

First United Methodist


972-253-3531
www.fumcirving.org



Connexion

Volume 6 Issue 15

September 9, 2011

	<p align="center"><i>North Central Texas Chapter</i> Discover God's Call</p> <p align="center"><i>"But each man has his own gift from God"</i> 1 Corinthians 7:7b (NIV)</p>
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What are your Spiritual Gifts and how is God calling you to use them?

November 4 & 5, 2011
Friday afternoon from 4:30 PM to 10:00 PM
and Saturday from 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM
Includes dinner on Friday, lunch and dinner on Saturday

First United Methodist Church, Irving
211 West Third Street, Irving, TX 75060
Rev. Mark Winter – Inspirational Leader

A Serendipity Bible Study will be held for previous Discovers

*Registration Deadline October 7, 2011
Space is Limited, Register Early to Reserve Your Place
Childcare Will Be provided If Needed*

Name: _____		Primary phone: _____	
Name for name tag: _____		Alternate phone: _____	
Mailing address: _____		Email: _____	
City: _____		Home church: _____	
State: _____	Zip: _____	Childcare needed (please circle) Yes No	
Special needs: _____			

Make checks payable to : Discover God's Call
\$75 Registration fee includes Home and Retreat study materials
Staff/Other \$50

Mail registration to: Kathy Checki Phone: 817-467-5256
1105 Brook Hill
Arlington, TX 76014
Email: kathychecki@juno.com

BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER!

ATTENDANCE

AUGUST 28

10:30 AM Worship	308
6:30 PM	29
Total	337
Sunday School	189

SEPTEMBER 4

10:30 AM Worship	287
NO EVENING WORSHIP	0
Total	287
Sunday School	179

Financial Update

	August 31, 2011	Year to Date August 31, 2011
Contributions & Other Receipts	\$56,307.00	\$512,021.00
Less: Expenses	-\$75,407.00	-\$558,080.00
Net Gain or (Net Loss)	-\$19,100.00	-\$46,059.00

It is hard to believe it is September already. I wanted to point out that we are in the red at the end of August by (\$46,059), that is slightly better than last year for this same time period. There are four months left this year and even though the economy is still not as stable as we would like, I feel that your commitment to First United will not waiver and we will be able to cover our expense this year. We continue to thank you for your generosity. The Finance Committee is reviewing the 2012 budgets this month and ask that you please keep us in your prayers. These must be approved and ready to present to the Charge Conference Oct 1st. Again on behalf of the Finance Committee, I thank you for your continued support in all that we do.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE



- | | | |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| JESUS CHRIST | PRAY | MIRACLE |
| SALVATION | TITHE | NAZARETH |
| JEW | MINISTRY | BETHLEHEM |
| GENTILE | BIBLE | JERUSALEM |
| HOLY SPIRIT | HOLY | BAPTIZE |
| GOD THE FATHER | SACRIFICE | TEMPTATION |
| PERSECUTE | FAITH | SIN |

CREATED BY MELINDA SKAGGS



Israel Trip
Meeting on September 20 at
7:00 PM in the Parlor



Anyone who is interested in going on the Travel Fellowship trip to Israel is encouraged to attend. A rep from the travel agency will be there to present and answer questions. The trip is set for March 5-14, 2012.

The Trustees have decided to re-key the EXTERIOR doors of the Family Life Center and the main church building. This is going to happen over the next couple of weeks, so if your key stops working, this is why!



Join us
Sunday,
October 2
6:30 PM
Sanctuary

**Charge
Conference
Saturday,
October 1
First United
Methodist Church**



Make a Good Marriage Great
If someone suggested a Marriage Encounter for you and your spouse, would you be offended? The truth is, happily married couples get a lot out of an Encounter Weekend because it is designed to make strong marriages even stronger. The next United Methodist Marriage Encounter Weekend is on November 4-6, 2011. Learn more & make reservations on www.encounter.org. If you need more information, contact Mickey and Linda Wheeler, 972-594-0232 or jamesw3681@aol.com.

DO YOU HAVE 4 OZ BABY FOOD JARS AND LIDS? JAN MAYO WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THEM OFF YOUR HANDS! SHE IS ALSO TAKING ORDERS FOR TABLETOP CHRISTMAS TREES THAT A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE "CHILDREN'S WORK AREA" AND YOUTH.

SEAN'S SCOOP.....

And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from him. Acts 3:5

Expectation is all around. We have expectations in all facets of life from work, marriage, family, friends, government, business, consumers, war, love, enemies, God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, our church, and even inanimate objects such as our automobiles, computers, and clothes. Expectation is all around us and profoundly affects us each and every day. While it would be easy to focus on any one or more of these areas of our lives, perhaps we could discuss the overall concept of expectation and how we deal with it (or in some cases, how it deals with us).

Synonymously we would use words like, anticipate, await, or hope. But all imply looking toward some future event, whether that be physical, emotional, spiritual, or relational. The story in Acts 3:1-11 reveals a precious story of expectation and religious mores of the times. As you read the story of the lame begger, it is easy to see that his expectation was financial. He was looking for money. You see, he had been carried to the temple steps every day for "alms". The greek word for alms reveals it as a donation, charity, pity, or benevolence. This man was looking for money. He was expecting some sort of what we might colloquially call a "handout". Peter even says to him, "Silver and gold have I none..." I would like to insert here that I'm afraid my personal response might have been a very fleshly one...nevertheless, thank God for Peter's understanding of reconciliation at this early stage of his ministry. Peter goes on to say, "...but what I do have, I give to you; In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazerene - walk!"

The lame begger thought his biggest concern was some form of financial gratification, a way to pay for the next meal, or purchase help for his ailing body. He thought that his immediate need was paramount to his position in life, in community, in church, in his own mind. However, Peter via the compassion of Jesus Christ gives him something much greater; a healing that provides a greater future, promise and hope.

Isn't that just how it is with our own position in life, community, church, and minds? Don't we always think we know best what we need and when we need it? I know I do. Perhaps you've learned that there is a better expectation to underscore in your own life? If so, then you are already walking and leaping just as that man did after Peter raises him up to the ground. And if so, then hopefully you are taking someone else's hand and doing the same! And if you are in need of someone to help, then might I suggest something?

Peter had just experienced Pentecost and preaching his first sermon to the people to explain the many different "tongues of fire" occurring. He had just approached the crowd of bewildered people and in the Spirit spoke forth. It's time for the people of God to do the same. Expectation can be dangerous when viewed through our earthly senses and minds. However, when we move in the Spirit, we expect things on a different level. Maybe it's just me, but I have been challenged to expect differently as of late. Perhaps you are too...

Blessings,
Sean Cawthon

Children's Ministries...

WEDNESDAY NIGHT GRACE PLACE

I will be leading Wednesday night Grace Place again this year beginning September 7. This ministry provides age-appropriate programming for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade while their parents attend Bible Studies or choir practice. We meet from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. in SonRise Village. All children are invited to participate! Thank you to EVERYONE who has volunteered to help with Grace Place! You are a huge blessing to me and to our children!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Children's Church Helpers: I have a wonderful group of volunteers who have served as Children's Church Helpers for the past six months! Our current volunteer schedule ends on September 25. Beginning in October, I will schedule two Helpers each Sunday, so I would like to add additional volunteers to our roster. While our numbers vary each week, we sometimes have as many as 24 children. Having two Helpers will allow us to spread out into two rooms for crafts and provide the little ones with more assistance. If I can expand our number of Helpers, you will probably only have to volunteer once between now and the end of the year. You do not have to plan a lesson. You will simply help with crafts, "crowd control," etc.

Sunday School Helper: We also need a Sunday School Helper for our 3rd-5th grade class who can volunteer on an on-going, rotating schedule. You would be joining a great team of teachers consisting of Jan Mayo, Pam Knott and Karl Mullins. You would not have to teach.

If you can volunteer as a Children's Church or Sunday School Helper, please let me know. My email address is kelly@fumcirving.org. Or you can call me at 972-573-0206 or 817-946-6377. Thank you!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's choir rehearsals begin again on Wednesday, September 7. We know that busy schedules and shared custody situations sometimes prevent children from being able to join the choir and attend Wednesday rehearsals. In an effort to involve more children in our music ministry, Sue Wilson is going to try something new on Sunday mornings. At the beginning of the Sunday School hour, from 9:15-9:25, she will teach the 1st through 5th graders the songs that the choir will be singing in worship. Then when the choir performs, those children who are not official members will also be invited to sing. We hope that this will allow more children to experience the joy of music and performing for God and his people. Thank you, Sue!

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, September 11: Families will worship together as we remember the 10th anniversary of 9-11. We will have communion, and Pastor Russell will give the Children's Sermon. We will not have Children's Church.

Sunday, September 18: We will not have a Children's Sermon. We will present Bibles to the 3rd - 5th graders and then go to Children's Church.

Sunday, September 25: The children's choirs will sing and then we will go to Children's Church. (We will not have a Children's Sermon.)



Connexion

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Children's Director

Debbie Robinson
Director of Parent's Day Out

Barbara Canafax
Keri Moreno

Jessica Anderson
Administrative Staff

.... AMONG OUR PEOPLE AMONG OUR PEOPLE ...

MEMORIALS: In memory of Hank Henry to General Budget from Lucy Wright.