

**NTC EAST District's
2012 Leadership
Training Day
"Visions for Vitality"
Saturday, February 4, 2012**

Orientation & Enrichment
for Local Church Leaders
First UMC ~ 301 Church Street ~
Sulphur Springs, Texas
9:30 AM — 10:00 AM Coffee &
Fellowship-Fellowship Hall
10:00 AM — 10:45 AM Plenary on
Leadership-Sanctuary
10:45 AM — 11:00 AM Break
11:00 AM — 12:00 PM Breakout
Workshops (Pastors & Laity)

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:
Staff/Parish Relations,
Trustees,
Worship,
Finance,
Spiritual Formation/Discipleship,
Community Visibility/Evangelism,
Mission & Services

**CHRISTIAN
BELIEVER**

**Beginning - Mid-February, 2012
What is CHRISTIAN BELIEVER?**

CHRISTIAN BELIEVER is a 30-week study of the Scriptures and classical doctrines of the Christian faith that aims at presenting, explaining, and interpreting Christian doctrine as the basic teaching of the church and Scriptures - to the end that informed believing leads to committed discipleship. This is not a Church history course but a discussion of themes and topics from Scripture and history—an integration of Bible study and Christian Doctrine.

If any questions, contact
Pastor Jack Wallace
jackwallace@fumcmv.org

**Souper Bowl
Sunday**

Souper Bowl Sunday is February 5th and the Youth are asking for you to dig in your change jars and your pockets. We are also collecting cans of soup to give to our local food bank. The change collected will go toward our Junior High & Senior High mission trips.
Thank You for loving Us!
In His Name,
FUMCYOUTH & Ms. Cindy



**WANT TO KNOW MORE
ABOUT THE UMC?
Organization and Structure
of the United Methodist Church
February 25 & March 3, 2012**

The North Texas Conference presents an engaging learning experience about:

- Session 1 - Foundations & History
- Session 2 - Ministry of All Christians
- Session 3 - Local Church
- Session 4 - Ministry of the Ordained
- Session 5 - Superintendency
- Session 6 - Conferences
- Session 7 - Administrative Order
- Session 8 - Church Property
- Session 9 - Judicial Administration

Location:
First UMC - Sulphur Springs
301 Church St.
Sulphur Springs, TX 75482
For information Contact - Sherry Nash
Phone: 903-603-0385
E-mail: shnash@usa.net
Advance Registration Fee: \$25.
Brochure & Registration forms
are in the Office & Narthex.



**Rainbow Connection
News**

Rainbow Connection extends a big "THANK YOU" to our church family for making our ministry possible. We will join with the church family on February 19th for a special worship service celebrating 25 years. Hundreds of families have been reached for Christ through this vital Kingdom's work. The service will feature a media presentation and, hopefully, the children will perform a song for us. Rainbow will host an Open House between 9:45 and 11:00. Please come and see what the Lord is doing!

**Ash
Wednesday
Worship Service
February 22, 2012 @ 6:30 pm**



**YOUTH & CHILDREN'S
CHOIR**



For some the Christmas break didn't seem long enough, for others it was too long. As for me, I missed being with the Youth and Children (adults I missed you too!) What a joy it is to meet and together learn new songs and ways to worship Him. You will enjoy seeing how our young people are growing in their abilities to lead worship. On February 12th we will be combining the Youth and Children's Choirs in our morning worship. They will be singing a "very lively" piece to open our worship service. In fact you may have already heard the young people talking about Hakuna Wakaita (There is no one like Jesus). In addition, both groups will be singing with our Sanctuary Choir on a benediction entitled "Go In The Peace Of The Lord." Isn't worship fun? I can't wait until the next rehearsal, service, or time spent with my church family. Parents please encourage your children and youth to be in their places on Wednesdays.
Peace,
Mark Beggs,
Youth and Children's Choir Director

Youth Choir Rehearsal
4:30-5:00 pm Wednesdays
Children's Choir Rehearsal
5:00-5:30 pm Wednesdays
*Both meet in the Sanctuary.

GREAT TO BE BACK!!!!

January 3, 2012 was a great day for me – that was the day my doctor let me come back to work. It is great to get back to the day to day operations at our church. I have been serving in the church office for over 17 years and have never been forced to take a six week break. My thanks to Pastor Jack, our church staff and our office volunteers who did a fantastic job in my absence. It's great to be back!!

Silver Linings

Those of you who know me know that I will always look for silver linings in trying situations. One of my silver linings – I got reacquainted with our fantastic church library. If you are looking for wonderful reading by great Christian authors – stop by and check out your own reading materials. We have fiction, non-fiction, and inspirational books.

Status

Many of you know I had surgery in November to remove tumors and ovaries. I started chemo treatments the last week of December and go to Paris every two weeks for treatment. I had wonderful news after my first treatment – my cancer markers were cut in half from where we started. I still have a long way to go to being cancer-free, but we are on the right track. I have been very fortunate in that I have had very mild reactions to the chemo treatments. It is great to be back in church. Once we are through the cold and flu season – I will be back to milling around the coffee area and narthex. For the moment – my immune system is compromised by the treatments and I am being very careful to stay out of crowded situations.

Thank you for all your prayers – my husband, Jack and I have gained strength and hope with your prayer support. Our prayers are with you as well.
God bless
Andrea Abbott, Office Manager

January 26, 2012 Prayer List

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Andrea Abbott | Tandra Collins | Ben Mather | John Shaffer |
| Judy Adams | Sally Ford | Zoe Mather | Glen Slaughter |
| Tom Adams | Michelle Foster | Sean McDonald | Larry Snuffer-hospice |
| Zoey Arthur | Gene Frazier | Howard McNeil | Jean Stroud |
| Ruth Averitt | Kay Frazier | Janice Mitchell | Caye Sullivan |
| Elizabeth Ball | Richard Haynie, Sr. | Lanny Moore | Steve Sullivan |
| Evelyn Bawdon | Allen Jennings | Bettie Parker | Suzanne Torio |
| Roger Bawdon | Tyler Jones | Tim Philhower | Nancy Thames |
| Cherie Bolin | Tom Knippenberg | Benny Price | Jason Timmons |
| Jeff Bradford | Sara Laminack | Sharon Rhodes | Ben Vincent |
| Betty Burton | Donna Lemand | Trenton Ross | Natalie Vincent |
| Jan Chapman | Mike Little | Lisa Schroeder | Julie Whitaker |
| Laura Cook | Danny Long | Skylar Salle | Barry Wood |
| | | | Kathy Wood |

Sympathy...
...to Laurie Pace on the death of her father, Gerald Justus.
...to Bishop Bledsoe on the death of his granddaughter, Hannah.

**Sunday School Pictures
For the Photo Directory
January 29 and February 5
9:45-10:30**

Ken Greer will be coming to the classrooms to take your pictures.
Schedule below:
JANUARY 29
Nursery
Today's Christians – FLC, Room 205
Roundtable – FLC, Room 201
Come Doubles – Room 100
FEBRUARY 5
Youth – Youth Room
Rotation – God's Garden
Susanna Wesley – Library
New Horizons – Room 101

2011 Financial Goal Met

God is good, all the time; all the time, God is good! It is with great joy that we announce that your continued support through prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness has changed lives at Mt. Vernon FUMC. Furthermore, the people of FUMC have given sufficient financial support to the cost of ministry, resulting in all bills paid and apportionments and benevolences fulfilled and \$40,110.83 in reserves at the end of 2011. Your commitment to the ministry of Jesus Christ through FUMC is greatly appreciated by all, and especially by God.

When you come to FUMC most anytime of the day or night, you witness many people involved in worship, a small group, or service project. When you remember FUMC, you envision a people demonstrating through their everyday actions their commitment to the Gospel. When you remember FUMC, you see a people committed to upholding the church through their "prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness." We thank God for each of you and your commitment to the mission of FUMC – "make disciples of Jesus Christ."

**Make Valentine Special
for a Military Loved One!**

Do you have a loved one who is serving in the military? If so, the United Methodist Women would like to send a Valentine gift to them next month. Please send the name and mailing address for your loved ones to the church office @ 903-537-3616 or call Susan Sample @ 904-860-7079 and let us know where they are serving. Thanks

**Valentine
Dinner Dance
Sunday, February 12**

FAMILY LIFE CENTER
Dinner served at 6 pm
followed by dancing
**It's a Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser
(Free Will Donations)
Child Care Provided**

**MAKE YOUR
RESERVATIONS TODAY**

Fill out the information below.
Remove this form and
place in collection plate
or mail to the office,
Send an e-mail to youth@fumcmv.org,
or call Cindy at 903-860-3616.

Name _____

Phone # _____

How many in your party? _____

Child Care Needed circle YES or NO

Ages of Children _____

Mark Goes to Seminary

It was great to have a special prayer time for Mark Beggs on January 22. Mark started seminary classes at SMU this month. He is working on a master of theological studies and is exploring the possibility of ordained ministry as a deacon with a music concentration.



Mark's schooling will not affect his working relationship with our church. He will continue to be at the church on Wednesdays and Sundays.

**Altar Plants
& Flowers**

Altar plants & flowers are provided by Charles Bruce Flower Endowment Fund.



Jack's Journal

Mold Me and Shape Me



Read: Jeremiah 18:1-6

In the same way that this potter works his clay, I work on you ...

~ Jeremiah 18:6 *The Message*

As the picture shows, I recently had the opportunity to sit down at a potter wheel at Gibson Pottery. The picture shows a vessel that seems smooth and progressing well. Why shouldn't it, since this experience was not my first time on this particular wheel. However, as the vessel was in its beginning stages, I began to have difficulties, and it sure did not seem like I had ever turned clay on this wheel one previous time.

As I turned the pottery, nothing seemed to work well. My frustration escalated and before I knew it, the vessel was a mess, off center, eventually removed from the wheel, formed into a ball, and placed in the pile of recycled clay to be shaped again. My instructor said to me, "Let's start over."

As I sat there with the ball of clay, it reminded me how God, the Master Potter, wants to work on each of us as a clay vessel, applying the correct pressure when and where necessary, creating and recreating us into his desired image. And sometimes the Master Potter decides to start over. What does this require of us the clay vessel? Having pliable hearts and minds for the Master Potter. Come hear more about the Master Potter on Sunday, February 5.

Prayer: O Jesus, You are the Potter and we are the clay. Mold me and shape me like thee divine. Amen.

Thought for the Day

You are the Potter. I am the clay.

Mold me and make me. This is what I pray.

Prayer Focus: People suffering with dementia.

I invite you and your family or friends to attend "*An Evening of Dinner and Music with Mark Beggs and Josh Hood*" this Sunday, January 29th, 6:00 pm dinner, 6:45 pm concert.

Grace and peace to you all, Jack

First United Methodist Church
Hwy. 37 North of I-30
PO Box 659
Mt. Vernon, TX 75457

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The

Messenger

January 26, 2012

25th Anniversary Celebration
Rainbow Connection
Preschool & Daycare

Sunday, February 19
Children's Performance at 11:00 Service
Rainbow open house between 9:45 and 11:00

Jubilate...
**An Evening of
Dinner and Music**
with **Mark Beggs**
and **Josh Hood**

Sunday, January 29
Dinner Provided - in Family Life Center - 6:00 pm
Concert - in Sanctuary - 6:45 pm
903-537-3616 www.fumcmv.org
First United Methodist Church, Hwy 37, North of I-30, Mt. Vernon, TX

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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