



First Edition

a bi-weekly newsletter for First United Methodist Church-Georgetown

January 24, 2012

In This Issue

- FUMC over the past five years
- 2011 Christmas Offering
- UMW/MOMs
- Lenten Devotional Books
- Praise & Promise Report
- FUMC Financial Report
- Poinsettia Thank You
- Senior Adult Ministry
- MPF
- Divorce Growth Group
- Wednesday Night Live
- Save the Dates
- FUMC College Group
- OneNow
- Next Issue
- Another Perspective

Another Perspective



2011 End of Year Report



Total membership:	2373
Total new members:	101
Total professions of faith:	30
Total giving in support of the ministry budget:	\$1,571,945
Total giving to Praise and Promise:	\$497,493
Total of other missional giving:	\$111,900

Reflections on the Shared Journey

The statistics printed above are from our annual End-of-the-Year report that is submitted to the Annual Conference. Not reported are other significant numbers, such as the number of members involved in discipleship-growth groups and in mission-outreach efforts.

In order to understand the numbers, they must be read in comparison to the same numbers in past years. On page 2 is a chart that reflects these statistics over the previous five years. The chart bears testimony to the difficult time through which we have walked. Average attendance in worship has decreased from an all-time high of 799 in 2007 to last year's 685. Over the same period of time, giving to the ministry budget declined by about \$220,000. This year's statistics provide a word of encouragement. Average attendance in worship showed an increase from 685 in 2010 to 695 this past year. That modest increase marks a reversal of the five-year pattern of decline. Giving to the ministry budget also reflects the same kind of modest reversal (\$1,567,749 in 2010; \$1,571,945 in 2011).

In order to understand the numbers, they must also be read as shorthand for people and ministry. The average number in worship reflects people involved in our life together on any given Sunday morning. The number of new members reflects those who are being led by God to join us in our commitment to learning the ways of God that Jesus taught, allowing Jesus' teachings to shape who we are and how we live. The amount of money given to the ministry budget reflects ministries by which peoples' lives are touched with the grace of God.

What the numbers cannot reflect is the spirit of this congregation. That spirit is reflected in meaningful worship, in the glad welcome offered to guests every Sunday, in adult Sunday School classes that are growing, in the relationships and fellowship in those classes, in new groups that are being formed, in the countless hours that are invested in mission and outreach in our community, in the laughter that is heard in our worship and in our classes and in our hallways. These expressions of the joyful spirit among us validate what the numbers reflect.

I look forward to what God has for us in 2012. What will the numbers be at the end of 2012? What will those numbers reflect?

I am especially eager for the Leadership Council to be formed and begin functioning in the early months of 2012. This group will lead us in an exploration of (1) who are we?, (2) who are our neighbors?, and (3) how is God calling us to love our neighbors? Their work will set the direction we will move and the goals we will pursue over the next three (3) to five (5) years. Their work will augment and build on the quality ministry already being done under the leadership of our staff.

I am grateful to be a part of what God is doing in us and among us and through us. It is a joy to be a part of a Christian community that lives out of a sense of purpose and is committed to being a partner with God in God's work of transforming lives and transforming the world. I am blessed to serve as your pastor.

Grace and peace,
Steve



open hearts

open minds

open doors

First United Methodist Church ■ 410 East University Avenue ■ Georgetown, Texas ■ 78626 ■ www.fumcgt.org

First United Methodist Church Georgetown over the past five years



	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total membership	2268	2323	2366	2397	2403	2373
Total new members	127	91	90	116	91	101
Total professions of faith	49	29	28	43	20	30
Total giving in support of the ministry budget	1,647,094	1,734,730	1,777,181	1,657,625	1,567,749	1,571,945

2011 Christmas Offering

Thank you for your support of our Annual Christmas offering. This year's offering was divided equally between three different ministries:

Imagine No Malaria – The United Methodist Church's quadrennial effort to eliminate deaths by malaria by 2015

Methodist Children's Home (Waco) and the **Methodist Mission Home** (San Antonio)

ESL – our English as a Second Language ministry

This year's offering was **\$24,396**.

That means each of these three mission efforts will receive **\$8,132**.



FUMC Praise & Promise REPORT JUNE 1, 2008 - DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Actual 6-1-08 to 12-31-11	Project Budget
Receipts	3,354,179	3,570,000
Less Expenditures	<3,520,403>	<3,570,000>
Excess Receipts Over Expenditures	<166,224>	0

FUMC FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 1, 2011-DECEMBER 31, 2011

	2011 Actual 1-1-11 to 12-31-11	2011 Budget 1-1-11 to 12-31-11
Receipts	1,571,945	1,626,000
Less Expenditures	<1,537,364>	<1,626,000>
Excess Receipts Over Expenditures	34,581	0

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN WELCOME MOMSs



FUMC's MOMSs group which meets the first and third Friday mornings of each month in the Fellowship Hall at the Church, is pleased to become affiliated with UMW. MOMSs offers breakfast, fellowship, mentoring, local mission opportunities, sharing and learning for mothers of children of all ages. Childcare is provided during meetings for registered members. This is a growing, vibrant group of ladies who welcome new members and volunteers. Please contact the church office for more information.

We need YOUR help!

FUMC will be creating a book of devotionals based on the Lectionary readings for Lent, and needs people from the church to contribute.

If you are interested in writing devotionals for Lent, please contact Pastor Amy at amy@fumcgt.org.



Thank you to so many of you for your generous donation of poinsettias that were delivered Christmas Day to our special friends who are at home, in nursing, retirement and assisted living residences.

Also, thanks and appreciation goes to the following persons who gave part of their Christmas Day to help with the delivery:

Caren Paull
Lay Pastoral Care Ministry

Patty & Bart Lee	Remi Smith	Lee & Brian Haislip
Kathy Eagle	Cyndie Coulter	Paul & Regan Landreth
Elaine Jackson	Lola Soulen	Janis & Bailey Hudson
Jeannine Fairburn	Karin Ellis	Marie & Katie Camp
Ron & Kelly Lockhart	Doris Baber	Don Paull
Barbara & Hartley Sappington	Lola Soulen	Terry & Roger France

Senior Adult Ministry group

Save the Date!

Lunch and games at
11:30 a.m. on February 2
in Room 1003 of the McKinney Center.

Lunch will be potluck,
so bring snacks or a dish to share,
and come ready to play games after!

RSVP to the office by February 1st.

FEBRUARY

2

Next Preteen MPF!

February 12th
3:30-5pm
in the MMC Gym

Methodist
Preteen
Fellowship



Come enjoy some fun and fellowship as we
play some crazy group games! Invite Your Friends!

DIVORCE GROWTH GROUP **NOW** A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS!



Anyone who has been divorced knows sharing
loss helps, sharing pain makes it less, and
becoming re-established takes time.

This group is for those who are working
through the dynamics of divorce and are
seeking to find a renewed sense of self.

Come share and be encouraged.

We meet Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the library (upstairs, across
from the elevator). For more information, please contact group
facilitator, Brenda Bearden at brenda53bearden@gmail.com.

* Save the Dates! *

COMMUNITY
EASTER EGG HUNT * April 7



Vacation
Bible
School * June 4-8

If you'd like to help with either or both of
these events, please contact Dotty Hooker at 863-2370.

FUMC COLLEGE GROUP

FUMC has a new College Sunday School class, and ALL college
students are welcome! It will be hosted in Room "D," the small
front room in the Hope House (1303 Elm Street, right around the
corner from the church). The group will start with a six week
study led by Pastor Amy, covering the book *Seeing Gray in a World
of Black and White* by Adam Hamilton. Spread the word and
come and join us!



Wednesday Night Live

- ★ Wednesday Night Live is a weekly event where members, visitors, and neighbors come together for a meal, fellowship and learning.
- ★ Dinner is served from 5:15 – 6:30 p.m.,
- ★ Child care and study hall are available for infants through Grade 5.

JANUARY 18-FEBRUARY 1

Hope and Action For God's Good Creation

"Hope and Action for God's Good Creation," will consider the severity of threats to God's creation and our partnership with God in confronting them.

The study begins Wednesday, Jan. 18 and continues Jan. 25 and Feb. 1 at 6:15 each Wednesday in room 1001 of the MMC. Julie Fuschak, Milton Jordan and Bishop Joe Wilson will coordinate the study. All those interested are invited to join in this Wednesday Night Live study.

FEBRUARY 8

The Past Hundred Years: An Examination of a Genderized American Protestant Church

Throughout church history, the church has undergone transformations in response with or in reaction to societal changes.

Presented by Trevor Kennedy at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8 in Room 1001 of the MMC.

- ★ Cost for dinner is \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for ages 11-18. Children 10 and under are free.
- ★ Register by Monday at noon at fumcgt.org, or through the church office at 512-863-2370

FEBRUARY 15 & 29

No Longer Silent: Women in Scripture and the Early Church

Historically, the voices of women in Scripture and the Early Church have often been overlooked or silenced. But these women left behind a fascinating legacy, and still have much to say to us today. Come learn more about them and how God was at work in their lives.

Led by Pastor Amy, this two week study will meet on February 15, then take a break for Ash Wednesday, before resuming on February 29. The group will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Room 1001 of the McKinney center.

FEBRUARY 22

Instead of programs, start your Lenten journey by joining us for a special Ash Wednesday service with Bishop J. Michael Lowry preaching. The regular WNL meal will still be provided.

MORE INFORMATION ON WNL EVENTS FOR MARCH THROUGH MAY TO COME

Office Hours

8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Monday - Friday

(512) 863-2370
(512) 863-0602 (fax)
(512) 868-0726 (Youth)

Service Times

8:30am Informal/Traditional
11:00am Contemporary
11:00am Formal/Traditional

Sunday School

9:45am

Pastors

Dr. Steve Langford
Senior Pastor

Rev. Yvonne Coon
Associate Pastor

Rev. Amy Forsythe
Associate Pastor

Rev. Philip Riley
Pastor Emeritus

Program Staff

Wendell Brown
Church Business Administrator

Dotty Hooker
Director of Children's Ministries

Scotty Rundell
Director of Music & Fine Arts Ministries

Jackie Vick
Contemporary Service Worship Leader

Jason Weaver
Director of Youth Discipleship

First United Methodist Church

410 East University Avenue

Georgetown TX 78626

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Georgetown, Texas
Permit No. 89

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**ONE NOW
2012**
FEBRUARY 24-26

A weekend Youth retreat where several churches from multiple denominations come together as ONE body, ONE spirit for ONE weekend of worship, mission, small group study, fellowship and fun.

Sign up early by filling out a registration form in the Youth office by **February 1** for the best deal!

Josh Caldwell band

Next Issue of *First Edition*:
January 24, 2012

Deadline to submit content to church office:
5pm, January 18, 2012

Another Perspective



Pastors **Yvonne Coon, Amy Forsythe,** and **Dr. Steve Langford** pray with elementary school students during Christmas Eve worship services. FUMC held five different worship services on Christmas Eve 2011.