

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH,
LAKE
JACKSON,
TEXAS



**First Church strives
to be like Jesus!**

- Praising God!
- Teaching God's Word!
- Loving one another!
- Strengthening families!
- Sharing the Good News!

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The Messenger

Volume 40, Issue 2

January 20, 2010

THIS SPRING AT FUMC!

- Alpha Program

Alpha presents the core beliefs of the Christian faith and shows you some practical applications of truth to life. Alpha is presented in a ten-week informal setting with each Wednesday evening including a meal, a video, and small group discussion. It is aimed at those who seek to learn more about the Christian faith or those wanting to brush up on its basics. Alpha has shown us that it's possible to learn about the Christian faith and to have fun at the same time. It's people of like age and interest meeting together, making new friends and looking at some of life's tough questions. It also offers the chance to ask anything about God or religion where no question is seen as too simple or no response too hostile.

Join us for a no-strings-attached "Alpha Sampler" on February 3rd at 6:00 in the Asbury Room. There is no charge for the course or manual but a \$5 donation to cover the meal is appreciated. Childcare is also provided. To register or for more information contact Bill Stell 297-3046 or billstell@swbell.net

- Marriage Covenant

Meets on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm in the Round Table Room. Studying marriage topics this Spring. Childcare is provided.

- Beth Moore Bible Study

Meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 am in the Asbury Room. A Study of Revelation, "Here and Now/There and Then". Nursery is provided.

- Small Groups

Tuesday evenings at Daniel & Robin Johnson's home. Studying the book of John. 6:00 pm, childcare available.

Welcome to our newest members!

The Kennedy Family
Joined January 3, 2010

Jason & Renee
& their sons:
Brett & Braxton



Pastor Charles Geller

Moving Our Lives from Complex to Simple

What are your priorities in life? What would Jesus have you focusing on? I would like to make a simple suggestion.

Jesus told us that we are to keep life simple. Did He really say that? I believe that Jesus said this clearly in Matthew's gospel. The religious institution of the day tried to keep around 600 commandments. Wow! These guys were industrious. The truth of the matter was they didn't do a very good job of keeping all of these laws.

One day the religious leaders sent a really erudite guy to challenge Jesus. This spokesman wanted to put Jesus in His place and add on a heap of humiliation with a law quiz. "Out of all of these 613 laws,

which one is the greatest?" All eyes were on the young man who was a carpenter.

To their amazement, Jesus took all 613 laws and summed them up into a simple two commands. "Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second is like the first: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the law and prophets depend on these two commandments."

Jesus never lessened the power of the law. He never said that He was abolishing the law. He just made it really simple. He put the law into a perspective for the people trying to be faithful to God.

His emphasis was this, if you get these two right, the rest will be ok.

My question is this. How can we take our faith and faith journeys and make them less complex? Loving God, having a healthy self respect, and loving people like you respect yourself are really three little ways to find significance in life.

Most of the time I can handle three, but I would be in real trouble with 613. I am glad that Jesus specialized in a profoundly "simple" approach to life.

Peace!

Pastor Geller

UM ARMY Meeting



All youth & parents!

UM ARMY

Informational Meeting!

Sunday, January 24th at 2:00 in the youth center.

Those who will complete 9th grade this year - 12th grade!

Our New Nursery Coordinator

Parents:

I'd like to take an opportunity to introduce myself as the new Nursery Coordinator. My name is Alexandra Edinger, and I am very excited to take on this position here at church! I have been a special education teacher in BISD for the last nine years, though this year I took a position in administration. I am married to Chris, and have two children of my own; Caleb (8) and Hailey (2). I look forward to working with the wonderful nursery staff, and helping to care for your children.

They are, as you know, gifts from God!

Memorials & Gifts

In memory of Bobby Morrow
by Lester Caldwell, Ruby Marie Caldwell Owen,
Phobe Caldwell Giddens

In memory of Bobby Morrow
by Mrs. Ruby Owen

In memory of Bobby Morrow
by Rogers & Barbara Michna

In memory of Bobby Morrow
by Delbert & Glynda Smith

In memory of Bobby Morrow
by Horace & Gayle Driskill

In memory of Bobby Morrow
by Jim & Roberta Hemphill

In memory of Johnnie Hutchison, mother of Janelle McGuire
by Donna Tetlow

In memory of Johnnie Hutchison, mother of Janelle McGuire
by Helen Buchanan

In memory of Johnnie Hutchison, mother of Janelle McGuire
by JoAnn Collier

In memory of Johnnie Hutchison, mother of Janelle McGuire
by Joe & Elmer Ellerd



Sympathies

We extend our love & sympathy to:

To Wynama Wheeler, on the death of her sister, Joe Anne Allen, and to Andy & Deana Wheeler and Carol & Mitch Escuriex, in the death of Andy & Carol's aunt.

Wynama Wheeler
108 Jamestown Ave.
Clute, TX 77531

Andy & Deana Wheeler
128 Sleepy Hollow
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

Carol & Mitch Escuriex
609 That Way
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

To Pat & Jim Gauntt, in the death of Pat's sister, Dolores Alexander.

Pat & Jim Gauntt
55 N. Shamrock Ct.
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

To Peggy Wille, in the death of her husband, Harry Wille.

Peggy Wille
701 W. Kyle Road
Clute, TX 77531

To Judy Morrow, in the death of her husband, Bobby Morrow.

Judy Morrow
219 Sleepy Hollow
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

To Janelle & Tim McGuire, in the death of Janelle's mother, Johnnie Hutchison.

Janelle & Tim McGuire
125 Clover
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

Children's Ministries

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010

July 19-23
5:30 - 8:15 pm



Children ages 3 years - 4th grade welcome!!
Put it on your calendar now!!

Mission Kids!

Dates for the Spring

February 16, March 2, April 6, April 20

****Note** Time change:**

4 - 5 pm 1st & 3rd Tuesdays!

Children's Church

1st & 3rd Sundays during the 9:00 service!

Children ages 5 yrs - 2nd grade!

We need your help keeping this ministry alive!! Please sign up for a date to help!

Call Amanda Wood - 248-7293

Other Dates for the Summer!

Lakeview Church Camp

July 12-16

Starting this summer!!

A NEW, EXCITING MINISTRY for our kids & the kids in our communities! FUMC Children's ministry will be offering 5 day camps for children aging 2 yrs - 4th grade!

The dates are: **August 9-13**

The themes are:

- **All Creatures of our God & King:**
2 camps - 2 yr olds, 3-4 yr olds
- **Space/Science**
2 camps: K-2, 3-4 grades
- **Scrapbooking:** 1 camp: 3-4 grades

More info to come soon! If you'd like to help in any way, contact Mindy Standlee!

Submerge (Program for 5-6 graders!!)

Dates for Spring 2010

January 24th - Spring Kick-off!! \$3 for dinner! Bring a friend!

February 28 - (Bible Study, Games & lots of fun!!)

March 28 - (Bible Study, Games & lots of fun!!)

April 11 - (Bible Study, Games & lots of fun!!)

April 25 - Last Submerge for the Spring!

****Submerge will not be meeting the weeks of Feb 14 or March 14 due to holidays & Spring Break!**

Youth Ministries

Super Bowl Sunday!

February 7th

SUB Sandwich Sale Fundraiser

We need youth & adults to help



Super Bowl Party

5:00 pm

539 Sycamore



Girls Night Out

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 6:30 p.m.
SHANGHAI RESTAURANT, LAKE JACKSON

Please RSVP to Mary Helen Israel at 297-6968 if they plan to attend.

Thank You

Thank you to First's Foods and Fellowship Servers for December:

- Sandy Reinhart
- Trena & Paul Moses
- Sue Scott
- Carol Edwards
- Glenda Freeman
- Norma Stell

Thank you to Aggco Air!

New heat and air units were installed in the pre-school wing during the Christmas break. Thank you to all who were so patient and endured the cold and thank you to Aggco Air for their professional services.

The Worship Team would like to recognize and thank the following "angels" who helped make First Church so beautiful for the Christmas season:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Lisa Long | Wilda Patton |
| Trena Moses | Bob Patton |
| Paul Moses | Sandy Reinhart |
| Sue Ellen (Moses) Scott | Shirley Rylander |
| Jerry Shockley | Pat Shaw |

And sincere appreciation to those who took on the challenge of removing the decorations and returning them to storage:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Tom Crawford | Paul Moses |
| Curly Leshikor | Sue Ellen (Moses) Scott |
| Trena Moses | |

Thank you for blessing the church with your service.

- Pat Gauntt, Delia Hoskins, Sharron Shockley
 FUMC Worship Team

First Church Attendance & Gifts

Dates	Jan 3	Jan 10
Sunday Services	405	376
Sunday School	174	220
Giving*	\$10,640.00	\$9,235.00

*Note - \$16,805.00 needed weekly to fulfill our ministries.

Women's Ministry

Women's Winter Retreat

February 5 - 7, 2010

The Lodge at Danbury

"So You Want to Get Away?...So did Jonah!"

Game Night

January 29, 2010

For all women!

Bring a game & munchies!

Meets at 7:00 pm in the Asbury Room.



Praying for:

Helen Bryan and Family

Russell Anders

Crystal O'Connor

Jeri Masterson's Family and Friends

Judy Morrow

Peggy Wille

Nancy Mikulencak

Church Staff

If you or someone you know would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the church office.

Faith in Action

11th Annual Wild Game Dinner Fundraiser

Friday, February 12, 2010 at 6:30 PM

St. Michael's Catholic Church

\$20 Ticket Donation

Block of 8 Tickets \$140 - Children under 12 are free

Live & Silent Auctions, "Blue Bag Raffle", Live Music

Catered by Brazosport area's Finest Cooking Teams!

Dine In Only

If you would like to donate an auction item, or purchase tickets please contact

Susanne Cook 979-236-0527

2010 CAMP DATES

April 16-18 – FUMC, LJ

June 11-13 – Chapelwood UMC, LJ

July 22-25 – St Timothy's Episcopal, LJ

November 13 – Christ Lutheran, LJ



First Church Calendar of Events

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

8:30 am - Moms Group [WVP]
 6:00 pm - Youth U-Turn Program [YC]
 6:30 pm- "A Life Worth Living" Small Grp[WVP]
 6:00 pm - Advent Small Grp [Cy Parks' home]
 6:00 pm - Marriage Covenant [Round Table]
 7:30 pm - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal [Choir Rm]

Thursday, January 21, 2010

9:30 am - Beth Moore Bible Study [AR]
 5:15 pm - Praise Band Practice [Sanctuary]
 6:30 pm - Barbershop Group [Rm 23]
 7:00 pm - Cub Pack Mtg [WH]
 8:00 pm - SLP Teacher Workout [Rm 7]

Friday, January 22, 2010

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

6:00 am - Lost and Found Men's Prayer Breakfast [VWH]

Saturday, January 23, 2010

1:00 pm - Cub Scout Pack 325 Pinewood Derby [VWH]

Sunday, January 24, 2010

8:00 am - Traditional Worship [Chapel]
 9:00 am - Contemporary Worship [Sanctuary]
 10:00 am - Sunday School for all ages
 11:00 am - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]
 3:00 pm - Confirmation [AR, Lib, Chapel]
 5:00 pm - UTurn Youth Program [Homes]

Monday, January 25, 2010

5:30 pm - Webelos II Cub Scout Mtg [Rm 14]
 7:00 pm - Boy Scout Troop 325 [VWH]
 8:00 pm - SLP Teacher Workout [Rm 7]

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

9:00 am - 8:00 pm - Chapel open for prayer
 9:00 am - Tuesday Morning Play Group [Potter's Place]
 9:00 am - Staff Mtg [WVP]
 5:00 pm - Worship Planning Mtg [WVP]

Wednesday, January 27, 2010

8:30 am - Moms Group [WVP]
 10:00 am - Friendship Club [VWH]
 6:00 pm - Youth U-Turn Program [YC]
 6:30 pm - "A Life Worth Living" Small Grp[WVP]
 6:00 pm - Advent Small Grp [Cy Parks' home]
 6:00 pm - Marriage Covenant [Round Table]
 7:30 pm - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal [Choir Rm]

Thursday, January 28, 2010

9:30 am - Beth Moore Bible Study [AR]
 11:00 am - Clergy Covenant Group [WVP]
 1:00 pm - Proverbs Study [Lib]
 5:15 pm - Praise Band Practice [Sanctuary]
 6:00 pm - Primetimers [VWH]
 6:00 pm - Tiger Den Mtg [Rm 14]
 6:00 pm - Webelos I Pack 325 Mtg [AR]
 6:30 pm - Barbershop Group [Rm 23]
 8:00 pm - SLP Teacher Workout [Rm 7]

Friday, January 29, 2010

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

6:00 am - Lost and Found Men's Prayer Breakfast [VWH]
 7:00 pm - Ladies Game Night [AR]

Saturday, January 30, 2010

11:00 am - Russell Anders Benefit BBQ at MacLean Park

Sunday, January 31, 2010

8:00 am - Traditional Worship [Chapel]
 9:00 am - Contemporary Worship [Sanctuary]
 10:00 am - Sunday School for all ages
 11:00 am - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]
 3:00 pm - Confirmation [AR, Lib, Chapel]
 5:00 pm - UTurn Youth Program [Homes]

Monday, February 1, 2010

6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry Mtg [Lib]
 7:00 pm - Cub Scout Pack Committee Mtg [Rm 14]
 7:00 pm - Boy Scout Troop 325 [VWH]
 8:00 pm - SLP Teacher Workout [Rm 7]

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

9:00 am-8:00 pm - Chapel open for prayer
 9:00 am - Tuesday Morning Play Group [Potter's Place]
 9:00 am - Staff Mtg [WVP]
 4:00 pm - Mission Kids [VWH]

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

8:30 am - Moms Group [WVP]
 10:00 am - Friendship Club [VWH]
 6:00 pm - Youth U-Turn Program [YC]
 6:00 pm - Alpha [AR]
 6:00 pm - Marriage Covenant [Round Table]
 7:30 pm- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal [Choir Rm]

WH=Wesley Hall WVP=Wilson Parlor AR=Asbury Room BR=Body Rhythmics Room YC=Youth Center Lib=Library

Partners in Ministry

Ministers Every Member of the church
 Senior Pastor, Ext. 103 (FT)..... Charles Geller
 Executive Associate Pastor, Ext. 107 (FT)..... Bill Stell
 Music & Fine Arts Ministries Interim, Ext. 109.....Laura Mays
 Contemporary Worship Leader (PT) Joshua Johnson
 Youth Ministries, Ext. 111 (FT)..... Steve Corn
 Children's Ministries &
 Communications, Ext. 108 (PT)..... Mindy Standlee

Church Secretary, Ext. 100(FT)..... Celeste Davis
 Membership Secretary, Ext. 101(FT)..... Tricia Easter
 Financial Secretary, Ext. 102 (PT)..... Ginger Mitchamore
 School for Little People, Dir., Ext. 110..... Miranda Corn
 Organist (PT) Barbara Carter
 Custodial/Grounds (FT)..... Dora Riojas,
 Diane & Manuel Salazar

FT=Full Time

PT=Part Time

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TEXAS



Experience the Journey!

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404 Azalea
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Periodicals
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Lake Jackson, TX 77566

Visit us at www.ljfumc.org

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BBQ, Bake Sale & Silent Auction Benefit for Russell Anders



- When: January 30th, 2010
- Where: MacLean Park, Lake Jackson
- Time: 11 am - 4 pm
- BBQ plates will be \$8

Please contact:
Andrew (713-208-8813) or
Ashley (979-824-0229) for
more information.



Love kids?
Interested in a little extra money?
We'd love to have YOUR smiling face in
the nursery to be a light in the lives of
God's greatest creations!

For information, Call Alexandra Edinger
236-9847 or e-mail: ab_edinger@yahoo.com