



# The Messenger

A Monthly Publication of Mission Bend United Methodist Church

February 2012

## Church Staff

**David Meeker - Williams**  
Senior Pastor

**Roy Weeks**  
Associate Pastor

**Mauro Moreno**  
Associate Pastor

**Valeta Rhodes**  
Intern Pastor

**Connie Fowler**  
Director of Christian Ed.

**Kyle Howton**  
Youth Director

**Dan Kramlich**  
Music Director

**Mary Blondell**  
Financial Secretary

**Nancy Gerdes**  
Congregational Care &  
Hospitality Ministries  
Coordinator

**Eston Hupp**  
Business Manager

**Dawn Wratny**  
Secretary

**Kathy Aaron**  
Pianist

**Adrienne White**  
Youth Choir Director

**Jennifer Craft**  
Head of Mission Bend  
Christian Academy

## Sunday Service Times

8:30 am, 9:40 am  
& 11:00 am

Traditional & Praise

11:30 pm - Worship  
Service in Spanish

Servicios de Adoracion  
en Espanol

**Sunday School**  
9:40 am

**We are called to:**  
**Bring, Build and Send**

(281) 497-4491

Fax: (281) 497-3395

www.mbumc.org

email:

office@mbumc.org



**United Methodism 101 online course  
registration open through Tuesday, Jan. 31**

## Lifelong United Methodist? New to United Methodism?

Whether you've been a United Methodist for five decades or five weeks, you may be surprised at all there is to discover about our denomination.

[United Methodism 101](#) is designed for new church members and anyone else wanting to know more about the denomination and its history, teachings and structure.

In this course, you will learn more about United Methodist:

- History
- Structure
- Beliefs
- Ministries

### About the Course

The course includes four modules, each with many interactive features. Each module takes about one hour to complete. Move through the modules at your own pace. [Course preview.](#)

### Pre-register

No participants will be admitted once the course begins, so please [pre-register](#) before Wednesday, Feb. 1.

### Course Details:

Cost: \$9.99

Dates: Feb. 1 – March 14

Credit: Upon successful completion, learners are awarded 1 [SACEM](#) CEU.

### Offline Option

Instead of taking the online course, you may purchase the [United Methodism 101 CD \(KIT\)](#). The same interactive course blends audio, video and written materials into a fast-moving learning experience.

This kit is ideal for groups or individuals wanting to increase their understanding of United Methodism. Each kit includes five identical CDs and one leader's guide. Additional CDs may be purchased separately.





## “PRAYERFUL” VESSELS

### **LISTEN! The Holy Spirit Continues its Journey in 2012, Looking for Prayerfully-Open Vessels.**

This Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus, loves to move through the Lord's vessels. Now is a good time to come to the **Sunday, February 5, 2012, Service of Prayer and Healing in the Sanctuary.** Come and lift your concerns to the Lord in joyful voices of trust and faith. Come, let us bow our heads together, as through prayers, your concerns are channeled through “prayerful vessels” of opportunity serving on that day.


**Note Well:** This Service will occur on the above date, at 12:15 p.m., immediately after the 11:00 a.m. worship ends. It will be short, and, with Jesus being in the midst, **powerful**, as you ask **HIM** to bring **healing** to people in every area of our lives, ANYWHERE you or someone you care about is hurting.... Prayers are offered individually, confidentially, and comfortably informal for you and yours. **Feel free to leave after you have been prayed for.**

Come and let the Mission Bend Prayer Ministry Team bring all who are in need into God's healing presence on the stretchers of our prayers.

*“Jesus...healed the people.” Matthew 4:23*  
Let us ask Him for healing and comfort for you  
or for one you care about.

## FEBRUARY 2012 MBUMC PRAYER FOCUS

Please join the Mission Bend UMC Prayer Ministry team in this prayer



*The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing. Zephaniah 3:17 ESV*

Loving God,

We thank you for being here with us, a mighty one who saves us. Your word says that you delight in us, and in your love you give us new life. You even sing and rejoice over us. It is only by the sacrifice of your son, Jesus, that we are made worthy. Help us to receive in humility and great joy all the tender mercies you desire to shower upon us.

Brothers and sisters, let us imitate God in everything we do, because we are his dear children. Let us live a life of love, following the example of Christ. Once we were full of darkness, but now we have light from the Lord. Let us live as people of the light! For this light within us produces only what is good and right and true. Let us carefully determine what pleases the Lord. Let us be filled with the Holy Spirit, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, and making music to the Lord in our hearts. (Ephesians 5:1-2a, 8-10, 18b-20 NLT)

Lord, we thank you for the precious gift of music. Thank you for preparing leaders here who help open our hearts and minds to this gift, especially Dan Kramlich, Kathy Aaron, Adrienne White and our music intern, Jarrod Trlica. Thank you for this way to learn scripture and sing scripture; thank you for this way to share our faith and receive healing. Thank you for each heart opening to your love, each voice and each musical offering. “Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts.” (Psalm 21:13 NLT) In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory.  
Hymn 126, verse 1, Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above (Deut. 32:3)

## NEW PRAYER PARTNERS COMMISSIONED



Left to Right, Newly Commissioned Prayer Partners Stephanie Lockard, Shelly Moreno and Peggy A. Golden-Adolph with Pastor Roy Weeks"

**Peggy A. Golden-Adolph, Stephanie Lockard and Shelly Moreno** were commissioned by Associate Pastor Roy Weeks as **Prayer Partners** at Mission Bend UMC on Saturday, January 21, 2012. Peggy, Stephanie and Shelly had participated in a Prayer Partner training workshop earlier that morning which was facilitated by Pat Howell assisted by the Prayer Ministry team, with the passionate leadership, guidance and testimony of Roy Weeks .

Being a Prayer Partner involves being available to pray with and for others at altar prayer time and healing services, as well as any time and place where one might find the opportunity. According to James 4:2 "... *You do not have because you do not ask.*"

How can we resist that invitation to ask in prayer, according to His will?

It is written in Deuteronomy 4:7 "The Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him." What a delight to be able to draw near to the Lord our God in prayer.

Congratulations and best wishes to you, Peggy, Stephanie and Shelly. You are not new prayer warriors, however you are newly commissioned Prayer Partners who will hold any topics of prayer in strict confidence. Your willingness to serve the Lord in yet another way is deeply appreciated.

## Everyone Needed for a Church Wide Study.

Thursday Evenings  
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
In the Sanctuary  
10 weeks for \$10

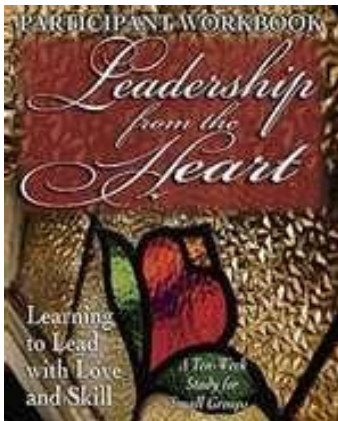
ALL MBUMC LEADERS/MEMBERS  
ENCOURAGED  
TO JOIN

You may purchase a participant book for the table in the Narthex or from Connie.

The Book is only \$10, that is only \$1.00 per week.

Childcare Reservations can be made by calling the church office at 281-497-4491

*"Leadership from the Heart"*



**ONLY**  
**\$10.00**

## Tuesday, FEBRUARY 21 Is Ladies Book Club Night! 6:30 PM - MBUMC Choir Room

All women of the church & community are invited to join us as we review and discuss the popular book, *Same Kind Of Different As Me*, by Ron Hall and Denver Moore which tells about the uncanny friendship between a wealthy Dallas businessman and a homeless man. This book (which is based on a true story) is available at public libraries or ordered through local outlets and online.



## BREAKFAST CLUB

Want to join a new group to have some fun, fellowship, breakfast and do some "good deeds" around the church?

Pastor David has formed a new small group (open to ALL) to help keep our church home attractive by doing those small jobs necessary around our beautiful facility.

We will be meeting on the first Monday each month at 7:00 am. We will have some personal devotionals, tell some jokes, have breakfast and be gone long before noon. David will be serving breakfast.

If you find this something you would like to do, please give your name to Eston and find out more information.

**NEXT MEETING February 6, 2012**

Hope to see you there...

# THANKS MISSION BEND, FOR YOUR GENEROSITY PRISON MINISTRY BIKE DRIVE



## NEIGHBORHOOD PRAYERS

(Please join with our Lighthouse Prayer Team Members in praying for the neighborhood and area where you live)

Most Gracious Holy Father we come together as a team, knowing you will hear our earnest prayers for the neighborhoods where we live. Specifically we pray for every house on every street near our homes and including those neighborhoods that surround our church. We pray for the health and safety of all living in each neighborhood, especially those who may not yet know or have a personal relationship with You and Your Son. Show us how we can reach out to our neighbors in your name



Protect each and every home from all evil forces that attempt to invade them, both from the inside as well as the outside. We pray for healthy, loving relationships in every household. We seek Your divine protection for every school in our neighborhood. Place an armor of protection over each facility of learning so that evil will not penetrate its walls.

We pray also for those businesses surrounding us and especially for those who work to keep our neighborhoods safe.

May each of us be a beacon of light and hope in this world and especially in the neighborhoods where we live. In Jesus' Holy Name we pray Amen.



### Now Enrolling for 2012-2013 School Year

Mission Bend Christian Academy is now enrolling students from 13 months through 6<sup>th</sup> grade for the upcoming school year.

New Student Open House will be held on February 28, 2012.

It is a great opportunity to learn about the school and meet teachers and staff.

The Academy offers a Christian-based education with small class sizes and a safe caring environment.

Mission Bend United Methodist Church Members receive a 10% discount.

For additional information or to obtain an enrollment packet, please contact 281-497-4057.



### Red, White and School Silent Auction Benefit

Please mark your calendars!

Friday, March 30, 2012 Mission Bend Christian Academy will hold its annual Silent Auction Benefit Dinner.

The auction benefit raises funds to help support our students by providing operational support to the Academy.

Please consider donating an Auction Item to support this very important event!

For further information on how you can participate, volunteer, donate items or attend, please contact Denise Hicks 281-497-4057.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**MISSION BEND UMC'S**  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**JULY 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>**



### ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP



You can have fresh flowers dedicated in honor of, in celebration of, or in memory of a loved one. They will be placed on the altar on Sunday and you may take one arrangement of flowers home after the 11:00 service, Stop by the office and reserve your date, the cost is \$50 per arrangement. **Flowers need to be paid for when you sign up for them.**



**Have You been getting email blast from the church?**



**If not please email or call the church office and give us your email address and we will add you to the email list.**

**office@mbumc.org. or 281-497-4491**



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

### OUR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP

**THINGS WE ARE IN NEED OF FOR OUR FOOD PANTRY**

rice, dry beans,  
canned meat (tuna & chicken), canned soup,  
complete meal boxes (Betty Crocker - Complete Meals),  
jelly, peanut butter, pull top cans (Chef Boyardee).  
Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce

### PLANNING FOR THE NEW YEAR?

The beginning of a new year is a good time to start (or review) your life planning goals.

Have a will? Need to up date one?

Retirement planning? Budgeting, Debt?

All these services are available here at the church office from the Harvest Ministry. And the Financial Planning Association. For a confidential discussion, contact Eston Hupp, Life Member of Financial Planning Association

### Need prayer on a specific topic?

Check out the varied collection of prayers on the large turnstile rack in the hallway.

And don't forget your prayer concerns are only a click away **cita4u@hotmail.com** After writing your concern and hitting the "Send" button, your concern will be instantly prayed over and lifted up by many.

## INVITATION TO BE A PRAYER PARTNER

You are invited to join the Prayer Ministry team as we intentionally promote prayer, so that Mission Bend UMC may truly become a house of prayer. Helping people pray with greater confidence and pray more effectively draws people closer to our Maker, so they can better discern God's will. According to Mark 11:34, Jesus said this about prayer: *"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."*

Prayer Partners are a vital part of the Mission Bend UMC Prayer Ministry team. We pray for others because God wants us to love one another and help one another. We know that prayer works; we have witnessed many blessings and healings as a result of prayer. It is thrilling to ask Jesus to heal and see it happen, according to Acts 24:30: *"Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."*

You are warmly invited to be a Prayer Partner, which involves taking a two-hour workshop at a time to be mutually determined, then being commissioned with your personalized name badge, and observing experienced Prayer Partners for a time. After this you would be eligible to pray during monthly Services of Prayer and Healing and to stand at the Sunday morning altar prayer times (at whichever service you attend) to confidentially pray with and for others when they ask you to do so. All adults and youth from the sixth grade and higher are eligible for this service to our Lord God. There is no pressure to accept this invitation; only those who feel called should accept. The Prayer Partner training will be given once in this quarter.

If you wish to be a Prayer Partner, please complete the needed information below and put it into the offering plate, or hand it to an usher or anyone you see with a "Prayer Partner" name badge on, or call Pat Howell or Yucca James. If you have any questions, please call Yucca or Pat.

\*\*\*\*\*

I wish to be a Prayer Partner.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Leadership Study 7:00 pm	3	4
5 Prayer & Healing Service 12:00 pm	6 Trustee's Meeting 6:00 pm	7	8	9 Leadership Study 7:00 pm	10	11 Love & Lasagna 7:00 pm
12	13 Side By Side Meeting 6:00 pm	14	15	16 Leadership Study 7:00 pm	17 OPUS Trip	18 Prayer Team Meeting 10:00 am Confirmation Retreat to Lakeview
19 Confirmation back from Lakeview African's All Together Meeting 12:00 pm	20 Finance Meeting 7:00 pm	21 Ladies Book Club 6:30 pm	22 Confirmation Soup Supper 5:45 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm	23 Leadership Study 7:00 pm	24	25
26	27 Side By Side Meeting 6:00 pm MBCA Board Meeting 6:00 pm	28 MBCA Open House 6:30 pm	29			

# The Messenger

Mission Bend United Methodist Church  
3710 Highway 6 South Houston, TX 77082-4314 (281) 497-4491  
office@mbumc.org  
www.mbumc.org



## MBUMC CHOIR'S

### "LOVE 'N LASAGNA"

COME AND ENJOY A SPECIAL EVENING  
OF GOOD FOOD, FELLOWSHIP  
AND GREAT ENTERTAINMENT.

ADULTS 18 OR OVER. NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY

COST: \$15 PER PERSON -  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "MBUMC"  
ON MEMO LINE WRITE "LOVE N LASAGNA"

SPECIAL DEDICATIONS AVAILABLE  
FOR A DONATION—PAID SEPARATELY

BABYSITTING PROVIDED.  
PLEASE SIGN UP YOUR KIDS  
SO WE CAN PROVIDE ADEQUATE CARE.

SORRY, NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR