially in the last 18 months. Of course, without our spiritual leader Scott, we would have been lost as we started “wading in unknown waters” and he kept us on course doing God’s work.

I have been blessed to serve in this position and thank each of you for your trust. I know that you will continue to pray for and support the Church Council as they continue to do the Lord’s work in this next phase of our church’s life.

Love to each of you,

Pat

Wesley Women had their annual Christmas luncheon at The Raven Bistro on December 5th.



January

2026

Greeter: Alan Peet

Assist with Communion: Erick Ceppi

Communion Rail Offering: Roof and Door

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				01	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Sunday School—10am Worship—11am Women's Group—Noon	Crafts—10am	Ministries Committee 5pm Admin Council 6pm	Canasta Club—11am Choir—5:30pm	Crafts—10am		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sunday School—10am Worship—11am	Crafts—10am		Canasta Club—11am Choir—5:30pm	Crafts—10am		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Sunday School—10am Worship—11am	Crafts—10am		Canasta Club—11am Choir—5:30pm	Crafts—10am		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sunday School—10am Worship—11am	Crafts—10am	Just A Friendly Reminder NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	Canasta Club—11am Choir—5:30pm	Crafts—10am		



**Happy birthday to all of you
born in January**



Elmer Cocoran	1/05
Erick Ceppi	1/06
Joyce Cocoran	1/07
Debby Miller	1/10
Brilee Kooken	1/15
Jaiden Kooken	1/15
Dona Skains	1/17
Jerry Miller	1/18
Hope Parker	1/21
Lisa Skains	1/24

January Fun Facts

*January has two zodiac signs – It is appropriate the year is first celebrated with the professional and independent Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) and the intellectual and intuitive Aquarius (Jan. 19-Feb. 18).

*The Dianthus caryophyllus is the birth flower of January – more commonly known as the carnation!

*If you were born in January, your birthstone is the garnet which represents purity, truth and friendship!

*January is home of several awesome national monthly observances, including National Hobby Month, National Blood Donor Month, National Book Month, and National Thank You Month.

*The name for January comes from the Roman God Janus, who is always depicted with two heads. He uses one head to look back on the year before and the other head to look forward to the New Year!

*Originally, the Roman calendar had only 10 months, and it excluded January and February. King Numa Pompilius, the second king of Rome, is responsible for adding both January and February to the Roman calendar. He did this so calendars would be equivalent to a lunar year. Even so, it only had 30 days. Finally, Julius Caesar added the 31st day to the month and completed it to the full month of January that we practice now!

*Some historical names for January include “Wulfmonath,” which came from the Anglo-Saxons because it was the month hungry wolves would come scavenging. King Charlemagne would call it “Wintermanoth,” meaning “winter/cold month.”

*January was a monumental year for Alaska! As of January 3, 1959, Alaska officially became the 49th state of the United States.

*One of the most influential events in the U.S. happened in January – on January 1, 1892, Ellis Island opened, allowing for the immigration of over 20 million people!

*January brought the end of the monarchy in Hawaii when Queen Liliuokalani was forced to abdicate on the 24th of the month.

*Are you a fan of the stars? Celebrities that is! Then you’ll be interested to know that the first-ever Emmy Awards were held on January 25, 1949.

As you step into a new year, remember to appreciate the incredible events that have occurred during January.



Happy Anniversary

Kevin and Lisa Skains 1/07

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church

P.O.Box 87
Huntsville, TX 77320
(Physical address: 700 Hwy. 30 East)
(936)295-7459
www.wesleymemorialhuntsville.com
wesleymemorial1938@gmail.com
wesley_finsec@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. Scott Moore
revwmumc@gmail.com
Office Hours:
Closed Monday
Tue.-Thur. 9:00am-2:00pm
Closed Friday

Sundays
Worship Services:
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service

Mondays & Thursdays
10:00am Crafts at Wesley House
Wednesdays
11:00am Canasta Club
5:30pm Choir Rehearsal
Monthly Meetings
1st Sunday
12:00pm Women's Group
1st Tuesday
6:00pm Administrative Council
3rd Thursday
11:00am SOAR



P.O. Box 87
Huntsville, TX 77342

Sent with love & prayers to:

ARTICLES FOR THE February
**NEWSLETTERS ARE DUE NO LATER
THAN JANUARY 27TH**

Office Hours: Tue-Th.9:00a-2:00p
Closed Monday & Friday E-mail:
wesleymemorial1938@gmail.com
Phone: (936) 295-7459
website:
wesleymemorialhuntsville.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/WesleyMemorialHuntsville