



THE WESLEY BEARKAT

OFFICIAL SHSU WESLEY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018

Edition

A newsletter designed to be experienced in 7 minutes, for people on the go!



The Wesley Foundation at
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A Few Quick Words from Greg

Our utility bill went up a little bit last year. It's a nice small problem to have because the main reason for that is because your SHSU Wesley Foundation is now open to students of the campus longer than any other business or ministry outside of the SHSU operations. We have a new surveillance system that I can remotely access from anywhere. I can't tell you what a relief it is to not feel like I have to always be at the Wesley for all of its operations. I've noticed that this year, we have lots of students still around at 10p, 11p or midnight. Many of them study and get a lot of classwork done. Others enjoy time well-spent with friends in a place of warmth and hospitality. Our place of ministry has come a long way in the six years I have been here. It warms my heart to see so much more activity, use, and great memories being grown in this place of ministry.

To add to that, word is also spreading. We recently hosted a Lakeview summer camp directors meeting. Starting last year, for each February, your SHSU Wesley ministry is honored to host the Best Practices Campus Ministries Conference of the eastern Texas Methodist campus ministries. We get to show off our place of ministry to the other campus ministries, as well as to our Annual Conference's Board of Campus Ministry. We have much to be grateful to God for. Those who have been familiar with SHSU Wesley for years have indicated how impressed they have been to see our building and ministry grow by leaps and bounds. I thank God for your support of our ministry. God is great!

In Christ's Service,

Greg

CONNECT WITH US!



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SHSU Wesley Foundation



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All Campus Retreat 2018 (2/16-2/18/18)

We brought 20 students to All Campus Retreat this year, which was our second largest SHSU representation. Our students joined with about 220 other college students from 15 other Wesley ministries from all over Texas (like Baylor, UTA, Navarro College, SFA, Texas A&M, U of H, Tyler, and more). Our praise team led worship on Saturday morning. The students enjoyed preaching from Pastor Mario Parga (from Aldersgate UMC College Station), going to workshops led by other campus ministers, eating well, outdoor activities of Sky Ranch, square dancing on Saturday night, and overall having a blast in the 40 hours we were there. Hats off to the A&M Wesley students who organized it and hosted it. We are also proud to announce that the Division of Student Affairs of SHSU awarded a \$1,700 grant to our Wesley, in order to help us represent SHSU well at All Campus Retreat. We are glad to say that our students excelled at that!



Bringing Dinner to Hospitality House in Huntsville (3/3/18)

For the first time ever, and on the same day of the Wesley work day, Sophie and Elizabeth put together a spaghetti meal for Hospitality House in Huntsville. Five of us brought the dinner to the staff, volunteers and guests. Hospitality House provides lodging, food and activities for people who are in Huntsville to visit family members in prison...for free! The Wesley was proud to join this effort and contribute. We look forward to more collaboration.



Spring Work Day (3/3/2018)

Nearly 20 of our students turned out for our annual spring cleaning and work day. Wow, we did a lot! We repainted doors, we repainted the steeple, we hung up lights for the patio, we cleaned out gutters, we emptied light panels of bugs, we beat back vegetation in the parking lot. We did a lot. Be impressed with your Wesley crew! This was one of our most productive work days yet. Our students use the building to its full potential, and when it was time to care for it, they stepped up once again. Great job, Kats!



We have a new website!
Thanks to Sophie, our new
Worship & Media Intern!
www.shsuwesley.org

We have an awesome new website! Take a few minutes to check it out! It has a lot of new and great features, including up-to-date stories about our ministry impact, our adventures, our achievements, and the amazing things God continues to do through our ministry. It has lots of pictures. It has our calendar. It is a fantastic front door to our ministry, on that good 'ole information superhighway! You can also invest in our ministry online now (see the Generosity Corner on the back page for more info). Special thanks to Ms. Sophie Gwartney, our new Worship & Media Intern! Sophie and her parents spent a couple months composing it, developing it, and we launched it on March 2. Enjoy!



Spring Leadership Retreat at
FUMC Conroe (1/19-1/21/18)

Our Wesley Leadership Retreat for the Spring was very productive! Our student leaders did lots of planning, organizing, discussing, praying, and setting the course for the Spring 2018 semester. This semester's host was First UMC of Conroe. The students were blown away by the church, and the people of FUMC Conroe did whatever they could to help us feel welcomed. Special thanks to Ruth Ann Person, the youth director, for her thorough dedication to helping us succeed! We even had time for fun, and then worshipped in their 8:30 Service.



And, Yes, We are Having Fun too!

We want our students to experience a greater life in Christ. To fulfill that, we have three areas: discipleship/growth, service & mission, and fun! All of our events fit into one of those three categories. As you look around this newsletter, you see plenty of service and discipleship! We also have been having plenty of good clean fun too! There was the Welcome Back Bash (1/17/18), the Super Bowl Party (2/4/18), the Board Game Night at the Obergs' (3/2/18) and the trip to Winter Jam Concert at Houston Toyota Center (3/4/18). Let it always be said that we study hard, work hard, pray hard, serve hard, and play hard!



Bringing Valentines Cards and
Roses to Creekside Home

One of our great spring service projects is to bring Valentine's cards and roses to residents of Creekside Retirement Community. We Christmas carol there in December, and we are back again in February! Our students love spending time with the residents, hearing their stories, learning from their lives, and the residents love it when the young people come by for a fun visit!



**The Wesley Foundation at
Sam Houston State University
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**Stamp
Zone**

Generosity Corner

We now have online giving, for the first time ever!

<http://shsuwesley.org/donate/>

Give as guest

Give ▶

We are quickly catching up with the 21st Century! You don't have to mail a check anymore, if you prefer electronic. Simply go to the website above, hit "Donate Online Now", it will take you to Methodist Heartspring. Just click the "Give as Guest" button (right hand side). Fill out the short info form. You can choose to give immediately, or schedule it for later. We will soon have options to invest in our New Van Fund, as well as provide a "Wish List" of small and large items you can donate for our ministry.

Dates/Events on the Horizon:

- 3/26/18- Easter Week Dinner & Worship, SHSU
- 4/7/18- Wesley Spring Olympics
- 4/11/18- 24th Sammy Awards (we are nominated!)
- 4/14/18- SHSU All Paws In Service Project
- 4/15/18- Potato Fundraiser at Paul Horton U.M.C.
- 4/29/18- End of Year Event of the Wesley
- 5/2/18- Last Worship of the 2017-2018 Year
- 5/6-5/10/18- Spring Finals Week of SHSU
- 5/11 & 5/12- Spring Graduation, SHSU
- 5/20-5/26/18- College UM ARMY in Huntsville
- 5/30/18- First Day of Summer Session I, SHSU
- 6/3/18- Potato Fundraiser- Bays Chapel, Richards
- 7/5/18- First Day of Summer Session II, SHSU

**Next Wesley Bearkat Newsletter:
Summer Edition**

