



First United Methodist Church

Deming, New Mexico

May 2008

Adopt-A-Bell Underway!

The Adopt-A-Bell program is underway. As of the publication date, we had 1/2 of the bells adopted, and a donation to cover the cost of the hand chimes. So we are over **60%** towards all of our goals for the bell music program!

It's not too late to adopt your handbell (or a part of one). This will be a nice way to honor that mother or grandmother who has everything! Please complete the form in Sunday's bulletin, and return it (with your donation) to the church office or place it in the collection plate.

As an additional thank you, the names of everyone who donates will be placed in a drawing for a handcrafted "Praying Hands" plaque, made by Dee Huffman (one of many talents).

Top 10 reasons to attend summer camp

1. To be a part of a challenge oriented temporary community to get away from the distraction of a busy world.
2. To be able to be a part of a wonderful God-created natural setting.
3. To be able to be led by wonderful, trained, Christian leaders.
4. To be part of something with life-changing spiritually focused objectives.
5. To be around exciting opportunities for igniting your faith.
6. To be around people who are excited about instilling character and implanting ideals needed to deal with a spiritually challenging world.
7. To be in an environment that could inspire a calling into a Christian life of service.

(continued on page 4)

In this issue:

Senior Breakfast..... 2	Prayer List 7
Take Note..... 3	Variety 8,9,11
Kids and Camps4,5	Pastoral Ponderings10

Visit us at www.fumcdeming.com

Armed Services Pictures Requested

We are planning a special presentation on Sunday, May 25th, for Memorial Day, by remembering those who served in the armed services, past and present. Please bring your pictures of service men women (living or deceased; current or past service) to the church office no later than Monday, May 19th. We'll use them during the service. Please include the service person's name, as well as your name (to return it), on the back of the picture, plus their rank, branch and dates of service (to be included as space permits). Thank you.

Top 10 reasons continued...

8. To be able to come to a "safe haven" to encounter Christ and perhaps to re-group, re-focus, and then re-enter a world torn by confusion and hatred.
 9. To learn how to be representative of Christ's hope, grace and love to a confused and frightened world.
 10. To have fun!!!!
-

Senior Breakfast, May 18th!

We are CELEBRATING Haley Bruggink's graduation from High School by honoring her at the annual Senior Breakfast on Sunday, May 18th, from 9:15 to 10:15 am, in the gym. This is always a special time in the lives of our youth. We encourage you to attend by contacting the office with your name and the number in your party so we can prepare accordingly. Thanks!

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TAKE NOTE

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of another school year. We are all preparing for summer vacations, summer camps, and some of us will be in summer school.

This year has seen many successes in the life of our church. Our music ministry continues to grow and change in many ways. Thanks be to God for all of the blessings that have come this year. Thank you for so many wonderful musical memories throughout the year. May this only be the beginning of something great!!!

God Speed,
Joe

Rehearsal Schedule for the Month of May:

Week of May 5th

Monday	4:30 – 5:30	Handbell Choir
	5:30 – 6:30	Praise Band
Tuesday	3:30 – 5:00	SOUL Kids end of the year party
Wednesday	3:30 – 5:00	First Call
	6:00 – 7:00	Chancel Choir

May 12th – Same Rehearsal Schedule **except for SOUL Kids**

May 19th – No Chancel Choir Rehearsal This Week
(Handbells on Sabbatical)

May 26th – No Music Ensemble Rehearsals
(First Call in California)

A Christian steward is loving.

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

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

Visit us at www.fumcdeming.com

Sunday School News

What are we teaching our children in Sunday School? You'll have your chance to find out on Sunday, May 4th, when the children will be teaching us the books of the Old Testaments (how many of you can recite them all?).

Next, they'll be learning about the Laws and the Prophets. After that, they'll move on the book of the New Testament.

We are also experiencing growing pains - that is the Toddler Class is bursting at the seams. Due to the varied ages, we have a wonderful opportunity for people to step in and help with the older 3's and 4's. If God is laying this on your heart, please contact Murray Baskett or the church office.

Parents or guardians, if you did NOT complete the information form on your child (including contact info), please see Murray as we want to remember everyone's birthday.

Speaking of birthday's - the children will be celebrating the birthday of the church on Pentecost Sunday (May 11th - also Mother's Day). They will also be making May Day cards for residents in the retirement center across the street. They will have a "walking May Day flowering" to present the cards.

We're still looking for Sunday School hour roamers/greeters. Call the office for more information.

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 cans - your **aluminum** beverage cans that is! Cans 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.

Summer and Camping Are Coming!

Summer is almost here and that means it's time for summer camp in the mountains. We have a number of camps coming up. The good news is that a number of children want to go to camp. The great news is adults can go for free as a children's camp sponsor! What adult wouldn't want an all-expense paid trip to the mountains!

Seriously, in order to send our children to camp, we must have adults willing to accompany them. You don't have to plan programs, merely be a participant in the activities. You'll experience fresh air, good food, great fun, free time for yourself, and the joy of interacting with a lot of great kids!

Campers should register as soon as possible by getting a form from the church office or downloading one from the Sacramento website. (See www.sacramentoassembly.org, then "A Closer Look at SMA", then "Camps") Registrations are due 2 weeks before each camp is to begin. Some scholarship money is available, so turn in your registrations to the church soon and we'll get the forms to Sacramento with some extra funds for you. Camp dates are:

Senior High Camp (grades 9-12) is June 9-13.

Younger Elementary Camp (grades 1-4) is June 13-15.

Mid High Camp (grades 6-8) is June 23-27.

Elementary Camp (grades 4-6) is July 7-11.

The early registration deadline is May 1st. You can also find information about some of the upcoming camps on the bulletin board in the office hallway.

Special camping opportunity for dads and sons!

There will be a Father-Son Camp-Out from May 30 through June 1 at Turkey Creek Campground. Dads, bring your sons for some fun and quality one-on-one time over the weekend. For more information, please contact Don Cameron (546-3103).

Oddfellows Enchilada Supper, May 1st from 4-6pm at the Oddfellows Hall on Gold Ave. \$5/plate to benefit scholarships.

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UM Women News

Many thanks to all who helped, donated or attended our April Salad Lunch and Fashion Show on the 26th. This assured us of meeting our second quarter pledge to the conference. A special “thank you” to Glenn Kruger for his computer help with the masters for flyers, tickets, program, etc. Also thanks to the tireless efforts of the ladies who organized and hosted!

Our May 17th program will be a continuation of our study on Israel, led by Mickie Stimpson, 2-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcome!

UM Men News

The Men are busy at work (even as I type), repairing the damaged wall on the east side of the gym. We thank them for undertaking this much needed repair. Stop by the gym in a week or so and see their handiwork!

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 with questions.

Attention All Ladies!

Please join us Saturday, May 10th, for the Spring Gathering of Celebration, a women’s ministry for all denominations. We will have an “elegant” breakfast (9:30 am) followed by a program of praise, worship, and a message. Have you ever wondered how you ended up where you are right now? If so, come and share as we celebrate the paths God has directed us on. Fellowship at 9:30 am, program at 10 am (the church Fellowship Hall). A nursery will be provided. Bring a friend! We want to reach women outside of our church.

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Prayer List
Apr.-Jun. 2008

Bonnie Baker; Debbie Baker
Ben Bettisworth;
Shirley Breeden;
Calloway Family
Nikki Carnish; Mary Chase
Dale Cole; Helen Covey
Jim Culberson; Ruth DeGroot
Travis Dodson ;
Betty Hansford; Carol Hoefler
Bill/Sue Hoffmeister
Florence Holt
Wayne/Janet Humphrey
Joel Hunt; Jeff; Austin Jontra
Fred Johnson; Lois Kelly
Bruce Lee; Maxwell UMC
Beth Metcalf; Bob Moon
Jack/Betty Morrow
Gale Murphy; Lynde Murphy
Ann Pettit; Brian Pettit
John Plant; Reuben & family
Alberta Sires; Vee Shirk
Gary Slayman

Oris & Nina Spencer
Margaret Truax; Earl Veeder
Donna Wallace
Pearl Whetstone
Garnet Wietbrock
Marlene Zachek

Families dealing with grief:
Ketcham, Burkle

Service men & women and
their units:

Travis Dodson's unit, Avilla
Augustus, Alan Ballinas, Alan/
Brian Carter, Amber Dunning-
hoo, Steve Gilland, Maj. How-
ard Gobble, Jason Hammers,
Conrad Hughes, Eric Jasso.
Shaun M. Jones, Jennifer/John
Lively, Robbie Luna, Jennifer/
Jarrod McGee, Michael
Nunley, Josh Robertson, L.
Charles Stanley, 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 jar on
the table in the back of the sanctuary.

This and That

LOVE, INC says, "Thank you for your generous donation of \$180 on April 3rd to Love, INC of Luna County. What a blessing! Your support of this ministry is very encouraging to us and lets us know we are moving in the direction God would have us go. May God richly bless you!"

SHARE is looking for Christian homes, with or without children, willing to share their home with overseas students (for the school year or a semester). These children will be arriving in August. For more information, please contact Yvette Coffman at 800-941-3738 or info@sharesouthwest.org.

HEALTHY START is beginning a Mother's Group for new mothers with children, ages newborn to age two. It is based on a focus/support group gathering, scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of each month from 10 to 11:30 am. Daycare is available. For additional information, please contact Healthy Start at 546-9254. Thank you.

NEW MEXICO SENIOR OLYMPICS invites you to participate in their upcoming Trek to Healthy Fitness event in Silver City on Saturday 17th, from 8:30 am to 2 pm, at the Bayard Community Center, 209 Hurly Avenue, in Bayard. Check in begins at 8:30 am. Please bring a sack lunch. Contact Cecilia Acosta at 575-623-5777 for additional information.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

"Without the Deming Rotary Club and the support of people like you, we would not be able to assist Cancer patients and their needs. Once again, this year's Celebration of Life fundraiser was a huge success. Your continued support enables us to continue our work in the community. Sincerely, Cheri Levy, Executive Director, Cancer Support of Deming and Luna County, Inc."

CASA DE AMOR (continued on page 9)

As you recall, Casa De Amor is the orphanage in Palomas who benefitted from last month's bread basket offering (amount unavailable at press time). They are grateful for the assistance.

This and That (continued)

The support for this orphanage is an inter-denominational effort, with various churches in Silver City, Santa Fe and Deming participating. Their mission - simply to spread the love of Christ through their work. Trips to the orphanage are arranged every 2nd Saturday weekend of the month. For more information about this back-yard mission, please contact Pat Noble at Pat@noblelawfirm.com.

LOUISE SOUTHERLAND

We received work from her children that Louise passed away on March 28, 2008, at the age of ninety-four. She had been living in Arizona. The family wrote a lovely letter detailing Louise's life in recent years, as well as her many interests. The complete letter will be posted on the office hallway bulletin board. I have many fond memories of Louise, and her late husband, Ted. She will be missed.

LITTLE LAMBS

The 3's spent most of March learning about nature and the wonders of God's creation. The 4's spent two weeks studying Easter and learning that Jesus is alive. The 4's have also been preparing for their graduation, to be held on May 18th at 9am in the sanctuary. You are invited to join in this joyous celebration of their accomplishments! Everyone is welcome to attend.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED ON COMMUNION SUNDAY

As you know, we have members unable to come forward to receive Communion. If you would be willing to help the Communion Servers find those in the congregation who need to be served in the pew, please contact the office. It is hard to spot everyone from the front so your assistance is appreciated.

DISCOVER CLASS

Pastor and staff will be hosting a "Discover" class for anyone new to the church, or anyone who simply wants to know more about being a Christian, or a member of First United Methodist Church. This will be an informative class on Sunday, May 18th from 11:45 am to 2:15 pm. Lunch is included. Child care will be available. Please RSVP by May 13th to the office.

Visit us at www.fumcdeming.com

Pastoral Ponderings

“Strangers”

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:1-2 (NRSV)

It happens all of the time. A group of people has gathered and there is an unfamiliar face. Someone from the group goes over and welcomes the visitor, chats for a moment, and then returns to the group. The visitor feels better, but still feels like an outsider.

Often when people refer to a church as “friendly,” they mean that people spoke to them. And while speaking to a visitor is important—it’s the “friendly” thing to do—shouldn’t a church go further? Biblically it’s called “hospitality.”

Our Jewish and Christian fore-bearers knew that if a stranger was passing by they just may need food, water, and shelter to survive. This is why hospitality wasn’t seen as an option, it was seen as a necessity.

Things are a little different for us today in Deming, USA. Most of the strangers who come to visit our church won’t die of hunger or thirst as they cross the desert. They are looking for the kind of hospitality where they aren’t seen as intruders, but rather as welcomed guests.

The next time that you see a visitor at church go ahead and introduce yourself, and find out a little about our guest. Then introduce them to someone else, maybe even some of your close friends at church. All people need the love and forgiveness of God, as well as the supportive and caring fellowship of Christian community, and First Church is a great place to experience both!

Grace and Peace,



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

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2008 Annual Conference Mission Project

The New Mexico Annual Conference 2008 mission project will be Four Corners Native American Ministry. There is a long list of supplies being requested to help this ministry. Our conference delegates, Keath and the Veeders, will have the pleasure of transporting our donations to Glorietta for the Annual Conference in early June. Your job: to purchase these supplies and place them in the barrel in the Fellowship Hall no later than Wednesday, May 28th.

In case you weren't aware, Four Corners serves *many* small Native American congregations that are scattered among the Indian Reservations in the Four Corners region. Among the congregations who will benefit are those led by Pastor Elmer Yazzie, whom we assisted several years ago.

The list includes:

40 to 50 gallon trash can	Scouring pads
Large soup pans	All purpose cleaning liquid
Large storage bowls	Misc. cleaning equipment
2 large pkgs of toilet paper	for kitchen, sanctuary,
Package of Kleenex	and fellowship hall
Large pkg of paper towels	Crayons
Large bag of rice in plastic container	Colored pencils
Large bag of pinto beans in plastic container	Construction paper
Mop	Glue
Mop bucket	Scissors
Dish soap	Ruler
spray bottles	Volleyball with nets
Brooms: push & regular	Baseball gloves/catcher's equipment
Bathroom air fresheners	Softball balls and bases
Toilet bowl brushes	Football - regular and foam ones for smaller kids
Liquid hand soap	Basketballs

Blood Drive

At our last blood drive, 20 people registered and 19 units were donated. Thank you for your help!

Visit us at www.fumcdeming.com

First United Methodist Church
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Deming, New Mexico 88030

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Remember to celebrate those in
your life who have loved and
nurtured you, in body, mind, and
soul.

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