

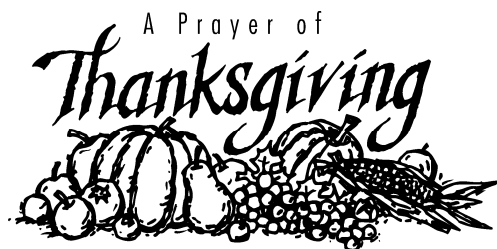
The Witness

Volume 10, Issue 24

November 25, 2009



Sunday, November 29, 2009
6:00 p.m.
Special Music by Chancel Choir
and Children's Choir



Jesus, thank you for loving us;
and providing food, shelter, and each other.
Every moment of our lives is a gift;
and we appreciate all the time you have given us.
Thank you for all our good fortune.
Amen.



**2009 Habitat Methodist Build Dedication
of the Dunn Family House
Saturday, December 5th
10:00-10:30 a.m.
9327 Chinn St., Baton Rouge
Last house on the right.**

Come share in the dedication celebration of this home we helped build. Meet the homeowner and join with other volunteers in blessing the home, laying hands on and praying over the house, and sharing refreshments.

WANT TO JOIN THE CHURCH?

There will be a Prospective New Member lunch following worship on **Sunday, December 6th** in the Mattie House at noon. If you are not yet a member of this church, but would like to know more about it, please call the church office 225-665-3919 by December 1st to reserve lunch and also childcare, if needed. Lunch is furnished to prospective members.

Coming to this informational lunch on the 6th does not obligate you to join the church. Those who choose to join the church may want to join with others of this group at either worship service on the following Sunday, December 13th.

Happy Birthday, Jesus!



Jesus' Birthday Celebration

December 20th during Sunday School (9:45) at the Mattie St. house. All adult classes are also invited to join the children and youth's celebration.

Special Gifts

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

In Memory of:

- **Steve Thompson** by Agape Circle; James & Gail Rippel; Margarine Smith; O.P. & Betty Waldrep; Rew & Svend Waltman
- **Leroy Veenendaal** by Margarine Smith
- **Jimmy Tripp** by Margarine Smith
- **Donald Allen, Sr.** on his birthday by Minnie Allen.

In Honor of:

- **Jewell Whitehead** by Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Shrewsberry.



Thanks to everyone who chose an Angel Tree card for the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home. They went very quickly!!

If anyone would still like to help the children but weren't able to get a card, there is also a *Wish List* for the home. You can contact me for more information about this *Wish List*.

Michelle Jochim (664-9474)



Christmas for Needy Children

We are presently asking for donations to assist families with children at Christmas. Names of needy families have been obtained. Gifts will be delivered the week before Christmas. If you want to help, please make checks payable to FUMC, and note "Needy Children's Christmas".

Happy Thanksgiving to All

Christmas Music

Hanging of the Greens is Sunday, Nov. 29th at 6:00 p.m. The children performing in the choir should be present by 5:45 p.m. wearing their Christmas clothes.

The Chancel Choir rehearsal for Hanging of the Greens will be from 4-6:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 29th.

On Saturday, December 12th the Bells, Praise Team & children will rehearse from 9-11:30 a.m. for the Cantata. Bells should be done by 9:30; Children should be done by 10:15. Dutch treat lunch will be at 11:30 a.m.

On Sunday, Dec. 13th bells & Children rehearse at 9:45 a.m. Adults, Bells, Praise Team & Children rehearse at 10:00 a.m. Performance will be at 11:00 a.m. Children who are not in costume can wear their Christmas clothes.



Peace Amid Chaos

Tuesday evening December 15th or at 6:30 p.m. there will be a service of calm contemplation in prayer and scripture meditation to breathe the inspiration of peace into the chaotic Advent Season, as we anticipate the Prince of Peace's birth. This special worship service is a welcome pause from chaos, as Jesus' Peace enters our chaotic world.

Letters from Dad

A national men's ministry is expanding into the Denham springs area. It's called *Letters from Dad*. It is helping fathers to learn to leave a legacy by saying the things they've always wanted to say but just didn't know how.

Letters from Dad teaches men to open up their hearts and put into words their love for their wives, children and parents. It not only teaches men "why" to write letters; the men also learn the mechanics of letter writing and how to keep them preserved for posterity.

Contact Billy Gibson at 791-8588 or Jamey Sandefur at 665-9148 for more information. All men are encouraged to attend the first letter writing session on Saturday, December 12th at 8:00 a.m. at the Mattie St. house.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETS MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 30, 2009 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE
CHURCH OFFICE.**

We give thanks to God with . . .

Our Prayers:

Members in Nursing Homes: Connie Brown; Stella Jones; Fay Kling; Keith Hotchkiss; Bob Opperman

Members in hospital: Ochsner – Josephine Schultz; Claude Slaton OLOL – Becky Lambert, double knee replacement surgery

Other Concerns:

Loretta Schultz	Hilda Neal	Shirley Callender
Joe Melilli	George Smith	John Blackman
Barney Thompson	Bill Benton	Jimmy Bamber
Ben Johnson	Shirley Hammons	Sally McClanahan

Stephen Hackett, former Chancel Choir director
Merlin Pritchard, heart attack, brother of Shirley Callender
Sudy Edwards, hip break, surgery, Judy Nelson's mother
Melvin Myers, brain tumor, friend of Robbie Lamm
Hazel Creamer, cancer, Shirley Callender's sister-in-law
Canaan Dourcher, 2-1/2 yr-old child in ICU at OLOL
Gabe Hilliard, Hodgkins Lymphoma, son of Jeff & Jeanie Hilliard
Bonnie Bishop, Bob Blum's sister
Murphy Prejean, surgery, friend of Greg Doggette
Debbie Smith, back surgery, sister of Sylvia Arnold
Jackie Moore, friend of Dottie Doggette

Our Sympathy:

Our sympathy is expressed to the following individuals:

- **Family of Jean Hutchinson** at her death.
- **Family of Marilyn Lobell** at her death.

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A Record of Our Faithfulness – November 22, 2009

Operating Account

2008 YTD	\$383,023.72
2009 YTD	\$380,600.19

Building Fund Contributions

Received 2009 year-to-date	\$2,413,066.45
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Food Pantry

Thanks to everyone who has contributed money & food to the Food Pantry. Special thanks to the following groups for their donations: Livingston Parish Republican Women; Lions Club; DSHS Beta Club; First Baptist Church of Denham Springs; Melissa Cannon Photography; St. Francis Episcopal Weight Watchers group; and DSHS Sr. National Honor Society.

Please remember that the first Sunday of each month is designated as Food Pantry Sunday. Your contributions of nonperishable foods are greatly appreciated. Please make checks to FUMC, noted "Food Pantry".

Evangelism Committee and RETHINK EVANGELISM Follow-up

Evangelism Committee, those who attended the RETHINK EVANGELISM conference and anyone else with an interest in evangelism, will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, December 14th.