

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – BOERNE

Newsletter – December, 2007

205 E James St
Boerne, TX 78006

Pastor's Corner...

“This story is about a father, mother, brother & sister. The little brother died & created a continuous crisis in the family. A happy, believing family was converted into an almost always sad family. The father was a supervisor in the Post Office. One day before Christmas, while sorting letters, many of which were addressed to Santa Clause, he recognized the handwriting on one of the envelopes as that of his own daughter. He opened the envelope and read:

‘Dear Santa, our family was once so happy ‘till my brother died. Mommy & Daddy are not like they used to be and when I ask Daddy about it, he says only Eternity will ever change it. I don’t know what Eternity is, but if you have got any extra Eternities, please leave one of them at our house at Christmas.’”

When the father went home from work that day, the Eternity which the little girl had asked for arrived with him. That letter of the child had changed his life.”

The coming of the Savior of God offers the opportunity to change all of our lives. May you receive His Eternity in your heart this Christmas. – Rev. Fred

2007 ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD NOVEMBER 27, 2007, AT 7:00PM. There will be supper in the Family Life Center at 6:30pm

Stewardship Minute

Our **Consecration Sunday** financial stewardship campaign conducted in October, and continuing through the present with mail-out responses, has been a success. Thanks to the generosity and commitment from the congregation, over \$1,057,000 has been pledged for 2008 (as of November 5th) and we expect to receive several more responses. These pledges will enable expanded ministries, outreach, facility improvements and programs. In sum, it enables our Church to do what God calls us to do – to help people and to serve Christ – and for each of us to grow spiritually. Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year. - Your Stewardship Committee

Soldier's Christmas – Saturday, December 15, 2007

FUMC Women's Ministry announces their Second Annual Soldier's Christmas! We honor our heroes from the Middle East Conflict recovering from injuries at Ft. Sam Houston's BAMC facility. We treat them & their families to a noon meal, gifts, and time to shop Boerne. Anyone wishing to make a donation to this event may mail their check, payable to FUMC, to the church office. Please denote Soldier's Christmas on the memo line of the check. For info contact Jacque Pickens at jpick@gvtc.com or 830-981-8083 or Denise Locke at necy@gvtc.com or 830-249-3956.

POINSETTIAS in honor & in memory of loved ones will decorate our Sanctuary at Christmastime. Order blanks will be available in the narthex. Cost for each poinsettia will be \$10.

ANGEL TREE TOY DRIVE

Sunday, November 11, angels will be placed up for adoption for this drive. Each angel will need to have 2 gifts & 1 clothing item returned by December 2. Last year over 200 children were touched by the love of Jesus. Monetary gifts can also be made to FUMC “toy drive”. The tree will be in narthex from Nov. 11-Dec. 2.

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

For those of you who have loved the Cactus Pear concerts in the summertime...good news! Camerata San Antonio will be presenting two concerts in our sanctuary this season, and the first will be on Thursday, Nov. 29th, at 7:30 p.m. The concert program will feature music of Miguel del Aguila for various combinations of flute, clarinet, strings, and piano. This composer is known for his interplay between classical style and romantic excess, including adventurous instrumentation and driving rhythms. Like Cactus Pear, there is no charge for the concert, but donations will be accepted at the door. Bring a friend!

COATS AND COVERS DRIVE sponsored by the Lucy Saxon UMW Circle will again collect gently worn coats, sweaters, mittens & caps only. This year they will be donated to Hill Country Daily Bread. A collection barrel will be in the receptionist office area from November 18 until December 23.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET

A table will be available in the narthex and in the FLC on Nov 25, Dec 9 and Dec 16 where you can make contributions to the eight charities we're supporting this year. On Dec 2 we'll have booths in Saxon Hall (one for each charity) during Sunday School. Some of the charities are Gospel Cafe, Heifer Project, Methodist Mission Homes, Piedras Negras Feed the Children Fund and the Uganda Project.

First Friday at First – December 7, 10:00am

Please call the church for lunch reservations.

Program: The Return of the Prodigal as Seen Through the Eyes of Henri Nouwen and Rembrandt. Lynne Martensen will present the program which will include a “getting ready” for the holidays theme. Outreach Love Offering: Donated to Daily Bread.

Advent Study: *The Man Born to be King* by Dorothy L. Sayers.

Russell Miller's class starts Tuesday, November 27. Time is 9:00 – 11:00. The class will meet in Room 203 in the FLC. This class meets four Tuesday mornings and will finish before Christmas.

Women of Faith Nat'l Conference – February 7-9, 2008

The national Women of Faith Conference will be held in San Antonio at the Alamodome. This is a motivational, spiritual-filled weekend with nationally renowned speakers uplifting music, and worship. Tickets for the conference are \$129. Some commute from home and others stay downtown for the weekend. We're going to make it an FUMC girl's weekend to remember! If you are interested, contact Judy Martin 981-8410, or Shannon Boggan, 755-6302.

Housing Repair Team - Great progress has occurred on the current remodeling project. We are working on the finishing touches of sheetrock work, painting, trim carpentry, cabinet installation, plumbing, electrical installation, & flooring activities. If you could help or want to learn how or you would like to provide lunches, contact Chris Buckingham (210-698-1310 or cbuckingham@swri.org) or Bob Dibble (830-755-8889 or rkdibble@gvtc.com) for more info. If you have additional items for donation, please call Chris or Bob. Thank you!

CHURCH FAMILY

PRAYERS:

Lu Janes, Doris Ebner, Brad Grove, Ilda Reynertson, John Storm, Helen Otto, Genie Lander, Dorothy Busby, Bob Fly, Harvey Shinn, Joe & Betty Cox, Florence George, Billy Spangler, Lois Carswell, Sid Cravey's brother, Louella Kelly's brother, Susie Butler's aunt, Juston Holton, John Threatt, Truitt Tucker, the Shewbert's dad & aunts; Lorrie Corley's mother, Makayla Smith, Geof Godwin. **Released from hospital:** Sally Peterson, Jean Hall, Joe Flath, Jennifer Goetz, Dora Blatchford, Gay Neill, Frank Terry, Jim Russell, Bryant Pringle, Paul Peterson. **Members in Service:** Cody Davis, Kyle York, Mateo Benavidez, Conan Martin, Kelly Schultz, Boyd Brack, Brandon Varnado, Lance Mile, Brandon Day, Joseph Lyons, Randy Northrup, Todd Archer, Cliff Betts, Morgan Brown, Jason Cook, Michael Morgan, James Hammill, Rev. Kyle Roehrig, and all who serve in the military.

Love & Prayers are Extended to: the family of Margaret Lundell who died October 20; Faye & David Jarrell and friends of Harmon (Pop) Ellis who died November 2.

THANK YOU NOTES...

- Thank you to all for the care shown to me during and after my surgery. Thank you to Pastor Conrad for his visit and calls! Love, Myrl Hill
- The Kite Family would like to thank you for prayers for our niece/granddaughter, Keisha Faulkner, during her recent battle with breast cancer. Thanks to the grace of God and the power of your prayers we can take Keisha off of the prayer list. --Kevin & Trina, Khim & Lorna, and Joan Kite
- Thank you for your love & care. Your generosity & prayers will never be forgotten. --Betty & Joe Cox
- Our sincere appreciation for the concern, calls, & most of all your prayers over the past months of George's illness, treatments & recuperation. The church has been an absolute blessing & we are forever grateful.

Our grateful appreciation, George & Alice Plummer

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

In Honor

- +Clif Murphy by UMW Esther Circle-Methodist Mission Home
- +Louise Blaize by Mr. & Mrs. Tom Barrow-Housing Repair Team
- +Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hanson by Mr. & Mrs. Lohman Blaize-Housing Repair Team

In Memory

- +Margaret Ellen Lundell by Nonie Kendrick
 - by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Slocomb
 - by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Wray-Music Ministries
- +Garland Perry by Audreen Matson-Music Ministries
- +Harmon Ellis by Mr. & Mrs. Bob Pannell
 - by Genesis Sunday School-Maxine Lorenz Fund
 - by Mr. & Mrs. Bob Lee-Jones Scholarship
 - by Mr. & Mrs. Jim Cashion
 - by Nonie Kendrick
 - by Mr. & Mrs. Billy Spangler-Maxine Lorenz Fund
- +Edward Wheeler by Mr. & Mrs. Billy Spangler-Maxine Lorenz Fund
- +Mary Jean Pringle by Mr. & Mrs. Billy Spangler-Maxine Lorenz Fund

Do You Know?

Our church accepts endowment gifts. The income will be used for special Missions and Church projects. The principle of the gift is never spent and continues indefinitely. Call or see Lyn Stewart at the church office.

Family Music Spring 2008 Registration

January 18th- April 11th

Contact Kim Pickard, Children's Music Coordinator
249-2565 or kpickard@fumc-boerne.org

NURSERY PARENTS DAYS OUT DATES:

Saturday, December 1 - 9am -3pm; Friday, December 7 - 8:30am-2:30pm; Friday, December 14 – 8:30am-2:30pm
There will not be a Parents Night Out in December. Call 249-2565, ext. 31 for reservations.

NOVEMBER 25th – FOLLOWING 11:00 SERVICE – HANGING OF THE GREENS

Let's come together to prepare our hearts as we prepare our church for the season!

A brunch will be served, followed by the hanging of the greens throughout the church and there will be family advent crafts and activities! Families of all sizes and ages are invited to come!

Advent Midweek Study for Children 1st-5th

November 28 through Dec. 19 - 4:30-5:30pm

A take home version of same curriculum has been designed for your family if you choose to do a study at home and at your convenience. Cost \$15 for curriculum and supplies. Register by November 28th for either study. See form in Narthex or contact Lori or Kerry in Children's Ministry Office.

BIGG 6ERS Lock In

December 7 - 6:00 Pm—8:30 am 12/ 8

Field Trip, fun and more.

WEIHNACTS PARADE - DECEMBER 1st

10:30 am Float Decorating, FLC Parking Lot, Pizza for lunch.

Reserve your spot for the float. Staging is at 5:00 pm Location TBA

TEDDY BEAR PICNIC & PARTY – For all toddlers & caregivers!

DECEMBER 19 - Noon– 1:30

Please bring a “Golden Book” for a gift exchange, and if you choose an additional “Golden Book” and small Beanie stuffed toy to be delivered to Methodist Children’s for Children who will spend their Christmas in the hospital.

December 15 - All Aboard for a family Christmas Movie!!!

Come in your PJ’s for fun and Hot Chocolate following the Gathering worship 6:35pm - Movie Night will follow!!

Children’s Ministry will be collecting “Golden Books and small Beanie Baby type dolls (with **Non** removable button eyes) to be delivered to Children in Methodist Children’s Home on Christmas. Please send NEW stuffed toys in Plastic for sanitary reasons. **Sunday School children** will also be saving their change. Each class will adopt an Angel from the Angel tree. Help and encourage your children to earn change from chores and save in a Christ Offering box or jar for this project.

Student Ministries

Congratulations to all of our Boerne Band Members for making it to the State Competition. Good Job, we are so very impressed with your talent!!!!

December 1 our youth will be handing out hot chocolate at the Christmas Parade on Main St. Wave to us!!!!

Youth Ministries Christmas Party, Sunday December 16 at 6 pm