

October 12, 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.”**

## Dan's Divinities

The Methogram is a publication of:  
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Every year we send out a letter and financial information to staff members and key lay leaders in our church asking them for their budget requests for the following year. When we receive the requests, our Financial Secretary puts them together in a comprehensive line item budget. We presented the proposed 2012 Budget to the Finance Committee last Monday night. After asking a number of good questions about the figures and changes in the line items, they unanimously approved the budget, saying that they believe that our church members can be counted on to fund the 2012 budget. We will present that budget for final approval next Monday at 7:00 p.m. to the Church Council.

The budget includes a jump in a number of outreach items. The Evangelism line item will increase from \$2000 to \$6500 in order to fund new ministries. Our Staff and Pastor-Parish Relations Committee is urging us to start a Hispanic Ministry to help minister to the surging numbers of Spanish speaking people in Silsbee. We will have to hire a translator to do that. We also want to start a Coffee House ministry to try and reach our youth and young adults in the area. Finally, we will be hosting a free hot dog, popcorn, and hot chocolate party prior to the Christmas in the Big Thicket parade to attract area residents to our church location.

Our Children's Ministry will receive a boost from \$3000 to \$4450 so we can do things like buy new curriculum for Faith Weaver Friends, have special Christmas,

Easter, and summertime events for them, and continue to expand our very effective outreach to our children and the children of our community.

Our advertising budget will get a boost so we can increase our community's awareness of our congregation.

We are also increasing the salaries of some of our employees who have not had an increase in several years, and our property insurance premium is increasing by over \$4000, mostly due to a stiff rate increase.

Through our conservation efforts we have been able to trim our cost for some of our utilities, and our general church and conference apportionments have been reduced.

Our 2012 Proposed Budget is \$468,979, up about 7% from the 2011 figure of \$438,030. We are a church that continues to focus on outreach, and we hope that you will support the efforts of the church with your pledge and gifts.

Our Pledge Sunday will be Sunday, October 30. We will hand out the pledge cards during the service, and mail the cards to persons unable to attend. I hope that you will support our efforts to increase the ministry of our church, and consider increasing your pledge and gifts for the coming year.

See you Sunday,

*Pastor Dan*

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## Confirmation Class

This year we have ten students enrolled in Confirmation. Seven are currently coming to our Confirmation Class on Wednesday afternoons. The other three are coming to our New Member Class (Methodism 101), two of which will start coming on Wednesday afternoons after football season.

The Wednesday Confirmation Class will last most of the school year, since it will involve 36 lessons. Pastor Dan is teaching it with the aid of Pastor Nancy and Mike McMullen. Also involved is mentoring. Ten

of our laity are serving as Christian mentors for the kids. The mentors are building relationships with the kids and are encouraging the kids to share their confirmation homework with them, along with what they are learning in the class. I noticed two of our mentors sitting with their Confirmands in Church on Sunday. Way to go, mentors!

Finally, we are planning to have at least one Confirmation Retreat sometime this year. I'm hoping we can make it a district event, which would make it pretty exciting for the kids.

## Charge Conference

This year, we will be having a Hub Conference with several of our sister churches in neighboring communities instead of a Charge Conference. It will be held on Sunday evening, November 6 at 5:00 p.m. in Lumberton at Woodcrest UMC. District Superintendent Richard White will preside over the Hub Conference, lead us in worship, and in talking about Strategic Planning for our local churches. All of our church members are invited to attend, and if anybody wants to volunteer to take a plate of cookies for the refreshments afterward, let Pastor Dan know.

## Community Thanksgiving Service

This year we will have a Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday evening, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Our church is hosting it in our sanctuary, and will supply the leadership for the music. Rev. Daryl Gilbert of Simon's Memorial Church of God in Christ will be our preacher. I have asked Dagma Murphy to put together a punch and cookie reception for after the service. She will need some help! New Covenant Assembly of God is also planning to be a part of the service. Please put this on your calendar, I hope that we can have at 100 people from our congregation to attend.

## Mission Statement

You likely cannot recite the mission statement from our church. It currently reads, *"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."*

When Mike McMullen and I were trying to reduce it down for a car sign, we agreed upon the succinct, "Transforming Lives." The only thing about that is that it leaves out the vertical element of our purpose.

Next Monday, I will suggest to the Church Council the

following Mission Statement: *"The mission of First United Methodist Church of Silsbee is to glorify God and transform lives in Christ."* Glorifying God and Transforming Lives in Christ is what we are all about, and it is short enough to remember!



Worship

This Sunday, October 16, will be both an end and a beginning. I will be finishing my sermon series on Philippians, and beginning the first of three sermons about financial management. My topic this Sunday is "Contented, Connected, and Satisfied," based on Philippians 4:10-20.

My topic on Sunday, October 23 will be "Attaining Prosperity." The early English Methodist rose from poverty to prosperity through following the teachings of John Wesley. Find out how they did it, and apply the same principals to your life.

On Sunday, October 30, the sermon title will be "Living for a Higher Cause."



## Upward Soccer!

We have 104 children playing Upward Soccer on our campus every Saturday morning. League Director, Traci Turner is doing a great job keeping the chaos in check. Celia Burleson is overseeing the refreshment booth and making a little money for the program. I know we have at least two coaches who are members of our church: Bill Voigtman and Regina Durham. Some of our youth - Jerry Self, Phillip Self, and Beth Coudrain - are assistant coaches. David Cobble, Karen Williams, Dagma Murphy, and Jeremy Trainer have written devotionals that we are handing out at half time to the parents. And I have noticed the ever faithful Fred Miller out picking up trash and watering the grass. Thanks everyone, for making it happen!

The last game day will be October 29, and the awards ceremony will be on Tuesday evening, November 1 at 7:00 pm, in our Sanctuary. Jason Whisneant and his team of power lifters from Intense Ministries will be the guest speakers for the event.

## In Loving Memory

### Rebecca Hobbs

Jacqueline Read  
Freeda Duffle

### Carolyn Donalson

Juanita Stover  
Judge Earl Stover III  
Lester, Jean, and Phyllis Landgraf  
Brook and LaNita Gilchriest  
Patrick & Elizabeth Richardson  
Marianne Deadmon  
Allan & Dagma Murphy  
Freeda Duffle

### Phillip McKinney

Juanita Stover  
Judge Earl Stover III

### Julia Owens

Jacqueline Read

### Edward Dominguez

Jacqueline Read

### Mary Evelyn Reeves

Jacqueline Read

### Bob Read

Jacqueline Read

### Juanita Felps

Jacqueline Read

### Carolyn Lee

Jacqueline Read

### Hon. Britt Plunk

Jacqueline Read

# Bishop's Visit

Join us in conversation with

## BISHOP JANICE RIGGLE HUIE

**Becoming Fruitful Churches**



Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Beaumont FUMC

701 Calder

2 p. m. - Clergy Session

6:30 p. m. - Laity Session

# FALL FESTIVAL

We will be having the annual Fall Festival Monday, October 31st.

From 5:00– 7:00 pm, we will be having indoor and outdoor fun.

Booths include a cake walk, moon walks, train rides, and many booths where you can win prizes.

Make sure to wear your costume! There will be a costume contest at 6:45pm with first, second and third place winners in each age division.

This event is for everyone in the community and will be fun for the whole family.

Come join us in welcoming in the Fall Season!



Get the  
**Shot**  
Not the  
**Flu**

On Sunday, October 16, Walgreens is coming to our campus to give out flu shots. They will be accepting Medicare cards. If you do not have Medicare, and wish to pay for a flu shot, they will be charging \$31.99 per shot. Please stop by that morning, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, in McDonough Hall in the old day school office.

Gifts	Presence
<u>September 25, 2011</u>	<u>Worship</u>
\$8,777.63	09/25     165
<u>October 2, 2011</u>	10/02     144
\$8,969.00	10/09     149
<u>World Communion</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
<u>Sunday Offering</u>	09/25     111
\$129.00	10/02     91
	10/09     89



*You are cordially invited...*

to join our choir rehearsals for the Christmas cantata! Promptly at 8:00pm on Wednesday for the next 2 months, we will move from Sunday morning anthem music to cantata music. The cantata will be presented at the 11:00 service on December 11. There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 10, time to be announced. If you are not interested in singing on Sunday morning but you would like to be part of the cantata, please meet us in the choir room on Wednesday evenings at 8:00. Our regular choir practice goes from 7pm to 8pm, if you would like to join us for that as well. Child care is available upon request.

*Sincerely,*

*Your Sanctuary Choir*

## We need your help!

We need supplies and volunteers for the Fall Festival. We are in need of small pieces of wrapped candy and small prizes to give away at the Festival. We also need cakes to give away at the Cake Walk. Finally, we need volunteers to man the booths, games, and to judge the costume contest. If you can help in any capacity, please contact Joanna at 201-0580. Thank you!



## McDonough Hall Renovation



The Church Council has voted to renovate McDonough Hall. To provide the Music Room with a children's bathroom and the building with additional closet space that is needed for activities such as Upward Soccer, the architect has suggested removing this doorway, and doing some brickwork to make the outside wall continuous with the current exterior wall. The interior and currently exterior space of the hallway could then be remodeled as an interior bathroom opening into the classroom, and an interior closet opening either into the hallway or into the classroom.

**First United Methodist Church**  
670 North 5th Street  
Silsbee Texas 77656

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