



the Messenger

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF A&M UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2009

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year! by Sterling Allen

Advent 2009 brings new life and changes to our schedule and procedure. This year we've made it a goal to reach the community (both campus and further) with our Advent and Christmas activities. In an effort to present our activities and worship services, the Advent planning team was formed, and boy, have they been working! Services, concerts, Live Nativity, receptions, advertising, and so much more! I would like to introduce you to our two new services.

The first is the **King's College Lessons and Carols Service** on Sunday, November 29 at 6:00 pm. This beautiful service is celebrated around the world following the example of King's College in Cambridge, England. It is a service of scripture readings and corresponding Christmas carols. I hope the reading and singing will begin your Advent season in a cheerful and hope filled frame of mind.

Our second new service is an exciting one! This year A&M United Methodist Church will be hosting a special **Campus Candlelight Christmas Service** on Thursday, December 3 at 7:00 pm. Since most students and many faculty members travel over Christmas, we would like to offer the campus community a chance to celebrate the birth of Christ with their Aggie family. This service is open to the entire community and we hope to reach capacity so that hundreds of Aggie students and faculty can sing carols, take communion, and light candles, all in remembrance of the newborn Savior.

A full schedule of A&M UMC's Advent Activities can be found at www.am-umc.org

A&M UMC Christmas Tea "A Taste of Christmas"

December 1, 2009, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm in the Great Hall - Tickets are now being sold for \$5.00 per person on Sundays after worship services. Proceeds from the tea will be dedicated to The Brazos Valley Food Bank's "Backpack Program."

Let's Not Forget Thanksgiving ... Dinner!

Twas the Nite of Thanksgiving
But I just couldn't sleep
I tried counting backwards,
I tried counting sheep.

The leftovers beckoned -
The dark meat and white
But I fought the temptation
With all of my might.

Tossing and turning
With anticipation
The thought of a snack
Became infatuation.

So, I raced to the kitchen,
Flung open the door

And gazed at the fridge,
Full of goodies galore.

Gobbled up turkey
And buttered potatoes,
Pickles and carrots,
Beans and tomatoes.

I felt myself swelling
So plump and so round,
'Til all of a sudden,
I rose off the ground.

I crashed through the ceiling,
Floating into the sky
With a mouthful of pudding
And a handful of pie.

But, I managed to yell
As I soared past the trees....
Happy eating to all -
Pass the cranberries, please.

May your stuffing be tasty,
May your turkey be plump.
May your potatoes 'n gravy
Have nary a lump.

May your yams be delicious
May your pies take the prize,
May your thanksgiving dinner
Stay off of your thighs.

Happy Turkey Day !



Kip's Korner by Kip Gilts

28 DAYS OF THANKSGIVING

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Last year I tried something the week before Thanksgiving that had a profound impact on my life. I determined that I would spend time in prayer every day, but instead of following one of the two disciplines that I typically employ, I would spend my prayer time in a unique way. Usually I either employ a five movement prayer (Praise, Thanksgiving, Confession, Intercession, and Petition) or I pray the Lord's Prayer and expound upon every word or phrase (more about that at another time). Last year, I spent the week before Thanksgiving focusing entirely on giving thanks. It was not an easy discipline. I realized how often I launch into confession or requests. I remember beginning my prayer of gratitude – thanking God for the privilege of pastoring this church and then quickly moving into a confession of not being better at this or that. I would then shift to asking God for guidance and wisdom and pray for people that would come to mind who were burdened with problems.

Six years ago I had the opportunity to attend a prayer service at The Brooklyn Tabernacle in New York. Thousands of people attend these services every Tuesday night. They actually had to expand their worship facilities to accommodate the number of people showing up for their prayer service. At the prayer service – they prayed – a lot. I decided that this was a time when I could move through the familiar five movements of prayer unrushed. I was halfway through the last movement (petition) when the pastor, Jim Cymbala, said, "Don't even think about asking God for anything yet. Just praise God and thank God for all the incredible blessings in your life." I'm sure it was that experience that prompted last year's exercise and that has led me to this year's commitment – 28 Days of Thanksgiving. For the first 28 days of November I intend to spend at least 30 minutes a day in prayer and not even thinking about asking God

for anything. It will be time spent giving thanks. I invite you to join me in this discipline. I am confident that it will be an amazing and maybe even transforming experience for you. Here is my plan (I honestly have been thinking about this for more than a year).

- Thank God for life and all its wonders.
- Thank God for nature and all its beauty.
- Thank God for my family of origin and all the investments each member has made in my life.
- Thank God for my extended family and how so many people did so many acts of kindness for which I have long cherished, but seldom reflected.
- Thank God for my nuclear family (Tammy, Chelsea, and Zachary will each get a day of their own, as I have so much for which to be thankful).
- Thank God for my homelands of Ohio, Texas, and America.
- Thank God for places I have visited and people who have extended hospitality to me.
- Thank God for churches to which I belonged and visited as a child, allowing names and faces to emerge who blessed my life in such wonderful ways.
- Thank God for each church I have served as a pastor and watching the parade of people come to mind that I have been so fortunate to know.
- Thank God for the past day and week reflecting on the blessings that have come so fast that I may not have even noticed them at the time.

It will be tempting to slip into confession, intercession, and petition. However, I feel that I spend plenty of time doing that every other day of the year. The first 28 days of November I am committing to 28 Days of Thanksgiving. I anticipate it to be better than a long afternoon of looking through photo albums and realizing how wonderful life truly is.

Sincerely,



Travel to Israel with Kip and Tammy Gilts

It has been ten years since Kip & Tammy Gilts have hosted a trip to Israel. They are anxious to do it again. Imagine being in a field near Bethlehem and realizing that this was the very setting for the shepherds to receive news about a Savior being born. Stand on top of Megiddo where over thirty civilizations have built

homes and experience the awe of the rich history and the profound prophecies. Remember your baptism at the Jordan, pray in Gethsemane, walk the streets of Jerusalem, and so much more. For more information visit our website (www.am-umc.org) or email kipgilts@am-umc.org or tgilts@yahoo.com. You may also call 979-696-5845.

A&M UMC Dedications

Join us on Sunday, November 8 at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a ceremony of dedication. The recent improvements to the Mogford Parlor area were due in large part to the generosity of the Pulley Family and the Kent Family. Jane and Gene Pulley and their children have always been a family of learning and reading. Gene died in 2005. When his family discovered a need for a library they determined that this would be a wonderful family legacy. Jack and Polly Kent were the picture of hospitality. Jack died in 1999. Polly died in 2005. Although Polly was confined to her apartment at The Carriage Inn for her last years, she continued to be a center of hospitality. It was a perfect way to employ their gift to the church by establishing a Welcome Center that has promoted so much fellowship. We look forward to the dedication of the Mogford Parlor Area with the Pulley Library and Kent Welcome Center.

We will also dedicate two rooms in the Christian Life Center. Upstairs in the Children's area Room C-210 will be dedicated in loving memory of John and Marge Haislet given by Teddy and Mary Jane Hirsch. John and Marge loved children and ministered to them as long as they were physically able. When the Christian Life Center was being planned and an entire area being constructed for elementary-aged children, they expressed their desire to fund one of the rooms. What a wonderful area to remember two individuals who were forever young! The Preschool Area on the first floor will have Room C-129 dedicated in loving honor of Ann Marsh. One anonymous donor chose to fund a room in the area where Ann has given so much love and attention, equipping generations in the care of children. Ann's love of preschoolers was evident a couple of years ago when we were between Weekday School directors. She was frequently on hand to open up the building and welcome the children as part of her job of chairing the Board at that time.

Join us for the dedications of these rooms at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, November 8th in the Fellowship Hall where we will have the plaques that will be mounted in these dedicated areas. **The dedications will be immediately followed by a brief Church Conference to consider the installation of an elevator in the Sanctuary Building. All church members are invited and have a vote at a Church Conference.**

Angel Tree Christmas Celebration

It Starts with a Gift. But It's So Much More.



In recent years, we have participated in the Giving Tree, where members of the church "adopt" a child, buy Christmas presents for them, and youth deliver these presents to CPS. This year we will be participating in the Angel Tree program. We can help reconcile families within our community by buying presents on behalf of incarcerated parents, and give these to the children, letting them know that they are not forgotten during the Christmas season. The primary benefit of this program is

that it allows us the opportunity to meet the children for whom we buy the gifts. This year, when you pick a name off of the Christmas tree and buy the presents, you will also be asked to attend a free Dinner Party in the Great Hall on December 16th at 6:30pm. This will allow a much more personal touch to accompany the experience for all involved. Participants are asked to buy one toy and one article of clothing. If you have any questions about this ministry opportunity, please contact Lindsay at Lindsay-Kirkpatrick@am-umc.org.

Prayer Concerns

Prayers of Healing for: Bryant Ervin, Cathryn Colburn (Jimmye Hill's mother), Harriette Horner (daughter of Charlie Horner and Ellen Horner's step-daughter), Alice Edwards, Jenny Barker, Glenna Brundidge, Gordon LeBleu, and Rev. Kip Gilts' mother, Kathy Geisey.

Prayers of Comfort for: the friends and family of J.C. Grady on his passing; Paul Pausky on the passing his mother, Sarah Pausky; and for Beckie Stover on the passing of her mother, Virginia Bean.

Prayers of Joy for the births of: Andrew Tex Armstrong, son of Andy and Jennifer Armstrong, on September 28; for the birth of Adele Marie Kohel on September 23, daughter of David and Martine Kohel and granddaughter of Russell and Joyce Kohel; and Jacob Ethan Lyons on September 15, son of Tommy and Amanda Lyons.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Hazel Owens, Keta Jones, Elaine Waggoner, Billy Sherman (Sandy Bennett's step-father), Joe Powers' sister, Pam Walkup (Cleve and Bobbie Walkup's daughter-in-law), Martha McLemore (Rachel Markham's mother), Saralyn Morris (daughter of Liz Miller), and Liz's friend, Finis Horne, Bob Gallaway, Bill Ward, Pearl Kiser, Cecilia Wilson (Robert Wilson's mother), Susan Gililand (Tricia Lander's mother), Loyd Smith (Beth Cade's father), Ethel Choate (Tammy Gilts' grandmother), Bob and Toby Hoffman, Frances Henry, Virginia Read (Eva Read-Warden's mother), M. R. Calliham, Nelson and Annie Durst, Pat Sargent, Jean Gresham, Kathleen Pratt (sister of Harry Jones), and Fred Kettleborough.

Please continue to pray for peace as you keep our troops around the world and their families in your prayers.

If you are unable to attend church on Communion Sunday and would like to have communion brought to your home, please contact Mort or Kathy Kothmann at 693-8134 or email m-kothmann@tamu.edu.

Finances

As of October 28, 2009

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions	\$106,079.36	\$1,003,954.46
Expenses	\$107,578.69	\$1,075,398.08
2008 Carryover		(-42,564.91)
FEMA Funds		35,359.87

e-Newsletter

If you would like to receive an email notice when the newsletter is posted on our webpage, please contact vickey-tesh@am-umc.org. We can save money and paper and you get to view the newsletter in living color!

Welcome to our New Members



Kelsey Leiper
1804 W. Villa Maria
Bryan, Texas 77807
(281) 683-8372



Sarina Albrecht, with Quintin,
Tristen, and Lillian
2301 Broadmoor #213
Bryan, Texas 77802
(979) 703-5501



Don, Gwen, and Bryan Conlee
2103 Langford Street
College Station, Texas 77840
(979) 764-1081



Mike and Melissa Edwards, with
Molly and Mary Parker
1400 Front Royal Drive
College Station, Texas 77845
(979) 224-4992

New Members not pictured

Lindsey Tucker
801 Spring Loop #108
College Station, Texas 77840
(469) 247-9498

Meagan Tucker
801 Spring Loop #108
College Station, Texas 77840
(469) 247-9576

“Be Still” - A Study on Prayer

"Be Still", a study on prayer, will begin on Wednesday, November 4th at 6:30pm. This group will be led by Rev. Kip Gilts, and features insights from Christians of different denominations ranging from Quaker to Baptist. This study ties in nicely with our Church Family Dinners, so grab some food and join us for this engaging and uplifting study.

A Mission Without Leaving Home

Once again the INVEST Team is very excited about A&M UMC building a medical clinic within a shipping container. We need approximately \$15,000 for this project. The first clinic we built is now in Haiti being used in an area that did not have access to medical care in the past. What a way to help those in need! Our goal is to have enough money by the beginning of the year so we can begin working on it in February and finish in early March. This project is a mission trip without leaving home. You will have a part in it whether you help monetarily or in the building of it. Mark your calendars now! Set aside the weekends of February and early March.

Nothing But Nets Christmas Celebration, December 6, 12 Noon



Santa will be at A&M UMC along with athletes from our local schools and Texas A&M for a celebration and to raise funds for Nothing But Nets! There will be hamburgers and sausage on a stick for lunch! Activities will include cake walks, “wrap your favorite athlete,” giftmaking, volleyball serving and basketball free-throw competitions, big toys, kettle corn, pictures with Santa, and many, many,

more activities for folks of all ages to enjoy! All proceeds go to Nothing But Nets! www.nothingbutnets.net. Last year, we had a blast and this year... we have even bigger plans. Come and enjoy this event and know that your day has made a difference in the lives of the children of Africa!

BUY A NET, SAVE A LIFE

-Sponsored by the youth of A&M UMC, along with the Invest Team & Nothing But Nets Team

Dates to Remember

- November 8 - Called! Church Conference
- November 8 - Wesley Sunday
- November 8 - Annex Property Dedication
- November 10 - WDS Fall Family Fun Night
- November 14 - College Monthly Mission Project
- November 19 - Charge Conference
- November 20 - Parents' Nite Out
- November 23 - Decorating the Sanctuary
- November 29 - First Sunday of Advent
- November 29 - Lessons and Carols Concert
- December 1 - Christmas Tea
- December 3 - Campus Candlelight Service
- December 6 - The Many Moods of Christmas
- December 6 - Nothing But Nets
- December 12 - Story Time with Mrs. Claus
- December 13 - Live Nativity
- December 16 - Angel Tree Dinner
- December 20 - Tu Ra Lu Ra Lu: Brazos Breeze Christmas Concert
- December 24 - Christmas Eve Services at 5pm, 7pm, 9pm and 11pm

Church Calendar information is available online! You can view it anytime by going to the A&M UMC's webpage: www.am-umc.org. Just click "Calendars" on the side menu.

Plain Thoughts About the Country Fair and a "Thank You"



I know how much work goes into putting on something as big as the Country Fair. I know the frustrations and I know the joys. I know that money and numbers always seem to be at the forefront of our minds, but I want to share with you what happened with the Garrett's.

On Saturday, October 17th our world slowed down from 2:00-7:00 p.m. We marked the afternoon off on the calendar and said "no" to three other afternoon events wanting our time and attention. Now, mind you, by the time we got into the car that afternoon we had gone to football practice, mowed the yard, weeded the garden, washed the dishes from Friday evenings progressive dinner that landed over 20 people at the house for dessert, practiced guitar x's2, worked on homework, made two dozen rice crispy treats, packed Steve for Sunday's week long trip to Boston, and paid the bills. Life in 2009!! The ride out to the barn was quiet. Three children (we brought a friend) read books while Steve and I just breathed in and out hoping the racing heart beats would slow down. Upon arriving we jumped out of the car, hurried to the country store, dropped off our

share, bought our share, got Aaron a marshmallow gun, got the girls to the petting zoo and I found the ice cream. And then, somewhere within that first hour, time slowed down or did it stop? The children ran, laughter filled the air, marshmallows flew, and I could feel the breath of God. Steve and I laughed, we visited with friends, we spent time in conversation with our church family, and we sat in silence... and it was good! We left in no hurry at all, with children with hay in their hair and a son that said "Thanks, Mom, for taking me to the Country Fair! Is it only once a year?"

Thank you!

DeEsta Garrett

Chaplain, Captain Hyral B. (Buddy) Walker Jr. - Letter of Thanks

Dear Family,

On behalf of the 451 Air Expeditionary Wing Chapel Section, I would officially like to thank you for your support of our outreach program. Your donation of school supplies as part of our continuing efforts to assist the people of Afghanistan is greatly appreciated.

Your contribution will improve the education of Afghan's future generation along with aiding in our mission to "win the hearts and minds" of the local population. Once again thank you for your kind and thoughtful gesture.

On a more personal note, you can only imagine my ecstatic feelings, and the ministry memories, that flooded my mind as I saw box after box arriving outside our chapel "crate" office, each bearing the name of my beloved home church. This offering of you all's speaks a consistent message of compassion and hope sent out to a world in need. A world our Savior came to demonstrate Divine regard for. A world I have witnessed you caring for when I served as the Outreach and Missions pastor at AMUMC years ago. A world I see here, with so much potential. This is the Kingdom coming nearer. Thank you for believing!

Blessings & Blue Skies,
Hyral B. (Buddy) Walker, Captain, USAF
Chaplain

Trying to Locate our Members

It is time to update A&M UMC's membership role. If you know the whereabouts or membership status of the members listed below, please email Cindy Allen at office@am-umc.org. Thank You!

Jeff Bray
O.D. Butler, III
David Erickson Cole
Jacob L. Crawford
Lesley Paige Conrad
P.K. Imbrie
Christine Lee Jordan
Michael David Irwin
Shannon Leigh Ashby
Scott Eric Byrd
Rachel Anne Campbell
Kip Corrington
Allison Crawford
Elizabeth Ann Ellison

Lee Ellison
Sefame Ewaleifoh
Collins Ezeanyim
Marguerite French
Jenna M. Gates
Brenda Mae Gilligar
Jennifer Ann Hahn
James Hicks
John W. Hildebrand
Bryan C. Hill
Wm. (Bill) Jones
Keith Karnes
Sandra Lanette Kearns
Daniel T. Keierleber

Jacqueline E. Kitchens
Michael P Klander
Milburn J. LaBorde, III
Brandie Liffick-Spletzer
Kathryn Lee Mailen
Ron McFarlane
Jammie E. Masterson
Justin E. Mathison
Sheri Lee Mathison
John Anthony McGregor
Shelly McKee
Felicia McKinney
Kent Michael Morris
Heather S. Nelson

Verland and Dr. Donna
Norton
Richard M. Owen
Cara L. Panebianco
Laura Pluskota
Colin P. Porter
Shirley L. Ramsay
Travis C. Rape
Toni J. Roberds
Atticus Rowe
Wendy Schneider
Brandy M. Serna
Ciara Jo Sorensen
Scott Emery Story

Kimberly R. Gidley Story
Megan C. Teel
Kay M. Stover
Jennifer M. Taylor
Thomas & Juanita Tewell
Shannon Jean Thomas
Michael A. Trulove
R. Gabe Waggoner
Ted Watson
Sheng Mei Yeh
Laura E. Young
Kristy Lee Winburn



children's ministries

Story Time with Mrs. Claus

Mrs. Claus has invited all the children to join her for a Christmas celebration with stories and fun. Some of the FUN stuff includes bounce houses, cookies, PB&J, face painting and



Joy Williams, Director of Children's Ministries

MORE! Join Mrs. Claus on **Saturday, December 12** from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm.



Shoeboxes? How, Where, and When...? The children's Operation Christmas Child project is nearing some deadlines. If you would like to make a monetary donation to help Children's Ministry purchase supplies to fill an Operation Christmas Child shoebox, please make your contribution by **TODAY**. Write your check to A&M UMC and make a notation in the memo area it is for Operation Christmas Child. You may place your check in the offering plate on Sunday or drop it by the church office. If you and/or your children have assembled and wrapped a shoebox, the deadline to bring them to the church is Next Sunday, November 8. The collection areas are the Children's Commons in the Christian Life Center and the Library in the Sanctuary Building. If you have questions, please contact Carol Tatum at mctatum@suddentlink.net Dedication of the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes will be during services on November 15.



college ministries

Katy-Marie Lyles, Director of College Ministries

On Friday, September 25th

College Ministries had our annual Barn Dance at the Houses' Barn. We invited The Wesley Foundation to join us and we

enjoyed a wonderful evening of dancing and fellowship. We had 75 students attend the event. College Ministries would like to express our thanks and gratitude to Don and Paula House for allowing college ministries the use of the barn for this annual event. Thanks so much!!

Monthly Mission Project



On Saturday, October 17th, we had several college students who participated in a monthly mission project. We joined with the *Texas Wheelchair Commission* and together we built a wheelchair ramp for an individual in Brushy Creek. This was an amazing opportunity to pour back into our local community and share the love of Christ. Thanks to our congregation for continuing to support our mission efforts at home and away from home.



a&m umc youth

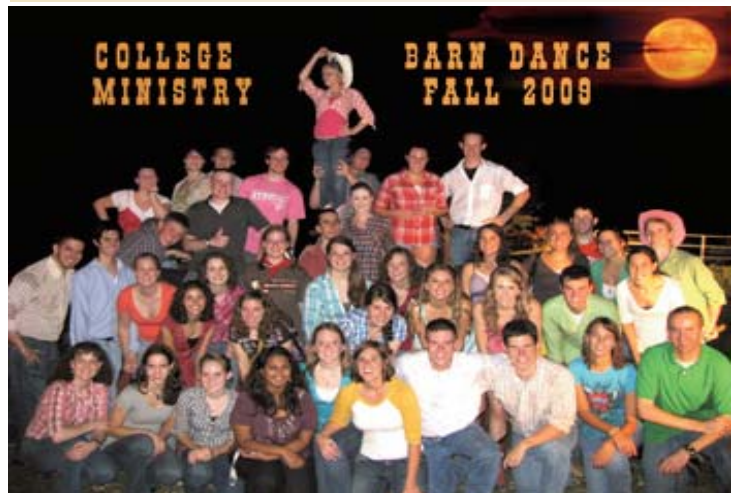
Youth Shares of Stock

Clay Horton, Director of Youth Ministries

Have you watched all your stocks plummet over the last year? Invest in something that won't lose value and which will have an eternal impact. The youth will be selling "shares of stock" starting in November. Each share is \$10 and with each share, you are investing in the spiritual lives of youth. The money raised will help fund mission trips, retreats, and camp experiences. A youth group can only be as strong as the congregation which supports it. Please consider taking ownership in the youth group by buying some shares of stock. Investing in the lives of youth has guaranteed returns. In fact, the probability of someone becoming a Christian is greatest before they turn 18 years old. Your support makes it possible to take youth on life-changing mission trips and retreats. A share holder banquet at the end of the year will allow you to check on the growth of your investment.



College Barn Dance



Cleaning for a Reason

If you know any woman currently undergoing Chemo, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning - 1 time per month for 4 months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. **Cleaning for a Reason** will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. (www.cleaningforareason.org)



Family Promise

Searching for a New Program Director

POSITION OPEN: PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR FAMILY PROMISE OF BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION - Faith-based non-profit organization seeks dynamic Program Director to provide case management for families experiencing homelessness. Other responsibilities: provides leadership, supervision of volunteers and staff; maintains records and provides reports to stakeholders; program development; public speaking; grant writing. BA + 3 years experience in human services/social work. Salary commensurate with experience. Send letter of interest and resume to familypromisebcs@gmail.com See an expanded job description at www.familypromisebcs.cfsites.org

Templo Del Espiritu Santo Fundraiser

Enchilada Dinner * The Best Enchiladas Ever!

Templo Del Espiritu Santo United Methodist Church Dinner Fundraiser
3715 Elaine St., Bryan, TX 77803

Saturday, November 7 from 11 am to 3 pm

Dinner is \$6.00 each and includes:

3 enchiladas, rice, beans, and tea. Desserts will be sold separately.

This fundraiser is to help pay for

Templo Del Espiritu Santo's apportionments.

Memorials



Memorials given September 3 - October 8, 2009

Raymond Jones by Jarvis & Pam Porter, David & Sue Hogan, Chuck & Ruth Samson, Carol D. Watson, Nancy Schneider, Betty Munion, Betty & Emmett Trant, and the Friendship Circle

Emma Crane by Don & Janet Odell, Quentin & Barbara Wall, Bill & Polly Pope, Joe & Martha Dixon, Susan Allen, and Glen & Dolly Christensen

Bill & Lucille Welch by Jim & Barbara Kirkland

Charlie Horner by Betty Munion

Joe Wallace by Bob & Reba Ragsdale and Raymond & M.A. Gaylord

Judith Pedigo by Cleve & Bobbie Walkup

Kellie Shehan by Patricia Wessendorff and Tony & Gail Wessendorff

Family Retreat 2010

Imagine having the opportunity to escape from the noise of your daily lives. Picture an entire weekend devoted entirely to uninterrupted time with your family and friends. Now take the opportunity to make this vision a reality by joining us at the A&M UMC Family Retreat.

The second annual Family Retreat will take place Friday, February 26 through Sunday, February 28 at Forest Glen Christian Camp near Huntsville. There, you will have the chance to engage in meaningful conversations with your family and friends, as well as rejuvenate your entire family's connection to God.

From the large back porch, watch the children run and play in the trees, or head to the dock with your fishing gear in hand. Immerse yourself in your favorite book inside the large cabin overlooking the lake. As a family, take part in a variety of activities, including a low-ropes course, archery and target-shooting, or hike through the woods along the edge of the lake. Enjoy the time spent in discussions with other parents while the children take part in special activities created just for them.

Come together in prayer and leave refreshed, ready to welcome the spring.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this exciting event. The registration deadline is Friday, Jan. 29. Please contact Samantha Wilson with any questions or to register at swilson91@gmail.com.

The greatest testimony to the success of an event is a willingness to return. Each and every family who took part in this event last year plans to return this year because, in the words of 8-year-old Riley Garrett, it was "VERY, VERY, VERY good!"

Parents' Nite Out

Friday, November 20 is the next Parent's Nite Out. Parents' Nite Out (PNO) is from 6:00 to 10:00 pm in the Christian Life Center. Children ages six months through sixth grade are eligible to participate. Cost is \$10 per child or \$25 max per family. Registration forms are available on our website, www.am-umc.org. **Deadline to register is Tuesday, November 17 at 5:00 pm.**

Decorate the Sanctuary

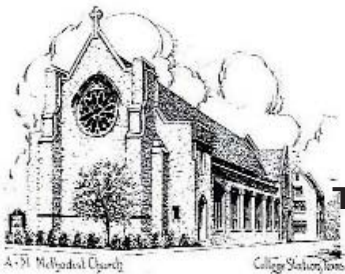
Monday, November 23 A&M UMC's Sanctuary will be decorated for the Advent season. You are invited beginning at 9:00 am. Help make the Sanctuary beautiful for a beautiful season!



Return Service Requested



Join SOS Ministries in worship and celebration for the Grand Opening of their New Ministry located at 1700 Groesbeck. Grand Opening events will be held from Nov. 4th - 6th. Each night we will be holding a worship service at the new center including a message from Nicky Cruz on Friday night. There will also be a Ribbon Cutting at 11:30 am on the 6th and an Open House afterwards. Come join us as we celebrate a new chapter at SOS Ministries! For more information please contact our office at 775-5357.



**Called Church Conference on
November 8, 2009
following the A&M UMC Room
Dedications at 12:15 pm in
Fellowship Hall**

**The Called Church Conference is for the
purpose of considering the installation
of an elevator in the Main Sanctuary
Building.**

West District Charge Conference
November 19, 2009, at 6:30 pm
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
On Villa Maria just down from Mary Branch
Elementary School



ALTAR FLOWERS



If you would like
to donate
altar flowers
or dedicate the
Sanctuary Lamp,
please contact
Vickey Tesh at
846-8731 or email at

vickey-tesh@am-umc.org. Cost
of the Altar flowers is \$30 per
arrangement and the lamp is
\$10.