



A Publication of the First United Methodist Church of Rockport

The Rockport Beacon

“Let Your Light So Shine...” Matthew 5:16

Mission Statement
Offering Christ to all through worship, ministry, discipleship and fellowship to the glory of God.

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Angie Armstrong and Cynthia Thompson Win 2010 Discipleship Awards

Angie Armstrong was recognized for her work as Community Table coordinator, assisting in Vacation Bible School, a leader in the after-school program, and an interim Tween Group leader. She also serves on the Finance Committee, the FUM Church Administrative Council and is a parent representative on the First Learning Tree Board. She does all of this in addition to her position as a CPA, wife and mother of two small children.

Cynthia Thompson was recognized for her service as children’s Sunday School teacher, helping to plan VBS as well leading the Bible story. She sings in the choir, is choir librarian, and volunteers in the church office every Wednesday morning. She has served as SPRC chair, and on the Church Council.



Bishop James Dorff , San Antonio Area Bishop (L), Rev. Eradio Valverde, Corpus Christi District Superintendent @ present Angie Armstrong @ with a 2010 Discipleship Award at the District Laity Banquet on Sept. 18th in Corpus Christi.





**The Gospel According to Thom
Pastor: Jesus is risen.
People: Risen indeed!**

I suppose the folks worshipping in *First United Methodist Church* building do not consider themselves radical when they recite the little versicle above. But, actually, this supposedly inconspicuous part of the ritual holds the most radical of creeds available.

The word **radical** comes from the Latin **radix**, which also gives us our word "root" and our word "radish." A person who trusts that the good God raised up Jesus lives rooted in that which calls us from death to life.

Think how radical such a belief appears in the face of an actual death.

Some time ago, I held a baby born dead after a normal nine month pregnancy. As I held the dead child, the signs of death's decay were all around. How radical that I should participate in the ritual for the burial of that child. How radical that a ritual should dare to speak of death to life in the face of such sure death. Any person could see the decay. How dare the ritual speak of going from death to life.

Or, consider a statement one of my

favorite ethicists, Stanley Hauerwas, made in one of his books: "If Christians are a people who have learned to die, then they will insist that their medicine be concerned more with care than cure."

How radical to agree that care takes precedence over cure. I thought we bent our every effort to cure folks - even when curing them appeared out of the realm of possibility and placed huge financial burdens on family and society. Doesn't Hauerwas deny our basic affirmation: This life is God? It seems so radical to argue that this life can go.

In the hospital. Sometimes I get there just before death happens, or shortly thereafter. A family member dies. The grieving spouse stands by the bed, kids come in, nurses bustle helpfully, the awaited physician pronounces. Then, we stand helplessly. The corpse with mouth open, eyes barely closed by the nurses, and a sense of loss gurgling up in the hearts of us all.

How radical of a theologian I like to read, Hans Kung, to say that death means life loses its limits. Anyone can see by looking that death just closed off any possibility. How radical ... what a new root ... to say of death, "Nope! It only means that the limits of that life just got erased."

TYG

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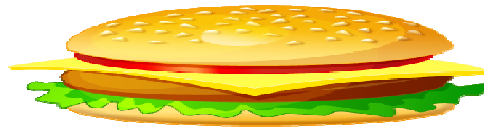
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United Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting Set for October 6th

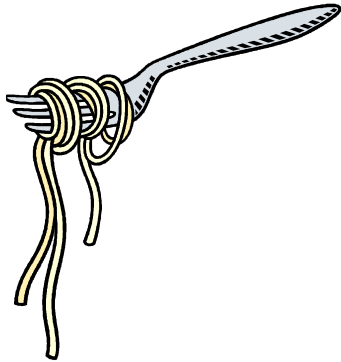


The United Methodist Men will meet for Breakfast at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 7th in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to attend.



Emmaus Community Will Have Picnic Oct. 7th

The Windswept Oaks Emmaus Group will be having a picnic at Rockport Beach Park Pavilion 1 on Thursday, October 7th at 6:00 p.m. We will have hot dogs and hamburgers provided. Please join us for fellowship and food. If you are interested in going on a Walk to Emmaus, please contact Chris Weber or Steve Johnson .



United Methodist Men are sponsoring a Spaghetti Luncheon on Sunday, Oct. 3rd after the 2nd worship service. Tickets are \$5.00 and available from Steve Johnson, president or any

other UMM. Come and support the men in their endeavor to raise funds for their projects.

Financially Faithful

August 2010

Income -	\$27,896.00
Castaways donation	\$4,114.66
Total Income	\$32,823.85
Expenses -	\$24,913.67
Net Income (Loss) -	\$7,910.18

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 02—Ed Hegen
- 03—Bill Crabill
- 04—Doug Fitzgerald
- 04—Pat Lister
- 09—Judy Staley
- 09—Beverly Robberson
- 09—Thomas Valenzuela
- 09—Linda Valdez
- 11—Richard Fisher
- 11—Carolyn Prophet
- 12—Thelma Sexton
- 14—Jim Garrison
- 17—Lee Kuhn
- 18—Katie Hamilton
- 19—Jim Schick
- 20—Mary Jane Crabill
- 20—Dale Vickers
- 22—Clayton Caskey
- 22—Clem Titsworth
- 28—Jack Dittmar
- 28—Loraine Fitzgerald
- 29—Susan Jamison
- 29—Glen Shean



Jan -August 2010

Income -	\$223,374(64%)
Budgeted-	\$346,559
Expenses -	\$209,731(60%)
Budgeted-	\$346,559
Net Inc(Loss) -	13,643
Building Fund contrib.-	\$8,391.00
Loan Balance -	\$90,420

Sunday October 3



Learning Tree



October is such a fun month for First Learning Tree. Our rooms are filled with the signs of autumn. Pumpkins, scarecrows, Johnny Appleseed, you name it and if it pertains to fall, our students are studying about it. You can feel a change both inside and outside our rooms. We all are excited about the activities and changes that this month will bring.



Our Pumpkin Patch will be up and running on Tuesday, October 6th. We are open every night until 6:30 and on the weekends our hours are 9:00am to 6:30pm. This is an annual event for us that takes a lot of work, but is so worth it. We are always looking for volunteers! If you would like to help unload our truck, be here Saturday October 2nd @ 8:00 a.m. I know that it's early, but come on out and pass a few pumpkins around.... its both good exercise and stewardship at the same time. And if you would like to help man the patch, give me a call and I will find a time that is convenient for you. Personally, sitting outside under the trees, enjoying this time of year and waiting on customers is very enjoyable. The money that we raise is not a lot, but the fun that our families and community receive from it cannot be measured. I've had many strangers come up to me and thank us for this pro-

ject. Family, church and community; this is our mission.

Our 5th Annual Fall Festival will be held on October 23 from 10:00a.m. – 2:00pm. Last year was such a success, that we have added more activities for this years festival. We are having two bouncers this year and we will bring back the paintball gun booth. This was a big hit with older kids. We're also including a popcorn and snow cone booth. We have such talented people who come up with great ideas that I just hate to say no to them. With the additional booths, I know that we will need more volunteers to man them. Again, if you feel the need to volunteer and would like to give us a hand, we would love to have your help!! I've had church members help in the past, and they have always thoroughly enjoyed it. Just give me a call!! We also need items for our Silent Auction and raffle. If you have something that you would like to donate (art work, a service, gift certificates, merchandise) PLEASE contact me

HAPPY FALL!!! Kathy

*Thank you From the Jamisons
Dearest Church Family,*

*I want to thank everyone for their cards and prayers during this difficult time of losing my father. The cards sent from the prayer team meant so much to my Dad. He wanted you to know how much they did to boost his spirit. While we will miss him terribly, I know that I can count on my church family for love and prayers you have always shown to us.
In His Grace,
Susan, Kevin, Katy & Vicky Jamison*

October Anniversaries



October 4—May & Ray Snair

October 18—Bob & Barbara Meador

October 23—Pat & Joe Lister

October 23 — Ruth & Bud Crough

October 25—Annette & Ed Hegen

October 25—Patty & Steve Miller

October 28—Loraine & Doug Fitzgerald

From the Education Office

We are off and running with great attendance in Sunday School. All of the classes have some new faces joining in and there is lots of learning going on.

Hooray for Jana Tarkington who has volunteered to teach our high school kids Sunday School. She begins Oct. 3rd!!! But if there is anyone interested in helping with an evening fellowship, please let me know.

We are planning another get together for our children in October. Stay tuned for more details. Jan

Children's Church Journeys With Jesus

Our Children's Church group has expanded as new young disciples are going on a Journey With Jesus. We have already been traveling thru Israel. Our children are from ages 3-9. We will be traveling until Nov. 21st when we begin Advent. Please encourage the young ones and visit us after church in FH2.

Trick or Treat for UNICEF

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund was founded in 1946 to help children in post war Europe, China and the Middle East. Today its mission is to reach a day when zero children die from preventable causes by doing whatever it takes to give them the basics for a healthy childhood. The familiar orange boxes are in the foyer. Please take one home with you and fill it with whatever you can in change, dollars or checks. Please make checks payable to the UNICEF and return the boxes to the church by Nov. 8th.

FUMC Serves Community Table on October 26th

Rockport FUMC serves Community Table on October 26, so mark your calendar now. Contact Bert Siefker to sign up (361-790-9658). Notice that this is the last Tuesday of the month, so it will be busy. The last Tuesday in August brought 245 guests to Community Table (an increase of 90 from our week the week before!) We need volunteers to prepare, greet, serve, and clean up.

Community Table is a combined effort between local churches and community groups to provide a weekly, no-cost meal to the community of Rockport. Meals are served at First Presbyterian Church on Tuesday evenings 4:45-6:30p.m.

To obtain your food handlers license—this is free—attend a quick one-hour class at Aransas County Service Center on Pearl Street between 35 Bypass and Memorial City Park on Tuesdays: Oct. 5 at 9:00 a.m., Oct. 12 at 1:00p.m., or Oct. 19 at 6:00 p.m. A food handlers license is required to cook food for CT.

Thank you. Angie Armstrong, Coordinator

Worship Services Times

**First Sunday Service:
8:15 a.m.**

**Fellowship Time: 9:15 a.m.
in the foyer by the
Fellowship Hall Kitchen**

Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.*

**Second Sunday Service:
10:30 a. m.**

**Wednesday Evening
Fellowship Meal 5:00
Worship 5:45**

*If you don't have a Sunday School class,
please contact the church office (729-1659)
for classes available and their locations.

Medical Supplies Needed For Haiti Trip

Please bring medical supplies for Haiti to the church by Friday Oct. 2nd. Needed are: Adult vitamins, pediatric vitamins (chewable & liquid), Ibuprofen, Aspirin 81mg and 325 mg, Pediatric Tylenol (chewable and liquid) Adult Tylenol 500 mg, Antacid Chewable (Tums), Antibiotic Cream, Antifungal Cream, Benadryl (adult 25mg and children 12.5mg) Children cough and cold, Band aids and larger bandages Ace Wraps 10.



**October 17 for the November
Newsletter!**

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Thom Elliott, Pastor

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™