



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.*

Vol. 17, Number 6, June 2011 www.fumcrokport.org

## Transition in Progress

This month of June will be jammed packed with activity and transition.

Vacation Bible School begins Monday, June 6, at 5:15 p.m. and runs through Friday June 10th. It ends each evening at 8:10 p.m. A light dinner will be served each evening from 5:15 to 5:35 p.m.

During that week the Southwest Texas Annual Conference will be meeting at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi from Wednesday afternoon, June 8th through Saturday morning, June 11th at which time it is expected that Bishop Jim Dorff will announce the appointment of Pastor Thom to the church in Burnet and Rev. Doug Hinchcliff as pastor here. Pastor Thom, Karen Lee Rystad and Skip Timmer are our delegates to annual conference.

June 6th will be a Charge Conference at 7:00 pm in the Rec Room because Vacation Bible School will be going on at the same time. The agenda for the Charge Conference will be approval to sell lots 18 and 19 also identified as 118 Woodland

Drive in the Joyce Division adjacent to Country Club Estates. It is to the advantage of the Church to sell this property and avoid ongoing significant taxes. The voting body of the Charge Conference consists of all members of the Church Council (Paragraph 246 The Discipline).

June 12th will be Pastor Thom's last Sunday with us. Following the second worship service there will be a pot luck dinner and informal time for goodbyes.

June 19th will be Rev. Hinchcliff's first Sunday at FUMC.

June 26th is Beach Sunday. There will be worship, singing old hymns, eating, and contests for men, women, and children/teens. It will be an informal time to get acquainted with Rev. Hinchcliff, Mrs. Elaine Hinchcliff and granddaughter, Ashley. (See more details inside)

June 28th is our time to serve at Community Table. Angie Armstrong, Chairman, has announced that a Food Handlers' Licensing class will be held at the church on June 15th at 6:15 p.m.



**FROM THE  
PASTOR**

2011 Celebration June RPT

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ:

WOW! Let me give you some details about the WOW. On January 1, 1999, after 26 years of practicing law, I retired from my practice here in Rockport. On that day Elaine and I began our new life with me serving as a very part time associate pastor here in Rockport. In June of that year, the Bishop appointed me to the church in Taft. For the next six great years we had the privilege of enjoying a wonderful ministry with those great people. In June of 2005 the Bishop appointed me to the church in George West. Again, for another six great years we had the privilege of enjoying a wonderful ministry with those great people.

I can honestly say that never in our wildest dreams did Elaine and I ever think God would bless us by returning us to our home church in Rockport. It is such a rarity in the appointment process that we just didn't ever seeing that happening. At this point I can merely affirm that God can do whatever God chooses to do,

and after 12 years of ministry in the field - God is bringing us home. Thanks be to God.

Recognizing that we have grown (I like to think of it as aged gently) and knowing that the people who fill the pews include a great many new faces, I find myself relying on two things as we return home. First, that the powerful Spirit of God that has always existed here in Rockport has only grown stronger during Thom's time here. Second, that the things that brought Elaine and I to Rockport originally including the honesty of the people, their strength of character, their concern for one another, their creativity, and their love of God and life are still an intimate part of their lives. With these two things in place we can only anticipate how wonderful our time together will be.

As you will notice my monthly article is named Celebration. I named it this because we have so many gifts from God to celebrate that if I wrote for a thousand years I would never run out of material. Today I can declare that Elaine and I are truly looking forward to our ministry here in Rockport - and that is something we honestly celebrate.

Doug

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***July Newsletter deadline is***

***Wednesday, June 15th.***

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**The Rockport Beacon**

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# FIRST LEARNING TREE

Another successful year is ending at First Learning Tree. I know that the children that will be attending Little Bay Primary next year will excel in kindergarten. These children are fully prepared to meet the challenges that lay before them. I always track FLT preschoolers and in the Rockport/Fulton graduating class of 2011 four of our students are in the top 20 of their class. It think that's very impressive when we only had 8 children in our preschool that year that entered the ACISD.

We also celebrated another success in May. Cynthia Powell was selected as 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up for "Preschool Teacher of the Year". If anyone is keeping track, this is the third year that one of your teachers have been chosen for this prestigious award and this award has only been in effect for three years. To me, that truly is an amazing accomplishment. I can proudly say that First Learning Tree has got to be the "Best of the Best".

Summer time is just around the corner which means that our older ACISD students will be attending all day. It may be a little loud at times, but please remember that we are "Under construction as we build and develop new brains cells for the coming school year".

Have a safe and lazy summer.

Kathy

## Sermons and Texts for June

(This is a new column for the newsletter that will be appearing each month from Rev. Hinchcliff)

### 2011 June Sermons

June 19 - Scripture 2 Cor. 13: 11-13  
- Title Real Church  
- Focus vs. 11 "Finally brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encouraging one another, be of one mind, live in peace."  
- Theme As different as we are, and as varied our background and thinking might be, we are all connected through God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit that dwells within us.

### Companion Readings

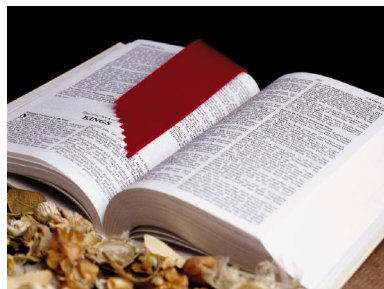
Genesis 1: 1-2, 24 - 31 Acts 2: 42 - 47  
Ps 8

June 26 - Scripture Matt: 40 - 42  
- Title Smile & Enjoy  
- Focus vs. 40 "Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

- Theme Gathering together as the Body of Christ to enjoy creation and each other's company is to welcome Christ and the Father who sent Him - Celebrate.

### Companion Readings

John 10: 1 -10 Acts 4: 32-37  
Ps 100





## June Anniversaries

- 04—Clem & Jo Ann Titsworth
- 06—Maxey & Frances Mayo
- 06—Pat & Lovelyn Hughes
- 07—Bob & Lynne Ruf
- 10—Lemoine & Betty Pitman
- 11—Ed & Barbara Caldwell
- 12—Paul & Lisa Klemm
- 13—Vernon & Mary Townsend
- 15—Leland & Peggy Knapp
- 17—James & Honey Shepherd
- 17—Robert & Nan Langford
- 22—Calvin & Martha Peterson
- 25—Wayne & Judy Currie
- 29—Richard & Lucia Fisher
- 29—Dr. John & Patty Johnson
- 29—Manning & Kimberly Chapman

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 06—Mike McKain
- 08—Lemoine Pitman
- 09—Cynthia Thompson
- 15—Monte Bowen
- 15—Maxey Mayo
- 16—Will Larsen
- 19—Eric Elliott
- 19—Rebekah Elliott
- 20—Marsha Charles
- 21—Jerry Neel
- 25—Harvey "Skip" Timmer
- 27—Drexel Riley



## Beach Sunday is June 26th

The Annual Beach Sunday at the Rockport Beach Pavilion is set for Sunday, June 26th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. Following will be a meal of hot dogs and hamburgers. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or desert.

Following the meal there will be contests for the men, women and youth. There will be a "Beach Legs" contest for the men. The ladies are asked to decorate Beach Hats and bring them to be judged. There will also be a contest outside for the kids and youth.

Jay Tarkington and Bootsie Larsen are bringing their boats, too. Bootsie said in years past he had taken some to go fishing. Jay said his boat would hold about 25 persons and anyone who wanted to go, would be welcome to hear about the birds in the surrounding area. Since we have reserved the pavilion all day, bring your favorite card or board games and play inside in the air conditioning.

“Honor the Lord by Giving Him the  
First Part of All Your Income”  
Proverbs 3:9

**Financially Faithful**

**April 2011**

Income -	\$28,963
Castaways donation	\$4,863.25
Total Income	\$33,827
Expenses -	\$28,399
Net Income (Loss) -	\$5,428

**Jan – April 2011**

Income -	\$127,859(36%)
Budgeted-	\$355,989
Expenses -	\$106,395(30%)
Budgeted-	\$355,989
Net Inc(Loss) -	21,464
Building Fund contrib.-	\$3,001
Loan Balance	\$73,525

**Thank You From Linda Valdez**

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you for all your prayers these last six months on my behalf...they mean a lot to me. I got a good report from MDA last week. My surgery went well, and my lymphoma chemo is still working, so it was all good news.

We live in such a Christ-centered community. Each note, card, or call always ended with “You are in my prayers!” It’s beautiful to see such love of our Lord so strong in our everyday lives.

Again, thank you for all your concerns and prayers.

God bless you,  
Linda Valdez

Jolly June,

Wow, can you believe it the school year has come to an end and the lazy days of summer are upon us. But not here at FUMC!!!

May 28 from 9-Noon all children and youth are invited to “Go Fish” at Goose Island State Park. We will learn the basics of fishing. Equipment and bait will be provided or bring your own. I have been told the entrance fee to the park has been waived for the event. See you there!

June 6-10<sup>th</sup> get ready to SHAKE IT UP, Where Kids Carry Out God’s Recipe. Join us for VBS. 5:15-8:10 pm. Dinner will be served. Be sure to sign up your kids, space is limited. Sign up is in Narthex. We also need a few more volunteers. Please see me for more information.

Our confirmation youth will be confirmed on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the late service. They are been working hard. I am very proud of them.

Don’t forget about summer camp. Youth entering 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade will go to Jam Camp, June 26-30<sup>th</sup> and youth entering 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade will be going to Quest Camp, July 3-7<sup>th</sup>, both camps are in Kerrville, Texas. Get your Summer Camp Registration form into me ASAP.

Bring Your Own Bible; Bible Study is meeting on Tuesdays at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Our children’s bells and liturgical dance will be taking the summer off but will be back once the school year begins.

Please keep bringing in your old cell phones and inkjet printer cartridges. The proceeds go towards our children and youth. I would like to thank ALL the volunteers that teach our adults, youth and children for all the hard work they do. know. You make my job so much fun. Thank you!!! Jan

### **June Community Table**

June 7 9:00am – Certification class offered at Aransas County Service Center  
June 14 1:00pm – Certification class offered at Aransas County Service Center  
June 15 5:00pm – Angie Armstrong will speak about Community Table at Wednesday Service  
June 15 6:15pm - .....Certification class at our church.....  
June 21 6:00pm – Certification class offered at Aransas County Service Center  
June 28 – We Serve Community Table at Presbyterian Church (high school youth will assist)

Aransas County Service Center is located on Pearl between 35 bypass and Memorial Park, Certification  
Is free for volunteers of Community Table. Our high school youth will be joining us for Community Table

In June and they and their families are asked to become certified in order to cook or serve in the kitchen of Community Table. Please call Bert Siefker at church office or 790-9658 to sign up to help.

We serve again on July 19 and are looking for additional cooks due to vacation conflicts. If you are certified, can join us at 1:00pm and would like to help cook, learn the not-so-secret-not-so-complicated recipe for our becoming-quite-infamous “dump cake” please let Bert know you are available in July to cook.

Mark your calendars also for August 23.

Angie Armstrong, Chair

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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™**