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The Cornerstone
A PUBLICATION OF SARALAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

United or Untied?

One of my good friends from college is now a Methodist pastor. When he arrived at his first church he immediately and proudly went to a printer to have business cards printed up. He supplied them with all the necessary information, and in less than a week he went to pick up his newly minted cards. He opened the box, checked the address, phone number, and other important information – everything was correct. Once he got home, however, and began to look at the cards more closely and he discovered a tremendous error, the printer had mistyped the word “United” and accidentally spelled “Untied.” Suddenly he realized that he was not the pastor of a United Methodist Church but an *Untied* Methodist Church. Sadly, my friend told me the cards turned out to be a little prophetic as he struggled, at times, to hold the church together.

This story raises the question that most of our United Methodist Churches are facing today – are we going to be *united* or *untied*. Are we going to take advantage and receive the blessing that comes from being linked in mission together and make each other stronger, or are we going to decide that we can do better on our own. I believe that the greatest untapped resource of our denomination is the connection that links us together. Our church has a strong commitment to this connection in conventional and unconventional ways, and I want that fact to be celebrated.

First of all it starts in that our church has given 100% of the funds asked to support the mission of the Mobile District, Alabama West-Florida Conference, The Southeastern Jurisdiction, and the General mission and ministry of the church around the country and world. We’ve also supported our local area ministries like the Dumas Wesley Community Center, St. Francis Street, Mo-

bile Inner City Mission, and McKemie Place to name a few. Our UMW has been very involved at all levels of our connection, and has received recognition for their hard work. Beyond those conventional ways, our church has partnered with area churches for the Youth Mission Jump Week, for community Lenten/Holy Week services, and opened ourselves up for other churches to come and learn from us. The church is also generous with my time, allowing me to serve on many District and Conference committees and boards. In practice our church demonstrates that we are not in this alone – we can all better fulfill our mission to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world when we work together.

I hope you are excited that you are a part of something so much bigger than just Saraland UMC. You are a part of a worldwide movement of over 12 million people focused on transforming the world for Christ. If that is not enough to excite you, you’ll be glad to find out that our Early Learning Center was awarded a grant from the Mobile District Strategic Planning Team to improve our program because we are doing important ministry in a strategic location of our District (see the connection flows both ways!). You’ll also be inspired to attend Lenten/Holy Week services at our sister churches in Satsuma (Ash Wednesday), and Chickasaw (Good Friday) and welcome them when they attend our Last Supper Drama presentation on Maundy Thursday.

Praise God that we are not an untied church, but truly a UNITED Methodist church working together to fulfill God’s mission!

United in Christ,

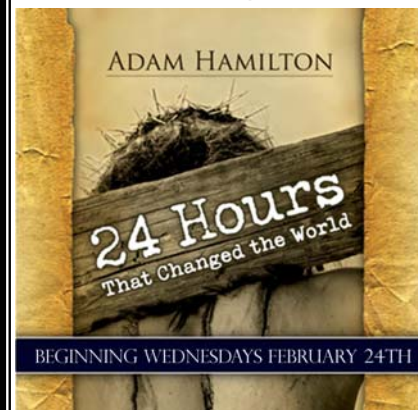
Rob
Rob

FEBRUARY
2010

Issue No. 226

24 Hours That Changed the World

On Wednesday, February 24, we will begin to explore through Scripture the final 24 hours before Jesus’ death on the cross – the 24 hours that changed the world. We will use Rev. Adam Hamilton’s book (of the same title) as the outline for our Bible Study. The study will also feature on location teaching from the Holy Land as we see the sites where these important 24 hours took place. The study will be taught by Dr. Rob Couch and be held in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday night beginning February 24 at 6:15 and continuing throughout the season of Lent. Dinner will be served from 5:45-6:15. Reservations are needed for dinner and can be made by calling the church office by noon on Tuesday of each week. A 40 day devotional book based on the 24 hours is also available for purchase. The cost per book is \$8. The books



must be pre-ordered (payment due at the time the books are delivered). If you would like one of these books ordered for you, a sign-up sheet is available at the Welcome Center or you may call the church office to place your order. Please sign-up or order no later than Sunday, February 7. Hopefully, the first order of books will be available prior to Ash Wednesday.



Wednesday, February 17
6:30 p.m.
Satsuma United
Methodist Church

Come to Satsuma United Methodist Church as we join with other local United Methodist congregations for our annual Ash Wednesday Service.



PLEASE NOTE:
There will be no Wednesday Night Dinner that evening.

MEDIASHOUT TRAINING



We will hold a training event for persons interested in helping with the multi-media aspects of our worship services. Interested? If so, please contact Rob, Brian or Betty and make plans to attend this training.

Sun., Feb. 21, 12-1:30 p.m.



**Christ United Methodist Church
Women's Conference**

Date: Saturday, February 27, 2010
Time: 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Location: Christ UMC Campus

Speaker: Claire Cloninger

Claire Cloninger is one of the country's foremost Christian communicators. She has a wide range of gifts that are put to good use in her national ministry as an inspirational speaker and retreat leader. Her songwriting talents have influenced Christian music for more than 25 years. She is the seven-time recipient of the prestigious Gospel Music Association Dove Award. Her Christian songs have been widely recorded by such artists as Amy Grant, Sandi Patti, Don Moen, and many more. Claire has published 18 devotional books, and written over two dozen choir musicals. She and her husband Spike, as he is affectionately known, make their home in Fairhope on Mobile Bay and have two grown sons and eight grandchildren.

Worship Leader: Nancy Gordon

Nancy Gordon shares from her heart her amazing grace-filled journey of faith through her songs and her stories. The theme and goal of her life message is to comfort with the deep compassion of Christ and to challenge with His high called to rise above life's battles through His resurrection power in us. A four-time Dove Award finalist, Nancy has written and published over 350 songs. She also created the character, Miss Patty Cake, played by Jean Thomason. Nancy and her husband Bob live in Mobile and have four adult children and two granddaughters.

Cost: \$25 (before January 31)
\$30 (after January 31)
\$15 Student Rate (with student ID)
Includes breakfast, lunch and conference.

Free childcare provided by registration only (0-11 years). Please send a snack, lunch and a drink for each child.

All luncheon and child care reservations must be received by February 14.

**Dumas Wesley Community Center
Walk for Families**

Dumas Wesley Community Center will hold its 20th Annual Walk for Families on Saturday, March 20, 2010. Funds raised through this event benefit the programs of Dumas Wesley Community Center, including a day care center, after-school and recreation programs for children and teens, day programs and transportation to medical appointments for senior citizens, transitional housing at the Sybil H. Smith Family Village for homeless women and their children, summer camps for inner-city children, neighborhood outreach and citizen advocacy in the Crichton community. Last year, Dumas Wesley served over 7,100 individuals (unduplicated count) in the Mobile area.

The Walk consists of a two-mile Walk and a five-mile Walk through the lovely Springhill Avenue/Dauphin Street area. Participants are encouraged to collect sponsorships on a per-mile or flat rate basis. Race prizes will be awarded in various categories. There will also be a Silent Auction of donated items, including "dinner for two" gift certificates from area restaurants, antique glassware, art work, electronics, home furnishings and various "theme baskets" for Easter. There will also be children's activities, a health fair, and door prizes!

Registration for the Walk begins at 8:00 a.m. at the Center, located at 126 Mobile Street. Children's activities and the Health Fair begin at 10:30 a.m.

Information and registration forms may be obtained by contacting Joni Hendee at 479-0649.



Also, if you would like to donate a Theme Basket or other item for auction it would be greatly appreciated. Please call Joni at the above number and let her know. Thanks!

Project Spartan

Funding for our local schools has been cut and there are many supplies that are no longer being provided to our teachers. Each month we collect a specific item to help our teachers. During the month of February, we are collecting dry erase markers, erasers and board cleaner for the classrooms at the Saraland Schools. A donation box is in the lobby.



February 2010

Saraland
United
Methodist
Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 6:00 PM Girl Scout Leaders Mtg 6:30 PM Evelyn Joy Circle	2 8:30 AM ELC 12:00 PM Lions Club Lunch 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 5:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	3 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 5:45 PM Wednesday Night Dinner 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Program 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	4 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	5 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care	6 8:30 AM Church Council Planning Day
7 9:00 AM Bold Service 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Classic Service 12:00 PM Choir Fundraising Lunch 3:30 PM Confirmation 5:00 PM Block Party (UMYF)	8 8:30 AM ELC 9:00 AM Girl Scout Cookie Delivery 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 4:30 PM Brownie Troop 8466 6:30 PM Building Committee	9 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 5:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	10 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 5:45 PM Wednesday Night Dinner 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Program 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	11 8:30 AM ELC 11:30 AM Sr. Adult Valentine YMCA After School Care 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	12 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care	13 Youth Winter Retreat Throwdown 6:40 AM St. Francis Street Breakfast 10:00 AM Cub Scout Pinewood Derby
14 Youth Winter Retreat Throwdown 9:00 AM Bold Service 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Classic Service 5:00 PM NO Block Party (UMYF)	15 Youth Winter Retreat Throwdown 6:30 PM Hope Circle	16 Church Office Closed 12:00 PM Lions Club Lunch 5:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	17 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service @ Satsuma UMC 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	18 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	19 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 6:00 PM Tweenagers	20 Boy Scout District Banquet
21 7:00 AM United Methodist Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Bold Service 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Classic Service 2:00 PM Baby Shower for Lori Passmore Green 3:30 PM Confirmation 4:00 PM Discovery 101 5:00 PM Block Party (UMYF) 6:00 PM Mission Committee	22 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 4:30 PM Brownie Troop 8466	23 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 5:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:30 PM Celebrate Recovery	24 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 5:45 PM Wednesday Night Dinner 6:15 PM Wednesday Night Program 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	25 8:30 AM ELC 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	26 3:00 PM YMCA After School Care	27 3:00 PM Carter 50th Anniversary Celebration
28 9:00 AM Bold Service 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Classic Service 3:30 PM Confirmation 5:00 PM Block Party (UMYF)						

LOOKING AHEAD...
 The Trustees are planning CHURCH-WIDE WORK DAYS on Friday & Saturday, March 19 & 20.

Work Day
at Church

News from The Bridge Student Ministry

Block Party on Sundays

Check out our Sunday Night hangout starting at 5 p.m. This is especially designed to be a fun time to hang out and bring friends. Outreach is our main goal here, so we'll play crazy games so that we can make those who might not have a church home feel welcome. I challenge each of you to bring a friend to Block Party on Sunday Nights.

Project 2819 on Wednesdays

Project 2819 is our Wednesday Night Bible Study that focuses on Matthew 28:19 more commonly known as "The Great Commission." Youth (6th through 12th grade) come join together as we learn how to be disciples for Christ and live a radical life!



February events...

Super Bowl Party Sunday, Feb. 7 @ 5 p.m. Everyone that attends is asked to bring canned goods for McKemie Place. We'll watch the game on the big screen in the Fellowship Hall and have lots of food and fun together.



Confirmation Classes Sundays @ 3:30 p.m. Middle School students who are participating in Confirmation need to mark their calendars to be at the church at 3:30 on Feb. 7, 21, & 28 for Confirmation Sessions.

Winter Throwdown February 13-15 This is our Youth Winter Retreat at Camp Sumatanga. If you have reserved a place for this retreat, be at the church by 8 a.m. on the 13th. We will return by 3 p.m. on the 15th. A list of items to bring will be available soon.

SOS Team Meeting Sunday, Feb. 21 @ 4 p.m. Participants in the SOS Memphis Mission Trip are to attend this meeting. The second payment (\$50) is due.

Love Out Loud Sunday, February 28 More details will be available soon!

Tweenagers Lenten Scavenger Hunt

Friday, Feb. 19 6 - 8:30 p.m.
COST: \$5 each

3rd -5th Graders are invited to join us for an evening of fun & fellowship. Call Ms. Betty if you plan to attend.

Cribs for Sale

We are selling our full size cribs and will be purchasing smaller, more portable cribs to replace them. See Betty if you are interested in purchasing one.

Gourmet Apple Sale

Our Early Learning Center is selling gourmet apples for Valentine's Day. The apples will be covered with caramel and chocolate. The cost is \$10 per apple. Orders are due by Sunday, Feb. 7. An order form is available at the church or call the church office to place your order. Delivery will be Feb. 10 & 11.



Children's Ministry

FEBRUARY ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

February 7	Katie Leaird & Wyatt Fulton
February 14	Dalton & Dylan McFarland
February 21	Bret Crooker & Genna Myers
February 28	Katie Leaird & Wyatt Fulton



Congratulations to the Early Learning Center!

Our Early Learning Center (ELC) has been awarded a Mobile District Strategic Missional Grant. Strategic Missional Grants (SMG) provide significant funding to churches to start (or continue) ministries, programs, or other missional undertakings which reach persons for Christ in fast growing and/or underserved populations with in the Mobile District. We were awarded a \$5,000 grant for playground improvements and upgrades for our center.

Breakfast With the Easter Bunny!

Saturday, March 27
9 - 11 a.m.

Make plans now to join us for some Easter fun as we have breakfast with the Easter Bunny, decorate eggs, sing, have egg hunts and more! Many of the eggs in our egg hunts will contain "Bunny Money" to be used to purchase prizes. We need plastic Easter eggs (all sizes and colors) and prizes (small toys or pkgs. of candy). Collect boxes will be at the church the beginning of March. MANY volunteers will be needed to make this morning a success! Please see Betty to volunteer.



Tapestry: Weaving Threads of Grace in Our Lives

DATES: February 26 & 27, 2010

LOCATION: First UM Church, 6 East Wright Street, Pensacola, FL 32501

The United Methodist Women of the Pensacola District invite you to join them in the Alabama-West Florida Conference's third annual Tapestry event. We will share in a time of worship, learning, and fellowship. Tapestry 2010 will begin with registration at 4 p.m. on Friday. The evening activities will begin with dinner at 6 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. Saturday registration will begin at 8 a.m. Breakfast will be served. Morning activities begin at 9 and the event will conclude by 3 p.m.

Registration deadline is February 16, 2010. Mail registration to Margie Outlaw, 43 East King Street, Newton, AL 36352. Meals are included in the registration fee: Both days - \$40, Friday only - \$20, Saturday only - \$30. Make checks payable to the Alabama-West Florida UMW.

Featured speaker: the Reverend Dr. Connie Shelton

Dr. Shelton is senior pastor of Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. She and her husband, Joey, were appointed to Galloway after serving as co-directors of Field Education/Church Relations at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. Connie is a native of Pica-yune, Mississippi. She previously served as Executive Director of The United Methodist Hour, headquartered in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi with a bachelors degree in radio, television, and film; and a masters degree in public relations. Her master of divinity is from Duke University and doctor of ministry is from Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia. The Shelton's have two daughters, eleven-year-old Bailey and six-year-old Jessica.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE ALABAMA WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE WEBSITE.

It's U.S. Census time...

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) and the United States Census Bureau advise people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft.

The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is - How do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a Con Artist?

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) offers the following advice:

If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have the following:

- Identification badge, (no photo) MAKE SURE TO ASK THEM FOR THEIR BADGE AND IDENTIFICATION BEFORE TALKING TO THEM.
- Black canvas bag with the US Census Logo
- They will have a vehicle window placard (sign) that they should keep in their window that says something like "US Census Bureau Official Business"
- They will carry a Confidentiality Agreement

Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home - they will NEVER ask to come into your home - DON'T invite them in!

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information.

- Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.
- While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, it will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers nor will employees solicit donations.
- Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, US mail, or in person at home.

Census Workers will not contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams and **never** click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Census data collectors will NEVER ask to come in your private residence - they will NEVER ask for any banking/credit card information - NEVER ask for social security information. The US Census NEVER does business by email!!

JANUARY STATISTICS

ATTENDANCE	
WORSHIP	178
SUNDAY SCHOOL	122
GIVING	
2009 MONTHLY REQUIREMENTS:	\$ 27,154
RECEIVED IN JANUARY:	
General Budget	\$ 30,950.04
Season of Growth	\$ 7,126.66
Helping Hands	\$ 33.00
Rent	\$ 725.00
Celebrate Recovery	\$ 110.00
UMCOR	\$ 841.00
Missions	\$ 12,000.00
Nursery	\$ 50.00

PLEASE NOTE: Reimbursements and pass through funds are not shown.

February Coffee Hosts/Hostesses



- Feb. 07 Scott & Shauna Crenshaw Bobby & Pam Sasser
- Feb. 14 David & Joyce Boshell Pat & Therese Brown
- Feb. 21 Chris & Jennifer McFarland
- Feb. 28 Trip & Kristin Jennings

If you cannot serve on the date you are scheduled, please contact Jennifer McFarland (802-7510).

Please remember to clean up the coffee area before leaving.

We invite you to share a special moment in our lives as we celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, February 27, 2010 from three to five in the afternoon.

Renewal of wedding vows at three-thirty.

Saraland United Methodist Church 415 McKeough Avenue Saraland AL 36571

Orville and Ann Carter

Your love is a treasured gift, we request no other.

PRAYER CONCERNS



We express our deepest sympathy to Juanita Simison on the death of her brother, Joe Middleton, and to Angie Givens and family on the death of her friend, Todd Canada.

Special Concerns: Doris Adams, Eunice Addison, John Aikens, Buddy Boyington, Therese Brown, Bruce Calder, Ruth Brumfield, Todd Canfield, Vernon Capps, Gerald Cargile, Kathy Cave, Sim Clark, Ella Louise Couch, Randy Daugherty, Joe Eagan, Jean Faggard, Noah Faggard, Louise Fox, Claire Garlington, Janie Gilbert, Olen Gunn, Tommy Harbour, Terry Hopper, Mary Huff, Ralph Hyer, Linda Jennings, Lillian Jepko, Wendell Kennedy, Myrtle Lewis, Eunice McAleer, Cassie Moore, Kenneth Mowery, Abbie Myers, Imogene Pickett, Janette Platt, Bonnie Ramsbottom, Joe Simison, Joseph Toomey, Jewel Turner, Rebecca Walker, Daryl Wallace, Francis Wiggins, Elaine Williams, Kathryn Williams, Dick Wilson, Hazel Yarbarough

Shut-ins: Doris Adams Eight Mile Nursing Home: Herbie Clifton Veteran's Home in Bay Minette: Bill Rodgers Westminster Village: Dan Mason

Please continue to pray for all of our men and women in the military.



The 2010 Flower Chart has been posted on the bulletin board outside the church offices. You can sign up to have flowers put in the Sanctuary in honor/memory of a special person or event. On the Sunday of your choice an arrangements of flowers will be put on the altar and the weekly bulletin will note the event or person. The cost is \$35 per week. Sign up soon!

Schedule of Activities for Lent

- Ash Wednesday Service February 17, 6:30 p.m. Held at Satsuma United Methodist Church
- 24 Hours that Changed the World Bible Study This study will held on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. beginning February 24.
- Breakfast with the Easter Bunny March 27, 9 - 11 a.m.
- Last Supper Drama April 1, 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday Service April 2, 7:00 p.m. Held at Chickasaw United Methodist Church.
- Sunrise Service April 4, 6:30 a.m. Held at Oakmont Christian Church.

Do you want to know more about the United Methodist Church?

Join us at DISCOVERY 101 on Sunday, February 21 at 4 p.m.

Discovery 101 provides information on the history and future plans of Saraland United Methodist Church as well as information about Methodism, Christian beliefs and church membership. This monthly class is the primary path to church membership at Saraland UMC. If you would like to attend, please call the church office or complete a registration sheet at the Welcome Center in the lobby. A nursery will be provided if requested.

PLEASE NOTE: D101 typically meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month but will meet on the 3rd Sunday during February.

February Birthdays



Best wishes to each of you!

- 02/01 Roy Childers
- 02/02 John Andrews Justin Whisonant
- 02/03 Fran Druse Pat Brown Jami Cave
- 02/04 Larry Dyess
- 02/05 Nancy Robinson Eugene Fulton Ashley Bush
- 02/07 Barbara Mason Tim Davis Kim Moore Jessica Butler Samantha Vanosdol
- 02/10 Dennis Adams
- 02/13 Julia Bodie
- 02/14 Mary Ramer Orville Carter Mitch Caylor Barbara Carter Rachel Hale
- 02/15 Pamela Knight Jonathan Smith Daelynn Copeland
- 02/16 David Wright
- 02/17 Tess Butler
- 02/18 James Toomey Cassie Moore Donna Chestang Katie Leaird
- 02/19 Hunter Lindley
- 02/20 Shirley Vanosdol
- 02/21 Patricia Kiper
- 02/22 Larry Calder
- 02/23 Joe Simison
- 02/24 Trip Jennings
- 02/25 Don Finklea
- 02/26 Tiffany Miller
- 02/27 Marc Leveritt Charlie Leaird
- 02/28 Tee Calder Lesley Davis

Is your birthday missing? If so, please call the church office so we can update our records.

Cub Scout Pinewood Derby Saturday, February 13 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall of Saraland United Methodist

Soup & Baked Potato Lunch

Chancel Choir Fundraiser Sunday, February 07

The Chancel Choir is hosting a Fundraising Lunch of soup & baked potatoes (with all the trimmings!) to benefit their scholarship program. You may prepare a "to go" meal after the Bold Service or stay for a "sit down" meal after the Classic Service. Donations will be accepted for lunch. Reservations are not required but are appreciated.

Senior Adult's Valentine Lunch

Thursday, February 11 11:30 a.m.

This is potluck! Please bring a dish or two to share.



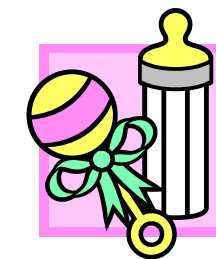
You are invited to a baby shower for

Lori Passmore Green

(daughter of Mary Ella & Scott Passmore)

on Sunday, February 21, from 2-4 p.m.

in the Fellowship Hall.



A word of thanks...

Many thanks for your prayers, calls, cards, visits and overall concern during the time of illness and death of my brother, Joe Middleton.

Much love to my friends and church family, Juanita Simison

Highlights of Confirmation at Saraland UMC

Bishop's Confirmation Retreat

What a great kickoff to our 2010 Confirmation Class! Our group of 6th and 7th graders going through Confirmation went on the Bishop's Confirmation Retreat January 29th-31st. Students got to meet Bishop Paul L. Leeland, experience meaningful worship, and develop their understanding of Christ through interactive sessions on prayer, Methodism, worship, Bible 101, and simply what it means to be a Christian.

Confirmation 2010

Confirmation is an integral part of a student's life that helps them to "make firm" their commitment to Christ. We have planned an exciting Confirmation experience that will allow our middle school students to more fully integrate their class time with participation in worship, fellowship, mission projects and spiritual practices. We want them to gain a sense of what it means to belong to Christ through this congregation of the United Methodist Church, and how they can contribute to Saraland UMC. Some of our plans include: Bishop's Confirmation Retreat (January 29-31); Learning Sessions on Sunday afternoons at 3:30 p.m.; and a Service and Worship Weekend (March 12-14). Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for March 28. If you would like to know more about Confirmation at Saraland UMC, please see Brian Hasty.

