



# Berkeley Buzz

Berkeley United Methodist Church

**February 2026**



## Ministers

Members of the Congregation

### Pastoral Team:

Rev. Stephen Sanders:  
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### Pianist

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### Childcare Director

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### Berkeley UMC

Email: [office@berkeleyumc.org](mailto:office@berkeleyumc.org)

Website: [berkeleyumc.org](http://berkeleyumc.org)

Phone: 512-447-6633

### Church Office Hours

Monday — Friday

9:00am to 1:00pm

Closed Daily for Lunch

from 12 noon to 12:30pm

## Recalculating: Following Christ in Real Life

February is a little like that moment when your GPS says, *“Recalculating.” We’ve left the glow of Christmas behind, but spring is not here yet either. And spiritually, that’s not a bad place to be. This month at Berkeley UMC, we are continuing to discern what it really means to follow Christ in everyday life. Think of it as a spiritual tune-up, somewhere between a New Year’s resolution and a midseason check-in.*

Early in the month, we are reminded that worship is not meant to stay neatly contained inside the sanctuary. What we sing on Sunday is supposed to shape how we live on Tuesday in traffic, Thursday at work, and Saturday at H-E-B. Faith is a way of life. Following Christ means letting prayer and praise spill over into patience, kindness, courage, and care for others. In other words, worship is meant to travel with us, like a good soundtrack.

As February unfolds, we also take a gentle but honest look at ourselves. Confession is like finally cleaning out the junk drawer. It may be overdue, but it makes room for something better. God’s grace does not wait for us to be perfect. Grace meets us in the middle of our mess and says, *“Let’s start fresh.” Following Christ is about trusting that God is still at work in us.*

Midmonth, we celebrate the Transfiguration, a mountaintop moment when Christ’s glory shines through. It is a bit like the movie trailer before the full film: a glimpse of what is coming before the hard parts begin. This moment reminds us that before the road to the cross, there is first a revelation of light. Christ’s brilliance strengthens us for the journey ahead. Even when the story turns difficult, we remember who Jesus truly is.

Then comes Ash Wednesday on February 18, the official on-ramp to Lent. The ashes are meant to make us honest and hopeful. They remind us that we are human, fragile, and beloved. Lent is about spiritual renewal. Think of it like a reset button.

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# Church *Happenings*



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## Anniversaries

Liz and David Smith 2/13

## Birthdays

Catherine Waltman	2/4
Cheryl Teeter	2/11
Shirley Dubuque	2/11
Karen Carlton	2/14
Donna Bostick	2/20
Autumn Kaylor	2/23
Jim Newberry	2/26
Doyce Holsenbeck	2/27

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As Lent begins, we follow Christ into the wilderness, which sounds dramatic, but most of us know wilderness already. It looks like burnout, uncertainty, difficult decisions, and unanswered questions. The good news is that the wilderness is not a place where God disappears. It is often where God becomes clearest. Mercy shows up in unexpected ways, even when life feels unsettled.

So this month, we walk together with honesty, hope, and a little holy curiosity. Discerning what it means to follow Christ. May February help us listen more carefully, laugh a little more easily, and trust more deeply that God is still shaping us, guiding us, and walking with us every step of the way.

Pastor Vikki

If you would like to add your birthday or anniversary to our list, please contact the church office at

512-447-6633

or email [office@berkeleyumc.org](mailto:office@berkeleyumc.org)

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT

Relax, revitalize, reflect, revisit, Retreat. All women are invited to attend the annual women's retreat at Wellspring Retreat Center near Blanco, Tx on **February 20-22 2026**. Join us as we examine "Day by Day: Journey Through Scripture" led by Samantha Patterson from Abilene, Tx.

We will have worship, fabulous meals, a Prayer Walk, crafts, games, and a return of a Proper English Tea. All this for only \$50. We will stay in cabins at the center in a lovely setting.

Our keynote speaker has personally experienced homelessness and is now married with a family and a job as a Compliance Analyst at Centene Corporation. By calling she leads "Jesus and Coffee", a ministry and Bible Study that encourages women to find hope, healing, and everyday faith in Jesus.

All participants are invited to bring games or cards for evening fellowship time as well as a favorite snack to share. There will be a definite rematch of Fishbowl! Ask anyone who has been before what this means. What a tremendous way to bring the ladies in our churches closer in the Spirit. Contact Gail Womack [gaiwom@verizon.net](mailto:gaiwom@verizon.net) or Meryl Kettler [meryl.kettler@gmail.com](mailto:meryl.kettler@gmail.com) for more information.

REGISTRATION DETAILS: See Bumc's 1/29 Weekly Buzz



# Church *Happenings*

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## February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>Hello February!</h1>						
<b>1</b> <b>Communion Sunday</b>  9am Sunday School 10:30am In-Person and Livestream Worship 5 pm Community Prayer	<b>2</b> 10am Women's Bible Study (7)	<b>3</b> 7 pm BUMC Servant Team Mtg.	<b>4</b> 10am Childcare Chapel (Sanc) 6pm Handbells 7pm Choir	<b>5</b> 4:30pm St. Louise House (CLC)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9am 7th Day Adventist Church (Sanc) 4:30pm 7th Day Adventist Youth
<b>8</b>  9am Sunday School 10:30am In-Person and Livestream Worship	<b>9</b> 10am Women's Bible Study (7)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10am Childcare Chapel (Sanc) 6pm Handbells 7pm Choir	<b>12</b> 4:30pm St. Louise House (CLC)	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b> 9am 7th Day Adventist Church (Sanc) 4:30pm 7th Day Adv. Youth
<b>15</b>  9am Sunday School 10:30am In-Person and Livestream Worship	<b>16 Pres. Day</b> 10am Women's Bible Study (7)	<b>17</b>	<b>18 Ash Wed.</b> 10am Childcare Chapel (Sanc) 6pm Handbells 7pm Choir	<b>19</b> 4:30pm St. Louise House (CLC)	<b>20</b> <b>Women's Retreat</b> 2/20-2/22 Blanco, TX	<b>21</b> 7:30 UWF Women 9am 7th Day Adventist Church (Sanc) 4:30 p 7th Day Adv. youth
<b>22</b>  9am Sunday School 10:30am In-Person and Livestream Worship	<b>23</b> 10am Women's Bible Study (7)	<b>24</b> 7pm Leadership Team Meeting (FH)	<b>25</b> 10am Childcare Chapel (Sanc) 6pm Handbells 7pm Choir	<b>26</b> 4:30pm St. Louise House (CLC)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9am 7th Day Adventist Church 12 pm 7th Day Adv. potluck 4:30 pm "7th Day" Youth

**BERKELEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Our mission to Honduras (HOI)**

*submitted by Carolyn Brown*

Many of you know that BUMC has been sponsoring Darwin, a young student at the HOI school in Honduras. If you who have been at BUMC since 2010, you may remember that we sponsored Juan Carlos Hernández Echeverría while he was in middle and high school. It is rare for Honduras students to finish high school, so our mission was a blessing to him. I am still in contact with Juan Carlos. He is married now and works as a motorcycle mechanic (when there is work). Look at his latest news – he is a father now! Juan Jesé Hernández Zelaya was born Jan. 15. Praise God for this new child!

