



Circuit Writer

September 2011

Our Journey Together

September is here and *The Story* Begins!!! We are beginning an exciting journey through the Old and New Testaments which should have an impact on us and our witness in word and deed throughout the Lake Charles area.

While reading through the Bible is an accomplishment, that is not the reason why I hope you will read along with us. *The Story* is an abridged, chronological rendering of the New International Version of the Bible. There is a phrase, "the Upper Story," that you will hear throughout our exploration of *The Story*. It refers to the unchanging story of God's desire to relate to and abide with humanity, and God's persistent striving to restore humanity to its intended relationship from the time humanity used its freedom to turn away from God. (See the Garden of Eden and Genesis 3.) It is this overarching story that will receive most of our attention as we read through each segment and story ("the Lower Story") of human life on this earth. Randy Frazee compares it to the difference of viewing the individual paintings in the Louvre, such as da Vinci's Mona Lisa, and seeing the numerous aspects of salvation history tied together by Michelangelo in his mural on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

Even we who have attended church all our lives have most often heard and studied the scriptures in small bits and pieces. We have had the tendency to focus on specific verses and passages without paying much attention to the whole. A better understanding of what God is, and has been, doing will help us make better sense out of the stories in the Old and New Testaments and our lives today. A change of perspective and focus can make all the difference in the world.

We still have books available, so it is not too late to invite friends, co-workers, neighbors, and even strangers to join us in a journey through *The Story*. Classes for all ages begin on the 4th and there will be a morning small group on Monday and an evening group on Wednesday. Be looking for our billboards, and prepared to answer questions of others and to provide information. *The Story* business card invitations are available in the church and Sunday School classes.

In Christ,

Charlie

Mary & Martha Circle

**Meets 2nd Thursday
of Each Month**



Mary & Martha UMW Circle

The Mary and Martha UMW Circle meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month in member's homes. It is a time for fellowship, a wide variety of programs, and delicious refreshments. The circle participates in many church, community and world-wide mission projects. Members of varying ages find the Mary and Martha Circle to be a very rewarding experience to belong to such a loving, caring, and nurturing group of Christian women. Shown above are members (left to right) Jo Ann Gregg, Jackie Roach, Juanita Melton, Alline Kestel, Nola Mae Ross, Nell Hayes, Shirley McKee, Maxine Gordon, Pat McKee, and Lurchel Wittler.



Touching and Getting In Touch

On the last couple of Saturdays, door hangers were hung in our neighborhood. The "Rethink Church" hangers invited neighbors to our church and informed them of the upcoming events of *The Story* and Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. Approximately 25 people walked door to door distributing the hangers. Do you recognize the drenched volunteer to the left?



Thank You

The Outreach & Witness Ministry Team thanks anyone who has walked in the heat, assembled, stuck, counted, fought off dogs, researched, worked on the neighborhood survey, and had good fellowship the last two weeks as we walked University's neighborhood! Many, many THANKS!

Sheila Champagne, Chair

UMW Events

UMW General Meeting

* Thursday, October 6 * Safe Harbor
* 10:30 a.m.

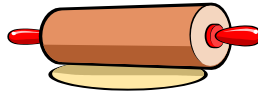
Wear Your Apron



A day of fun and fellowship. Everyone attending is expected to wear a favorite apron with a story to tell about it. Women are encouraged to wear smocks and bonnets.



An old-fashioned lunch will be served. Tables will be set with antique kitchenery. A special guest, Susannah Wesley, will drop by to tell us a little about her life. This will be an exciting time and so much fun. You do not have to be in UMW to attend – just let us know so we can add another cup of water to the pot.



Operation Christmas Child



Operation Christmas Child is underway across the nation. The shoe boxes are touching the lives of underprivileged children worldwide. The shoe boxes bring joy and hope to children in desperate situations and shares the good news of God's love. And what better time to show God's love than at Christmas?

Choose a standard size plastic or cardboard shoe box, determine gender, and what 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 chose. School supplies, small toys and hygiene items may be included.

Place a rubber band around each box indicating the selected gender and age group. Donate \$7 for each box for shipping. The boxes will be dedicated at a date later in the fall. Now is the time to get started.

September

- 5 Labor Day (office closed)
- 6 *The Story* "Study" Begins
- 7 Primetimers
- 8 UM Men Dinner & Program
- 11 Financial Peace U begins
- 14 Grief Group
- 20 Church Council
- 21 Grief Group
- 25 UUMC Birthday / Auction
One Church Service
- 26 MSU Wesley Golf Tourney
- 28 Grief Group

University Ministries

Helping Others

Manna Ministries

Magazines

Aluminum Cans

Box Tops

Campbell Food Labels

Your donations continue to be needed!

Our Christian Sympathy to the family of:

George Baldauf Jr.
Linda Jones Wade Nolan
Pat Anderson
Kenneth Michel
Yourell Tyson

Social Lights

Sept. 19 11:30 a.m.
Seafood Palace
2218 Enterprise Blvd.

The Story

(begins Sept. 4)



Thirty-one weeks of curriculum and sermons for children, teens, and adults. Imagine everyone on the same page for 31 weeks!

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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

Dave Ramsey's
Financial Peace
 UNIVERSITY

Last Chance!

When the first session of Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is held Sunday, September 11, it will be the last opportunity to register for the class. Persons may attend that first session, 4 – 6 p.m. on the 11th, free of charge. However, to continue taking the 13 class sessions, they must register and pay \$93 that night.

For those who have already signed up for the class, your "lifetime membership kit" will be distributed to you at the first session.



Cakes for Auction

Our birthday celebration and cake auction will be held on September 25. Liz Perello will be making the large cake and a few others this year. We are forever grateful for her willingness to share her talents and gifts in this way. It has been a blessing to the persons who won the bidding for her cakes, for the church, and more importantly for the persons and organizations supported by this mission project.

This year we are asking some of our other "cake bakers" to share their specialty as well. Anyone who is willing to bake a cake for auction should notify the church office by Sunday, September 11. We need to know the type of cake you will be providing. If there is any history or stories that goes along with your special cake, it would be helpful to know that as well.

Remember this is all for funding our missions' budget. Please respond generously when you are contacted about your portion of "the bid" on the large cake.