

Upcoming Events

- **Men's Prayer Breakfast**, 7:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 30th
- **D.M.A. Luncheon**, Wednesday, August 6th at 11:30 a.m., RSVP 846-8731 by Monday, Aug. 4th
- **Chancel and Handbell Choirs** leaving for the United Kingdom on Aug. 1 (see page 3)



- **Country Fair**, October 25
Save this date! It will be a great family event at Don and Paula House's farm near Edge.

Our Vision Statement

A&M UMC seeks to be a Christ-centered church made up of highly committed members worshipping God, growing as disciples, and serving others through the gifts God has given us. We affirm our heritage to minister to and with the university community. We seek to be a church that invests in the lives of persons outside of a Christ-centered congregation, inviting others to experience the wonder of God and the journey of discipleship. We desire to share the message of Christ through compassion, conviction, conversion, and community. We dream of being a church that makes a transforming difference in the lives of our members, our community, and our world.



Want to put more smiles on more faces this Christmas?

Operation Christmas Child time will be here before you know it. You can help us put smiles on the faces of children all over the world by stocking up now on school supplies and other back-to-school sale items. Watch for plastic shoeboxes, crayons, map colors, glue, scissors, paper, rulers, manual pencil sharpeners, and even children's t-shirts. Sales are starting all over town now.

If you need more suggestions or ideas, contact Carol Tatum at 690-2332 or mctatum@suddenlink.net.

Giant Garage Sale on August 23

Lighten up your home and your garage. Your unwanted surplus can fund missions from Texas to Togo. You may begin bringing your garage sale items to the Annex Fellowship Hall now. To make an appointment for delivery, call Nancy Schneider at 693-4538, Joyce Louis at 776-0073, or Carrie West at 693-7058.

Please donate only working appliances and electronics. Best sellers are items for students' apartments such as furniture, kitchenware, bathroom equipment, and decorative items. Students need lamps, large and small tables and chairs. Tools, garden items, toys, books, videos, games, and office supplies are also wanted. Please, only send choice boutique items of clothing.

Volunteers Needed

Consider helping price and arrange the items on August 20–22, deliver large items, or to clean up on August 24. The missions of the United Methodist Church serve God in a myriad of ways around the world. The Garage Sale is a way to take part without having to leave your own hometown.

Dr. Earl Bledsoe Elected Bishop



Dr. Earl Bledsoe, our own West District Superintendent for the last six years, was elected as a Bishop in the United Methodist Church last week.

Bishop Bledsoe will lead the North Texas Conference, whose center is in Dallas, beginning September 1.

We appreciate the leadership that he brought to our district and pray God's blessings on him, his wife Leslie, and daughter Letitia. Congratulations Bishop Bledsoe! Thank you for all that you have done for this church and this district!

Flood Buckets

Please check the missions bulletin board in the main hallway for a list of items needed for flood buckets. You may also access the list on our website at www.am-umc.org.

Please remember to pray for our neighbors in the Midwest as they try to recover from the severe flooding.

Prayer Requests

Prayers of Healing for Dawn Gore, Jean McDermott's sister.

Prayers of Comfort for Crystal Pointer for the death of her nephew, Rocky Schneider.

Ongoing Prayers for M. R. Calliham, Bob Cochran, Bud Geiger, Jennifer Gutierrez, Tom Gilbreath, Jean Gresham, Charles Horner, Millie Jones, Connie Kelly, Marj Leinhart, Benton Storey, and Joe Wallace.

Please, always keep our troops around the world and their families in your prayers, and also remember victims of flooding in the Midwest.

Gifts and Attendance

For Sunday, July 20, 2008

Contributions

Offering	\$10,806.37
MTD	\$88,529.44
YTD	\$674,173.84

Expenses

MTD	\$83,985.77
YTD	\$773,571.97

Attendance in Worship

8:30 a.m.	181
9:45 a.m.	94
10:50 a.m.	<u>236</u>
TOTAL	511

Thank You

This week the INVEST Team would like to thank you, the members of A&M UMC, for your generous donation of over 800 lbs of food for the Brazos Church Pantry in May and June! We also want to thank you for your generosity for the UMCOR Flood Relief fund. You gave \$1000 in the July communion offering.

Kathy Kothmann and A&M UMC would like to thank the library volunteers for helping get the books ready for the new library! They are **Jeanette Hackethorn, Martha Dixon, Carrie West, Pat Gunter, Phyllis Nicks, Anne Turner, Ann Marsh, Liz Miller, Ann Todd, Bert Bronaugh, Judy Nash, and Deborah Yates**. They still have more work to do and new volunteers are welcome! Call Kathy at 229-1085 if you would like to help.



Kip's Korner

by Kip Gilts

Involve in Small Groups: The Next Step

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

I had the incredible privilege a few weeks ago of visiting with one of our international students who wasn't very familiar with Christianity or the Bible. I had the opportunity to open my Bible and show her different parts of our story. At one point in the conversation she noted that I was pretty familiar with that book. Tears welled up in my eyes as I told her, "I love this book. It has so many pictures of my own story and our story as humans." It is a wonderful book, but it can also seem quite intimidating – over forty authors and over 1,000 years of writing can lead to much confusion. How can we understand it all?

Over 20 years ago several United Methodist leaders gathered together to discuss this matter. Richard T. Murray was one of those leaders. Dick died in 2002 and in his obituary were these words, "His passion for effective Christian education and Biblical literacy among church members led him in 1986 to collaborate with Bishop Richard B. Wilke and others at a gath-

ering in Flower Mound, Texas, with the goal of developing a pastor-directed Bible study for training Christian Disciples. The resulting 34-week program, Disciple: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study, has since been used by more than 400,000 people throughout North America, South America, Europe, Asia and other places around the globe, and has been translated into languages including Korean and Spanish." I was fortunate enough to be trained by Dick Murray in leading Disciple. At the training I attended he said, "Disciple has become more successful than we had ever planned." He went on to say how United Methodists are hungry to know the contents of these Bibles that sit on our shelves.

This fall, right after Labor Day for most of the classes, we will be offering eleven different studies for the members and guests of A&M UMC. Take the time to look on our website http://www.am-umc.org/bible_studies.htm, or wait for the brochure on August 10th, but be prepared to make the 2008-2009 academic year a year for knowing the Bible better, learning its stories and in turn learning our story on a deeper level.

Sincerely,

Financial Peace U. Begins August 31

Financial Peace University is a 13-week program that teaches you how to make the right decisions with your money.

FPU will meet on Sundays from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. beginning August 31. For more information or questions, please contact Sandie Bennett at sandie@tamu.edu.

Communion at St. Joseph's Hospital

Should you or a family member end up in St. Joseph's Hospital on the first Sunday of the month, please know that you may have communion brought to your room, or you may have communion in the chapel from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Please be sure to notify the church office that you are in the hospital! Call 846-8731.

The Messenger is published every two weeks by A&M United Methodist Church, 417 University Dr., College Station, TX 77840, (979)846-8731, www.am-umc.org. Editor: Cindy Allen, cindyallen@am-umc.org, Webmaster: Vickey Tesh, vickeytesh@am-umc.org, Pastor: Kip R. Gilts, kipgilts@am-umc.org, Deadline for copy: The Thursday of the week before publication. Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

A&M UMC Calendar

Sunday, July 27, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:40 a.m. **Sunday School for all ages
- 9:45 a.m. **Ekklesia Service, Annex
- 10:50 a.m. **Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. College Women's Bible Study, *C-Coffee House
- 7:30 p.m. AA and Al-Anon, Rooms 209 & 204

Monday, July 28, 2008

- 5:15 p.m. First Place, Room 114
- 6:00 p.m. Coffee House open
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 802, Third Floor

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

- 12:00 p.m. AA, Room 209
- 6:00 p.m. Coffee House open
- 6:00 p.m. Swim-n-Scripture for Youth, check website for locations
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, July 31, 2008

- 12:15 p.m. Emmaus Reunion Group, Jane Pulley's home
- 6:00 p.m. Coffee House open
- 6:10 p.m. Summer Mosaic, *C-Great Hall
- 6:30 p.m. UK Bells Rehearsal, Choir Room

Sunday, August 3, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:40 a.m. **Sunday School for all ages
- 9:40 a.m. **College Sunday School, College Room
- 9:45 a.m. **Ekklesia Service, Annex Sanctuary
- 10:50 a.m. **Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:50 a.m. **College Sunday School, Annex Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. College Women's Bible Study, *C-Coffee House
- 7:30 p.m. AA and Al-Anon, Rooms 209 & 204

Monday, August 4, 2008

- 5:15 p.m. First Place, Room 114
- 6:00 p.m. Coffee House opens
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 802, Third Floor

Tuesday, August 5, 2008

- 6:00 p.m. Coffee House opens

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

- 8:00 a.m. ServeSafe, Room 219
- 11:30 a.m. DMA, Fellowship Hall
- 12:00 p.m. AA, Room 209
- 6:00 p.m. Coffee House opens
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study, *C-Youth Commons

Thursday, August 7, 2008

- 8:00 a.m. ServeSafe, Room 219
- 12:15 p.m. Emmaus Reunion Group, Jane Pulley's home
- 6:00 p.m. Coffee House opens
- 6:10 p.m. Summer Mosaic, *C-Great Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Circle Squares, Annex Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 8, 2008

- 4:00 p.m. South Asian Fellowship, Annex F. H.

*Room is in the Christian Life Center

**Childcare is provided without reservations



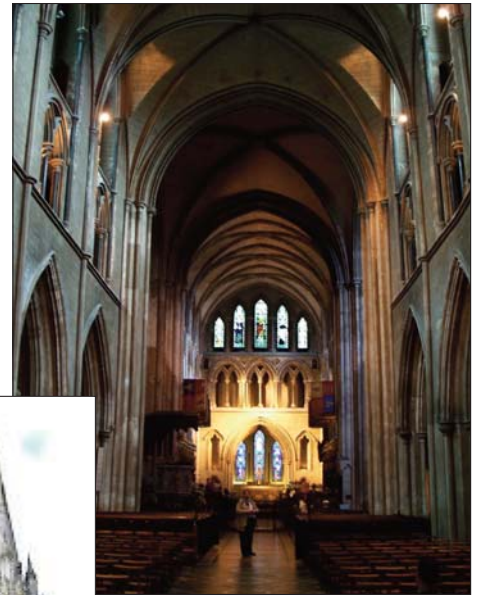
From Sterling's Desk

by Sterling Allen, Director of Music & Arts

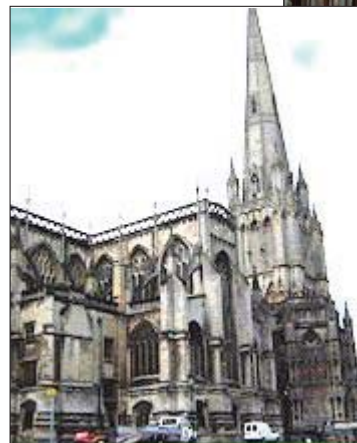
The choir to have tea with the Queen!

Well, no, not exactly. The Chancel Choir and Handbells will be out of worship for three Sundays in August giving a concert tour of the United Kingdom and Ireland. They will be presenting concerts in Dublin, Ireland at St. Patrick's Cathedral, in Bristol at St. Mary-Redcliffe Cathedral for the British Alzheimer Foundation (BRACE), and in London at Kingsdown Methodist Church to dedicate their new sanctuary.

Please pray for safe travels and great singing and playing while representing A&M United Methodist on its first international concert tour.



Above: The interior of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland



Left: St. Mary Redcliffe Cathedral in Bristol, England

Adopt-An-Aggie This Fall

Are you interested in adopting an Aggie? The College Ministry will be reviving the Adopt-an-Aggie program this coming fall. This is where families "adopt" an Aggie into their family and love and nurture them as they begin or continue their journey through college.

If you are interested in getting more information on this program, please contact Katy-Marie Lyles at 846-8731 or katy-marie@am-umc.org.

The Messenger

A&M United Methodist Church
417 University Drive
College Station, TX 77840

They say laughter is the best medicine. If so, you'll feel much better after reading these bloopers from church bulletins.



- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.
- Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

•This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

•Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

Where Are They?

These members are listed on our rolls with no address. Can you help us find them? If you know the mailing address or phone number of anyone on this list, please contact Cindy Allen at 846-8731 or cindyallen@am-umc.org.

Natalie Anderson
Lydia Archer
Jessica Berkey
Rebekah Bieberle-Piersall
Lee Ann Boswell
Jeffrey Bray
Mr. O. D. Butler III
Christopher "Rusty" Chiles
Kathryn Chiles
David "Erick" Cole
Jonathan Craig Collier
Lesley Paige Conrad
Diane Conway
Jacob Crawford
Brett Davis
Lela Davis
Elizabeth Ann Ellison
Lee Collins Ellison
Osefame Ewalerfoh
Collins Ezeanyim
Marguerite French
Jenna Gates
Brenda Gilligan
Alice Pate Griffin

James Hanlon
Shay Harman
Helen Hawkins
John Wesley Hildebrand
Katherine Icke
P. K. Imbrie
Michael Patrick Klander
Melissa Sue Langley
Brandie Liffick-Spletzer
Carrie Lightsey
Chris Lightsey
Craig Limesand
Kathryn Mailen
Paige McGee
Kent Morris
Donna Norton
Saundra Norton
Verland Norton
Cara Panebianco
Nicole Pitts
Lauren Pool
Colin Porter
Travis Rape
Toni Roberds

Brandy Serna
Stefany Simmons
Brennan McNutt Speakers
Kimberly Story
Scott Story
Jennifer Taylor
Juanita Tewell
Thomas Tewell
Christina Thomas
Julia Tiller
Rebecca Torres
Soncy Urso
Robert Gabriel Waggoner
Troy Walden
Daniel Walzel
Craig Wellington
Melissa "Pixie" Wellington
Kristy Winburn
Ryan Witz
Heather Woodin
Elizabeth Suzanne Wright
Adora Young