






October Birthdays and Anniversaries

 Chet & Eddie Davis—A

 Cody Malone

 Andy Brady

 Moriah Cook

 Melania Adams

 Marissa Mason



Pastor's Paragraphs

I have some questions for God, Jesus and the Spirit when I get to the pearly gates. And, yes, I will be prostrate on the ground.

Not justice stuff or why did you make jellyfish, but more under the heading of "What were YOU thinking when You did this?"

Psalm 139 says God knows us: *"Before we were conceived -- My eyes saw you."*

Take a moment and think about that idea. In all those moments in our lives God saw our tears, our laughter and all the pain we inflict on others and ourselves.

God saw all those things before we were born, and God turns us loose on all creation?

Then we get sent here, and I am not sure that I understand that very well either. What if I miss the moment I am sent here to see, to be in, to make a difference in someone's life? What if I need a do-over? Is there a pinch hitter waiting to say "God loves you" to someone down in the deepest valley when I am at the refreshment stand getting a snow cone?

Finally, I believe that Scripture says we are going home to God someday, and that is as much a mystery as the rest of it. How much grace is there in heaven? In addition to myself, I know I will need an overflowing cup of love, grace, and mercy at the heavenly gates.

Why did the Lord God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit turn people like us loose in creation? Could it be that maybe part of us is within God and a part of God is within each of us? Is there a spiritual umbilical cord that forever binds us to God no matter how far we run?

Like I said in the beginning, I have some questions. I am sure God has some answers.

Before the sun rises, after the candles are lit and the Psalms are read, I lift you up in prayers to the One who created us, the One who came among us and the One who sustains us. Amen.

Pastor Paul Porter

Trunk or Treat



**Sunday
October 31
5:30 p.m.**

Come join the fun and delight children of all ages. Please back your car or truck in the FUMC-Winona parking lot by 5:30 p.m. Decorate and/or have games and treats ready for the trunk or treaters.

Contact Tina McFarland for ideas or more information.

What is a United Methodist?

United Methodists are the second largest Protestant denomination in America. We are the home to both President Bush and Senator Dole, as well as President Clinton's family when he was in the White House. Methodists have played a significant role in shaping our nation. Southern Methodist University was started by Methodists. Harris Methodist Hospital in

Fort Worth and all the related healthcare entities to Harris were started by Methodists. Other institutions include Texas Wesleyan University, Aldersgate enrichment center, Wesleyan homes, and other community agencies and ministries were started by Methodists.

United Methodists hold to the historic doctrines of the Christian faith. We value the intellect and modern science, while at the same time looking to the Bible as the authoritative guide for faith and practice. Methodists have a passionate

faith with strong convictions, but we also recognize that the world is not always black and white. We are willing to ask questions, to wrestle with difficult issues, and to do so with grace and compassion. It is a denomination of "reasonable enthusiasts" as our Methodist founder, John Wesley, would say, with an emphasis on combining faith and reason, knowledge and vital piety.

Methodists have been known for our emphasis on a personal faith, lived out in concrete ways in the world. We have historically valued well-informed and passionate preaching, worship that was lively, and small groups where people could grow in faith.

Methodists have open hearts, and open minds—and welcome anyone interested in learning more about the Christian faith. If you would like to know more about what it means to follow Christ, please call 903-877-3209 or email: pastorpeporter@yahoo.com

Remember Good Wins! – Hang On! – **Good Wins!** – Keep the Faith! – **Good Wins!** – Hold on by your fingernails! – **Good Wins!**
Bishop Richard Looney

THOUGHTS
 FOR
 THE
 HOUR

It takes strength to acknowledge our anger.
 It takes strength to face our sadness.
 It takes strength to reach out for help.
Mr. Fred Rogers

There is a Christian monastery at the foot of Mount Sinai. The monks of this monastery wear children's bonnets (a cap with a chinstrap) with six stars on each side of the cap representing the twelve disciples and one star on the back of the cap for themselves. The cap represents living their lives as children of God with help from God. (*We would look good in those hats!*) *Paul Porter*

Remember - I do not have to be right about God.

I *have* to belong to God. *Paul Porter*

The Lowest Common Denominator we have is a hunger for God. *Annie Dillard*

There are times when doing ministry that I am enthusiastically stupid.

There are times when doing ministry that I witness God at work within others and myself. Thanks be to God. *Paul Porter*



FUMC-WINONA
 BLOOD DRIVE
 at the Church by
 Carter Blood Center
 Sunday, October 17, 2010
 9 am-1 pm

CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our annual Church Conference will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary.
 Please plan on attending.

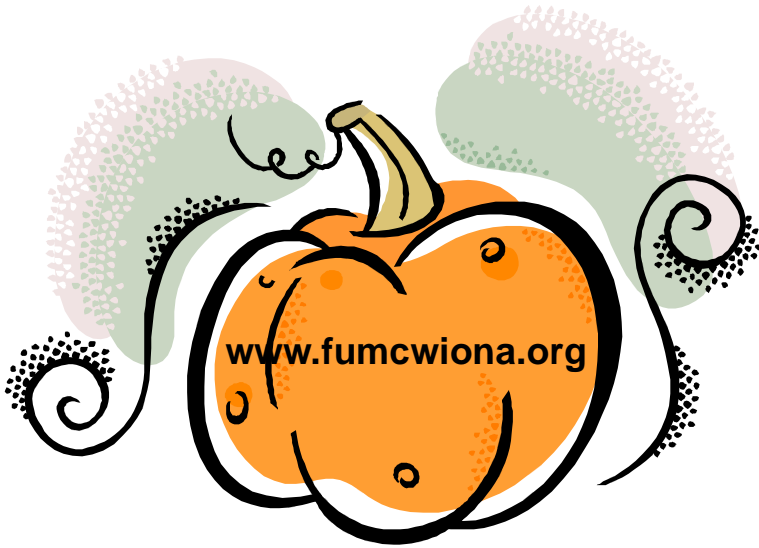
First United Methodist Church—Winona



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RESOURCES:

United Methodist News Service: (http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.1355375/k.FA13/UMNS_News.htm)

InfoServ: (<http://infoserv.umc.org>)

UM Reporter Interactive: (www.umportal.org)

UMNS on Facebook: (<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=ifITKWNRGaIKL3K&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWPrHqIWF>)

UMNS on Twitter: (<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=olL5LeMPLLeKYLpl&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWPrHqIWF>)

Interpreter Magazine: (<http://interpretermagazine.org/interior.asp?ptid=43&mid=7085>)

EI' Interprete (Interpreter in Spanish): (<http://eliinterprete.org/>)

10thousanddoors.org: (<http://www.tenthousanddoors.org>)

Rethink Church: (<http://www.rethinkchurch.org>)

UM TechShop: (<http://secure.umcom.org/store/catalog/categoryinfo.aspx?cid=16>)

UM Global Health Initiative: (http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.4407745/k.89CF/Global_Health.htm)



The District's 2010 Lay Speaking Training will be held **October 23, 2010** at **Marvin UMC**. Registration 7:30 a.m. \$15 Introduction to Lay Speaking or \$25 Advance Course—Discovering Spiritual Gifts. Application can be obtained on the Church's website or at www.nwdumc.org/lay-speaker-ministry. For further information contact Gerry Giles via email at ggiles@marvinumc.com or 903-592-7396.

The evidence of faithfulness

September Totals
Giving:
 General Fund
 \$ 4,306
 Missions
 \$ 73

Other
 \$ 1,786.30
Total Giving
 \$ 6,165.30
Total Budgeted
 \$6,173.66

Worship Attendance
 100