

# The Witness

Volume 10, Issue 22

October 29, 2009

## CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY NEWS

Plans are underway for a new pictorial church directory, and all members and friends of the church are encouraged to participate. The photography sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 3, and Mondays, Nov. 9, 23, & 30 in the Centerville Parsonage. Each family unit photographed will receive a free copy of the directory, as well as an 8x10 portrait. Lil George will chair the committee and may be reached at (225) 243-6690 or [leg2la@msn.com](mailto:leg2la@msn.com). Appointment forms will be distributed before and after worship services, and in small group activities. The completed forms may be placed in the designated basket as you leave the sanctuary or returned to Lil.

As in all cases, many hands make the load lighter. Volunteers are needed for the telephone committee and to work two-hour shifts during the photography sessions. Please consider helping to make this project a success.

Please enter through the BACK DOOR when you come to the Centerville house to have your picture made. Thanks!

## Shepherd Ministry

All Shepherds need to turn in a report of their contact this Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. You may e-mail me at [pianobells88@aol.com](mailto:pianobells88@aol.com) or leave the report in the kiosk in the foyer of the church. It is very important to know who is being contacted and when. This helps the clergy plan their visitation more efficiently. Monthly contacts will also bring our congregation closer together. Thanks to each person who has volunteered to work in this ministry.

*Rev. Rita*

## Special Gifts

The following special gifts have been given to First United Methodist Church:

### In Memory of:

- **Steve Thompson** by Minnie Allen; Carol Robertson; Brad & Caroline Hutchinson; Sherry Powell; Josephine Schultz; Agape II Circle; Linda Heard; Bill & Kay Graves.
- **Virgie Mae Arnold** by Linda Heard
- **Agnes Carney** by Josephine Schultz

## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> FUMC will remember all persons who have died in 2009. If you have loved ones who have gone to meet the Lord this year, you are invited to attend either the 8:30 or 11:00 a.m. service. We will remember by tolling a bell and placing a rose in remembrance of their life.

## Grow One Step Sunday November 8, 2009

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS !!  
Don't Forget  
To set your clocks back one hour  
Saturday night, October 31<sup>st</sup>

## Thank You!

Dear Congregation of Denham Springs,

I am so proud of the way you pulled together to sponsor our Habitat Day for the United Methodist Build. So many of you made contributions to accomplish the task before us. You helped with sign-up, shopped for supplies, dropped off supplies through the week, cooked and shopped for food, dropped off food later in the week, made phone call reminders, bought jambalaya, picked up and delivered food, drove to the site, got up early on a Saturday, laid fiberglass overhead insulation, stuffed in cotton insulation batting and measured and cut exterior siding and nailed it in place.

The food was great and abundant. You were generous, just like our God! We gave the excess food to the fire station with the understanding that they would eat it or share it others in the neighborhood who needed it. Nothing went to waste; in fact we touch more lives, reaching out as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, than we initially thought we would. We said, "YES!" to doing what God commands us to do - take care of the vulnerable.

It was exciting to see God open doors and multiply our investment.

It was encouraging to see our congregation

- 1) Saying YES to the things God has called us to,
- 2) Working together as The Body of Christ for a common goal,
- 3) Having a good time doing it,
- 4) Building relationships with each other
- 5) Watching God bring an overflow of generosity onto others we hadn't even thought about.

I know this encouraged me as we look ahead to future ventures where God is calling us as a church, to step out of a comfort zone in faith. Whether in programming or missions or building or whatever God has for us...I can see that He has planted in YOUR hearts the YES! That makes a difference in our community, our area, our world! THANKS! I'm grateful to each of you who had a part...so many of you.

And if you didn't get to participate in this event, we understand that life had priorities and you were tending to those priorities.

There will be other opportunities to say, "YES!" No guilt. Those who participated were representing us ALL. We are One.

-- Rev. Ginny Allen  
First United Methodist Church  
Denham Springs, LA  
Greater Baton Rouge  
[revginny@gmail.com](mailto:revginny@gmail.com)

## Needy Children's Fund

We are presently asking for donations to assist families with children at Christmas. We have contacted our local elementary school principals, asking them to each submit the names of two needy families. We will call each parent regarding the children's wants/needs for Christmas, and we will deliver the gifts the week before Christmas, so that the parent may put them out Christmas morning. We will also assist needy families that call the church.

If you would like to help, please make your check payable to FUMC and note "Needy Children's Christmas Fund". Thank you.

*Joyce Annison & Jeannette Prestridge*

## Club ALMOST

In preparation for Youth Group, pre-teens meet at the Mattie House on Sunday afternoons from 4-5:00 p.m. for mission activities, fellowship, growing in spirit and in knowledge of God.

**Becky LaCombe & Luci Page, Leaders**

## Children's Choir

Please keep singing with us every Sunday morning.

December 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a special rehearsal for the children from 9-10:15 a.m.

November 29<sup>th</sup> the children will sing for the Hanging of the Greens service at 6:00 p.m.

## Chancel Choir Notes

November 29 – 4-6:00 p.m. - Rehearsal

November – 6:00 p.m. – Hanging of the Greens

December 12 – 9-11:30 a.m. – Rehearsal - Dutch treat

Lunch - Place to be announced.

December 13 – Cantata at 11:00 a.m. service

## Thank You

Thank you so much for the flowers, the cards and all your prayers during my recent surgery. We know it was your prayers and concern that contributed to a fast recovery and the great outcome. You are very special.

**Bob and Sheila Holyfield**

**Prayer Pager assignment:** Gabe Hilliard: (225) 378-4003 – Hodgkin's Lymphoma

**To call the prayer pager:** Pray for the person, then call the pager #. After 4 beeps, enter your numeric **zip code** and #. The pager will buzz with your zip code, so they can see where prayers originate and know how often they are being prayed for.

## Great Read – Best Seller

If you would like to have a copy of *What's so Amazing About Grace?* copies are available in the narthex or at the church office during office hours Monday- Thursday. Cost of the book is \$12 (retail \$16). Checks may be made payable to FUMC-DS, noted **Grace Book**.

## We give thanks to God with . . .

### Our Prayers:

**Members in Nursing Homes:** Connie Brown; Stella Jones; Marilyn Lobell; Fay Kling; Keith Hotchkiss

**Members in hospital:** OLOL Rehab – Reggie Arnold; **Ochsner** - Jo Roberts (surgery)

### Other Concerns:

Lori Williams	Hilda Neal	Shirley Callender
Joe Melilli	George Smith	John Blackman
Barney Thompson	Chuck Marten	Wilbert Hutchinson
Shannon Tanner	Lois Peairs	Bob Holyfield
Bill Benton	Jimmy Bamber	Duane Amacker
Ben Johnson	Shirley Hammons	Sally McClanahan

Sudy Edwards, hip break, surgery, Judy Nelson's mother  
Joseph Bearden, Jr., gastric cancer, Wendy ray's father  
Melvin Myers, brain tumor, friend of Robbie Lamm  
Hazel Creamer, cancer, Shirley Callender's sister-in-law  
Tommy Ray's father, liver cancer, new treatment  
Sabrina Sisk, brain tumor  
Canaan Dourcher, 2-1/2 yr-old child in ICU at OLOL  
Gabe Hilliard, Hodgkins Lymphoma, son of Jeff & Jeanie Hilliard  
Vanora Nelson, back injury, Ernestine Hood's sister  
Lucy Pratt, friend of Ernestine Hood  
Loretta Schultz, in hospital in Lafayette, Jo Schultz daughter-in-law  
Family of L.J. Allen, premature infant, who died 10/27/09, friend of Ginny Allen  
Bonnie Bishop, cancer, Bob Blum's sister

### Our Sympathy:

Our sympathy is expressed to the following persons:

- **Ernestine Hood** at the death of her nephew, **Ernest Easterly III**.
- **Denise Tripp and family** at the death of **Jimmy Tripp**

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### A Record of Our Faithfulness – October 25, 2009 Operating Account

2008 YTD	\$347,384.72
2009 YTD	\$326,200.21
<b>Building Fund Contributions</b>	
Received 2009 year-to-date	\$205,678.87
Total funds available for construction	\$2,364,998.50

## Letters from Dad

All men are encouraged to attend a **Kickoff Breakfast** for *Letters from Dad* on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at the Mattie Street house.

*Letters from Dad* is a project designed to help men to leave a legacy of faith, hope and love through the lost art of letter writing and the concept of the spoken blessing. Watch the *Witness Newsletter* for further details.