



# The Messenger



## CONTENTS

### Page 1

Message from Judith,  
Scouts, Pancakes, Ash  
Wednesday, Music

### 2

UMW, UMM, Grief  
Support, New Hope,  
PDO, Be a Greeter,  
Crisis Fund, Vet  
Counseling, Trustees,  
HEAVEN, Blood  
Drive

### 3

Message from  
Finance, Food Pantry,  
KICK, Club COOL

### 4

student nooz, Prayers  
for a Journey,  
Re ● Fresh

### 5

Calendar

## MESENKER SUBMISSIONS:

Please send your  
submissions to  
[newsletter@fumtc.org](mailto:newsletter@fumtc.org)  
by February 15 for the  
March 2010 issue.

All articles and  
announcements are  
considered. Photos  
may be submitted but  
might be published  
online only.

## MESSAGE FROM REV. JUDITH REEDY

Dear Church Family,

As we approach the month of February, I am reminded that Valentine's Day is around the corner, and I want to send all of you a Valentine.

"Happy Valentine's Day! Thank you for SHARING YOUR HEART with those who are hungry, those who are sick, those who mourn, those who are unable to partake of communion with this community, those who are hurting, those who need to hear/see a Word from the Lord! I give thanks for your servant hearts."

I have seen your hearts for God's people. I have seen your hearts for each other. You care about your neighbor down the street. You care about your neighbor in Haiti.

In the month of February, we will be celebrating your love for others and God's love for all of us. Come join the celebration!

Grace and Peace,

Judith

[Judith@fumtc.org](mailto:Judith@fumtc.org)

## SCOUTING MINISTRIES SUNDAY

FUMCTC is celebrating Scouting Ministries Sunday on February 14, for both our Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Currently we have 20 separate Scout groups meeting here at the church. Please join us in celebrating our Scouts as they worship with us on Sunday, February 14.

### PANCAKE SUPPER

Celebrate Shrove (FAT) Tuesday with a Pancake Supper on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 - 7:30pm. Come one, come all - its FREE! There will be goodies for the kids. Its all-you-can-eat, so come hungry. Now collecting donations of beads, crowns, and trinkets for the kids. At the supper we are collecting non-perishable items for the food pantry.



### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Our Ash Wednesday service this year is on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm. In addition, we have something new this year: An early option! You are invited to come any time between 6:00 & 7:00 AM for the *Imposition of Ashes* and Prayer in the sanctuary.

## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC MINISTRY DEPARTMENT

During the month of February, several of our music ministry ensembles will be providing worship music for Sunday morning services. On February 7, the Sanctuary Ringers and Chancel Choir will join us for communion services at 8:30 and 11am. We will celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14 with the Chancel Choir, Cantate Choir and Cherub Choir as the Beatitude "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" is emphasized. The Chancel Choir will also be leading music for the Ash Wednesday service on February 17 and during Sunday morning services on February 21 and 28. We are beginning to prepare musical presentations for Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday and Easter morning services. If you would like to join us as a singer, instrumentalist, actor or narrator, please contact Sonja Roebuck at [sprmusic@verizon.net](mailto:sprmusic@verizon.net)

### REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Sundays:  
During the 11am service: CHERUB CHOIR (age 4 - 1st grade)  
12:00 - 12:45pm CANTATE CHOIR (grades 2 - 5)  
1:00 - 2:00pm SANCTUARY RINGERS

Wednesdays:  
7:00-8:30pm CHANCEL CHOIR (adults)

### **UMW**

Ladies, please join United Methodist Women for a Valentine's Brunch on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am in Room B7. Bring a dish to share.

### **UMM**

United Methodist Men will be meeting Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010 in the church Narthex. All men are invited. Breakfast is served at 8:00am, followed by a presentation coordinated by Bill Ferguson. A short business meeting will follow, emphasis on short. If you have not experienced the fellowship of UMM in a while or are a first time guest, please come dine with us. The cuisine is fit for a man and the fellowship even better. Hope to see you there.

### **GRIEF SUPPORT**

In 2010, the Grief Support Group will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 3:00pm in the Conference Room with the exception of the months of April, July and September, during which the group will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. Our next Grief Support meeting is Sunday, February 7.

### **NEW HOPE CHILD CARE REQUEST**

New Hope Child Care is now at capacity with 23 children, plus our four babies in the infant room. Now there is a great need for FUMC to provide volunteers. One hour monthly, weekly or daily will help! Please call the New Hope office at 972-625-8459 if you can help out in any way with this blessed Ministry. Your help is appreciated by the Nurture Committee.

### **PDO**

Registration 2010-2011 school year: The Preschool & Parent's Day Out is having Registration for the 2010-2011 school year for church members, currently enrolled students, and their siblings on Monday, February 22, 9:00 to 11:00 am. Church members will receive free registration. Open Registration for new students will begin Tuesday, March 2 at 9:00 am. Registration packets are now available. Call the Preschool/Parent's Day out office for more information. 972-625-2891.

### **BE A SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEER GREETER**

With the new year, volunteer a little of your time on Sundays - you're already at church, right? Greeters are those folks that open the door with a big smile and "hello" as you enter the church. Serving as a greeter only takes about 30 minutes of your time, requires no special training and is guaranteed to make you feel good as you serve the Church. Contact Gary Wimbish at [garywimbish@yahoo.com](mailto:garywimbish@yahoo.com)

### **CRISIS FUND**

As you are very much aware, families in our community are still in need of help with their tight budgets every month. The Crisis Fund helps to fill that need each month. Due to the freezing temperatures we experienced in December and January, there is a huge need to help with utility bills.

Please mark your checks "Crisis Fund." You can also leave your dollars and change on the Communion Rail on first Sundays.

Remember: The need is great. Thank you so much for your gift of love.

### **COUNSELING FOR VETERANS**

Pastoral Counseling and Education Center has again received a generous grant from the Texas Resources For Iraq - Afghanistan Deployment Fund (TRIAD FUND) of the Dallas Foundation. This grant will be used to underwrite counseling for veterans and the spouses, children, and families of veterans of the Iraq or Afghanistan wars. Please share this counseling opportunity with any veterans and their families in the Dallas area that you know. Therapy may be scheduled at our Lemmon Avenue office or in twenty satellite sites by calling 214-526-4525. Thank you for helping to spread the word to the brave men and women of our armed services.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE TRUSTEES**

Especially for families with young children: A changing table has been placed in the Family Restroom located inside the Quiet Room.

### **HEAVEN**

If you are looking for a fun night out with friends, then look no further! HEAVEN (Having Enjoyable Adult Valued Entertainment Now) is meeting for our monthly gathering on Saturday, Feb. 20th, location TBD, from 6:00 until 10:00. Babysitting (with pizza) is provided at the church. A reminder is sent out one week prior via E-vite. Please contact Heather Deputy at 469-384-1590 or [hadeputy@yahoo.com](mailto:hadeputy@yahoo.com) to be added to the list, or watch the Messenger calendar for details. Everyone is welcome!

### **BLOOD DRIVE – OUR GOAL IS 25 UNITS**

The Carter BloodCare Mobile unit will be in the parking lot on Sunday, February 14 from 8:00am to 12:30pm. Some restrictions apply so stop by the table in the narthex and read the guidelines before you put your name on the sign-up sheet. What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than to give the gift of life! Call the church office if you have any questions at 972-625-1281.

## MESSAGE FROM FINANCE

Dear FUMC-The Colony,

I really enjoyed our January Administrative Council Planning Meeting this year. We were presented with a strong emphasis in two areas:

\*Everyone contributing to ministry in their own unique way using the gifts that God has given us.

\* Once we have answered the call to serve we should work as a team across ministries to accomplish great things in the name of the Lord!

These areas of focus will greatly support our mission of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of The World."

It is customary for the Finance committee to present the Annual Budget at the January Administrative Council meeting for approval. The motion presented reported a 2010 budget of \$480,000 and the motion passed.

A Charge Conference was also held on January 9, 2010 in which the Finance Committee presented a motion to borrow \$75,000 to help meet the refurbishment needs of the Church. This motion was passed. Soon we will all see activities happening that improve our facilities and assist in our commitment to become a transforming Church.

We have many reasons to be optimistic from a financial perspective as we enter 2010. Among them, the fall Stewardship campaign resulted in an increase in pledges over the previous year. Also, our Conference, Church Staff and various committees have worked diligently to control expenses. Furthermore, we received many generous gifts late in 2009 that allowed us to meet our obligations and enter 2010 with a clean slate.

I am personally very pleased with the collaboration used in the budgeting process and that the motion to borrow additional funds for refurbishment passed.

In closing, I ask for everyone's continued faithful giving to FUMC, The Colony. God's Grace and the faithful giving of this congregation will allow us to strive to work together as a team in ministry to support our Mission and through Christ, Transform the World!

In His name,

Marce Ward  
Chair of Finance

## K.I.C.K.

**CALLING** all KICK kids! 4th and 5th graders - THAT'S YOU! Join us for food, fun and friends on Sunday, February 28th at 5:00, room B-7. Contact Heather Deputy at 469-384-1590 or [kick@fumctc.org](mailto:kick@fumctc.org) with any questions. Hope to see you there!

## JANUARY PANTRY UPDATE

2009 was a challenge for everyone, and the pantry was no exception. Due to your generosity we finished the year with money in our fund and food on our shelves. We helped 87 families for a total of 413 individuals in December.

The highlights for me were many; heading the list is seeing the capacity of our church and extended family. It takes all of us to sustain and grow this mission. Generous donations came from: the Scouts' food drive, Lennox Industries, Hawaiian Falls and those of you who want to remain anonymous. Thank you, Ted and Jackie Greensage and John Messing for helping us gain a share of the money and food collected in The Colony Parks and Rec Department's Food Drive.

We had not planned on providing Thanksgiving meals; however, we ended up with enough turkeys and fixings for 45 complete meals and gift cards for 6 families. These donations did not come from the pantry or pantry funds.

Christmas was again a view of what can be accomplished when so many are working together. It started with a bag of stuffed toys; The Colony Fire Department gave us two to three times as many toys as expected; two quilting friends brought in toys and helped make scarves and hats; Jenny Craig-Carrollton had a toy drive and donated them to us; Gayle Pitt and her Hawaiian Falls connection brought in several large bags of toys along with gift cards; and another person brought in two large boxes of books. Every family that came in was able to pick out toys and enjoy a pancake breakfast for Christmas morning thanks to the parents and friends that stayed after the Scout's Breakfast with Santa to cook up the remaining batter and sausages.

As we prepare for another year, the need is still there; the quest for food and space continues. The knowledge that with God all things are possible sustains us all.

Currently, the Food Pantry needs more volunteers to work alternate Thursdays and to help fill in during vacations; in addition we need to add another person to each shift. Current food needs continue to include peanut butter and jelly, fruit, canned meat and hearty soups.

There are not enough words to thank you. Have a Blessed and Happy New Year.  
Yolanda Messing

## Club C.O.O.L.

The next meeting of Club COOL (cool kids that are aged 4 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) is February 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:00pm. Come join us for a Valentine's celebration! As always, friends are welcome!

# .....studEnt nooz

Okay, it's February.....not really, but when you get this it will be! This is a virtual February newsletter! So, it's the middle of January and I'm forced to decide what will happen in February.....don't blame me!

Here's the schedule and it will depend on weather for some of it, but only a little.....sheesh, my return key got stuck and I scrolled down six pages before I got it unstuck.....not a good omen to my day.....okay, here goes:

## February 7

2 pm to 5 pm: Confirmation Celebration at FUMC, Denton. Leaving FUMCTC parking lot at 1:30 pm. Bring \$5.  
5pm to 7 pm : SOUPER BOWL Sunday! Bring a can of soup for the Food Pantry and \$3 and we WON'T watch the Super Bowl! But if it's nice, we'll play football.....flag, that is!

## February 14

5 pm to 7 pm Valentine's Day!!! Bring valentines to share and your purdy shoes so we can celebrate the Love! That's the love of Christ for you! Bring \$2.

## February 17

7 pm Ash Wednesday Worship. Come get your ashes and forgiveness! God loves you!

## February 21

5 pm to 7 pm CrossFire like usual! Bring \$2 for snacks.

## PRAYERS FOR A JOURNEY

On February 15, Rufus Higginbotham departs for Tehran, Iran. Rufus is taking the next step in his life's mission to fulfill the words of an old friend of his, a renowned pastor by the name of Dr. W. A. Criswell. "Rufus, wouldn't it be wonderful, if instead of wasting our resources disputing with the Islamic World, we could pool our resources with them, and the rest of the world, and claim those heavens that God has made for us." After having traveled to Iraq, Palestine, Mecca, Afghanistan, and Pakistan in the past and been consistently denied entry into Iran, he has now with the help of a travel assistant in Shiraz, Iran, finally been granted a visa to journey for 8 days in Iran. He has put in a request to meet with the Iranian President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, with hopes to discuss a possible new beginning of peace, and of new purpose in pooling resources, working together with other countries, and "claiming those heavens of galaxies and stars." The request to meet with President Ahmadinejad seems to be the most difficult hurdle to date. Please pray for Rufus to have a safe journey, a successful mission, and for a positive interaction between Rufus and the people of Iran. A website is available at [www.rufushigginbotham.com](http://www.rufushigginbotham.com) for anyone to visit and learn about Rufus and his journey; it includes a travel journal. Thank you for your prayers.

*-contributed by a fellow Christian Living class member, A. Reddoch*

## RE ● FRESH FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

What is a fellowship group? It's the opportunity to make new friends, spend time with old friends, experience hospitality, and enjoy discussion around sermon topics!

When does it begin? It begins the week of February 21 (first week of Lent). It is held in host homes and is a video-driven discussion. There is no preparation, and it is a great way to discuss what was preached on Sunday and reconnect with friends. There is childcare available at the church; just make reservations online.

Who is the host? Maybe you? Maybe not! You can sign up on the form at the Information Station in the Narthex. We will have several homes in the area and the maximum number of participants will be ten.

How long is it? It will last seven weeks and each session will be 90 minutes. Try this new way to make friends, reconnect with old friends and feed your soul!

RE ● FRESH your week!