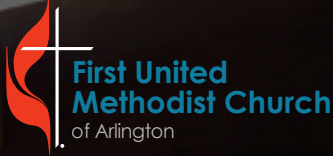


The Chimes

November 2010



Theological Stewardship of Mr. Wesley

Understanding the Wesleyan Quadrilateral

One of the great gifts we have been given as Methodists is that we are spiritual heirs of John and Charles Wesley. As such we are stewards of the great legacy of Wesleyanism!

To briefly set John Wesley's life in its wider context, he was born to Samuel and Susanna Wesley on 17 June 1703 (or 28 June in the "new style" calendar after 1752). Wesley's birthplace was Epworth in Lincolnshire.

John was Samuel and Susanna Wesley's fifteenth child and Susanna lavished her education upon him as she did all her children. Of the nineteen children born to Samuel and Susanna Wesley, John appropriated this exposure to education most fully. This fact helps modern people recognize the amazing depth and breadth of John Wesley's understanding of the Christian faith. His extensive repository of learning would later serve Wesley well as he became one of the preeminent evangelists of his century. John Wesley's preaching bridged the theology between biblical times and his own.

Wesley's theology, as scholars have studied his writing over the last 300 years, can be reduced to four primary focal points: scholars named these theological principles the "Wesleyan



By: Dr. David N. Mosser
Senior Pastor

Quadrilateral." Wesleyans believe that in order for a theological proposition to be acceptable, that proposition must be in agreement with four criteria. The proposition must be true with regard to 1) Holy Scripture, 2) the tradition of the church, 3) human reason, and 4) human experience. If a theological proposition fails to meet these standards, then it is not deemed as the truth.

During a period of four Sundays, beginning 31 October and ending on 21 November, we at First United Methodist Church of Arlington will observe our heritage as Wesleyans and explore the "Wesleyan Quadrilateral." We anticipate that this time of worship and Scripture will give all of us a deeper appreciation for that great soul John Wesley, whom 92 distinct Christian denominations consider their spiritual mentor.

Believers today can learn valuable lessons from this unusual Anglican priest. One of the great twentieth century authorities on Wesley, Albert Outler, wrote that Wesley's "chief intellectual interest and achievement, was in what one could call a folk theology: the Christian message in its fullness and integrity, in 'plain words for plain people.'" In a nutshell, Wesley preached for people to understand. Let this key attribute of Wesley guide our efforts in communicating the gospel and sharing it with the world.

cont. pg. 2

Make a Difference, Volunteer With First Fridays

Offering families of special needs children an evening of respite

By: Holly Hattendorf
Assistant Director of Children's Ministries

Did you know that First United Methodist Church of Arlington is one of only a few churches in the Fort Worth/Arlington area to offer an evening of respite for parents of special needs children?

Once a month a team of volunteers provide childcare on the first Friday of the month so those parents can enjoy a special treat of a night out. There are currently 25 families, with an average of 20 children, utilizing this ministry each month.

It often seems like we never have enough time in our day, but for parents of special needs children this is especially true. FUMCA offers our First Fridays ministry at no charge to families as part of our community outreach ministry. This amazing ministry offers parents and families a worry-free night out.

First Fridays maintains a one-to-one ratio with the special needs children to ensure safety and individualized care. At least one nurse is always on hand to assist with special medical-related tasks, while other volunteers enjoy playing with siblings and additional children.

Each child has the opportunity to play in a group or by themselves based upon their needs and preferences. All activities are optional and children decide which ones in which they will participate. We offer music, crafts, gym time, quiet activities, movies and special entertainment.

Recently, there has been a surge of new families interested in attending First Fridays. While we have an incredible group of dedicated volunteers, more are needed to assist these new families. Are you ready to offer three hours of your time each month for this heart warming ministry?

If you would like to volunteer or provide other support to the ministry (i.e. provide a dinner or donate toys) or if you know of any families with special needs children who would be interested in attending, please contact Holly Hattendorf at hhattendorf@arlingtonmethodist.org or 817-274-2571.



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Sermon Series: Remembering our Heritage: the Wesleyan Quadrilateral

November 7: All Saints Day

Preaching Text: Psalm 149

“Tradition: Saints in the Assembly of the Faithful”

November 14: 25th Sunday of Pentecost

Preaching Text: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

“Reason: Imitation the Sincerest Form of Flattery”

November 21: Christ the King Sunday

Preaching Text: Luke 23:33-43

“Experience: In Which Realm do you Live?”

Come Worship. Stay Learn. Go Serve!



Where Is God In Your Story?

Youth small groups examine Bible stories to find God in their own

By: Nick Scott
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Some people say, sometimes accurately, that today's youth are only concerned about themselves. Youth today are viewed as a narcissistic generation who spend hours every day on Facebook, letting the world know about every detail of their lives. You could say they are overly involved in their own story.

This is why it is so rewarding to be involved with the youth of First United Methodist Church of Arlington. Our youth give their time to be involved in other people's stories. From mission trips to choir tours to local service projects to leading our congregation in worship each week, our youth put others, and their stories, before their own.

Adults and youth alike are often guilty of viewing God as an insurance policy. He is nice to have around when something goes wrong. If you fail a test, get dumped, or lose a job it is nice to be able to pray to God to put things back in order. Essentially, we are the heroes of our own story and expect God to play a supporting role from time to time.

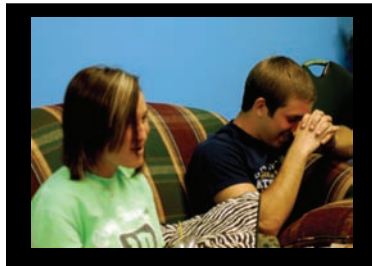
This year, through our Sunday Night Small Groups, we are trying to change this by encouraging our youth to enter into God's Story. Each week we experience a story from the Bible, letting the story stand on its own.

We review the story after hearing it and make sure everyone is on the same page.

We imagine sights, smells, sounds, and emotions and strive to understand what the actions in the story mean to the characters. As we look deeper at stories that many have known from the days of VBS, youth and their

leaders are seeing and understanding aspects of the story that we never have before. And in the end, as we grasp a deeper understanding of the story, the characters, and God's nature, we look to see how we can enter into God's story to further his cause rather than using God sparingly to fix the problems of our own story.

Small groups take place each Sunday beginning @ 5:30 with supper in the Underground.



Our small group ministry is the most vital part of our youth ministry.

Our small group ministry is the most vital part of our youth ministry. It is here that the most connection, most faith development, and most relationship building takes place. Our small groups are led by 20+ amazing adult small group leaders and volunteers who take a lot of time each week to invest in the lives of our youth.

Small groups take place each Sunday beginning at 5:30 PM with supper in the Underground (basement of the church on the south end) and I hope you will join us or invite a youth to attend.

Are Hot Dogs Good News?

Parking for the Cowboys
Stadium a blessing in disguise

By: Rev. Estee Valendy
Associate Pastor

Are hot dogs good news? They can be when given away with a smile to hungry football fans on Sunday afternoons. On Sunday, October 11, 330 cars parked at FUMCA for the Cowboys game. Members of the Lamplighter Sunday school class were on hand to give away hot dogs and bottled water to these folks before they caught the shuttle to the stadium.

Fans are usually blown away by the hospitality, unable to believe that such things are offered for free. But the church members who help with the “First and Ten for Christ” tailgate parties know that through the small gifts of hot dogs and water, they are sharing the love of Christ.

2010 is the second year that members of FUMCA have hosted tailgate parties for Sunday Cowboys games, and the effort has been successful. Those who park at our church and experience our hospitality often leave comments on the website www.parkwhiz.com, recommending our church to other fans looking for parking. One such comment was left after the tailgating on October 11:

“Everything worked great. The folks at the church were super friendly and had water and hot dogs for all of the guests. The shuttle back and forth worked out great. I would definitely park here again. The entire experience was a blessing.”

Who would ever think that parking for a stadium event could be a blessing? This comment reveals that simple acts of hospitality can share the good news with people in our community. And this is what evangelism is all about – sharing the good news in ways that impact people’s daily life and help encourage them towards a relationship with God. Will all the people who park in our lot show up for church on Sunday? No. But have we planted a small seed for God’s grace to grow in their life? Yes.

We are grateful for the work of the Lamplighter class and the Discoverers Sunday school class, who hosted a tailgate party on September 19. Other classes are signed up to host upcoming home games. Space is still available for a group to host the party for a noon game on November 21. If your group is interested, please contact Rev. Estee Valendy in the church office.





The Right Bible Study For You

Learning the Scriptures with
Dr. David Mosser

By: Rev. Kay Lancaster
Associate Pastor

Have you been looking for a weekly Bible study that does not involve a long-term commitment and hours of reading and preparation? Have you been looking for a weekly Bible study taught by a nationally renowned author and biblical scholar? You are in luck! First United Methodist of Arlington has just the Bible study for you.

Every Tuesday evening, from 6:00 - 7:00 PM, Dr. David Mosser, senior pastor of FUMCA, teaches a study which covers the four Scripture lessons for the upcoming Sunday. These Scripture lessons come from the Revised Common Lectionary, a three year cycle of readings for use in Christian worship.

The text for FUMCA’s Sunday sermons are usually selected from one of the Scriptures. By learning about these scriptures during a three year cycle, a student can gain an in-depth overview of the Bible. The Scriptures are selected from the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Psalms, Epistles/Letters of the New Testament and one of the Gospels.

No pre-reading is expected, but participants may read the scriptures in advance if they wish. Participants can join in at any time. If you must miss a session, you can just rejoin the group when you are able.

Inspiration Tuesday

A mid-week recharge worship

Has your schedule kept you from worshipping on Sunday mornings? Do you feel the need for another dose of worship and inspiration mid-week? Come join us in the chapel on Tuesday evenings at 7:00.

Each Tuesday, worshipers gather in the chapel for an hour of praise, prayer, offering, Scripture, and study. In November Rev. Kay Lancaster will lead a study series titled *“The Parables of Jesus Teach Us To Pray.”*

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| November 2 | Luke 18:1-8 | Praying With Persistence |
| November 9 | Luke 18:9-14 | Praying With Humility |
| November 16 | Luke 11:5-13 | Prayers Answered in Abundance |

All are welcome to join us. Childcare is available or children may attend the service.



International Christmas and Alternative Gift Market

Sponsored by the Mission Team

By: Michelle Clark
Mission & Outreach Coordinator

As we all struggle through this period of economic hardship, we know that each dollar must be spent purposefully. With the holidays approaching, one way to spend wisely is to give alternative gifts.

Instead of buying friends and family “stuff” they may not need, why not purchase a bed net to help prevent Malaria? Or a pig or sheep to help a village sustain itself? For your purchase or donation, you will receive a beautiful holiday card informing the recipient of the gift given in their honor that passes on the gift of life!

In addition to alternative gift giving, there will be beautifully handcrafted and Fair Trade items such as jewelry, totes, scarves, organic coffee, teas, and chocolate from developing countries around the world. Purchasing gifts like these help artisans and farmers earn a fair wage for their work and thus improve their quality of life.

No matter which way you choose, each gift gives over and over again. You honor a friend or loved one with a beautiful gift that supports a family in a developing country. So come out and shop with us!

Details:

Dates: November 28 & December 5 (Sundays)

Time: 9 AM to 12:30 PM

Where: Covered Walkway

Payment: Cash or Check only

Featured Items:

Eternal Threads Sofi Totes, sterling silver and semi-precious stone jewelry, silk scarves, raffia placemats & giraffes, and sling purses. Organic coffees, teas, and chocolate provided through the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

Featured Charities:

- Heifer International
- Nothing but Nets
- The Women’s Haven of Tarrant County
- HOPE Tutoring.



November Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 United Methodist Women 10:00 AM Church Conference 6:00 PM	3	4	5 First Fridays 6:00 PM	6
7 Organ Recital 3:00 PM University Care Packages Begins	8	9 OWLS Meeting 11:30 AM Inspiration Tuesday 7:00 PM	10 Operation Christmas Child Packing Party 6:30 PM	11	12	13
14 Go the Second Mile Fun Day and Walk 11:00 AM	15	16 Inspiration Tuesday 7:00 PM	17	18	19	20
21 University Care Packages Due Back	22	23 Inspiration Tuesday 7:00 PM	24	25 Thanksgiving FUMCA Closed	26 FUMCA Closed	27
28 Alternative Gift Market 9:00 AM	29	30 Family Advent Study 6:00 PM	1	2	3	4

For more information on these events visit www.arlingtonmethodist.org

First Prayers

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful" Colossians 4:2

We pray for those who have experienced an illness.

Jerry Conrad, Cindy Fincher, Pam McQuitty, Doug Rice, Jenna Weber

The family and friends of Margaret Freeman who passed away 10/14

Bruce Hamberlin and family on the loss of his brother, Troy on 10/16

We pray for those who have experienced a loss. Condolences to...

Katrine Coates on the loss of her sister, Anna Lee Barker of Fort Worth on 10/6

Dawn Steucheli on the loss of her sister, Sharon Stephen Green on 10/16

OWLS Meeting

Learn about attainable solutions for the comfort and care of our aging population.

The OWLS (Older Wiser Laughing Souls) will meet on Tuesday, November 9, in the Great Hall at 11:30 a.m. for a covered dish luncheon. Please bring food to serve 10-12 people.

The Senior Solutions Team moderated by Karen Cone, Brookdale Business Development Director for Brookdale Senior Living, will present an extremely informative program for us. This is not a sales seminar!

Her team will represent the following senior adult industries:

Retirement and Assisted Living Community Services, Karen Cone; Personal Assistance Services, Sue Wallace; Alzheimer/Memory Care Services, Gloria Johnson of Autumn Leaves;

Home Health Services, Starla Timberlake of Heritage Home Care; Hospice Services, Josh Ihle

It is the goal of Senior Solutions to provide much needed information on a level that is easily understood. Through compassion, caring, and in-depth understanding of senior care, they hope to provide attainable solutions in regard to the comfort and care of our aging population. Their motto is: Answers Today, Hope for Tomorrow.



We hope you will take this opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors outside our church family to join our OWLS for this informative program. Remember, the only ticket required is something to share for our luncheon!