

Church news

Chandler F.U.M.C.

by Linda G. Keeling

Traditional Church service at 8 a.m.; Sunday school classes at 9 a.m./Coffee with Herb at 9:30 a.m.; Praise Service at 10:30 a.m. in Heritage Hall.

"If your eye is pure, there will be sunshine in your soul. But if your eye is clouded with evil thoughts and desires, you are in deep spiritual darkness. And oh, how deep that darkness can be!" -Matthew 6:22, 23

If the eye is the window of the soul, how easily polluted our souls can become. We must be consistently aware of what we are focusing. Consider the easy access to pornography on the internet, movies, television, and even the best selling novels. How can a Christian avoid the temptation to drift away from the path and consider the lifestyles as those depicted in current "reality shows"? In a book called *Simple Faith*, Charles Swindoll cautioned that we have security in living always in truth. By living in the light of truth, (God's Word), we are able to see both truth and lie, both light and darkness and "which is simple, pure and clear and

that which is deceptive." In darkness we no longer see the truth and we become victimized by the bondage of darkness. Living in the Word enables us to keep our focus clear and our souls pure.

Ken Reid sang a solo "On Eagle's Wings," Sunday accompanied by Gwen Jones' dance movements. What a beautiful "spiritual lifting" song. Thank you, dear people.

It is not too late to join the Men's Bible Study, Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor off the Sanctuary. Dr. Munch will be teaching "The Measure of a Man." Come join in fellowship and learning.

The College U.M. Army will be in Pasadena, Texas during the week of May 18-24, working around the Pasadena and Houston area, doing construction and maintenance work for those in need. Ten members of Chandler FUMC will participate; Marla Frederick, Megan Frederick, John Taylor, Kyle McGill, Jill McGill, Megan McGill, Morgan McGill, Matthew Pollard, Jackie Johnston and Adam Meyers. Those participating in U.M. Army always come back so enthusiastic about their mission work and look forward to the next project. This year there will be 130 U.M. Army, college age adults in attendance.

The High School U.M. Army will be going to Atlanta,

Texas in June.

Wednesday, May 14th the Triple L will meet in Fellowship Hall for games and a potluck lunch. Come and join the fun.

Remember next Sunday, May 18th, the Fountain Sunday School Class will host a "family fun day" in Winchester Park. There will be a bounce house for the kids and drinks and snow cones will be provided. So bring your picnic and enjoy an afternoon in the park with your Church family.

Last week it was acknowledged that Bill and Zel Snow would have an anniversary. What was not noted was that they would actually celebrate 63 years together! What a wonderful accomplishment.

Happy Anniversary to: Carl and Sabrina Kinch, Franklin and Serena Griffin and Jim and Sheri Morton.

Happy Birthday to: Gary Dinsmore, Al Newman, Doug Crawford, Daniel Newsom, Danny Verver, Gaye Ray, Tommie Cagle, Stephanie Womack, Cade Smith and Hunter Hutchins.

Thought for the Week: *"I will instruct you (says the Lord) and guide you along the best pathway for your life; I will advise you and watch your progress. Don't be like a senseless horse or mule that has to have a bit in its mouth to keep it in line!" -Psalms 33:8,9*

Union Hill Baptist

by Mickie Bigbie

Mother's Day at Union Hill was very special, from the Sunday School lessons to the morning message by Brother Bill, mothers were the focus and the blessing. Hope all of you mothers (whether by a blessed act of nature or by the loving assumption of the role), had a wonderful day. Yours is an awesome responsibility and we appreciate your never ending dedication to that responsibility, not only on the one day in May that is set aside for you, but every day of the year. Not only the mothers, but all the congregation received a special blessing as Ricky Garner brought us a beautiful message in song, truly so wonderful. The evening service found us continuing our study from the first book of Samuel. You oughta try the Sunday evening service sometime. It's a particularly warm and informal time of worship and study. The lessons are thrilling and the fellowship extraordinary.

It was just a great day at Union Hill and speaking of great days, you don't want to miss this coming Sunday. It's time for Homecoming at Union Hill Sunday, May 18th.

Sunday school will be slightly abbreviated so that the morning service can start at 10:30. The gospel group from Tyler, "Route 7" will open the service, followed by the morning message from Brother Bill. Immediately after the close of service, lunch will be served in Fellowship Hall. Bring your family and friends, your special dish and come join us for a super day. Hope to see you there. Due to all the festivities we have planned, there will be no evening service this Sunday only.

Those of you planning to attend the Mark Lowery concert at Caldwell Auditorium in Tyler on May 29th should already have signed up with Glenda at the church, but just in case there are spaces left, you might go ahead and check with her.

Baseball fans, mark your calendar on June 2nd. Fans from Union Hill will leave the church at 3:30 in order to attend the game. If you are planning to go, cost is \$15.00 per person and you need to sign up with Danny Cotton by May 21st.

May is an exciting and busy month. We all in one way or another join with all the youth in the excitement of the upcoming graduation activities. We have in our church family a young man who's achieved a remarkable goal in that department. He just graduated Summa Cum Laude from The

University of Texas at Tyler. His name is Brad Cantrell. What makes his accomplishment so special is that Brad and his wife, Amy have two young sons, Jared and Baron and a baby daughter on the way!

While going to college, this young father has been busy working, providing for his growing family and has been a tremendous role model for others in our church family. Brad and Amy serve as a lovely example of what can be accomplished when you include the Lord Jesus Christ in your life daily.

This special couple will be leaving us in June to start a new chapter in their lives, as they relocate to Grand Prairie where Brad starts his training to become a financial analyst. We love this young family and to show that love, we, their church family, will be joining together at 7:00 p.m. on May 30th in fellowship hall to give them a baby shower (pink, you know) and a going away party. More details will be posted on the bulletin board and we take this opportunity to invite all of you to attend. We'll all miss them terribly but do indeed wish them well.

Summer is upon us and many things are happening at Union Hill. We invite you to join us in worship, fellowship and fun activities. Come be part of it.

See you on the hill.

Lake Palestine U.M.C.

by Barbara Cade

Since it was Mother's Day, the church honored our mothers at the second service with a special musical number from Gail Johnston. It was really beautiful and we appreciate her doing it. The bad news for the mothers was that the church had ordered some little special gifts for them, but the shipment didn't come in on time, so probably the gifts will be given out next week.

It was good to see Frank and Sandi Guerin in church again with some of their family. We know they have been keeping very busy the last few weeks.

Rev. Prather announced that the GED graduation ceremony will be in Tyler at Wagstaff Gymnasium on Thursday, May 22nd. There will be a van from the church going. If anyone wants a ride there and the exact time, contact the church or Joyce Martin.

Dale and Mary Ann Whisenhunt had company for Mother's Day.

It was great news that LeeAnn Boggs is finally home and doing well. We hope to see her out and about as soon as possible.

Also, Diane Kelder, who had an emergency appendectomy, is now home and was in church on Sunday. She was even at Bible study on Sunday night.

Congratulations to both Debbie Morris and Carla Fisher who have started new jobs recently.

A special congratulation goes to the Decker family. Jan and Milton went to Kilgore last week along with some friends from the church to welcome Shawn back from Iraq. It was a very moving time. Shawn

was even presented with a medal for services to his country.

Bob and June Hitt received some bad news recently. June's niece's husband was killed in a work-related accident. Our prayers are with the family.

The Methodist Men's garage sale was a huge success last Saturday. After a tremendous amount of work and lots of contributions from many people, the men said they made approximately \$1200. We know they will put it to good use.

Crystal Simon's father is still recovering from his stroke but doing well.

Angela Martin is starting to remind everyone about the upcoming Vacation Bible School which will be in July this year. She is in need of teachers right now. If you feel you would like to help, please let her know. The theme has to do with the beach and water and lots of sand. It should be fun.

Also, this Saturday, the 17th, is the first of the events which kick off our summer of family activities. It is Kite Day when young and old alike can come out and just have fun flying kites and being together. There will be door prizes and snacks, and hopefully, lots of wind. The event starts at 10 AM.

Other events coming up will be a family fishing day, a 4th of July fireworks display on the lake, and of course, several movie nights. The biggest event coming up though is the Chuck Wagon Gang concert on June 6th which will be in the new amphitheater on the lake. It will start at 6:30 PM with a barbecue meal immediately preceding it. The Chuck Wagon Gang is known for its gospel and cowboy music and has been popular for many, many years. Watch the newspaper for more details about this group. It's a group well worth seeing and hearing.

Brownsboro F.U.M.C.

by The Elliots

We were honored to be the special guests at New Hope Methodist Church's monthly fellowship dinner. They have some really great cooks and the retirement cake was delicious.

Our church was particularly beautiful Sunday with the beautiful flowers and pictures of our Moms on the altar. Mrs. Wanda Caldwell always does a great job. Bobby Teague sang a beautiful song written by Myra Jo. Such great talent in our church, and as usual Pam did a fine job on the organ. A new sound system was

recently installed also. If you're searching for a great church to attend, please give ours a try. Sunday school is at 10:00 and services at 11:00.

We recently spent a couple of days in Natchitoches, La. It's a great small town with several old plantations and forts you can tour. Old pin oak trees that any kids would love to have in their yards. The limbs are huge and swoop to the ground, giving wonderful cooling shade.

On many of the branches was a brown-like substance that looked like moss. A Ranger pointed it out and called it Resurrection Fern. On several branches these small 1-inch to 1-1/2 inch perfect little fern leaves were growing that he said looked just like brown moss the day before. Why the change? Rain. It

reminded me of our spiritual life at times. We are rooted in the massive, strong arms of God, yet we shrink up into small dying patches. Then comes the rain of God's love, his spirit of courage and strength to go on.

We allow pain, discouragement, disappointments, and

disillusion to destroy our strength in Him. Satan rules us unless we give God the authority to take over and we are resurrected in His Grace. The miracle of Resurrection Ferns is amazing, and so is the resurrection of our spiritual life if we let God reign in our lives.

Duke A/C & Heat

"We can help"

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Our focus is worshipping and praising God. As revealed in His word, we strive to encourage, pray, study, and bring others the Grace and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Teaching the Gospel, reaching out to save the lost and working in the fields we pray to never become weary of doing good. We sing God's praises and reach out to those in need as we too, seek spiritual growth through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday Bible Study 9:30am Sunday Evening Worship ... 6:00pm
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Children's Church 6:00pm
Wednesday Evening Service 7:00pm

Elders: Lowell Daughtry • Doug Wilson