

November 5, 2014



# Methogram

**“The mission of First United Methodist Church of Silsbee is to glorify God,  
make disciples, and transform lives in Christ**

The Methogram is a  
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## Dan's Divinities

On Sunday, November 16, we will begin a church-wide study and worship emphasis called *Treasure: A Stewardship Program on Faith and Money*. The study will be based on Jesus' words, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). The study is designed to help us all think about our resources from a Christian perspective.

Over a period of four weeks, we will look at the many ways that our treasure (time, energy, money) affects our hearts. We will consider how financial challenges in our personal lives affect our relationships with people and with God. We will see how giving helps to determine the way we feel and act. If you have stress related to money or feel there may be more that God is calling you to do with your resources, this will be a helpful study.

At the end of the four weeks, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of giving to First United Methodist Church for the coming year. All of us will receive commitment cards in the mail, and the cards will also be available on Sunday mornings. We can fill out these cards and bring them to worship on Sunday, December 7. On that day, we will have one combined celebration worship service at 11:00 a.m. It is fitting that we all be together as we mutually agree to support the work of the church. We will have Sunday School at the regular hour of 10:00 a.m., but we will not have the 9:00 a.m. worship service that day so we can all be together. At noon, we

will have a Celebration Covered Dish Luncheon in McDonough Hall.

Our schedule for the *Treasure* series is:

Week 1, Nov. 16: Where Is Your Treasure? (Matthew 6:19-21)

Week 2, Nov. 23: The Problem with Two Masters (Matthew 6:24)

Week 3, Nov. 30: Giving Your Treasure Back to God (Matthew 6:1-6)

Week 4, Dec. 7: Don't Worry 'Bout a Thing (Matthew 6:25-34)

In worship we will watch short videos on the above topics, and Dr. Darby will preach on the subject. In addition, *Treasure* daily devotional books are being distributed. The Unity Sunday School class will be using the devotional books as a basis for their Sunday School lessons for the four weeks.

We look forward to an exciting month thinking of our treasure and God's treasure.

*Pastor Dan*



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## Connectional Charge Conference

The clergy and laity are encouraged to attend an afternoon of fellowship, worship, celebration, and learning. The Southeast District Connectional Charge/Church Conference (CCC) and Lay Leadership Training will be held **November 16, 3:00–6:00 p.m.** at Beaumont, Wesley UMC, in the Family Life Center (Gym). The Annual Charge Conference business will be affirmed by consent and received by the District Superintendent. Eric Hoffer, in his book *Reflections on the Human Condition*, wrote, “In a time of drastic change it is the *learners* who inherit the future. The *learned* usually find themselves equipped to live in a world that no longer exists.” Responding to the fast pace of change in culture gives the church exciting new possibilities for innovative mission and ministry. The Reverend John Thornburg, Senior Area Consultant for the Texas Methodist Foundation, is our keynote speaker and facilitator for the lay leadership training. He will teach on “Adaptive Change and the Missional Church.” All church leaders and interested laity are invited to attend.



Many of you will remember Wesley Putnam, who came to share his unique blend of Bible stories and songs with us at our revival last fall. He is returning to Southeast Texas! He will be at:

### Woodcrest UMC, Lumberton

November 9-12, 7pm nightly

### First UMC, Port Neches

November 16-19, 6:30 pm nightly

## Church Officers

The church is indebted to our church officers who have served our church so well and so faithfully during this year. Thank you for your service! Our Church Council has approved the list of church officers for 2015 as nominated by your Nominating Committee. That list is enclosed with this newsletter for your information. The Nominating Committee wishes to extend their appreciation to everyone who has accepted an office. Almost everyone who was asked to do a job accepted the positions, and that shows a high level of commitment to Christ and his Church. We also appreciate the work of those who serve on the Nominating Committee. You approached your task with prayer, and the Lord gave you great discernment in finding people to lead our church into the New Year.

### Worship

10/12	142
10/19	107
10/26	131
11/02	120

### Sunday School

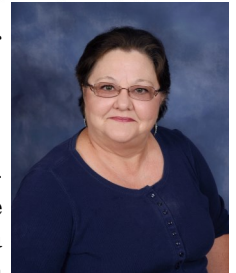
10/12	96
10/19	84
10/26	85
11/02	71

### Gifts

10/12	\$4,105.75
10/19	\$2,572.57
10/26	\$6,221.50
11/02	\$5,944.25

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

An Update by Director of Children's Ministries,  
Glenda Delano



Oh boy, was the Fall Festival Fun or what?! We had lots of games, a moonwalk and the train ride. Lots of people came for the fun.

Faithweaver Friends is going well. The kids are learning a lot about the Bible and the love of Jesus. We have fun games and crafts. Come join us!!

On November 23, our Sunday School classes will be delivering fruit baskets to shut-ins during Sunday School. This is a great ministry, if you are interested in helping, please let me know.

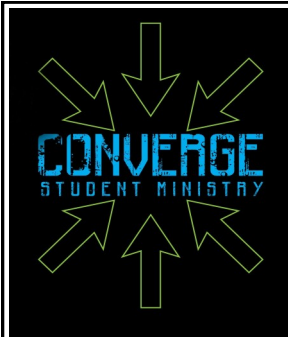
Our Sunday School Classes would like to collect canned goods. Please bring donations to your Sunday School class from November 9 through November 23. Canned goods will go to the Christian Care Center.

Thank you for your support of the Children's Ministry!

## 2015 Camp Dates

July 13-17,  
2015

Reserve it on your  
personal and  
church calendar  
now.



I would like to start off by saying thanks to the congregation and all the volunteers who helped with the Pumpkin patch. The Patch did very well. I don't have the final numbers in but Converge student ministries raised over \$2300. Without the prayers and volunteers that helped and y'all buying pumpkins we could not have done it. With the money that we raised we can help youth go to

Summer mission trips and Lakeview. Thank you.

The youth are still in full swing after the patch. On November 14<sup>th</sup> the youth will be heading to Houston to do some mission and worship. We have plans on going to the Houston Food Bank , Studio Movie Grill and worship with my old church on Sunday morning. We will return Sunday after church around 2pm. The trip cost \$100. Please pray for these kids and if you would like to help out financially, please get in contact with me.

Christmas in the Big Thicket is right around the corner and Converge and All Faith s Day School have been in talks about teaming up on a float. If you would like to help with the float or have decorations please see get a hold of me. We are looking for Christmas lights and garland.

Thank you for your continue support and if there is anything I can do or the youth can help with please let me know



James Borello reads to the students of All Faiths Day School in the Pumpkin Patch

James Borello  
Director Of Converge Student Ministries



### Apportionments

Apportionments are the fair share of the denominational expenses that our congregation is asked to pay. Our church joins with other congregations to pay the salaries of our bishop, our district superintendent, and our district, conference, and national staff. If you stop to think about it, all of these persons are employees of our church because we help to pay for their salaries and expenses and they serve us in many ways. Apportionment dollars also support the missionary activities of the church, the education and some of the expenses of our ministers, the expenses of the various conference meetings, and various other expenses and outreaches of our denomination. To see a fuller explanation of our apportionments or benevolences go to <http://www.txcumc.org/files/fileslibrary/ ApportionmentBooklet14.pdf>.

This year, our church was not able to put into our budget our connectional giving, although at the request of our District Superintendent, the Finance Committee and Church Council did decide to pay two of our apportionments related to the medical benefits and pensions for pastors. Recognizing that paying our apportionments is important and that some of our church members might wish to make special second mile gifts to this cause, the Finance Committee approved a motion from one of the members of the committee to establish a special fund for designated giving to apportionments. Any gifts to this fund should be over and above regular giving to the budget of the church. If you wish to make a special contribution, be sure to write, "Apportionments" in the memo line of your check. Thank you for your second mile gifts!

## *In Loving Memory*

### Martha Bradshaw

Barbara Kirby  
Richard, Christy, and Ami Burton  
Judy and Ronald Erdman  
Joyce McClung  
Fred and Linda Miller  
Ron and Bridget Teaff, Sr.  
Dean and Willa Dean Hill  
Darrel and Mollie Balla

### Dolores Nicar

Judy and Ronald Erdman  
Joyce McClung  
Fred and Linda Miller  
Dean and Willa Dean Hill  
Kristi and James Sellers

### James Wills

Allan and Dagma Murphy

### Anna Fuller

Kristi and James Sellers

### Charles Willis

Joyce McClung



It may seem a little early to be thinking about Christmas, but it will be here before we know it! First United Methodist Church Silsbee has many events during the Christmas season which provide opportunities for lay leadership. One such event is the Live Nativity. The Live Nativity has become a family tradition for many of our church members and is a great community outreach event. The Live Nativity runs for roughly a week or two before Christmas, depending on the



amount of volunteers we have participate and begins around dark on the selected nights lasting about an hour or two. We already have volunteers ready to build the manger and to do the heavy lifting! What we need is someone who will organize this event! Specifically, someone will be needed to organize the volunteers needed for the Live Nativity each evening, make the costumes and props available to the volunteers and make sure the building is open and then closed following the nightly event. You could also do much more if you so desire. In the past, other wonderful volunteers have had cookies and cocoa for participants and Christmas music playing outside! If you feel God calling you to lead this very special outreach, please contact the church office at 385-5568 for more information!

**First United Methodist Church**

670 North 5th Street  
Silsbee Texas 77656

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