



THE VOICE

the weekly newsletter of
First United Methodist Church
Missouri City



In proclaiming God's grace
First United Methodist Church
will serve and connect people to Christ
and one another for the
transformation of the World.

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**First United Methodist
Church Missouri City**

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My Community.
My Church.
My Connection.

Check us out on
the web @
www.fumcmc.org.

PAST – PRESENT – FUTURE
What do you see? Do you see what God sees?

2010 Debt Reduction Campaign

Don't Forget

Did you remember to return your PLEDGE CARD?

The deadline is:
Sunday, May 16

2010 Capital Campaign
April 18 – May 16

FUMCMC
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MISSOURI CITY

PAY OFF THE LAND LOAN TO
BETTER POSITION US FOR GOD'S FUTURE.



The Pastor's Journal

Dr. Lynne Settlemyre

As you are all aware by now, the Church Council, upon the recommendation of the Long Range Planning Committee, has begun to take steps to retire our church's outstanding indebtedness. The first of those steps is the one-year 2010 Past-Present-Future campaign the Church Council has been undertaking for the past few weeks to raise enough money to retire the note on our "west woods" property within the year.

The campaign is in its final stages, so I've been asked to dedicate this space to telling the congregation where the campaign is and what you can do in these final stages to help make the campaign as successful as it can be.

Where are we? So far, the campaign has actually received payments of \$19,075 toward debt reduction. As these funds are received, they are being forwarded on to the bank immediately to pay down the principle on our debt. Therefore, as campaign funds are received, they result in immediate savings on interest payments for our church. Plus, the campaign has generated pledges for an additional \$17,245, which will be paid over the remainder of the year. Thus, the grand total so far in pledges and giving for the campaign is \$36,320, or 24 percent of the way to our goal!

This response to the campaign represents about 46 families, which is around 7 percent of our congregation. That means two things. First, we are well on our way with a good start to the campaign. Second, there are plenty of folks who have yet to respond, meaning we have a great opportunity to reach our goal of raising \$150,000 to pay off the west woods.

What can you do? The official ending to the campaign is this Sunday, May 16. So, now is the time to respond with your pledge for the campaign (although the Committee will still accept pledge cards through May 23).

Please prayerfully consider what you can commit over the course of the rest of this year to the campaign. Then, fill out a pledge card and drop it in the collection plate this Sunday. You can include all or a portion of your pledge with the card now, or you can pay it down over the remainder of the year.

I'm always gratified to see our church "rise to the occasion," and have no doubt will witness this again. I am excited to think about what our church can do to connect people to Christ with the additional resources it will have when it has finally shed its burden of debt once and for all. Please join me and my family in supporting this campaign.

Family Night
with the Astros

Saturday, June 5
6:05 p.m.
Minute Maid Park

Join with your church family and United Methodist Women for a good old fashioned game of baseball! Tickets are only \$20 each and include unlimited soft drinks and concession snacks.

Tickets are on sale May 16 in the Memorial Courtyard Hallway. See you there!

Astros

Tacos 4 Missions....For the Glory of God!
Mmmm....

Come early or stay late for...
Breakfast Tacos

Sunday, May 23
8 a.m.-12 p.m.
Suggested Donation of \$2

All donations support the mission work of our Missions Ministry.

Goal:	\$150,000
Pledged as of May 9:	\$17,245
Received as of May 9:	\$19,075
Remaining Needed:	\$113,680

My Community.....My Church.....My Connection

this week at FUMC MC

SUNDAY, May 16

Blood Drive and Family Promise Sign-ups & Debt Reduction Campaign Information

- 8:30 a.m. *Open Skies* in the Fellowship Hall
- 8:30 a.m. Morning Worship in the Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Sanctuary
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday School & Youth "Celebration"
- 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship in the Chapel
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship in the Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. arts@11
- 12:15 p.m. Missions Ministry
- 12:15 p.m. UMYF Family Picnic
- 3:00 p.m. ALIVE Praise Band Practice
- 4:00 p.m. FOCUS Praise Band Practice
- 4:00 p.m. Spiritual Spotlighters
- 5:00 p.m. Area 345

MONDAY, May 17

- 10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group
- 6:00 p.m. *Tai Chi*
- 6:30 p.m. Trustees
- 7:15 p.m. Square Dance Class

TUESDAY, May 18

- 6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Group
- 7:30 p.m. *Open Skies* Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, May 19

- 6:00 a.m. United Methodist Men Prayer Breakfast
- 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Senior High REFUEL
- 6:30 p.m. Cornerstone Recovery
- 7:00 p.m. *Disciple I*

THURSDAY, May 20

- 6:45 p.m. *First Place 4 Health*
- 7:00 p.m. Depression/Bipolar Support Group

SATURDAY, May 22

- 5:00 p.m. *Open Skies* Set-up

ASCENSION

Sunday, May 16

"Looking Up"

Acts 1-11; Luke 24:44-53

Sunday Mornings at FUMC MC

- 8:30 & 9:45 a.m. Worship in the Chapel
 - 8:30 a.m. *Open Skies*, A Creative Worship Experience - Fellowship Hall
 - 9:30 a.m. Communion served each Sunday (excludes 1st Sunday of the month)
 - 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
-
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday School - Ages 2 yrs. through Adult Youth "Celebration" & Confirmation Classes

Nursery is available all morning

Our Church Family

Concerns:

We include the following people in our prayers this week:

Those recovering from recent hospitalizations or illness: *Pat Dalton, Jason Frampton, Warren Franz, Bruce Grady, Lily Harrison, John Hopson, John Houghton, Donna Johnson* (Acute Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy) and *Giesela King*; and *Sandra Whyte*, as she is included in our ongoing prayers.

We continue our prayers for *Elmer Hill, Bonnie Hopson, Eloise Ogden, Dorothy Reaves, Nelson Reber, Jim Rector* and *Dale Temple*, as they undergo treatment for cancer.

We pray for those members of our church family serving in the military: *Shannon Fleming, Will Hogno, Daniel Long, Justin Lutze, Daniel Smith, Adam Turek, Lacey Ward, Nick White* and *Morgan Wolverton*.

We pray for missionaries Bill and Jerri Savuto, as they continue their missionary work in Kenya.

Deaths:

Helen Martin passed away Wednesday, May 5 in Sugar Land. A memorial service will be held Friday, May 14 at 10 a.m. at Colonial Oaks Assisted Living. Prayers of comfort are offered to her family and friends during this difficult time of grief.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!



Drew Bourgeois joined FUMCMC on Sunday, May 9. Welcome, Drew! We are so glad you are now part of our church family.

We Promise To Uphold Our Church

OUR PRESENCE

Sunday, May 9, 2010

Worship Attendance~ 576

Sunday School - 238

Remember to wear your name tag on Sunday morning!



Family Promise Volunteers

The next Family Promise rotation for FUMC MC begins on Sunday, May 30. There will be a sign up table in the Memorial Courtyard hallway on Sunday, May 16 and Sunday, May 23. Please stop by and sign up to volunteer. There are many ways to help with this ministry and the rewards are phenomenal. If you have any questions, someone will be at the table to help you.

Please prayerfully consider volunteering.

Food Pantry Items

Food Pantry items for the month of May are cereal, canned meat and peanut butter. You can place your donations in the food barrel located in the Memorial Courtyard Hallway. All contributions benefit the East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry Food Pantry.

MDS Openings

The Methodist Day School had a successful registration for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. There are limited openings for our Bridge Class and for children ages 2 years and under. If you or someone you know are interested in learning more about the Methodist Day School, please drop by during the week or call at 281-499-2581.



Blood drive May 30

Please give of yourself on Sunday, May 30 during our blood drive. Join us in Music A & B from 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. to donate.

To schedule an appointment, visit www.giveblood.org and login to Digital Donor. Enter sponsor code 3867 or contact Jim Daurity at 281-437-7605.

"A man can accept what Christ has done without knowing how it works; indeed, he certainly won't know how it works until he's accepted it."

- C.S. Lewis

My Community....My Church....My Connection

Planning your summer?

Join us for these fun activities for children!



Kidz
Camp

New! Kidz Camp

For the first time, we will offer a day camp for children 3 years old through those entering 6th grade. Our curriculum includes arts & crafts, sports, field trips, swimming and more! Weekly camp sessions begin Monday, June 14 with the last session beginning Monday, July 15. Enroll for one week or all four. Registration is now open.

Blast off with VBS!

We'll be blasting off the week of July 12 for a week of fun that's out-of-this-world! Last year, over 300 children were served through this free program and we're expecting even more this year. Enroll now!



All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to come to UMYF!
Contact the church office for information about Youth activities at 281-499-3502 or check out the Youth bulletin board in the Courtyard Hallway.



Sunday, May 16

9:45 AM - Celebration & ReMix Sunday School

12:15 PM - Family Picnic @ Oyster Creek Park!

Come meet Logan Armatys, our new Youth Director !

Bring your own lunch/drinks/snacks and blankets & chairs.
Games will be available.

NO ALIVE or FOCUS Praise Band Practice

NO UMYF evening activity!

Wednesday, May 19

6:30 PM - Senior High REFUEL ~ Room 212

ADULTS – We need you!!! In order for us to take kids to summer camp at Lakeview, we MUST also take adult counselors. Contact Jennifer Ogilvie or Kris Bagley for more information and registration forms.

Youth Music Extrabanganza

Sunday, May 23

6 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Please join us for this great
music opportunity!
Open to our entire congregation!
All ages!



Featuring:

ALIVE & FOCUS
Praise Bands



Brown Bag Lunch To Start June 2

Ladies, please join us once again for our Brown Bag Lunch and short Bible study starting June 2 and ending July 7 in Music Rooms A & B.

What do you need to bring? A sandwich, salad or whatever you choose to have for lunch and your Bible. What will we provide? Drinks, dessert and a time together to share a short Bible study. We will start 11:30 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m.

If you are new to Bible study or have been away from a Bible study for a while, this is a good way to "get your feet wet." This is an informal study which consists of meditations from the "Upper Room" with discussion. We find that Christ is among us in fresh ways when we gather together listening to God and to each other as we continue our Christian journey. It makes no difference where you are on your journey, so all will be comfortable.

We are all sizes, shapes and ages. We are all at different places in our Christian walk. What we all have in common are the words of Jesus, "Where one or more are gathered in my name, there I will be also."

If you are looking for a positive way to jump start your summer, please join us. If there are any questions please call Sue Morse at 281-499-2692 or the church office at 281-499-3502.



Special "thank you's"

Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank you on behalf of my little family for all of the prayers and well wishes for Max during his concussion.

He is doing much better and I believe we have turned a corner! He is now back in school for the full day and beginning to get caught up on all that he has missed.

Your sweet notes, cards and prayers kept not only Max going, but me as well. God is good.

Thank you again,
Lisa, Freeman & Max
Williams

Dear Everyone,

A short "thank you" to all the folks who called and visited during my last stay in the hospital. Kay Cox delivered a beautiful prayer shawl that proved to be very comforting. Dave Cox brought me a snow shovel.

Love and peace to all,
Paul Hillis

A fresh look at Pentecost

Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, on a day called Pentecost, the Christian church was born. Because Pentecost was a holiday celebrating the harvest, the apostles and a large crowd had gathered to celebrate in Jerusalem.

Many people had assembled near Peter and the other followers of Christ when "[F]rom heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind..." (Acts 2:2 ff, NRSV). Then tongues of fire descended on everyone in the crowd.

After the wind and fire descended, all sorts of languages, known and unknown, came out of the crowd. Each person spoke "about God's deeds of power" (verse 11). No wonder Luke wrote, "All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'" (verse 12).

The whole affair was mind-boggling and life-changing. The Holy Spirit had come upon many people; they knew God was at work in their midst.

On Pentecost many years ago, some 3,000 people came to believe in Christ. That's why today Christians remember this powerful event as the birthday of the church. Pentecost occurs on May 23 this year.