



# Friendship Newsletter

Newsletter of Friendship United Methodist Church – Sherman, TX

*Church Mission Statement: To prepare the way for the Lord and point the way for people to become Disciples of Christ.*

Volume 6, Issue #9, September 2009

## Pastor's Corner

Prior to Annual Conference this year, senior pastors in the North Texas Annual Conference were asked to complete a survey about the churches they serve. The purpose of the survey was to check on the health of the churches in the connection.

After a series of questions ranging from worship attendance, hospitality, children's ministries, missions, leadership, and such, scores were assigned to help a church see where they were. Three broad categories were possible: declining, maintaining, or transforming.

As I completed the survey on Friendship, I was delighted to see how many areas we were doing well in. I also saw the areas that perhaps we could use some help; areas the Administrative Council has already identified as growing edges for the coming year. Our final score had us firmly in the 'maintaining' category.

The Annual Conference didn't just collect data to make a nice little presentation of the state of the church. Shortly before leaving for vacation in July, I received a letter from Dr. Clara Reed, our District Superintendent regarding this survey.

In part her letter states: "The North Texas Annual Conference is committed to helping local congregations reach the unchurched and become places of transformation. As a demonstration of the commitment, the conference has approved a process of evaluation, training, goal setting and

coaching to help local churches become vital and vibrant congregations which make a significant impact on their community...I am extending the invitation to (Friendship UMC) to participate in this transformation phase."

We have been selected, along with several other churches in our area, to be part of this exciting project of unleashing our potential to truly be the church God has called us to be!

The Administrative Council has approved our inclusion in the project, and the expenditure of funds to make it happen. We will be paying \$3,000 over three years (more on where the money is coming from elsewhere in the newsletter) and the conference is paying another \$3,000.

I am excited about this project! I am excited about the possibilities that are ahead of us! I am looking forward to seeing how this process will affect the plans we already have in place and how we can continue to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

I invite you to read the covenant that we signed. I invite you to join me in prayer for Christ's transforming power to become the church God is calling us to be.

See you in church,

*Beth*

## Covenant For Congregational Transformation In The North Texas Conference

The mission of the United Methodist Church is “to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” The second part of the mission statement is equally important: “and we believe the local church is the best venue to make this happen.”

To strengthen our local churches, the North Texas Annual Conference is committed to providing the resources to help accomplish our biblical mission. The process of transforming churches in a connectional system involves partnership among the conference, the district and the local church. This partnership has the goal of helping us fulfill our mission together.

In good faith, the conference and district covenant to:

- Promote the work of Congregational Transformation
- Provide targeted & timely training seminars
- Invest apportionment funds back into the local church by matching church costs for Transformation, where needed.
- Meet periodically with participating churches
- Provide coaching and consulting services to the local church through its staff and DNA Coaching, Inc.
- Support churches as they work towards change and growth.

In good faith, the church covenants to:

- Embrace the work of Congregational Transformation
- Being open to change
- Promote high attendance at the training events offered through the transformation process
- Make the support of any new programming a high priority

- Seriously consider the recommendations that will be made in the consultation report and implement them in a timely manner
- Make an annual investment in the transformation/revitalization process

### Hartwig Fund and Congregational Transformation

James and Jorene Hartwig joined Friendship church in 1955. Years later they moved to the east side of Sherman and eventually transferred their membership to Key Memorial which is located on the east side of Sherman. Even though they had not been members of Friendship for many years, they did remember Friendship Church in their will. In late 2003, our church received a \$10,000 bequest. Family members met with Rev. Hahn and told him of the gift and that it was the family's desire that the money be used to grow and further the mission of the church (making disciples). To date, \$2,309.51 has been spent and that was in support of a youth program that was in place a few years back.

On Sunday, 6 August, the Administrative Council approved spending \$3,000 over a 3-year period on a project called Congregational Transformation; the North Texas Conference will match the \$3,000. The goal of this project is to strengthen the local church which is the best venue for making disciples. The North Texas Conference has contracted with Don Nations ([www.dnacoaching.com](http://www.dnacoaching.com)) to lead the transformation process providing coaching and consulting services, on-site visits, training events, a consultation report, etc. Grace Methodist is another church in Sherman that will also be participating in the project.

Our church is able to participate in the program due to the generosity of the James and Jorene Hartwig who remembered the church in their will.

*We support our church with  
Prayers Presence Gifts Service Witness*

## Our Prayers



### Current concerns

Dane Young

### Ongoing concerns

Thelma Jo Davis Blake Cole  
Barbara Carter Rachael Vermillion  
Thelma Hoover Reatha Chesnut  
Candy Mathews Pauldean Lilly  
April Bang

## Our Presence and Gifts

Date	Attendance	Offering
August 2	64	\$2,564
August 9	95	\$1,506
August 16	96	\$1,740
2009 Annual Budget	\$93,712	
Weekly Need	\$1,804	

We are a little behind in our giving from previous years, please prayerfully consider your gifts to the church.

## Help Wanted

As our church continues to grow, we find we need someone (or someones) to help out in the church office. We are looking for volunteers Monday–Thursday mornings between 9 am and 11:30 am. Duties will include answering phones, greeting visitors, and some light paperwork. Please contact Rev. Beth if you are interested.

## S&S School Donations

Don't forget your donations to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter UMW collection for the elementary school. We will be collecting until the end of September. This will be our final collection for the year so please be generous. Thank you for whatever help you can give us.

## United Methodist Women Officers



President: Doris Sims  
Vice Pres: Ginger Elliott  
Secretary: Peggy Pitt  
Treasurer: Marilyn Desjardins  
Secr Prgm. Resources: Jackie Bartlett

Nom. Comm. Dona Pierce, Peggy Pitt, Chair-Carol Groner

Mission: To help care for God's people who are unable to care for themselves at this time.

Next Meeting: September

## UMW News

I want to thank all the members of our UMW unit and all others who participated in any way for our UMW Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup>. Special thanks to Beth, John Drummond, Donna, Cindy and Shirley for one of my favorite songs, Mary Lois O'Neal for her interesting information on the beginnings of UMW and her heart felt prayer, and very especially to the Rev. Dr. Clara Reed. Your inspiration is truly amazing and a gift from God. Thank you all again for sharing your day with us.

Remember our meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Our hostess is me, Doris, so be prepared for anything!

Doris Simms

## UMW Reading List

From time to time I hope to inform members and others of one of the books on our UMW book self. This month as school is starting, I offer you this book: "Who's Raising Your Child: Battling the Marketers for Your Child's Heart and Soul" written by Laura J. Buddenberg and Kathleen M. McGee.

This book explores today's hyper-commercialized society and the damage it is doing to children as they grow from toddlers to teens in a culture of consumption.

Doris Simms

## Membership & Church Directory

Please add the following additions to your church directory and if you do not have one you can pick up one at the back of the sanctuary. The directory was last updated on 9 May.

### Welcome Our Newest Members

Mitch & Katherine Marie  
225 N. Friendship Road  
Sherman, TX 75092  
903-893-3980

### Birthdays:

Mitch - February 21<sup>st</sup>  
Katherine - June 20<sup>th</sup>

Church Membership is 115.

### Lavada Ballard - Address Change

C/O Elaine Pearson  
Westminster, Texas 75485  
972-924-3585

Lavada is now residing with her daughter, Elaine.

### Submitted By

Barbara Choate (Membership Secretary)

## Receive Your Newsletter Electronically

Many of our members have e-mail and use it regularly. If you would be willing to receive your newsletter as a PDF file (easy to open and read) rather than a printed copy, please let me know if you've not already consented to an electronic copy. If your household has multiple e-mail accounts (husband/wife), please make sure I have both of them. Sending newsletters electronically reduces the number of printed copies that we have to do each month and also reduces the postage costs for mailing those not distributed at church. Most everyone will still get a paper copy, but if 10-15% is willing to get it via e-mail that will help.

Barbara Choate

## Don't Forget the Friendship Food Pantry!

Some of the most useful items: dry beans, rice, staples (flour, sugar, cornmeal), boxed cereals, cooking oil, coffee, cake mixes, can soups, can meats (chicken, tuna, ham, chili) can fruit, can milk, can gravy, can vegetables, fruit juices, box mixes (macaroni & cheese, stuffing, pasta, rice, or potato dishes), non refrigerated cheese (Kraft, Velveeta, etc), condiments (mayonnaise, mustard, Ranch dressing), toiletries (bar soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, conditioner, shampoo, and any travel sized toiletries from your travels), paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates)

Especially Needed: Rice, dry bean, cereals, sugar, flour, and all canned goods

Not needed right now: There is an abundance of nothing!

Please, nothing past expiration date!  
Bring Your Items to the Church. Cash Donations  
Welcome! Pantry Point of Contact: Ruth Brown

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## Starting Wednesday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>

### Mid-week Service

Mid-week service will be Wednesdays at 6:00pm. We will gather for singing, praying, a short message and the celebration of Holy Communion each week. Childcare will be available.

### Choir Practice

Choir meets at 7:00pm on Wednesdays. In addition to the familiar hymns of faith, Shirley has some new music for the Choir to share with us in worship. All who like to sing are welcome. Childcare will be available.

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## Coming Soon!

### Children's Choir

Please contact Kristi for more information...

Kristi Smith

214-404-6157

[Smithohana93@att.net](mailto:Smithohana93@att.net)

# Sunday School Makes a Difference in a Child's Life

Starting September 6<sup>th</sup> 9:45 – 10:30 Sunday School

Children 4 years through senior high will gather in the sanctuary when they arrive for Sunday School. The children will share a 10 minute period of music. The children will then go to their Sunday School classes for a lesson from 10:00am – 10:30am based on the following age divisions:

- 4–6 years – Rainbow Room with Ms. Ruth Brown
- 7–12 years – Sanctuary Classroom with Ms. Carol Groner (Newly Formed Class)
- 13 years–Young Adult – Balcony Classroom with Mr. Art Waldrum

Nursery for children 0–3 years is provided during the Sunday School period.

**Curriculum:** The One Room Sunday School from Cokesbury is the teaching material used for the 4–12 year olds. The material offers a comprehensive overview of the Bible covering the major stories of the Bible over a 3 year period. The outline of the Bible stories follows the church year, so children fully experience stories of Christmas, Holy Week, Easter and Pentecost. The fall topics are:

- **September 2009: Stories of Joseph**
- **October 2009: Stories of Moses**
- **November 2009: God Forms a People**

## Worship Service 10:50 am

- A Nursery for children 0–3 years is available during the worship service.
- A children's message is provided by Ms. Cindy Griffin in the sanctuary, then children age 4 years through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are excused from the sanctuary for Children's Church. At Children's Church the kids share a light snack and fellowship, followed by a time of learning and crafts or games. The older children (3<sup>rd</sup> graders and above) remain in the sanctuary for worship.

## "The Fellowship 15" In Fellowship Hall 10:30 am – 10:45am (15 Minutes)

Our Sunday School classes end at 10:30 to allow parents time to gather up their kids, make bathroom stops, etc. along with the Sunday School teachers. This also allows time for our choir members to assemble for a short pre-church rehearsal. It also allows for a few moments of fellowship time prior to the start of church. During the window of time between 10:30 and 10:45, there is coffee in the Fellowship Hall if you want to stop in prior to the start of church at 10:50. It is also a great time to drop off items for the quarterly UMW collection in the basket in the Fellowship Hall or items for the food pantry. You may here the joyful sound of our choir and you can check out the bulletin boards. Stop in and say Hi!

## Usher Committee

In an effort to promote safety at the church, we are looking for volunteers to help with the usher responsibilities each Sunday. Three different volunteers would be selected each Sunday and would help with things such as watching out for the children around the street, escorting the elderly, locking doors, and assisting in the collection. Volunteers would need to be available from 10:15am until the end of the service. If you would like to help, please contact Jessie Brown.

## Partners for Sacred Places

Our architect Bryan Hull, structural engineer Sherman Noble, and our Trustees chair Jessie Brown have completed the first part of the assessment process. Additional work will be done in the coming weeks as a thorough examination of the physical plant is done. We anticipate a rough copy of the report in late September.

## Bazaar Planning Information

### Bazaar is October 17, 2009

A 2<sup>nd</sup> planning meeting was held on 11 August and a 3<sup>rd</sup> planning meeting will occur on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. These meetings are open to everyone and people are encouraged to attend. Info (who, what, when, etc.) is being provided to keep everyone informed. We need the help of many to have a successful bazaar. Please keep your calendar open that day and volunteer to help if you are able. Your financial contribution and the time you devote to the bazaar are appreciated and do benefit the church.

### Points of Contact By Area

Advertising: Chuck Wilson & John Drummond

Quilt Tickets: Alene Wilson

Chili/Stew Tickets: Ray and Donna Sledge

Crafts: Reatha Chesnut & Audrey Tucker

Baked Goods/Canned Item Sale Room:  
Jackie Bartlett & Ginger Elliott

Dessert Room: Carol Groner & Grace Hale

Chili/Stew/Kitchen: Dorthell Scott

Sanctuary Antique Quilt Display: Donna Sledge

Garage Sale: Youth (held outside & Youth Bldg)

### Next Planning Meeting

Monday, 14 September 7 pm

## Youth Garage Sale

Start clearing out some stuff and putting it in a box to bring for the sale. Hold off till closer to the bazaar to bring it to the church.

## Help Needed – Chili Cook Days

Thursday, 10 September 9 am – 2 pm

Thursday, 17 September 9 am – 2 pm

If you can help at the church on these days, please see Dorthell Scott. You even get to taste the fruits of your labor for lunch. Yum Yum

### Donations Needed for Stew Fixins

The Sunshine Circle (quilting ladies) purchases the meat for the chili each year. Donations are requested for the purpose of purchasing the items needed for the stew. If you can donate some funds to the cause, please see Dorthell.

## Donation Quilt Tickets

### Point of Contact: Alene Wilson

You may have your ticket packet already. If so, that is GREAT. If not, please get a packet of tickets with a picture of the quilt from Alene. It is a queen size quilt; the pattern is 9–Patch Repeat. If you need more tickets or you are turning in money, please see Alene Wilson.

## Chili/Stew Meal Tickets

### Point of Contact: Ray & Donna Sledge

Advance tickets for the chili/stew meal are available to sell. The wonderful meal is only \$6, which includes the chili/stew, drink, and dessert. The info is on the tickets. Please help sell as many as possible before the bazaar. Some members have commented that they purchase the tickets and give them to neighbors and friends or someone that works for them. See Ray for tickets or to turn in money.

## Crafts

### Points of Contact: Reatha Chesnut & Audrey Tucker

1<sup>st</sup> Sat, September 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1 pm – Craft Day

3<sup>rd</sup> Sat, September 19<sup>th</sup> @ 1 pm – Craft Day

1<sup>st</sup> Sat, October 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 1 pm – Craft Day

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat, October 10<sup>th</sup> @ 1 pm – Set Up Tables

## **"WANTED" Antique Quilts**

These quilts will be displayed the day of the Bazaar in the Sanctuary to promote the restoration and improvements of our church. Please contact Donna Sledge at 903-891-7201 if you are interested in helping.

## **Recent Administrative Council Meeting Highlights and Tidbits**

- Our new church directory will be published by Olan Mills who will be taking portraits on September 17<sup>th</sup> from 3 - 9:30 pm.
- Our membership has grown to 115 as of August 16, 2009 with new members Mitchell and Katherine Marie.
- Arrangements have been made for our new copier to be delivered and set up as soon as the contract is signed.
- The new computer is set up in the office. It would be desirable to set up an auxiliary office with the old computer for an office volunteer two hours a day, four days a week.
- Plans are in the works for hiring a nursery worker pending a meeting and approval of the Finance Committee.
- Shirley Waldrum had an informative and busy time at the San Antonio Music Conference. Choir practice starts September 9, and the choir will sing on September 13.
- A petition has been initiated to have the speed on Friendship Road lowered to 35, a crosswalk painted in front of the church, and the issuance of tickets for speeders.
- In 2008, we had 55% of our budget money in by the end of July. In 2009, we have less than 50% of our budget in by the end of July. We should be mindful of our commitments.
- To be consistent in our prayers, presence, service, and gifts.

- Art Waldrum and Jim Fitzsimmons will be added to our list of van drivers.
- The Texas Emmaus Community has requested to use Friendship as a place for a gathering on September 12.
- A Mid-week Service on Wednesdays will be offered beginning on September 9 at 6:00 pm for intentional prayer, meditation, and communion.
- On September 6, the infants to 3 year olds will be in the nursery with Barbara Choate, the 4-6 year olds will have Sunday School with Ruth Brown in the Rainbow Room. The 7-12 year olds will meet in the sanctuary with Carol Groner, and the 13 year olds plus will meet in the balcony with Art Waldrum. The youth will gather in the sanctuary at 9:45 before Sunday School to learn the music that goes along with the One Room Sunday School curriculum.
- A new Children's Choir is in the planning stages.

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS\***

Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm  
Friday and Saturday - Office is Closed  
Sunday - Let's Worship Together!

\*Note: There are congregational needs, meetings, etc, that require the pastor to be away from the physical Church, so best to call ahead if you want to make sure she is available.

# **FYI**

Church Office : 903-892-9450  
Parsonage: use Beth's cell no.  
Cell Phone : 903-267-4434  
E-Mail Pastor Beth at:  
pastor@friendshipumc.net

# September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2  Bobbie McDonald JoAnna McDonald Art Waldrum	3 Men's Group 7pm  Maddox Craft	4  Brian Burton	5 Craft Day 1pm  Nancy Wilkins
6 Church	7 Labor Day  Jack Gaines	8	9 Mid-week Worship 6pm  Choir 7pm	10 Men's Group 7pm  Cook Chili 9am-2pm  Ozzie Craft	11 Patriot Day	12 Fellowship Hall Reserved 9am – 4pm
13 Church Youth 5-7pm  Barbara Carter Paul Pitt Kallie Smith	14 Bazaar Planning Meeting 7pm	15  Dennis Lilly	16 UMW 1pm Mid-week Worship 6pm Choir 7pm  Ty Smith Amanda White	17 Men's Group 7pm  Cook Chili 9am-2pm Olan Mills Photo Sessions 3-9:30pm	18 Newsletter Deadline  Cody Mohon	19 Craft Day 1pm  Donna Sledge
20 Church  Ad Council 2pm Youth 5-7pm  Crystal McDonald	21	22  Jerry Trolinger	23 Mid-week Worship 6pm  Choir 7pm  Mike Norman	24 Men's Group 7pm	25  Sue Webster	26  Allen Besterfeldt
27 Church  Youth 5-7pm	28	29	30 Mid-week Worship 6pm  Choir 7pm			

## FRIENDSHIP NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

To reduce mailing costs, copies are usually distributed on the LAST Sunday of the month. Please provide input to Amy by Friday noon before the next to last Sunday of the month at [newsletter@friendshipumc.net](mailto:newsletter@friendshipumc.net)



Friendship United Methodist Church  
293 Friendship Road  
Sherman, TX 75092

[www.friendshipumc.net](http://www.friendshipumc.net)

*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors...The People of the United Methodist Church*

## **CHURCH NEWSLETTER - September 2009**

**WORSHIP SERVICE:** 10:50 a.m.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 9:45 a.m.

**Church Office:** 903-892-9450

**e-mail:** [pastor@friendshipumc.net](mailto:pastor@friendshipumc.net)

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & STUDY**  
Thursdays, 7 pm  
Contact Chuck Wilson for information.

**Mid-week Worship**  
Wednesdays, 6 pm

**CHOIR PRACTICE**  
Wednesdays, 7 pm

**YOUTH GROUP & Snack Supper**  
Sundays, 5-7 pm



**PASTOR - Reverend Beth Kellner Besterfeldt**  
**MINISTER OF MUSIC - Shirley Waldrum**  
**PIANIST - Kristi Smith**