

GOOD NEWS AT FIRST UMC

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



FUMC is a Spiritual Vision Partner for the Offer Them Christ Campaign



“LESS IS MORE”

Tis the season of Lent and that means 40 days of fasting, prayer, and works of service. For years now the church has used these weeks to promote a time of self reflection and soul searching. Ideally, the process of keeping a Lent would transform us and we would be different people come Easter morning. People being people, though, we've always had a difficult time letting go of what is comfortable.

Growing up as a kid in the Baptist church, “giving something up for Lent” was what my Catholic friends did. Generally speaking, I felt sorry for them. No chocolate, No soft drinks, No pizza, for six whole weeks. I was glad not to be Catholic. However, in time I found my way to the Methodist Church. Little did I know that they too desire the faithful to “keep a Lent.” Throughout the years I have discovered that it is spiritually beneficial for us to re-examine our priorities and get rid of the clutter that separates us from God.

I read a wry comment recently stating that Ash Wednesday is one religious holiday that will not fall into the clutches of retailers. There are no Hallmark cards celebrating sin and death; no decorations of sackcloth and ashes!

Wednesday, March 9th is Ash Wednesday the beginning of Lent. We are invited to come and participate in the service of ashes as we prepare to discover over the next 6 weeks that Less really is More!

Shalom,
Howard

FACTS & FIGURES

March 2011 Budget

Connectional Giving

Apportionments Due through March.....	\$21,720
Year-to-date Apportionments Paid.....	\$ 14,631
Apportionments Balance for March 2011.....	\$7,216

March 1—7, 2011

Budgeted Exp for March 2011.....	\$46,273
General Fund Receipts.....	\$14,388
Add'l Funds Req'd thru 3/31/2011.....	\$ 31,885

Youth News

We will NOT have Peer Passion this Sunday, March 13th.

Our Youth Director Robby Balbaugh has taken a new position as the Director of Youth at FUMC Weatherford. We have advertised this position in the United Methodist publications:

Director of Youth Ministries

First United Methodist Church of Stephenville is seeking a part-time youth director. Responsibilities include building strong relationships with youth of our church, planning and leading weekly Bible studies and two summer mission trips. The candidate should have a personal faith in Jesus Christ and a desire to guide and direct youth through that faith. Send resume to: FUMC P.O. Box 173 Stephenville, Texas 76401

If you know of a qualified person or persons, please share this information with them. In the interim period, Luke Austin and Pastor Howard will be replacing Robby (it will take 2 people). If you would like to help, there is a sign-up sheet for Sunday School teachers in the Church Office. At this time the youth will be meeting as usual, on Sunday evenings at 5:30 pm. They will **not** be meeting on **Wednesday** evenings until a new Director is found.



Ash Wednesday Service and Lenten Suppers

Please mark your calendar and set your heart to observe Lent in a special way this year. On Ash Wednesday **March 9 at 6:00 p.m.** you are invited to come to the fellowship hall for supper and then the **Ash Wednesday worship service at 7:00** in the sanctuary. On the following Wednesdays in Lent through Maundy Thursday April 21, there will be a **Lenten Supper on Wednesday at 5:30**. Everyone is invited to come together as a church family for these special meals.

9:00



11:00

March 13, 2011

RENEW SERVICE

Rosser Orr
Tatum Dobson

March 20, 2011

RENEW SERVICE

Bailey Deshmukh
Taylor Deshmukh

March 27 2011

RENEW SERVICE

Maddie McLemore
Cade Lemons



Want to join a book club?

Faith Lit. is a group of people who enjoy talking about books and eating good food. If this sounds like you, join us!

The book we are reading this time is The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon.

For more information contact Rachel Kammerer at Rachel.Kammerer@sville.us or 965-5112.

We will discuss this book on THURS. March 10th at 6:00pm.



Totally JOY!

Like totally for sure! We're "Totally JOY" (Just Older Youth) and we're calling all young adult ladies to join us in fellowship, friendship, and fun. Join us **Thursdays at 5:00pm** as we share bible and book studies, prayer, and some TOTALLY meaningful "girl time". Child care is provided. Find us on Facebook by the group name "Totally JOY", details of the group, including meeting times and locations can be found there or call Hailey at 485-3470.

Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:8-9 (NIV)

Worship On Wednesday snack schedule:

March.....Kum Dubl

April.....Social Activities

Please bring your *healthy* snacks to Fellowship Hall by 3:00 pm each Wednesday. We serve an average of 70 each week.

Fish, Funnies and Fashion Fundraiser!

Saturday, March 26, 2011 6PM to 8PM
Stephenville Recreation Hall
378 W. Long St.
Tickets \$15

Golden Ticket Reserve Seating Available
(additional cost)

Get your tickets now! Only 150 seats available!

Includes Fried Fish prepared by the Stephenville Bass Club, Short Performances by SHS Theatre, Fashion Show with clothing provided by JCPenny and Bealls department stores and volunteers from local Girl Scout Troops.

All fundraising proceeds go to benefit the Senior Citizen's Center dance floor fund!

Purchase tickets at the following locations: Stephenville Senior Citizens Center; SPARD or City Hall - See Traci Riggs



Methodist Potato Luncheon coming soon!

Tuesday, March 29th from 11:00am-1:00pm

Join us in the Fellowship Hall to dine in, take out will be available from the Annex, or we can "Deliver" orders of 5 or more to you in Stephenville. Please pick up an order form in the Narthex today!

Enjoy a Loaded Baked Potato for only \$6.00

Funds raised will purchase school supplies for local school children in need and assist Methodist missions abroad.

"Get your taste buds ready for our Spuds!"



Wanted!

"Potato Wranglers"



UMW would love for you to help deliver Potato Luncheon Order Forms to your friends, relatives, schools, and businesses! Contact Kim Cummings at 965-4987 To get in the saddle!



Prayer Concerns

Prayer concerns may be added to the list by calling or writing the church office. Names will run for four full weeks, and can be continued on the list with a simple call or email.

Hospital...

Mary Anderson-Erath

Rode White (Brother of Brant White)-
Harris FW

Thanksgivings...

For the life of Betty Hadderton (Sister of
Pearl Carpenter)

Others...

Nursing Home Residents * Our Troops in
Harm's Way * John Laird (Son-in-law of
Don & Patti Douglas) * Tom Malloy
(Friend of Linda Jones) * Glen Cauble
(Friend of Jill Burk & Janet Whitley) *
Mack Sorrells (Father of Connie Banks) *
Ray Sisemore (Son-in-law of Bill & Betty
Chandler) * Joe Gillespie * Michael Ham-
ilton * Conner Elms—U.S. Army 10th
Mtn. Div. Afghanistan (Son of Chick &
Cindra Elms; Grandson of Mr. & Mrs.
G.K. Lewallen) * Janet Patton (Mother of
Courtney Vanden Berge) * Jack Vanden
Berge (Father of Jake Vanden Berge) *
Barbara Dallas (Mother-in-law of Chris
Swam) * Willa Ormsby * Sandra Smith
(Daughter of John Dillingham) * Billy
Carter (Father of Randall Carter) * Bill
Mayo (Brother of LaVada Allison) * Janet
Jones (Friend of Marlin & Laura Ann
Priddy) * Lauren Wills (Granddaughter of
Sheri Magnani) * Courtney Tatum

Church Calendar

Wednesday, March 9

Ash Wednesday
*10:30am ESL Classes-FH
*4:00pm "WOW" (Van)
*6:00pm Handbells
*6:00pm Lenten Meal-FH
*7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service-S

Thursday, March 10

*12:00pm Music Club
*12:00pm TSU Lunch
*5:00pm Totally JOY

Saturday, March 12

*8:30am Food Pantry/Clothes Closet

Sunday, March 13

Daylight Saving Begins-Spring Forward

*9:00am RENEW Contemp. Srv.-S
*10:00am Sunday School
*11:00am Traditional Srv.-S

Monday, March 14

Spring Break Begins

*1:00pm Staff Mtg-CR
*6:00pm Trustees-CR
*6:30pm ESL Classes-FH

Tuesday, March 15

Spring Break

*9:00am Maggie Poteet
*12:00pm Bertha Cox-FH
*6:00pm RENEW Band Rehearsal-S

Wednesday, March 16

Spring Break

*10:30am ESL Classes-FH
*1:30pm Busy Bee-QR
*5:30pm Lenten Meal-FH
*6:00pm Handbells
*7:00pm Chancel Choir

ATTENDANCE

Last Sunday in our church,

98 people attended the 9:00am
contemporary worship service

134 people attended the 11:00am
traditional worship service

TELLERS

March 13, 2011

Don Douglas, Molly Elliott,
Scott Kunishige

March 20, 2011

Vicki Cook, LaRue Weems,
Van Evans

Please place
Sunday School
attendance
envelope in
offering plate during
worship service.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!
The Brownwood District Laity Banquet is April
29th!! Details coming soon!!



Clothes Closet Donation:

If you have any prom/formal dresses that
you no longer want or need please bring
them to the clothes closet! We would like
to extend our ministry by helping any young
women that may not be able to afford a dress for
prom, weddings or other formal events. All sizes
are welcome and if you have shoes and/or accesso-
ries they are also welcome!

Thank You!!

Memorials are given in loving memory of...

Wayne Prichard By:

Les & Myra Gandy
Brad & Carl Chilton
Norma Schwartzkopf
Bill & Betty Chandler
Ellis & Beverly Hitt

Finley Pritchett By:

Les & Myra Gandy
Brad & Carl Chilton
Baker & Evelyn Wood
Norma Schwartzkopf
BJ & Lois Alexander

Jennifer Rittenour By:

Tom & Connie Birdsong

Ann Pritchett By:

Baker & Evelyn Wood
Norma Schwartzkopf

Mae Ruth Jackson By:

Norma Schwartzkopf

Finley Pritchett By:

Les & Myra Gandy
Brad & Carl Chilton
Baker & Evelyn Wood
Norma Schwartzkopf
BJ & Lois Alexander

Jennifer Rittenour By:

Tom & Connie Birdsong

Craig Martin By:

Tommie & Sylvia Huckabee

Bill Trogdon By:

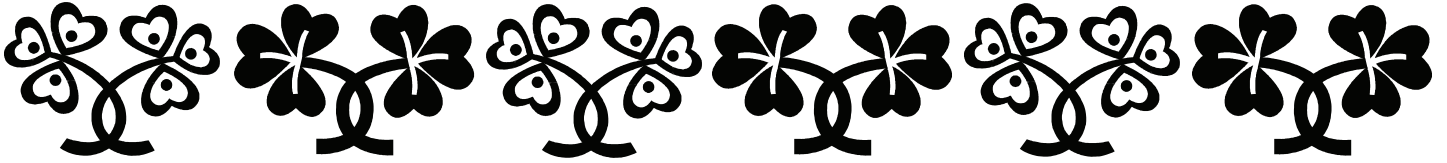
Tom & Connie Birdsong



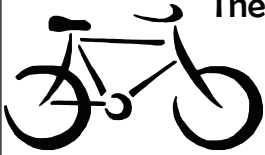
New Church Pictorial Directory Coming
Photos in April!

Get your spring dress ready and start
smiling!

More details to come.



Got Bike?



There is a visiting Professor at TSU from China and her 16 year old son looking for a bike for local transportation. Would love to borrow for a year, will return it clean and shiny!

Contact Kim Cummings 965-4987 or henandkim@embarqmail.com

Place
Stamp
Here

Our Faithful Followers:

ADDRESS
SERVICE
REQUESTED
1st United Methodist Church
422 W. Washington
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Stephenville, TX 76401
(254)965-5046