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 Leonard, TX 75452-0218



The Connection



February 2011

A Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Leonard Texas

Our Purpose: To serve God by building Faith, Love, & Commitment

WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

Arthur Dent (in *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*) never got the hang of Thursdays. Well I have never gotten the hang of February! After all, February is the last month of winter; I am always tired of the cold; tired of the overcast skies; just tired.

But this February I think I am finally going to have a good month! This is relationship month at FUMC Leonard. We are emphasizing relationships in a special study and in the sermon series. Also, we are starting a new bible study on Sunday afternoons. Here is the scoop on all that we are doing:

Society requires years of preparation for almost any significant career endeavor, but demands no real preparation for one of the most crucial undertakings in life: marriage. In an age of disposable marriage and information overload, where can couples turn for real answers that will make their relationships work? Only to God. **Marriage on the Rock** clearly details God's principles that will turn disillusioned divorce-bound marriages into satisfying dream relationships.

This DVD-based study will be on Thursday nights beginning on February 10 at 6:30 pm. We will start at 6:30 pm with soup and sandwiches and then move to the Sanctuary to watch the DVD. Childcare will be provided.

Our Sermon series for February will be:

Biblical Perspectives on Love, Marriage and Relationships

Sunday mornings 8:30 am and 11:00 am

February 6 - "Created Male and Female"

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:18, 21-25

February 13 - "Equality in Marriage"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:1-16

February 20 - "What's the deal about Submission?"

Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-23

February 27 - "Forgiveness"

Scripture: Colossians 3:12-14, Ephesians 4:25-32

See the Youth page for how the Youth will be incorporating a study on the 5 Love Languages, as well as other lessons on relating through social media.

Sunday Evening Bible Study will be taught by Pastor Martha. We will meet from 4-5 pm so that those who lead youth and JFK may have an opportunity to be involved. We will be studying the Acts of the Apostles. All you need to bring is your bible and your inquiring mind. This book of the bible, more than any other, gives us insight into the early church and God's plan for God's church.

See you in church!

Blessings,

Martha



VALENTINO'S

(Services / Entertainment provided by FUMC Youth)

Fundraiser for Youth Mission Trip

**Saturday,
February 12th**

*****REMEMBER*****

Reservations are Required! 903-587-3463

Seating Times Available: 5-6 pm & 6:30-7:30 pm



A Day With Bishop Bledsoe

Presented by the NTC Board of Laity



When: Saturday, February 19th, from 9:30AM to 3:00PM

Where: St. Luke "Community" UMC

5710 E.R.L. Thornton Frwy, Dallas, TX 75223

Cost: \$10.00 per person for lunch

Who: Open to all laity – encourage those in leadership roles

and special emphasis on youth and young people under age 35

This is an opportunity for all laity to hear and have input with Bishop Bledsoe as we move into living out our new strategic plan of our NT Annual Conference and the Call to Action of the United Methodist Church. Bishop Bledsoe will be available for an extensive time of Questions and Responses.

For those laity interested in learning more about the procedures for election to the NTC Delegation for General and Jurisdictional Conferences, an informational meeting will be at 3 PM to 4 PM (at the conclusion of the Day With Bishop Bledsoe). Ms. Judy Benson, Conference Lay Leader of the Oklahoma Annual Conference will lead the meeting in which she will discuss the duties, responsibilities and benefits of serving on the delegation. This is open to all laity.

Send reservations to Richard B. Hearne, rbhearne@sbcglobal.net

Questions can be directed to Richard at above e mail or cell phone 214.505.2324

SUNDAY SCHOOL MAKES A DIFFERENCE

FRIENDSHIP CLASS

The Friendship Class continues in the *Adult Bible Studies*, Winter Quarter: *Assuring Hope*. During February, the class will cover Unit 3: Jesus, the Promised Servant-Leader:

February 6	Jesus Is the Messiah	Mark 8:27-9:1
February 13	This Is My Beloved	Mark 9:2-13
February 20	Jesus Came to Serve	Mark 10:35-45
February 27	Coming of the Son of Man	Mark 13:14-27.

Come join us as we focus on being "servant-leaders". If you like a good discussion class, you will enjoy this group which is open for a wide range of thought. You are also invited to join the Friendship Class as they minister to the residents of the Leonard Manor in Word and song on the third Sunday of each month at 9 a.m.

IMAGES CLASS

During February, the *Images* Class will be studying Adam Hamilton's book/DVD, *When Christians Get It Wrong*. Rev. Hamilton's purpose in this book is "for us to learn something about the ways we get it wrong so that we may strive to get it right---to be the kind of Christians who draw people to Christ rather than push them away, showing the world a Christianity that helps them to see who Jesus really is." The first session, *When Christians Are Unchristian*, was discussed on January 30.

February 6	Christians, Science, and Politics	Genesis 1:1-8, Matthew 22:16-17, 21-22
February 13	When Speaking of Other Religions	1 Peter 3:8-9, 15
February 20	When Bad Things Happen	Job 16:1-5
February 27	In Dealing With Homosexuality	Acts 10:13-15, 27-28

The sixth and final session, *When Christians Get It Right*, will be covered on the first Sunday in March. After which, the class will begin the seven-week Lenten Study for Adults by Adam Hamilton, *24 Hours That Changed the World*. This Lenten Study will be a church-wide study. The *Images* Class will also meditate on the 40-day Devotion Guide with the Lenten study. We invite you to join us in this study and be willing to let go of your biases and to question your assumptions, making it a worthwhile journey that will bear fruit in your life and witness. The coffee is always on and the fellowship is welcoming.

S.O.S. CLASS

S.O.S. (Studying on Sunday) class meets in the choir room Sunday mornings at 9:45 am. We welcome you to come and take part in our lively discussions and see what God reveals through his word each week.

HORIZONS CLASS

This class is for College/Career Age Young Adults. We cover a broad range of subjects from Science/Religion, Money Matters, life issues, and sometimes just conversing together about things we encounter in our lives. Fellowship with others is an important part of spiritual growth as we try to meet situations with Christian Values. Class Purpose "To help us find our way and prepare for life's challenges as we grow spiritually." Come join in. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45

THROUGH THE BIBLE CLASS

Come join this class as we study what God's Word says through Paul in Galatians, Ephesians, Phillipians, Colossians, and 1st and 2nd Thessalonians. Our class has been reorganized. (Was taught by Pastor Willie/James Gauntt). We are meeting in a classroom in the children's wing across from the sanctuary. We like Visitors!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

The Worship Committee will meet on **Wednesday, February 23, 7 p.m.** in the Lighthouse room. Plans for the Lenten Season and Easter will be discussed.

In the last meeting of the committee, it was brought to our attention the need for repair and for the addition of **pew cushions** for the Sanctuary. Also, we have need of an additional **music stand and microphone stand** for the Praise Team. If you feel led to help out monetarily for these needs, please contact Serena Miller in the church office or Becky Kegans.

Claudette Griffin has volunteered to make a white banner for Christmas. She recently made the white banner which is displayed during Baptism of the Lord, Transfiguration of the Lord, Trinity Sunday, and Christ the King Sunday.

Ash Wednesday Service will be Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 p.m. Administrative Council will follow the service. The **Lenten/Easter Prayer Vigil** will be held on Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m. – Thursday, March 10, 7:30 p.m. Please be in prayer for the Lenten and Easter Seasons that we may reach the inactive and the unchurched.

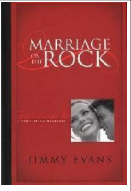
In worship, we *gather* together in God's presence. As a community, we *praise* God through music and *share* our joys and concerns through prayer. We *listen* for God's Word to us through songs, Scriptures and sermons. We *respond* to the Word with our heads, our hearts and our hands through the giving of our *offerings* and the renewal of our commitment to *serve* God in the world.

Worship Committee Members: Pastor Martha, Serena Miller, Kyle Brown, Terry Morris, Kimberly Williams, Brooke Kay, Eugene Kegans, Arthur Green, Bill Vehslage, Marilyn Gill, Lesa Ashworth, Jackie Trenholm, Lanna Jackson, Wayne and Linda Ready, Jim Taylor, Junie Green, and Becky Kegans.

Dear Congregation,
Thank you so much for the generous gift at Christmas.
This was a large help over the holidays! It is such an honor, privilege and blessing to be your pastor. I am looking forward to a wonderful year of ministry with you.
Blessings,
Pastor Martha

February's Missions:
Cookie Care Packages for military and college students
Children's Hats & Gloves (or \$\$)
Sending to Soldier in Afghanistan

"MARRIAGE ON THE ROCK"
DVD Study
6:30 pm, Thursdays



EMMAUS
7:00pm
2nd Tuesday
each month
Locations: TBA

UMCOR
United Methodist Committee On Relief

Dear Friends in Mission:
Thank you for your generous gift to the United Methodist Committee on Relief. 100 percent of your contribution will go to Disaster Response, International, Advance # 982450 through The Advance, the designated giving channel of the United Methodist Church.
Grace and Peace,
Roland Fernandez
General Treasurer

BREAKING NEWS BREAKING NEWS BREAKING NEWS
Pastor Martha is going to be presenting a weekly Bible Study 4-5 pm every Sunday starting February 13. See you there!



Providing Faithful
Service for
FEBRUARY



Sign up today and
commit to pray for
our Clergy, Staff &
Congregation.

Sign up Calendars are
in the back of the
Sanctuary.



And this is love...
that a man
lay down his life

FEBRUARY						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FRI	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

LITURGISTS

- FEB. 6—Trent Isaacs
- FEB. 13— Sandy LeMasters
- FEB. 20— Eugene Kegans
- FEB. 27— Mary Lou Spradling

GREETERS

- FEB. 6 - Jerry & Marilyn Gill
- FEB. 13 - Wayne & Linda Ready
- FEB. 20 - Ed & Peggy Hallford
- FEB. 27 - James & Jo Jackson

- Wednesday, Feb 2nd 6:30 pm UMW Meeting
- Thursday, Feb 3rd 6:30 pm Rachel's Challenge
- Saturday, Feb 5th 9:00 am Breakfast for God's Children First Saturday Fun" 9:30 am "Lay Leadership Training" Seminar" (Sulphur Springs)
- Sunday, Feb 6th 7:00 am UMM Breakfast 8:30 am Early Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship Service 3:00 pm Cookie Care Pkg . 5:00 pm Youth "Super Bowl Sunday" 5:30 pm JFK "Super Bowl Sunday"
- Monday, Feb 7th 7:00 pm Cub Scouts
- Tuesday, Feb 8th UMW Feeds Chamber of Commerce 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- Wednesday, Feb 9th 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting 7:30 pm Administrative Council
- Thursday, Feb 10th 6:30 pm "Marriage on the Rock" DVD Study
- Saturday, Feb 12th 5-6 pm & 6:30-7:30 pm VALENTINO'S REMEMBER Reservation Required!
- Sunday, Feb 13th 7:00 am Brothers 8:30 am Early Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship Service 3:00 pm Choir Practice 4:00 pm Bible Study with Pastor Martha 5:00 pm Youth 5:30 pm JFK
- Monday, Feb 14 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study on Jonah (Lighthouse Room) 7:00 pm Cub Scouts
- Tuesday, Feb 15 7:00 pm Boy Scouts

- Sunday, Feb 20th 8:30 am Early Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Confirmation Class 10:55 am Worship Service 3:00 pm Choir Practice 5:00 pm Youth (Kenneth Moore Visit) 5:30 pm JFK
- Monday, Feb 21 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study on Jonah (Lighthouse room) 7:00 pm Cub Scouts
- Tuesday, Feb 22 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- Wednesday, Feb 23rd 7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
- Sunday, Feb 27th 7:00 am Brothers 8:30 am Early Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship Service 3:00 pm Choir Practice 4:00 pm Bible Study with Pastor Martha 5:00 pm Youth— Ice Skating \$10 5:30 pm JFK
- Monday, Feb 28 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study on Jonah (Lighthouse room) 7:00 pm Cub Scouts

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Teddi Davenport
- The Eades Family
- Westview UMC
- Gillespie Family
- Bonds Family
- Donald Helms
- Allen Rhoden
- Michelle James
- Ed Guyott
- Lois English
- Jan Welborn
- Billy Frank Crawford
- Ben Treadway
- Teresa Bonds
- B C Dunmon
- Lucas Elijah Morton

- Jake Green
- The Morris Family
- Joseph Miller
- Whitney Flemming
- Larry Reeder
- Patty Dinsmore
- Janis Hensley
- Russ & Carolyn Carlisle
- Our College Students
- Mary & Madeline Burke
- Mauridell Bennett
- Jack & Lois Reese
- Anna & Brittany
- Mike Matthews
- Johnny Russell

Our List of Prayer Requests will be refreshed at the end of each month. Please feel free to renew a request each month for any long term needs or concerns... Remember we have an ACTIVE Prayer Chain available!by contacting either the Church Office, Pastor Martha (903-587-3463) or Becky Kegans (903-587-2044)

Military Residents

- Justin Horton
- Tyler Boyer
- Tanner Boyer
- Lorena Brand
- Megan McDonough
- Bryan G. Cheairs
- Gloria Kuzmicki
- Jonathan R. Taylor

- Nursing Home Residents
- Lindy Coker
 - Floydine Campbell
 - Alice Beaty
 - Christean Bowman
 - Mary Grace Schulze
 - Homebound Residents:
 - Ruby Henderson
 - Iva Morrow
 - Nelda Stevens

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

1st	Zachary Kay	21st	Tanner Boyer
3rd	Amanda Horton	22nd	Jeanette Buchanan
5th	Wayne Ready	23rd	Eugene Kegans
6th	Devon Mullinax	29th	Bailee Morris
7th	Peter Price		
11th	Jesse Beard		
12th	Linda Ready		
13th	Adriane Stephens		
13th	Phillip Thurner		
14th	David Bramlett		
14th	Mary Ann Macsikak		
21st	Kim Kay		



Happy Anniversary

- 12th Randy & Susan St. George
- 22nd Dick & Odile Saye

