

September 6, 2011



Methogram

“The mission of First United Methodist Church of Silsbee is to bring glory to God, to go and share the Gospel with all, and to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

The Methogram is a publication of:
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In Remembrance

On Tuesday morning, September 11, 2001, Wayne Sinclair was in his office on the first floor of the Pentagon. Shortly after 9:30 that morning, he and his colleagues were watching the CNN Web site when they heard a thunderous roar. At that moment, American Airlines flight 77 flew into the west side of the Pentagon where Wayne was working.

Everything turned black, smoke and fire engulfed the room. Walls crumbled. Desks, file cabinets, and computers hurtled through the air. The one thing all the survivors remember is the blackness. Some people were thrown to the floor. Sinclair could feel his face, ears, and arms burning. But he couldn't see them because the smoke was so thick. People screamed for help. Chaos reigned.

Wayne Sinclair and five co-workers crawled over the rubble and out of their office, 50 feet from where the plane hit. The corridor was a wall of inky, blinding smoke. They lost all sense of direction. They began to lose hope.

But then through the chaos came a voice, *“Hello, is anybody in here? Anybody there?”* It was Isaac Hoopii, Isaac is a 38-year-old Hawaiian K-9 cop with a deep, mellow voice. On weekends he sings in a wedding band called the Aloha Boys. On September 11 he was at the Pentagon when the Boeing 757 slammed into it.

Isaac rushed to the crash site moments after impact. The smoke was suffocating, and he heard the building starting to collapse. But he pressed on into

the wreckage. *“Hello, is anybody in here? Anybody here?”* Finally, from the darkness, frantic voices replied, *“Help me! Help me! We’re over here!”* And Hoopii, who had no flashlight – called back, over and over, *“Head toward my voice, head toward my voice! Come to my voice!”* And with nothing more to guide them than that, Wayne Sinclair and his co-workers followed it. Isaac Hoopii’s voice led them out of the building and into the clear.

When your world is on fire, when your eyes are blinded by the darkness of chaos, when your life is turned upside down and your sense of direction fails you, perhaps your only hope is for someone to keep saying, *“Head toward my voice! Come to my voice!”* Jesus once said, ***I am the good shepherd. The sheep hear the shepherd’s voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.***

When your life is in turmoil, have you stopped to listen for the Shepherd’s voice? When you feel you’re surrounded by disaster, have you listened for the Shepherd? Have you listened through all the fire, smoke, and chaos of your life for the One who comes to call you out of death into life? Have you followed that voice to the daylight?

Let us remember the victims of the 9-11 tragedy, and may the Shepherd’s voice lead each of those grieving losses to healing, wholeness, and hope.

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Gifts

August 14,
2011

\$6,601.00

August 21,
2011

\$3,948.75

August 28,
2011

\$3,122.75

Presence

Worship

8/14 135

8/21 164

8/28 153

Sunday School

8/14 90

8/21 119

8/28 84



Worship

The Darby family remembers not only the tragedy that happened ten years ago on September 11, but also for the joy that happened 83 years ago on that date when my dad was born. So, we will be out of town on that day to be with twenty-two Darbys on Lake Travis, or what is left of it! You will have two special treats here in Silsbee. Pastor Nancy will be preach-

ing a 9/11 memorial sermon, and the Praise Team will be featured in both services. The Praise Team will consist of Lynn Hardy, Steve Fletcher, Lisa Guidry, Debbie Jones, and Jan Boothman. They will lead worship in the first service, and will sing two songs for special music in the second. The Chancel Choir will also fill the choir loft to help lead in worship.

On September 18, I will start a new four week sermon series on Paul's Letter to the Philippians. Philippians is known as the Epistle of Joy because of the exuberant tone of the letter.

Laity Sunday this fall will be on October 16. Nancy and I have invited Mike McMullen to preach that day. Mike and his wife Judy are our youth directors. Mike feels called to the ordained ministry, and is exploring candidacy for ministry in the United Methodist Church. He has enrolled in Asbury Theological Seminary, and will be taking most of his classes on-line, spending about two weeks a year on campus to fulfill his residency requirements. Mike is full of zeal for Christ, and you will be blest by his message.

If there are others who would like to participate in the worship leadership on Laity Sunday, please let one of the pastors know, and we will find a place for you.

Music Director Job Opening

The church is currently accepting job applications for the position of Director of Music Ministries. It is a part time position, and involves leading the Chancel Choir, working with the praise band, assisting the pastor in planning worship, and developing new worship and music programming for the church. A full job description and job application are available in the church office and online at www.silsbeeumc.com.

In Loving Memory

Julia Owens

Oscar Morrison

Rebecca Hobbs

Oscar Morrison

Hazel Graves

James and Tonya Hawkins

Stella Witte

Don and Sandra Lewis

Ema Lou Hawthorne

Larry and Karen Williams

Juanita Felps

Oscar Morrison

Men's Class Grants Scholarship

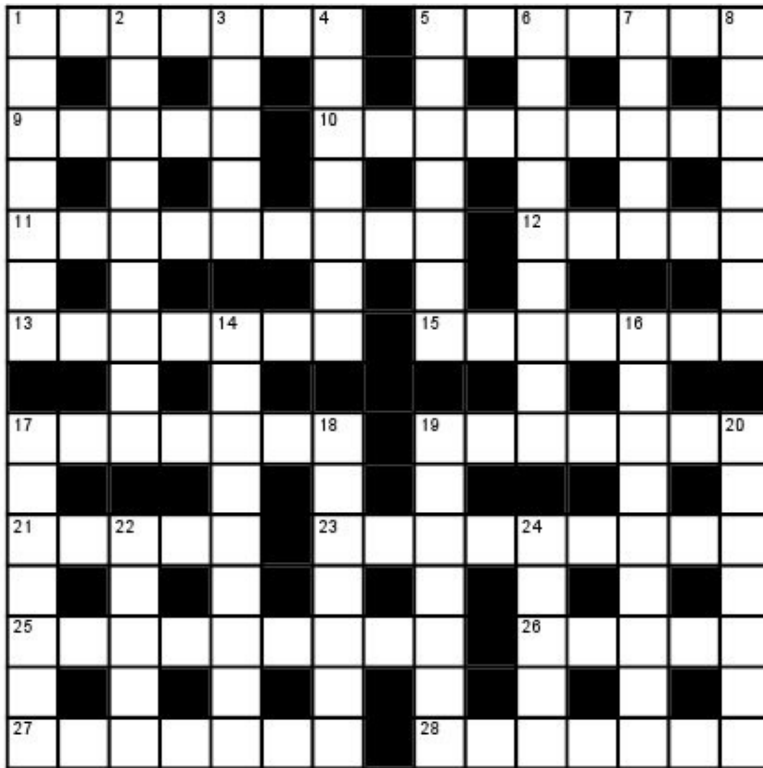
Many years ago, some of the men of our church became concerned about the high cost of seminary education, and did not want that burden from keeping candidates for ministry from our congregation from attending seminary. So, the Men's Bible Class formed and funded the First United Methodist Church Seminary Grant and Aid Fund. The fund currently has a balance in it of approximately \$24,000.

The Trustees of the fund recently granted an \$8000

scholarship to Mike Mullen for his first year of seminary at Asbury Theological Seminary. A Master's degree in theology is much longer than most master degrees. It will probably take Mike four or five year of work to obtain the degree which requires 96 hours of work. Mike will be taking nine hours this fall.

Trustees for the fund are Russ Wilson, Robert Neyland, Martha Bradshaw, Men's Bible Class Treasurer Jim Brown, and Pastor Dan Darby.

Bible Crossword



Across

1. Purifies
5. Tainted
9. Forbidden objects of worship
10. Abundant
11. Wife of David
12. Life up
13. Grapple
15. Lack of rain
17. Sennacherib's realm
19. Domain
21. Biblical clothing
23. Supplant
25. Announced

26. Tamar's brother

27. Person seeking redress for wrong
28. Decorates

Down

1. Colorful arc seen after the flood
2. Forehead ornaments
3. Bird homes
4. Greatest in status
5. Servant
6. Time of day
7. Ruth's mother in law
8. Lineage
14. Separating wheat from chaff
16. Legion's people
17. King who was almost persuaded to be a Christian
18. One more
19. Pummelled bread
20. Grass clippings
22. Holy book
24. Barter

Addresses Needed!

The Cornerstone Sunday School class has committed to writing letters and sending care packages to our military members. If you have an address for any of the military personnel associated with our congregation, please provide it to the church office so that we may compile a list.

Also, the Unity class would like to write to our college students and send care packages, but we need their addresses. Parents, please provide the church office with your child's college address so that we can continue to minister to them. Thanks for your help!

The Young Adult Bible Study group will begin meeting again for our fall session on Sunday, September 18, 2011. If you are interested in attending, please contact Nancy Ratchford at 385-5568 for more information.

What Every Child Should Experience

Our church office has recently purchased a downloadable book titled What Every Child Should Experience. This is a valuable resource for children and youth ministry workers, and covers the teachings and Bible study that each child should experience throughout their years in the United Methodist Church. If you are interested in reading this book, you can stop by the church office and check it out. We also have an electronic copy that we can send you by email upon request.



Primetimers has begun meeting again each Tuesday at 10:00 am. All are invited to come join the fun!



Faithweaver Friends Begins Again!

Faithweaver Friends begins again Wednesday, September 14. If you have not already registered your child, please stop by the church office for the registration forms. Also, if you can volunteer to help in any capacity, please contact Joanna Watters at 201-0580.

DAN'S DIVINITIES

I discovered this week to my dismay and embarrassment that Paula and I have not paid our personal tithe to the church since June. Now that September is here, we are three months behind!

Judging from the finance reports for July and August, Paula and I are not the only ones behind. Expenses from the church's General Fund have been \$75,672.37 for July and August while income into the fund has been \$58,251.28. The water in the old well is a little lower than it used to be!

I'll try to get my ladle out and put a little in the bucket as Paula and I catch up on our giving, and I hope you will, too.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Dan

McDonough Hall Renovation

The Church Council has voted to renovate McDonough Hall. One of the things that must be done is to replace the tile flooring. In the classrooms the tile is badly broken and has many missing pieces. This photograph was taken in the classroom used by our preschool children not only for All Faiths Day School, but also for Sunday School. According to all of the experts we have talked to, the only thing to do is to remove the current tile, and put down new flooring.



First United Methodist Church

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