



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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Discipleship Award Winners for 2011



Judy Currie and Cole Hudgins are named Discipleship Award Winners for 2011.



Patsy Phemister and Maylene Moore were also named Discipleship Award Winners at the District Gathering.

Ministry Just For Women Begins

A new women's Bible Study will begin on Tuesday evening, October 18th, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The five-week study is entitled "God's Kingdom in You" by James & Betty Robison and Beth Moore. This study will also be offered on Wednesdays at noon beginning on October 19th.

If you wish to participate, please sign the sheet on the front desk or call Susan at the church at 729-1659. A \$2.00 donation is requested to cover the cost of the study book.

A Kick-Off Luncheon for Women's Ministry will be on Saturday, October 29th, at 12:00 noon. Lunch is free and it will be catered, so an R.S.V.P. is essential by Friday, October 21st.

Lynne Ruf is in charge of the group and arrangements. She will be talking on "Humor Filled Discipleship". There will be an opportunity for donations to First Learning Tree for teaching materials.

Reservations for the luncheon can be made by signing the sheet on the front desk or by calling Beverly at the church at 729-1659 but we must have a count by noon on Friday, Oct. 21st.

Questions or suggestions, call Lynne 361-816-5912.



2011 October Celebration

The ability for a person to deal with "fire" has taken on a new meaning for me this past few weeks. The Bastrop fire and the human toll that it took got me started thinking. I thought how often the word "fire" is used for more than just the hot stuff. A phrase like "I spent my week putting out fires" most often is made by someone in an office rather than a firefighter, and "I would walk through fire for her" is usually not about burning buildings. I thought about how the "fires" of life include a variety of events causing wide spread destruction. Hurricanes, tornados, drought, hard freezes, floods, and wild fires all have a way of bringing the people who live through them to a new perspective on life. In the immediate aftermath of these "fires" of life, we hear things like "We made it - Are you OK", and "How are the children (folks, family, animals, etc)". These words get said in rapid succession and accurately demonstrate those things that are truly important to us. After these first words, the areas of concern we focus on

quickly grows bigger.

Thoughts of "our home" and "what's left" soon expand to phrases like "Do we have any water?" (food, prescriptions, clothes, money, etc) and "Where are we going to stay?". While these are all important questions that must soon be answered, it is good to remember that they are secondary to those first most important words - "Are you OK!"

As I considered all these times of great human "fires" I realized that there is one phrase common to all. It is repeated over and over. The phrase - "Thank God". When someone finds out that the person they care about is "OK" - we don't hear "Thank Satan" or "Thank Mother Earth Gaia" or "Thank the fairy god mother". What we hear is - "Oh, Thank God". I must confess that as a pastor in a faith community where those words are spoken often (even without a "fire" present) it is something I can truly celebrate.

Doug



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United Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting Set for October 5th



The United Methodist Men will meet for Breakfast at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 5th in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to attend.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



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

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



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. 6th.

FUMC Serves Community Table on October 26th

Rockport FUMC serves Community Table on October 25, so mark your calendar now. Notice that this is the last Tuesday of the month, so it will be busy. 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 4:30-6:30p.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. A food handlers license is required to cook food for CT.

Brenda Fielder is the new coordinator for Community Table.

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. We even have a pumpkin that we grew from seeds out of our own pumpkin patch!!! What a surprise that was!



Our Pumpkin Patch will be up and running on Wednesday, October 5th. 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 1st @ 11:00 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 project. Family, church and community; this is our mission.

Our Annual Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 22 from 10:00a.m. – 2:00pm. In order to keep interest in this Festival, we try to add different events each year. This year, we are inviting vendors to come and sell their products. We are expecting arts and crafts, children's clothing, specialty foods and possibly jewelry and plants. We have a very ambitious group of Room Mother's this year and they have lots of new ideas. But with new ideas come the need for additional volunteers. One of these ideas is to have a booth that sells only pumpkin products; cakes, cookies, muffins, bread, cheesecakes....anything from a pumpkin. Again if you feel the need to volunteer and would love to bake something or to just 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!!!

HAPPY FALL!!! Kathy

Thank you

Dear Church Family,
Maylene and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the many prayers, caring thoughts, notes and cards these last ten months as I have gone through cancer treatment. I will now go to MD Anderson in Houston every three months where I will receive tests and follow up scans, etc. Your loving support, positive encouragement, visits and calls have been inspiring. I could not have gone through this journey without my faith in God and the support of friends & family. God bless you. Larry & Maylene Moore.

Christian Education Today!

Wow! Opportunities abound in Christian Education here at First United Methodist Church in Rockport. Opportunities for Sunday School, Teaching, Sharing Bible Studies, Caring, Youth Activities & Fun!

Developing and nurturing a relationship with our Savior can happen differently for everyone, so please feel free to try our classes on for size and then pick the one that suits you best.

We now have three adult Sunday School classes in addition to all of the children's Sunday school classes, so come drop off the kids or grandkids and join us in Sunday School: New Beginnings Class meets in Fellowship Hall #1 for the mature group. Pastor's Bible/Book Study meets in Fellowship Hall #3 for all ages. Young at Heart Class meets in my office for parenting ages (20-50ish).

Children's Sunday School classes are across the street in the Annex and we have fabulous teachers for each age group.

YOUTH! UMY Fellowship is back!!! We will meet each Sunday at 4:30 in the afternoon over in the Annex. Bring your pennies and your friends for fun, fellowship and faith! Middle and high school ages are all welcome...Don't forget, we need to plan for the **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser scheduled for October 30!!!**

Thank you to everyone for letting me be a part of the ministry here at FUMC.

Blessings,
Susan

Wednesday Night Fellowship & Worship Schedule This Month

The Wednesday night fellowship meal begins at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall 2 & 3. There is no charge for the meal and is open to anyone. However, in order to have enough food prepared, please sign the back of the registration card on the bottom right hand line (Other) with meal and number of meals or sign the sheet on the front desk. If you miss doing either on Sunday, please call the church office on Monday to make a reservation.

The menus for October include:

Oct. 5th Lasagna, green beans, garlic bread, green salad and apple cobbler/cool whip.

Oct. 12th Baked potato with all the fixings and brownies.

October 19th Turkey and dressing, mixed vegetables, rolls, and ice cream/cookies.

October 26th Pork loins, green beans, garlic bread green salad and peach cobbler/cool whip.

The speakers will be:

Oct. 5th Richard Butler

Oct. 12th Ruth Reagan

October 19th Lesa Larsen

October 26th Barbara Klemm.

Please join in the fellowship, eating the meals and worshipping God each Wednesday evening beginning at 5:00 p.m.



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2011 October Sermons Theme for the Month - Unanswered Questions
10/02 Scripture Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Title Road Signs

Companion Readings Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4-14 Matthew 21: 33-46

Focus vs. 1 - "And God spoke all these words"

Theme: What do these 10 things mean for us today?

10/09 Scripture Exodus 32: 1-10 Title What Did He Expect?

Companion Readings Psalm 99: 1-7 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

Focus vs. 7 - "Then the Lord said to Moses 'Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt"

Theme: They did what people do they asked the guy in charge and he said...

10/16 Scripture Matthew 22: 15 -22 Title Death Wish

Companion Readings Psalm 106: 1-5 Philippians 3: 4-14 Matthew 21: 33-46

Focus vs. 15 - "Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap Him in his words."

Theme: What was it that the Pharisee were not able to hear?

10/23 Scripture 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Title Like I Said Before

Companion Readings Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6 Matthew 22: 34-46

Focus vs. 2 - "We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you His Gospel in the face of strong opposition"

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| Vol. 17 No. 10 | October, 2011 | Doug Hinchcliff Pastor |
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