



# THE WESLEY BEARKAT

OFFICIAL SHSU WESLEY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Fall 2019

Edition

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



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8/17/2019—Move In Day at SHSU!

## A Few Quick Words from Greg

I now have a college student of my own. I can't believe that happened, but it did! When we moved here in May of 2012, my oldest son Wesley was 10 years old. Lincoln (my 2nd son) was 7 years old. Lexi, our daughter, was just a month old. Since then, I have become the second-longest tenured campus minister in SHSU Wesley's story. For that, I am deeply grateful.

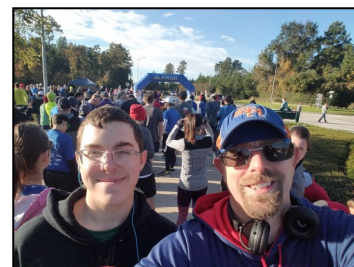
Over the years, I have met dozens and dozens of parents. They express their gratitude and relief that their college-aged son/daughter found our ministry and joined in. This year, I now can better understand their perspective, now that I have a son away from home, in college, and going through those many challenges.

We want our college student kids to find good friends who will bless their lives, make good grades, have good study and life habits, spend time and money wisely and hopefully find faith-families to adopt them.

It has been our joy and privilege to adopt, guide, nurture, coach, teach and bless the sons and daughters of hundreds of families over the years. After all, we Christians are the adopted sons and daughters of God and are a part of His everlasting family!

In Christ's Service,

*Greg*



The two of us before the Race to the Falls 5K.  
It was his first 5K to run with his old man!

## CONNECT WITH US!

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## Welcome Week Draws

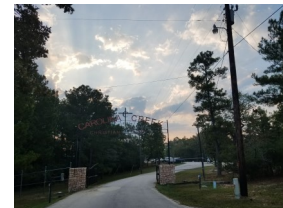
### More New Faces! 8/17-8/21/2019

"You never get a second chance to make a great first impression," is a useful slogan indeed. Our week of first-impressions went really well! Dozens of new students came to visit us during our events, during the day, or set-foot in our building during Party at the Pit. Our first worship service was also packed with nearly 60 in attendance!



## Fall Retreat at Camp Carolina Creek (9/21-9/23)

Our annual fall retreat pounced on us quickly, soon after Welcome Week was over! Rev. Kip Gilts (Central North District Superintendent) was our guest speaker. We discussed a faith movie, threw tomahawks, swam, canoed, ate well, and had an amazing weekend!



## SHSU Wesley Traveling Praise Team 2019-2020 Tour:

9/29/19- Farris Chapel UMC

10/27/19- Anderson UMC

11/17/19- Evans Chapel UMC, Leona, TX

12/8/19- Onalaska UMC

1/26/20- Riverside UMC

3/1/20- Bays Chapel UMC

3/29/20- Madisonville UMC

4/26/20- [To be confirmed]



## Parents/Families Lunch Another Grand Success (9/21/19)

When our kids were much younger, we loved meet-the-teacher night at their schools, didn't we? We got to see their educational habitat, where they would spend so much of their time growing academically, as well as emotionally. The Wesley continues that fun experience for many families each year during SHSU Families' Weekend with our informative program, a free lunch for families of students & great fellowship!



## Wesley Team Serves at West District Conference, College Station (11/10/19)

We were greeters and ushers for about 200 people representing the 78 churches of our district.





## Team Wesley Shine Well in “Sammy-Stock” Parade (10/17/19)

This year Homecoming week theme was “Sammy Woodstock,” a 1960s theme. This was the PERFECT parade for our Ministry Machine to make an appearance! We do love the fact that Huntsville I.S.D. and Sam Houston State have a combined Homecoming parade instead of separate ones. This enables the community to come together as one. Your Wesley was well represented! Special thanks to Phillip Burnett for loaning us a trailer for the big night!



## Making the Best of the Fall Season

When fall temperatures finally arrived, it was a welcome relief! We used every moment we could to enjoy it and use it well: helping unload pumpkins at First Methodist, having a pumpkin carving contest, taking fancy fall photos, helping at Trunk or Treat and enjoying our annual Halloween Party!



## Giving Back: Team Wesley Serves Throughout the Semester



Our August and September monthly offering helped us buy 50,000 sheets of paper to donate to a local Huntsville school: Scott Johnson Elementary



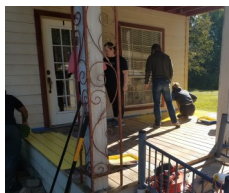
We spent a Saturday morning helping sort and arrange at the Come Center Resale Shop (9/28/19)



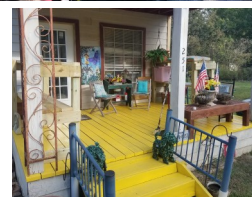
In September, the Wesley joined forces with other SHSU campus ministries to donate relief supplies for flood victims in Winnie of T.S. Imelda (9/27/19)



In October, we donated non-perishable food items to support the SHSU Food Pantry (10/14/19)



Our students served in FUMC Huntsville's Great Day of Service on 11/2/19. We painted our client's porch, as well as installed siding, installed car port braces, and cleared away a trailer-full of unwanted junk. Lots of great work!



Our crew baked over 400 cookies for all the officers and staff of the Huntsville & University Police Departments (11/15/19)

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

## Generosity Corner

Cyber Monday is coming soon!

If you are among the many online shoppers who use Amazon, on Cyber Monday or the other 364 days of the year, we would love for you to select the Wesley as your charity of choice for the Amazon Smile program. This is where Amazon gives a portion of your purchases back to the Wesley Foundation. If you don't use Amazon, but know someone who does, please pass this on to them!

"How do I sign up?" Go to:

[www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)

In the search engine to find us as your community organization to support, type out: **Sam Houston State Wesley Foundation.**

**Pick us, Please!**

\*It will not find "SHSU Wesley," etc.



## Our Dates/Events on the Horizon:

- 12/4/19- Wesley Christmas Service
- 12/5/19- Wesley Christmas Party
- 12/7/19- Christmas Caroling at Creekside Home
- 12/8/19- Christmas Open House @ the Obergs'
- 12/9-12/19- **FINALS WEEK**
- 12/12/19 & 12/13/19- SHSU Winter Graduations
- 12/27-1/2/20- Christmas UM ARMY, Tyler, TX
- 1/14/20- Welcome Back Bash Celebrity Night
- 1/17-19/20-Spring Planning Retreat, Wildwood UMC
- 1/31/20- Time Capsule Launch for 2041,  
the 100th Anniversary of SHSU Wesley Foundation
- 2/21-23/20- All Campus Retreat, Sky Ranch
- 3/7-15/20- Spring Break for SHSU

**Next Wesley Bearkat Newsletter:  
Spring 2020 Edition  
Later-March**

