



A&M  
United Methodist Church

# Messenger

*Sharing the heart of Christ.*

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March 10, 2006



## Soup 'n' Sermon

Dr. Bob Waters and the Youth Choir got our Lenten Soup 'n' Sermon off to a great start on March 5th. Soup 'n' Sermon is being offered every Sunday night during Lent (March 5–April 9) in the Fellowship Hall. We begin at 5:45 p.m. with soup and fellowship. Special music is provided, and our pastors in the pews preach the sermons. This church is blessed to have six former pastors in our pews. These men have given years to ministering in churches and pulpits around the world. The schedule for the remaining weeks of Soup 'n' Sermon will be:

**March 12 - Dan Louis, Music by Linda Compton**  
**March 19 - Dwayne Suter, Music by Kathy Taylor**  
**March 26 - Jim Wright, Music by Ruth Alfred**  
**April 2 - Guy Pry, Music by Merinda Wagner**  
**April 9 - Lawrence Smith, Music by Betty Munion**

*Mark your calendar now and plan to be present on Sunday nights during Lenten Season for Soup 'n' Sermon.*

## Churchwide Day of Service Saturday, April 1

We are planning a churchwide day of service for Saturday, April 1, 2006. The day will be a chance for everyone in the church to come together in service to others and the church. Plans are to have a light breakfast at 8:00 a.m., a commissioning service, then head out to accomplish all of our tasks. We will be painting, cleaning, and fixing up around the church and working in the community. There will be mission and service activities for the children. We want everyone to be able to participate.

Please mark your calendars for April 1st and watch for details of the projects we will accomplish that day. If you know of something that needs to be done (either at the church or in the local area) and would like to lead that effort on April 1, please contact Will McCollum or Gene Lovering at the church office (846-8731).

## Hire-a-Hand

Are your windows dirty and in need of cleaning? Is your yard overgrown with weeds? Do your walls need a fresh coat of paint? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then you're in luck! On Saturday, April 1, the Mexico Missionaries will be working for members of our congregation on household or yard-related projects. All donations will directly benefit the College/Adult Mexico Mission Trip in May. We invite you to partner with us as we prepare for this exciting mission trip opportunity!

You may pick up a request form for Hire-a-Hand this Sunday from the Information Table or by e-mailing Lance at [collegenews@am-umc.org](mailto:collegenews@am-umc.org).

## Our Missionaries Are Off to Mexico and Mississippi

Our missionaries will leave this Saturday. Please remember them in your prayers next week. Mexico missionaries are: Bob & Kelsey Appleton, David Bonds, Fabi Brandenberger, Zach Brattin, Porscha Buck, Amanda Hamilton, Laurinda, Lee, & Sam Kwiatkowski, Ryan & Lauren Longmire, Linda Marr, Lee Pilgreen, Lauren Raisor, Santiago Tani, Vickey, Andrew, & Kirsten Tesh, Penny, Laura, & Sarah Thomas.



SPRING-BREAK  
MISSIONS  
TRIP

Our Mississippi missionaries are: Alex Azevedo, David Baggett, Keith Christensen, Deanna Dahl, Richard Goodman, Vickie Hennings, Elizabeth Ivey, Kari Leavell, Paige Jackson, Leta Lemmons, Gene Lovering, Ansel Michels, James Moughon, Lance Richards, Katie Shannon, Stan & Beckie Stover, Laura Suffridge, Rachel Thorne, Merinda Wagner, Jennifer Wasson, Elliot Yendell, and Joshua Young.

# 2006 Confirmation Class Retreat



The Sixth Grade Confirmation class had a great time at Pineywoods Baptist Encampment during their spring retreat. Attending were (front L-R) Tracy Leigh Biggs, Rachel Sicilio, Gayla Gregory, Chance Wager, Austin Adams, (middle L-R) Carol Bonds, LuBecca Long, Elizabeth Marsico, Sarah Almand, Marybeth Dietz, Samantha Lopez, (back L-R) Andrew Tesh, Dustin Moore, Laurinda Kwiatkowski, Richard Goodman, and Anna Kwiatkowski.



## Summer Schedule for Kids – Mark Your Calendar!

District Camp - June 19–23  
Vacation Bible School - June 26–30  
MusicMakers '06 - TBA in July

## Parents' Weekend Hullabaloo Saturday, April 8, 2006

Join us on Saturday, April 8, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for our Parents' Weekend Hullabaloo! College Ministries would like to show our appreciation and gratitude to this congregation for its continued support.

Mark your calendars for this come-and-go burger lunch before the Maroon and White Game, and accept our deepest thanks for making it another wonderful year in College Ministries.

## OPERATION EASTER LILY



*Operation Easter Lily* begins now! This year we are building a much-needed and long-overdue handicap ramp leading from the courtyard to the sanctuary. Construction will begin next week and is estimated to cost around \$13,000. We will be collecting a special offering to pay for this ramp from now until Easter.

You may donate money in honor or memory of loved ones.

The name *Operation Easter Lily* originated several years ago when, instead of purchasing lilies at Easter, we elected to spend the money on projects around the church. Past *Operation Easter Lily* projects include pew Bibles, Chancel Choir robes, a new church van, a grand piano, a portable sound system, and new pew cushions.

This year, however, we will do both! We will be purchasing Easter lilies to adorn the sanctuary and the Great Hall of the Christian Life Center for our Easter services. The lilies will be provided by The Greenery at a cost of \$12 each. Look for Operation Easter Lily forms in the bulletin this Sunday.



### Why is giving important to you?

*I equate giving to nurturing. By giving of my time, my resources, and myself, I know that I will be able to nurture either a child, a program, or some other vital mission which is near and dear to my heart. —Mary Ellen Hogan*



## Kip's Korner

by Rev. Kip Gilts

### "Enough"

*God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.* II Corinthians 9:8

What a wonderful word is the word, "enough." It speaks of contentment. Dr. Richard Hughes in his commentary on II Corinthians wrote, "Denial of self for the benefit of others enlarges the heart to receive a rich benison of contentedness and launches one into that limitless sea of grace where we learn experimentally that God does indeed supply every need of those who trust in him." This is the description of enough—"a rich benison of contentedness." Does that sound as inviting to you as it does to me?

Yet so often we focus on what we want and what we need and neglect the room called "contentment" in life. This is the room where there is enough.

The season of Lent invites us to a simpler discipline. It is a time for the Mary in us to sit at Jesus' feet and listen to him. You remember the story of Jesus visiting the sisters Martha and Mary, don't you? Martha was so busy getting lunch ready that she almost missed the guest. Mary, on the other hand, did not seem to care if she ate or not. The bigger issue was that Jesus was there and that was enough (Mark 10:38-42).

Aida Spencer wrote in her commentary on the II Corinthians passage above, "We will never have enough unless we give it away." This is the secret to contentment, realizing that we have enough to give away. This is the spiritual discipline of stewardship: trusting that God has placed in our care enough resources that we can trust God as we give a portion of those blessings back to God's kingdom. God gives us enough so that we can share in God's work.

If you have not yet responded to God's call to stewardship, by commit-



March 5, 2006

#### Contributions

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Offering        | \$18,687.56  |
| MTD             | \$18,687.56  |
| YTD             | \$182,886.87 |
| 2005 Carryunder | (21,442.88)  |

#### Expenses

|     |              |
|-----|--------------|
| MTD | \$21,402.69  |
| YTD | \$219,859.62 |

#### Communion Offering for Diane

Wimberley  
\$626.00



Ash Wednesday - 210

March 5, 2006

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 8:30 a.m.  | 297        |
| 9:45 a.m.  | 93         |
| 10:50 a.m. | <u>330</u> |
| TOTAL      | 720        |

### Kip's Korner continued

ting to share in the good work of A&M UMC, I encourage you to do so today. This Sunday is Follow-up Sunday, when we seek to complete the Stewardship Campaign, "On the Right Path." Your response matters to your church and your God, who is "able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

Sincerely,  
Kip

## Prayer Corner

**Prayers of Healing** for Bill Hawthorne (St. Joseph's Manor), Keith Arnold (St. Joseph's Hosp.), Virginia Johnson and Kenneth Evans (Sheridan on Rock Prairie), Bambi English (at home), and M. J. LaBorde Sr. (Louisiana).

**Prayers of Comfort** for Gib Sawtelle, whose father, Gilbert Goss Sawtelle II, died on March 2.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving** for the birth of Sydney Rebekah Gilmore, born February 24 to Kevin and Natalie Gilmore. Grandparents are Bob and Nancy Gilmore. Also for the birth of Marjorie Bryce Clendenin, born February 28 to Scott and Angela Clendenin.

*Please keep our troops around the world and their families in your prayers.*

## College/Adult Mission Fundraisers

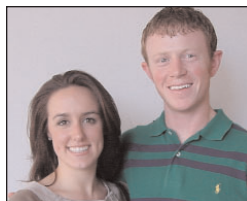
### Thank you!

A huge "thank you" goes out to the United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Men for their help in the Burger Bash on February 26. With their help, we were able to raise over \$1,100!

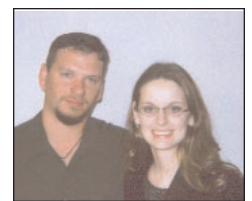
### Tamale Lunch

On Sunday, March 26, we will be serving a tamale luncheon. Serving begins at 11:00 a.m. and continues until 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You can dine in or take out for \$6 per plate, or \$8 per dozen tamales. A plate includes tamales with chili and cheese, rice, beans, dessert, and a drink.

All proceeds will benefit the College/Adult Mexico mission trip in May. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, March 19.



Kathryn Taylor and Rusty Chiles  
1816A Woodsman, C.S. 77840 (Kathryn)  
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Heath and Ashley Starns  
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Bryan, 77801  
Phone 255-3411

## Welcome New Members

# Activities at A&M United Methodist Church

## Sunday, March 12, 2006

- 8:30 a.m. \*Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:40 a.m. \*Sunday School for all ages
- 9:45 a.m. \*Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
- 10:50 a.m. \*Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. College Men's Bible Study, Room 211
- 5:00 p.m. College Women's Bible Study, Room 219
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir, Choir Room
- 5:45 p.m. Soup 'n' Sermon, Fellowship Hall**
- 6:30 p.m. Prayer Team, Parlor
- 8:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon, Rooms 204 & 209

## Monday, March 13, 2006

- 6:30 p.m. Christian Believer, Parlor

## Tuesday, March 14, 2006

- 6:30 p.m. Disciple I, Parlor

## Wednesday, March 15, 2006 - Church Office Closed for Spring Break

- 10:30 a.m. Weekday School Chapel, Sanctuary
- 5:45 p.m. First Place, Room 210B
- 6:00 p.m. Jesus in the Gospels, Room 202
- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Annex
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

## Thursday, March 16, 2006 - Church Office Closed for Spring Break

- 12:00 p.m. Emmaus Reunion Group, Parlor

## Friday, March 17, 2006 - Church Office Closed for Spring Break

## Sunday, March 19, 2006

- 8:30 a.m. \*Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:40 a.m. \*Sunday School for all ages
- 9:45 a.m. \*Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary
- 10:50 a.m. \*Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. College Men's Bible Study, Room 211
- 5:00 p.m. College Women's Bible Study, Room 219
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir, Choir Room
- 5:45 p.m. Soup 'n' Sermon, Fellowship Hall**
- 6:00 p.m. United Methodist Youth, Annex
- 6:30 p.m. Prayer Team, Parlor
- 8:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon, Rooms 204 & 209

## Monday, March 20, 2006

- 10:00 a.m. Jesus, the One and Only, Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Philos: International Students, Room 219
- 6:30 p.m. Christian Believer, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Journey to Christ, Annex
- 7:00 p.m. Ignite: College Freshmen, Room 211

## Tuesday, March 21, 2006

- 5:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. Lay Leadership, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Disciple I, Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Third Floor
- 7:00 p.m. Canterbury Bells, Choir Room

## Wednesday, March 22, 2006

- 9:00 a.m. Disciple III, Carol Patton's house
- 10:30 a.m. Weekday School Chapel, Sanctuary
- 3:45 p.m. Children's Choirs, Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Tool Time, Room 215
- 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Fellowship Hall
- 5:45 p.m. First Place, Room 210B
- 6:00 p.m. Jesus in the Gospels, Room 202
- 6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University, Room 204
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Studies, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Annex
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

## Thursday, March 23, 2006

- 12:00 p.m. Emmaus Reunion Group, Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. University Choir, Choir Room
- 6:30 p.m. College Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Coventry Handbells, Choir Room
- 7:00 p.m. Gateway Worship for college students, Sanctuary

## Friday, March 24, 2006

- 6:00 p.m. Parents' Nite Out, Fellowship Hall**

## Saturday, March 25, 2006

- 7:00 a.m. Big Event Breakfast, Fellowship Hall**
- 10:00 a.m. Women's Celebration, Fellowship Hall**

\*Childcare provided

## Christian Life Center Update

What an exciting day March 5th was for the members and guests of A&M UMC. Many individuals had the opportunity to walk through the new Christian Life Center. The enthusiasm was almost palpable as people began to envision all the ministries that will take place in this beautiful building. College students could almost smell the coffee brewing in the new Coffee House. Walking through the little children's and older children's areas, one could almost hear the laughter and feel the love that will soon be experienced in those bright halls and large rooms. The cross in the

Youth Gathering area reminded us of what this is all about—Christ-centered community. What a wonderful future awaits this great church. Next month, we plan to worship in the Great Hall on Easter morning, April 16, at 11:00 a.m. This service is in addition to the Easter morning worship services planned in the Sanctuary for 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Repair work on the slab in the Great Hall is tentatively scheduled for just after Easter. Between now and then, design work is being modified.



## Follow-up Sunday is March 12th

Follow-up Sunday for "On the Right Path," A&M UMC's annual stewardship campaign, is this Sunday, March 12th. If you have yet to respond through your estimate of giving, please plan to do so by this Sunday. You may bring your Commitment Card by the office, mail it in the envelope provided in your commitment packet, or place it in the offering plate this Sunday morning.

## Parents' Nite Out – March 24

Enjoy an evening out while your kids have an evening of fun! Children, ages six months through sixth grade are eligible to participate. The cost is \$10 per child, or \$25 maximum per family. Registration forms are available at the Information Table on Sunday morning and on-line at [www.am-umc.org](http://www.am-umc.org).

Planned activities will include games, crafts, snack supper, and a movie. All proceeds will benefit A&M UMC College missions. For more information, contact Carol Bonds at 846-8731 or [cbonds@am-umc.org](mailto:cbonds@am-umc.org).

Mark your calendar now for the last PNO of this school year, April 28!

## WDS Candle Sales

The A&M UMC Weekday School will be selling a variety of scented container candles for its spring fund raiser. You may order before and after the worship services. All money raised will be used to send teachers to the Wee Learn Conference in Waco this summer.