

The Witness

Volume 11, Issue 5

March 4, 2010

SAVE THE DATE: April 9th -10th Church-Wide Family Camp at Camp Istrouma - All Ages

Everyone, no matter what family status or church membership, is invited to Family Camp at nearby Camp Istrouma April 9th - 10th. This is a perfect opportunity to invite friends who don't have a church home.

The 24-hour event begins at 5 p.m. Friday and ends at 5 p.m. Saturday. Three sessions will be led by Rev. Lee Allen from Broadmoor United Methodist Church on the subject: Family Relationships. The camp staff will provide special programming for children under 13 years old during the 3 sessions.

\$10 will hold your personal or family registration. No other fees are necessary. The Education Committee of the Church Budget will cover the cost.

Register at sign-up tables outside the sanctuary on Sundays, or by calling the church office Monday-Thursday during the week. When you register, you will need to indicate whether

- You (how many) will be present for dinner at 5 p.m. Friday;
OR
- You (how many) will eat before coming and arrive by 7 p.m.

YOUNG AT HEART PROGRAM

Wednesday, March 17, 2010
10:30 a.m.

Activities for Young at Heart will begin at 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 17, 2010, in our church sanctuary. Please arrive at the church early so we can begin on time. The program will consist of our regular business meeting, special music by Tamra Blum, and a devotional by Rev. Bob.

We have been invited to have lunch with the First Baptist Church Senior Adult group as their guests at 11:30 a.m. They requested that we not contribute anything to the luncheon. We will leave after the program at our sanctuary and go to the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall for the meal.

We will need a count of those wishing to attend by Sunday, March 14th.

UNITED METHODIST MEN And LETTERS FROM DAD

Our March meeting will be held on March 13 and will be a combined UMM/Letters from Dad session. We will cover some UMM business, discuss our efforts from our previous two LFD sessions and then focus on composing a legacy letter. All Dads are invited to participate, whether or not you've attended any of the earlier programs.

Our April UMM meeting will be held on April 17; we've moved the meeting back a week to accommodate the church retreat that weekend. This will be our final combined UMM/LFD meeting where we'll prepare a letter of blessing, love and appreciation to our parents. Please call Billy Gibson at 405-4910 for more information.

HEAR TONY CAMPOLO AT HOME

2 DVDs from November's *Rethink Evangelism* Conference with Dr. Tony Campolo's sessions are available. If you were not able to attend the event sponsored by Bishop Hutchinson, or would like to revisit the topic, contact Lil George, Evangelism Chair, who has graciously made them available on loan. **Lil George (h) 243-6690; (cell) 225-571-7929; or leg2la@msn.com.**



CONFIRMATION DAY WITH THE BISHOP March 20, 2010

Confirmands, youth ministers, pastors and confirmand parents are welcome at this event. Rev. Ginny Allen will be at the retreat as one of the presenters. Check-in begins at 9:15 a.m. & program begins at 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Wesley Center in Woodworth, Louisiana.

Register with Rev. Ginny Allen at revginny@gmail.com or 225-772-6681 giving your and/or your confirmand's name and adult tee shirt size. **DEADLINE: SUNDAY NOON, MARCH 14th.** Submit \$25 (lunch, t-shirt & program) by check to: **FUMC-DS; memo: Confirmation Retreat** at office [8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m on Mon. - Thurs.] or in Sunday worship offering. After March 14th, a late fee brings cost to \$37 per person.

If you would like to sponsor one of our confirmands or a confirmand parent, donations are welcome for any or all of tuition, or to help with spending money for a snack at 2 rest stops on the road and to help cover cost of fuel.

Join us for a fun-filled day of exploring how being a member of the United Methodist Church can ultimately transform us, our churches and even the entire world! Christians, and specifically United Methodist Christians, can be both ultimately transformed and are ultimate transformers. Being a member of the United Methodist Church pushes us into a way of life that is **EXTREME!** Christians, and specifically - United Methodist Christians, are not boring! If we're doing it right, we're out on the edges. Come find out how! If you feel you've become a boring Christian, or you would like to show your support of our Louisiana Conference's up-coming youth, feel free to join in this time of transformation!



EASTER PICNIC AND EGG HUNT

Our annual Easter Picnic and Egg Hunt will be Saturday, March 27, 2010 at North Park in Denham Springs from 4:00 - 6:00 PM. The hunt is at the playground area (North end) of the park. **Fried chicken and desserts will be furnished. You are asked to bring a side dish, your beverages, blankets/quilts/ or lawn chairs.** No ANTS please. In case of rain, the picnic will be postponed. Be prepared to make new friends and "let your LIGHT shine" in our public park - a great opportunity to reach out to other children and families in the park.

DONATIONS FOR EASTER EGG HUNT

Our Education Committee is collecting plastic Easter eggs and/or candy (no chocolate) in preparation for our Easter Egg Hunt on March 27th. Candy needs to be small enough to fit inside the eggs.

Please bring your donations to the church office on Centerville Monday through Thursday (8:30-5:00) or on Sunday mornings to the large buckets in "the cry room" off the narthex. Thanks for your generous support!

Wendy Gibson & Erin Sandefur, Co-Chairs, Education.

**Egg and candy donation deadline:
Sunday, March 14**

Thank You

Thank you to all members of our church who prayed for me during my recent surgery, and sent cards and called. Thanks to Rev. Ginny for the hospital visit, and thanks to Joyce & Jeannette for delivering the beautiful flowers. What a blessing to belong to this caring church.

God Bless you all.

Mattie Cook

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Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank you for supporting our Bake Sale. We were able to purchase through HEIFER INTERNATIONAL a llama, 3 Angora rabbits and 2 flocks of chickens with the funds. Thank you again!

In Christ's Love,

CLUB ALMOST

SPECIAL GIFTS

The following special gifts have made to First United Methodist Church:

In Memory of:

- **Shirley Callender** by Mrs. D. C. Cameron; Sandra B. and Jimmy Fox; Kenneth & Diane Bondioli; Mark & Ashley Hunt; Linda McDaniel; Jeff Coburn & Alexandra Whitten; Michael Blanchard; Agape II Circle; Linda Heard; Bob & Barbara Hill.
- **Keith Hotchkiss** by Mrs. D. C. Cameron; Mr. & Mrs. Abner Cook; Jeannette Prestridge; Joyce Annison.
- **Claude Slaton** by Janelle K. Carrier Hutchinson; Josephine Schultz; Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Hutchinson; Mrs. D. C. Cameron; Agape II Circle; Bob & Barbara Hill; Jack Watson.

In Honor of:

- **Pat Rhea** by Joyce Annison.
- **Carol Lamm** by Joyce Annison.

Acolytes

Acolytes for Sunday, March 7th are the following:
8:30 a.m. – Victoria Page & Ainsleigh LaCombe
11:00 a.m. – Justin & Ian Sumrall

Food Pantry

The Emergency Food Pantry thanks the **First Baptist Church Youth Group** for their substantial donation of food, which was collected during its church wide food drive. The food was delivered to the Food Pantry last week by Lindsay Masters and her dad, Steve Masters. **THANKS!!!!**

We give thanks to God with . . .

Our Prayers:

Members in Nursing Homes: Connie Brown; Stella Jones; Bob Opperman

Members in LaPlantation: Fay Kling

Members in Hospital: Ochsner – Lila Robinson; Lela Alexander

Other Concerns:

Bill Benton Hilda Neal Margarine Smith
 Josephine Schultz George Smith
 Kristi Rutherford, in critical care, friend of Lela Alexander
 Tamra Blum's mother, surgery
 Mike Hardin, Janice Azlin's son, in OLOL
 God's guidance – Youth Minister for FUMC-DS
 Willie Mae Easterly, heart problems, Ernestine Hood's sister
 Vanora F. Nelson, back problems, Ernestine Hood's sister
 Ermalee Eller, stroke, Ernestine Hood's sister
 Betty Mae Street, heart problems, Ernestine Hood's sister
 Gabe Hilliard, Hodgkins Lymphoma, son of Jeff & Jeanie Hilliard
 Mrs. Willie McMurray, amputation of legs, Marguerite Cameron's friend
 Evelyn Vicknair, stroke, friend of Debbie Webb
 Liz Perrin, leukemia, mother of Kellen Perrin, fiancé of David Waldrep

Our Sympathy:

Our sympathy is expressed to **Dot Davis** at the death of her aunt.

Our Presence:

	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Worship</u>
2/28/2010	99	204

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A Record of Our Faithfulness – February 28, 2010

<u>Operating Account</u>	
2009 YTD	\$63,705.65
2010 YTD	\$62,244.97
<u>Building Fund Contributions</u>	
Received 2010 year-to-date	\$28,546.00
Total funds available for construction	\$2,477,524.40



Please contact the church office (665-8995) if you wish to sign up to provide flowers for our altar in memory or honor of someone. The cost is \$45 per Sunday. Open dates in the near future are: March 21st; March 28th; April 4th; April 11th; April 18th; and May 9th; May 16th.

Our newsletter is on our website: <http://www.fumc-ds.org/newsletter.html>. Select date, to view. Contact Linda Heard 225-665-8995 or office@fumc-ds.org, if you prefer the online option to save our church postage, paper, ink and other copy costs.