



# Circuit Writer

November 2011

## *Our Journey Together*

Sunday after Sunday we recite our Vision Statement: "We are people of the cross and flame: by grace redeemed and redeeming. We are people of the Good Shepherd: known, loved, and led. We are Lighthouse people: enlightened and shining in the darkness. We are people of the bridge: connected, caring, and changing the world." Almost as often, as we prepare to pray we are reminded that our mission is "sharing blessings, sharing burdens, sharing the good news of God's grace."

Just last fall Bishop Hutchinson and the district superintendents asked the churches of our conference to self-identify themselves in one of four categories. After receiving input from you the Church Council determined we most closely resembled a "Rekindling the Vision" church. In light of this, the Church Council established some goals for reaching our "neighborhood" this year.

This fall we are asked to further refine our goals and how our congregation will go about accomplishing them. That is what the Church Council will be addressing on Tuesday, November 1. Then on Tuesday, November 8, at our charge conference we will gather for worship, hear a message from our District Superintendent Steven Spurlock, and then discuss our goals and plans with him. Your presence and participation in that discussion is vital. Please plan to be in Safe Harbor at 6:30 p.m. for this important night.

Soon after this, during worship on Sunday, November 13, we will make our financial commitments toward carrying out the ministry God is calling us to here at the corner of LaGrange and Patrick. We are encouraging great generosity in 2012 in response to God's extravagant generosity toward us. Our theme, **Love Makes Mitey Givers**, is based on the amazing generosity of a widow whom Jesus observed giving two small coins (mites). This gift of love was by far the greatest gift in his eyes. (Luke 21:1-4.).

Mark your calendar and be here on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Mission is primarily what God is doing in our midst and our mission is to cooperate fully in his work by our "prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness." May we give ourselves wholeheartedly to the one who has given us all things, even his son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

In Christ,

*Charlie*

# Methodist Men

## Meet 2nd Thursday of Each Month



### Methodist Men

The Methodist Men meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in Safe Harbor. It is a time for fellowship, a wide variety of programs, and a delicious meal prepared by the "cooking crew." (Note the men on the front row in aprons!) The November 10th guest speaker will be George Baldauf,

CITGO, who will be speaking on Crude Oil and Gasoline. Men of all ages are welcome to join or visit the group. Shown above are members that attended the October meeting: (left to right) Bob Hayes, Allen Fruge, Weldon Hoffpauir, Fred McKee, J.D. Morgan, C.L. Callihan, Louis Hoffman, Rev. Charlie Langford, Marvin Rogers, Tommy Gilmore, John Scott, Eddie Melton, and George Baldauf.



## Angel Tree Project

The Touchstones Sunday School class is once again sponsoring the **Angel Tree** project,

a program of Prison Fellowship. This project focuses on transformation in the lives of children of prisoners and fosters reconciliation between the child, prison-parent and family.

Church members and families will have the opportunity to take an angel ornament from a Christmas tree located near the worship areas of the church. This ornament will have information on it (code number, first name, age, gender, specific gift request) that will help you shop for a gift for a child of a prisoner. More information will be available when the children's names are received.

Participation in **Angel Tree** is a powerful way for our church community to lovingly answer the biblical call to minister "to the least of these" (Matthew 25:40).



### Thank You

Dear Congregation:

Thank you for tying knots with prayers in the prayer quilt for Bill Ford. Your prayers comfort him as he wraps himself in the quilt. You are each special to him.

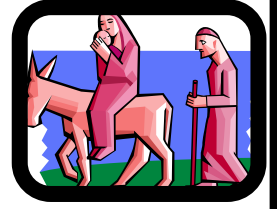
Blessings & Peace  
Pam Burns  
(Bill's Daughter)

NOTE: This note was written prior to Bill's death.

# Children & Youth



## Christmas Presentation



Children are busy practicing and learning speaking parts and music for a Christmas play to be presented on Wednesday, December 14 in Safe Harbor. The play will follow an all-church supper. The Christmas presentation is under the leadership of Marla Chatagnier and other parents. Practice will take place during the regular Sunday afternoon meeting time of 4 to 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Marj Robinson at the church office at 477-2003.



## Youth News

The youth would like to welcome the two new youth counselors who have been helping them make plans for future events as well as planning and decorating for the hayride at our annual Trunk or Treat. The new counselors are Erin Gilpin and Linda Watson.

**WELCOME!!** We are happy you are with us.

## **Grief Support**

Grief support group meetings are held each Wednesday (excluding the first Wednesday of the month) in Room 104. (Stephen Ministry/ Touchstone room) We begin with a light snack followed by a devotional. Time is spent sharing experiences and giving emotional support to each other and learning to cope with the various experiences and stages of grief brought on by loss.

For more information, please call Marj at 477-2003.

## **Bibles & Pictures for Pickup**

During the last "work day" at the church, several Bibles and pictures were found. You may rummage through the old pictures in the church office and take whatever you would like.

Below is a list of several bibles found. If the Bible belongs to you, or someone you know, please pick it up by the end of November. If not picked up, the bibles will be donated to local ministries.

This is the list of bibles: 1) four old pew Bibles in memory of Edward Sweeney; 2) dark red Bible with the name Amanda; 3) white new testament with the name Le Sweeney from Kathryn, Roy & Judy Wilkerson, 1966; and 4) Gideon new testament with name Debbie Harmon, 1965.

## **Our Christian Sympathy to the family of:**

Bill Ford  
Betty Verret  
Nina Oliver  
Evelyn Seamons

## **Social Lights**

November 17  
**Mistletoe & Moss**  
(Civic Center)

**Preferred Shoppers Breakfast**  
9:00 a.m.

**University United Methodist Church**  
**3501 Patrick Street**  
**Lake Charles, LA 70605**

**(337) 477-2003**  
**(337) 478-8106 fax**

**www.universitymethodist.com**

NON PROFIT

U.S. Postage

PAID

Lake Charles, LA

Permit #356

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor	Rev. Charlie Langford
Program Director	Marj Robinson
Chancel Choir Director	Dr. Darryl Jones
Safe Harbor Music Leader	Jahn Saucier
Organist	Steven Branch
Business Manager	Randy Morgan
Day School Director	Katie Stewart
Staff Assistant	Glynetta Phenice
Church Sexton	J.C. Picard
Weekend Sexton	Robert Price
	Shane Truxillo

Address Correction Requested

## **November 6**

### **Dedication of the Christmas**

**Shoeboxes.** The shoeboxes touch the lives of underprivileged children worldwide. What better time to show God's love than at Christmas?

Choose a shoebox, determine gender, and age range (2-4, 5-9 or 10-14). Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to the child you choose. Donate \$7 for each box for shipping. For more information, call Nell Hayes.

### **Advent Booklet Deadline Nov. 6:**

Submit your Christmas past reflections and/or devotions. Either bring your 400—500 word reflection to the church office or e-mail to Glynetta at glynettap@



## **Primetimers**

## **To Visit**

## **Methodist Children's Home November 2**

The Primetimers will meet November 2 at 11:00 in Safe Harbor for lunch and a brief talk by Doug Hall of the United Methodist Children's Home. After the meal and talk, members will caravan to the United Methodist Children's Home in Sulphur for a tour. Anyone (of any age) interested in attending is welcome to attend.