

## You Are Invited...



## EPIC EVENTS

**Fri., March 4—6:30 p.m.—Adults to 65**  
**Imagine a Nice Getaway**  
*Italian Buffet Meal with Entertainment in Fellowship Hall*

**Sat., March 5—8:00 a.m.—Any Age**  
**The Best Part of Wakin' Up**  
*Breakfast and Entertainment in Fellowship Hall*

**Sat., March 5—5:00 p.m.—Children & Parents**  
**Imagine it is SUMMER Adventure**  
*Summer Food and Fun in Fellowship Hall*

**Sun., March 6—11:15 a.m.—Adults 65 and Up**  
**Dreaming of Yesterday and  
Imagining Tomorrow**  
*Sit-down Lunch and Entertainment in Parlor*

**Sun., March 6—6:00 p.m.—JH & High School**  
**Surf's Up—Just Imagine the Next BIG WAVE**  
*Beach Party in Fellowship Hall*

imagine  
MORE

A series of 'town hall' type meetings are set to touch all of our church family for discussions concerning the *Imagine More* Campaign. Sam Howell is organizing these meetings, known as Epic Events. Here are Sam's answers to frequently asked questions:

**1. Why the name, EPIC EVENTS?**  
The word "Epic" comes from Greek. As an adjective, it describes a lengthy narrative poem ordinarily concerning a serious subject containing details of events significant to a culture or nation. I feel that *IMAGINE MORE* is a significant event in our church culture.

**2. What happens at an event?**  
They are gatherings of church members to share a meal, entertainment and learn about *IMAGINE MORE*. It is a great time to ask questions and discuss *IMAGINE MORE*. The events are a sincere attempt to reach as many members as possible so all questions or comments are heard.

**3. Why are the 5 events divided by age groups?**  
The events are for the entire family, so to provide entertainment and meals that the entire family would enjoy, it is best to break it into age groups. Plus you get the added benefit of being with others in the church of the same age that you might not otherwise get to see. This is a Spiritual journey to be taken by the family and as individuals.

**4. If my schedule doesn't allow me to attend the event for my age group, can I attend a different event?**

Certainly. You can attend any event you wish. There are a couple of events that may not have infant or child care, so it is best to contact the church and let them know which event you plan to attend so proper arrangements can be made.

—Betsy Triplett-Hurt



**Terry Tamplen**  
Senior Pastor

## Repaint And Thin No More

Did you hear the one about the painter who didn't bring enough paint to finish the job at the old country church? He didn't want to drive all the way back to town, so he decided he would add some water to what he had, thus thinning his mixture. The job wasn't done until he was finishing up on the outside trim Sunday morning during the worship service. That's when he heard the preacher's message of "Repent and sin no more!" God convicted him in that moment, because what he heard through the walls was, "Repaint and thin no more!" Every body wondered why he traveled back to town and repainted his last days work.

Repent means to turn around and go in a different direction. For a Christian it means to turn and go in God's direction. It assumes the one repenting has made a new connection with God. That the person has heard God's will, seen the error of their way, and made a volitional decision to turn from the previous way to the better way God is calling them to go.

It happens for Churches too! FUMC entered into a new direction several years ago when the voice of God began to convict and call out to us for repentance. We realized our "mixture" for fulfilling the task of making disciples had become diluted – thinned. We didn't even have enough brushes! We decided to "repaint and thin no more!"

We made the trip back to town – we turned to God and said teach us what it means to be disciples so we can be about the business of making disciples.

God said: "Pray to me and read my word daily; come together each week and worship me; serve others at the Church and beyond; live in life-changing relationships with others; give to me through the Church. In this way you will become a community that welcomes all people into life-changing relationships with God and others."

We've been painting with that mixture for the past few years and things are better – because that's what happens when you go God's way. We are reaching people for Christ and growing our attendance and membership at FUMC – the mixture is good with more and more people "spreading the colors of God's grace" throughout the community and even around the world!

Now God is saying, "Imagine More"... and we are obediently responding! We have entered into a Capital Campaign with the goal of reaching "More People for Christ" than we ever "Imagined!" Want to hear more? Want to ask more questions? Want to know how you can participate in this great "painting" adventure we're on at FUMC? Good news! There are EPIC opportunities coming up on the weekend of March 4-5-6! See the schedule, find a time that works for you, contact the church office to reserve your spot and come with your painting clothes on... because at FUMC we are "REPAINTING AND THINNING NO MORE!"



### Pray For First United Methodist Church

1. That FUMC will be united in our mission and vision.
2. That the *Imagine More* Capital Campaign will deepen our relationship with Christ.
3. That we will be empowered by the Holy Spirit to make a difference in the lives of others.
4. That we, as a Church, begin to understand more what it means to surrender to God.
5. That we will hear God speaking to us, and we will respond accordingly.
6. That we will become more and more aware of the people in our realm of influence who need to know God's grace through us.
7. That we will have a heart of faith to see the fulfillment of our vision *More than we ever Imagined*.
8. That Pastor Terry will know God's grace for casting vision, teaching and leading FUMC.

Intentional Faith Development



**MATURITY I:** These eager participants gather to continue learning what it means to be a member of First United Methodist Church. Two of the six Raise the Bar Spiritual Growth classes remain: Ministry and Mission. Classes are conducted in the Resource Room, Sunday mornings at 10:00. Gathered around the table are (L-R) Katie Buehler, Dorothy Gibson, Walyn Gibson, Roz Shinn, Rusty Shinn, Sheri Wood, Jack Wood, and Chilsun Marsh.

## Welcome New Members



Marvin, Judi, and Marla Wilkins joined on February 2 by transfer from another denomination. Marvin is a retired orchestra director, Judi is a retired elementary school teacher, and Marla is a science teacher at OHS. The Wilkins were invited to First-UMC by friends Jody and Peggy Wallin. They are members of the Weavers Sunday School Class. Judi says, "We love the people, the service, the music. FUMC makes us feel at home."



Sheri Wood joined on June 27 by transfer from another denomination. She came to First-UMC with her husband, Jack, who has been a member for many years. They are attending the RTB Discipleship Classes.

## Feasts And Fellowship In February, Part 1: Wild Game



There is a smiling Don Wright in the midst of the smoke coming from the pits used to cook all sorts of wild game donated by local hunters.

Photos courtesy of Jon Smith

On February 5, guest speaker Ruben Cantu visits with Pastor Terry Tamplen and J.T. Morgan during the Wild Game Dinner. More than 120 men gathered to enjoy fellowship, great food and a very informative speaker. Our church

partnered with Chaparral Industries, K-Bar Ranch, Brush Mountain Outfitters and The Rusty Spur to provide an assortment of prizes for this event. Thanks to everyone who baked cookies, helped prepare the meal, decorated and served to make this annual First-UMC Outreach Event a big success.



## Feasts And Fellowship In February, Part 2: Spice of Life



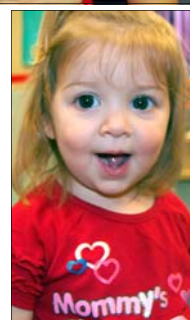
Lots of February Birthday Girls shared a beautiful heart-shaped cake at the monthly Spice of Life. (L-R) Dorothy Gibson, Mildred Bridwell, Letha Allen, Wilma Tune, Maudie Winn and granddaughter Audrey celebrate the day.



Missionary Brandon Hembree is shown with Jody Wallin. Brandon and his family are on leave to the United States, taking a break from their duties in China. See page 6 for more details about Brandon. Not pictured are Sam Howell and Russell Kimble who prepared a delicious meal of smoked Cornish hens. Sam and Russell also prepared a special meal for the church staff on Valentine's Day.



Every day at the Children's Center is filled with love. But on Valentine's Day, love, hugs, cards, and parties for each class made for an especially fun time. (L) Voss is given his box of Valentines while (C) Joshua and Colton share a Valentine hug. (R) Trista and her daughter, Perri Ann, have fun during the party in Baby Room 2, as Alexis shows her delight with the special day.



## Valentine's Day Sweetened By Youth Sales Of Chocolate-dipped Strawberries



Jennifer Robinson & Schuyler Stallcup stir the melting chocolate



Brian Robinson & friend



Andrew Marshall & Megan Carlson dip the strawberries.



James Lee & Bryson Rolls take the dipped strawberries to the next step.



Emily Allbright concentrates on icing the strawberries.



Ryan Franklin & Erin Scharlach box the strawberries.

On Sunday, Feb. 13, more than 300 dozen strawberries were dipped in chocolate, decorated with icing, boxed up and be-ribboned as the annual fundraiser for the youth had another successful year. The strawberry sales are just one funding source for the trips that the junior and senior high students take each spring and summer.

# Local \$\$\$ Impact Lives All Over The World



The Hembrees tell about life in China

Our home-grown missionary Brandon Hembree and his wife Christine, daughter Julie and son Hudson talk about their life in China during both worship services on Sunday, February 13. The Hembrees live in China, working with homeless men and educating Christian ministers. Brandon thanked the congregation for supporting them with our prayers and donations. Brandon and Christine are in the US until the end of March. To learn more about this extraordinary outreach, contact him at [hembreebrandon@gmail.com](mailto:hembreebrandon@gmail.com) or by phone, 940-220-1890.



Long-time friend and Methodist minister, Rev. Arthur Raj, visits with Randall Brown and Charlie Strackbein on Sunday, Feb. 6. Arthur is telling them about the latest endeavors of International Ministries



Fellowship-India. Arthur and his wife, Jay, work in Bangalore, India. His mission field of working with students is supported by prayers and donations from this congregation.

David Nelson sells Jackalopes Hockey tickets to Glenn and Nell Smith. Tickets to the game are part of the worldwide United Methodist Church fundraising effort, *Imagine No Malaria*. Locally, our church is dedicated to raising \$30,000 as our part of eradicating this killer disease. David is the church coordinator for this effort. More information about this important mission is available at [nomoremalaria.com](http://nomoremalaria.com).



Odessa hockey game helps fight malaria in Africa



Jacob's wish comes true thanks to Noisy Offering and Carlson Small Group

Thanks to \$1,017.84 raised from the weekly Noisy Offering combined with a garage sale by the Carlson Small Group, a 5-year old Odessan gets to go to Disney World. Working through Kids Wish Network, a young man named Jacob and his family saw his

wish come true with a trip on Feb. 17. Jacob suffers from chronic lung disease and brain damage.





happy  
birthday  
...to

March 1  
Bobby Schneider  
Holly Stallcup

March 2  
Bob Bacon  
Melissa Lewis  
Julie Marshall

March 3  
Garren Schneider

March 4  
Vicki Terrell

March 5  
Carra Schneider  
Virgil Trower  
Bill Watts

March 6  
Dan Ferguson  
Stan Smith

March 7  
Barbara Browning

March 9  
Lora Kirkland

March 10  
Carson Coulter

March 11  
Stacie Ahrlert  
Johnnie Williams

March 12  
Jake Alvarez  
Chris Johnson  
Becki Smith

March 13  
Christian Baza  
Anne Shugart  
Vicki Tamplen

March 14  
Tricia Elrod  
Summer Wright

March 15  
Henley Graves  
Amelia Lyons  
March 16  
Lyndi Hanson

Joshua Weaver  
March 17  
Anne Doran  
Lady Hawkins  
Sheila Patterson

March 18  
Ken Brumelle  
Kelby Davis

March 19  
Terry Tamplen  
Dylan White  
Natalie Wilson  
Robert Winn

March 20  
LeNee Grice  
Aubrey Nall  
Dan Smith

March 21  
Mark Owens  
Nancy Rodman

March 22  
Oscar Ramos

March 24  
Tommy Doran  
Paul Girard  
Sally Pond  
Rebekah Scott  
Nancy Stewart

March 25  
Lexi Allgood  
Collin Freeman  
Bill Harden  
Doris Ann Shite

March 27  
Andy Rolls  
Mackenzie Smith

March 28  
Sandy Claiborne  
Maggie Furst

March 29  
Michelle Rea

March 30  
Gary Sims

March 31  
Johnny Hall

Congratulations to Jordan and Kevin Boen  
on the birth of their son,  
**Dean Matthew Boen**  
born on February 10, 2011  
7 lbs & 14 ozs



Congratulations to Lisa and Colby Brazile  
on the birth of their son,  
**Jack Stowers Brazile**  
born on February 15, 2011  
7 lbs & 6.8 ozs  
Proud grandparents are Danny & Susie  
Schraubert



Children's Clothes Closet

In memory of  
**Nita Clayton**  
Given by  
Gloria & LaDoyce Lambert

In memory of  
**Teresa Fuentes**  
Given by  
Robbie & Dan Brazelton

In memory of  
**Bill Heggemeier**  
Given by  
Corinne Costello

Food Pantry  
In memory of  
**Jewell King**  
Given by  
Les & Betty Kay King

Youth Ministry  
In memory of  
**Linda Laughlin**

Given by  
Dottie & Paul Chavez

Memorial Fund  
In memory of  
**Nita Clayton**

Given by  
Johnnie Williams

In memory of  
**Bill Heggemeier**  
Given by  
Lady & Thomas Hawkins

Stephen Ministry  
In memory of  
**Bill Heggemeier**

Given by:  
Dave & Sandy Ferguson  
Willis & Kay Finifrock  
Terry & Cheryl Heggemeier  
Gerry & Rich Paulson

Shared Ministries

In memory of:  
**Nita Clayton**  
**Bill Heggemeier**  
Given by  
Doris & John Mason



*Christian Sympathy to...*

...Beau & Mary Jane Wright for the loss of Beau's father,  
**Kenneth Wright**

...Wanda Shugart, Tom & Jennifer Trainor, and Clyde &  
Anne Shugart for the loss of Wanda's daughter, Tom's  
mother and Clyde's sister, **Teresa Fuentes**

...Danny & Paula Pool for the loss of Danny's cousin,  
**Billy Pool**

...Jean Heggemeier for the loss of her sister, **Patricia Bevan**

...Mary Lou & Kenny Kiphart and Karley for the loss of  
Mary Lou's mother, **Pat Rhodes**

