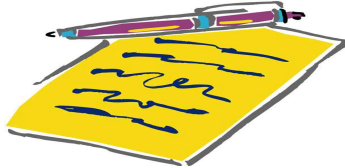


THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONNECTIONS

First United Methodist Church

Mexia, Texas

June & July, 2010



.....Blast Off.....

We are so excited about our Vacation Bible School — Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God!

This year the children will become cadets on the starship Galactic Praise as we learn more about our wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, awesome God.

Each morning we will blast off on the starship Galactic Praise with Galileo the smartest gorilla in astronaut school! Sherry Sellers and Ann Pendleton will assist Galileo tell the children fun facts about various galactic phenomena — the planet Earth, Earth's moon, the stars, comets, and supernovas — and connect them to the Bible teachings. They will also learn to sing praise songs and perform meaningful hand and body motions.

After this high energy blast-off the children will space walk to the Good News Galaxy. Here, with Kathy Nutt and Michelda Brown, the children will hear Bible stories that demonstrate how our mighty God is at work in the world. They will learn Praise Phrases and Bible Booster memory verses that will boost their faith long after VBS.

The Children will expand on what they have learned by participating in a variety of other activities: Cosmic Crafts with Jocelyn Ewers, Brenda Woodruff, and Jodi Maki; science activities with Patsy Henry, Alisha Brittain, and Pam Crider; recreational activities at the Rocket Rec with Tommy Puckett and Tyler Flatt; and of course tasty snacks at the Astro Bistro with Sharon Beene and Jay Posey.

This cosmic adventure will be taking place right here at our own FUMC June 11-14 from 9:00—11:30 a.m. Call or come by the church office to register your child or grandchild.

Jackie Tidwell

Message from Preschool Director, Sherry Miller.....

Summer 2010 is here! There are lots of activities and special happenings and the children and staff are looking forward to the summer months. Details of the summer calendar were in your May newsletter. If you need this information again, let us know. Public school does not start until Aug. 23 this year, so we have lots of summer days ahead. Our Fall term officially starts on August 23. Please join us anytime you can for any of our special summer activities.

FMP will again be participating in the summer reading program at Gibbs Memorial Library. This year's theme is "Catch the Reading Express". Each child in Groups 2A through 6 will have the opportunity to earn a special reward from the library by reading a required number of books (or for non readers having the books read to them) by July 29.



We appreciate so much the support of the "Friends of Preschool" group. This past school year we have enjoyed sharing this ministry with these "friends". We invite anyone who wants to volunteer in this way to call the Preschool Office. Some of the special times have been:

September—"Friends" hosted parents with coffee and rolls to introduce the "Friends of the Preschool" plan.

October—Jackie Tidwell and Kathy Nutt made scarecrows with the children and had a special story time.

"Friends" brought breakfast items for a Teacher Appreciation treat for the staff. Our church hosted Trunk or Treat.

November—Kathy Nutt hosted a Staff Thanksgiving Dinner and gave Thanksgiving Cards to the staff. (covered dish meal with food brought by each staff member). "Friends" helped with the Parent Cornucopia Concert and lunch for Group 4. Jackie and Kathy and Kay made Turkey Cookies with the children and read a Thanksgiving story. Helen Stephens and Ruth Heide made Dream Catchers with the children and had special Indian legend stories. Helen Stephens, Kay Roark, Joan Paschal helped as the children enjoyed an Indian Dance Presentation by Joe Jensen and Doug Flatt.

December—Breakfast with Santa – Pancake Breakfast and special Puppet musical at Church Worship for Preschool families – Hosted by Preschool Governing Board and Friends of the Preschool. Thanks to Pancake Cookers George Tidwell and Michael Miller. Randy and Tracy Machacek were special Santa Helpers for Breakfast with Santa and for our Christmas parties. Jackie Tidwell made Gingerbread Houses with the children and had a special story time. Kay did a puppet presentation on the legend of the Poinsettia.

February—Kay Roark came for a special Valentine Story Time and left her Valentine Tree for our party decorations. Joan Paschal came to open Valentines with 1 year olds.

March—Church hosted Preschool Families at Hamburger Supper (Art Nutt, Randy Machacek and Murray Agnew cooks).

April—Jay Posey and Diane Burks hosted us at the Hamilton House for our Easter Egg Hunts. Kay brought her Easter Egg tree for our decorations. Several Church members attended our 31st Annual Open House. Group 6 participated in the church Easter party and egg hunt on Wednesday afternoon.

May—Church hosting Preschool families at the “Church in the Park” and cookout.

June—We are making plans now to include Group 4 and 6 in VBS this summer here at FUMC.

Throughout the School Year: Delma Park, Vicki Watson and Sandy Imes host the Wednesday Night Suppers each Wed. night which benefit the Preschool.

Peggy Wright has recruited a database for “Friends” that might come help us at events, etc. and encouraged others to get involved.

Brad Brittain has weekly chapel times with the children on Tuesday morning.

Ann Pendleton has story times with the School age children.

James McKeand continues to provide technical support and Web site support for us!
Ed and Pat Cunningham made a generous donation of a Projector which we use often! It is great learning tool and we use it for educational videos as well as entertaining movies.

Cass Candy and Bob Candy rescue us when we have upkeep or repair jobs – and that happens often with the Peyton Building.

Bob Henry – always willing to come when we need repairs – he always says “make me a list”.

Our entire church for their financial support and encouragement!

Thanks! Sherry



Celebration of Discipline Sunday School Class—This summer Rev. Brittain will be leading a special adult Sunday school class based on the book *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster. The class will focus on the various spiritual disciplines and how we can apply them in our faith journey. If you would like to join the class you may purchase *Celebration of Discipline* through any major bookseller (Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, etc.). The class will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The first class is Sunday, June 6th and will run through the early part of August.

Round Rock Express Baseball Game—We will be taking a special trip to Round Rock to go to the Round Rock Express baseball game on Friday, July 23rd. This is a great opportunity to fellowship together as a church. Tickets to the game are \$10 per person and can be purchased through the church office. We will leave as a group that Friday at 3:00 p.m. and eat supper in Round Rock before the game. The game starts at 7:00 p.m. We will arrive back in Mexia around 12:30 a.m. The deadline to purchase your ticket will be Thursday, July 1st.

McCurdy Mission Trip Luncheon—Please be in prayer for the group from our church that will be traveling to Espanola, New Mexico the week of July 10-17. This year we are taking 19 adults on the mission trip to McCurdy School. Thank you to everyone who has supported the trip this year and in years past. We will be having a lunch after church on Sunday, June 13th to raise funds for the trip. The members of the McCurdy mission trip team will be preparing and serving the lunch. We hope you can join us for lunch!

Wonderful Wednesday Children's Program—This year our Wonderful Wednesday Children's Program will begin Wednesday, July 28th. We will have activities for the children beginning in the morning and concluding in the afternoon. Wonderful Wednesdays will be on the following dates: July 28th, August 4th, and August 11th. There will be more information coming soon on the events that will be planned for the children.

Saturday Night Praise and Worship Service We have had a great turnout and spirit in our new Saturday night praise and worship service. We worship every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary in a relaxed, casual setting. We are excited about the great beginning to this service and would love to see it grow in our community. So invite your friends to be a part of the service. Also, if you or anyone you know plays musical instruments, let Gary Watson know and we will get you involved in the music portion of the service

Glen Lake Summer Camp Summer Camp is just around the corner at Glen Lake in Glen Rose, TX. Glen Lake is our camp for the Central Texas Conference. If you have children from the 1st grade up you can register them for camp at www.glenlake.org. The website has all the information you will need -- cost, dates, what to pack, etc.

Facility Study Update The architect with Raso, Bailey, Dudley, and Rose out of Waco should be contacting us shortly to set up interviews with the members and staff.

Old Fashioned Patriotic Day—July 3rd—we have been asked to have a booth at the community-wide activities in City Park. Please contact Brad if you have an idea of what we should do as a participant in this activity. We will be handing out bottles of water and have a registration table for the Beth Moore Simulcast.

Names of Military Members—Our church would like to start a correspondence program in which we communicate with those serving in the military. We would like to ask our congregation to provide the church office with a list of names of those you know who are serving.





June Birthdays

5th—Valerie Bolton; 8th—Sonia Kendall; 9th—Valaree Hathaway; 15th—Jean Blunt; 20th—Matthew Paschal, Cindy Neubauer; 22nd—LouAnn Williford; 23rd—Connie Colon, Larry Hensley; 24th—Cheryl Hancock; 25th—Kent Kendall; 26th—David Weihausen; 29th—Joe Paschal, Clare Bowe; 30th—Randy Kott

July Birthdays

1st—Sarah Crider, Cash Ellis; 2nd—Peyton Allen, John Posey, Helen Stephens; 3rd—Sam McKeever; 5th—Hugh Ann Bankhead, Jan Puckett; 6th—Harriet Atkinson; 7th—Shelly Hullum, Neal Bowe; 8th—Ruth Collinsworth, Tom Irwin, Jimmy Thomas; 9th—James Dawley; 11th—Sadie Edwards, Bette Thetford, Payton Wallitsch; 12th—Estalee Price, Ruby Bailey, Alice Jones; 13th—Carmen Hinton, Ernest McFarland; 15th—Kyler Hancock, Joan Paschal; 19th—George Tidwell, Sharon Beene; 20th—Molly Flatt; 21st—Viola Moss; 22nd—Brittany Brady; 23rd—Kathy Nutt; 24th—Ann Pendleton; 25th—T.J. Hathaway; 26th—Elaine Bounds; 30th—Ross Goodrum; 31st—Wayne Hughes





June Anniversaries

5th—Clint & Jill Flatt; 7th—Larry & Hermine Sewell; 11th—Brandi & Trevor Owen;
13th—Greg & Kay Goodrum; 14th—Lewis & Jean Blunt; 16th—Margaret & Wayne Jackson;
17th—Brian & Shelly Hullum; 24th—Sheila & Chris Wallitsch; 26th—Brenda & Woody Wood-
ruff, Dan & Sue Franks, Art & Kathy Nutt; 27th—Randy & Joclyn Ewers; 28th—JC & Betty
Hawkins; 30th—Wynona & Don Lipsett

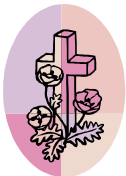
July Anniversaries

2nd—Jimmy & Noma Thomas; 6th—Gary & Vickie Beard; 7th—T.J. & Valaree Hathaway,
Karen & Walt Harrison; 9th—Starlene & Charles Yelverton; 11th—Michael & Sherry Miller;
19th—T.G. & Joan Temples; 24th—Randy & Tracy Machacek; 25th—Grandon & Annie Britt;
27th—Brad & Alisha Brittain



Memorial

Emilie & Robert Ray
for
Nell Robinson
Pat Neill
Lela Kerley
Jackie Vaughn





Your Church Staff

Rev. Brad Brittain, Pastor

Arthur Nutt, Director of Music

Wynona Lipsett, Organist

Jill Flatt, Youth Director

Jackie Tidwell, Children's Coordinator

Sandy Imes, Administrative Assistant/Fiscal Coordinator

Cass Candy, Building Maintenance

Barbara Owens, Cleaning

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.