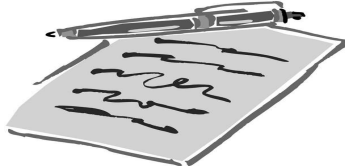


## THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONNECTIONS

First United Methodist Church

Mexia, Texas

September, 2011



....Back to School....

September is here and for many in our church, that means it is back to school time. Summer is over, and a new year for students, teachers and administrators has begun. For some, this brings a sense of sadness that summer and free time is over, but for many, there is a sense of excitement about what is to come. During the school year, students and teachers are asked to buckle down and focus on learning.

The school year can mark a time of refocusing for us in the church, as well. As the school year begins, there are so many things that can fill up our schedules. After-school activities, football games, band or choir rehearsals, you name it, fall is a busy time. Let's not forget to make God a part of our priorities. As we plan out our calendars, don't forget to carve out a space for God, by coming to church, maybe joining a small group or Bible study or volunteering for a mission project.

I hear from people all the time that they "don't have time" to "fill in the blank". People can stop praying, stop coming to church, stop connecting to God all because they "don't have time". I think that to really live life, we "don't have time" NOT to do these things. As I think about this, I'm reminded of the book, *Too Busy Not to Pray* by Bill Hybels. Learning to put God first helps everything else to fall into place. So, this school year, I encourage all of us to keep some perspective by allowing God to lead and guide us in everything that we do.

In Christ's Service

Rev. Kory Koch

NEWS FROM FIRST METHODIST PRESCHOOL  
SEPTEMBER 2011

Welcome to First Methodist Preschool Fall 2011. We have listed our wonderful Fall staff in this newsletter. We are already a week into our Fall semester and things are going great. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year! We are thankful for the support from all our parents, friends, community, the First United Methodist Church, and of course, our wonderful staff.

Please note the calendar attached and find a special place to hang this at home so you can keep up with our busy fall schedule and activities. We hope you will include our Preschool in your daily prayers as God continues to bless First Methodist Preschool.

## Fall 2011 Staff

Infant I	Tammy, Lyndsey, Kalila
1B	Holly, Anetress and Nina
2	Kinder, Emtiesha and Chelsea
3A	Ashley
3B	Brenda
4	Rae Lynne

Kitchen and Lunchroom: Dorothy  
Frog Time: Holly Koch  
Director: Sherry  
Bookkeeper: Sandy I.

.....  
New Faces! Welcome to FMP

We have several new faces at FMP. We have 3 new Mexia High School students who attend school in the mornings and work here in the afternoons through the DECA and Marketing Program under the supervision of Wendy Simmons. They are:

Chelsea Collins, Nina Horn, and Kalila Hernandez. We are so happy to have them at FMP.

We also have two other new staff members, Kinder Hart and Emtiesha Busby. They are both working in Group 2 and we are pleased to add them to our FMP Team.

Our new Frog Time and Music teacher, Holly Koch, will start on Sept. 6 with classes for all age groups. We introduced her in the August Newsletter.

Welcome to all these wonderful ladies who will be serving in this ministry as we provide quality early childhood education in a Christian environment here at FMP.

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NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE ON LINE AND WILL BE E- MAILED  
TO THOSE WHO REQUESTED!

FALL 2011  
FIRST METHODIST PRESCHOOL CALENDAR  
(Hang me on the refrigerator - Important!)

September 5, Monday	Preschool Closed for Labor Day Holiday
September 30, Friday	Groups 4 will go to Blackcat Field to hear the Blackcat Band Play and March (Leave 8:00 am) We have to go at 8 am because this is their Band Class Time! (Bring Booster Car Seats if under 40 pounds)
October 1	Fall Child Care Workers Conference for FMP Staff Sponsored by FMP and Limestone County Extension Service 8 am - 1 pm FUMC, Mexia
October 17- October 21	First Methodist Preschool Annual Fall Scholastic Book Fair
October 31, Monday	Trunk or Treat—More Details in next newsletter First United Methodist Church
October 31, Monday	Halloween parties - All Groups - Morning
November 22 Tuesday	Cornucopia Lunch for Group 4 Children and Parents 12 noon - 1 pm Fellowship Hall / Concert
November 24 and 25	Preschool Closed for Thanksgiving
December 3, Saturday	Annual Breakfast with Santa 9:00 - 10:30 Fellowship Hall FUMC, Mexia
December 20, Tuesday	Annual FMP Birthday Party for Baby Jesus Christmas Parties - All Ages - Morning
December 26 and 27	FMP Closed for Christmas Holidays

Dec. 30, 2011, Friday                    F M P Closed for New Year's Holiday

January 16, Monday                    FMP Closed/ Martin Luther King Day

**\*Tuesday is Gymnastics Day for those who have signed up.**

**\*Wednesday is Book Nook Day for everyone!**

**\*Friday is Computer Day for those who have signed up.**

**CHAPEL TIME EVERY MORNING  
All Groups**

*Sherry Miller, Director*

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Hey MYF and families!!

MYF will start meeting on Sunday afternoons in the Fellowship Hall from 4-6 pm. We will not meet on September 4th because of the holiday week-end.

A bowling party is scheduled for Saturday, September 17th. Details will be available at a later date.

Youth Sunday is October 9th. The Youth will be responsible for the worship service at 10:30 am. If there is something you would like to help with in this important endeavor of our church, please let me know. We will be making assignments shortly so that we can prepare and plan the service.

I'll see you on the 11th at 4:00.

JOY AND PEACE,

*Mrs. Jill*

Dear FUMC Family:

I wish to take this time to thank everyone for their love and support over the years and stepping in when my family was far away. Thank you for all the words of encouragement and guidance, and most importantly, helping me grow in my love for the Lord.

I will miss everyone and especially my “children.” I hope to visit when I am able. Please drop me a note....or other surprises

My email address is: alexia\_bowe@yahoo.com

My address at UMHB is:

Alexia Bowe, UMHB Station Box 8120, 900 College Street, Belton, TX 76513-2599 254-203-8377

Love you,

Alexia M. Bowe

Special Charge Conference—There will be a charge conference on September 18th following the 10:30 Worship Service to discuss the Endowment Trust for our invested funds. You may pick up a copy of the revised trust document in the church office if you would like to review it prior to the meeting.

## **Beth Moore Women's Bible Study begins Tuesday, September 13th**

If God is calling you to dig deeper into studying His Word, please consider taking part in Beth Moore's Bible study, *David: Seeking a Heart Like His*. Originally released in 1996, this study was updated in 2010 with brand-new video and a revised member book.

The group will meet weekly in the Parlor on Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. beginning Sept. 13th. It's open to all women in the community so spread the word and invite others to join. Cost of the course is \$20.00 which includes the member book.

Still wondering if you'd like to join? If you've ever had doubts, fought temptations, battled personal inconsistencies, fallen into sin, suffered losses, or anguished over family problems, this Bible study is for you. To serve a spot, please contact Gael McKeever or the church office.

### **Memorial**

#### **Lewis Blunt**

Donna & Buddy Williford; Ryan & Meredith McCabe  
Martha Holford; Bug & Joan Paschal; Upper Room Class  
Grandon & Annie V Britt; Don & Wynona Lipsett  
Larry & Hermine Sewell; Bob & Lady Fain

#### **Estalee Price**

Wynona & Don Lipsett

#### **Dr. Williford**

Wynona & Don Lipsett

#### **Members of the Shivers Family**

Wynona & Don Lipsett



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Prayer Vigil**—There is a prayer vigil in the Chapel each Sunday for the Beth Moore Simulcast and the team members. Please join us!

### **BETH MOORE SIMULCAST**

We are getting started on organizing the team for the Beth Moore Simulcast for September 10th. Registration will start at 8:00 am with the simulcast at 9:30. There will be a 1-1/2 hour break for lunch and then the simulcast will finish approximately 3:30 to 4:00 pm.

Announcement cards have been mailed to ladies of 119 churches in the tri-county area. Registration forms are available in the church office and there will be stuffers in the Bulletin. Look for them!

Team Leaders are: Stephanie Olvera, Publicity; Dawn McKeand, Lunch; Kathy Paschal, Inside Facility; Jackie Tidwell, Outside Facility; Starlene Yelverton, Prayer Vigil; Sandy Imes, Registration. We all need help!! We cannot do it by ourselves. If you would like to work on a specific team please let that leader know.

We will have a salad dinner/final meeting on Tuesday September 6th. Calvary members have been invited to attend this meeting also.

**JOIN US IN THIS WONDERFUL EVENT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH!!**

**Children's Activities**—God's Gang resumes their activities on Tuesday, **September 6th**. Children's activities resume on **September 7th**.

**Bible Study**—Kory will start a bible study on John Ortberg's book "The Life You've Always Wanted" at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom on Wednesday, **September 7th**.

**Dave Ramsey**—We will start a Dave Ramsey financial course on **September 11th**. We must have 8 people enrolled to hold this study. Please let Sandy or Kory know if you are interested.

#### **MYF moves to Sunday**

MYF will be meeting on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall from 4-6 pm.



### September Birthdays

9/2—Nora Koch; 9/3—Larry Sewell; 9/6—Kenneth Christian, Trevor Owens  
9/10—Ina Beth Forrest; 9/13—Kelly O’Hare, Mattie Wilson; 9/14—Mike Bolton, Mary Marcotte  
9/16—Mica Candy, Kay Hynes, Bug Paschal; 9/17—Emily Lewis; 9/18—Francis Williams  
9/19—Sandy Imes; 9/20—Wendy Simmons; 9/23—Delma Park  
9/24—Danette Day, Lady Carter-Fain; 9/26—Brandy Ellis  
9/28—Doug Allen; 9/29—Holly Koch, Kathy Paschal

### September Anniversaries

9/2—Bob & Patsy Henry; 9/3—Carol Ann & James Dawley  
9/5—Roger & Michelda Brown, Tad & Ima Burroughs  
9/10—Bob & Barbara Candy  
9/30—Gael & Walt McKeever

\*If we missed your Birthday or Anniversary please notify the FUMC office so we can update our records



### **Your Church Staff**

Rev. Kory Koch, Pastor  
Arthur Nutt, Director of Music  
Wynona Lipsett, Organist  
Holly Koch, New Beginnings Praise Director  
Jill Flatt, Youth Director  
Jackie Tidwell, Children’s Coordinator  
Sherry Miller, Preschool Director  
Sandy Imes, Administrative Assistant/Fiscal Coordinator  
Bob 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.