



The Echo

Volume XLII
Number 1
January 5, 2010

Of The **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MCKINNEY**

Monthly Career Search Workshop

Our January workshop, *Overcoming Road Blocks in Your Job Search—Going Back to Basics*, will be held on Sunday, January 10, from 4:30-6:30 pm in the Parlor. This workshop is designed to help people who are stuck in their job search to become more productive and successful in their search. The strategies presented work regardless of the economy or time of year. The workshop will be facilitated by church member Loraine Grubbs who has extensive experience in both the staffing and career consulting industries.

Beatitudes from the Back Side

Tuesdays, 10:00–11:30 am, January 12 – March 23

Rev. Janet Cavalier will lead this lively women's study that takes a fresh look at the beatitudes—Jesus' blessings from the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus teaches that being happy or blessed is not something we get by pursuing it. Explore how to live by the beatitudes in our day-to-day lives and discover the peace and joy of the beatitudes. Sign up online at sharingtheheart.org or at the sign-up sheet in the foyer. Cost is \$12 for the book. Childcare is available by reservation in advance with Robin Woodall at rwoodall@sharingtheheart.org.

Sunday morning Bible study

Faith Connections is an interactive Bible study class that meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 10:45 (Room C205). *Dare to Dream*, a new 8-week study series from the life of Joseph in the Book of Genesis, will begin on Sunday, January 17, and we invite you to join us. Pastor John Harman will lead the series each week. Visit us online at sharingtheheart.org/faith-connections for more information or see the feature in the current adult discipleship newsletter, *Growing Together* (available in the main church lobby).

Young Women's Bible Study

Join us on Tuesday, January 19, 9:30-11:00 am in the Parlor as we begin a nine-week study of Suzanne Stabile's *The Fruits of the Spirit—A Different Perspective*. Suzanne's approach is both personal and unpredictable as she shares her own life experience and ongoing struggle to live in the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Our study will combine Suzanne's CDs with group discussion. For more information visit our website at www.sharingtheheart.org or contact Karen Reid at kbr@karenreid.net.



CROWN FINANCIAL MINISTRIES

Teaching People God's Financial Principles

Crown Financial Workshop January 9, 9:00am-12:00pm

Beginning on the Road to Financial Freedom is a free 2-1/2 hour workshop that provides both an overview of the Crown Bible study and its basic principles and gives practical advice on how to handle basic finances. The workshop provides an open and friendly environment to talk through financial questions/concerns and the opportunity to register for a more extended small group study. For preparation purposes, please register for this workshop on our website at www.sharingtheheart.org/crown-life-groups.

Information on Crown Biblical Financial Study for Life Groups

The principles you will learn in the Crown Bible study are powerful and life-changing because they are based on God's Word. Registration for this 10-week study which begins in February is underway. For more information, visit the church's Crown web site: <http://www.sharingtheheart.org/crown> or the Crown Web site: www.crown.org, click on "Life Groups." You may contact FUMC's Crown committee members Tepe and Jon Hamilton, Mark and Marci Hanes, Kay Carlson and Amy Wilingham at crown@sharingtheheart.org. We would love to discuss this powerful Bible Study with you.

Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Group

We will be using the exciting new Methodist study *Living the Questions*, a study for people of faith who have questions! Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for us to wrestle with the issues of faith and how our beliefs impact us socially, politically and spiritually. It is for people who have a burning desire to live more faithfully in the world God has given us.

The introductory session will be held January 6, with a six-week series to follow weekly. If you are new and would like to join our group, join us from 9:30-11:30 in the parlor. For more information contact Patti Churner at pathedy@gmail.com.



Reflections

by Dr. Thomas O. Brumett

It is a new year—2010! Happy New Year to all at First United Methodist Church. A new year is a time for reflection and new beginning. It is a time to take stock and look to the future. It is a time of resolutions and recommitment.

I'm sure you have already made some New Year's resolutions. I have already decided to eat healthier and exercise more. Fortunately, I have enlisted Eve in the service of meeting these resolutions. I have found that this greatly increases my chances of success.

In Sunday's sermon I spoke about Keith Severin and his son Adrien who resolved to spend at least 15 minutes each day searching for treasure. At the end of the year they had found many treasures: coins, golf balls, recyclable cans and bottles, etc. They had also found the non-material blessing of stronger relationship and life shared.

I am resolving to spend at least 15 minutes a day in 2010 searching for the eternal treasures of the Kingdom. In prayer, in Scripture, naming blessings, and in other ways I will spend daily time searching for God's presence and blessing.

I invite you to join me in this endeavor. What if we each spent 15 minutes a day? What if we were a church filled with people who daily searched for God's treasure? This would surely strengthen our ability to share the heart of Christ from the heart of McKinney.

May you have a blessed 2010. May it be filled with growth and joy as you discover God's treasures.

Peace,

Mentor Sunday is January 10

Many thanks to the following people for making the commitment to serve as mentors for our confirmation students: Heidi Aiken, Phil Allbritten, Bob Benner, Amy Bookout, Mitch Callis, Jan Causey, Jared Cole, Bill Cox, DeAnna Crowell, Linda DeVilleneuve, Diana Ditges, Darin Dodd, Phillip Galyon, Shelly Gilbert, Paul Grubbs, Trey Hamilton, Mark Hanes, BJ Harman, Jim Johnson, Wendy Kilman, Jim Klein, Cheryl Lawrence, Chris Lawrence, Johnny Maberry, Matt Malone, Susan Maxwell, Josiah McDowell, David McGill, Joelle McGill, Will Mitchell, Michael Moore, Trey Monson, Dale Mullis, Rick Oden, Charlie Philips, Dina Philips, Brad Polk, Al Pope, Karen Richards, Charles Rodgers, Rachel Settle, Scott Siddall, Roger Smidt, John Stephenson and Jeff Swan. Over the next few months, these mentors will be praying for and spending time with the confirmands as they continue their journey toward their May confirmation.

Confirmands and mentors will kick off the mentor program on Sunday, January 10. Mentors will meet at 9:00 am in the youth area for a brief orientation, followed by breakfast and fellowship with the confirmands from 9:30-10:45 am. Then it's off to the bowling alley for some fun and friendly competition! All mentors and confirmands should meet in the children's lobby at 1:00 pm to gather and head out to Allen Bowl. For more information, please contact Lori Sawka, Confirmation Parent and Mentor Coordinator, at 972-529-2150 or gisawka@tx.rr.com.

Homebound Gift Ministry

Before Christmas, 60 individuals offered their time to deliver gifts from the church to our homebound members. One of the gifts was a holding cross that is specially designed and beautifully crafted to be held comfortably in the hand while praying, reflecting, reading the Bible, or just anytime, as a tangible symbol of God's love and comfort. Before the crosses were delivered, the church staff and several Bible study groups in the church prayed for the homebound members by name while holding the crosses in their hands. These crosses have been placed in the hands of many of our members, bringing comfort as a reminder of God's presence. If you are interested in holding crosses, please contact HoldingCross.com or visit their store in Frisco where the holding crosses are hand-crafted by a family dedicated to sharing God's love through the ministry of the cross.

To members of our church family,

When Anndria Wilson, her daughter Landree and little son Lucas came to my home and delivered an unusual gift, the Holding Cross, that was truly a highlight of Christmas! Not only was I surprised, but also inspired by such a loving deed. The legacy of "sharing the heart of Christ" was brought into true focus, as Landree handed me the gift of love. The Holding Cross will become a cherished possession and I will hold it as I pray each day. My thanks to all who participated in this very meaningful activity; it is another example of the love which our church sends out to others.

Happy New Year to all our ministers, our church staff, the volunteers in every area of service and to every member of our church.

Sincerely,

Margaret F. McAdams

Sharing and Caring

The First Family extends love and sympathy to:

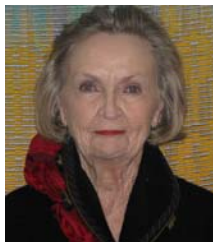
- ♥ Jana Fox and family upon the loss of her grandmother, Nola Gaiser
- ♥ Janet Cavalier and Loraine Grubbs upon the loss of their Aunt Mary
- ♥ Chris Rickwartz and family upon the loss of his uncle, Stan Rickwartz

Welcome New Members

Joined December 27, 2009:



Linda Humke



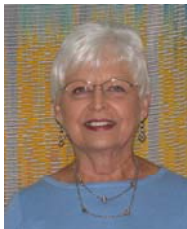
Dot Meyer



The Roche Family

(left to right) Chris, Kelly with daughter Cara
Matthew, Cassie, Michael and Lisa

Joined January 3, 2010:



Nancy Lanford



Randy and Carol Ownby



David and Karen Thompson

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 10

- 8:45 am Celebration Singers, E205
- 8:45 am Joyful Noise, The Landing
- 9:00 am Cherub Choir, Children's Common Area
- 9:45 am CrossRoads, Conference Room
- 12:00 pm Children's Council, E215-225
- 3:30 pm Cub Scout Leader Meeting, C200
- 4:30 pm Youth Praise Band, Youth Area
- 4:30 pm Youth Ringers, Bell Room
- 4:30 pm Career Outreach Workshop, Parlor
- 4:45 pm Music Makers (4th-6th gr.), Choir Room
- 5:30 pm Christian Believers, C210
- 5:30 pm Disciple I, B200
- 5:30 pm Praise Ringers, Bell Room
- 5:30 pm UMYF, Dyer Hall, Youth Area
- 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry, C200
- 6:15 pm Carillon Ringers, Bell Room
- 7:15 pm Flutes of the Spirit, Sanctuary

Monday, January 11

- 10:30 am Daisy Troop, E225
- 1:30 pm Social Workers of UMW, Parlor
- 4:00 pm Webelo Den, E205
- 5:30 pm Finance Committee, Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Leadership Council, Parlor
- 7:15 pm Boy Scout Troop 303, Youth Area

Tuesday, January 12

- 9:30 am Disciple I, C200
- 10:00 am Footprints, Conference Room
- 10:00 am Beatitudes Women's Study, B200
- 6:00 pm Brownies, E105
- 6:30 pm Daisy Troop, E215
- 7:00 pm Disciple I, C200, C210
- 7:00 pm Disciple II, E205
- 7:00 pm Jesus in the Gospels, B200
- 7:00 pm Cub Scout Packs, E225, E260

Wednesday, January 13

- 9:00 am Al-Anon, C200
- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study, Parlor
- 6:00 pm Daisy Troop, E215
- 6:00 pm Women's Chorus, Choir Room
- 6:30 pm Worship Service, Chapel
- 6:30 pm Brownie Troop 1162, E225
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
- 7:00 pm Disciple I, E205
- 7:00 pm Disciple IV, C205

Thursday, January 14

- 6:00 pm Gateway Planning Meeting, Parlor
- 7:00 pm Praise Band Practice, Dyer Hall

Friday, January 15

- 7:00 am Men's Bible Study, Parlor
- 8:00 am Unemployed Support Group, Parlor

Social Workers Circle of United Methodist Women will meet for their January meeting on Monday, January 11 at 1:30 pm in the church parlor. Join us as we begin 2010 with spiritual growth, mission study, community involvement and genuine fellowship. Contact Carolyn Archer at 972-540-1489 if you have questions.



Happy 2010!

Over 40 M & M kids had a splashing good time at the natatorium last Sunday afternoon. Many thanks to the parent volunteers who drove kids and stayed to chaperone! Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 7.

Bible Blasters (third graders) will meet this Wednesday (January 6) from 5:30 to 7:00 pm for pizza, fellowship and a Bible study. Don't forget to bring your Bible.

Created By God, a human sexuality workshop for fifth and sixth graders, will be held on January 21-23. There are still a few spots available. Please contact me at cdodd@sharingtheheart.org for more information or to register your child.

Have a great week back to school!

Ms. Cheridy

Cheridy Dodd, Director of Children's Ministries
972-562-8556, ext. 50; cdodd@sharingtheheart.org

This edition of The Echo was mailed on January 5, 2010
Attention Postmaster
Time sensitive material —
please deliver
between 1/6-1/9

THE ECHO
(USPS 880680)
Published weekly, except holiday weeks, by First United Methodist Church at Church and Lamar Streets, McKinney, Texas 75069
Second Class Postage paid at McKinney, Texas. Postmaster, send address change to THE ECHO, 315 N. Church St., McKinney, TX 75069.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Sharing the heart of Christ from the heart of McKinney

