Dear Friends,

The sights and sounds of change are all around us. Now, I know that change is usually not a welcome issue when it comes to the life of the local church. In a recent sermon, I shared that Anita and I had moved 9 times in our 31 years together. My friends, I feel like I have a Phd. when it comes to change and moving! If we are real with ourselves, then we know beyond a shadow of a doubt that change is a normal part of life. For the past 6 weeks I have been working out regularly at the Southeast Texas Health and Racquet Club in Silsbee. Let me tell you, I realize that I am no were as strong or fit as I was when I was working out at the age of 35. You see, I have changed my expectations and goals of how I work out. The muscles are nice but the cardio aspects of conditioning mean more now than it once did.

Our church is undergoing change in how we view the skills and performance of our staff. Cheryl Owens, church member, has stepped into the role of children’s director for our church at least until January 2018. My thanks again to Glenda Delano for her faithful service to the children of 1st UMC these past two to three years.

Effective September 1, Ben Schulz will no longer lead our youth program. Ben is a wonderful young man who lives his faith each day for Jesus. Big changes are happening in Ben’s life. He married Veronica on Monday, August 14th and will be entering seminary in Houston in September. His last day with us will be August 27 so if you would like to wish him good luck and God speed, try to catch him at the church office or in person at worship on August 20 or 27. Until we find a new youth director, I will attempt to provide a Sunday afternoon program of food, games, and relevant study of Christian responses to current issues. The first youth meeting of the fall will be September 10th.

Please, please pray for me and the selected leaders of our church to listen to God’s Holy Spirit that we might be guided in how we should go about seeking and finding a new youth director. More than ever, the children and youth of our society are bombarded with so many life choices and decisions that we need to make sure that they know the Jesus way of living and believing.

May God grant us His peace, wisdom, and direction for the future.

Pastor David
**Fall Bible Study to Begin**  
**September 13th**

The Education Committee of First UMC is pleased to provide a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, food, and learning for our church starting September 13th. This new opportunity will take place on 6 consecutive Wednesday nights from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and the study each group will use is called “Renovate–Building a Life With God”. Each participant guide will cost $10 and the sign-up for each group will end on September 1st.

Each group (8-12 individuals) will meet weekly in a home and the group can rotate homes if they wish to. At each session, the hosting home will provide the main entrée and other persons will bring desserts, vegetables, and drinks. A nursery will be provided at the church for small children.

Please pray about if God is calling you to join others for fellowship, food, and study. Remember, please call the office for a student guide no later than September 1st.

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**Southeast District Conference to feature John Esquivel**

On Sunday, August 27, from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm at McCabe Roberts Ave UMC, Beaumont, everyone will have the opportunity to hear from the Texas Conference Lay Leader, John Esquivel. Mr. Esquivel is a very involved member of First UMC Houston. Also, Rev. Mike Tyson, Conference VCI Director, will make a presentation about the Vibrant Church Initiative. McCabe-Roberts UMC is located at 1205 Roberts Street, Beaumont, Texas, 77701

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**In Loving Memory**

**Mabyn Day**  
BHS Class of 1953  
Kassie Moye  
Ed and Sonia Cain

**Susan Collier Golden**  
Janette Van Winkle

**Coach Bubba Moye**  
Kassie Moye  
Jay Hinkie  
Ed and Sonia Cain  
Ben Turk  
Ed and Sonia Cain

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| Worship |  
|---------|---------|  
| 07/30   | 113     |  
| 08/06   | 164     |  
| 08/13   | 165     |  

| Sunday School |  
|---------------|---------|  
| 07/30         | 54      |  
| 08/06         | 77      |  
| 08/13         | 91      |  

| Gifts |  
|------|---------|  
| 07/30 | $2,609.00 |  
| 08/06 | $9,231.00  |  
| 08/13 | $7,194.00  |  

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**Bible Journaling EVENT**

Tuesday, Aug. 22  
10 a.m.-11 a.m. & 6 p.m.-7 p.m.  
at Your Local LifeWay Store  

Show us your journaling use #noteworthytruth
Hello, church family from your new Children's Coordinator! As of July 16th, Glenda Delano retired and I stepped in to fill some very big shoes! Lots of love and appreciation to Glenda for a job WELL DONE! We had a great time of fun and fellowship in VBS this summer as we learned about God's Heroes. “Do Good, Seek Peace, and Go After It” was the theme verse from VBS and will be our theme verse for children's ministry the remainder of the year. We collected Gatorade for our local heroes and kicked off “Fill the Backpack” on Sunday, August 13. We are currently collecting backpacks, school supplies, or money to fill the backpacks for those in our community with a need. On Sunday, August 27th, we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks for our children, teachers, and supplies we have collected. A new children's committee has been formed and we will be meeting on Sunday, August 20th to set the calendar for the remainder of the year. So many of you have told me to let you know if you can help with our Children's ministry. Well you can! I am asking each and every one of you to pray daily for this ministry and our church leaders. I look forward to seeing what God is going to do with this ministry.

In His Love,
Cheryl Owens

Thank you to all who helped make our garage sale such a success. We have to have the cleanest attics and garages in town! We raised $5,000. I look forward to seeing how our finance committee will use this blessing to further the ministries of this church.

We have already been able to donate to the following ministries with items we had from the garage sale:
- Clothes Closet at First Assembly Church
- Sunshine Resale Shop
- Goodwill
- All Faiths Day School
- FUMC Children’s Ministry
- FUMC Youth Ministry
- FUMC Evangelism committee
- Silsbee Volunteer Fire Department

In His Love,
Cheryl Owens

It's Coming September 17th

On Sunday, September 17, after the 11:00 am service, we will meet in the Dauphin Room of McDonough Hall for food, and a new opportunity for First UMC! Please join us!
First UMC is proud to recognize the contributions of our school teachers/personnel and the importance of school supplies. At both worship services on August 27th, each school educator will be recognized, anointed, and prayed for. All children and youth who bring their backpacks will have their backpacks blessed.

May God grant our school districts and students with a safe, healthy, and productive 2017-2018 school year.

August is our month to support the Christian Care Center. Please see below a list of items that they are currently in need of:

- Bar Soap (bath)
- Spaghetti
- Mac & Cheese
- Jelly
- Cereal

You can leave the food at the church office, or you may bring it to the Christian Care Center Monday-Wednesday from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm.

Thank you!

First UMC to Host Silsbee High School Football Team on August 26

First UMC is proud to host the Silsbee High School Football Tam for a kick-off dinner on Saturday, August 26, at 6:00 pm in the Dauphin Room of McDonough Hall. We are expecting between 40-50 players, and we will be serving hot dogs, chips, drinks, and desserts. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Glenda Delano.