



The Methodist Messenger

November 2011

Things to Remember!

- Nov 6th—Communion Sunday
- Nov 6th—Daylight Savings time begins (fall back)
- Nov 7th—11th Meals on Wheels
- Nov 13th—Covered Dish Sunday
- Nov 14th—6:30pm UMW
- Nov 17th—Opportunity to serve at Dallas Bethlehem Center
- Nov 24th—Thanksgiving
- Nov 27th—First Sunday of Advent
- Nov 27th—Advent Bible Study begins
- Nov 27th—Hanging of the Greens

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Two Fathers, Two Feasts

by Max Lucado

I drove the family to Grandma's last night for Thanksgiving. Three hours into the six-hour trip, I realized that I was in a theology lab. A day with a car full of kids will teach you a lot about God. Transporting a family from one city to another is closely akin to God transporting us from our home to his. A journey is a journey, whether the destination be the Thanksgiving table or the heavenly one. The fact that my pilgrims were all under the age of seven only enriched my learning experience.

As minutes rolled into hours and our car rolled through the hills, I began to realize that what I was saying to my kids had a familiar ring. I had heard it before — from God. All of a sudden, the car became a classroom. I realized that I was doing for a few hours what God has done for centuries: encouraging travelers who'd rather rest than ride. I shared the idea with my wife. We began to discover similarities between the two journeys. Here are a few we noted. In order to reach the destination, we have to say no to some requests. Children have no concept of minutes or miles. Children can't envision the reward. It's worth it.

As we sat around the table today, no one spoke of the long trip to get here. Yesterday's challenges were lost in today's joy. That's what Paul meant. God never said that the journey would be easy, but he did say that the arrival would be worthwhile.

As I meditated on this devotional, I could not help think about the journey our church is undertaking. We are traveling on our own journey to a new destination with God's blessing. The church is like a car ride with many different people on board with many different requests. As your Pastor, I am driving with a GPS system made up of the leaders and members of the various committees. I am thankful and so appreciative of the many hours they spend saying "Yes" and/or "no" to many requests, giving of their time to attend meeting after meeting after meeting and taking out time to pray for the church, its faithful community of faith and for the new people we hope to bring into the church. God has blessed our church with so many wonderful, faithful servants. Bless all of you!!! So let us give praise to the Lord who provides for all of our needs, who never leaves us and who loves us no matter what and will guide us to our new destination.

Remember this: God may not do what you want, but he will do what is right ... and best. He's the Father of forward motion. Trust him. He will get you home. And the trials of the trip will be lost in the joys of the feast.

Give thanks with a grateful heart this Thanksgiving.

Pastor Mary and daughters Elizabeth and Rebecca

Our Mission Statement

**We are part of Christ's loving family:
serving, growing, reaching out and moving forward in faith!**

Calling all children 3 years to 5th grade!

COME, LIVE THE ADVENTURE with **Live B.I.G. Sunday School**

November is about Giving Thanks. So what a perfect time for us to learn from examples in the bible where thanks was given. We will learn from Genesis 7 & 8 where Noah gives thanks, where Miriam gives thanks in Exodus 14 & 15, One Leper gives thanks in Luke 17, as well as from Luke 1 when Zechariah & Elizabeth gave thanks. We will know that: It is Good to Give Thanks to God with our whole hearts.

Hope to see all kiddos 4 years to 5th grade! Come have fun and learn with your friends in Christ.

See ya Sunday,
- Mrs. Alisha



Sunday School

10:00 - 10:45

Children, Youth,
& Adult Classes are offered each Sunday morning!!

Cross Class

Adult Sunday School Class

The Cross Sunday school class will be continuing with our study on the Book of Ephesians. We are using the Life Lessons with Max Lucado books. Copies of the book are available; just let me know if you need one.

Come join us in study and lively conversation!

God Bless,
Tom

The Seekers

Adult Sunday School Class

The Seekers Class is the reading the book of Daniel. We will begin reading chapter 7 on Sunday Oct 30th.

The book of Daniel is full of stories that many of us are familiar with. The name Daniel means "God is my judge". At a very young age, Daniel and his friends were deported to Babylon when Judah was taken over by the Babylonians.

Chapter 1 - Daniel and his friends were being trained to serve in the King's courts. They asked to be fed vegetables instead of the royal food and wine so as not to eat the food that was offered for idol worship.

Chapter 3 – Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego chose not to worship King Nebuchadnezzar's golden statue and were thrown into a blazing furnace which God rescued them from.

Chapter 2 & 4 – Daniel interpreted the King Nebuchadnezzar's dreams. In the end, Nebuchadnezzar turned toward the one true GOD.

Chapter 5 – The Writing on the Wall – Daniel interpreted the meaning of the writing on the wall for King Belshazzar (son of Nebuchadnezzar). Belshazzar forgot the lessons of his father and worshipped idols and desecrated the sacred vessels that his father had taken from Jerusalem's temple.

Chapter 6 – Daniel and the Lion's Den – Once again, Daniel chose to only worship God and when he refused to worship the King he was thrown in the Lion's Den which God protected him in.

We would love to have you join us!

*Love,
Dawn*

“Thankful and Happy Days”

Veterans Day—11/11/2011

Formerly Armistice Day— observed at the end of World War I, in 1918, we must always honor and remember all of our veterans and families regardless which war they served in. Praise God for all their dedication!

Thanksgiving Day— Thursday 11/24/2011

First Thanksgiving Day— Thursday 1621

Just imagine all the menus emerging during the 390 years of celebrations! I think of turkey and dressing, however the choice is yours. We just need to be thankful for all our blessings. Please remember your prayer partners during our holiday and let's all pray continually!

Have a very Happy Thanksgiving! Amen.

In Jesus' Name,
Lynn

A Note From Our Lay Leader:

Laity Leadership: Priesthood of All Believers

“... all Christians are called to minister wherever Christ would have them serve and witness in deeds and words that heal and free” Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 127).

By virtue of baptism each person is called to ministry which takes place in all aspects of daily life, both in and outside the church. The church is able to function as a result of the efforts of the laity (all non-clergy participants) in leadership roles. These leadership roles, laity ministry within the church, go beyond being “jobs” or organizational responsibilities and truly are spiritual endeavors. While it might not be apparent, in leadership roles the laity become more than administrators of the business of the church and step into roles of spiritual leadership. By stepping forward at God's calling to lead and participate on committees, the lay members are growing spiritually and are helping others grow in their faith in God. The work of committees within the United Methodist Church is described as “Christian Conferencing” and provides a means of grace (opportunities to grow in love and understanding of God).

The “formal” leadership opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ **Administrative Council:** plans and coordinates the administrative and programmatic life of the congregation; includes leaders of other committees.
- ◆ **Finance Committee:** prepares annual budget for congregation and administers funds according to the plans of the administrative council and assures fiscal responsibility.
- ◆ **Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations:** reflects of work of the pastor and staff and sets priorities as they lead and serve the church.
- ◆ **Trustees:** oversee the property of the church and are responsible for its care and maintenance.

“...whoever among you who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:25-28, NRSV)

The church is in constant need of lay members for leadership positions. Experience is not a prerequisite: God provides the preparation. Each person has gifts and talents that are important to the church and God's work. All persons called to Christian spiritual leadership are called to servant hood. Our leader, Jesus, modeled this kind of leadership. When laity lead by serving, others in the congregation are empowered in their own spiritual growth. As servant leaders, laity leadership serves Jesus Christ in ministry by encouraging others to become disciples in the church and for the world.

- Pam Zolczer

Advent Bible Study

"Journey" By Adam Hamilton....Beginning November 27, 2011

Journey with Adam Hamilton as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. As he did with Jesus' crucifixion in *24 Hours That Changed the World*, Hamilton once again approaches a world-changing event with thoughtfulness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road.

United Methodist Women (UMW)

Hello to ALL the Women of the Church....

In our October meeting, we talked more about Missions. Our upcoming missions will include local missions of Christ Cares for Princeton, Thanksgiving meal for a family, and adopting a family for Christmas. For global missions we will be supporting the Methodist Conference missions of Living Water and Imagine No Malaria. Help us to serve others.

The www.UMC.org website has links to news articles about Imagine No Malaria. There is a recent news article (10/20/2011) where Bill Gates praised the church during a Malaria Forum sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

United Methodist Woman wins Nobel Peace prize. See www.umc.org ---

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, president of Liberia and a United Methodist, is one of three women awarded the 2011 Nobel Peace prize for their work on women's rights.

November 14th -- Join us Monday, November 14th at 6:30 at the church. A light meal will be served. Our guest speaker will be the Princeton Chief of Police, James Waters. He will be sharing with us the opportunities there are for us to help in our community. Please come join us.

We Love you.
UMW Officers – Janet, Glendy, Michelle, and Dawn

THANK YOU

I'd like to send out a BIG "Thank You!" to everyone who came to the rescue during our recent financial struggles! But we are not out of the woods yet. Funds are still needed to meet all our commitments for the year, i.e. Apportionments, salaries, utilities, etc. I know times are tough but any additional giving would be greatly appreciated.

We are also open to additional fund raising ideas as well as any money saving ideas. I'd be happy to hear from you. Please contact me @ 972-736-6091.

Thanks,

Cindy Williams



Altar Flowers



Altar Flowers make such a beautiful addition to our worship service and to our sanctuary. If you would provide flowers to the Glory of God as a memorial or honorarium please sign up on the Flower Calendar in the back of the Sanctuary. For more info, contact Ann Coleman (972)734-2080.

In Our Prayers:

Rebecca Henry, Joyce & Darwin Ripperduh, Wilbert Turner II, Carl Hartwig Sr. Charlie Hahn, Edie Baird, Clay Christian, Pat Liitschwager, Alee, Johnnie McTee, Nancy Beasley, Nancy Monks' mother, Nivaya & Family, Megan (14), Alex Solis, Janet Engelbert, Paul (Whitney's stepdad), Jessica (Ally's friend), Taylor Hartwig, Michael Nail, Jaden Keyes, Amanda Turner's Mom, Joshua & pregnant wife Fredrickson, James Burleson, Erica, Dave Buettner, Brandie Sellers, MckHaley Avery, Michael Avery, Raymond & Lydia Rodriguez, Kathy's mom, Joanine Nations, Juiquitta Morris, Brad Richardson, Elise Ivy, Glenda's Uncle Danny, Steve Pendergrass, Josh Bramlett & family, Anna Smith, Don Bouihan, Alma Lemon, Gwen Alexander & family, Hayden & Colton, Wynona Brown, Ann Grove, Belynda Hughes, Alex Barfield, Corrina Yuregas, Arthur "Papa" McCallum, the Family of Mack Atkinson, Paul Pappas, Brian—friend of Sherry's, Pam Shingles, Pam's grandson, Jon Perez, Alma Lemon, Becca Taskla, Glendy, Smith Family, Colleen, Jon Christian and all those struggling for employment, and your church!

Prayer Lists



Special Military Prayers:

Our Nation's leaders, Men and Women in Armed Forces, Kevin Carter, Victor Bates, JW Carter, Justin Askew, Mark Berry, Eric Lewis, Ian Nelson, Jared Pelfrey, Jeremy Landers, Zach Harless, John Bailey, Benjamin Baker, John Hartwig, Derrick Pelfrey, Thomas Williams, Jacob White, Jeremy Lord, Brian Farrar, Peter McNeilley, John Alexander Pryor, Brody White, Josh Bail, Brian Morrison, Sarah Craig

Happy Birthday

November:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 05 Wesley Hartwig | 19 David Buettner |
| 06 Thomas Monks | 20 Brooke Daniels |
| 08 Madeline Bonner | Kaitlyn Daniels |
| 09 Kailey Divers | 24 Katie Gardner |
| 13 Rodney Noles | 26 Maxine Barz |
| Susie Tucker | 28 Mark Berry |
| 14 John Marshall | 29 Alanna Berry |
| 15 Larry Beaty | |

Happy Anniversary

November:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 04 - Jerry & Shirley Colgrove | 23 - Frank & Glenda Boroski |
| 18 - David & Susie Tucker | David & D'Lynn Hitt |
| 19 - James & Betty Terry | 25 - Michael & Janice Bohannon |

Food Pantry



**Remember our Food Pantry needs this month:
Hamburger Helper, cornbread mix, and canned carrots**



Although these items are our church's obligation for fulfilling this month, the Food Pantry is low and is in desperate need of all items. A complete listing of all items needed by the Food Pantry can be found at the church.

What we learned from the Griffith Coaching Network conference

How to Get More Members for Your Church

Most congregations have remained in the 1955 model of waiting for people to come to us. In 1955, 80% of the population attended worship compared to only 17% today. Sitting and waiting for people to come to us is no longer working!

We need to look at our mission field (our community) and see what it's people are about and how can we reach them.

Churches and pastors have been under the impression that the Pastor should always be in the office to be available to anyone to come visit. But these days, with cell phones the Pastor can be reached anywhere.

The United Methodist Foundation is adopting a new methodology. The church should allow for their pastor to have 20% of their time spent networking to grow the church. --- TO GO OUT into the community and reach people. Activities that help you get to know people and get them comfortable with you and then invite them to church. Remember that Mary is already a 3/4 time Pastor.

How can you help Pastor Mary do this? Let Pastor Mary know organizations that she could become involved with in our community to get our church's name out there. She has already joined the Lions Club, Princeton Ministerial Alliance, and attending Princeton High School football games. Other ideas would be School activities such as becoming involved in Booster Clubs to reach families, starting book clubs, Police Department, or Habitat for Humanity workdays. We should all be involved with this!!!!

Faith is belief with legs on it. – Dr. Jack Graham

Thank You

Dawn, Alisha, Janet, Glendy, and Pastor Mary

SAMARITANSAVER.COM Card



\$20 – Sell to friends and family.

Membership is good for a year!

Restaurant.com gift cards to the top sellers!!!!!!

We NEED YOUR HELP to raise money for our church!!

Can we sell all of the cards and use the money for our future?

Savings can be found for (locally and nationwide)

- Groceries – coupons updated daily
- Restaurants – restaurant.com
- Airfare, Cruises, Hotels, rental cars
- overstock.com, amazon.com, walmart.com, HomeDepot.com, Amazon.com, BestBuy.com
- Theme Parks – Six Flags, Sea World, Busch Garden theme parks
- Family Christian Stores
- AMC Theaters

Ask Dawn about cards to sell!

Meals on Wheels – the week of November 7th

Contact Cindy Williams if you can help!

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Communion Sunday Daylight Savings Time (fall back)	7	8	9	10	11	12
Meals on Wheels						
13 Covered Dish Sunday	14 6:30pm UMW	15	16 Cakes due at church for Dallas Bethlehem Center	17 Opportunity to serve at Dallas Bethlehem Center (see Pastor Mary for more info)	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving 	25	26
27 First Sunday of Advent Advent Bible Study begins Hanging of the Greens	28	29	30			

**THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
PRINCETON FUMC**

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www.PrincetonUMC.net

Services & Events

Sunday Events

Sunday School	10:00am - 10:45am
Morning Worship	11:00am - 12:00pm
Adult Choir	12:15pm - 1:00pm
Youth Fellowship:	5:00pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday Events

M&M's (Kids)	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Youth Bible Study	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Mid-week Bible Studies and Small Groups	6:30pm – 7:30pm



This newsletter is a monthly publication for the First United Methodist Church of Princeton. Our service times and other regular weekly activities are listed to the left.

We welcome you to worship with us and to experience the joy of having fellowship with other people who believe in the love of God and the teachings of Christ.

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