



First United Methodist Church of Deming, New Mexico

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Pandemia Pandemonium

If you were here at all during the week of July 18th, you would have seen lots of pandas, lots of panda decorations and especially, lots of kids during the evening! We had 52 kids, 23 adults and 12 youth. WOW! What a turnout! Friday night was the grand finale. I hope many of you were able to attend, enjoy the kids and then enjoy the dinner prepared by the UMM.

We could not have done this without the help of all of those who planned, donated, decorated, cooked, cleaned, watched, worked and prayed. Thank you one and all. Your gifts of time, talent and prayer made all the difference to the kids (and their families) who passed through our doors. May God bless you all!!



Public School to Begin

The Deming school year resumes on August 16th. This also means remembering to slow down for school zones and watching out for the children. Little Lambs classes will begin after Labor Day. Please be in prayer for families as their children get ready for school.

With the beginning of school comes the beginning of our after school programs for children and youth. S.O.U.L. Kids is for children in grades K through 5. They will begin meeting on Tuesday, August 23rd. They will meet

from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Snacks will be served before 3:30 so don't be late! First Call, for youth in grades 6, 7 and 8, will also be on Tuesdays, from 4 to 5 p.m.

S.O.U.L. Kids includes crafts, music and skits. First Call includes music and skits. They are open to any child in the community so please feel free to invite friends to join you.

Staff Schedules

Ernie and Beth will be out of the office in August. Ernie will be gone August 8 through 14. Beth will be gone August 23-29. Claire will be gone September 1-13. Please keep this in mind because office hours may vary during these times. Thank you.

Celebration

It is time for Celebration, the quarterly non-denominational women's ministry. Ladies, you are invited the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, August 20th, at 9:30 a.m. You'll enjoy a light breakfast, song, praise and testimony by Anne Westbrook. All ladies are welcome to attend!

From the Pastor

One of the biggest challenges that I confront as the pastor of a church is how to best enable the church to be the church. Of course, the first thing to figure out would be what makes up the church? A simple definition of the church is, "The followers of Jesus Christ coming together for worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism." It is through the church that we are able to learn from one another, disciple each other, worship together and then be better prepared to go out into the world in areas of ministry and to draw others to Christ. No one of us is stronger than the church is together.

Last month I asked the congregation to use the summer as an opportunity to ask God what his desires are for this church. Until that is absolutely clear, we must continue to pray. I know without a doubt that God has amazing things planned for us as long as we are in his will. As we finish out the Summer and approach the Fall, I encourage each of you to pray about God's will and about how God can use you in and through this church.

Pray also about how God wants you to serve. Don't wait for someone to call you and ask you to do something that may or may not be right. Ask God, listen to God and then respond to God's call on your life. Christ's fields need to be taken care of with planters, tenders and harvesters. Are you ready to be the worker that the church needs?

On **September 7th at 7:00 pm** we will be beginning a service on Wednesday evenings that has the primary focus on prayer. It will be an opportunity for us as the body of Christ to worship and pray together for our church, ourselves, and others. This is a great opportunity for all of us to be joined together in an attitude of prayer as God leads us forward into his harvest.

In His Service, Pastor Ernie



Labor Day Campout

The annual Labor Day Campout is tentatively scheduled for September 2-5. As the date gets closer, and the committee finds out about current campground conditions/openings/closures, more details will be provided.

How To Go Green

Last month featured recipes for homemade, nontoxic, cleaning products. If you would like to continue using some commercial cleaners, here are some things to look at in checking for safer ingredients:

- Natural and naturally derived ingredients from sustainable sources. You may need to ask. Asking will help store managers know there's an interest in nontoxic products.
- A minimum of mystery ingredients or chemical of concerns
- Packaging free of bisphenol-A, phthalates, and toxic inks. Again, you may need to ask.
- Biodegradable

- Recyclable packaging, wipes, and dryer sheets
- No chlorine bleach, phosphates, nitrates, or borates
- Concentrated products save energy, eliminate excess packaging, provide value
- No phthalates, 1,4-Dioxane, volatile organic cleaning compounds, hydrochloric acid, ammonia sodium hydroxide, butyl cellosolve formaldehyde, harmful fumes, xylene, sodium lauryl sulfate

Check the ingredient list because the words “organic” and “natural” do not necessarily mean nontoxic on cleaning products. Look for the words “fragrance free.” (Some “unscented” products have fragrance to make the chemical smell of the product.) The contents of “fragrance” are a trade secret and may contain chemicals that studies have shown to be or could be toxic. Also, if you find a brand that makes a safe laundry detergent, it does not always follow that their dish soap is equally nontoxic.

Sometimes you can trust your nose. If a product smells “chemically,” if it burns your nose and eyes or gives you a headache, consider it suspect. However, this doesn’t mean that a product that doesn’t bother is safe. As you become more informed, you will find product that work for you.

You can also look up a variety of products and ingredients on the US Department of Health and Human Services website: www.householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov/index.html

Next month – why some ingredients should be avoided.

Some of My Thoughts, July 11, 2011

Dr. Tom Nagle called for each pastor and congregation to enter into a season of prayer. It was not a season of a few days or even a few weeks. It was a call to enter into a *season of prayer* for the next year where every congregation would fervently seek to know God’s will and passionately strive to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Eugene Petersen pinpoints the trouble with praying: *God often asks us to respond in ways that we never intended when we first began to pray.* If congregations enter into such a period of prayer and earnestly seek to know and do God’s will, *there must be the willingness to respond in ways that we never intended.* Doing what we have always done, only working harder, will not work. The world and the people we seek to reach have changed.



Prayer places us in communication with God. It is much more than telling God how God ought to go about the task of bringing salvation to the world. God knows how to touch the hearts of people who appear to be only concerned about themselves. God knows how to rekindle the passion of a church that has turned inward and spends a majority of their time, energy, and financial resources to meet their own needs, wants, and desires. Prayer is the vehicle God can use to transform the communities of faith called the New Mexico Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Many congregations desire to be faithful communities of faith that are healthy, vital and growing. The pathway toward this goal is prayer. Prayer shapes and forms the community in new ways. Prayer reveals the heart of God. Prayer guides the community in responding to the mission field God opens to them in ways that they never previously imagined. When the prayers are offered and the guidance of the Holy Spirit is sought, it is essential that the leaders of the community assume a posture of readiness to respond and to go in new and different directions. God will answer the prayers, but the answer may not reflect the expectations of the people. God sometimes takes individuals and congregations in directions and to destinations never imagined.

Seeing congregations changed and transformed thrills my soul. A few ingredients appear to distinguish these congregations. Each one prayed to know and understand God’s mission for them, they were willing to do whatever it takes to fulfill that mission, and the pastor and lay leadership marched toward that vision with joy and determination. Some of these congregations reflected a common worship style, but others reflected a very different style of worship. Some of them adopted a new structure for doing the work of the church and others used their previous structures. Some focused on a particular age group, others sought to involve and minister with a variety of age groups. Some had great preachers and others had average preachers. They all shared a common passion for loving and intentionally inviting the people that God loves.

Dr. Nagle will shortly present some guidance on ways congregations can enter into this season of prayer. I strongly urge you to join in this journey of faith and stand ready to respond to God’s guidance and direction to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Grace & Peace, Max

Chamber of Commerce First Friday

FUMC is a member of the Deming-Luna County Chamber of Commerce. As such, we will be hosting various chamber of commerce members at a First Friday open house on Friday, August 5th, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be serving light snacks, tea, coffee, lemon-aid and water. All church members are welcome to stop by. If you'd like to help with the hosting duties, please contact Claire in the church office.

Courtesy Reminders

We have many groups and individuals using our church, especially our kitchens. These are just some courtesy reminders so that everyone can enjoy using our facility. Most drawers and cupboards in both of the kitchens are marked, to make it easier for you to return items to their correct places. We do have a cleaning service, but they do the heavy duty cleaning. Everyone is part of the maid service responsible for kitchen and table clean-up.

- If you use any dishes, containers, silverware, etc. from the kitchen, please wash, dry and put it back in the proper cupboard, in its own kitchen (each kitchen has their own items so take note of where they go).
- If you use dishtowels/dishcloths/tablecloths, please return them (cleaned) to the proper drawer/cupboard, in its own kitchen.
- If you eat/drink at a table (whether in a SS room or Fellowship Hall), please clean up after yourself, including wiping down the table.
- If you borrow a cart from one of the kitchens, and it will be in use for more than one day, please let the office know where it's being used. It's very frustrating to hunt down carts.
- If you use the Bunn coffee pot in the FH,
 - Please refill the water container and cover it for the next user.
 - Please turn off the burner when you leave the FH to avoid boiled dry pots.
- If you turn on (or set the thermostat on) a swamp cooler, air conditioner or heater, please turn it off (or reset the temperature) before leaving that room. If you aren't the last one out, please assure someone else will do that.
- If you turn on a light, turn it off if you are the last one leaving the room – especially the bathrooms.
- For Sunday School classes, the last person out should make sure lights are out and doors are closed (and locked if applicable).
- If you have building keys, unless you are the only one in the building, please do not assume someone else will lock a door or set the alarm. Double check first!
- When you leave the sanctuary, please carry out and throw away your used bulletins and other trash. If you have a moment, straighten up the pencils, prayer cards, hymnals and Bibles in the pew holders.

We can all pitch in the help keep our church clean and functional, as well as helping reduce utility bills and setting a good example for the children. Thank you for your cooperation!

Community Wide Bible Study

... will begin a new study, *Living with Passion and Purpose*, a study authored by Elizabeth George on the book of Luke. The class will meet on Thursdays from 9:00 - 10:30 am beginning September 8, 2011. The deadline for signing up is **August 25, 2011**. The cost of the workbook is \$10. For more information or to sign up for the study please call Carol Schultz 546-9250 or Suanne Delk 546-2985.

UMW Potluck-Picnic

Our UMW potluck-picnic will be Saturday, August 20th. We will carpool from the Church parking lot. Please arrive before 11:30 a.m. THE BIG CHANGE is the picnic will be held at the Holdridge residence this year. If you drive yourself, directions are in the yearbook or call Rosalee at 544-8201. We also want to thank (in advance) all who helped make our rummage sale a success: donating, pricing, etc.

Thank You

These words cannot be typed big enough to express our heartfelt thanks for all that you have done for our family. The food, flowers, words of encouragement, donations, and support have been overwhelming. It is

friends like you who help us through our trials and tribulations In life and we just want you to know how much we appreciate you. Our faith In God will also guide us to the healing and comfort we require from him. God Bless you and thank you again for your thoughts and prayers.

Lovingly in Christ's name,

Sandy, Leedrue, Brady, Scott, Jessica, Tina

New Crib Regulations

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) enacted new crib rules/regulations that went into effect in June 2011 regarding the manufacture and use of cribs, both for sale, resale and for use in public institutions.

- Effective June of this year, cribs manufactured, sold, or leased in the US must meet new safety rules.
- Cribs manufactured before that date may NOT be sold or donated (this will affect rummage sales and thrift shops).
- Churches have until December 28, 2012 to come into compliance with these regulations if their nurseries employ paid workers.
- Nursery Maid is the manufacturer of the cribs at FUMC Deming. These cribs are no longer compliant and must be replaced.
- Nursery Maid is sending info on new cribs. FYI – we may no longer purchase stackable cribs (what we have now).
- They do recommend purchasing at least one evacuation crib. This is a crib sturdy enough to be pushed outside in the event of fire or other emergency. It will hold up to 250 pounds (enough for several kids/babies).
- The UMW had been notified of this as it pertains to their rummage sales. Love INC, Deming Helping Hand, and St. Vincent de Paul, have also been notified as a courtesy.

Duck Race BBQ

August brings the start of school and the Deming Duck Races. The Deming Duck Races brings the UMM Duck Days all-you-can-eat BBQ on Saturday, August 27th!

This is our 31st year of hosting this meal during the Duck Races. The men slow cook (over mesquite) top round sirloin roasts. These are then sliced and served with beans, coleslaw (a marinade based dressing), fixins and one dessert.

Typically about 900 people or more are served, in dining in the gym, through the take-out line in the Fellowship Hall or via delivery (in Deming city limits). Can you imagine the amount of help needed to pull off this event? Even though the BBQ is sponsored by the United Methodist Men, it takes the whole church to make this event a success.

People are needed to man the serving lines, both in the gym and the Fellowship Hall. Drivers are needed for delivery orders. People are needed to keep the drinks table stocked, and the dessert counter filled. Help is needed taking out trashing, helping keep the tables clean, doing clean up in both kitchens, cleaning up after the BBQ and putting away bowls, utensils, tables, chairs, etc. We also need desserts to serve – lots of desserts! A few people are needed to assemble the coleslaw (shredded/chopped veggies and marinade ingredients provided with the recipe). We need volunteers to come in once a day, for five days, to stir all the pans of coleslaw. Hearty souls are needed to take shifts watching/turning roasts while the meat cooks overnight. Help is needed covering the tables and making sure everything is set up and ready to go by Saturday morning (usually done Friday). People are needed to take just a few tickets and sell them to your family and friends. WHEW! That's a lot of people!

As you can see, this is indeed a church-wide event. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall where you can add your names to the list. Even if you can only work for an hour, *your help will be deeply appreciated.*

If you are making desserts, please bring them to the church office Thursday (August 25) or Friday morning (August 26). On Friday afternoon, desserts can be taken to the MAC kitchen by driving around to the BBQ cooker on the north side of the church. Or you can bring them in Saturday morning by 9 am.

In advance, the UMM extend their thanks to everyone for pitching in and for taking a few tickets to sell to family/friends. You can also encourage people to stop by the church office, Pepper's Supermarket, the Chamber of Commerce, or First New Mexico Bank to purchase their tickets in advance (to avoid the crowd at the ticket table). Prices are still the same: \$7 for adult, \$4 for children 6-12, and \$2 for children under 6. If you need more

information, please contact the office or BBQ chairman, Wendell Hutchison, at (575) 544-0573 or by email at wendell58@live.com.

ROUNDUP 2011

Roundup 2011 invites you to Commit, Practice, and Revive through a variety of workshops designed to enrich your spiritual journey and equip you for service in the church. It will be held August 6 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at FUMC Lubbock, 1411 Broadway, Lubbock, TX. You may register on the website: www.nwtxroundup.org. Lunch is included and child care is available. Call FUMC Lubbock at 806-763-7252 for more information.

2011 HERITAGE TOUR

Sponsored by
The New Mexico Annual Conference Historical Society

DATE: Saturday August 27, 2011 &
Sunday, August 28, 2011

WHERE: Starting at Morning Star UMC in Las Cruces at 9:30am on Saturday, and/or at 9:30am at the First UMC in Silver City, NM on Sunday.

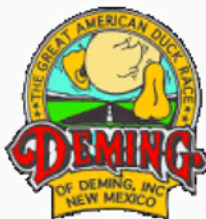
WHAT: A Caravan Tour (you drive your own car) with informational stops along the way where Methodist history was made! You can join or leave the tour wherever you like.

- ▶ At each stop we will seek to learn from those who know the history of their community.
- ▶ We will visit 3 churches in Las Cruces - Morning Star, University, and St Paul's.
- ▶ We will stop for the annual First UMC BBQ at Deming, held during the Duck Races!
- ▶ Then those who want to can take a sidetrip to Columbus, or stay for the fun in Deming.
- ▶ We will stop at the First UMC in Lordsburg, and then head to Silver City
- ▶ After spending the night at Silver City we will worship with the congregation there,
- ▶ Then we will visit Pinos Altos, Bayard, and Mimbres where we will have lunch with the congregation.
- ▶ Finally we will visit the Union Church at Hillsboro, dedicated by Thomas Harwood in 1893.

COST: Just your own expense for gas, food, and lodging along the way.

PREREGISTRATION: Send a note or an email with your contact information that says "2011 Heritage Tour" to

[NM Conference Center of the UMC](http://www.nmconference.org)
11816 Lomas Blvd. NE
Albuquerque NM 87112
EMAIL: nmarchives@nmconfum.com



SCHEDULE:

Saturday, August 27th -

9:30 am - Morning Star UMC, 2941 Morning Star Dr, **Las Cruces**, NM
10:10 am - University UMC, 2000 S Locust St, **Las Cruces**, NM
10:40 am - St Paul's UMC, 225 W Griggs Ave, **Las Cruces**, NM
12:00 pm - First UMC, 1020 S Granite St, **Deming** (BBQ! Duck Races)
1:35 pm - Pancho Villa State Park, **Columbus**, NM (For those who want to make the sidetrip)
3:00 pm - Leave **Deming**
4:00 pm - First UMC, 109 W Third St, **Lordsburg**, NM
5:30 pm - Drive by the First MEC in **Silver City**. Supper at the Red Barn Steakhouse, 708 Silver Heights Blvd

Silver City has lodging available, including an RV Park.
(I plan to stay at the historic Palace Hotel, 106 W. Broadway, 575-388-1811. The hotel is restored from the late 1800's. Inexpensive, charming, but "no AC", "small" and "spartan" - WS)

Sunday, August 28th -

8:30 am **Worship** at First UMC, 314 W College Ave, **Silver City**
10:15 am - The Gold Avenue Methodist-Episcopal Church, **Pinos Altos**, now home to the Grant County Art Guild
11:00 am - Bayard UMC (Now the Lighthouse Baptist Church, 610 Dayhill Street, **Bayard** NM)
11:35 am - Mimbres UMC, 2622 Highway 35, **Mimbres**, NM - Cookout at the church, overlooking the Mimbres Valley!
1:30pm - Union Church at **Hillsboro**
2:00pm - Adjourn

