



Newsletter for November 2009

Worship

Bread Basket Offering *posted October 29, 2009*

Each month the Missions Committee selects a ministry to support through our special Bread Basket offering. In November, we will have the opportunity to help United Methodist students attend college with the *United Methodist Student Day* offering.

This offering provides scholarships and loans to help for college expenses. This assistance is especially critical given today's economic situation. Your generosity will enable deserving young men and women to attend college and return that investment through their service to others. Thank you for investing in the future!

Church

UMW News *by Rosalee Gillett, October 29, 2009*

Two members attended the 2009 Annual Conference at Central UMC in Albuquerque last month. The theme of "Fill my Plate Lord" was one of the best we have attended. The Bishop had a great message on Friday evening followed by communion. The rotation of different missions we support was very informative and the most exciting thing was the attendance of 14 new LPI teen UMW members.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- NOVEMBER 7 - 9:30 a.m. for Celebration. UMW ladies will follow this meeting with lunch and 2010 program planning in the Memorial Classroom. FOLLOWING the planning mtg. we will adjourn to the gym for a "pricing party" of bazaar items.
- NOVEMBER 14 - 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel is our regular UMW meeting "Together at The Table" followed by refreshments. All ladies are invited.
- NOVEMBER 20 - Friday at 8:30 a.m. is set-up for the Bazaar. Help is needed from the congregation if you have that morning free.
- NOVEMBER 21 - Saturday - UMW members and workers arrive at 8:00 a.m. for last minute details - Doors are open at 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lots of items to choose from and we will serve homemade chili and vegetable soup along with a bake sale and gift wrapping.

Worship

Operation Christmas Child *posted October 27, 2009*

One again we have the opportunity to give a simple gift while bringing a simple message of God's love to underprivileged children around the world. Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Here are some ways you can make a difference in the lives of those children:

- Pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoe gift box, and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Christ.
- You can choose the gender and age group for whom you purchase the gifts. Filled boxes should be returned to the large Samaritan's Purse box in the Fellowship Hall by Wednesday, November 12th.
- Give -- Please remember to give \$7 or more per box to cover shipping and other project costs. You can either include cash, a check, or give online by visiting the website www.samaritanspurse.org and clicking on the EZ Give Donation button.
- Volunteer -- Make a difference in the lives of children by volunteering with Operation Christmas Child. You can serve year-round on teams, promoting the project through local churches and our community. Or, each November, serve short-term at a local drop off site or at one of the six processing centers around the country. Operation Christmas Child is sponsored by Samaritan's Purse, a worldwide ministry headed by Franklin Graham, son of Billy Graham. In 2008, nearly eight million shoe box gifts were collected in the United States and ten other sending nations. These were distributed to children around the world.

When children receive their box, they are also introduced to Jesus Christ through Greatest Gift of All booklets that are handed out with the box. Follow-up ministry programs are conducted by local churches. Since 1993, some 69 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have received shoe box gifts and heard the Good News of the Savior -- God's greatest gift. Millions of them have made decisions to follow Jesus after participating in the programs. The impact continues to be far-reaching as entire communities are transformed by the power of God's love. This is the power of a simple gift.

Youth

Youth Report by Sue Holdridge, October 27, 2009

This information has been extracted from the October report to the Church Council.

The youth continue to meet every Sunday at 5:00 pm and the meetings often go as late as 8:00 pm. The meetings include worship, a Bible lesson (right now we are studying what true worship is), a meal and fellowship time.

The group is growing slowly in numbers and we are grateful to the Lord for the increase. Our strategy for growth is prayer and encouraging the youth to invite friends and family. I also am grateful to see youth growing in their faith.

I am meeting with a number of youth who show leadership potential and am taking time to meet and pray with them before the meetings. It is my hope that these youth who have participated consistently over the years will help to communicate vision to the other youth and participate in hearing God's direction for the group.

The youth continues to serve the church and the community. They have again helped with the community garden on Saturday mornings at 8:00 am – a real sacrifice for sleep deprived youth. In addition, they enjoyed being able to help with the church with the Autumn Carnival.

The youth also commented on how much they enjoyed Labor Day Campout. They are grateful to Don Cameron for making all of the meals.

We have several events planned including going to the Newsboys (sponsored by St. Paul's United Methodist in Las Cruces) on November 1st; Acquire the Fire on November 20 – 22. I am excited that we could have as many 22 youth and adults going to Acquire the Fire. We will be encouraging the seniors (about 6) to attend the Chrysalis being held on Martin Luther King weekend.

In addition I have been communicating with First Baptist and Calvary Chapel and they have asked FUMC youth to participate in a 2nd Friday event. They have had several and they consist of worship and speaking. We are planning to be a part of the December 11th event and will use our church if available. We will be inviting the students from DHS to participate.

Jack Galbraith attended one of our meetings and shared with the youth the opportunities existing with the webpage. A number of the youth signed up to participate. Jack also mentioned that the youth might want to write out their vision statement. The next week we watched a video from Aldersgate United Methodist in Lubbock and the youth talked about the vision of their group. This gave us a spring board for our discussion regarding our vision. Some of our key phrases were: passionate worship; community and servant leadership. Presently we are studying about worship and will study about true community. We will also be doing a study to prepare our hearts for Acquire the Fire which discusses how God views us.

Civic

McMurry Scholarships by Tammy Sims, October 24, 2009

The Honors Program of McMurry University awards full-tuition and other substantial scholarships to incoming freshmen. The deadline for completing the honors application is February 1, 2010. For more information, contact Jamie Arthur, Honors Admissions Coordinator at arthur.jamie@mcm.edu. McMurry University is affiliated with the Northwest Texas and New Mexico Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church.

Church

Stewardship by Wendell Hutchinson, October 23, 2009

As a denomination, we Methodists have a living document called the *Book of Discipline*. Among other things the *Book* outlines and describes how committees are formed and what their responsibilities are.

The *Book* specifies that in the absence of a Stewardship Committee the Finance Committee should be

responsible for how the local body addresses stewardship. Therefore it is my privilege to let you know that in our last meeting we decided that one of the ways we would call attention to stewardship would be to devote the day, **Sunday, November 8th 2009**, to stewardship.

I feel a bit like Pollyanna's Aunt Polly in asking Keath to share in a sermon what he briefly shared with us in committee about the Wesleyan perspective on stewardship, but I think we all need to be reminded.

In our tradition, we will also have "estimate of giving" forms for every "giving unit". Stewardship is personal, between us and God, but the forms help us as individuals to quantify monetary stewardship and the information is collected only by the (Church Treasurer/Financial Secretary) and passed along to the church leadership in summary form only to help plan for the coming year.

Thank you for your prayers, gifts, and all your support for 2009 and for looking forward to a blessed 2010.



Spiritual Enrichment Weekends *posted October 21, 2009*

Borderlands Emmaus Community is sponsoring several spiritual enrichment weekends where the participants encounter God. These weekends are open to adults and youth. Adults attend *Walks* and youth and young adults attend a *Chrysalis* for young men and women who are high school and college age.

- Men's Walks: March 4-7 in El Paso, TX and September 9-12 at Sacramento Methodist Assembly
- Women's Walks: March 18-21 in El Paso, TX and Sept. 23-27 at Sacramento Methodist Assembly
- Men's Chrysalis: January 15-18 at Sacramento Methodist Assembly
- Women's Chrysalis: January 15-18 at Sacramento Methodist Assembly

These are interdenominational events that will bring you into a closer relationship with Christ. There is a brochure on the large bulletin board in the office hallway if you are interested in learning more about the Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis. Or you may call Mike or Vicki Hofacket at 546-7470.

If you have previously attended a 3 day spiritual enrichment weekend (Tres Dias, Emmaus, Chrysalis, etc.) and would like to participate in a reunion group, please visit the Borderland Emmaus Community website at www.emmausborderlands.org.



Primetimers 2010 Events! *posted October 21, 2009*

Primetimers is a program of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries. Primetimers offers educational and mission service opportunities for older adults. There are six events scheduled for 2010. Each event offers an opportunity to learn about and be a part of the exciting ways United Methodists are engaged in mission across the United States and around the world. A new opportunity in the U.S. is Justice Ministry on the Texas/Mexico border. Two repeat events include McCurdy School in New Mexico and Epworth by the Sea in Georgia.

You can view the event list (a booklet) posted on the large bulletin board in the office hallway. To learn more about Primetimers or to register for an event, please contact Nancy Eubanks at primetimers@gbgm-umc.org or call her at 877-882-4724. You may also visit the website www.primetimers.info.



Thanksgiving Food Drive *posted October 21, 2009*

Did you know that 1 in 8 Americans do not have enough food to eat, according to 2007 statistics? This is not just a nationwide problem. It is not just an old problem. It is a current, local problem.

Given today's economic situation, there are many families in our community struggling to provide basic necessities, including food.

We have an opportunity to help change that for 16 families. The United Methodist Men are sponsoring their Thanksgiving Food Drive. Beginning Sunday, November 1st they will begin collecting non-perishable food items to fill food boxes that you will find in the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall. Your non-perishable food donations will form the core of these boxes. The UMM will then supplement that with a turkey, milk and other perishable items.

Suggested items include: flour, sugar, rice, beans, pasta, boxed dressing, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, spaghetti sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, cereal, juice, canned meats, powdered milk, bisquick, cake/cookie mixes. Cash donations will also be accepted.

In addition to blessing families through your donations, you can also participate in helping to deliver the boxes on Saturday, November 21st. It takes time to get 16 boxes out to families, some of whom live in the county. Your donation of time that morning will help assure swift delivery. If you can help with deliveries, please contact the church office. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of 16 families!



Orphanage in Palomas *posted October 21, 2009*

Did you see all of the food stuffs, supplies and toys that were collected for the Orphanage in Palomas last month? WOW! You were awesome donors because we covered the floor in front of the altar 4 deep and almost two feet high in places. All of this was collected in conjunction with our Autumn Carnival that was held on October 10th. The purpose of the carnival was to provide an enjoyable afternoon for children and to help supply some of the needs for the Orphanage in Palomas, Mexico. The orphanage is home to approximately 30 children, ages infant to 12 years old.

Our Autumn Carnival was held in the gym with about 30 children and their parents in attendance, some of whom were new faces. The kids got to make crafts (shakers, crosses and bags), have their faces painted (adults too), plus there were a number of games to play, as well as a cake walk where winners got to choose from among the many yummy cupcakes you made and donated. Everyone enjoyed snacks that included donations of delicious cookies, candy and caramel apples (with home grown apples!).

As the afternoon and fun wound down, the adults and youth pitched in to help pick up, clean up, sweep up, wash up and put up – a job that went swiftly due to many hands. Leftovers goodies were put out for the congregation to enjoy the following day during our Sunday Fellowship Time. Yes, we even got to have caramel apples – either whole or sliced!

The Orphanage in Palomas was blessed with many donations of food, toys, cleaning and office supplies, and candy. Thank you one and all for your donations, your participation and your prayers for this event. Together, we made a difference in the lives of 30 children here and 30 children in Mexico.



United Methodist 'Open hearts' Tagline Wins Award *by Diane Degnan, October 21, 2009*

Maplewood, NJ: The United Methodist Church's advertising and welcoming tagline ***Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors. The people of The United Methodist Church*** has been selected as a best-in-class tagline in the 2009 Getting Attention Nonprofit Tagline Awards. The 13 winners were chosen by more than 4,800 voters (nonprofit professionals and interested others) from 60 finalists

drawn from 1,702 nonprofit taglines submitted to the competition.

You may [click here](#) to read the entire press release.



Invitation from Landsun Homes *by Marsha Drapala, October 21, 2009*

A special invitation is extended to all of the churches in the NM Methodist Conference by Landsun Homes in Carlsbad NM.

If you are visiting Carlsbad this November or December to attend the award-winning event, *Christmas on the Pecos*, call Landsun Homes and arrange for a Soup & Sandwich Supper before your ride. Landsun Homes is offering this opportunity free of charge to groups in the conference.

A descriptive flier is available in the church office.



Some of My Thoughts *by Bishop Max Whitfield, October 16, 2009*

Donna TeBrink and I traveled to four sites in the New Mexico Conference and Murray Murphy and I traveled to four sites in the Northwest Texas Conference making presentations on the appointive making process. Since that time, I spoke at the Clergy Academy and Pastor's Retreat to several of the pastors. My heart rejoices with thanksgiving as I recall meeting so many outstanding leaders and hearing some of the hopes, dreams, and concerns. We requested participants to share inquiries regarding where our presentations were foggy, did not make sense, or places where information appeared to be missing. We also requested aspects of the appointment making process that participants could affirm. Finally, we requested questions for which the participants wanted answers. Participants responded to our request and over the coming

weeks I will attempt to address some of the questions and concerns through various media. The most frequently asked questions or areas that remained foggy related to what I term "the mission field." My quick definition of the mission field is the community both inside and outside the church membership that God entrusts to our care. The size of that mission field varies. For some, it will be an entire county. For others, it may only stretch for several square blocks. Each community of faith will determine their own mission field. The pastors, district superintendent and I may all wish to determine the nature of that mission field, but only the local congregation can ultimately discern the community God entrusted to their care. Most New Mexico congregations will need to use data available on the New Mexico Conference web site entitled, *Demographic Information from Percept Inc. for Planning Your Ministry*. Cheryl Hicks, in the Conference Office, can assist you in this task. Just as important, you can define that mission field by walking or driving around the various neighborhoods and looking to see who is present, what they are doing, and how the church ministers to their needs. In the Northwest Texas Conference, the Rev. Ava Berry can assist in helping congregations obtain that demographic information. Each congregation must answer the question posed to Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" An answer to this question begins to define a congregation's mission field. A clear description of the mission field enables the Cabinet to deploy the "right" pastor to serve with a congregation in ministering to that mission field.

One of the most distressing concerns for me related to whether we designed the new appointive process for large membership churches in large population areas. The Cabinet focused instead on fulfilling our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Any other mission must be subservient to this one. This is Jesus' commission. We must carry out this mission in every mission field. We have strong, vital, fruitful congregations in every membership size. Some small membership churches are doing more to make disciples in their mission field than some large membership churches. The Cabinet and I will make every effort to deploy pastors who demonstrate readiness to employ creative, innovative, effective tools to make disciples of Jesus Christ to congregations who demonstrate readiness to change, innovate and become all that Almighty God desires for them to be. We will also attempt to match congregations that are not ready to take those risk taking actions, but are willing to discern and grow toward what God intends. We will make every effort to see that every pastor and every congregation can utilize the gifts entrusted to them and serve the Kingdom of God in the most effective way possible. This matching will occur in all congregations and communities.

It appears that several participants were unclear about the meaning of congregations and pastors being highly effective. We attempted in various ways to indicate that we must assess effectiveness from both quantitative and qualitative sources. We have used and will continue to use the data provided by each congregation in their annual statistical report as printed in the Conference Journal. We pay particular attention to the number of professions of faith, growth in membership, growth in average worship attendance, growth in average Sunday School attendance, and the payment of Shared Ministries. We will also utilize Bishop Robert Schnase's five practices of fruitful congregations—radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk taking mission, and extravagant generosity. The more subjective aspects, like a sense of community, openness to change, innovation, creativity, and hearts focused on Jesus Christ, interpret and clarify numerical data. I find it extremely difficult to define a vital, fruitful congregation, but I can feel vitality in a congregation in the first few minutes after entering a worshipping congregation. Fruitfulness must include the making of new disciples, average attendance in worship, participation in intentional faith development groups, risk taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity. Fruitfulness in a mission field with a declining population will look different from fruitfulness in a mission field characterized by an exploding population growth.

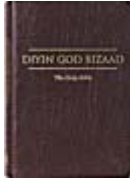
Few persons inquired about how we deal with statistics that appear to be inflated. This is normally easy to discern when we examine several years of data on both the pastor and the congregation. "Pastoral estimates" usually show a radical decline with the assignment of a new pastor. The superintendent's observations during visits to the churches also refute such estimates. Those who inflate figures are only harming their own integrity. I am enjoying the dialogue and look forward to the continuing dialogue in the coming weeks.

Grace & Peace, Max



Pension Initiative *posted October 9*

The Central Conference Pension Initiative (CCPI) is 90 percent of the way to its fundraising goal, but still \$2 million short of the minimum amount needed to establish pension funds in every central conference. [More...](#)



Diyin God Bizaad *posted October 5*

For \$21 (plus shipping), you can invest in a leather-bound Navajo Bible published by the American Bible Society for distribution to individual Navajos in the NM Conference ministry. These bibles are greatly popular, and we are currently in need of more. You may either send money to the FCNAM ministry office or purchase the bibles directly from the [American Bible Society](#) and have them shipped to us.

Share the word of God in Navajo!



Congress on Evangelism *posted October 5*

The 2010 Congress on Evangelism swings into New Orleans, LA on January 5-8, 2010 at The Roosevelt Hotel. The Congress on Evangelism will honor a theme that echoes through the reconstruction of New Orleans -- Restore*Rebuild*Renew and will feature many notable speakers. The Congress on Evangelism focuses on providing resources to equip pastors for evangelism in the local church. In 2010, the ten workshop areas will focus on topics as diverse as Hispanic/Latino Leadership and Ministry, Youth Ministry, Small Groups for Small Churches, and Evangelism as Initial Spiritual Direction. For the first time ever, a Spanish language Bible Study will be offered each morning. To learn more about the Congress on Evangelism or to register for the event, please visit www.CongressOnEvangelism.org or call (828) 454-6814 to request a brochure.



Great News for Everyone *posted October 5*

St. Paul's UMC, Las Cruces, announces that it is **birthing a new faith community** to meet the needs of an exploding population and an unchurched world. Intent on finding and reaching out to people where they are, rather than waiting for them to come to us, the planters will employ both non-traditional and historically successful methods to share the Gospel and bring people into relationship with Jesus Christ. They will target two mission fields: one that is established but that has no faith presence, and another in the area of Las Cruces where there will be massive development to serve the city's fourth high school. Please pray for the Church Planter, Rev. Joe Whitley; Sr. Pastor James Large; and the faithful of St. Paul's and Las Cruces who are committed to fulfilling the Great Commission and bringing Christ's light and love into the Mesilla Valley through a new faith presence.



Celebration, a Women's Ministry *by K. Deitz, October 3*

Attention All Ladies! Please join us Saturday, November 7 from 9:30-11:00 am at the First United Methodist Church for the fall gathering of Celebration, a women's ministry for all denominations. Enjoy breakfast in the fellowship hall followed by a program of praise and worship. We have a special guest speaker you will want to hear. Cindy Masterson, the national Celebration Vice President of Leadership Development will be delivering the message entitled *Choose Joy!* Bring a friend to share in this fun and uplifting on Saturday morning. See you there!



Little Lambs Preschool *posted October 2*

This is the September report which was received after the September newsletter was distributed.

We have started a new year with great hope and excitement. Our classes are almost full. We have space for a few more four year old students. We were able to make some big purchases for the classes and pay to have the rooms painted. We look clean

and new. On the first day of school for the 4's, one of our little boys walked n and in a loud voice said, "I'm back". They have all been happy to be back.

All goes well and we hope the year continues like this. We're here five days a week having fun, learning, enjoying each other's company, and happy that God made us and loves us all so much.

God bless you all for creating this mission work in Deming in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Deming News (1905-06) by Jack Galbraith, October 2

Claire found in some church records a CD (compiler unknown) containing material pertinent to First United Methodist Church and to Deming. This is the fifth article extracted from that CD; more may appear in this newsletter from time to time.

The Deming Graphic, May 4, 1906

DEMING SHOCKED!!

A Fatal Mid-day Duel!

One Killed, Another Wounded.

San Francisco received the most severe shock in its history on the eighteenth of last month, and Deming was shocked as never before by the terrible tragedy of last Saturday. Already the press dispatches have given the public an account of the matter most of which are in the main correct.

Prof. W.H. Dickey, Principal of our public schools and Prof. U. Francis Duff, Principal of the high school and county superintendent of public schools, on Saturday last, met at the postoffice just before the hour of twelve, both armed and prepared for the meeting, and without any waste of words, fired at each other at the same instant. Prof. Duff fell, shot through the brain and Prof Dickey, wounded on the left side, walked across the street to Dr. Myer's market, and was from there taken to his home. Prof. Duff was carried across the street to the office of Dr. Strong, where, without regaining consciousness, he died about seven o'clock of the same day. *Both were prominent members of the Presbyterian Church. Their offices were in the same school. In follow up stories Dickey was cleared, pleading self defense, but had to leave town.*

The Deming Graphic, June 1, 1906

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Four graduates - Edward Foulks, Frances O. Martin, Frankie E. Burnham, and Albert W. Norcop, received their diplomas from the hand of Prof. Doderer, accompanying each presentation with a few appropriate remarks. The high school graduating class of 1906 is a credit to the faculty, an honor to our town, and will greatly add to the reputation our school has long sustained for thoroughness and efficiency in every department...

The Deming Graphic, July 27, 1906

TO OUR READERS

This issue of the Graphic is especially intended to answer inquiries received by mail from many people, who contemplating a change of residence, are anxious for information respecting this section of New Mexico... A town of 3000 people, with three railroads surrounded by fertile lands, much of which is now open to homestead entry, presents the opportunity of a lifetime to one looking for a home location in a "land of sunshine," and where the development to the country will increase the value of his land a thousand fold.

LUNA COUNTY NATURE'S SANITORIUM

Luna County, N.M. occupies about fifty miles square of a great plateau which averages about 4300 feet in altitude and is a vast semi-arid comparatively level plain...(Long article on illnesses and lack of them because of the climate) Dr. S.D. Swope, Health Officer, Luna County.

PLENTY OF WATER

The Santa Fe company's well, with a capacity of 250,000 gallons per day, that for years has furnished all the water needed by the three railroad companies in Deming, is one proof that there is plenty of water beneath this valley for irrigation...

(Other wells listed were Chinese gardens east of town, the water field eight miles out developed by the Mimbres Water company to furnish the city of El Paso its daily supply - only to have the contract canceled

when it was announced that water for El Paso's needs had been struck on the mesa near that city.)

THE DEMING CITY WATER WORKS

Completed this year, has a capacity to supply a population of 10,000 people, and also for the irrigation of small truck farms, etc... The Deming City Water Plant consists of a substantial brick building 25 by 50 feet, a large well, 69 feet deep by 12 feet in diameter, with an inexhaustible supply of the purest water on earth... and five miles of distributing pipe.

So far, over 100 service pipe connections have been made and it is expected that 200 to 400 more consumers will be added to the list before the end of next year.

OUR SCHOOL

Two more rooms are being added to the public school building during the summer vacation. It looks now as if ten teachers will be required to meet the demands for the coming school year.