

THE COMPASS

News and events of Davis Memorial United Methodist Church

www.dmumc.com

May 2011

What You DON'T Want To Miss in May

Sunday, May 1:

Worship @ 9:45 am
Sunday School/Tour of Davis @ 11:00 am
Confirmation Class @ 3 pm
WSM Worship @ 5 pm

Monday, May 2:

Chapps Fundraiser @ 5 pm
Boy Scouts @ 6 pm
Trustees' Meeting @ 7 pm

Tuesday, May 3:

WSM Fellowship @ 6 pm
Bible Study @ 7 pm @ Pastor's Home
So Far Band Practice @ 7 pm
Sobriety for Women @ 7 pm

Wednesday, May 4:

PrimeTimers @ 9:30 am
Chancel Choir Practice @ 6 pm
Band Practice @ 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 5:

Dave Ramsey Class @ 6 pm
Handbell Choir @ 7 pm

Sunday, May 8 - Mother's Day:

Worship @ 9:45 am
Sunday School @ 11:00 am

Monday, May 9:

Boy Scouts @ 6 pm

Tuesday, May 10:

WSM Fellowship @ 6 pm
Girl Scouts @ 6:30 pm
Bible Study @ 7 pm @ Pastor's Home
So Far Band Practice @ 7 pm
Sobriety for Women @ 7 pm

Wednesday, May 11:

PrimeTimers @ 9:30 am
Chancel Choir Practice @ 6 pm
Band Practice @ 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 12:

Last Day To Order Angel Food @ 5 pm
Dave Ramsey Class @ 6 pm
Handbell Choir @ 7 pm

Friday, May 13:

Na Pau Hula Practice @ 7 pm

Saturday, May 14:

Men's Ministry @ 7 am
One Man Ministries @ 9 am

Sunday, May 15 - Graduation Sunday:

Worship @ 9:45 am
Sunday School @ 11:00 am
Church Council Meeting @ Noon
Youth Advisory Board @ Noon
Confirmation Class @ 3 pm
Niki's Fundraiser @ 5 pm
WSM Worship @ 5 pm

Monday, May 16:

Boy Scouts @ 6 pm

Tuesday, May 17:

WSM Fellowship @ 6 pm
Bible Study @ 7 pm @ Pastor's Home
So Far Band Practice @ 7 pm
Sobriety for Women @ 7 pm

Wednesday, May 18:

PrimeTimers @ 9:30 am
Chancel Choir Practice @ 6 pm
Band Practice @ 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 19:

Dave Ramsey class @ 6 pm
Handbell Choir @ 7 pm

Friday, May 20:

Na Pau Hula Practice @ 7 pm

Saturday, May 21:

Na Pau Hula Practice @ 8 am
Angel Food Pick-up @ 8:30 am
Sisters of Aloha @ 6 pm

Sunday, May 22:

Worship @ 9:45 am
Sunday School @ 11:00 am
Confirmation Class @ 3 pm
WSM Worship @ 5 pm

Monday, May 23:

Boy Scouts @ 6 pm

Tuesday, May 24:

Girl Scouts @ 6:30 pm
So Far Band Practice @ 7 pm
Sobriety for Women @ 7 pm

Wednesday, May 25:

PrimeTimers @ 9:30 am
Chancel Choir Practice @ 6 pm
Band Practice @ 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 26:

WSM Fellowship @ 6 pm
Handbell Choir @ 7 pm

Saturday, May 28:

Sisters of Aloha @ 6 pm

Sunday, May 29:

Worship @ 9:45 am
Sunday School @ 11:00 am

Monday, May 30 - Memorial Day:

Office Closed
Boy Scouts @ 6 pm

Tuesday, May 31:

So Far Band Practice @ 7 pm
Sobriety for Women @ 7 p

OUR STAFF

Linda Holbrook
Senior Pastor
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Rocky Buchanan
Music Ministry
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Katie Parris
Youth Director
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Shirley Rardin
Organist

Carrie Neidig
Administrative Assistant
carrie@dmumc.com

Toni Bliss
Financial Secretary
toni@dmumc.com



Worship
Times

Worship
9:45 am

Sunday
School
11:00 am

5301 Davis Blvd
North Richland Hills

Pastor's Prose



As I sit down to write the May pastor's prose, I realize that this will be my last pastor's prose for Davis. I reflect on the three years I have spent with all of you and it brings a smile to my face.

I want to thank all of you. I could spend this column just listing names, but I would rather talk about the fruits of what we have done together. There is no good place to start so I will just begin.

Thank you to all of you who allowed me into your homes when I first arrived. You shared with me your love and your concerns. You shared with me your hospitality, and you gave me your trust. It was fun getting to know all of you in a personal manner.

Thank you to all who listened to my sermons and took them to heart. I enjoyed many of the topics (perhaps especially the movies) and I thank you for being willing to hear a wide variety of sermons. I also thank all of you who were on the worship committee. Worship is the heart of a church and the worship committee provided leadership and vision. Probably the most significant meeting was held last summer when we focused our congregation on one service. I was delighted because everyone shared their thoughts and everyone listened to each other with respect. It was a time of great decision making and the worship committee did a magnificent job.

I thank all of you who have shared your children with me during the children's time. I have loved this special time in the worship service. I am blessed each month when we do birthday and anniversary blessings. With the move to one service, we added the prayer basket. I am pleased that so many feel comfortable to bring forward their prayer requests.

Thank you to those who have attended Bible studies. There are some who are regular attendees at the weekly Bible study and others who came to the special studies. Our spiritual growth is a key to being the church that God is calling us to be and the best way to grow spiritually is by Bible study.

Thank you for inviting me to go on the Senior High mission trips. Being in mission to walk with other people in the world is the essence of being a disciple of Christ. Being with the youth and being in mission were two things that were great. Thank you also for supporting the Day of Caring. Being neighbors is important. Angel Food and Prayer and Care were started long before I came to Davis, and continue to be strong. They are excellent ministries.

Thank you to all who served on committees and provided leadership in teaching Sunday School and organizing special events. When I walk through the building and see the improvements we have made it is wonderful. The roof leaks have been stopped, the new classrooms and storage look great, the outside is inviting, the new paint has brightened up the appearance. When I think of the church picnic, the talent show, the 50th anniversary celebration, the blessing of the pets, the Christmas Eve service for children and families, the town hall meetings, and much more I cherish the memories.

Thank you to all who have given financially to Davis. We have made progress. We have repaid ourselves the designated funds that were borrowed. We have paid apportionments. We had a truly successful capital campaign.

I'm sure that I have missed something. As soon as this newsletter goes to print, I will remember other things that I needed to include.

Thank you to all who I consider friends. I will miss you and I will pray for you and for Davis. Thank you for three years so serving with you in Christ's kingdom here on earth.

Grace and Peace,

Linda

Davis Welcomes New Senior Pastor

Please join us in welcoming Denise Luper as our new Senior Pastor at Davis Memorial starting in June. Below is a brief background of Denise to help get to know her before she starts.

Married 30 years to Steve Luper, who retired one year ago from the Dallas Fire Department. We have two children, Julie Luper Neville, age 23 and Patrick Allen Luper, age 19. Julie graduated last year from UT Arlington, and is currently teaching in the Kennedale ISD. She married Matt Neville in July 2010. Patrick is a freshman at Blinn College in College Station, TX.

Education

University of Texas at Arlington
Bachelor of Science, Architecture, December 1980

Brite Divinity School
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas
Master of Divinity, May 10, 2008
GPA 3.5

Ministry Experience

St. John The Apostle United Methodist Church
(home church)
5450 Mansfield Road
Arlington, TX 76017
(active member since 1995, but officially came onto the staff Feb. 1, 2006)

Appointed ¼ time as Associate Pastor, June 2007. Overseeing areas of hospitality, new member assimilation, and adult education. Also, pastoral care, preaching, and other duties as assigned or in the senior pastor's absence.

First United Methodist Church, Weatherford, TX
301 S. Main St.
Weatherford, TX 76086
817-599-4231

Appointed full time as associate pastor in June 2008. (after being commissioned as a Probationary Elder). During this time, we began a Saturday night service in which I preached (most Saturdays); began a "hospitality team" which includes design and implementation of First Connection Welcome and Information Center (Sunday morning guest center, fellowship with coffee and donuts, and centralized location for general "sign up" for activities and events), as well as guest nurture, including guest bags with FUMC logo items and church information, personal letters, and visits to first time guests; began a

"Connection" team to nurture and connect our new members; Facilitation of Bible studies, including the short-term Disciple studies; Plus, lots of pastoral care, some counseling, with experience in both funerals and weddings.

Mooreville United Methodist Church
206 FM 2643
Chilton, TX 76632
254-546-0707

Appointed as pastor in June 2010 after ordination on June 8, 2010. In the 9 months since I have been appointed to Mooreville, I did lead 2 beginner Bible studies, but my focus has been on leadership development and teaching, preaching, and implementing the "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations." I have also focused on strengthening my own preaching skills by pushing myself to preach without notes.

Continuing Education

Family Systems workshop (Hester group) – once monthly (during the school year)

Sept. 2010 through May 2011
Sept. 2009 through May 2010
Sept. 2008 through May 2009
Sept. 2007 through May 2008

(also plan to attend 2011-2012)

David Crowder worship and music conference at Baylor, Waco, Fall of 2010

Academy for Spiritual Formation, July 2005 and March 2008

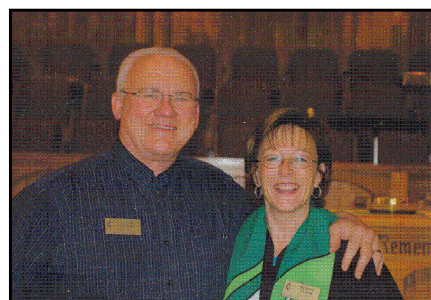
Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders – Sponsored by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, Lombard Illinois, held at St. John the Apostle, Arlington, TX October 5-9, 2009

Fall Leadership Summit at FUMC Mansfield: Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

I plan to pursue future continuing education in Family Systems Theory as well as worship design.

Hobbies and Interests

I love photography and travel, music, reading, and retreats in the Texas Hill Country. My passions are preaching, teaching, and spiritual formation.



Getting To Know You...

By Joanne Gray

I The lady I interviewed for this month's column is a very private person, as well as unassuming, dependable and very sweet. I learned that she is retired, but still works full time, as a volunteer. She is the type of person who puts 110% into everything she does. Whether or not you have figured out whom I am talking about yet, let's meet and get to know...CAROL MABRY!

Linne Ahlberg and Inez Bales were married in Fresno, California, in 1944. By the time he had retired, Linne had worked as a Budget Officer for the Federal Aviation Administration (F.A.A.) for 41 years. He and his wife had two daughters--Joann and Carol Ahlberg. Joann is one year older than Carol. She currently lives in Denver, Colorado and is a retired school teacher.

Carol was born in Richmond, California on December 8, 1946. She told me that she and her sister were really close as children; that they were one year apart in school. Being the older sibling, Joann would get Carol in trouble all the time. Carol said she was Joann's follower growing up, but became a leader once she started working.

Carol's family lived in California for five years, then moved to Arlington, Virginia and lived there for nine years. They moved to Texas in 1961. Carol graduated from Richland High School in 1964, and then attended TCU for one year. After that, she got married and went to work for the General Services Administration (GSA). Carol worked there for 31 years and retired as a Supervisory Contracting Officer at age 50. She and her first husband divorced in 1985. She married Richard in 1988.

Carol has two children and three grandchildren. Her son, Scott Tibbs, age 40, is married to Tessa. They live in Bowie, Texas with their two children, Scotty, age 12, and Bryce, age 9. Scott is an Electrician and Tessa is a Respiratory Therapist. Her daughter, Kristi Mathis, age 34, is divorced and has one son, Nicholas, age 7. Kristi works as a Budget Analyst for Rexel Electrical Company. She and Nicholas live in North Richland Hills, Texas.



Carol was excited when she recently found out that her Dad's parents immigrated to the United States from Sweden, in 1888. They moved to Delaware and stayed there for 20 years. After living many places in between, her Dad's family finally ended up in California. Carol explained to me that her Dad was 100% Swedish and her Mom was 50% Danish, which makes Carol 50% Swedish and 25% Danish, respectively. She doesn't have a clue, though, as to what the rest of her nationality is.

Carol is passionate about volunteering for NEED. She has been the Director at NEED West for 12 years. (I know this is a plug, but Carol wanted me to let you know that she is always looking for volunteers, as well as food for the food drive and first Sunday canned goods!)

"Purple" is Carol's favorite color. Her favorite food is "prime rib" and dessert, "anything chocolate!" Carol's favorite movies are "love stories;" favorite music is "50's music," and her favorite hymn is "Onward Christian Soldiers." She also likes all holidays.

Carol's favorite quote is one I hadn't heard before and reads as follows: "For those who it does not stun or kill, disaster brings forth a spasm of new growth." Also, her favorite Bible verse is the King James Version of 1 John 4:4 "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because he that is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

When asked what makes her really happy, Carol replied "my grandkids, especially so when they are hugging and kissing on me and grandma is the most important thing to them." Something people might be surprised to know about Carol is that she is very shy, even after she gets to know them.

When I interview people, one question I always ask them is "What makes you unique?" Most people either tell me they don't feel like they are unique or they don't know what to say. When I asked Carol that question, her reply was "I'm honest, very caring, sharing, sensitive and calm."

Getting to Know You continued...

A lady named Delores Brown has been and continues to be the greatest influence in Carol's life. Carol explained that "Delores rode in a carpool with her for ten years, when she worked at GSA. Spiritually, she's given her the greatest insight on everything to do with religion. They talked about prayer and Bible verses and would pray every day in the carpool. She was with her through all her family problems and would even come over to pray with her family." Carol went on to say that "it was the most miraculous thing that ever happened to her to start and end her day!" They still keep in touch with each other as much as possible.

The things that make Carol the person she is today are "her walk with the Lord; reading the Bible; experiencing hardships and being able to turn them over to the Lord, and her upbringing."

Carol has been with Davis Memorial UMC since 1992. She told me that we are a friendly congregation and she comes here because of the people.

Carol would like to be remembered for "living her life as a Christian!"

Thank you, Carol, for a great interview and for letting us all get to know you... better!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY, LADIES!

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

A Church Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 15th @ Noon. New Next Step information will be presented during the meeting. Please make plans to attend.

MEMORY SCRAPBOOK FOR LINDA

We are putting together a memory book for Linda to take with her when she leaves us.

You may assemble your own page for the book or see Betty Vance to submit photos or letters to be included in the book.



TRUSTEE UPDATE

For the past few months, the Trustee Committee has been discussing and researching an item of church business that we would like to bring to the congregation's attention. In December, Racetrac Corporation once again made an offer to purchase our property. They offered \$1.5 million, which is considerably less than their offer a few years ago, due to the economy. The Trustees felt that it was in the best interest of our church family to at least investigate and do some research. We looked at several properties in the immediate area, and quickly confirmed that we could not purchase land and have funds left to build, with the offer that was given. So, we have declined the offer.

Again, I just want to repeat that we have declined the offer from Racetrac. The Trustee Committee wants to make sure that you are always aware of any business involving the church. If you do have any questions, feel free to contact Michele PettyJohn or anyone on the Trustee Committee.

If Davis Memorial were ever to receive an offer that was acceptable, the Trustees responsibility is only to do the initial investigations. The offer would then be brought to the entire congregation for discussion and a vote.



May Sermons	
May 1st	Stewardship: Gifts
May 8th	Mother's Day Stewardship: Service & Witness
May 15th	Consecration Sunday Graduation Sunday Baptism of Colten Brown
May 22nd	Birthday & Anniversary Blessings Sermon: TBD
May 29th	Farewell to Davis



Solidarity by Katie Parris

There is a little movie called "Little Big League" in which the owner of the Minnesota

Twins dies and gives the ownership of the team to his grandson, Billy.

(For all you nerds out there Luke Edwards was indeed the same kid who played Jimmy in the in The Wizard, and owned they guy who owned a Power Glove in Mario 3 to win the championship)

Billy is a big fan of the Twins and has gone to every home game with his grandfather his whole life. When he becomes the owner, Billy fires the Manager of the Twins and hires himself to be the new manager.

The hilarity ensues.

Billy turns out to be baseball wise beyond his age. While only being about 12 years old, Billy's baseball knowledge rivals that of Tommy LaSorda.

However, before Billy was the manager of the Twins, Billy was (and still is) a fan of the Twins. His favorite player is Jerry Johnson. Johnson was/is Billy's idol and was at one time a powerhouse of a player for the Twins and in the League, despite Johnson's recent slump in production and quality of play. Johnson, has not done well for a while and everyone can see it, but Billy is unwilling to accept that his idol is no longer the powerhouse of a player he once was.

One game Billy sends Johnson up to the plate with words of encouragement and adoration. Johnson swings and connects. He makes it to first base with ease. Billy goes nuts and turns to his assistant coach, Lou, to say, something to the effect, "See Lou! Johnson still has it." Lou's response, "Hey kid, when was the last time you got this excited for someone who has just hit a stand up single, while going 2 for 25 at his last at bats?"

That was the straw that broke in Billy. He decided to let his idol go and Johnson is no longer a Twin.

I wonder if my beloved church is like Johnson? I wonder if I am like Billy and I become excited when the UMC hits a stand up single? I wonder if I am blind to a reality that others see, an organization that continues to strike out time and time again and is unwilling to admit it and move on?

I fear that I will grow into a preacher that is like Johnson and the congregation is like Billy. I fear I will lose touch so much so that when I am average it is seen as fantastic.

It is my prayer that I will work to ensure that the UMC will not settle for average. It is my prayer that I would continue to strive to bring my best and acknowledge when I no longer "connect".

Many hopes,

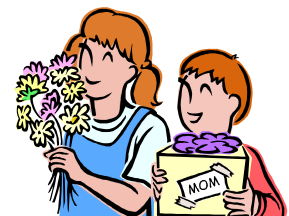
Katie



Electronic Newsletters

If you are not receiving the e-newsletter, go to www.dmumc.com and at the bottom of the page enter your email address under "Sign Up to receive Davis Memorial News."

*Happy
Mother's
Day*



WILDFIRE

romans 12:2

student ministries

“Catch on fire with enthusiasm and people will come for miles to watch you burn.”

-John Wesley

April brought not enough showers but plenty of allergies! I hope everyone made it through okay. Please continue to pray for those who have fallen victim to the wild fires that raged across Texas this last month.

Now that spring has sprung but feels like summer, it's time to get those last minute Mission Trip registrations in! We are going on BOTH Senior High and Junior High trips this year!

This trip is not just for youth. We need adults, too! If you are able bodied and of a less than sound mind (let's face it, you kind of have to be to go on a week long trip with a bunch of teenagers) and you're interested in going on this year's trips to Louisiana or Mineral Wells, please let me know TODAY! We'd love to have you along!

We are graduating two seniors from the youth group this year. Merry Hodge from Richland High School is starting school at the University of Central Oklahoma in the fall and Taylor Ramsey from Birdville High School. Taylor is on full tuition scholarship for baseball at McMurry in Abilene. We are SO PROUD of them both! Also a big congrats to Kali Barber on her graduation from Texas A&M University! Davis Memorial has much to be proud of!

Keep an eye out for upcoming fundraisers for our mission trip. Have a great last month of school!

**Blessings,
Katie**

Katie: Youth Director
phone: 817.897.7866
katie@dmumc.com

Happening in MAY!

Disciple Bible Study
every sunday @ 5pm
(except may 8 & 29)

Confirmation Class
every sunday @ 3pm
(except may 8 & 29)
**last class before
summer is may 22*

Sunday School
every sunday @ 10am

Fellowship Dinner
every tues @ 7pm
(except may 31)

Youth Advisory Board
may 15 @ 12pm - 1pm
**time change for
confirmation class*

Graduation Sunday
may 15

The Church Around the World

from United Methodist News Service – <http://umns.umc.org>

UMCOR grant helps Japan institute reopen

STAMFORD, Conn. - After the ground stopped shaking on March 11, staff at the Asian Rural Institute in northern Japan began assessing the damage. What they found was serious. Now, a month later, repairs are under way and, with the support of a \$150,000 grant from the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the staff will be able to welcome its new students on May 2.

What I didn't say at the Leadership Summit

WASHINGTON - Erin Hawkins, the top executive of the United Methodist Commission on Religion and Race, says she wishes she had taken up the topic of sexual orientation at the Leadership Summit. In a commentary, Hawkins calls the issue "a real and present tension in the church."

Bill Cosby celebrates Lambuth University

JACKSON, Tenn. - When Bill Cosby strolled on stage at the Carl Perkins Civic Center on April 5, he was not wearing his signature colorful sweater for which he was known on his 1980s TV show, "The Cosby Show." The comedian, 73, wore a Lambuth University blue athletic jacket - a reminder to the audience that the evening's entertainment was also about raising money for the financially troubled United Methodist-related school. Cosby is an old friend of Ron Dickerson, Lambuth's head football coach and honorary chair of the event with wife Jeannie.

Rapper wins \$40K for UM children's home

ATLANTA - The big "Celebrity Apprentice" winner March 17 wasn't just Lil Jon - it was also children and youth at a north Georgia United Methodist Children's Home. The rapper and "Celebrity Apprentice" contestant won \$40,000 for his first time as a project manager on the hit NBC show. His designated charity is the North Georgia Annual (regional) Conference's United Methodist Children's Home, which he praised on national television.

Post office honors Dorothy Height's memory

WASHINGTON - Throughout the U.S. civil rights movement, Dorothy I. Height often kept to the background and worked tirelessly behind the scenes for racial equality and women's rights. But now the longtime United Methodist's name is front and center on a U.S. post office. The post office is the first federal building in the District of Columbia to bear the name of an African-American woman, according to The Associated Press.

Church surrounds man slated for deportation

DALLAS - Cristian Ramirez, like many 21-year-olds, works full time while attending college and volunteers most of his spare time to the youth ministry at his local United Methodist church. However, unlike most young people his age, he is living with the fear that at any moment he could be deported to a violent country his parents fled when he was 12.

Titanic musicians were Methodist

LONDON - This year marks the 99th anniversary of the sinking of the RMS Titanic, and as the centennial draws closer, interest in the event is ramping up. A recently released book by music journalist Steve Turner detailing the lives of the band members cites the Methodist heritage of bandleader Wallace Hartley and cellist John Wesley Woodward, and speculates how their faith influenced their decision to play until the last.

Ohio churches propel Vietnam mission

STAMFORD, Conn. - The Rev. Joseph Bishman loves motorcycles so much that he's ridden nationally on behalf of Harley-Davidson. So it seemed only natural for the United Methodist West Ohio Annual (regional) Conference to ask the 62-year-old Shawnee district superintendent to hold a motorcycle ride for Vietnam mission work. What was unexpected was what happened next, he told the Board of Global Ministries directors.



Working to keep you connected

<http://umns.umc.org>

Davis Memorial
United Methodist Church
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North Richland Hills, TX 76180

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DAVIS MEMORIAL UMC

May Events

Prayer & Care Fundraisers

Monday, May 2nd
Chapps @ 5 pm

Sunday, May 15th
Niki's @ 5 pm

Graduation Sunday
May 15th @ 9:45 am

