



Newsletter for June 2011

June 2011			1 * Annual Conference	2 * Annual Conference * Bible Study * Women's Depression Support Group * Quilt Group * Handbell Choir * Missions Committee	3 * Annual Conference * Men's Bible Study	4 * Annual Conference * Music recital
5 * <i>Communion Sunday</i>	6	7 * Quilting Bees	8	9 * Bible Study * Women's Depression Support Group * Handbell Choir	10 * Men's Bible Study	11
12	13 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i> * Finance Committee	14 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i> * Church Council	15 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i>	16 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i> * Bible Study * Women's Depression Support Group * Quilt Group * Handbell Choir	17 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i> * Father-Son Campout * Men's Bible Study	18 * Father-Son Campout
19 * <i>Bread basket Sunday</i> * Father-Son Campout * UMM Breakfast Mtg	20 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i>	21 * Summer Solstice * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i> * Quilting Bees * Praise team	22 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i>	23 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i> * Women's Depression Support Group * Handbell Choir	24 * <i>Performing Arts Camp</i> * Men's Bible Study * PAC Performance	25 * PAC Performance
26	27	28	29	30 * Women's Depression Support Group * Handbell Choir		

Summer Solstice

The Summer Solstice, the day with the greatest amount of daylight, will occur on June 21. It also marks the precise middle of the year, namely 11:16 am MDT; it's a downhill slide to the Duck Race BBQ, the resumption of school, and winter from there. Have a great summer!

Education Committee

The Education Committee met on May 25 to continue planning for VBS (in July) and more. The VBS plans include some great things. If you have VBS-age children, you should read the May Education Committee report, available on the church website: www.fumcdeming.com. While you're visiting the website, why not register your young'uns for VBS now?

UMW

Many thanks to all who helped with Barnyard Buddies, purchased tickets and donated salads. The primary function of the UMW is support of missions, locally, in the U.S.A., and around the World. The chickens were a-flappin' and a-hoppin' at the Barnyard Buddies UMW fundraiser Sat. May 7th with the "blooming wash" hanging on the line and music provided by Veronika Barnes and Rainell McCutchen. The sing-a-long included familiar tunes like You Are My Sunshine and She'll be Coming 'Round the Mountain and were sung by the group with words changed to Psalms 10 and 24. Our fellow chickens feasted on the finest "chicken scratch" cuisine of salads contributed from UMW members, the Congregation and Staff; homemade rolls from Marie Bencomo and strawberry dessert by Jo Kruger and Veronika Barnes. Many joined in and enjoyed the "Chicken Dance."

Minnie Pearl (aka Jo Kruger) delighted the group with funny jokes to start us off. The "Pig in a Poke" Auctioneer, Veronika kept us in stitches with her narration of the exquisite purses large and small; some one-strap, some two straps and explanations why someone should have this "perfect Deming style" handbag. Some of the bidding was hilarious and our mascot chicken, Marilyn Cornfoot, delivered the purses and collected the "dough." We even auctioned off the stuffed pig, mud and fence at the end. If you all didn't make it to this, you missed a real good time!

PLEASE NOTE; UMW members in the reading program need to turn in their folder to Mary Adams so they can be sent in by June 15.

We are still collecting used or broken jewelry, Campbell Soup labels and the small pink education labels. Call for pickup for jewelry 544-8201 or put in the UMW box in the hallway. Labels can be placed in the small basket on the table in the hallway by the kitchen door.

Rosalee is in need of empty paper towel rolls. Call or put them in the church office.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for July 15-18 for the NM Conference School of Christian Mission in Sacramento. Registration forms are available from one of our co-Presidents.

No regular UMW meetings in June or July.

Little Lambs End-of-School Report

We are done We have completed another school year and it was wonderful. We finished projects that took all year to create. We played in slime, shaving cream, and did crazy painting. The best fun was having two really good days without wind that we could have water play outside. This is what we liked the best.

The 4's had graduation on the 18th. They were wonderful. Eldon was our sound man (he thinks we're the best show in town). Their performances were great. We are sending them on to Kindergarten prepared with skills and scriptures for the big world. Said "see you later" to the 3's ... they return in September to be in the 4's. We still have a few spaces left tell everyone to sign up quickly. It really is a lot fun learning.

State of the Church Report

We are excited to share with you the **2011 State of the Church report**, an 8-page report containing summary information about the *Four Areas of Focus* and the *Call to Action* recommendations, as well as worldwide statistics on United Methodist membership, clergy, and Episcopal leaders, annual conferences and local churches. The report is issued jointly by the Council of Bishops, The Connectional Table, and the General Council on Finance and Administration. To view the report as a **PDF** online, visit:

<http://www.umc.org/2011sotcreport>. The data can also be viewed on the 2011 State of the Church website at: <http://www.umc.org/2011sotc>.

Two Pressing Needs

Love INC (Love In the Name of Christ) is a Christ centered local clearing house that serves as a coordination point to meet the needs of local residents, and to help their clients build relationships with local churches. Area churches work through Love INC when needs arise. Many people with limited financial resources live from paycheck to paycheck. Unexpected emergencies and higher prices (food, utilities, gas, illnesses, etc.) often throw them into financial chaos. Our recent cold spell, plus current increasing prices are just

part of the issues being dealt with by residents. As the issues increase, so do the requests for help. Unfortunately, the funding to meet these needs is not increasing. Love INC is having to tell families there is no money to help them.

Deming Helping Hand is a non-profit organization founded a number of years ago by a core group, including several members of our church. They maintain a thrift shop and an emergency food bank, as well as serving as the distribution point for monthly food commodities. Thrift shop proceeds are used to help residents pay rent, mortgages, past due utility bills, etc. DHH has also seen a dramatic increase in requests for assistance. Thrift shop sales have dropped, therefore their money source has been reduced. Where, in the past, they would pay all or most of a bill, they now only pay a small portion. Additionally, the food bank shelves are being rapidly depleted.

We can bless a wide number of people in the community by:

- Bringing in donations for the food bank (the barrels in the Sunday School hallway)
- Shopping at the DHH thrift store. More sales mean more money to meet needs. They will also accept your donations for the store (546-2558).
- Making donations to the pastor's fund to help families pay for rent, utilities, prescriptions, etc. We collect monthly for this fund, on Communion Sunday however, donations can be made at any time.

Yes, the need is great. But by combining our resources, we can make a large impact right here, right now.

Thoughts from Bishop Max

All churches desire children, youth, and young people. Rev. Mike Ratliff, Associate General Secretary of Young People's Ministries at the General Board of Discipleship wrote an article that appeared in the United Methodist Reporter. He provides several strong suggestions toward strengthening local churches' ministries with youth.

One of those suggestions is to know the names of youth, call them by name, and know what is going on in their world. All of us know the importance of being called by name. Who would want to be known as "that kid that sits on the back row each Sunday," or "the young person who acolytes several Sundays a year?" We all appreciate knowing that people know who we are and youth want this as much as anyone else.

Perhaps even more important, Rev. Ratliff suggests that we pray for these young people every day. By doing so, not only do we pray for them, but we get to know them well enough to pray for the issues or struggles that are important to them. Our youth need to know we are praying for them, concerned about the issues they are facing, and supportive of them as they seek to be faithful to Jesus Christ. We could also let them know they are missed when they are unable to be in worship. It feels good to know that someone besides your parents really cares about you. I wonder, instead of praying for one young person, if each of us could also pray for one of their friends. Young people prefer other young people around them.

We can no longer assume that young people know what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. They need support and help as they walk daily with Jesus. They need to know what it means to *be* the Church and not just attend church services. They need to know that someone loves and cares about them.

Some of the most significant people in my life, outside of my family, were individuals in the congregation that I attended that I knew cared about me, knew me by name, and prayed for me. I can still call them by name and rejoice they were part of my spiritual journey.

If you want to discover other ways to strengthen your congregation's ministry to young people, please contact Mrs. Dara Bell (New Mexico Conference Office) or Rev. Susan Brown (Northwest Texas Conference Office). They are willing to help all congregations discover better ways to minister to and with young people in our communities.

Grace & Peace, Max



Challenge to You! Money for Music Camp at Sacramento

In June 2010, the *first music camp was held at Sacramento*. At the end of that camp, there was an awesome concert by the campers; a concert well worth recording, but alas, Sacramento Methodist Assembly had no recording equipment. This year, music camp is scheduled for June 12-18 and there will certainly be another awesome concert on the 18th. Wouldn't it be great if the concert could be recorded? It can happen, with your contributions! **The United Methodist Women of Crane, TX have pledged up to \$1,500 in matching funds, dollar for dollar. Our goal is to have \$3,000 in hand by June 4 so quality recordings may be made**

during camp this year. The equipment will be available of course for recording sermons, workshops, and other events held at Sacramento.

Checks may be sent to Sacramento Methodist Assembly (please indicate "recording equipment" on the check) or contributions may be made at Conference at Sacramento's Display table. **Remember, the amount you give will be doubled!**

Thank You Received

Cancer Support of Deming & Luna County, Inc wishes to thank you for supporting and participating in our 6th annual Celebration of Life Event on Saturday, April 30, 2011 at Voier's Park. We raised approximately \$70,000 thanks to the hard work of everyone involved.

This was a day when our community came together to help one another. Because of you we are able to assist many people who have or have had cancer, and their families. We are pleased to be able to continue to offer our services to our community.

Sincerely, Don Hill, Chairman of the Board

Performing Arts Camp 2011

PAC is a chance for all kids, grades K-12 to experience the wonders of musical theater in a positive, creative environment. We focus on providing opportunities for creativity and self-expression while teaching the basics of music, drama, and dance. This event is free and open to any child in the community.

When: June 13-24 (week days only), from 9:00 am 'til 2:00 pm.

Where: First United Methodist Church, 1020 S. Granite; 546-2791.

Performance dates: June 24 & 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Train Depot (by the movie theater).

For more information and to register, please visit us on the web at www.fumcdeming.com or contact Sarah at the church.



Little Lambs, April 2011

April was a fun month. The 4's have been wrapping up projects that they have worked on all year. They made their own alphabet book...they drew all the pictures by themselves. We made special gifts for our moms and dads. We studied the wonderful meaning of Easter...Jesus is alive. They learned an Easter song to sing to everyone.

The 3's had great fun playing with shaving cream on the tables, squishing slime thru their hands, and doing lots of crazy painting. They studied Easter.

One of our students was baptized this month...Praise the Lord, a name has been added to the great book.

Our graduation celebration will be May 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Come and see what God has done.

Connectional Giving

United Methodists may be amazed at the many organizational layers of church life, but members of other denominations have been heard to say: "If you want something done, get the United Methodists to do it."

Followers of the Wesleys are indeed "methodical" about their approach to mission and ministry. One reason United Methodists can do great things is the church's emphasis on "connectionalism."

Connectionalism is a word unique and basic to United Methodism. United Methodist leaders often speak of the denomination as "the connection." This concept has been central to Methodism from its beginning.

So what is connectionalism? It means simply that all United Methodist leaders and congregations are bound together by a common task and a common governance that empowers us to be in ministry around the world. We live out our connection through the clergy appointment system, through the outreach United Methodists do together and through connectional giving.

And what is connectional giving? It's as simple as people coming together, combining their money to accomplish something bigger than themselves, something that none of them could have accomplished on their own. United Methodists support apportioned and designated funds through their connectional gifts.

The General Conference establishes budgets for the denomination's general funds. These are divided among annual conferences, based on a specific formula. Each annual conference, using its own formula, divides these fund requests, along with conference administrative and benevolence fund requests, among local churches. In addition, individuals, local churches, districts and annual conferences may make monetary gifts to the designated funds, of which 100 percent goes directly to a specific project or ministry. Together, apportioned and designated funds represent our connectional giving.

By combining several smaller gifts into a larger amount, we can effect change across the world. Individual churches can minister to a small area; however, as a connectional church, we can do big things, all in the name of Jesus Christ.

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.nmconferencecenter.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

