

Steeple Notes

“Making Disciples for Jesus Christ!”

Be sure to invite a friend to come and worship!

First United Methodist Church

January 1, 2012

New Member Fellowship Set for January 15, 2012



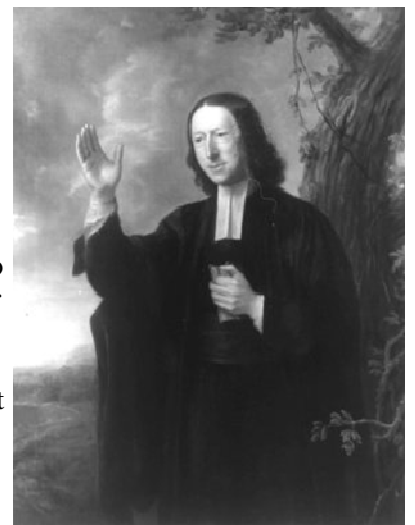
If you've been attending First United Methodist Church and you're wondering what it means to be a member, then you're invited to attend the *New Member Fellowship* on

Sunday, January 15th. The gathering will take place in the Garrett Hall at 9:45 AM. Pastor Ivins will share a little bit of the church's story and where he sees the church headed in the future. He'll also discuss how to become a Christian and the church's membership vows. You'll also have a chance to meet some of our other leaders too. So make plans now to attend the upcoming *New*

Member Fellowship on Sunday, January 15th! If you have kids, just drop them off in the nursery or run them by one of our great Sunday School Classes. We'll have the coffee and light refreshments waiting!

Wesley Heritage Tour 2012

Pastor Bill will be leading a nine-day tour to England in 2012 so that members of First United Methodist Church may gain a fuller understanding of our Wesleyan Heritage. The group will visit places throughout England that are significant to the founding of the Methodist Movement in the 18th Century. There are two departure dates from which to choose: September 26 or November 14, 2012. Pastor Bill will hold an informational meeting on Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 PM in the Path Makers Classroom. The departure date will be chosen at that meeting. If you'd like a brochure, please speak with Pastor Bill or just drop by the church office.



Real Life



Real Life

wednesdays

John 10:10 I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

Real Life will resume its regular schedule on Wednesday, January 11.

5:30 PM to 6:15 PM -- SUPPER
 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM -- Adult Bible Study
 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM -- Children's Choir
 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM -- Epic Youth Ministry
Supper is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and youth and a maximum of \$20 per family

Real Life Menus

January 11

Beef Vegetable Soup & Corn Bread
 Corn Dogs (for the kids)
 Dessert & Drink

January 18

Frito Pie
 Peanut Butter Sandwiches
 Dessert & Drink

January 25

Spaghetti & Meat Balls
 Garlic Bread & Salad
 Dessert & Drink

New Member Dinner



***New Member Dinner
 January 8, 2012
 At the Parsonage
 5:00pm-7:00pm***

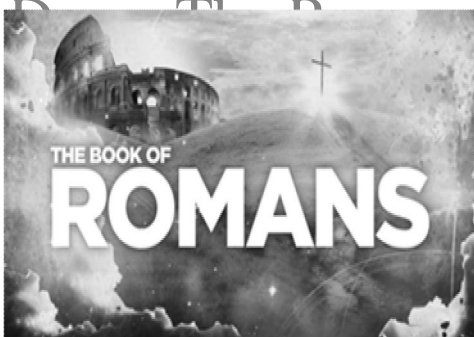
Sermon In a Sack



Beginning Sunday, January 8, Pastor Bill and Beau Neiwoehner will be doing a new type of Children's Sermon at 10:50 AM called "Sermon in a Sack". But they need the help of our kids to make it successful! So parents, please encourage your kids to bring something of theirs from home each week to put in sack. Then Pastor Bill or Beau will randomly pull one item out of the sack and do a spontaneous children's based on that item. So remember it all starts on Sunday, January 8!

10:00am Broadcast Moving

In January 2012, First United Methodist Church will begin broadcasting its 10:50 AM worship service on KXCS 105.5 FM. That also means the broadcast will no longer be heard on KBST-AM. The tentative date for the change is Sunday, January 1. With this change, the church will save several thousand dollars each year in broadcast fees. The 8:30 AM service will continue to be heard each Sunday morning on KBYG-AM/FM. Both stations are locally owned by Weeks Broadcasting, Incorporated.



Road at

Many consider Paul's Letter to the Church at Rome to be his "magnum opus". In it, he provides a deeper understanding of Christian salvation to a congregation that had not yet received any teaching directly from an Apostle. At the heart of Paul's teaching is that salvation is available to all through Jesus Christ. Pastor Ivins will lead the Wednesday Noon Bible Study "Down the Roman Road" beginning January 11 as we explore the riches of Paul's Letter to the Church at Rome.



United
Methodist
Women

UMW News

The United Methodist Women will next meet on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 2 PM in the Church Library. The program that day will be on prayer and self-denial. All women in the congregation are invited to be a part of the United Methodist Women's organization. They meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 2 PM in the Church Library for study, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

2012 Budget Approved by

After several weeks of careful work by the Committee on Finance, the following budget was presented to the Administrative Council and approved by the Council on December 27, 2011. What appears below is a summary of the budget. If you'd like a more detailed budget, please contact Justin Myers.

Tithing and Other Funding Sources

\$546,654

Budgeted Expenses

Staff Compensation and Expenses	\$277,349
Children's Day Out	50,200
Administration	39,825
Church Building Utilities	52,000
Building and Vehicle Insurance	38,000
Vehicle (Van) Expenses	4,050
Northwest Texas Conference Apportionments	60,000
<u>Church Ministry Expenses</u>	<u>25,240</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$546,664</u>

Congo Missionary to Speak at Noon

United Methodist missionary David Persons will be our guest speaker at the Wednesday Noon Bible Study on January 4. The son of missionaries, David also serves as Dean of the Mulungwishi Theological Seminary (Faculte Methodist de Theologies) at The University of Katanga at Mulungwishi. His wife, Lori, is director of the Doris Bartlett Women's School, which provides training for the wives of seminary students. Derrell and Sandy Patterson have been leading VIM teams to the Congo for the last several years, where they've partnered with the Persons' in their work among the people of that African nation.



Newsletter Publication Schedule

Beginning with this edition of *Steeple Notes*, we'll be sending the newsletter out once per month only. To supplement the monthly newsletter, the church office will occasionally send out an additional mailing for special events. We'll also be utilizing email more frequently to communicate with the congregation. To ensure that you'll be receiving email communications from the church, please be sure to include your email address on the "Connection Card" over the next few Sundays or phone the church office with your email address. Not only will this move provide substantial savings in postage and production costs, but it will also allow our church staff members to use their time more efficiently.



Junior High Parents!

Pastor Bill is making plans for this year's Confirmation Class for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades. If your child has not been confirmed, please email Pastor Bill at method-istbill@earthlink.net or text him at (432) 466-3032 with "Please add my child to the list". If you don't email or text, you can call him too! But be sure to include your name with the email or text. When he has a complete list of kids, he'll schedule a parents meeting in late January or early February.



Flower Ministry

We will soon be posting the new flower ministry calendar for 2012. If you have been a part of this program in the past and wish to continue or want to be included in this next year I would appreciate your help by contacting me.

You can reach me at my Hm: 264-6120 / Cell: 466-4666

Thank you,
Ernestine Day

January Sermons



January 8
January 15
January 22
January 29

"God's Greatest Dream"
"Community Busters"
"It's Time to DTR"
"God Is with Us"

Genesis 1-2
Genesis 3-11
Genesis 12-22
Genesis 24-50

The Old Testament Challenge



People often approach the Bible with a mixture of fear and frustration. To many, the Bible is a book filled with confusing stories and difficult to understand concepts. That seems especially true for the Old Testament.

I want to help us move past our fear and frustration in order to mine the riches of God's Word. To do that, I'll be preaching through the Old Testament in 2012. I've never taken on a challenge like that. But the truth is that we can't even rightly understand God's Word found in the New Testament until we have a greater comprehension of the Old Testament.

It will take me 32 weeks to accomplish this challenge. However, I'll break it down into shorter 8 week segments and then take a break between each segment for a few weeks. I'll also be providing a reading schedule and study guide each week for those who wish to go deeper. The first 8 week series from the Old Testament is entitled "Creating a New Community" and covers Genesis through Deuteronomy.

My goal through this challenge isn't just to raise biblical literacy. My ultimate goal is to raise up a people who are shaped by the Word. To accomplish that goal, I also want to help us move beyond "informational reading" to "formational reading" so that Christ is formed in us (cf. Galatians 4:19).

So I hope you'll take up the challenge with me and plan to be here as often as you can. Let me encourage you to bring your own Bible too. It will be a wonderful journey as we go deeper into God's Word together! As always,

God's best to you!

Bill Ivins
Senior Pastor

Ministry Teams & Committees

Adult Education Council

Chair	Richard Steel
2012	Sara Myers
2013	Leslie Clements, Glenda Arnold, Shelly Smith
2014	Richard Steel (Chair), Joan Pierce, Faron Bell

Sunday School Superintendent Orin & Karen Carmen

Youth & College Ministries Council

Chair	Pam Steel
2012	Heather Barr, Valerie Cervantes
2013	Brad Mikeska, Zane Yeater
2014	Pam Steel (Chair), Ann McLarity

Youth Member Trevor Burchett
Youth Member Patrick Ruiz

Family & Parish Life Committee

Chair	Joanne Forrest
2012	Jimmie Lou Drake, Doug Lykken, Rosa Mancha
2013	JoBeth Corwin, Susan McLellan
2014	Jane Jones, Joanne Forrest, Anne Duncan

Worship Team

Chair	Joan Beil
2012	Stacy Barr, Anna Gann
2013	Joan Beil, Ernestine Day
2014	Jane Jones, Adrian Calvio
Flowers	Ernestine Day
Communion Steward	John & Carole Philips
Par Aments	Amy Burchett, Richard Steel
Ex Officio	Bill Ivins
Ex Officio	Eddie Vandewalker

Outreach/Mission Team

Chair	Murray Murphy
2012	James Bell, DeAnn Bell, Allen Morris, Paul Townsend, Murray Murphy, Ann Townsend, Karen Carman,
2013	Diane Murphy, Chuck Miller, Muffatt Bomar, Ann McLarity,
2014	Jim Clements

Scouting Committee

Members	Ladd Smith, Scott VanPelt, Hayes Stripling, Walter Brumley
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Children's Ministry Council

Staff Chair	Becky Woodall
2012	Amanda Calvio, Jeannie Cole
2013	Heather Williams, Mariah Crownover, Kinsey Hansen
2014	Brenna Hoff, Ann Townsend, Betsy Bell

Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC/PPRC)

Chair	Paul Townsend
2012	Paul Townsend, Betsy Bell, Bonnie Miller
2013	Walt Shipman, Scott MacKenzie, Delbert Donnelson
2014	Sandra Waggoner, Amy Burchett, Richard Atkins

**Lay Delegate
to Annual Conference**

Board of Trustees

Chair	TBA (Board elects its own Chair)
2012	Wayland Pierce, Cary Burchett, Jan Forsyth
2013	Brad Mikeska, Noel Hoff, Tammy Allen
2014	John Philips, Carroll Choate, Joan Biel

Trust Fund Subcommittee

Chair	Larry McLellan
Ad Council Chair	Linda Conway
Finance Chair	Justin Myers
2012	John Philips, Murray Murphy
2013	Maureen Haddad, Scott MacKenzie
2014	Shirley Shroyer, Larry McLellan

Committee on Finance

Chair	Justin Myers
SPRC Rep.	Paul Townsend
Treasurer	Rodney Bomar
Lay Leader	Larry McLellan
Ad Council Chair	Linda Conway
Lay Delegate	Maury Smith
Board of Trustees Rep	TBA (Appointed by Board of Trustees)
Pastor	Bill Ivins

At Large Members

2012	2012	Lucy Clinton, Lee Emerson
2013	2013	Buddy Duncan, Matt Woodall
2014	2014	Chuck Bagwell, Mark Barr

First United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 1229
400 Scurry Street
Big Spring, Texas 79721

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*First United Methodist
Church Staff*

Senior Pastor	Bill Ivins
Music Ministry	Eddie Vandewalker
Children's Ministry	Becky Woodall
Youth Ministry	Beau Niewoehner
CDO Director	Brenna Hoff
Admin. Assistant	Sarah Alexander
Building Steward	Simona Mendez
Security	Henry Zambrano
Custodian	Amy Chavera
Custodian	Richard Baum

Prayer List

<i>Family of Dean Forrest Jennings Foster Burchett</i>	<i>Mary Bernice Car- son</i>
<i>Jackie Piper Valeria Mendez Reyes Jerry Foresyth Peggy Williams Tandace Gilliam Lillian Staggs Bill Ausbrooks & wife Karen Eric Atkins Carrie Beth Mary Jennings Don & Sharon Richardson The Yeater Family Father of Leslie Clements Ryan Ellenberger Sue Bailos Buddy Logsdon Bob Owen Bob Long Family</i>	<i>Allene Pearce Mary Cason</i>