



THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONNECTIONS

First United Methodist Church

Mexia, Texas

January 3, 2007



. . . A New Thing!!!

“And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’” Revelation 21:5

Last week I attended chapel on Tuesday morning with the children at the Preschool. I always enjoy our time together on Tuesdays. The children are a breath of fresh air and certainly have a way of spicing up the day! I usually share a brief message with the children, how brief depends on their attention span for the day. Some days that means I have about 30 seconds to get my point across, assuming I have a point in the first place!

Last Tuesday I talked to the children about calendars. This time of year there are new calendars everywhere. I showed the children my calendar for 2006. I opened it up and thumbed through the pages, showing them all the “stuff” written down on each of the days. There were meetings, weddings, funerals, birthdays, etc. scheduled. I closed the calendar and then said, “Some things I had written down and planned, but there were other things that I hadn’t scheduled. God scheduled those things without my permission!” There is a lesson there for all of us. We can plan and plan and plan, but at the end of the day if God wants something to happen it will happen. We serve and worship a God who makes all things new. In other words, the truly faithful person is one who is open to new things.

As a church and as individuals we should all be open to new things and receptive to what God is doing in our lives. Sometimes that can be difficult and challenging, but when all is said and done, we grow and become better disciples through the process. Open your eyes to what God is doing!

In Christ,
Brad

Welcome to First United Methodist Church
******Our Mission Statement******

The mission of FUMC Mexia is to make and grow disciples of
Jesus Christ and bear fruit for the Kingdom of God.

Remembering you in our thoughts and prayers...

Robin Adams Mary Batts Connie Beasley Shirley Brown
Joe Bounds James Bowe Cindy Brooks Burgoon Family
Pat Buyer Olen Clary Lindsey Cotton Brenda Greer Craft
Madge & Walter Dreier Juanita Duncan Jeremy Ferguson
Andrew Gordon Karen Greer Jimmy Hardin Rick Hart
Hubert & Jean Harrison Russell Hawkins Debbie Hullum
Andrea Irby Daniele Leigh Irby Ellie Haskins Melissa-
Heath Hill Ruby Hitt Rena Hodge Doyle Holder Albert
Hudson Cassandra Jones Patsy Johnson Noreeta Lane
Holly Lewis Molly Lewis Cheryl Lipsett Don McCord
Kyle Morgan Peggy Morrison Cathy Murray Jayne
Jacobson Kelly O'Hare Francis Owens Sarah Hope Pirkle
Estalee Price Keith Ritz Jim and Salley Ramsey Mike Ray
Richard Reasoner Judy Ripley Mike Rule Beata Schueller
Don Seubert Hermine Sewell Vickie Smith Nancy Spence
Bobby Smith Patti Smith Dale Stepp Buddy Stewart
Debbie Sunday Beulah Sunday Jackie Sunday
Micky Sunday Jackson & Tasha Tacker
Laura Thetford Chad Thomas Glenda Verden
Cindy Williford Richard Williams Bryan Wilson

Our American Troops in Iraq

(Please keep the office apprised of any changes in the prayer list.)

Confirmation Class Begins – Sunday, February 4th

We will be beginning our Confirmation Class for 2007 on Sunday, February 4th. The class is for those in the 5th grade and up and will run for six weeks. Confirmation is a time in which young persons accept for themselves the Christian faith and confirm what was begun at their baptism. It is also a time in which those who have not been previously baptized can be confirmed and baptized in the faith. We will have lunch together after the 10:30 a.m. worship service each week and conclude our class by 1:00 p.m. To register contact the church office at 562-5567.

Monday Morning Bible Study – “The Jesus I Never Knew”

Charlotte Posey will be leading a new weekday Bible study. The class will meet in the parlor in the fellowship hall beginning Monday, January 15th at 9:30 a.m. The class will be studying and discussing Philip Yancey’s book “The Jesus I Never Knew”. This is a great book that takes a close look at the life of Jesus. To register for the class call the church office at 562-5567 or sign up in the foyer after the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Administrative Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 30th

Our first Administrative Board meeting of the New Year will be on **Tuesday, January 30th at 6:30 p.m.** In addition to hearing the reports of our various committees, we will be talking about our goals for this year as a church, as well as outlining the programs and plans for the coming year. Just a reminder – every church member is a member of the Administrative Board. If you or anyone you know needs transportation to and from the meeting contact the church office 562-5567.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meals

Our Wednesday night fellowship meals will be resuming **Wednesday, January 10th**. Supper is served between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to have a good meal with friends and family before our Wednesday night programs. The menu for January is as follows:

- January 10th – Chili
- January 17th – Spaghetti
- January 24th – Taco Salad
- January 31st – Mexican Casserole

Breakfast at the Church

We will be resuming our “Breakfast at the Church” this month. This is a good opportunity to fellowship with one another before Sunday school and worship. Below is a schedule of dates for our breakfasts in January and February. Every breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m.

- Sunday, January 7th Breakfast Casserole
- Sunday, January 21st Biscuits and Gravy
- Sunday, February 4th Pancakes
- Sunday, February 18th Eggs and Sausage

Sunday School

If you are not currently a part of one our Sunday school classes, consider joining one this month! We have five adult classes and a full range of children’s and youth Sunday school classes available. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m. For more information about our Sunday school program, call or come by the church office.

Disciple Bible Study Class Forming

Rev. Brad Brittain will be leading Disciple Bible Study beginning Wednesday, January 10th at 9:30 a.m. This is a great course in which over a nine month period participants are exposed to over 80 percent of the Bible. If you have never studied the Bible and want to learn more and grow as a Christian, this is a great opportunity. On January 10th we will have an information session on the course and take orders for books.

Thursday Game Day

Join us every Thursday from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall for games and fellowship. We play 42, rummy, bridge, etc. and have a great time together. Invite a friend!

Begin the New Year With a Song

Every Wednesday from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m., beginning January 10th, our Music Makers (children's choir, K-3) will continue to: sing songs to celebrate God's love, play instruments to praise God, and answer roll call with "hello" in another language to remind us of God's children around the world. We will also learn what makes music work: names of notes, up and down of notes, loud and soft tones. To help us worship, we learn: worship responses sung each Sunday and how to follow lines in our hymnals. Any parent wishing to learn the above is welcome to join us! "O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise..." (Psalm 95:1)

God bless,
Sue Franks (562-2589)

Fall Festival Planning Meeting

There will be a planning meeting for this year's Fall Festival on **Monday, January 15th at 6:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. We will discuss last year's Fall Festival and look ahead to this year's. The tentative date for this year's Fall Festival will be **Saturday, October 27th**. In addition to finalizing the date for the Fall Festival, we will be sharing ideas and selecting individuals to volunteer for the different areas of responsibility. We had a great time working together last year and plan on doing the same this year.

Parent's Night Out

Our Parent's Night Out program is resuming this month on **Saturday, January 20th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.** Parents can drop off their children at the church and have a night out. We have games and programs for the children. The cost is \$25 per child (\$5 for additional siblings). For example, if you have three kids the cost will be \$25 for the first child and \$5 for each additional child for a total of \$35. This is a monthly program we are beginning so be sure and plan accordingly. The date for the February Parent's Night Out will be Saturday, February 17th. If you have any questions about the program, contact Cheryl Hancock at 562-7822.

Peacekeeper's Lock-In

The Peacekeeper's Group (4th and 5th graders) will be having a lock-in at the church on January 27th beginning at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Hancock 562-7822.

Welcome New Member
Gilbert Reyes Joined 12-24-06
Profession of Faith

January Birthday's

7th-Pat Irwin, 11th-Pam Crider, 12th-Josh Willett, 15th-Trinity Edwards, 16th-Emily Ray, 18th-Connie Beasley, Katelyn McKeand, 21st-Jean Williford, JoAnn Temples, 24th-Mason Carter, James McKeand, 25th-Cecil Stephens, 26th-Talbert White, 28th-Boone Crider

January Anniversaries

4th-James and Dawn McKeand, 22nd-Pat and Michele Irwin, 25th Kenneth and Johnnie Christian, 26th Bob and Lady-Carter Fain

Memorials

Amy Jones —Ruby Jones
Edna Franks—Bob Franks

Attendance in December

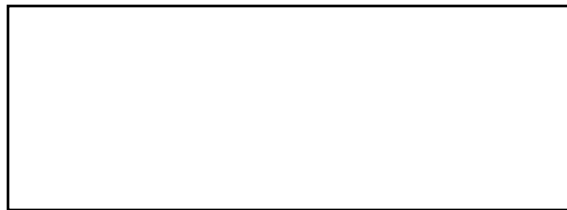
	<u>SS</u>	<u>Worship</u>
12/03	12	147
12/10	59	150
12/17	67	169
12/24	38	135
12/31	44	109



First United Methodist Church
203 North Canton Street
Mexia, TX 76667
bradbrittain@hotmail.com
www.fumcmexia.org

Non-Profit
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Mexia, TX
Permit #58

Address Service Requested
Return Postage Guaranteed



Your Church Staff

Brad Brittain, Pastor

Dr. Richard Morgan, Director of Music

Walt Harrison, Minister of Youth

Cheryl Hancock, Children's Coordinator

Wynona Lipsett, Organist

Mary Benson, Administrative Assistant/Fiscal Coordinator

Lowell Posey, Building Maintenance

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. - 1:00 -4:00 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Office 254-562-5567

Brad's Cell: 254-625-2435