

November 24, 2010



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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DAN'S DIVINITIES

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving Dinner is probably a memory. Hopefully, you are over your indigestion from overeating! I am truly thankful for all the blessings the Lord has bestowed upon us and our country. When you stop and think about it, we have more blessings and creature comforts than anyone else in all of history – things such as all our rapid forms of transportation; our lovely heated and air-conditioned homes with indoor plumbing, electric and gas appliances, and comfortable furniture; cheap, abundant, and well-fitting clothes for every occasion; and the list goes on and on. And then there are all the civil liberties we enjoy such as the freedom of speech, freedom to worship, and a democratic form of government that is designed to keep us safe from tyranny. And did I mention national security? Sure, we are worried about terrorism, but still most of us go to bed at night feeling well protected from any kind of foreign invasion. Of course, interwoven into all of this is our gratitude for our spiritual heritage – our forefathers and foremothers who risked coming to a new world, oftentimes so they could worship according to their conscience. They fought to protect and secure our liberties. They passed their vibrant Christian faith down to us. Thanks be to God for all he has given us!

And now, it is time to turn toward preparing for Christmas. Some of you got up early on “Black” Friday and elbowed your way to the doorbuster sales. Maybe you are putting up your Christmas tree this weekend, or the outdoor lights. Indeed, we have already hung the greens in the sanctuary and the Chrismon tree is decorated, thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

This Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent, and our theme for Advent this year has to do with angels. Have you noticed how many angels there are in the Christmas stories? Angels appear separately to Zachariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. Each time they appear they say something like, “Fear not!” Maybe at Christmas time God wants to speak to our insecurities, fears, and anxieties, encouraging us to replace them with things like faith, hope, and confidence in a loving, guiding Father. So, our theme for Advent is “Security in Insecure Times.”

I know you will want to be here every week as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Savior.

Pastor Dan

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Pledge Card Update

A special thanks to each of you who has turned in your pledge card. As of today, we have had 60 pledge cards returned to the church, with a total of \$206,754.00 pledged for the upcoming year.

Of these 60 cards, 38 are an increase in giving over last year, 2 are taking a step towards tithing, and 17 are a full tithe (10%). We still have a ways to go before we meet our goals. If

you have not received your copy of the narrative budget, and a pledge card, please contact the church office and we will mail one out to you. Thank you for your generosity!

R.E.A.L. Youth

Gifts

November 14, 2010

\$6,899.00

November 21, 2010

\$4,648.00

One-time Gift

\$25,000.00

Presence

Worship

11/14 126

11/28 144

Sunday School

10/31 97

11/07 87

Upcoming Events

- November 29, 7:00 pm—Trustees Meeting
- December 1, 10:00 am—Staff Meeting
- December 2-3—Final Mediation Training Classes
- December 6, 7:00 pm—Finance Committee
- December 8—Final Faithweavers before Christmas Break
- December 12, 11:00 am—Christmas Cantata
- December 12, 5:00 pm—Children's Christmas Pageant

Youth in Service!

Recently, the church had a dinner thanking and honoring the church officers and leaders. During that dinner, the youth group helped out by preparing and serving the meal. Our youth are showing a willingness to serve when asked and where needed.



Youth in Music!

Recently our Junior Connections, the youth group for junior high kids on Wednesday afternoons, put together a band of their own. With vocals by Brittany Coudrain and Rebecca Darby, drums by John Watters, keyboard by Jennifer Watters, and support on the guitar by Mike McMullen, they recently performed their first song together. The title of the song was "Giving It All to You".

Youth in Leadership!



As part of the leadership of the R.E.A.L. program we are giving students an opportunity to minister to their peers through sharing, preaching, and testimony. Recently Jonathan Fisher gave a 30 minute sermon to the group about "Our purpose is to Glorify God!". This certainly allows them to strengthen their faith and encourage each other in their walk. Next week, Ross Gilchrist will be speaking to the group.

Youth in Outreach!

Currently the Youth Group is working on preparing Christmas gifts to those in need. We are heading out to a convalescent home to sing Christmas Carols also

Youth around the World!

The youth group is excited to welcome Dillon Cain back to the United States. Dillon has been in Puerto Rico for the past several months.

Wesley Study Bible on Sale!



Cokesbury is having a great sale on the Wesley Study Bible, New Revised Standard Version, and the church is going to order some as gifts for our confirmands for next year. If you would like to have one, too, we would be happy to order one for you with our order. Call the church of-

fice by this Monday, November 29, and we will add you name to the list and you can pay for it when you pick it up. The bible is normally priced at \$39.00, but Cokesbury is offering it for \$19.95, plus shipping, a \$49% discount. We will sell it for \$24, using the difference between the sale price and our price to pay shipping. If we turn a slight profit, we will use it to help pay for the Bibles we will give away to our confirmands.

Your pastors both have copies and enjoy using them. It has a simulated leather binding, readable print size, study notes on each chapter of the bible, notes on Wesleyan theological terms, scholarly introductions to each biblical book in plain language, great maps and map indices, and more.

Once again, if you want us to order a copy for you, call the church office by Monday or sign up for it in church this Sunday, November 28.



Melba Morrison

Nelson Long
Louise Barnes
Henry & Suzanne Barfield

Cindy Cain Frederick

Nelson Long
Louise Barnes

Sam Yawn Jr.

Nelson Long

Dixie Collier

Carl & Shannon Quinn
Ed & Sonia Cain
David & Dr. Joyce Reed Sheffield
Louise Barnes

Marjorie Eldredge

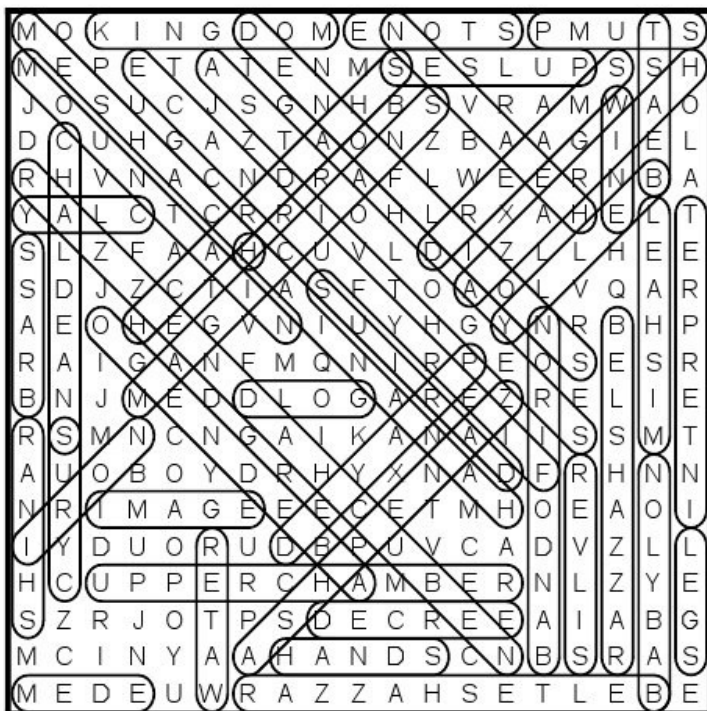
Jack & Carol Jordan
Jack & Peggy Edwards
George & Patricia Donalson
Nelson Long
David & Dr. Joyce Reed Sheffield
Louise Barnes
Henry & Suzanne Barfield

Tom Barnes

Nelson Long

Mary Willis

Ed & Sonia Cain



Answers to October 29, 2010 Methogram Word Puzzle

Correction!

In our last Methogram, we told you about sending the front of greeting cards to the St. Jude's Ranch for Children. After speaking with Dagma this week, I realized that her intention was to collect them all here in the church office and then send them in one package. If you have these cards you would like to donate, please bring them by the church office so they can be mailed. Thank you!

Christmas Services and Activities

Saturday, December 4

- * **Parade Party** – Bring your family and friends for a supper of hot dogs, chips, hot chocolate, popcorn, and desserts. This is not just for church members, but for the community. Bring a dessert to share if you like, everything else will be provided. Stay and watch the Lighted Christmas Parade from the church lawn at 6:00.
- * **Lighted Parade**– 6:00 pm



Friday, December 10

- * **Kids Night Out** – 6:00-10:00 pm - All the children are invited to the church for a movie, crafts, and a Christmas Pageant rehearsal. While the children are busy, maybe the parents can get a little Christmas shopping done!

Sunday, December 12

- * **Christmas Cantata, *A Winter's Grace*** - 11:00 am. Our Chancel Choir is working hard to make this a memorable blessing to everyone. The 9:00 a.m. service will be held as normal at 9:00 a.m., so you can go to both services that day and have two completely different worship experiences.
- * **Children's Christmas Pageant** - 5:00 pm. Our children, assisted by some of our youth, will be bringing out the joy of the season through song and drama. Refreshments afterward.

Friday, December 17

- * **Youth Christmas Party** - 6:00 pm. at Fred and Linda Miller's party barn.

Sunday, December 19

- * **Brass Choir** - 9:00 am and 11:00 am Worship Services. We are trying to put together a Brass Choir to horn in on Christmas!
- * **Sing for Your Supper** - 4:00 pm. Bring a pot of soup, put it in the kitchen, and then join a team as we go out and serenade some of our local citizens with Christmas Carols. Around 6:00 pm we will all come back to enjoy a meal together.

Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve

- * **Family Service** - 5:00 pm. Pastor Nancy preaching
- * **Candlelight Service** - 7:00 pm. Dr. Darby preaching



Our Advent Sermon series this year will be “Security in Insecure Times”, each Sunday at 9:00 am in McDonough Hall (Praise Service) and 11:00 am in the Sanctuary (Traditional Service)

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PRESENTS IN CONCERT



VIENNA BOYS CHOIR

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

Tickets: \$15

Advance sales begin in November 2010

Group rates (20 or more): \$10 per person.

Group tickets must be purchased before December 15, 2010 to qualify.

Reserve your tickets today! Call 409-832-0295

OPEN SEATING IN THE SANCTUARY

Doors open at 6:00P.M.

Bible Word Search– Life of Christ



- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Arrested | Nazarite |
| Ascension | Parables |
| Baptism | Passover |
| Bethlehem | Pharisees |
| Betrayed | Pontius Pilate |
| Bread | Prophecy |
| Cross | Rabbi |
| Crown of Thorns | Raised the dead |
| Crucifixion | Resurrection |
| Disciples | Righteous |
| Flogging | Sacrifice |
| Garden of Gethsemane | Saviour |
| Gospel | Sermon on the mount |
| Healed the sick | Shepherd |
| Immanuel | Sinless |
| Jesus Christ | Son of God |
| Jew | Son of Man |
| Joseph | Temptations |
| Last Supper | Three Days |
| Lord | Tomb |
| Mary | Walked on Water |
| Master | Wilderness |
| Messiah | Wine |

First United Methodist Church

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