

Northern Hills *network*

OCTOBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024

Summer of Blessings

This year we had an awesome summer of ministry, outreach events, and programs at the Ministry Center. I thank the Lord for Kathryn Hoelscher, Children's Director, our staff, pastors, and especially all the servants in ministry who participated.

The new outdoor format for our *Childrens Day Celebration* in May was very successful. We were able to connect with many new families, some of whom began attending worship services at our 1604 Campus and the Ministry Center. Many of these families enrolled their children in our *Project Transformation* summer reading camp, participated in *Vacation Bible School*, served at our *Food Pantry*, and other ministries. We capped off the summer with our annual *Back-to-School Celebration* that provided much needed backpacks and school supplies to 300 students within our community.

Through these ministries we were blessed to see how God is moving in the places we serve. One event in July that was a highlight for me was the baptism service that we held at the Guadalupe River. Nineteen people in our community listened to God's call and chose to dedicate their lives to Christ through baptism. This group included ten children, eight youth, and one adult. This was so important and meaningful to me because our purpose and mission has always been centered around reaching more people for Christ and helping our neighbors to grow in their

relationship with our Lord. These baptisms confirmed to me that God is continuing to use our church and our ministries to his glory. It was also an affirmation that what we do makes a difference in the lives of people in our community.

Community ministry takes time, and the fruits of our obedience to the Lord's call may not be immediately evident. We must be patient and remember that all the work we do in the name of the Lord makes an impact on the lives of others. Over the last seven years most of the children and youth who were baptized participated in the Ministry Center events and programs that I spoke of earlier. Many were regulars at our weekly

homework help program that we held at their apartment community. Their parents knew us and the ministry servants who helped in those ministries. These parents wanted their children to be baptized in a Christian Church that loves the Lord and reaches out into their community.

I must say that there were times over the past several years where I was concerned that we had only baptized a few individuals at the La Roca service. This year alone, we have baptized 22 and I pray that the Lord will bring more. God is doing some awesome things at Northern Hills, and I thank the Lord that I have been able to witness his wonderful work.

May God Bless You, Pastor Abdon



Baptisms and Celebration on the Guadalupe River



Upcoming Sermon Series



This is an amazing letter of love and gratitude that is written under difficult circumstances. Paul is in prison because of sharing the gospel. The purpose of this letter is to empower “all y’all” to embrace their position as the Church. As Church, ‘all y’all’ are capable to continue with the same mission that Paul had: Share the Gospel.



Advent is an excellent season to reorient ourselves to what is the Good News of Christ. Even though this is an old story to share, it is a story that brings eternal consequences in our lives. “The Season of Advent reminds Christians of the simple yet amazing salvation story, our story, the good news of God’s love for all. We do not practice advent for God, but rather for us.”

WEDNESDAY NITE LIFE



This Fall in Wednesday Nite Life we continue our Praying Through the Bible series. Our speakers will be speaking on the books of Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, Matthew, Mark and Luke. Join us in person in the Sanctuary or online on YouTube. Communion is served during this service.

Upcoming Events

Walk to End Alzheimer’s

Saturday
October 21



More info or register
at NHUMC.org



Sponsored by the Health & Wellness Committee

FALL FESTIVAL & trunk or treat

Sat. October 28
4-7 pm

trunk or treat begins at 6:30



Giving Tree

November 19

Pick an ornament(s)

December 3

Gifts due back

More info coming soon.



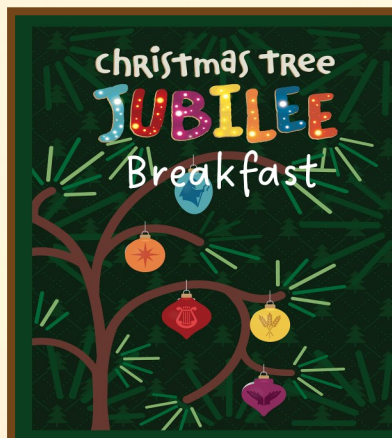
CHRISTMAS TREE JUBILEE Breakfast

December 2

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Psst...there will be special
visitor from the North Pole

More info at NHUMC.org



Exploring Our Faith (EOF) Sunday School Class

Our dynamic class averages 30-40 folks each Sunday. Our ages range from 50 and up (younger ages are always welcome if you can keep up with us!). We focus on equipping, assisting, and encouraging our



class members to grow in their Christian Faith. We provide numerous opportunities for members to facilitate our classes. We use a combination of RightNow Media lessons which are scripturally based, personal testimonies and frequent visits/discussions with our church leaders/staff to include the District Superintendent and the Bishop. Additionally, we are focused on prayer for each other, our friends, neighbors, others, and the community and world. Prayers and Praises are an essential part of our class. We frequently have time to socialize in class and share goodies.

We meet from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in rooms B1 and B2. If you are looking for a Sunday School class to call home, we would love to have you join us! If you have any questions, contact Frank Barth at 770-853-3042 or Frank.l.barth@icloud.com.

Farewell Dinner for Choir Intern Hannah Herrick



Makarios Small Group

In June and July our group met for monthly dinners. We had great conversation, got to know each other, and welcome some newcomers.



We meet every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 4:00-5:30 p.m. We have community time and Bible study. Our schedule for the fall; October 14, October 28, November 11, November 25, December 9, December 23.



For more information about Makarios contact Heather Waldschmidt at hwaldschmidt21@gmail.com or Travis Cummings at tjcdstx1@yahoo.com.



S.A.L.T Sunday School Class after stuffing backpacks

Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study

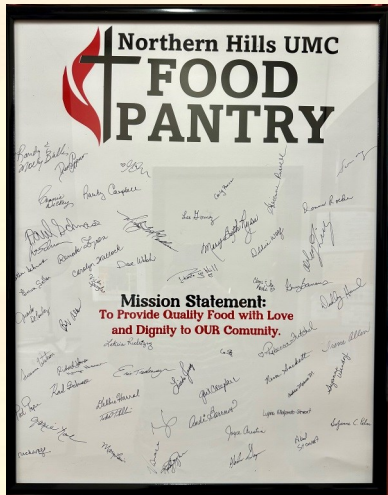


THE END OF AN ERA at the Food Pantry

July 27, 2023 was the Food Pantries last time to
distribute food "curb side"
These photos are from that day.



New and Improved Food Pantry!



Over the last month, the food pantry has had a lot of changes. We have moved from the back of the building to the front two classrooms of the Ministry Center. This move has allowed the food pantry to become a Client-Choice model and will be open for clients Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:40 p.m. Clients will now make an appointment and come shop for their own groceries. With this new way

of distribution, it empowers the clients by giving them the choice of what foods they want instead of just a handout. We have created a small grocery store for them to shop in with shopping carts included! The amount of food they can shop for is based on family size.

If you are looking for a place to help during the day, we are in need of a lot of helpers! We pick up food from the San Antonio Food Bank on Monday mornings and unload it into our grocery store. If you can lift 50 pounds, your help is needed from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you are not a heavy lifter, we can use you Tuesday-Thursday. Helpers will assist with shopping, checking out clients, stocking shelves, helping take groceries to cars, and bringing back our shopping carts. If you are interested, please contact Rebecca Futchel at FoodPantry@nhumc.org or 210-236-6816.



Food Pantry Dedication



The Food Pantry receiving a donation of \$2500.00 from the Higginbotham Group



Client Choice Food Pantry



United Methodist Men CLASS OF 2023 SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Avery Weaver and Sterling Sparks this years recipients of the UMM Scholarship.



Pastors Bob and Abdon shopping in the new Food Pantry

NHUMC in ACTION Program at NHUMC

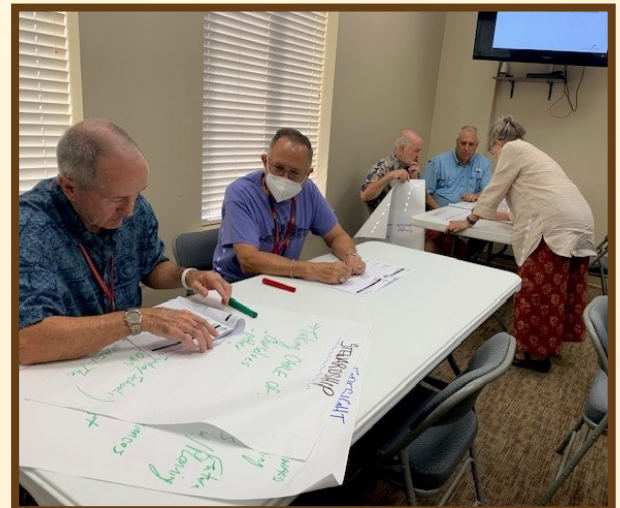
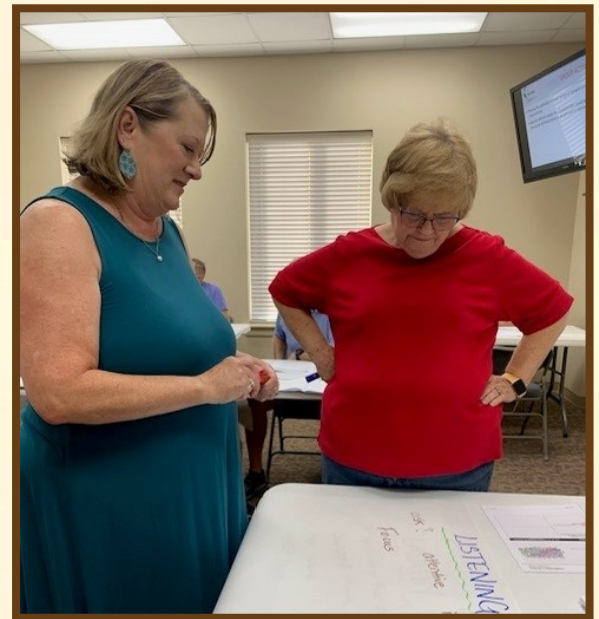
If you are new to our campus, or just want to learn more about Northern Hills UMC and our mission, please plan to attend our NHUMC in ACTION program. The NHUMC in ACTION program consists of 2 classes:

- **A Class - Ask & Acquire:** you will learn about the United Methodist denomination and details about NHUMC.
- **C Class - Commit & Connect:** you will learn your spiritual gifts and where to apply those gifts through the 40+ ministries offered by NHUMC.

There is also a Leadership in ACTION class that church members serving in leadership roles are asked to attend (invitations determined by pastors).

Our next scheduled A and C classes are being held on October 15, at the 1604 campus from 12:15-4 p.m. Lunch is provided. Contact Susan Bartlett to RSVP your attendance or to inquire for more information.

All photos - August 2023 Leadership in ACTION class participants



Welcome to the Family



Jan Hartman



Charlie & Laurie Miller



John & Julie Irey



Patsy Lent



**Glenn & Jonnalene
Sammis**



Stacey Gleinser & Collin



**Pat & Laura
Yarbrough**



Patricia Cassiano



Connie Dickey



**Ted & Jere Lee
& Chance**



Steve & Joyce Austin



**Wayne & Mary Kay
Witwer**



**Manuel Padilla &
Susana Armendariz
Juan & Manuel**



Adam Meester



**Stryker & Melanie Awtry
Tristan & Parker
Satira Hollis**

United Women in Faith

Missionary Elmira Sellu Visit



Church in ACTION Ministry Fair



Ministry Center Day Care Center Graduation



God at Work

Sunday, September 10 was totally a God intervention day. Charlie had been feeling good and wanted to get back to playing in the worship band. He can't drive yet, so I dropped him off at 8:15 for his 8:30 rehearsal. After getting back home I decided to go back up to church for worship instead of watching the service online. Worship started and one verse into the second song, Charlie passed out and crashed to the floor. This is where you see the intervention - Tyler, the drummer, is an EMT and he was subbing that morning, Miranda, a nurse, usually works on Sundays, she was off and came to church, Whitney was there, she's a cardiac nurse, someone called out to the congregation if anyone had a glucose pin, someone did, Heather, singer in the band went and grabbed the church defibrillator and someone called 911. All of these people jumped in to help until EMS arrived. God put all of these people in this place at one time for us. It was an emotional day. Charlie spent 3 days in the hospital. Overall he is feeling better, but has his days. He has an ablation procedure was scheduled on October 12. We are hoping this fixes the problem and he can get back to a regular schedule.

We want to thank everyone at NHUMC for their love, support and prayers. We felt the love from everyone and we truly love each one of you.

Charlie and Dora Aldrete

How's your budget?

Your church is starting a new time in its life and we need your help. Our attendance is up. All services have reached there highest since Covid.

We see someone join almost every week. However, the expenses for AC, repairs to the Ministry Center, and new ministries needs have also significantly increased. This fall we will begin a new stewardship and discipleship emphasis with meeting in homes called Thankful Gatherings, so that all our members but especially our new members get connected.

For now, please consider a special offering or pledge. Remember online (VANCO), ACH automatic deductions and in person are available in addition to mail and regular offering.

THANK YOU

I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for their prayers during my recent health challenges. It is comforting to know that I have a church family that cares so much, and I am truly humbled by your loving concern.

Blessings, Pastor Abdon

2023 Annual Conference Delegates



VBS Youth Helpers



Contemporary Worship



EMPLOYEE *Spotlight*



Name: Susan Kimberlie Bartlett

Position: Pastoral Administrative Assistant

Length of Employment: 8 years

Hobbies: Hiking, Kayaking, and the beach

Favorite food: Asian

What is an interesting fact about you? "I was a majorette in High School marching band. I played the flute and piccolo"

Family: She has 3 boys, all attended different schools—University of Texas—Go Horns, Texas Tech University—Guns Up, and Texas A&M University—Whoop!



Name: Rebecca Futchel

Position: Food Pantry Director

Length of Employment: 2 years (including 1 1/2 years volunteering)

Hobbies: Remodeling houses and crafting

Favorite food: Mexican

What is an interesting fact about you? "I worked at the Day School 17 years ago!"

Family: She has been married to Rusty for 25 years. They have 3 children, Nicholas 23, Hannah 21, and Emma 15.

Northern Hills Day School First Day of School



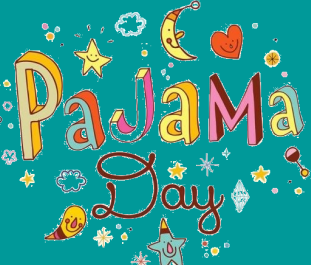
Children's Ministry



Gingerbread BASH

December 16
@ the
Ministry Center Campus
More info to come

December 17 is



Pajama Day

Watch for more info

B.L.A.S.T. FAMILY



Game Night

January 10
More info coming soon

3rd Grade Bibles



3rd Grade Bibles



Backpack Blessing



B.L.A.S.T. Singing in Church



VBS Science



VBS Crafts



Youth Ministry



NHUMC
NORTHERN HILLS
YOUTH

YOUTH & FAMILY WORSHIP

Sundays | 6-7:30pm (Doors open 5:45)

Northern Hills UMC Ministry Center
Address 4306 Naco Pass, 78217



CHILDREN'S
HUNGER FUND.

OCTOBER 29
5th Sunday Serve



Camp Zephyr

Save the Date



WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 6
FAMILY MOVIE
NIGHT

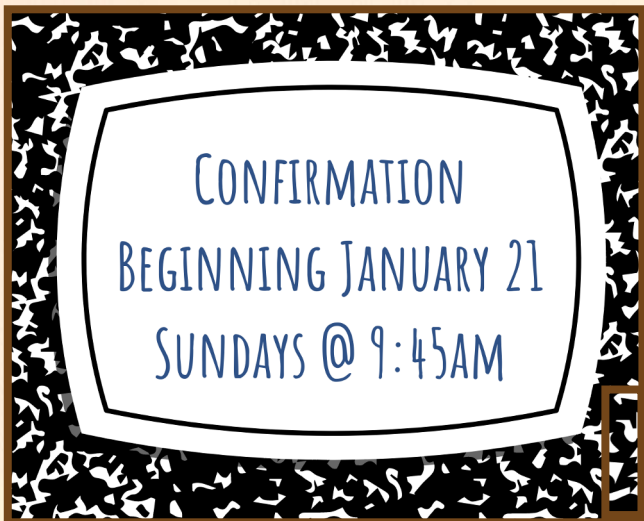
*More Details Soon



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
CHRISTMAS
Youth Party
6-7:45PM
*MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW



Back to School Game Day



High School Mission Trip



Hill Country Daily Bread



Texas Diaper Bank



Northern Hills United Methodist Church
3703 N. Loop 1604 E.
San Antonio, TX 78247

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
San Antonio, TX
Permit No. 3316

Christmas Eve 2023

Sunday, December 24

at Northern Hills United Methodist Church

1604 Campus 3703 N. Loop 1604 E. 210-654-0881

Worship Center: 11:00 a.m. — Family worship, in person only
5:00 p.m. — Contemporary worship, in person and online
7:00 p.m. — Traditional worship, in person and online

Sanctuary: 11:00 a.m. — Traditional worship, in person only
3:00 p.m. — Classic, in person only
11:00 p.m. — Classic worship, in person only

Ministry Center Campus 4306 Naco Pass 210-236-6810

1:00 p.m. — La Roca (Bilingual), in person and online

All services will offer Communion and end with Candlelight.

All services will be Christmas Eve focused.
There will not be an 8:30 a.m. Traditional service.