



First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 9, Issue 11

June 22, 2011

VBS Shake It Up Café



What a wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, AWESOME week we had! PRAISE GOD! We had 152 “chefs cooking in the kitchen,” and at least 50 adult and youth volunteers here each day. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all who contributed snacks, drinks, donations, supplies, time, energy and prayer! It is such a blessing to serve the children of our community alongside such a loving and supportive congregation, dedicated to programs - such as VBS – that lead our kids to God. You may never know what a difference your contribution has made in a child’s life, but we hope you all know how deeply grateful we are for your support!!



Session 1 Secret Ingredient: Be Ready for God!

On the first day, the kids joined the Israelites in celebrating Passover. They learned to be ready at any time to follow when God calls...not even waiting for the bread to rise!



Session 2 Secret Ingredient: Give Happily to God!

Day 2 had the kids celebrating the Festival of First Fruits and the Festival of Weeks, where they learned to give as the Israelites gave of their harvest and left food in the field for the poor and for travelers.



Session 3 Secret Ingredient: Believe Fully in Jesus!

On Wednesday, the kids heard Jesus announce he was the Son of God and the Living Water at the Festival of the Booths.



Session 4 Secret Ingredient: Remember Jesus Often!

Session 4 took the children to the Last Supper, where Jesus shook up the Pass over meal. The kids learned to remember to believe in Him through communion.



Session 5 Secret Ingredient: Celebrate God Forever!

On their last day, the kids heard the story of Peter speaking to crowds and converting thousands to believers in one day! The kids celebrated the birth of the church at Pentecost as they learned to celebrate Jesus every day...not just at Pentecost.

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Dear FUMC Friends:

Last week, we “shook it up” for Vacation Bible School with over 150 children coming through our doors. What an amazing experience! Children’s voices filled the hallways of the building, and the sanctuary was loaded with kids every morning as they learned from Miss Alison what the theme of the day would be.



We capped off the week with VBS Celebration Sunday at the 10:50 worship service. Many families came to see their children sing some of the songs they learned during the week and view a wonderful slide show put together by Angela Roberts. It was a joy-filled morning!

Because the chancel was still decorated with the VBS set (with a 1950s-style diner feel), Pastor Marc and I sat on one of the front pews, where many of our VBS kids were seated. As we began to sing the opening hymn, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” two young girls seated to my left began to shyly glance in my direction. (I guess I was singing pretty loud!) They continued to look over, taking note of my robe and stole, wondering about the hymnal I was holding, and who knows what else they were curious about.

Some years ago, a clergywoman colleague of mine addressed the floor of the North Texas Annual Conference in the hours leading up to her ordination as an elder. She spoke eloquently of her childhood role models – those adults she looked up to with admiration and respect. She spoke of the one female pastor she experienced as a child, and how deeply the presence and leadership of that woman had affected her. It was in watching this woman pastor that she imagined that she might also become a pastor one day. My colleague closed her remarks by saying something like this: “You never know what child in the pews or in your neighborhood or in your classroom might be watching you. But know that they are watching you – watching us – with many eyes. And we never know how deeply we may influence those young ones who are watching.”

Each of us – whether we wear suits, khakis, coveralls, or a robe and stole – is being watched by the children who cross our paths and enter our lives. The briefest of these encounters can have life-long affects, for good or for ill. My friend and clergy colleague had it right – we are being watched by young ones with big eyes, who wonder and are curious about what we do and why.

A plaque hangs on my office wall with a quote attributed to St. Francis of Assisi: “Preach the gospel at all times, and if necessary, use words.” May God use our actions and words to shower love and grace on the least and littlest among us!

May God’s peace that passes all understanding be with you –
Valarie

Worship

June 26, 2011

*Please join us
this Sunday when
Rev. Valarie Englert
preaches on
Matthew 10:40-42
“Jesus At the Door”*

*8:45am ~ Chapel
9:45am ~ Chapel
10:50am ~ Sanctuary*

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The First United Methodist Newsletter is the official publication of FUMC Commerce. The newsletter is published on alternate Wednesdays. Inputs may be submitted to the Church office to Bonnie Smith, Communications Specialist, at communications@fumccommerce.org, or call the office at 903-886-3220. All inputs are due by 9:00am on the Monday of the publication week. Questions may be addressed to the Church office.

****The next deadline is Monday, July 18 by 9:00am****



Much needed roof repairs underway . .

Attendance		
	June 12	June 19
Early	36	25
9:45	18	11
Late	127	184
SS	80	70



FUMC-C GOES GREEN!

In order to reduce spending on paper and increasing postage costs, we are starting to send the newsletter via e-mail. If you do not have an e-mail address, you will still receive it by mail. However, if you would like to sign up to receive the newsletter by e-mail or wish to continue to receive it in the mail, please call the church or send an e-mail with your request to communications@fumccommerce.org.



We are pleased to welcome new church family members:

Julie Wadlow and children CJ Wadlow, Kiera Greer, and Marley Greer

Reading the Bible Daily



As you seek to grow closer to God through daily prayer and Bible study, you may have your own favorite daily readings. If not, you will find Scriptures for each day listed below. We hope you'll read daily and ask yourself: "How will I be different today because of what I just read?"

Some other questions you might ask are: "What does this text say about who God is?" "What does this text say about who I am/who we are as human beings?" "What does this text say about our relationship with God?" You may want to reflect on paper with a journal or note pad. We hope this will become a part of your daily prayer time.

Daily Scripture Readings:

Sunday, Jun 26	Matthew 10:40-42
Monday, Jun 27	Genesis 24:34-49,58-67
Tuesday, Jun 28	Psalms 72
Wednesday, Jun 29	Romans 7:15-21
Thursday, Jun 30	Romans 7:22-25a
Friday, Jul 1	Matthew 11:16-19
Saturday, Jul 2	Matthew 11:25-27
Sunday, Jul 3	Matthew 11:28-30
Monday, Jul 4	Genesis 25:19-26
Tuesday, Jul 5	Genesis 25:27-34
Wednesday, Jul 6	Psalms 25
Thursday, Jul 7	Psalms 25
Friday, Jul 8	Psalms 8:1-11
Saturday, Jul 9	Matthew 13:1-9

In memory of...

Louis Ragsdale

By: Margaret Floyd

Marie Binford

By: Buddy & Patti Gregg
Harriet & Wyman Williams
Susan & Richard Lampe
Becky & Emerson Adams

Nita Clark

By: Dorcas Sunday School Class
Buddy & Patti Gregg
Harriet & Wyman Williams
Becky & Emerson Adams

Faye Peek

By: Buddy & Patti Gregg
Dixie Turman
Becky & Emerson Adams

Bill Cole

By: Harriet & Wyman Williams
Susan & Richard Lampe
Pete Robinson

Carolyn Humphries

By: Harriet & Wyman Williams





Prayer Lists

Newly Added

Helen Porch
Clay Yeager

Continued Prayers for Church Family

Ruby Vander Velde	Helen Dickson
Elizabeth Ragsdale	Buddy Gregg
Sally Grove	Ahtrell Dalton
Pete Robinson	Chance Thornton
Gary Kibler	Jan Vowell
Jean Ward	Robert Seay

Continued Prayers Family & Friends

Linda Kao (Sherie Kao's sister-in-law)
 Diana Queen (Sherie Kao's friend)
 William Durand (Eileen Faulkenberry's father)
 Dorothy Ingram
 Carolyn Howard
 Martha Wolcott (Matt Wolcott's mother)
 Lou McIntyre
 Judy Greenwood
 Cleon Flanagan, Sr.
 Fred Ohsiek
 Oma Thomas (Ron Thomas' mother)
 Janet Skauge
 Peggy Aguilar (Otha Spencer's friend)
 Deborah Brown (Diane McDowell's friend)
 Kay Webber
 George O'Kelley
 Doris Sanders (Susan Bruton's friend)
 David Crenshaw
 Becca Smith (Mike Smith's mother)
 Pat McClung (Chris & Donna White's friend)

If you have someone you would like to add or remove from the prayer list, please let the church office know (903-886-3220).



Remembering those serving in our military.

HM1 Robert Starkey (Afghanistan)-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son
 Sgt. Jason Schmidlen (Iraq)-Jim and Debby Heitholt's son)
 Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
 Travis Miller-Lena Faulkner's great-grandson
 Alex Dech (Afghanistan)-Pastor Ron Dech's son
 Captain Daniel Robnett-Clyde and Wanda Robnett's grandson
 Nathan Grove
 David Wheat-Edna O'Quinn's nephew
 Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
 Lt. Col. Peter Bailey
 Lt. Col. Richard Bailey
 Lt. Col. Keith Williams
 Keith L. Boone-former Associate Pastor
 Terry Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son
 Lt. Dan Barton
 Kris Yoder-son-in-law of John & Rebecca Sneed
 Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-cousins of Ladonna & Chris Patterson
 Garrett Johnson



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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
 NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
 Articles for the next newsletter are due
 Monday, July 18 by 9:00am**

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