

NOTES FROM CHERYL – September 2026

Care Share Ministries

Jesus had a team. Our church needs one too! Caring Congregation ministries are offered at many larger churches in our Conference, but I believe we need to start a ministry here, not only to serve our church members who need support but also the community at large, starting with other churches in town. I propose a Fall Academy for study/support groups. Call or text or email me to let me know of your interest in any of these groups. Also, if you have a preferred time you could meet, let me know. Morning, Afternoon, or Evening. Most groups could meet every other week or during a short term of 5-6 sessions. Ideal size for groups is 5-8 people.

Here are some of the resources I am looking at:

When the One You Love Is Gone – 5 session study of book by Rev. Dr. Rebekah L. Miles, Professor at Perkins School of Theology. I highly recommend this book for grief support. Meetings would be every other week for one hour.

Ancient Practice of Praying Scripture Lectio Divina – Contemplative Meditative Prayer focusing on scripture.

Pray for Me – an intercessory prayer group (praying for others). One of the most important things we can do as a church. Every other week for one hour. Could be mornings, afternoons, or evenings.

Give it a try. You might find this is just what you've been looking for. Groups will begin after Labor Day.

Are you friendly, outgoing, **and/or** organized? I would also like to invite you to be part of a group called **First Impressions**. We need a few people who want to see our church grow and would be willing to follow up with worship guests to offer them spiritual growth by forming relationships. Come serve with us in welcoming new faces to our congregation.

Other Possible Studies: ***The Bible and Broadway*** (As many as 9 sessions, with clips of musical numbers, how Broadway offers Good News!

Five Marks of a Methodist

Holy Spirit by Adam Hamilton

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Welcome New Members

We would like to give a warm welcome to our newest members through Baptism, Claire Harper Floyd and Emma Ryann Souza. We are so excited to watch and help them grow in their spiritual journey. Many of you may already know Claire as she has been here for sometime working behind the scenes making sure our videography, live streams and slides go off without a hitch during services. She has recently become more involved with the Youth and Children's programs, even braving "The Hill" at Bridgeport Youth Summer camp this past June. We are so happy to welcome her as a sister in Christ and full member of the church. Emma is a newer face here in our congregation. She is a student at East Texas A&M studying Ag. Science and participating in our amazing Rodeo Performance Team. She has hit the ground running here at the church and has been volunteering with our Children's Program, even leading a class during Vacation Bible School, definitely a trial by fire but she did amazing. She will become a very familiar face this winter as she helps to update our member directory. We are so glad to have her and can't wait to witness all that she accomplishes on her journey with Christ. Please when you see them in church let them know how happy we are to have them as a part of our church family.

