

Our First Holy Week

New Life Methodist Church, will carry a replica of the “Cross of Christ” in procession through Salado on Good Friday, April 7th.

Our Good Friday services will be held at 7:00 p.m. The congregation will walk about a quarter mile path around the museum at about 7:30 p.m. Each participant will carry the large cross for a portion of the walk as a visible sign of remembering the burden that Christ carried to his death at Calvary.

“We invite anyone who sees the procession to walk with us,” said Pastor Tom Lathen. “It will also be flowered outside the museum on Easter Sunday to celebrate Christ rising from the dead after three days in the tomb.”

Steve Lazarus constructed the cross. We believe the cross will become a symbolic part of our congregation in the years ahead.

This is our first Good Friday in this new church, so we will be creating new traditions. We have invited local media to come to the start of the service at 7:00 p.m. and observe the processional.

We will walk far enough to allow everyone who wishes to carry the cross to have time to do so. While the walkers are outside the sanctuary, those who stay will have music playing as they prepare the altar area for the close of the service when everyone returns.

Easter Sunday we will have service at 10:00 and then a Brunch about 11:30. (We will also be singing, worshipping and sharing communion as part of the Easter service.)

We have placed ads in the Salado and Belton newspapers to encourage the community to join us. We encourage you to also invite family, friends, and neighbors. We will have a special children/youth message and a gift for youth.



April Birthdays!

★Trenaise Engleking (8th) ★ Justice Fettig (13th)
★ Connie Williamson (14th) ★ Paul Cox (24th)



What's Happening!

By:
Tom Lathen

Easter is our opportunity to share the good news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The one that conquered death, so one day we will too.

Please invite others to join us on Good Friday and Easter. It's so important to acknowledge the suffering and death of that Friday afternoon to truly appreciate the joy of Easter morning.

We're preparing for a Confirmation class next month. Kim Newton and Elaine Herrick are taking the lead in teaching our class. While this class is focused on teens, we can also organize an adult confirmation class for this summer if there is a need.

Also, if you know someone seeking baptism, we will make sure to meet that need too. You don't need to be re-baptized as a Global Methodist member, but you can reaffirm your baptism.

As always please continue to pray for New Life Methodist Church.

Greater GMC Updates

Here is the latest information on growth of the Global Methodist Church. This information was reported during a recent GMC sponsored “zoom” meeting on the Internet.

The Global Methodist Church now has at least 1,350 churches (as of March 20.)

The church currently has about 1,900 pastors. There are member churches in the US and seven other countries.

GMC has 9 provisional annual conferences with more coming. New Life Methodist/Salado is part of the Mid-Texas provisional conference.

New Life Methodist/Salado is one of many churches being served by a former UMC “local pastor”. Provisions have been adopted to guide pastors (like Tom) to ordination in the Global Methodist Church within two years. *Note: Tom is roughly 60% through this process with completion of the current semester next month.*

The Zoom meeting offered what they described as a “reality check”. As humans have birth pains and growing pains, so has the Global Methodist Church. It is building the bridge as they cross it. This also

means first members have an early shot at suggesting change and improvement that older entrenched institutions resist.

Though NLMC Salado has been assured that our membership has been approved, we are awaiting written notification of that approval. We are hopeful that will be received later this month.

Many congregations join together in the Wesley Covenant Service when the final approval is received. (See page 737 of *Our Great Redeemer’s Praise*.)

The convening General Conference is slated for summer/fall of 2024. Details to be announced. We do

not know if we will be eligible to officially send a representative from NLMC/Salado, but much of the event will be open to the general public.

Robert J. Phillips provided the summary of national events for this article.

Ugly Tie Contest

Men and women mark your calendars for Sunday April 16th for the first, and likely last, New Life Methodist Church “Ugly Tie” contest!

An award will be given to the man or woman wearing the ugliest tie to our Sunday morning service. Scour your closets and wear your most atrocious tie!

Prayer Warriors



Our prayer warriors are meeting face to face, and virtually too.

If you would like to be part of this prayer

group contact any member of the prayer ministry team, or email Pastor Tom.

If you have a special prayer concern contact any member of the prayer group. They will share together Wednesday afternoons at

4:30, and share prayer needs as they are received.

Team members currently include: Carolyn Connally, Shirley Cox, Trenaise Engleking, Julie Johnston, Robbie King, Steve Lazarus, Kathy Lathen, Scharlet Mikeska, Kim Newton, Sandra Perry, and Sandy Schneider.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 2 Palm Sunday
- April 7 Good Friday:
 - Worship Service 7 PM
 - Cross Carrying 7:30 PM
- April 9 Easter Sunday
- April 16 Ugly Tie Contest



A Global Methodist Church
PO Box 1322
Salado, TX 76571

New Life Methodist Church meets each Sunday at 10:00 am with Bible Study at 9:00 am at the Salado Museum, 423 S Main Street in downtown Salado.
Tom Lathen, Pastor (254) 899-5680



Dollars and Cents

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| Balance 2/28/23 | \$74,103.88 |
| March Deposits | \$10,205.00 |
| March Expenses | \$2,430.38 |
| Bank Balance 3/31/23 | \$81,878.50* |

*includes \$5,000 Building Fund balance