

## **Duck Days BBQ**

The United Methodist Men are busy organizing the Duck Days BBQ. It's finally here and you can almost smell the meat cooking and the sauce simmering! We really appreciate the participation for this very important fund raiser. It is with these funds that we provide the scholarships for our graduating students in our Church family as well as provide support in many other areas including food boxes for needy families at Thanksgiving and Easter. This is a church-wide event, not just a UMM event, and we will need help in all areas including serving in the main dining room (the gym), working the take out line (Fellowship Hall), delivery drivers for in-town delivery, ticket takers, people to take phone orders, set-up, clean-up during and at the end of the event, making and bringing desserts (we always need LOTS of yummy desserts) and of course - selling and buying tickets! Please see the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to volunteer or call Neal Cameron at 546-7767.

The BBQ will be held on Saturday, August 23rd, from 11 am to 2 pm. Ticket prices will be the same as last year: \$7 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12, and \$2 for children under 6. This is an all-you-can eat dinner consisting of slow cooked, mesquite smoked top round, homemade beans and coleslaw, bread, tea or coffee, and one yummy dessert. This is the best deal and the best meal around!

Tickets may be purchased at the church, 1st New Mexico Bank, the Chamber of Commerce, Pepper's Supermarket, or Mail Forwarding by Walden.

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***Scholarship Applications***

The United Methodist Men encourage all college students to apply for financial scholarships. Money, raised at the annual Duck Days BBQ dinner, is often available to those in need. Applications forms may be obtained in the church office.

***Labor Day Campout***

Each year we host a church camp at the Sapillio Campground in the Gila National Forest. You are invited to attend. Bring your motor home, RV, tent, or call early to reserve a cabin (info on cabins available in the office). The Labor Day Campout, will be held Friday August 30<sup>th</sup> through Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Early birds will arrive on Thursday. Bring extra water since this is dry camping. A port-a-potty will be available.

This year our speaker will be David Okerberg. He and Barbara will both be attending – a chance to catch up on old times! David will speak at various times during the weekend. We'll also have wonderful music and share a potluck meal on Saturday evening.

Registration is per family but the fee had not been announced as of press time. Forms will be available in the office by August 11<sup>th</sup>. Even if you don't camp, come up for the day and enjoy the fun, food and fellowship!

***Church Calendar:*** The church calendar may be found on the church website. Paper copies are on the back sanctuary table.

**First United Methodist Church** of Deming, New Mexico

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***Love, INC quarterly report for 2008 - Q2***

We continue to have 15 churches in our affiliate, but have four other churches involved in our ministry who have referred clients to us, served a need, or volunteered in the Clearinghouse.

We have used 26 community agencies as resource providers and have made 48 referrals to church ministries. A total of 76 adults and 64 children had their needs met.

We used 21 church volunteers in the Love INC Clearinghouse for a total of 242 hours.

Outside the Clearinghouse, church volunteers completed 86 acts of service, giving 510 hours of their time on behalf of their church through Love INC.

One of the things that Love INC is able to do, that agencies are not, is pray. We pray for each client who calls in (with their permission), touching them with the love and power of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your support and prayers. May God richly bless you.

***Attention All Ladies!***

Please join us Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, for the summer gathering of ***Celebration***, a women's ministry for all denominations. We will have an "elegant" breakfast followed by a program of praise, worship, and a message. We will be discovering "Little Known Facts About Women in the Bible."

Fellowship begins with breakfast at 9:30 am with the program following at 10 am in the church Fellowship Hall. We will end at noon. A nursery will be provided. Bring a friend! We want to reach women outside of our church.

***UMW Potluck Picnic***

The UMW potluck picnic will be held on August 16<sup>th</sup> at *El Rancho Lobo*. Ellie Wolf surely has all the details.

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***From a letter dated June 24, 2008:***

News arrived this week of the deplorable events that occurred to your church facilities over the past few weeks. It is incomprehensible to me why such thefts and vandalism occurred. I assume many of you have felt personally violated by these actions. The perpetrators destroyed or left with numerous items that had personal and corporate meaning. My prayers go out to you as you traverse this time of grief, anger, sadness, and sorrow.

These thieves and vandals have taken and destroyed many items, but they have not destroyed the Church. You are the Church and you remain strong and faithful. You remain to demand justice and forgiveness. You remain to teach and proclaim the greatness of God we know in Jesus Christ. You remain to make disciples for the transformation of the world. These terrible events will not destroy the Church. Rather, by the power of God, you will be raised up to minister in ways we have not yet imagined.

Please know you remain in our prayers. If there are ways I can help, please let me know.

Grace & Peace,  
/s/ D. Max Whitfield

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***Cans for Camping Kids***

Camp can be a life changing experience. We have heard time after time of the many youth who make a commitment to Christ at camp.

Costs are rising everywhere, including the cost of attending camp. In order to assure that our kids are able to attend a life-changing camp, we want your *aluminum* beverage cans. They will be redeemed for cash which will then be used to help send our children, youth, and their sponsors to camp. There is a barrel next to the Coke machine (between the Fellowship Hall and gym), ready for your donations.

We have a LOT of kids who want to go to camp. Your donations will help make that wish come true. Thank you.

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**TAKE NOTE**

Okay, can anyone tell me why the summer flew by so fast? I can't believe another school year is about to begin. The coming of the school year marks another season for the church. We begin to think about plans for the fall and winter. Christmas will be here before we know it!!!

The week of August 18th marks the return from summer break and several ensembles begin rehearsals. Please make a note of Wednesday, August 13th. We will be celebrating the return of the music schedule with a potluck dinner. Anyone who is interested in the music program at FUMC is invited to attend. We will start the dinner at 5:30. We will all sing and celebrate our ministry by hearing several people talk about how music is important in their lives.

This is the schedule for August:

13th	Potluck Dinner	5:30 – 7:00
18th	Handbells	5:00 – 6:00
	Praise Band	6:15 – 7:15
20th	Chancel Choir	6:00 – 7:00
25th	Handbells	5:00 – 6:00
	Praise Band	6:15 – 7:15
27th	Chancel Choir	7:00 – 8:00

\*\*Looking Ahead: No Handbells or Praise Band Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>

***UMW Rummage Sale***

The UMW is having their rummage sale on September 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am 'til noon. Articles may be contributed by bringing them to the gym beginning August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Help is requested on September 5<sup>th</sup> (8 am 'til noon) to sort and setup the tables. Contact Lynde for answers to questions and to volunteer.

Remember to Greet Our Visitors! Your hello will make a difference in their world and yours

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### ***Performing Arts Camp***

Performing Arts Camp is currently underway. FUMC Music Director Joe MacDonald and his volunteers are rehearsing the cast in *The Gospel According to Charlie Brown*.

Two performances for families and others in the community are scheduled for August 8th and 9th at 7:00 pm.

A poster for 'PERFORMING ARTS CAMP' featuring the musical 'YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN THE BROADWAY MUSICAL'. The poster includes the date 'July 28-August 9', time '5:00 pm-8:00 pm', and contact information for Joe MacDonald. It also mentions the church location: 'First United Methodist Church, 1020 S. Granite St. (next to the swimming pool)'. The poster features a yellow background with black silhouettes of Charlie Brown and Snoopy.

**PERFORMING ARTS CAMP**

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN,  
**CHARLIE BROWN**  
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Date:  
July 28-August 9  
Time:  
5:00 pm-8:00 pm

This exciting camp is designed for students who have completed second grade through twelfth grade.

We will be presenting the musical *The Gospel According to Charlie Brown*

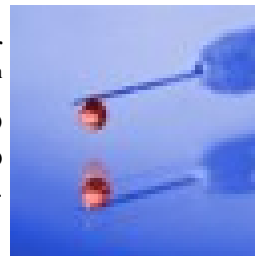
Contact person: Joe MacDonald

Call 546-2791 for more details — register at [www.fumcdeming.com](http://www.fumcdeming.com)

**First United Methodist Church**  
1020 S. Granite St. (next to the swimming pool)

### ***We're out for blood!***

We will be hosting a blood drive for your much needed blood on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please call the church office today to reserve your slot. Walk-ins are also welcome!



### ***Women's Depression Support Group***

Our Support Group is now meeting at a different time, from 12 noon until 1:00 pm, at the church on Thursdays. Feel free to bring your lunch and join us as we share hope and encourage one another. All conversations are kept strictly confidential. Invite a friend or just come to observe if you want to find out how it works. Please call Beth Simpson at the church at 546-2791 if you have any questions.

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***Prayer List***  
*Apr.-Jun. 2008*

Bonnie Baker; Debbie Baker  
Shirley Breeden  
Calloway Family  
Nikki Carnish; Mary Chase  
Dale Cole  
The J. Cote family  
Helen Covey; Jim Culberson  
Ruth DeGroot; Travis Dodson  
Dan Edwards; Gerald Gaylord  
Corrina Gonzales/baby  
Ruth Greenwood  
Bob/Sharon Grogan  
Betty Hansford; Carol Hoefler  
Bill & Sue Hoffmeister  
Florence Holt  
Wayne/Janet Humphrey  
Joel Hunt; Jeff; Jeremy  
Fred Johnson; Lois Kelly  
Ed Leupold; Maxwell UMC  
Sean McLaughlin; Bob Moon  
Jack & Betty Morrow  
Gale Murphy; Lynde Murphy  
Pecoraro/Kornuta families  
Ann Pettit; Brian Pettit  
John Plant; Eric Ray

Reuben & family  
Alberta Sires; Vee Shirk  
Gary Slayman  
Oris & Nina Spencer  
Sarah & Greg Swift  
Margaret Truax; Earl Veeder  
Donna Wallace  
Pearl Whetstone  
Garnet Wietbrock  
Sally Williams  
Marlene Zachek

Families dealing with grief:  
Ketcham, Burkle, Jontra,  
Arthur, Rhoads

Service men & women and their  
units:

Travis Dodson's unit, Avilla  
Augustus, Alan Ballinas, Alan/  
Brian Carter, Jack Corn, Amber  
Dunnihoo, Steve Gilland, Maj.  
Howard Gobble, Jason  
Hammers, Conrad Hughes, Eric  
Jasso, Shaun M. Jones, Jennifer/  
John Lively, Robbie Luna,  
Jennifer/Jarrold McGee, Michael  
Nunley, Josh Robertson, L.  
Charles Stanley, Aaron  
Steelman, Greg Stube, Danny  
Symonds, Van Welch

Hospice patients and their families; our nation; our leaders;  
our armed forces; our Sunday School: for increased attendance,  
people with a heart and passion for teaching to assist or  
substitute in our classes, for faithfulness.

Pray for our Sunday School children. Look for the prayer re-  
quests on basket on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

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***August Bread Basket***

Lydia Patterson Institute is the only remaining United Methodist institution in the United States that serves a predominately Hispanic population. Lydia Patterson Institute continues to serve as a church-related and church-supported institution. Its mission is to serve a special human need in a environment where faith and knowledge interact to enrich our lives and develop Christian leadership for church and society.

The geographical location of Lydia Patterson Institute presents to the Church a continuing strategic opportunity for the preparation of persons from United States, Mexico, and Latin American for mission and ministry in an international cross-cultural setting.

***Now it came to pass...***

...that, as the time of vacation drew near, a certain member of the church bethought him of cool streams, sandy beaches, and mountains, and this Christian's wife spoke and said: "Thou must dig into thy purse and give to the Lord's work in order that the cause of Christ may go forward, that the heart of the treasurer be made glad, and that it may be well with thee. For verily I say unto thee, thou hast more money now than thou wilt have when thou dost return."

And the husband replied "Verily, thou art noble and wise among women."

And he did make his contribution for the summer, and the treasurer rejoiced greatly, saying "Of a truth, there are yet those among us concerned for the cause of Christ."

***A Christian steward is loving.***

Christian stewards know that the Lord requires justice and kindness and humility, and they follow the two greatest Commandments.

++ Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors. ++

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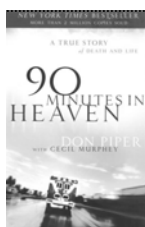
***Africa University comes to Albuquerque***

Save the Date! Come and hear how you have touched lives on the continent of Africa through your Shared Ministry. "Africa comes To Albuquerque" will be presented at St. John's UMC, 2626 Arizona NE, Albuquerque. NM 87110, on Saturday September 27, 2008, from 10 am 'til 2 pm. For additional information contact:

Josefa Wall, 505-890-8061 or [Wall8115@comcast.net](mailto:Wall8115@comcast.net);  
Rob Kresge, 505-797-1874 or [jnrsge@comcast.net](mailto:jnrsge@comcast.net); or  
Lloyd Rollins, 615-838-2887 or [lrollins@gbhem.org](mailto:lrollins@gbhem.org)

**Living Beyond Yourself**  
Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit  
A Beth Moore Bible Study  
September 25–December 11, 2008  
First United Methodist Church  
Thursdays—9:00-11:15                      Workbooks \$17  
registration deadline: September 7  
Phyllis Mudd-544-7787                      Suanne Delk—546-2985

***Library Corner***



*90 Minutes in Heaven* gives a glimpse into a believable dimension of heaven. The reader is swept into a reality, that is of God.

The book is about life and death. However, it offers promise to the believer and hope to those who doubt. It is also a book about the power of Prayer Warriors and the evidence of miracles.

In the book Rev. Piper shares, that even in times during deep depression and intense pain one can feel the 'blanket' of prayers. He reports that the possibilities of God's miracles are unlimited.

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***Some of My Thoughts, June, 2008***

The leader of one of the sessions at Mt. Sequoyah during Bishops' Week drew a box and then gave the following instructions. Outside the box, list the type of people in your community who are not part of your church. Inside the box, list the reasons why the people outside the box do not feel welcome, do not visit, or join your church. On the back of the paper list three things that need to start happening to destroy the box that keep people outside the church and three things that need to stop happening in your church to destroy the box. I found this exercise to be most revealing and frustrating.



The exercise was revealing because several of the participants listed many of the same types of people who are not part of the church. The same responses came from pastors and laity in large, medium, and small membership churches. They came from leaders in rural and urban settings.

Most United Methodist Churches reach people who are very much alike. A majority of congregations do not reach young adults, single parents, people living in poverty, the working poor, African Americans, Native American, Asians, and Latinos. Even congregations located in these neighborhoods do not attract and retain these population groups.

The most painful part of this exercise was realizing that our attitudes and behavior post a sign over our church facilities that proclaim, "If you belong to these groups, you are unwelcome within these walls." Most of us would vehemently deny we intentionally exclude anyone from active participation in our congregations. However, our attitudes and behavior contradict our denials. A few examples demonstrate my assertion. A few years ago, an individual requested the UMW to change their general meetings from a lunch meeting the first Tuesday of each month to the third Thursday evening, and to provide childcare for all meetings. The executive committee carefully evaluated

the impact on both present and prospective members and the cost of providing childcare. They arrived at the logical conclusion: they would continue their present schedule, provide childcare, and aggressively recruit younger women to participate in their organization. Very few younger women responded to the challenge to join the existing group of women who actively participated in the UMW ministries.

A congregation seeking to involve single parents in the life and ministry of their congregation advertised a new ministry for single mothers that would meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Very few of the young mothers responded. Someone forgot that single mothers work long hours, have no one to help their children with homework, and struggle to keep their homes clean and the children in bed at an early hour.

I find it frustrating that our lives are so complicated, demands so extensive, and communication so fractured that even when we see and hear the needs of those in our community who are missing from worship, we have difficulty knowing how best to respond. Being the Church of Jesus Christ and loving those Jesus would have us love, is not an easy task. It requires us to lay aside our own preferences and conveniences to stand in the shoes that we so often ignore or overlook.

I wonder what would happen if every Administrative Council participated in the exercise of identifying the people in their community who are absent from the church, examine what would need to change, and then take at least one positive action to reach the lost, forgotten, and unloved in their community-to actively seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Grace & Peace,

Max

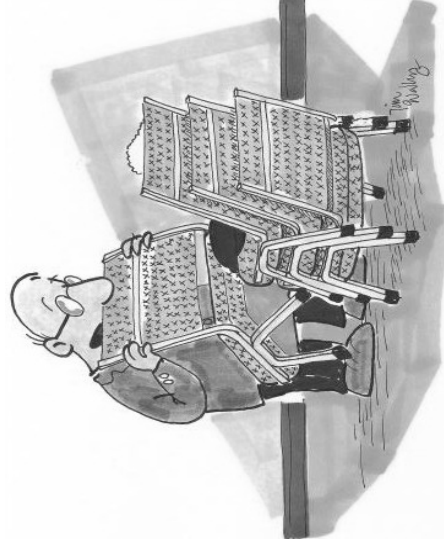
***Bishop Max Whitfield Reassigned***

On July 24<sup>th</sup> we learned that the Reverend D. Max Whitfield has been assigned as bishop to the Northwest Texas and New Mexico conferences for another four years. We join Bishop Max in his prayer that four years from now his assignment will have made a difference in the Kingdom of God.

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**First United Methodist Church**  
1020 S. Granite St.  
Deming, New Mexico 88030

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"Why Mrs. Lewis, we haven't seen  
you since last months Bible study!"

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