



July 2009

THE MESSENGER

“FROM UP IN THE SADDLE”

By Pastor Mark



This year’s Annual Conference was interesting. Besides having a new Bishop, my situation of leaving an Appointment at a First Christian Church left me without a seat for a good part of the Conference (for those of you who haven’t been to Annual Conference, a Pastor sits with his old church until the last day when the Appointments are announced and certified, then he/she moves to a seat with their new church). At first feeling left out, and sitting on the hard concrete floor, eventually a seat was secured at the back of the meeting room, with the wives and family members of the Pastors and Lay Leaders attending. Sitting far in the back, provided me an opportunity to visit with many of my “back of the room” companions, and hear some very interesting stories. It also provided me with an opportunity to move around that was the envy of most of my fellow Pastors. During one of my many breaks from the intense listening to the endless speakers (forgive me Lord), I read a very interesting banner that had been hung along the entire back wall of this immense meeting room. The banner commemorated the 150 years of the Conference, starting at its beginning back in the 1850’s. Imagine my surprise when around the 1870’s I found myself looking into the face of a picture of my Great Great Grandfather, who was a circuit riding Methodist Minister! Now, I am very familiar with the history of C. A. Grote (the gentleman in question), but somehow to see his picture among all the great founders of our Conference, filled me with pride! However, ... continued pg 4

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We are serving GOD by our

Please be
Praying for...

Hilda UMC
Hubert Payton
McKenzie Davidson
Donna Hale
House of Faith
Florencio Garza
Harvey Hale Sr.
Angie Gryder
Wanda Doss
Paula Trullender
Jacklyn Bonner
Paul Phillips
Jesse Clark
Our Church
VBS leaders, volunteers and children
Our Military

Financial Report 2009 Budget \$ 115,125

As of May 26, 2009

Total Income	\$ 44,032.77
Total Expenses (includes acct pyble)	<u>-54,489.50</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-10,456.73



Service

Food Pantry — Shirley Payton
Soup Kitchen — John Swepston

Pray
For Our
Children



CAMP E.D.G.E.

Experience & Discover God Everywhere

FMI—Laurie Swepston—835-5029

Volunteers, outdoor/camping gear and food items are needed

JULY 6–10, 2009

6:00 P.M.—8:30 P.M.



Our New Pastor

PASTOR MARK SMITH

Home - 325-835-7270

Cell - 325-218-2365

E-Mail - PastorMSmith@yahoo.com

CALLING ALL CHILDREN

July 5 at 11:00 a.m.

Please come and join in the fun while making a joyful noise to the Lord.

Children's Hand Bell Choir
{first Sunday of each month}

"Women in the Light"

"Potter's Hands"

Saturday November 7, 2009

San Angelo Convention Center

8:30 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.

\$25.00 ticket price, which includes light breakfast & lunch catered by Susan Ball

Speakers will be Squire Rushnell and his wife Louise DuArt

Music provided by Shelly Weise and "Broken Glass"

This is a non-denominational event and we would love for the ladies from your church to join us for a day of fellowship.

FMI contact:

Debbie Cross

buffalo@wcc.net

Home & work # 325-655-6438 or

Cell # 325-234-1303

“FROM UP IN THE SADDLE” continued....

strutting back to my humble chair in the back of the room, it occurred to me that in the back was exactly where God wanted me. It was not my place to be boastful, but to remember that the stories that had been told to me about Rev. Grote were of humility and servitude. To many times we forget the reason we are called by God to use our gifts and graces is for servitude, not honor or fame. Rev. Grote served in a time that was not about salaries, how big a church you served, or what title you had, but about the simple work of bringing the Word of God to folks who were awash in the daily struggles of everyday life. It was a time when the Minister rode into town on Friday, spend Friday and Saturday in the community LISTENING to the problems and concerns of those faithful attendees, usually in someone's home or under an oak tree or tabernacle. There were no fancy bulletins or newsletters, just the Word of God presented in a manner that most everyone could understand. It was also a time of great spiritual growth. Maybe we should reflect a minute upon the lessons in the above sentences. It is with the wisdom of history in mind that motivates me to bring you my thoughts each month with the title “From Up in The Saddle.” And, it is with Grace and Humility that brings me to serve you my faithful brethren. Finally, may God constantly remind me that my true place is in the back of the room, listening with love and compassion. AMEN.



FUMC Mertzon - 2009 Evangelism / Outreach Calendar

July

- Collect School Supplies – July & August
- Food Pantry – 7/28

August

- Serve at Wesley Daily Bread Soup Kitchen – 8/24
- Food Pantry – 8/25
- Honor Emergency Services Volunteers – 8/30
- 5th Sunday Noisy Offering – 8/30

September

- Food Pantry – 9/29

October

- Prayer Booth at Salsa Festival – 10/3
- CROP Hunger Walk – 10/4
- World Communion Sunday (Conference Offering) – 10/4
- Food Pantry - 10/27
- Serve at Wesley Daily Bread Soup Kitchen - 10/31

November

- Shoebox Ministry for our troops
- Food Pantry - 11/17
- 5th Sunday Noisy Offering – 11/29

December

- College boxes
- Welfare Board Tree
- Food Pantry - 12/15



Decoder Puzzle

Unscramble each word and then place the numbered letters in the numbered boxes at the bottom to reveal the answer.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Z	S	P	I	B	C	J	O	E	A	H	Y	V	R	Q	G	F	N	T	D	W	U	X	L	K	M

1. 13-4-24-24-10-16-9 _____
2. 14-9-3-9-18-19 _____
3. 19-9-10-6-11-4-18-16 _____
4. 11-8-22-2-9 _____
5. 3-14-9-10-6-11 _____
6. 11-9-10-24 _____
7. 7-8-22-14-18-9-12 _____
8. 2-10-18-20-10-24-2 _____
9. 2-19-10-17-17 _____
10. 21-9-24-6-8-26-9 _____

WELCOME	TEACHING	HEAL	PREACH	SANDALS
VILLAGE	JOURNEY	HOUSE	STAFF	REPENT



Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two.
Mark 6:7 (NIV)

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:30 PM Choir	2	3	4
5 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Wor- ship	6 6:00 – 8:30 PM VBS	7 6:00 AM UM- Men 6:00 – 8:30 PM VBS	8 5:30 PM Choir 6:00 – 8:30 PM VBS	9 6:00 – 8:30 PM VBS	10 6:00 – 8:30 PM VBS	11
12 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Wor- ship	13	14 6:00 AM UM- Men	15 5:30 PM Choir	16	17	18
19 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Wor- ship	20	21 6:00 AM UM- Men	22 5:30 PM Choir	23	24	25
26 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Wor- ship	27	28 6:00 AM UM- Men 4:00 – 6:00 PM Food Pantry	29 5:30 PM Choir	30	31	

Dates and Times are subject to change !

Food Pantry and School Supplies

Members of First United Methodist Church.

The food pantry has been providing food for families of Trion County and once again we are asking for assistance. Any amount would be appreciated. If you would like to help, please mail to the church, PO Box 583 and make your check out to Mertzou Churches.

We will be providing school supplies for the children who need assistance. Funds do not come from the Food Pantry. If you would like to donate for school supplies, mail to the address above and specify on your check "school supplies." Please make check out to the First United Methodist Church.

If you would like to purchase the needed supplies, or for more information, contact—Shirley Payton 835-2056 or Linda Billington 835-8393.