



Newsletter for June 2010

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Pastoral Transition *posted May 25*

The dates for our pastoral transition are nearing. On Sunday, June 20th, we will have a reception for the Baskett Family in the Fellowship Hall, in between first and second service. Please join us as we bid farewell to the Basketts and wish them safe travels and God's blessings for their move to FUMC in Clovis, NM.

Sunday, July 4th, will be the first Sunday for our new pastor, Ernie Vineyard, and his wife Corrie. Ordinarily we would welcome the Vineyards with a potluck meal following second service. However, since that is a holiday weekend, Pastor Ernie has requested that the potluck meal be held instead on Sunday, July 11th. The meat will be provided. Please bring a vegetable, salad or dessert to share on July 11th (in the gym, following second service) as we welcome Ernie and Corrie to our church family.

To help the Vineyards get to know everyone, we will provide name tags on a table in the back of the sanctuary. Everyone (including the kids) is asked to please wear a name tag for the first few Sundays during worship. This will greatly help them learn everyone's name.

As always, please be in prayer for the Baskett and Vineyard families during this time of transition.

Bread Basket *posted May 25*

As you may know, this church has a great history of second mile giving for a variety of ministries. Part of that history includes our monthly Bread Basket offerings. Each month, a

different ministry is supported through an offering taken during the last hymn on the 3rd Sunday of the month. This month, the bread basket offering will be taken to help send several students from Lydia Patterson Institute attend the General Conference in Germany. Many of these youth are from very poor families and do not have the monetary means to fund such a trip. It is a once-in-a lifetime experience that could be life changing as well. Your support is deeply appreciated.

Branson Show Extravaganza *posted May 25*

Diamond Tours, Inc. is sponsoring a fund raising bus trip to Branson, Missouri, November 13 through 21, to benefit our church. Joyce Erickson (who joined our church several weeks ago) is arranging this tour which is open to anyone. The cost is \$779 per person, double occupancy and includes admission to seven Branson shows including Tony Orlando, The Osmond Brothers Show, The Brett Family Show, the Twelve Irish Tenors, and The Baldknobbers Jamboree Show. \$75 is due at signing, with the balance of the fee due by September 7th. \$40 of every registration will be donated back to our church. For information and reservations, please contact Joyce by phone at 575-546-2302. We also have flyers in the office that contain more details. If you are planning on going, invite some friends to join the fun!

Cans for Camp *posted May 25*

We are still accepting donations of crushed aluminum beverage cans. The money received goes into our camp scholarship fund which is used to help our children attend church camps. This assistance is increasingly important in today's economy, particularly if more than one child in a family would like to attend. If 100 pounds or more are taken to the recycler, we receive a higher rate. Crushed cans may be dropped off at the church either on Sunday mornings or during office hours.

Little Lambs Preschool *posted May 25*

Praise the Lord, we have come to the end of a perfect year. His hand has been on all our students and their families and on all our teachers and their families. We know this because we are all healthy, happy, and ready for summer.

Our last month was busy wrapping up projects, a trip to the park, pretend slumber party, playing with slime and shaving cream, and we even had some good weather days to do water outside.

The 3's have gone home for the summer to return in the fall for the 4's classes. The 4's had a wonderful graduation on May 19th in the sanctuary. There were about 200 guests to watch the 30 graduates. Again, Eldin helped with the sound system and made us sound really good. They were all super and we had great fun. We pray that God continues to watch over them all and their families as they go through life. Happy summer to all...see you in September for a new year!

A Message from SPRC *posted May 24*

The members of the Staff/Parish Relations Committee have been struggling with how to keep personnel costs in line with our budget during this tight economy. We were blessed to have some staff members agree to reduce their hours as a way to save on salary expenditures. The reduced staff hours mean we are more dependent on church members stepping forward in a spirit of volunteerism to cover office hours and keep our church doors open.

If serving our church in this capacity is something God is placing on your heart, please contact the church office and volunteer. Our staff and volunteers are greatly appreciated by the congregation and the community!

Candie Sweetser, SPRC Chair

Some of My Thoughts *posted May 24*

The Annual Conference Session is rapidly approaching and my excitement builds daily. I regularly call for congregations to make significant changes to meet the needs of people more effectively. A few people dared to suggest that I recommend changes to the Annual



Conference Sessions. How foolish can some people be! We conducted Annual Conference in the basic format for many years. Why should we change? Slowly, I realized they might be right. I doubted it, but was at least willing to make some minor changes.

The Conference Ministry Team and Cabinet considered a wide variety of options. They examined minor changes and dramatic transformation of the Annual Conference Sessions. We proceeded with some significant changes for this year. Annual Conference will include a teaching-learning event, encompassing about six or seven hours of the Conference agenda. Dr. Gil Rendle will guide and challenge Conference participants to lead changes in the Church and the reasons behind making those changes.



Dr. Gil Rendle brings unique wisdom and understanding about transforming local churches, annual conferences and general agencies. He is a United Methodist clergyperson who earned a PhD in system theory. He served for many years as a senior consultant with Alban Institute, one of the strongest church consulting institutes in the United States. About three years ago, he stepped down from his position at the Alban Institute and became the senior consultant for the Texas Methodist Foundation's *Center for Clergy Excellence*. Since that time, he has become one of the most prominent leaders in helping Cabinets, Annual Conferences, and General Agencies to make the necessary changes to become what God wants and expects us to be. His knowledge, wisdom, understanding of local churches, and the systems we use enables him to address issues as if he had just spent two months walking in our shoes. He is the author of several books and a couple of those will be available for sale at Conference. We invite local church leaders who desire their congregations to grow and become vital, and cannot be present for the entire Conference Session, to arrive after lunch on Wednesday and remain until lunchtime on Thursday. If they cannot be physically present, we hope to live stream Dr. Rendle's presentations over the Internet. We will post information detailing how to access these presentations on the New Mexico Conference Web Site. The Communication Team is working hard to make this happen. If those efforts fail, we will have the capability for individuals or congregations to stream these presentations, at your convenience, as tape delayed. I will allow the Communication Team to describe and explain those processes that remain a deep dark secret for me. For now, I strongly urge every leader to come to the Conference Session at Glorieta to participate in Dr. Rendle's presentations. Many individuals paid more than \$300 for this opportunity when he was at Alban Institute. You can participate by showing up. You can call 1-800-797-4222 for help with housing and meals at Glorieta if you make those reservations now.

This is not the only changes you will note in the Annual Conference Session this year. It is just the most obvious one. It is also not the only changes coming. Annual Conference will become an inspiring, learning, transforming experience. Come expecting things to change. Come expecting to be personally changed.

Grace & Peace, Max

UM Women News *posted May 24*

Our May luncheon was a success again this year. Many thanks to all who helped in any way! Bithell Farms Fruit order blanks may be found in back of Sanctuary. Deadline for orders is June 25th.

Questions, call Rosalee Gillett.

We are still saving Campbell Soup coupons, a basket is on the table in the hall by the kitchen. Also, we can use discarded or unused jewelry – for pick-up, call Rosalee.

No meetings in June and July. Start saving your rummage for our August 7th sale.

Performing Arts Camp *posted May 24*

The Music Ministry is pleased to announce that preparations have begun for the 4th Annual Summer Performing Arts Camp! Our dates are June 14-25, with our performances scheduled for the 25th and 26th at 7 p.m. at the Train Depot. This year we will be performing *Schoolhouse Rock, Jr.*, directed by Algernon D'Amassa with music direction and choreography by Sarah Williams. This camp is open to all children who have completed grades K-12. We focus on providing an environment that fosters creativity and self-expression for kids while giving them opportunity to increase and improve their skills in music, drama, and dance. For more information, contact the church office at 546-2791 or email sarah@fumcdeming.com. Hope to see you there!

Some of My Thoughts *posted May 13*

Does your congregation have a system that enables people to know Jesus Christ? Does the system enable them to enter into a transforming relationship with Jesus, nurture them in the faith, equip them to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, and then send them out into the community to witness and serve those God entrusted to your care?

A recent conference call in which I participated examined the reasons some congregations failed to make additional disciples of Jesus Christ. One major reason many congregations fail to make disciples is their failure to have a system in place. They have programs to address one or two parts of the disciple making process, but fail to develop a complete system. It is like a farmer who fails to carry out all of the processes of preparing the soil, planting, cultivating, and harvesting. One cannot harvest a crop without completing all the steps in a consistent fashion. The total system must be in place to reap a bountiful harvest.

A colleague asked about the process the annual conference employs to enable young people to hear God's call into ordained ministry, receive an appropriate education, and return to the annual conference to provide fruitful, faithful, and effective leadership in local churches. The implications were clear—unless we employ an effective system, our expectation will likely go unfulfilled.

These experiences led me to ponder what system the leaders in our congregations utilize to equip themselves for spiritual leadership. It is insufficient to show up for worship a few times each month, attend a Sunday School class, and assume one is prepared for the extremely difficult task of making the adaptive changes essential to transform stalled growth or declining congregations.

A special task force commissioned by the Conference Ministry Team continues to work on developing a system to prepare clergy and laity adequately for such leadership. Local churches, districts, and the annual conference must design a system where laypersons and pastors expect full participation for all persons involved in spiritual leadership.

A small group of individuals met in Columbus, Ohio before the Council of Bishops meeting to work on components of a leadership development system. We identified several elements that appear essential in such a system.

- Leaders must practice what Wesley described as acts of piety—prayer, study of scripture, worship, celebration of Sacraments
- Leaders must practice what Wesley described as acts of mercy—feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and those in prison, etc.
- Leaders must make sure they are dealing with the root causes rather than the presenting problems
- A small group of leaders (8 to 12 persons) must spend a significant amount of time (approximately eight hours) with each other holding each other accountable and seeking God's guidance and direction
- Leaders address adaptive changes rather than technical changes

One of the discoveries was that it only takes a small group of people to transform a congregation or a large organization. If one-third of the *primary leaders* in a congregation are committed to transformation, they can lead the entire congregation. It is not necessary for every member or every leader to be committed to transformation. Leaders can lead.

These discoveries gave me renewed hope. God can transform our lives, our congregations and the world. The call is for us to commit ourselves to be spiritual leaders for Jesus Christ. God will provide the guidance and direction. Grace & Peace, Max



Memorial Sunday School Class *posted May 13*

The Memorial Sunday School class has collected enough money to sponsor Smile Train surgery for five children. They have also given \$80 to Healing House. Even little acorns grow big trees.

Gulnara Dawdy Recognized *posted May 6*

Gulnara Dawdy is one of the nursery workers in our church. At the Deming Education Association dinner held earlier this week, she received the parent of the year award for parental involvement in the school. Kudos to Gulnara for this awesome recognition! Why not stop by the nursery on Sunday and congratulate her.



Council of Bishops Announces Constitutional Amendments Results *posted May 6*

The United Methodist Council of Bishops, meeting in Columbus, OH, announced today that only five of 32 amendments to the church's constitution passed by the 2008 General Conference have been ratified by the annual conferences. The ratified amendments will become effective immediately.

The process for amending the Constitution of The United Methodist Church requires a two-thirds majority vote of General Conference delegates. Annual conferences must then ratify the amendments by a two-thirds affirmative vote. The results of the voting are reported to the Council on Bishops, where they are verified and counted. The results are then reviewed and certified by the Council of Bishops.

The five amendments that passed are:

Amendment IX, which ensures every jurisdictional conference have at least 100 delegates: 39,333 yes; 9,122 no

Amendment XV, which allows definition of the lay and clergy membership of the annual conference by the General Conference without going through the constitutional amendment process: 31,233 yes; 17,218 no

Amendment XVII, which allows laity on the committee on investigation to vote on matters of ordination, character and conference relations of clergy: 33,810 yes; 14,712 no

Amendment XIX, which allows all clergy members of annual conference to vote to elect clergy delegates to general, jurisdictional or central conferences: 38,604 yes 10,432 no

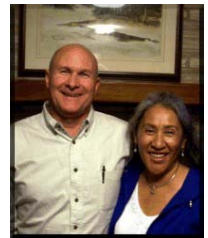
Amendment XXII, which recognizes Bermuda congregations as part of the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference: 43,049 yes; 5,539 no

Visit www.umc.org to see the [amendments in full](#).

Pastor Ernie Vineyard Visits Deming *posted May 3*

Pastor Ernie Vineyard and wife Corrie were in Deming on May 3-4 to meet the church staff, to see the town, the church facility, and the parsonage. They were also able to meet several of the church leaders at a dinner hosted by the Delks on May 3rd.

The Vineyards will move to Deming from Ft. Davis, TX on June 30; Pastor Ernie will in the pulpit for the Sunday services on July 4th.



United Methodist Council of Bishops to Meet *posted May 2*

More than 111 United Methodist bishops from Africa, Europe, Asia and the U.S. will converge in Columbus, Ohio for the semi-annual United Methodist Council of Bishops meeting to explore ways to sharpen the church's focus on ministry with the poor and eliminating the global disease of poverty.

During the week, council members will attend strategic planning meetings, workshops, and plenary sessions primarily held at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. The plenary sessions are open to the public and the news media. Many United Methodist bishops will undergo testing for HIV/AIDS on Monday beginning at 9:30 a.m. This testing, intended to raise awareness of the killer diseases of poverty, is being provided through the generosity of OhioHealth, a United Methodist-related health care system in central Ohio. During Monday morning's session, speakers will focus on the topic of poverty and bishops will participate in group discussions.

The Council of Bishops--made up of 50 active bishops in the United States, 19 bishops in Europe, Asia and Africa, and 91 retired bishops worldwide—provides leadership and helps set the direction of the 11.5 million-member church and its mission throughout the world. The bishops are the top clergy leaders of The United Methodist Church, the second largest Protestant denomination in the U.S.

MUSIC CAMP IS COMING! *posted May 2*

Sacramento Music Camp is coming up fast -- June 13-18th for youth completing grades 6-12! We have assembled an AMAZING staff with expertise in almost every area of music, voice, and kind of instrument. We also have heard from many WONDERFUL campers who are excited to come. And of course, we gather to make music for God, and we look forward to ending camp with an awesome concert.

Now it's time to send in your registration forms! If you're ready to sign up - send in your registration! If you're still considering whether to come - go for it! We're going to have a great week!

Any questions? E-mail me at david.madara@trinityabq.org

Little Lambs Preschool *posted May 2*

April was a fun month. We reviewed all the skills we have been working on and found we have learned a lot. We took an imaginary trip to the ocean. We walked with dinosaurs. We painted, played in shaving cream, and made the best slime for oozy fun. Our days are varied, but lots of fun. We laugh and make good friends.

We are taking registrations for the 2010-2011 school year...tell all 3 and 4 year old children to come and join us for great fun in learning.

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