

Northern Hills *network*

FEBRUARY 2024 - MAY 2024

FROM PASTOR BOB ALLEN'S DESK

I reflect on what it means to have been an active United Methodist Pastor for 42 years; retired for 5 years; and then return into active ministry for past 18 months. My first 5 years were as an associate pastor and then the next 37 years as a Senior Pastor and a District Superintendent. To come back to serve as your Associate Pastor, I had to unlearn Senior Pastorship and to relearn what it meant to be Pastor Lupina's support pastor. These three positions are as different as the east is from the west, and the south is from the north.

So what is it like to be back in the saddle again? I am happy to be back in the pulpit and leading worship. I never thought that I would ever do Christmas nor Easter services again. When I was a DS, no pastors wanted us near their pulpits during these high and holy seasons. It is a time that every Senior Pastor savors and longs to do – preaching the Christmas and Easter messages of hope and resurrection. I am pleased that I was put into the leadership of both our traditional services for this is where I am home spiritually. My soul resonates with the traditional hymns, the Responsive Readings, the Creeds, Acolytes, wearing of robes and stoles. I love the rhythm of the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Christ the King, etc. I love the different banners and their significant colors that have purpose and give us direction. I love the candles and the Bible on the traditional altar. I love the advent wreath and the Christ Candle for Christmas and

Easter. I love the movement between the seasons and I love that we move through a rhythm that lasts for three years – the Common Lectionary, years A, B & C, which moves us through 80% of the Bible.

And then there is Holy Communion – HOLY COMMUNION. This is my greatest privilege granted to me as a Elder. When I was in retirement, I was one lost puppy; a ship without a rudder. I had no table to preside over. And now I have been given a gift to preside once again with full, traditional liturgy spoken and observed – celebrated and plunged into worship! It connects me deeply with God and with each and everyone of you. It is a Holy moment – on earth as it is in Heaven.

And you, you are the reason why I came back. I have fallen in love with each and every one of you. You are the reason why I jump out of bed every Sunday at 5:00 a.m. You are the reason why I get here at 6:45 a.m. every Sunday, to perfect the setting in the Sanctuary. You are why I pour myself out to you at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. each and every Sunday morning. The Holy Spirit gives me the Word and you give me the desire. You make me better and you make me energized for the higher calling that God placed on me when I was a young man. I don't even feel like I am 72 years old, because you gave me a new purpose and a reason to redo what I did for so long. Thanks Savior with you on this journey called

for this opportunity to serve our Lord and Northern Hills United Methodist Church. Thank you Pastor Lupina for inviting me to join your team. This is a wonderful staff called by Christ to serve His Church. I am a grateful boy who looks like an old man on the outside but believe me when I tell you that I am an adventurous, wide-eyed boy on the inside ready to take on any challenge that is before me. Thanks for this grand opportunity. Just wait for what will be unfolding before us all in 2024!



Upcoming Sermon Series



Begins February 14

Lent and Holy Week Season 2024

What are the ways that God has called us to maintain ourselves focus in what is important? Northern Hills UMC was born on January 1975.

50 years ago, this congregation was getting ready for that birth.

During this season, we have learned many different ways that God has led this church. WE have learned by amazing great victories, wonderful mistakes, steps of faith, difficult challenges and great celebrations.

The only reason this congregation has been able to continue and be almost ready to celebrate 50 years, is for one reason: Recognizing who has been our King. Recognizing where God speaks and leads. Recognize when we needed to say "That was a wonderful mistake." Recognize when God has asked us to take a step of faith.

Through this Sermon Series, we want to learn to recognize different aspects that are necessary to grow in our Christian faith and will lead us to maintain our attention to the right direction: The King Jesus.

If this church will grow and be alive for another 50, 100, or whatever time God wants us in existence, it will be possible only if we are intentional in keeping our attention in the right divine place.



Begins April 7

What is your advice for the next generation? What do you want the NHUMC congregation to keep in mind in the next season of this church? What can we give them that will create an eternal change in their lives? 1 Timothy is a group of guidelines from a loving mentor to his student.

The purpose is to share those important messages that will keep us focus in the "good fight" of life.

Upcoming Events

February 14
6:30 p.m.
1604 Campus, Worship Center

Ashes To Go
1604 Campus, Gathering Area & Parking Lot, 8:15-9:30 a.m.
Ministry Center, 7:00-10:00 a.m.

RISE UP!
Spring Celebration
& Easter Egg Hunt

March 23
12-2 pm
1604 Campus

more info coming soon

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 29, 4:00-7:00 p.m.
1604 Campus
Gathering Area

More info at NHUMC.org

NORTHERN HILLS UNITED METHODIST MEN
— **GOLF** —
TOURNAMENT
2024

THURSDAY
MARCH 21
AT 1:00 PM TICKET \$125

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 11:30 A.M.

NORTHERN HILLS GOLF COURSE

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER GO TO NHUMC.ORG OR SCAN HERE

Beatitudes Prayer Walk
EARTH DAY
Celebration
Saturday, April 13

More information coming soon.

Holy Week

Holy Week

Saturday, March 23

Spring Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt
12:00-2:00 p.m., 1604 Campus

Palm Sunday, March 24

Traditional: 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., 1604 Campus
Contemporary: 11:00 a.m., 1604 Campus
La Roca (Bilingual): 1:00 p.m., Ministry Center Campus

Holy Thursday, March 28

7:00 p.m. Communion Service
in the Sanctuary

Good Friday, March 29

Stations of the Cross, 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Guided tour through the stations
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. Worship Service
in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday

Easter, March 31

1604 Campus

in person only
7:00 a.m. Outdoor Sunrise Service

in person and online

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship, in the Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship, in the Worship Center

in person only

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship, in the Sanctuary

Ministry Center Campus

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

Off Site—Easter Worship Service in the Neighborhood

in person only
9:30 a.m. (location to be determined)



Volunteers preparing the NHUMC Network for mailing



Pledge Card Sunday

Beatitudes Prayer Walk

New Year's Day Event



Prayer Walk Memorial/Honorable Pavers

Monogrammed Brick Pavers are available for a \$75.00 minimum donation per brick. You can include a message honoring or memorializing a person of your choice, or share a brief scripture reference. Forms are available outside the church office or you can go to the website at NHUMC.org. Submit your completed form and payment by March 31. Payment can be made by check, made out to NHUMC with Prayer Walk Brick in the memo section. You can also pay online. Below is a picture of installed pavers purchased last year.



Mulching at the Prayer Walk



Council On Ministry News

The council approved 3 new ministries in 2023. Check out the church calendar for days and times of these new ministries.

Makarios Community – gathering for young adults 19 to 30 years old. Contact Heather Waldschmidt at hwaldschmidt21@gmail.com or Travis Cummins at tjcdstx1@yahoo.com.

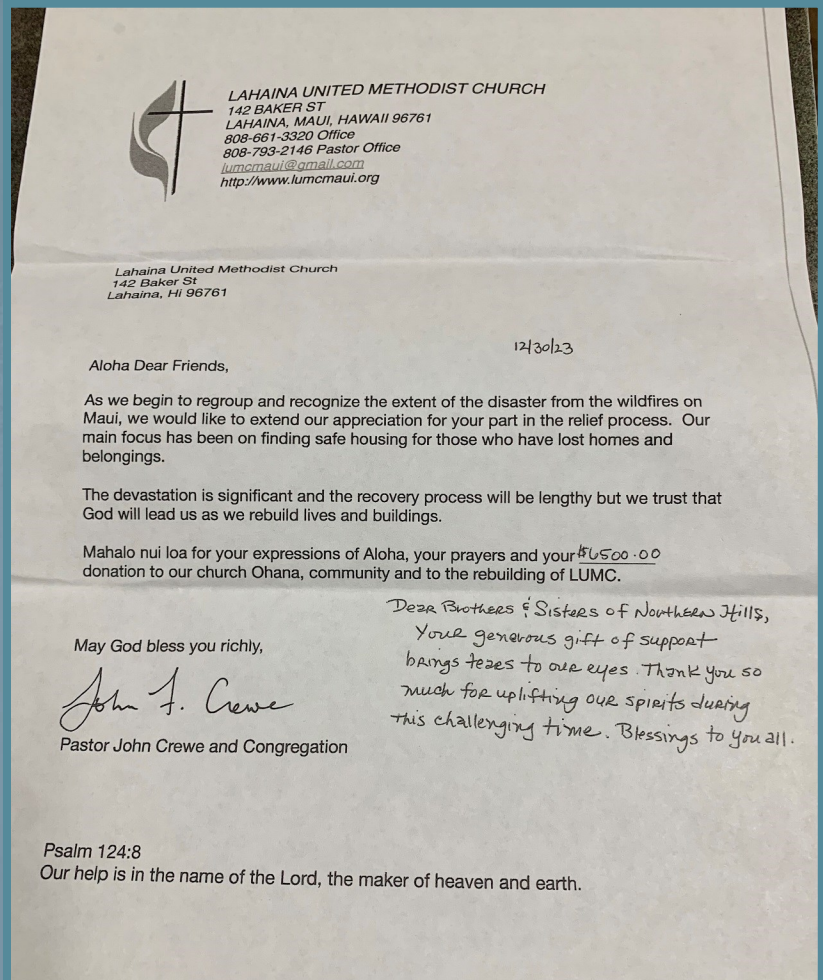
Buffalo blessings – outreach ministry to the Hopi tribe and surrounding Navajo nation. Contact Caroline Tedor at lcwtedor@gmail.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – knitted or crocheted shawls available to share with someone in a time of joy or grief. Contact Laurie Miller at charlesmiller439@gmail.com or Thomas Duckworth at thomasduckworth997@gmail.com.

Thank you, Kirby Carpenter, for your two years of service as the chairperson of the Council on Ministries.

Welcome Eric Tredemeyer as the new chairperson of the Council on Ministries. The next meeting is Saturday, February 10, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

Thank You Letter from Lahaina UMC



LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
142 BAKER ST
LAHAINA, MAUI, HAWAII 96761
808-661-3320 Office
808-793-2146 Pastor Office
lumcmaui@gmail.com
<http://www.lumcmaui.org>

Lahaina United Methodist Church
142 Baker St
Lahaina, HI 96761

12/30/23

Aloha Dear Friends,

As we begin to regroup and recognize the extent of the disaster from the wildfires on Maui, we would like to extend our appreciation for your part in the relief process. Our main focus has been on finding safe housing for those who have lost homes and belongings.

The devastation is significant and the recovery process will be lengthy but we trust that God will lead us as we rebuild lives and buildings.

Mahalo nui loa for your expressions of Aloha, your prayers and your \$6500.00 donation to our church Ohana, community and to the rebuilding of LUMC.

May God bless you richly,

John F. Crewe

Pastor John Crewe and Congregation

Dear Brothers & Sisters of Northern Hills,
Your generous gift of support brings tears to our eyes. Thank you so much for uplifting our spirits during this challenging time. Blessings to you all.

Psalm 124:8

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

English as a Second Language

Stahl Elementary School
Celebrating 8 years of ESL



1604 Campus



Ministry Center Campus



Exploring Our Faith (EOF) Sunday School Class

Blessings in Christ from the Exploring Our Faith (EOF) Sunday School Class,

Our dynamic/high energy 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/encouraging our class members to grow in their Christian Faith. We are ALL ABOUT growing a caring/encouraging Christian Community. 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/world. Prayers & Praises are an essential part of our class. We frequently have time to socialize in class and share goodies.

EOF will have a five lesson Lenten Series, by J.D. Greear, beginning February 18. We will then have a five lesson, "The 10 Most Misunderstood Bible Verses", by Sean McDowell. Both of these classes are on RightNow Media.

EOF meets on Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m. in rooms B1 and B1. 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, please contact Frank Barth, frank.l.barth@icloud.com.



Makarios Small Group

Makarios Community had a few chances to gather during the holiday months for some meals and fellowship. We look forward to growing our group. We meet at different restaurant each second Saturday of the month at 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions about the activity for the monthly gathering contact Heather Waldschmidt at hwaldschmidt21@gmail.com or 210-422-0221.



Heavenly Healthy Habits Class



Upcoming group meeting locations

March 9, Ali's Pizzeria, 15179 Judson Road, #107, San Antonio

April 13, Taco Cabana, 6826 N Loop 1604 E, San Antonio

May, no meeting due to Mother's Day Weekend

June 8, Subway, 6826 N Loop 1604 E, Bldg 1, San Antonio



Welcome to the Family



Barbara House



Tammy Stephenson



Paulette Burns



Williams Family
Jackie, Zahariyana, Karon, Derrick, Lanasha



Patricia Mitchell



Karen Condit



Susan Krantz



Wayne & Anne Shanks



Justin Guerrero



Eric & Kristin Tredemeyer
Kaitlin



Kevin & Judy Mayne



Jose & Amanda Serrentino
Jackson, Noah, & Katie



Rick & Deb Olsheski



Sarah & Lynda Browning-Larson
& Michael



Greg & Marianne White
Sloane



Alvin Ocasio & Annette Ramos
Axel & Abdiel

United Women in Faith

With God's help and your support, we were able to do our mission work for the Lord.

Thank you for contributing to UWF events!

Your continued support helps local and international missions.

2023 UWF Mission Giving

International Ministries - \$1,205

Liberia Scholarships	300
His Many Sparrows	250
FIRM (Carly's)	250
ICCD (Deaf Min.)	155
Elmira Sellu	250

Funds Supporting National UWF

Mission Projects - \$4,020

Annual Unit Pledge	\$1,800
Gifts in Memory	155
Gifts to Mission	40
Special Mission Recognition	280
World Thank	1,596
Candle Burning	149

Local Mission Projects - \$8,920

Texas Diaper Bank	500
Providence Place	500
UM Campus Ministries	500
Magdalena House	1,000
Wesley Health & Wellness	500
Camp Wesley Scholarships	200
Buffalo Blessings	300
Adopt A Family	2,075
Buck for a Truck	500
Too Kute	200
Bible Outreach	645
Dollars for Hope	500
Vault Fostering	500
Methodist Children's Home	500
What-a-Gift	500

Grand Total \$14,145

UWF Christmas Party



Circle of Love meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon studying "Women of the Bible" with Diana Poerner as the leader.

Faith Circle meets the 3rd Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. with Sue Bohlen as the leader.

Hope Circle meets the 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. with Martha Phelps.

All women are welcome.

Knaus baby Baptism



EMPLOYEE *Spotlight*



Name: Karl Schnase

Position: Technical Specialist

Length of Employment: 6 1/2 years

Hometown: I claim both McAllen, TX and Columbia, MO

Hobbies: I enjoy Tabletop Roleplaying Games and Videos Games in my free time.

Favorite food: Pepperoni Pizza without sauce

Family: My parents attend the Contemporary service while my brother sings in the choir in Traditional.

What is an interesting fact about you? I am proficient in both the 1A and 2A styles of yoyo throwing and always have at least one yoyo on me.



Name: Abi Leon

Position: Media Director

Length of Employment: 3 years

Hometown: Chandler, AZ

Hobbies: I like to play video games and am working towards completing 100 live escape room games

Favorite food: Carne Asada Tacos

Family: He and his wife Sharonica have 5 children, Isaac 22, Gavin 21, Eden 17, Becton 16, and Moriah 9.

What is an interesting fact about you? "I have multiple degrees and actually use them all throughout the weeks. Digital Cinematography, Rhema College, Central Texas College - Tarleton, in the fields of Video production, theology/pastoral ministries, Computer Aided Design.

Northern Hills Day School Winter Fun 2024



Children's Ministry

Fall Festival



Giving Tree—we collected over 300 gifts for over 95 families.



Gingerbread Bash had over 100 in attendance. We made nativities, played candy cane games, and heard the Good News of Jesus' birth.



Youth Ministry



NORTHERN HILLS YOUTH

FEB 14
FOLLOWING THE ASH
WEDNESDAY SERVICE

17230 Autry Pond Ste 111, 78247



ANDRETTI
INDOOR KARTING & GAMES

SUNDAY, FEB. 18
12:30-5:00PM
LUNCH, RACING,
BOWLING, & ARCADE
\$50 EACH



Summer 2024

JUNE 8-14: HS MISSION TRIP
IN OKLAHOMA CITY

JUNE 24-28: CAMP ZEPHYR

JULY 14-17: MS CITY CAMP

REGISTER AT NHUMC.ORG

Christmas Party



Youth Worship



5th Sunday Serve



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

Northern Hills Day School Open Registration for

2024-2025



February 26
9:00 a.m.
in the Gathering Area
for more info go to NHUMC.org