
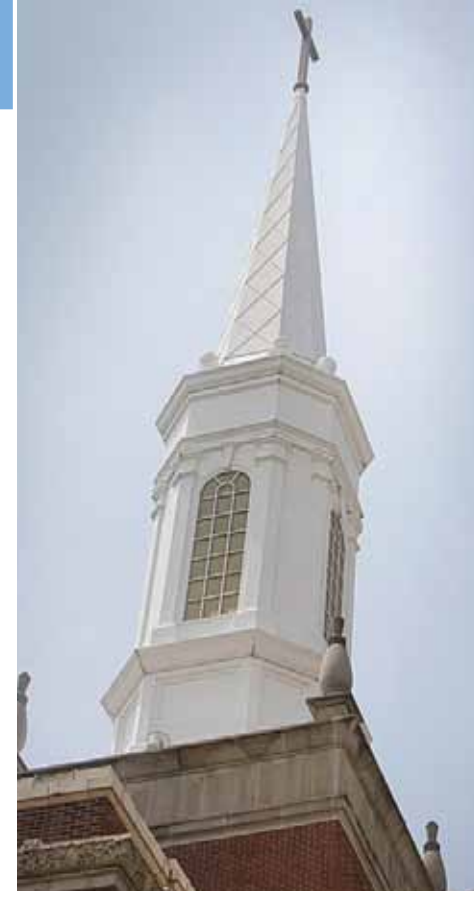


growing servant leaders.
 God's grace while passionately
 is to embrace and extend
 First United Methodist Church
 The mission of the

www.fumcshreveport.org
 fumc@fumcshreveport.org

Office.....424-7771
 Music Office429-6887
 First Beginnings
 Child Development
 Center.....429-6890
 PRAYER LINE.....429-6898

PO Box 1567
 Shreveport, LA 71165

Embracing Grace. Growing Leaders.

VOLUME LXIII NO.9 SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA SEPTEMBER 2011

PAT'S PERSPECTIVE



September is a great month to get back into the habit of attending worship. Summer is a great time for vacations, trips, and family gatherings. But as the summer ends and school begins it is a great time to kick off the fall by beginning to be regular again in worship.

I've been going to church practically every Sunday for as long as I can remember. Even as a child, I had a natural desire to want to be in Sunday School and church each Sunday. My mother tells of the time when I was two or three years old and could barely talk. One Sunday morning I heard the chimes of our church. I looked up to my mom and said, "Momma, I want to go to Sunday School." That began many years of regular Sunday School and worship attendance. To attend worship services every Sunday is one of the greatest privileges in the world. I've discovered tremendous peace, comfort, and strength through regular worship. It has become an essential part of my life.

But unfortunately many people have never developed the holy habit of regular worship. Even worse, many who once had the habit no longer keep it. When I go to church on Sunday, I go primarily to worship God, to give thanks for Him and for His goodness. The prayers, the singing of the hymns, and the offering are all expressions of my thanksgiving. My whole week goes better when I attend worship. When I sing the praises of God through our hymns, my spirit is filled and lifted. I can also thank Him through the reading of His Word. I go into God's house to bow in thanksgiving before the maker and

creator of the universe.

A second reason I worship is to ask for forgiveness for my failures and my sins and to seek direction and strength which will guide me through the days ahead. Dr. John E. Gossip once said, "We need the Sunday bath just as much as the proverbial Saturday evening one. Our souls come in daily contact with influences less than perfect and get dirty, too. Cleanliness results from renewing our following God, and revitalizing our principles, and strengthening our convictions. That is why there is a Sunday in the week." Yes, each one of us sins and falls short of the person that we need to be. Therefore, we need to receive the assurance of God's forgiveness and His offer of a second chance. We receive the spiritual strength to get up and start again. We also receive the power to say "no to temptation" through our worship. Worship makes our conscience more morally sensitive.

One final reason that I go to church regularly is to witness to others on my behalf and to take my stand for what is right in the world. There is an all-out battle between good and evil in our world presently. This battle is fought not only in schools, businesses, and political realms, but also in our individual hearts. When you go to church, you make your stand for what is right, just, and positive. You influence others by simply coming on Sunday mornings. You will never know the importance of your influence in the lives of others. When others in your social network see you Sunday after Sunday being committed to going to church it impacts their lives in a very positive way.

I encourage you, if you have gotten out of the habit over the summer, to get back in the habit of attending worship on a regular basis. Your life, your marriage, and your relationships will go much better if you do so. Regular worship attendance is one of the most important single habits that I have developed in my personal life. I sincerely believe it will make a huge difference in your life too.

See you Sunday in church!



- **First United Methodist Church**
500 Common Street
P. O. Box 1567
Shreveport, LA 71165-1567
- **Sunday Worship Services**
Traditional 8:30am & 11:00am
Sanctuary (A deaf interpreter is available at the 11:00 service)
- **FAITHLink Contemporary**
11:00am
Emmett Hook Center
- **Wednesday Business Luncheon**
Wednesdays at Noon
Multimedia Room, Education & Administration Bldg., 3rd Floor
- **Wesleyan Communion Service**
9:45-10:30am
Couch Chapel
(1st Sunday of month)
- **Sunday School**
9:45am
- **Televised Sunday Services**
11:00am (live)
ABC KTBS-TV Ch. 3

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PO Box 1567 • Shreveport, LA 71165 • www.fumcshreveport.org • fumc@fumcshreveport.org

New Amazing Collection Session Begins September 12!

Come find out what so many women from across our community are experiencing! The Amazing Collection is a Bible study unlike any other. It is a creative study that is interesting, informative and developed for women of all walks of life and levels of spiritual maturity. As you study you will learn the purpose, theme, history and spiritual application of each book of the Bible. Classes are available on **Mondays at 9:30am and 5:45pm** in the Multi-Media room. It is an hour and a half packed with large group and small group interaction with in-depth discussion on specific issues from each book of the Bible.

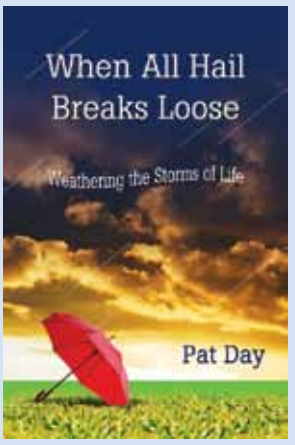
Pre-registration is requested (fumcshreveport.org) and childcare is available. Cost is \$12 for the workbook. Contact Stephanie Clark (sclark@fumcshreveport.org) or Rev. Pam Crews (pcrews@fumcshreveport.org) for additional details.

Amazing Adventure available for Preschool-4th grade!

The Amazing Adventure is the children's companion study to the Amazing Collection. Children ages 2-4th grade have the opportunity to "study" the same book on the same week as their parent or grandparent! The Amazing Adventure will be provided for the children or grandchildren of the women attending the Amazing Collection Bible study. Contact Billie Tate (btate@fumcshreveport.org or 424-7771 ext 117) for additional details.

When All Hail Breaks Loose:

Join us for a book study on Monday nights, 5:30-7pm, September 19-October 24. Deana Mitchell will lead this group in a study of Dr. Day's book, When All Hail Breaks Loose. This study is open to anyone who is facing a storm of adversity in their life. Contact the church office, 424-7771, to register and purchase a book. Childcare is available by request.



Disciple Classes

Disciple classes begin this fall! Contact Rev. Derek Joyce for more information. Dates, times, and facilitator information will be posted in the worship bulletins.

Step Up. 5th and 6th grade Bible Study and Lighthouse begins **September 14th, 4:30pm-7pm.** Bring Bible, Friends and \$5 for dinner!

Calling all 3rd Graders

Acolyte Training
September 11, 2011, 2pm-4pm Sanctuary.
 One parent MUST attend with their child!

Parent's Night Out

- September 9th
- "Back to School" Celebration, 6-9 p.m. Grades K – 4th. Bain Hall, Hunter Building. Infants – Age 5, Children's Ministry Building. \$10 per child

Children's Choir

- Beginning Sunday, September 11th
- Children's Choir for all children Pre-K through 4th Grade will resume. Join us for refreshments and fun at the first practice of the season from 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. in Dawson 201. Parents are welcome!
- "Raise up a child in the way that he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

M & Ms

- Upbeat Music for Adults
- Thursdays, 11:00-11:45 AM
- [Beginning September 8]
- Will Andress, director & Ray Peebles, accompanist This fun group is open to any adult in the church or community for the sheer enjoyment of singing the "good old songs." These include fun songs like "Blue Suede Shoes," "Button Up Your Overcoat," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," and many more. No auditions, just come on down!

CONCERT

Texas Street Arts Series presents

Gregory Warren, tenor in Concert, **September 13, 2011, 7:30 PM.** Emmett Hook Center
Open to the Public, Free Admission

Gregory Warren's career had its first spark in the opera world when he was chosen to be a part of the Placido Domingo - Cafritz program with Washington National Opera. Since that time, he made his debut with many international opera houses, such as Los Angeles Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Staatsoper Berlin, Theater St. Gallen (Switzerland), De Nederlandse Opera, New National Theater Tokyo, and Estonia National Opera. Gregory resides in Longview, Texas and sang as soloist with the Chancel Choir and the Centenary College Choir while in college.

KNITTERS

Novice Knitters is a group of avid stitchers who provide handmade hats, scarves, mittens and sweaters to disadvantaged individuals. We also support the FUMC Prayer Ministry by making prayer shawls. Join us on **Mondays at 12:00 noon** in the E&A Courtyard Kitchen for fellowship and stitching. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet, it would be our pleasure to teach you. For additional information, contact Melanie, 429-6887, or mbarron@fumcshreveport.org.

BOOK CLUB

Renew And Review Book Club

September 13, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 101 of the Hunter Building. Joy Dunkelman will review David McCullough's *The Greater Journey--Americans in Paris*. This latest work by the Pulitzer Prize-winning historian presents the intriguing stories of Americans --artists, writers, politicians and others of high aspiration--who set off for Paris between 1830 and 1900 and changed America through what they learned.

Plan now to attend on that day and mark your calendars for the second Tuesday of each month through May, 2011. Be sure to invite friends and neighbors to join us. They will discover what we already know will be a wonderful year of camaraderie and outstanding book reviews.

Members and guests will gather at 10 a.m. for coffee and conversation preceding the review. Annual dues are \$25.00. Cost for non-members is \$4.00.



Leadership Summit

August 11 & 12, we welcomed about 150 community leaders for the Global Leadership Summit. Together we learned from speakers like Bill Hybels, Summit founder, Dr. Henry Cloud, Boundaries author, and Cory Booker, Mayor of Newark, New Jersey. We were challenged to find our optimal point so as not to burn out, to use our gifts and talents to do great things for our community and those around us, and reminded that all we do, must be for the glory of God. Church leaders, community leaders, business leaders, high school and college students all benefitted greatly from the speakers and their insight. We hope you will join us again next year for this amazing leadership growth opportunity, August 9-10, 2012.

WORKSHOPS

Altar Guild Gathering

September 11, 2011, 12:00 Noon, Bain Hall
Anyone interested in the learning more about the FUMC Altar Guild is invited to Bain Hall on September 11 immediately following the 11 o'clock worship services. There you will have the opportunity to learn more about:

- Flower arranging and delivery of flowers to members in the hospital
- Decorating the Sanctuary and Couch Chapel for Christmas
- Assisting with Weddings
- Assisting with Funerals
- Setting up the poinsettias and lilies during the Christmas and Easter seasons
- Assisting with delivery of poinsettias and lilies following Christmas and Easter
- For additional information contact the church office, 424-7771.

Mentor Workshop
Presenter - Mark Rogers, Ph.D.

Center for Family Development
Friday, Sept. 23, 2011, 7:00 – 9:00 pm.
All mentors in the church are invited including Marriage Mentors, Youth Mentors and Stephen Ministers.

CONTENT

- Distinguishing Helping from Rescuing (how to avoid becoming entangled in a Victim-Rescuer-Persecutor dynamic)
- How to (help) Solve Any Problem in Six Steps, based on solid spiritual psychology

REGISTER ONLINE
www.fumcshreveport.org/events,
or call Jonathan at 424-7771.
Cost is only \$10

Marriage Enrichment Conference
Presenter - Mark Rogers, Ph.D.

Center for Family Development
Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011, 9:00am - 3:00pm (lunch provided)

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED

- Personality differences - "Living with Aliens, Loving by Needs"
- Resolving conflicts productively "Never Waste a Good Conflict"
- Intimacy, emotional and other kinds - "Which Way Does Your Wheel Roll?"
- Communicating from the heart - "Two Ears for Every Mouth"
- Behaviors that sabotage relationships "Relationship Gravity"

REGISTER ONLINE
www.fumcshreveport.org/events,
or call Jonathan at 424-7771
\$50 couple, \$60 at the door

NEW MEMBERS

Not pictured:
Jessie & Mike Kremeier
Grant Merritt, Jim Norris
Carolyn & Steve Prator



NANCY & BUD BRUCE



ELIZABETH & JASON FARRINGTON



EDIE & MICHAEL MONDAY



JERI LITTLE



DINA & ANDREW UTTER

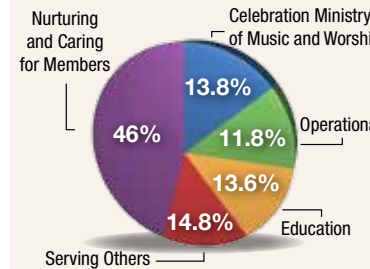
Count Me In

Where Does Our Money Go? It goes many places:

To help our neighbors as they deal with hard economic times; grants to help support services of 16 local non-profit organizations; our mission initiative with Big House and Darivage Orphanages in Haiti; the United Methodist Global missions and aid fund

To Bible studies, Sunday school materials and small groups to transform our congregation and our community through prayer and encouragement

Where volunteers are serving

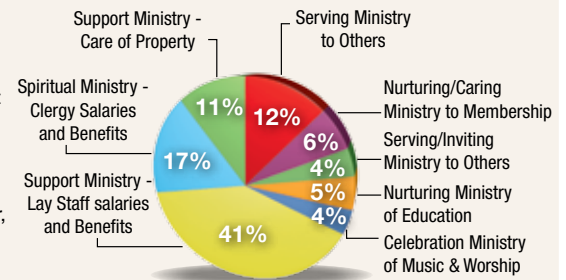


What does a volunteer do?

- Drive golf carts
 - Greet our guests on Sunday mornings
 - Lead a Sunday school class or small group
 - Organize new member packets
 - Take communion elements to retirement centers
 - Sing in the choir
 - Van Driver
- In 2011, 637 volunteered in 1,276 opportunities. Approximately 150 volunteers

are on duty every Sunday morning. Not only are there volunteers on Sunday, they are volunteering every day and some on the weekends. A volunteer's purpose in life is not to be happy - but to matter, to be productive, to be useful, to have it make some difference when life on earth is over. To those that continue to volunteer, thank you for your service. If you are not volunteering, we hope you will consider your place of service.

Budget Analysis



SENIOR MINISTRY



Silver Screenings

"The Seven Year Itch" starring Marilyn Monroe will be the Silver Screenings feature on **Tuesday, Sept. 20th.** For

reservations call Brenda at 424-7771 by Friday, Sept. 16th and mail a check to the church for \$14. This includes the movie and lunch. Meet at the church at 9:45 am to be transported by church bus to the Robinson Center.

Treasures Luncheon

Mr. Amazor Santos, Agape Hospice will be the speaker for Treasures Luncheon on **Thursday, Sept 8th, at 12:00 noon** in Hunter 101. For reservations call Brenda at 424-7771. Lunch will be served at a cost of \$6.00.

Goodwill Clothing Drive

Leaves are falling and the seasons are about to change. It's time to weed out clothes and accessories you no longer want and bring them to the Goodwill Clothes Closet in the Hunter Building Motor Lobby on September 4. The youth will put the donations in Goodwill bags, and the Serving Ministry will get vouchers for the bags to distribute to people in need to use at the Goodwill stores. The FUMC Goodwill collection is the first Sunday of every month.



Pray That

was a beautiful day devoted to prayer for the cure for cancer. People of all ages participated in a variety of styles of prayer from silent prayer, healing prayer, sharing of scripture, music and stories in the sanctuary, to expressing prayer through painting, sculpting, and making prayer beads and crosses in the E&A Building. Contemplative prayer by way of the labyrinth walk and Stations of the Cross were offered as well.

We appreciate all those who volunteered their time to serve the needs of our community. We received over 50 new requests to pray by name for people whose lives are being impacted by this disease. Please continue to pray in unity and like-mindedness for the cure for cancer.