



The Messenger



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MESSENGER SUBMISSIONS:

Please send your
submissions to
newsletter@fumctc.org
by March 15 for
the April 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,

So many of you have shared with me what happened to you when our 117-year-record 12 1/2 inches of snow came the week before Ash Wednesday! You have said that it caused you to think about your blessings, to contemplate your place and your purpose, to treasure forever the beauty you were experiencing. I share your feelings. That snow was magical. Our refurbishing meeting was not cancelled for that Thursday night, even though it had been snowing since midnight the night before. It was exciting to drive home slowly on that beautiful snowy night. It was stunning to stop in the driveway that day and watch the cardinals and blue jays and robins hopping among the snow-laden pine branches, looking for food.

Then came that marvelous Tuesday of the following week – Fat Tuesday. Once again, there was magic. There were elves in the kitchen under the direction of Robin Hixson - setting up, decorating, cooking, spreading out crowns, necklaces and masks for our celebration, inviting the community for a tasty pancake supper. And they came! They came from places around us, and they said they were having such fun!

Early the next morning, Diane Van Holsbeke, Jack, and I arrived on Ash Wednesday at 5:30 to prepare for the first of those to come and receive ashes and communion. We lighted candles in the darkness, all around the sanctuary - banks of candles, surrounding the seats. And they came – at least a few. At seven, I told Jack that I so appreciated his presence there that morning, even though the numbers had been few. He smiled and said that it was all right. It made him want to be a priest so that he could get up early every morning and come to the church and light candles and contemplate God's presence!

Finally, Ash Wednesday evening arrived. Our service was different this year – fewer spoken words – words on the screen in the candle-lighted sanctuary, words to remind us that we were starting over, repenting, contemplating what these next few weeks will be like as we journey toward Easter. The choir punctuated our worship with their chants; scriptures were read; ashes were imposed; Holy Communion was served. All of us went forth with Ash Wednesday's cross on our forehead, reminding us of God's covenant with us and ours with God.

I give thanks for the blessing of journeying through days like these with each of you!

Grace and Peace,

Judith
Judith@fumctc.org

EASTER SUNRISE INVITATION: If you are interested in participating in the Easter Sunrise drama at 6:30 AM on April 4th on the FUMC-TC grounds, or if you are willing to help provide food or set up, please contact Barbara Collins at 972-625-7326.

FAST DRIVE: our missions committee invites you to fast one day each week during lent. Then bring the equivalent in food not eaten to our food pantry...or drop the equivalent in money not paid for food into the plate on Sunday and designate it for the crisis fund.

NOTES FROM THE **MUSIC MINISTRY** DEPARTMENT

During the month of March we will be remembering the life of Jesus with many poignant Lenten musical selections. Then on Palm Sunday, March 28, the Chancel Choir will present "Jesus Was, Jesus Is" at the 8:30 and 11am services. This is an inspirational Lenten musical drama with choir members portraying Biblical characters including John the Baptist, Paul, Peter, Mary, Martha, Mary Magdalene, Salome and Mary the Mother of Jesus. They will share with us who Jesus is in each of their lives in a very special way. You won't want to miss this unique and exciting Lenten presentation!

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)

UMM

Thanks to all who attended our last meeting - great turnout. UMM will be meeting March 13, 2010, at 8:00am. We'll have another great program and SHORT! business meeting to follow. The food is good, the fellowship even better. Come be a part of men doing Christ's work in our community.

UMW

The United Methodist Women would like to invite all women of the church to several special dates. March 13 is Brunch at 10am, with Kathy Stutesman from Wesley-Rankin as our speaker. April 10 is also Brunch at 10am - bring a 'naked' cake and a can of frosting and learn some cake decorating. The UMW will also be starting a Game Night on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. More info to come. If you have any questions, contact Pat Ellis at 972-625-0464.

HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2010

Attention Parents of High School Seniors...

It may not seem possible, but in a few short months, your child will be graduating high school. We will be hosting a Senior Recognition day in late April/early May (date to be announced soon.) In the meantime, we would like to ask you to gather 8-10 photographs of your child at various stages of his or her life. We would like to request at least one of them be a baby picture and one of them be either their graduation picture or a current picture. We will be inserting the pictures into a slide show and request that all pictures be scanned and submitted in a digital format. You may submit your pictures to Mike Miller on CD or via email at mambuck@yahoo.com. Due to the large number of pictures that will be in the slide show, we will not be able to scan photographs for you. If you need help scanning photographs, CVS and Wal-Mart do have kiosks and staff to assist you. You may contact Mike at (214) 636-3166 with any questions. We do not want to leave any of our seniors out during this special recognition, so please be sure to get your pictures to Mike by Friday, April 9th.

HEAVEN

H.E.A.V.E.N. will meet on Saturday, March 20th at 6:00pm. Location, TBD. Watch (bulletin) for details or contact Heather Deputy by phone at 469-384-1590 or email hadeputy@yahoo.com to be added to the e-vite list.

NEEDED: BIBLE STUDY FACILITATOR

Have you been thinking about a Bible study but haven't found the exact one that you want? Perhaps that one is waiting for you to be the facilitator. A facilitator does not teach the class; he/she leads the discussion. What is available to study? Here are a few ideas. Adam Hamilton's *Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why* (8-week study). In this study Hamilton presents information about eight groups: Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, Anglicanism, Baptists, Pentecostalism, and Methodism. Adam Hamilton also wrote *Seeing Gray: Where Faith & Politics Meet* (5-week study). Another option might be *Companions in Christ: The Way of Blessedness* (9-week study) by Marjorie J. Thompson and Stephen D. Bryant. Or you might choose *Wesleyan Essentials in a Multicultural Society* (13-week study) by Ted A. Campbell and Michael T. Burns. If you have been thinking about this, please contact Sandi Gehrke, Adult Studies Coordinator, at 972-625-1277. We would like to have a short-term study after Easter.



A new emergent service has begun at FUMC-TC on Sunday evenings 6 p.m., speaking to today's culture, a place to hear modern worship music, enjoy a relaxed format, have a cup of java and hear a dynamic message. This is a teaching service. Art, drama and visuals are part of the service, and children are welcome. The weekly message is delivered by J.D. Allen. Born and raised in The Colony, he received his Master of Divinity from George W. Truett Theological Seminary at

Baylor University. He has led ministry efforts including youth and children's programs and church growth. J.D. is currently a member of the Dallas Area Christian progressive alliance and co-coordinator of the Emergent Village North Dallas Cohort. Working with J.D. is Amanda Glassey, a project manager for Linbeck and a graduate of Texas A&M. She will graduate with a Masters in Church Ministry from SMU in May, 2010. Since August of 2009, Amanda has been serving as intern at FUMC-TC, coordinating missions and bringing an ability to interpret the Word to the outside world. Contemporary band "Alive in the Fire" leads the service with music by artists such as David Crowder, Robbie Seay, Charlie Hull and Josh Tullis. If you want to be inspired, changed, challenged, impassioned and ignited, **ignite** is the service for you. **ignite** meets on Sundays at 6 p.m. at FUMC-TC.

.....studEnt nooz

Can you believe the snow? And the cold? I'm ready for summer!!!! How about you? Last month we had fun on Valentine's Day, we had fun with movie night, and we had fun making health kits for Haiti and stuff.....

This month holds, wait for it, Spring Break!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Hopefully it won't snow....I know that's mean....but here's our schedule:

- March 7: CrossFire, 5pm-7pm
- March 14: NO CrossFire because it's the beginning of Spring Break!
- March 21: CrossFire, 5pm-7pm
- March 28: CrossFire, 5pm-7pm, Palm Sunday

There's a couple of other things you need to know about.....We are having a 30 Hour Famine Lock-In on April 23!!!! What's that? The challenge of the Famine is to bring our group closer together, and more importantly to draw you closer to Christ. We will be raising money to stop hunger. There are packets in my office for each of you.....this is a requirement of coming to the Lock-in....to raise at least \$30. That will take care of one child for a month. The funds are distributed by World Vision, a good group. What are we doing on the Lock-in? Well, we are doing a scavenger hunt on Friday night, and a few other things and yes, you can play hide and seek in the dark....sr. high first. Then on Saturday we will do a mission project, as yet to be determined, and then we will be heading for the ballpark for a concert featuring THIRD DAY and then a baseball game. That's where you get to break your fast.

Oh, yeah, did I tell you that you won't be eating from 1pm (after lunch at school) on Friday until 6pm on Saturday? Yeah, the "30 Hour" part is your part.....to see what it's like to not to be able to eat when you want....cool, huh? Course, I know you guys aren't used to this so we will have fruit juices and smoothies at intervals to keep us from feeling like, hungry.

Mark your calendar....Friday, April 23 and Saturday, April 24. Make a difference.

Club C.O.O.L.

(for Pre-K through completion of 3rd grade)

In February we discussed LOVE and how Jesus showed us the ultimate love. We made Valentine's cards and played silly games. We will not have a March meeting due to Spring Break but will resume again on April 11. Please remember that friends are ALWAYS welcome as are parent volunteers.

KICK will meet on Sunday, March 28th at

5:00 in the Big Room, B-7. Please contact Heather Deputy at 469-384-1590 or kick@fumctc.org if you have any questions.