

# The Evangel

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church  
February 3, 2017                      Volume 22, No. 3

**Sunday, February 5:**

Fifth Sunday after  
the Epiphany  
Communion Sunday

**Celebration Service**  
8:30 am

**Sunday School**  
9:40 am

**Traditional Worship**  
11:00 am

**Sunday, February 12:**

Sixth Sunday after  
the Epiphany  
Food Pantry Sunday

**Celebration Service**  
8:30 am

**Sunday School**  
9:40 am

**Traditional Worship**  
11:00 am

**A Message from the Pastor**



**"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43:18,19, NRSV)**

**Vibrant Church Initiative**

Two weeks ago, Reverend Mike Tyson, Director of the Vibrant Church Initiative (VCI), spoke to our new 2017 St. Stephen's Church Council about VCI, a process for facilitating congregational renewal sponsored by the Texas Annual Conference Center for Congregational Excellence.

After a brief question and answer session with Mike (followed by a brief discussion without him!) our church council voted unanimously --and enthusiastically-- for St. Stephen's UMC to participate! Mike shared with us how the VCI process has helped refocus congregations into new ways of being and doing church, enabling them to fully live into their God-given potential in their 21<sup>st</sup> century mission fields (neighborhood communities). Check out <http://www.txcumc.org/vci> for their stories.

Because the bulk of the expense for VCI is paid through our current apportionments, our congregation's financial commitment is quite manageable, about \$1000 plus training materials for our leaders. However, our temporal, emotional, and spiritual commitments will be substantial as we do some serious and prayerful reflecting on the strengths and weaknesses of *all aspects* of our congregation from church governance to ministry priorities to leadership qualities to communication strategies, etc. To help us in this process, we will be using such proven organizational tools as ADKAR, the Birkman Method and the Towers-Watson Questionnaire.

Once we complete our self-reflection phase with these tools, our church will host a consultation weekend in which our clergy, staff and laity will meet with a team of trained consultants to do an in-depth analysis. The team will present us with **five prescriptions** that they believe will promote congregational growth and health at St. Stephen's. If our church votes at least 75 % in favor of adopting all the prescriptions, we will begin a 12 to 18 month process of implementation utilizing various means of coaching for the pastor, leadership team, and congregation. [Coaching has proven to be an essential part of the journey through change for congregations and their leaders.]

Our mission at St. Stephen's is "to know God and make God known". I believe the Vibrant Church Initiative will help us claim that mission to the glory of God!

Yours in Christ,  
*Kevin*



**OUR MISSION  
is to know God and  
make God known!**



## 2 Attendance and Contributions at St. Stephen's:

	8:30 am	11:00 am	Sunday School	Operating	Building	Missions/ Communion	Other	Repairs
January 22	60	154	125	\$6,691.26	\$257.50	\$25.00	\$182.35	—
January 29	40	145	119	\$7,301.50	\$182.50	\$230.00	\$95.75	—

### From the St. Stephen's Foundation Committee



#### Honoring a Loved One for Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a time to remember our loved ones and show our appreciation for their place in our lives. This Valentine's Day, remember God's love for you and His place as your Valentine. Consider giving a gift to your church or favorite charity to show your love and appreciation for all He has done for you. To discuss your ideas for creative giving, contact Heartspring Methodist Foundation at 713-533-3780, 1-800-521-9617 or [office@heartspringmethodist.org](mailto:office@heartspringmethodist.org).

### Milestones



#### Welcome, New Member!

**Barbara Luikens** joined St. Stephen's on Sunday, January 29, 2017, by transfer of membership from Dickinson First United Methodist Church in Dickinson, Texas. Here is contact information for Barbara so that you can welcome her personally:

5523 Alamosa Ln  
Spring, Texas 77379  
(281) 300-6497  
[bjluikens1@aol.com](mailto:bjluikens1@aol.com)

#### In Memory



We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family of **Rev. Dr. Robert (Robbie) Robinson** who passed away on January 30, 2017. Robbie was Senior Pastor of St. Stephen's United Methodist Church from 1988 to 1994. A memorial service will be held for Robbie Thursday, February 1, at Livingston First United Methodist Church.

Our prayers and sympathy are also extended to John and Judy Warfield upon the death of their son, **Stacy Watkins**, who died tragically in a motorcycle accident on January 30, 2017. John Warfield served as Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 604 for 22 years. Funeral arrangements were pending at the time of print.

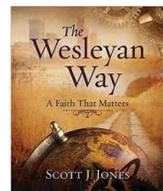
A memorial service for **Norma Jean Moore Sorrells**, who passed away January 14, 2017, will be held at St. Stephen's on Saturday, February 18, at 11:00 a.m. A reception in Jean's honor will follow the service in the fellowship hall. Please keep Jean's husband, Vance Sorrells, and her son, Ridge Floyd; and the rest of her family in your prayers.

### New GriefShare Group Begins



When you are grieving the death of someone close, friends and family often want to help, but don't know how. Our GriefShare group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and understand how you feel because we've been in the same place. GriefShare offers support and encouragement for your grief journey. A new GriefShare support group will meet weekly at St. Stephen's on Tuesdays beginning **February 21** at 6:30 pm in Room 201. Each session includes a Christian-based video teaching by top experts in the field of grief recovery, followed by small group discussion. please visit [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) or call the church office.

### New Church Wide Study Begins February 26



A new church-wide study, "**The Wesleyan Way**", by our new Texas Annual Conference Bishop Scott Jones, will begin at St. Stephen's on **Sunday, February 26**. This exciting and inspiring study, which presents Christianity from a Wesleyan perspective, helps seekers and believers to envision and practice discipleship as a way of life. Sign up sheets for the book, which is \$10, are available in the adult Sunday School classes. Please turn in your order with your payment (made payable to St. Stephen's UMC) no later than Sunday, February 12 so that our order will arrive on time. Pastor Kevin will lead a class on this study for those who are not currently participating in a Sunday School class Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. or Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m., depending on popular preference. Please call the church office and let us know which date you prefer.

### Evangel Deadlines

Publication Date	News Deadline
February 17	Noon, Monday, February 13
March 3	Noon, Monday, February 27

Send articles to [maryellen@stsumc.org](mailto:maryellen@stsumc.org) or call the church office.

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**Friday, February 3:**

6:00 am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's @ 34th & 290)

**Saturday, February 4:**

8:00 am—Garden Angels Dirt Diggers Workday (Work on church flowerbeds.)

8:00 pm—Narcotics Anonymous Support Group (Scout House)

**Sunday, February 5:**

**Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany**

**Communion Sunday**

7:30 am—Sonrise (Celebration Service) Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

8:30 am—Celebration Worship Service (Sanctuary)

9:40am—Sunday School for Children, Youth & Adults (Education Bldg)

11:00 am—Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

12:00 pm—Chili Cook-Off Fellowship Lunch (Fellowship Hall)

1:00 pm—COVENANT Bible Study (Church Library)

1:00 pm—Disciple II Bible Study (Room 201)

**Monday, February 6:**

10:00 am—Senior Adult Council Meeting (Room 201)

11:40 am—Staff Prayer (Sanctuary)

7:00 pm—Heights Young Life Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm—Boy Scouts Troop 604 Meeting (Scout House)

**Tuesday, February 7:**

9:00 am—Johnson Memorial School Puppet Show (Church Library)

9:30 am—Line Dancing Class (Fellowship Hall)

9:45 am—First Corinthians Women's Bible Study (Room 201)

10:15 am—Johnson School Classes (Education Building)

1:00 pm—Johnson School Dance Class (Room 106)

7:30 pm—Sea Scouts Ship 24 Meeting (Scout House)

**Wednesday, February 8:**

6:00 am—Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

9:00 am—Johnson Memorial School Classes (Education Building)

9:30 am—Senior Games (Fellowship Hall/Bring a sack lunch.)

10:00 am—Homebound Visitation (Room 101)

1:00 pm—Johnson School Stay-N-Play (Church Library/Fellowship Hall)

1:00 pm—Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life Study (Prayer Sanctuary)

7:00 pm—Missions Ministry Team Meeting (Church Library)

**Thursday, February 9:**

9:00 am—Johnson Memorial School Classes (Education Building)

11:00 am—VIPs Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)

1:00 pm—Johnson School Gymnastics (Room 101)

1:15 pm—Office/Program Staff Meeting (Church Library)

6:00 pm—Girl Scouts Meeting (Room 113)

6:15 pm—Handbell Choir Practice (Room 101)

6:30 pm—Boy Scouts Skyline District Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 pm—Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

**Friday, February 10:**

**Set Up for Dessert Extravaganza in Fellowship Hall**

6:00 am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's @ 34th & 290)

8:45 am—Bus leaves St. Stephen's for VIPs Trip to College Station

**Saturday, February 11:**

2:00 pm—Dessert Extravaganza (Fellowship Hall)

8:00 pm—Narcotics Anonymous Support Group (Scout House)

**Sunday, February 12:**

**Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Food Pantry Sunday**

7:30 am—Sonrise (Celebration Service) Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

8:30 am—Celebration Service (Sanctuary)

9:40 am—Sunday School for Children, Youth & Adults (Education Bldg)

11:00 am—Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

12:00 pm—United Methodist Women Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

12:15 pm—Radical Hospitality Ministry Meeting (Room 112)

12:15 am—Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group Meeting (Youth Room 205)

12:30 pm—COVENANT Bible Study (Church Library)

1:00 pm—Disciple II Bible Study (Room 201)

**Monday, February 13:**

10:00 am—The Gathering Place (Fellowship Hall)

11:40 am—Staff Prayer (Sanctuary)

12:00 pm—Deadline to Turn in Articles for February 17 *Evangel*  
(Send to [maryellen@stsumc.org](mailto:maryellen@stsumc.org) or call the church office.)

6:30 pm—Delta Kappa Gamma Meeting (Holy Grounds Café)

7:00 pm—Heights Young Life Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm—Boy Scout Troop 604 Meeting (Scout House)

**Tuesday, February 14:**

**Valentine's Day**

9:00 am—Johnson Memorial School Class Valentine Parties  
(Education Building)

9:30 am—Line Dancing Class (Fellowship Hall)

9:45 am—First Corinthians Women's Bible Study (Room 201)

1:00 pm—Johnson School Dance Class (Room 101)

7:00 pm—Finance Ministry Team Meeting (Room 101)

7:30 pm—Sea Scouts Ship 24 Meeting (Scout House)

**Wednesday, February 15:**

6:00 am—Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

9:00 am—Johnson School Rodeo Committee Visit (Church Library)

9:30 am—Senior Games (Fellowship Hall/Bring a sack lunch.)

9:30 am—Hope Mission Group Meeting (Room 112)

10:15 am—Johnson School Classes (Education Building)

1:00 pm—Johnson School Stay-N-Play (Church Library)

1:00 pm—Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life Study (Room 101)

**Thursday, February 16:**

9:00 am—Johnson Memorial School Classes (Education Building)

9:30 am—Johnson School Cowboy Pat Gavin Visit (Church Library)

10:00 am—Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting (Room 112)

1:00 pm—Johnson School Gymnastics (Fellowship Hall)

6:15 pm—Handbell Choir Practice (Room 101)

6:30 pm—Girl Scouts Brownies/Juniors Meeting (Room 108)

6:30 pm—SEAL Security Meeting (Church Library)

7:30 pm—Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

**Friday, February 17:**

6:00 am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's @ 34th & 290)

6:30 pm—Family Movie Night (Fellowship Hall)



**VIPs**

The VIPs, a fellowship group sponsored by the Senior Adult Council of St. Stephen's, welcome adults age 50 and better to join us for our monthly meeting and luncheon **Thursday, February 9**, in the fellowship hall. A short business meeting begins at 11:00 a.m., followed by entertainment with Gregory Daniels, the Sax Man, who will be performing Valentine songs. A catered lunch will be served at noon at a cost of \$10 per person. Please RSVP to Barbara Johnson at 713-686-6116 no later than Monday, February 6.

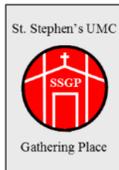
A trip to College Station for a tour of the George Bush Presidential Library is planned for **Friday, February 10**. We'll stop for lunch at Must Be Heaven Sandwich Shoppe. The cost for the library tour is \$6 per person. Each person will order and pay for his/her own lunch. The bus will leave St. Stephen's at 8:45 a.m. and return around 4:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Brenda Paulk at 713-686-8000.

**Chili Cook-Off Fellowship Lunch**



Our annual Chili Cook-Off Fellowship Lunch will be held **this Sunday, February 5**, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to find that favorite chili recipe, and bring a pot of it on Sunday! If you plan to enter your chili in the contest, please bring it to the fellowship hall between 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.

The chili entries will be served at the luncheon along with rice and other fixings. If you prefer a milder bowl, John Jackson will once again be serving his famous chicken soup. Make plans to join us for lunch this Sunday, and don't worry—you will be home in plenty of time to watch the Super Bowl!



### Communion Offering for February

Our Communion offering for the month of February will go to The Gathering Place. The second Monday of each month, St. Stephen's hosts a "Gathering" for carepartners, persons with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of memory loss, so that their caregivers can have a break. Our next "Gathering" will be **Monday, February 13**. From 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., our Gathering Place volunteers lead the carepartners in fun, memory-stimulating crafts, games and exercises, and serve lunch. Each gathering is centered around a theme, such as a holiday or event, and includes entertainment. There is no charge to the carepartner or caregiver to participate. Please support this wonderful ministry at St. Stephen's with your prayers and generous contributions. If you would like to volunteer for The Gathering Place, please contact Gwen Hunt, Coordinator, at 713-686-1202, or [ghunt226@gmail.com](mailto:ghunt226@gmail.com).

### Dessert Extravaganza Needs Bakers and Volunteers!



**There are many opportunities to volunteer** and help make our Dessert Extravaganza a success. Each of our bakers provides two full-sized desserts. One is divided into 3 oz. serving cups and becomes what we call a "taste." The other is displayed and offered as a silent auction item. Throughout the event, attendees choose what to taste. Once they find a particular favorite (or two or three), they may bid on the full-sized item. All bakers are welcome. Please contact Kathy Bruns at 713-956-8925 or email [brunsron@att.net](mailto:brunsron@att.net). If baking is not your thing, but you would like to volunteer in another area, please contact Cindy St. Lawrence at 281-448-4250 or [rps95@aol.com](mailto:rps95@aol.com).

### Run to Stop Human Trafficking



The Texas Annual Conference is inviting churches to a year-long campaign to raise awareness, raise funds and take action to fight human trafficking, a pervasive, modern day form of slavery. The Central South District is sponsoring **Run Houston!**, a run to help stop human trafficking, **Saturday, April 1**, at Minute Maid Park. The event will include a 10k, a 5k and a kids' 1k. You can choose to run, walk or donate. All Central South District churches are invited to work together to raise \$100,000 to help fund organizations that are doing incredible work locally, internationally and on the legislative and enforcement front to fight human trafficking.

We would like to build a team from St. Stephen's to participate in the run. In addition to participants, we need a Race Captain. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex (sanctuary foyer). For more information, please visit [www.txcumc.org](http://www.txcumc.org).



### Notes from the Minister of Music



On Sunday, I had the great joy of attending the Central South District leadership event. Our focus was on "Finding the Kingdom Among the Poor." We see this idea over and over again in Scripture. Jesus himself was born into poverty, lived as one who had "no place to lay his head," and died not only impoverished, but as a criminal. It has long been my belief that the church is more comfortable doing things **for** those in need than **with** those in need. When we do things for others, this is good. Often people receive material items or food, which is important. But, there is another way. When we do things with others, they feel empowered, respected, valued. Their needs are still met, and they also retain their dignity.

I have known a few people whose families were in need, but they were too proud to go to the food bank. If they had been offered a way to participate in the ministry, as well as receive, they might have been more likely to take the assistance. I have also heard our brothers and sisters without homes talk about how rare it is to get eye contact from someone else. This is deep wound. They expressed that sometimes they felt less than human in the eyes of others. The Church should never make someone feel this way!

In the session I attended, we spoke about how to understand our community better, and truly see the needs of those around us. Have you seen a need in your neighborhood? What is breaking the heart of our community? What is breaking your heart? How can the Church help? And, how can the Church partner with our neighbors in ministry? Email any insights to me!

### Prayer Concerns

Ed Abrahams, Dianne Alexander, Jim Alsup, Edie Anders, John & Dorothy Artz, Chappie Ashburn, Ruth Austin, Dan Barcus & family upon the death of his mother, Maxine Barcus; Carolyn Belk, Anita Bishop, Bill Borum, Paula Brady, Ernest & Annie Brew, Chappie Collins, Earl & Gloria Collins, Dorothy Cox, Margaret Demuth, Elizabeth Dennard, Gerald Dupree, Camryn Eaton, Stephen & Brenda Edrozo, Cameron Elliott, the Emerson family, Florence Epperson, Jack Ford, Penny Gadmer, Bill & Mildred Gandin, Maria Garcia, Linda & Bob Guggia, Dorothy Haschke, Kathleen Hearn, Kathleen Heath, Edison Hicks, Ann Hill, Rev. Tom & Florence Holcomb, Elizabeth Huebner, Cathy Johnson, Thelma Jones, Lucinda Kurtas, Jim & Dianne Latham & family; Angus & Virginia Lewis, Penny Loy, Carol Luce, Lavon Mahon & family, Bonnie Maple, Ginny Martin, Marsha Massey, Frances Mayberry, Ed Mills, Bill Moan, Mary Nelle Moore, Nina Myers (hospice), Gary & Dian Parker, Jody Parker, Betty Parks, Jean Parks, Margie Perron, Gloria Powell, Billy Raines, Milton & Noni Ray, Bill & Caroline Reaves, Bob & Gladys Reeve, the family of Rev. Dr. Robbie Robinson, former pastor of St. Stephen's; Betty Roberts, Rogers & Jane Roberts, Kathleen Saathoff, Barbara Smith, Lura Smith, Melissa Soto and family upon the death of her sister-in-law, Rosa Cruz; Hazel Swearingen, Danny Thomason, Hazel Thompson, Ronnie Vance, Bitsy Vilven, John and Judy Warfield upon the death of their son, Stacy; Margaret White (hospice), Paul Wieting, George Wood, Gay Woods, Charles Zimmermann

### In Our Prayers

### In the Military

Dirk Ray Jr., Allen Troth

### In the Hospital

The Forum—Donna Schmidt (rehab)  
Memorial City Health and Rehab—Bob Baldwin  
Home Hospice—Claytie Abrahams

HealthSouth Cypress—Nancy Buck (rehab)  
Memorial Hermann-Medical Center—Michael Niederhofer

From the Director of Student Ministries



**Messy Church**

We had a great success with Messy Church on January 25. We had about 50 children, parents, and volunteers who participated in the service. This month's focus was on creation, and it was VERY messy. The kids made slime, planted seeds with Heifer International, made "bugs", colored bookmarks, made binoculars out of toilet paper rolls, and made Day 3 Kebabs. We closed in worship with singing "Put Your Arms Around the World" and telling the



story of creation. Special thank you to Stephen, Pat, Ellie, Amy, Steven, Christie, Troy, Amy, Patti, and Kendra, and Sharon. We had a lot of fun and saw a lot of new families join us. Our next Messy Church will be Easter themed, and it will be right after Spring Break, on March 22.

**Project Restock**

The children packed 3 boxes of school supplies, plus a big bag of tissues, and some extra copy paper to take to Stevens Elementary to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on January 31! They did a great project this month, and they wrote encouraging cards to the teachers there.

**Max Ward's Eagle Scout Project**

Max Ward completed his Eagle Scout Project on January 21. The room is a nice, neutral, updated color, with some deep blue accents that match the doors. Our next step on the update will be new floors, new covers (or couches!), and then decorations like scriptures to hang on the wall. We will also be purchasing a new class set of Bibles.



**Mid-Winter**

Youth, grades 6 and up, are invited to go to the Ignite Mid-Winter Camp at Lakeview, February 17-19 or at Forest Glen, February 24-26. Mid-Winter camps are lots of fun, and they are very similar to summer camp, but without the swimming. You can expect activities like paddle boating, archery, ropes course, and of course things like fellowship, worship, and Bible studies. These are great retreats where you can get away and grow closer to God. *Mary Gossett*



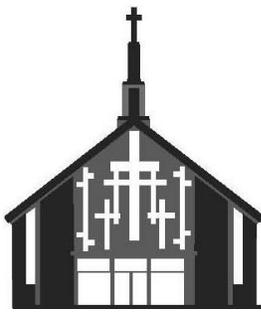
**Johnson Memorial School News**



Save the date for the JMS auction on March 29 in the Fellowship Hall: LOOK HOW WE'VE GROWN!

Every other year, we host an event to raise funds for our program. This year's Silent Auction and Art Exhibition will raise funds to replace some well-used classroom furniture, purchase new outdoor musical toys and a large, colorful welcome mat for our main school entrance. If you have a service or product that you could donate for our silent auction, or if you would be willing to solicit donations from area businesses, it would go a long way towards making our auction a success. We welcome any and all donations as we hope to provide something for every taste and every price point. Everyone is also welcome to attend; we'll have a food truck, a magician, childcare for those under three and a LOT of fun! Please contact the Director at [jms@stsumc.org](mailto:jms@stsumc.org) with questions or for additional information. Donations can be dropped off in the church or school office until March 15.

**Registration for the 2017-2018 school year** begins February 1 for returning students, and March 1 for new students. Forms are available on St. Stephen's website: [www.stsumc.org](http://www.stsumc.org).



**St. Stephen's  
United Methodist Church**

2003 West 43rd Street  
Houston, Texas 77018  
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**Rev. Kevin Otto**  
*Senior Pastor*  
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**Program Staff**



**Rev. Lindsay Smith**  
*Minister of Music*  
music@stsumc.org



**Mary Gossett**  
*Director of Student  
Ministries*  
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**Juyeon Kim**  
*Organist*



**Candice Croker**  
*Director,  
Johnson Memorial School*  
jms@stsumc.org



**Melissa Soto**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Anita Cabrera, Adriana Montes,  
Rachel Montes**  
*Nursery Staff*

**Administrative Staff**



**Mary Jessie**  
*Accounting Manager*  
mary@stsumc.org



**Mary Ellen King**  
*Executive Secretary*  
maryellen@stsumc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICAL  
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HOUSTON, TX

**Dessert Extravaganza**



Absolutely everyone is invited to our annual Dessert Extravaganza **Saturday, February 11**, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.! This is one of our most popular community events filled with fellowship and sweet treats. For \$5.00, you will receive six (6) tickets to choose any six (6) "tastes" (a 3 oz. serving) of our homemade desserts. Over 35 desserts will be featured. We will conclude a silent auction for full-sized desserts of all of our selections at 3:30 p.m. You may purchase additional "tastes" for \$1.00 each. Chocolate-covered strawberries, floral arrangements and to-go bags will also be available for purchase. Tickets will be on sale at the Chili Cook-Off Lunch this Sunday and at the door the day of the event. Proceeds from the event will benefit our Youth Ministry. Come try some fabulous desserts!

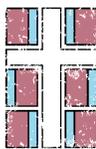
**We need bakers and volunteers!** See page 4 for details about how you can help.

**Family Movie Night**



Family Movie Night will be back **Friday, February 17!** The fun begins at 6:30 p.m. with an animated movie approved for all audiences. Snacks will be served. You are welcome to bring dinner-in-a-bag, if the family is hungry. Invite your neighbor!

**The Fellowship Evening Service**



Our next Sunday evening service, **The Fellowship**, will be held **February 19** at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This casual, acoustic contemporary service is a great place for those who are new to the church, or those who have been away from the church for awhile. Coffee and snacks will be served before and after the service. This is a perfect opportunity to invite that friend or neighbor you've been thinking about!

**Coming Up in March**

- March 1 - Ash Wednesday, the Beginning of Lent:** Worship at St. Stephen's at 7:00 p.m.
- March 3 - Outdoor Workday:** Help spruce up our church grounds for Easter. There's a job for everyone, from light gardening to the more heavy tasks. We'll provide lunch!
- March 20 - Defensive Driving:** 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Sponsored by AARP. Cost: \$15 for AARP members, \$20 for non-AARP members. For insurance discounts only; not for traffic ticket dismissal. Please RSVP to Florence Bowman at 713 682-4513
- March 25 - District Mission Day**