

# The Witness

## Youth Stuff

We are beginning our Bible study this **Sunday (27th) @ 5-7pm.** We will be studying the book of James. Bring your Bibles and be ready to go deep.

**Wednesday nights from 6-8pm** is designed for having fun, bringing friends, and talking about different topics. Over the next 4 weeks we are going to unpack the 4 elements of the Christian life - Word, Prayer, Community, and Service.

\*\*We will be meeting **July 4th** for Bible study. Afterwards, we are going to watch the **fireworks** on the riverfront in Baton Rouge. We will be taking the church van. Estimated return is 10:30pm.

**3G Network (Giving, Growth, Group)**, July 17th, 8am-3pm. We will be serving our community in the morning, worshipping around lunchtime, and ending the day with pure gross-ness!

We are needing:

1. Lawns care equipment - push mowers, weedeater (string trimmers), shears, etc.
2. Adults to supervise (especially in the morning).

\*If you can help with either or both, please contact Tony Angell - [arangell81@gmail.com](mailto:arangell81@gmail.com) or 305-8600

## Young Adults

Sunday School is back! If you are in your 20s, join us in the quiet room located in the back of the sanctuary at 9:45.

\*\*Interested in meeting people who are seeking a deeper life with Christ? A life group is in the making. Contact Tony - [arangell81@gmail.com](mailto:arangell81@gmail.com) or 305-8600

### A Record of Our Faithfulness – June 20, 2010

#### Operating Account

Operating Account	2009 YTD	\$196,809.90
Operating Account	2010 YTD	\$183,393.96
Budget amount needed to date	2010 YTD	\$226,102.00
Building fund Contributions	2010 YTD	\$ 98,817.00
Total funds available for construction		\$2,865,034.11

#### Witness Newsletter

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](mailto:office@fumc-ds.org), if you prefer the online option to save our church postage, paper, ink and other copy costs.

## "We walk by faith, not by sight." – 2 Corinthians 5:7

In my early twenties I did a few stints in offshore oil fields, where one of my challenges was gaining weight. As the lightest among a crew of burly roughnecks, I had a hard time cracking big valves and turning monster wrenches. I just didn't have enough "oomph" to throw into the job. Now, I find myself stepping on the scales and wondering how I could shed a few pounds. Back then I used to eat huge bowls of ice cream every night, covered with crushed-up graham crackers and slathered with honey or caramel. These days I try limiting my intake, passing up sweets, and at least *thinking* about exercise. Whether then or now, I never experienced overnight transformation. As much as I would like, it hasn't happened. In both cases, the changes weren't immediate. Progress and transformation take time; at least they do for us.

We are all excited to see the signs of growth in our congregational life. Our building is coming up from the massive mound of earth that has been seemingly dormant. Our Youth group is seeing new faces and expanding to a twice-weekly program. A new Young Adult Sunday School class for 20-somethings is about to be birthed (see Tony for more info). Our Missions and Education areas are stirring with new activity and direction. We sense a new, fresh wind of God's Spirit in our midst, even as we celebrate Pentecost and continue our sermon series through the book of Acts.

It's inspiring to be in a place and time where we can *see* growth and new life. But let us also remember, that true and lasting change takes time. The good news is: God is patient and never seems to be hurried in bringing about His intended purposes.

So, let us celebrate the present and all it brings, while keeping our eyes on the horizon, knowing that the best is yet to be!

**Rev. Bob**

#### Special Gifts

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

#### In Memory of:

- **Fay Kling** by Lion Copolymer; Al & Mary Ann Guitrau; Mrs. D. C. Cameron; Anne Byland; Mr. & Mrs. C. T. Hazleton.

#### In Honor of:

- **D-Day** by Greg Green

#### **Coming in August....**

**Blessing of the Backpacks  
& Promotion Sunday  
Sunday, August 8, 2010**

## "Shares" in Ministry to Youth, Young Adults, and Young Families

(Gifts made to this fund will be used exclusively for salary support of the Director of Youth, Young Adult, and Young Families)

"Shares"	Given by	In Honor or in Memory of
1	Terry & Karron Alwood	In Honor of Beth Thompson
1	Bob & Bonnie Edmonson	In Memory of Steve Thompson & in Honor of Karron & Terry Alwood & church members who provided food for the youth
Designated gift	Bob & Bonnie Edmonson	In Honor of Billy Gibson & Erin Sandefur
1	Bo & Ann Garrison	In Honor of Ruth & Mac Trahan
1	Margarine Smith	In Honor of Trevor Crawford & Elizabeth Crawford-Drake
1	Shane & Becky LaCombe	In Honor of Ainsleigh LaCombe, Victoria Page & Emma Jochim

## *Thank You*

A note of heartfelt "Thanks" to all my church family at my recent surgery. I love you all very much for the ongoing prayers, cards and flowers. I am never surprised by the love and support of my church, but I am humbled. You are all loving and caring Christians that I am proud to call my family and friends. My blessings continue to be endless because of all of you. All my love and prayers to all of you,

**Caroline Hutchinson**

\* \* \*

We wish to thank the church for all the love and support through your kindness and gifts during our transition to Denham Springs. We have felt truly blessed and welcomed.

**Tony & Sarah Angell**

## **Preaching Schedule**

What better time, as we rebuild our facilities, to study how God built the church! During the coming weeks, one focal point of our Sunday messages will be the book of Acts. You may wish to read along, or even to read through the entire book, to gain even deeper insights to how God can move in the midst of His people!

June 27.....Acts 7:54-8:1  
July 4.....Acts 8:14-25  
July 11.....United Methodist Men's Sunday  
July 18..... Rev. Ginny Allen Preaching  
July 25.....Acts 11:19-26

## **Agape I Circle**

Agape I Circle will meet July 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Sue Fairchild's house, 1471 Cottonwood Drive in the Willows subdivision. Please contact Sue at 229-1648 if you have questions.

## **Agape II Circle**

Agape II Circle will not meet in the month of July. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. New meeting place will be the Mattie St. house.

## **Building Update**

Demolition began on Wednesday, June 23, in the parking lot adjacent to our sanctuary and gym. This demolition is necessary to pour footings for the new covered drop-off area, which will be in front of the current location of the flagpole. **Please note that some parking spaces will not be accessible.** Caution should be exercised when using the remaining spaces in this lot.

Additional parking has been graciously offered by Judy Averette, **on the grass lot at the corner of Mattie and Easterly.** Those who are able are encouraged to park there, as well as in the grassy area behind the church office. Utilizing these spaces will allow those who are less mobile (as well as our visitors) to find closer spaces.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### New this week:

**Jordyn Wesley** (confirmand going into 7<sup>th</sup> grade), back surgery (scoliosis) July 2<sup>nd</sup> in Dallas

**Wendy Gibson's** aunt, moving to nursing home this week

**Michaela & Cohlma Caracio**, knee surgery date changed to 8/10, Ginny's nieces

**Jana Orillion**, bedridden by vertigo; she & Chad have a 2-yr-old

### Hospitalized:

**Keith Crochet**, brain tumor, friend of **Dot Davis**

**Jessie Hollier**, **Open heart 6/15/10 at Ochsner BR**, Kerry & Lisa Comeaux's nephew

### Recovery:

**Bobby Anison**, at home after successful surgery

**John Blackman** – vision & carotid artery

**Steve Carney**, **Lana Kiker's** nephew, recuperating from reconstructive surgery

**Katie Finney**, recuperating from wrist surgery

**Opal Bradley**, TIA, Sue Ballard's mother

**Jo Schultz**, expected to return home 6/26, after rehab

### Cancer Patients:

**Sherry Leonardo**, lung cancer (Austin), friend of Ginny's daughter

**Margaret Alito**, recurrence of cancer, sister of Cary Neal's co-worker

**Liz Perrin** - leukemia, **David Waldrep's** mom-in-law

**Brenda Lowe** - colon cancer, DSHS coach;

**Donnie Brown**, cancer treatment, **Bill & Marie Brown's** son

**Bobby Tallo**, cancer, friend of Heather Williams

**Helen Allen**, cancer treatment, friend of Ginny Allen

### Ongoing Illness:

**Joan Ellis**, continuing pain in leg

**Mike Picou**, awaiting a heart transplant, friend of Jenny Barclay

**George Smith**

**Hilda Neal**

**Norma Fox**, **Richard Fox's** mom;

**John Page, Sr.**, **Wesley Page's** dad, stroke, dementia

**Charles Gibson**, to nursing home care, **Sue Fairchild's** dad

**Mae Matthews**, **Terresa Ellis'** mom

### In Nursing Homes:

**Connie Brown**

**Stella Jones**

### In LaPlantation:

**Wally Waldrup**

### Military Service & Families:

**Sam Allen**: Spangdahlem USAF Base Germany

### Prayers for Comfort:

Our sympathy is expressed to the family of **Josephine Roberts**, at her death on June 22, 2010. Our sympathy is expressed to the family of **Diane Rathe**, at her death.

### Ongoing Concerns:

**Tony & Sarah's first baby**, due this summer

### PRAISES

**Jimmie Lee DeLaune**, at home after heart procedure

**Margarine Smith**, much improved