



December 31, 2008

Christian Newsletter

Bellville Methodist Believer

P.O. Box 188

Worship Services: 9:00 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.

Phone: 979-865-5976

234 S. Masonic St.

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Fax: 979-865-9329

Bellville, Texas 77418

www.bellvilleumc.org

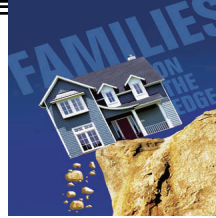
Email: bellvilleumc@att.net

Senior Pastor—Rev. Robert Stutes

Assoc. Pastor—Rev. Amy Haralson

IN SEARCH OF SOLID GROUND?

Join us for this
new message series
beginning January 11!



JANUARY 11 – Solid Ground for Family Finances. Our entire planet has gone topsy-turvy financially. Learn some smart strategies you can use to stay away from the cliff of financial distress.

JANUARY 18 – Enlarging Your Foundation. You don't have to do it yourself. As you face the changes of health and aging – both for you and those you love – learn how to enlarge your foundation of support.

JANUARY 25 – Exterminating the Pests. Just when you think your house is strong, the termites start chewing! Bad influences can endanger our homes and loved ones. Learn how to exterminate them!

FEBRUARY 1 – A Word for Couples. Relationships as moms, dads, husbands, wives can suffer erosion that may not be visible at first glance. Learn how to keep these relationships away from the edge.

FEBRUARY 8 – A Foundation That Lasts Forever. This unique message presents the whole message of the Christian faith in under 12 minutes. Learn how God's plan gives you a foundation that lasts forever!

CONFIRMATION 2009

2009 Confirmation class begins Sunday, January 4. Confirmation is designed for youth in grades 6-8, with opportunities to learn the history of our faith, church, and denomination. This is a time where your child can do a couple of things. First, they can discern whether this is the time they choose to give their life to Christ. Second, they can discern whether this is the time they choose to join the United Methodist Church. Jay McKeown and Natalie Neumann will coordinate the class this year, and the class will meet during the 10 a.m. Sunday School hour. Please contact the church office if you need more information about confirmation.

Each Week

Sundays

9:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Contemporary Worship (MAC)

(Children's Church ages Pre-K-2nd grade)

6:00pm Worship Services broadcast local cable 12

7:00p.m. Disciple Study (McKeown's Home)

Mondays

7:00pm CBS

7:00p.m. Disciple Study (212)

Tuesdays

9:00am Exercise (MAC)

5:45pm MYF Band Practice

Wednesdays

4:00pm Children's Choir

6:00pm MYF

7:00pm Chancel Choir (102)

9:00pm Men's Basketball (MAC)

Thursdays

9:30am CBS

6:30pm AA & Al-Anon (211, 217)

Fridays

9:00am Exercise (MAC)

Other Scheduled Events

Sunday, January 4

3:00p.m. Adult Open Gym volleyball (MAC)

4:00p.m. Confirmation Info Meeting

6:00p.m. Youth Open Gym (MAC)

Tuesday, January 6

9:00a.m. Exercise returns!! (MAC)

9:30a.m. Nursing Home Worship

Wednesday, January 7

7:00p.m. Methodist Men (204)

Thursday, January 8

10:00a.m. Fun & Lunch Bunch (204)

7:00p.m. Financial Peace Preview

Sunday, January 11

2:00p.m. Nursing Home Worship

5:00p.m. Financial Peace Preview

5:30p.m. Jr. High Mad Hatter

Tuesday, January 13

7:00p.m. Staff Parish Relations (SPR) (204)

Wednesday, January 14

6:30p.m. Trustees (202)

7:00p.m. Finance (208)

8:00p.m. Church Council (204)

CALLING ALL LEADERS...

All BUMC leaders – ministry staff, Church Council, elected committees, MYF counselors, Sunday School teachers and coordinators – are asked to be present for an important leader gathering on Tuesday, January 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. If you have not yet received a letter with information about this gathering, please call the church office and we will email you a copy – thanks! Child care is provided for this gathering by advance reservation.

Senior Adults

You are all invited to join us for

Fun & Lunch Bunch

Thurs, Jan 8, 2009 Rm 204 10:00 a.m.
Games Food Fellowship

Friendship Circle

meets Tuesday, January 20 at 1:30p.m.

(Please note the new time)

Bring your Bibles—we will be studying
Proverbs 3-7; Philippians 4:2-9; and
Matthew 18:1-9

check us out online at :
www.bellvilleumc.org

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

December '08 average	321	2008 Yearly Average	316
December '07 average	301	2007 Yearly Average	299
increase of 7%		increase of 6%	

For 2008, our Sunday School attendance also showed a healthy increase, from an average of 175 in 2007 to 194 in 2008, an increase of 11%. Thank you for your faithfulness in your vows to the Lord. Take time each week to invite, invite, invite! Invite someone to share in the joy of worship at BUMC! Let's make 2009 another year of growth that honors the Lord!

In Our Prayers



Bruce Ueckert	Conway Waak
Grace Mumme	Mary Lane Harle
Buck Hayden	Carrie Steinbach
Woodrow Woehst	Beth Stutes
Alberta Grawunder	Vicki Lockett
Flora Wendt	Erwin Carby
Della Maler	Bill Gabig
Don Young	Bubba Knolle
Zeda Hyder	Don Mahlmann
Wauince McReynolds	David Pagel
Herman Koehn Jr.	Julie Muse Scheibe
Nan Shanks	John Curry
Autumn Mills	Omelia White
Bobbi Murrell	Janie Krueger
Linda Williams	Nicole Gilbert
Mary Jo Newman	Larry Brast
Allen Newmann	Ronnie Fichthorn
Cara Seay	(Miriam McReynolds cousin)
Frankie Hoppe	Nora Hein
Kelly Fisher	Dianne Morgan
Loraine Williams	



Please keep ALL our service persons
and their families in your prayers

Michael Quintero (grandsons of Jackie Sabrsula)
David Quintero

Lt. Col. Tom Reichert (in Iraq) (Krumrey son-in-law)
Bryan Heintschel (in Iraq) (Bruce's brother)
John Lanier

CANDLELIGHT ATTENDANCE

Sunday	7 p.m.	91
Wednesday	5 p.m.	316
Wednesday	7 p.m.	184
TOTAL		591

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next newsletter will be mailed on Monday, Jan. 12. **Deadline for articles is Tuesday, Jan. 6.** Copies will be available in the Welcome Center on Sunday, Jan. 11, and it will also be posted electronically on the bellvilleumc.org web site.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We welcome the newest members of BUMC:

Sally Solito (Briarwood N.H.)
new affiliate member

Margie Jimmerson
transfer from Church of Christ, Shepherd, TX

As of year's end, we have received 80 new members into the BUMC family this year. (This number only includes those adults and youth who are professing "full" members.) Every Sunday we have first-time guests joining us in worship. Thank you for being so faithful to invite friends, relatives, neighbors and acquaintances to BUMC!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
Holy Communion

"Getting Past Your Past"
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
message by Robert Stutes

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

"Solid Ground for Family Finances"
Matthew 7:24-27
message by Robert Stutes

COMMUNION OFFERING

Our January Communion offering supports United Methodist Human Relations Day ministries of community development, voluntary service, and youth offender rehabilitation programs.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Your faithful support during 2008 has enabled us to finish the year strong financially. A more complete update on December offerings will be provided in the next newsletter.

FINANCIAL PEACE – DON'T MISS THE FREE PREVIEW!

Financial Peace University (FPU) is a 13-week program that teaches you how to make the right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and God's plan for your life. It takes the knowledge from God and turns it into real action in our lives through a step-by-step process taught by author and financial counselor Dave Ramsey. The course includes practical lessons on eliminating debt, building wealth, giving like never before, and much, much more!

Registration for FPU is done by household. Each household purchases one FPU kit and then may attend the classes. A kit can be ordered for \$93. Households that have previously attended FPU and already have their kit may attend without purchasing another kit. Teens who live at home may attend the course with their parents. (Grown children out of their own need to purchase their own kit.) As an outreach, BUMC will make it possible for single parents to purchase a kit for half price.

You may sign up for FPU now, or you are welcome to attend the free preview class before making up your mind. The free preview will be offered two times:

Thursday, January 8 7 p.m.

Sunday, January 11 5 p.m.

The regular class will be on Thursday evenings, from 7 to 9 p.m., beginning Jan. 22. Class coordinators are Dave Stevens and Walt Haralson. The content is taught via video by Dave Ramsey. For more information about the program, check out the daveramsey.com web site.

REFLECTIONS

These are precarious times for families. Financial pressures, hectic schedules, setting boundaries for kids, dealing with aging parents. Our whole planet seems to be topsy-turvy. And nobody is there to bail us out! It's enough to send anyone close to the edge. Is there a way to thrive in this crazy environment?

Jesus once told a story about two home builders. One was foolish, and built a house upon sand. One was wise, and built a house upon rock. Guess which house survived the storm.

We are launching the year 2009 with a focus on "Solid Ground." Both our Sunday morning message series and our new class called Financial Peace University will be of great help to us as we find ways to set our feet on solid ground!

This new Sunday morning series begins on January 11. Financial Peace University launches on Thursday, January 22, but there are two free "preview classes" where you can come and check it out.

Both the series and the class are invitational by nature. God will help you discern who could use an invitation to participate!

Robert Stutes

Bellville United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 188
Bellville, Texas 77418

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