



Disciple Messenger

Huffman United Methodist Church

Disciples in Action, Making & Growing Disciples

September 1, 2010

Calendar

September 5 - September 11, 2010

SUNDAY, September 5

8:45 am	Sunday School	Ed Bldg
10:00 am	Morning Worship	Sanctuary

No Sunday Evening Activities

Remember in prayer our Youth on their Labor Day Retreat, Saturday through Monday.

MONDAY, September 6

Labor Day Church Office and Day Care Closed

TUESDAY, September 7

9:00 am	Staff Meeting	Conf Rm
10:00 am	Bible Study	Rm 216
6:00 pm	Warblers Board Mtg.	Parlor
7:00 pm	SPRC Meeting	Conf Rm
7:00 pm	Better Image	Rm 11
7:00 pm	Warblers Practice	Choir Rm
7:15 pm	Warblers Practice	Parlor

WEDNESDAY, September 8

9:30 am	Margaret Bible Study	Conf Rm
5:30 pm	Wednesday Supper	FH
6:30 pm	Handbells	Bell Ch Rm
6:30 pm	Study of Joab	Parlor
6:30 pm	Youth	Youth Rm
6:30 pm	KIC	Rm 203
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Rm



CONJECTURES OF ANOTHER GUILTY BYSTANDER

Our Epistle Lesson for this week comes from the shortest letter of Paul. It is addressed to a fellow Christian named Philemon. In fact, this letter is so short it only has 25 verses. It consists of a simple plea from Paul for the life of a runaway slave named, Onesimus. Paul makes this plea knowing that under Roman law Philemon has every right to require the life of Onesimus if he is caught.

With this in mind, Paul pleads for Philemon to consider having mercy on Onesimus. Why does Paul make this plea? It is because Onesimus has become a Christian under the tutelage of Paul. Paul now loves Onesimus as if he was his own son. Paul also knows that Philemon is a good Christian man. There comes a point in the text that Paul calls upon Philemon's Christian integrity when he says, "Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say." (v. 21) Paul does not plead another word for Onesimus. He simply depends upon the Christian integrity of Philemon to *do the right thing*.

Paul seems to have a deep trust in this quality called Christian integrity. So, what is Christian integrity? Is it something with which every Christian is endowed? Is it something that every Christian does naturally without thinking? How does one know that they have Christian integrity? And, how can Paul be so confident in Philemon's Christian integrity? Plus, how does Paul know Philemon will go beyond his expectations in the case of Onesimus? The reason that Paul can be so confident in the integrity of Philemon is because he knows what gives Christian integrity its essence. The essence of the integrity within each Christian is the presence of Christ in the life of an individual. In fact, it is Christ in the individual that gives integrity to the Christian. Paul mentions this mystery in his letter to the Galatians when he says, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." (2:20) This is why Paul can so confidently call upon Philemon to grant Christian love to Onesimus. He knows that he is calling upon Christ (who lives in Philemon) to demonstrate the same loving, forgiving qualities expected. These qualities are always there in every Christian because "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) Once again, it is Christ living within the person who gives them Christian integrity.

Perhaps you are now asking yourself if you have Christian integrity. This is a good and honest question every Christian should ask. What is the answer? Can others depend upon you to demonstrate Christ-like qualities whenever they call upon you? Under stressful situations in life will you *do the right thing*? This is certainly something every Christian should ponder and pray about in their daily spiritual journey.

In Christ,

Harris

**Children and Youth Praise Choir
Starting in September**

If you enjoy singing and are in kindergarten, have completed it or any other grade after it, join us on Sundays at 5:00 in the Chapel for a multi-generational (that means all different ages) praise choir! We will be working on songs for the Call to Worship on some Sunday mornings as well as a Christmas program. Adults are welcome to join us too! If you enjoy praise and worship music, or you have experience playing instruments (guitar, percussion, etc.) and would like to participate, don't miss our first rehearsal Sunday, September 12. (Nursery for preschool children and younger whose parents are participating will be available by request only; sign up by emailing Kathy Henson at kcahenson@charter.net.) For more information contact Margaret Parker, Kathy Henson, or Stephanie Sparks. We can't wait to see you there!

Youth Director Search

SPRC has begun the search for a new Youth Director. We hope it won't take a long time, but we do want to find the right person. To do that we must give the process time to work.

If you know of someone who might be interested, please have them get in touch with myself, Harris or anyone on SPRC and we will be glad to accept their resume.

Thanks,

Jack Hair
Chair, SPRC

Lectionary Readings

September 5 - September 11, 2010

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalm 14

I Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

Our Stewardship...

Your Change Can Change the World \$5.97

Tithes & Offerings August 29, 2010

Needed Weekly	\$11,990
Offering 8/29/10	7,021
Received YTD	416,254
Needed YTD	<u>419,650</u>
YTD +(-) Budget	(3,396)

Attendance August 29, 2010

Church School	172
Worship	210

Sunday, September 5, 2010

Sermon: Harris Hand & Bob Parker

The Potter, the Clay



Luke 14:25-33; Jeremiah 18:1-11

Nursery
Pam Floyd

No Sunday Evening Activities

Wednesday Evening, September 8

- 5:30 pm Fellowship Supper, FH
- 6:30 pm Study of Joab, Parlor
- 6:30 pm Handbells, Bell Choir Room
- 6:30 pm Youth, Youth Room
- 6:30 pm KIC, Room 203
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Wednesday Evening Menu

Adults: Honey Baked Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Squash Casserole, Rolls, Salad Bar, Lemon Pie

Alternate Meat: Baked Chicken

Children: Baked Chicken Leg, Macaroni & Cheese

Don't Forget!

HUMC Men's Fellowship
Sunday, September 12, 7:45 am
Fellowship Hall

The Missions of HUMC

Is it really August? If so that means that fall, Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner. Where does the time go? As your mission team reflected back over 2010, we were reminded of how some of our time and support was spent and wanted to share that with all of you. January - March - First Light, Haiti Relief and our Lenten Mission Project - our Mexico Mission Trip; April - UMCOR One Great Hour of Sharing; May - Support of UMW Yard Sale, BBQ, Car Wash and Bake Sale, Donation of flip flops for Mexico mission trip; June - Supported VBS; July - August - Back to School for community schools; and October - December - Angel Tree Ministry.

As we thought of all the prayers, love and support that had gone into all these projects our hearts and minds turned to "What and where is God calling us to support in 2011?" We also realized that on our calendar we didn't have a 'mission project' for September. At the mention of this, our discussion turned to the focus of Harris' sermon on Sunday, July 18th, "The Better Part." The team decided that this was just what God wanted our September mission focus to be, a focus on Him - spending more time with Him, listening for Him and He would give us His direction for missions for 2011. So your mission team is asking that you support our September mission project by taking time to sit at the feet of Jesus. We also ask that as He puts mission thoughts and ideas in your mind and heart that you share those with your HUMC mission team. We know many of support mission organizations and projects that you are passionate about so please share those with us.

Just as a reminder here are those serving on your HUMC Mission Team: Laura Bathurst, Vivian Yates, Alma Moore, Dolores Bunn, Susan Raughton, Pat Greer, James Waldrop, Bobbie Cooper, Kenneth Moore, Linda Hambright, Kathleen Kopp, Donald Richards, Deana Solfronk, Liz Burton, Meredith Price and Kathy George. We look forward to hearing what God places on your heart. Thank you for ALL the love and support that you have for Our Lord and His people.

Your HUMC Mission Team

Eastern Area Christian Ministries Requests for September

Jelly
Boys' Clothing (3-20)
Men's Clothing (XL & up)
Ladies' Clothing (XL & up)

**The Children's Place
Request for September
Clorox Wipes**



Michelle Andrews

Jim Billups

Ann Blanpied & family

Rev. Jay & Betty Clark

Suzanne Corwin

Janice Davis, aunt of Frances Tyrone

Onita Foote

Henry Garrett

Jon Todd (J.T.) Harris, grandson of Beverly Harris

Lindsey Hicks, sister of Stephanie Sparks

Barbara Kent

Betty Lane

Hunter Lewis, great-nephew of Nat & Angel Martin

Angel Martin

Lynne McCollister & Family

David McGowen

Judy Mitchell

Anita Norton

Joyce Pilkinton

Crew Pitts, brother of Betty Hazel

Carolyn Ross

Ron Sammons

Martha Scott, mother of Ellen Lawrence

David Smith

Mary Wickham, sister of Betty Hazel

Our Youth on their Labor Day Retreat

Deepest sympathy to Lynne McCollister
and her family
in the death of her mother,
Carolyn Simpson
on August 29, 2010

Notice to Our Congregation:

We are hard at work updating our church rolls. We hope to get cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses as well as home addresses and phone numbers out to the congregation. You may be assured that these cell numbers and e-mail addresses are for church use only and will not be published. Please send us your changes and updates. Thanks for your help with this.

**Huffman
United
Methodist
Church**

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**Dr. Harris Hand
Senior Minister
256-390-7988**

**Stephanie Sparks
Minister of
Christian
Development**

**Donna Godwin
Associate Pastor**



Dear Huffman UMC:

May God Bless You for your recent contribution of \$30.00 in August of 2010 to help with our ministry! It is only through contributions such as yours that we are able to continue our work of presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ to incarcerated juveniles in Alabama.

In your prayer time, please continue to pray for all the girls and boys at Chalkville and Vacca. Please pray that God will talk to their hearts and open their eyes.

In Christ's love,

Paul Bentley, Treasurer
Epiphany Ministry of Alabama

Dear Huffman United Methodist Church:

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, parents and students of Huffman Middle School, I would like to thank you and the Mission's Ministry for the extremely generous donations of school supplies given for the 2010-2011 school year. Despite the downturn in the economy, and mass unemployment across our nation, it is a blessing and wonderful to know that we have such wonderful support in the local community.

We are very grateful for your continued dedication and support of our school family and look forward to future years of service in the Huffman community. Thanks again, and please let us know if we may ever be of service to you.

Sincerely,

Milton J. Hopkins, Principal
Huffman Middle School



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