



Pleasant Retreat UMC

P.O. Box 207
Thorndale, Texas 76577

Church Phone: 512-824-0226
www.umcthorndale.com

Each Week @ PRUMC

SUNDAY

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group

WEDNESDAY

- 6:45 p.m. Prayer in the Chapel
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice

SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

- 8:00 a.m. Bacon, Bull and Blessings (Men's Group)

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WANT TO BE THE FIRST TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER AND SAVE POSTAGE TOO??
Just send an e-mail to ministerterry@hotmail.com with PRUMC Newsletter as your subject to receive your newsletter by e-mail.

Pastor—Rev. Terry Dougherty Phone: 979-224-3660 E-mail: ministerterry@hotmail.com

August 1, 2011

A New Year of Learning

Wherever I have been, the seasons of the church year mirrored that of the school year. This is the time we plan for special events, resume programs that had a rest over the summer holidays, and folks get back into a routine of attending Sunday worship more regularly. As we think of the coming year, I ask you to think and pray about the following questions as they relate to PRUMC.

1. What will we do this year to enrich the prayer life of our congregation?
2. What will we do this year to help make our worship services more meaningful?
3. How will we encourage people to have a more direct personal encounter with God's Word?
4. How will we encourage people in their personal witness?
5. How will we further PRUMC's involvement in hands-on mission work?

Let me know your thoughts! Pastor Terry

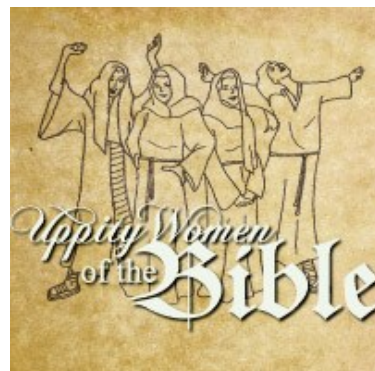
Who Will Teach our Children?

Some people say that Sunday School programs were strong in the past because church was one place that women could use their gifts in a world that limited opportunities for women outside of the home. Our world was quite different 50 years ago and today we need to find new ways to share God's story with our children. Though challenging, it remains our duty as a church. So how will you go about it?

Do you have 30 minutes a month to help? If so, I have the resources to get us started. If we can present the same Biblical lesson to the kids in 4-6 different ways it will be fun for the leaders and the kids—think VBS spread out over a month or so of Sundays. Two adults per Sunday will be needed. Sound like a plan? Will you help?

Planning needs to begin soon. There will be a brief meeting after church on August 14 to explore this idea (or bring your own!).

Please contact Pastor Terry if you are interested and cannot make the meeting.



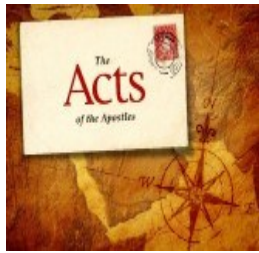
Women's Summer Bible Study

August 4, 11, 18 and 25
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Pastor Terry will lead a four week study on the Book of Ruth, one of the "uppity women of the Bible."

Just bring your Bible and come when you can!

SUNDAY SERMONS



This summer we will linger at Pentecost for a while, remembering the story of the early Christian church. There are many lessons we can learn from the joys and struggles of the early followers of Jesus Christ as recorded in the book of Acts.

AUGUST 7 (Communion)
Acts 6:8-15, 7:51-60 Hallelujah Anyhow!

AUGUST 14
Acts 9:1-19a Who'd a Thank It?

AUGUST 21
Acts 16:16-34 Breaking Free

AUGUST 28
Acts 17:16-32 Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

In Our Prayers

"There are two things we cannot do alone. One is to be married and the other is to be a Christian."

Paul Tournier

Grace Hall
Darlene Biehle
Shirley Ling
New Tribes Mission
Brian Roger/Kovar
Jerry Brown/Lucas
Tandi Sizemore
Client Murphy
Steve Reid
Willie Neely Family

Glen Anders
Harvey Smith
U.S. Armed Forces
Sharon Alexander
Beverly Scott/Pritchard
Janice Michalk
James Dawson/Hobbs
Jerry Hill
Caregivers

David Pritchard
Charlene McDaniel
Pioneer Mission
Betty Nutt/Rose
Sue Rogers
Glen Goetz, Jr
Carla Meadors
Bob Scarborough
RAIN

Current Prayer Concerns

Flood and Fire Victims
Susan Ponder
LaVerne McDaniel
Barbara Rogers/Kovar
Bruce (Big Tracks) Hendricks

Katie Rose
Michael Goldman
Graham Dickerson
John Michaels

Karen Rosenevach
Ruth Shigley
Berdie Gambrell
Soto Family
Bruce Kennedy



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Michael E Gordy	8/2	Suzanne Machac	8/15
David Persons	8/2	Cooper Taylor	8/15
Karen Clawson	8/5	Edward Weise	8/19
Laverne McDaniel	8/5	Shirley McCoy	8/21
David Goetz	8/6	Joyce McCoy	8/26
Paula Hood	8/10	Susan Rose	8/30
Wayne Luker	8/10	Linda Biehle	8/31
Doris Campbell	8/12	Jim Hall	8/31
Barbara Foster	8/15		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Harvey and Ruth Smith	8/3
Alan and Dee Kress	8/14
James and Vanessa McCoy	8/18
Mickey and Krisy	8/18
Rhett and Michele Hairston	8/25

A Blueprint for Ministry

The following is an excerpt from an article written by Joe Fort, District Superintendent. The entire article will be printed over the next several months in this newsletter.

Blueprint item no. 1: Prayer Focus

The house of God must be a house of prayer. It is only by means of prayer that we open ourselves to God's being. There are many excellent books on prayer; therefore it is not necessary to discuss how to pray here. However, at all levels prayer should be embedded in the life of the congregation.

The pastor, of course, should be deeply committed to prayer as a daily practice. Beyond this, persons in the church must devote themselves to praying for the pastor, the staff, the church as a whole, and the special needs of the congregation. Prayer should be a prominent part in every worship service. Prayer should be a vital part of all meetings and planning endeavors. The church should have prayer teams that view this as their particular ministry in the congregation. Again, there are many ways to approach the matter. In a larger congregation, the prayer ministry may become highly organized. In the smaller church, it may be a very simple design. By means of concerted prayer, the Lord will place the Holy Spirit in your congregation. This is the first commitment you must make.

NEXT MONTH—Blueprint item no. 2: Engagement with the Word of God



The First Day of School is Almost Here!

On Sunday, AUGUST 21 we will have a special blessing of the backpacks and prayers for all students and teachers and staff as they begin a new school year.

KIDS—REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR BACKPACKS TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 22!

Confirmation

One of the most exciting ministries the Church participates in as a family is the Baptismal Journey. This process of Christian discipleship, begun at Baptism with vows made on behalf of the children, is completed at Confirmation when we are made accountable to those vows by instructing our young people in the basics of our Faith. Confirmation is offered to our young people when they reach sixth grade. Persons who have not been confirmed, who are at least 11 years of age, also are welcomed to join the class. The class will be held on Sunday afternoons, beginning in late September. The length of the program will depend upon the number of students.

ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2011 AT 2:00 P.M. THERE WILL BE A MEETING FOR ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENT(S) IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND.



I want to thank each and every one of you for the beautiful flowers and balloon you sent me after surgery. Your prayers, cards and calls kept my spirits up and got me up and out.

Love to all of you! LaVerne

VBS 2011 SHAKES IT UP!!

Shake It Up Vacation Bible School at Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church was a great success thanks to those who supported us with donations of food, supplies, their time, and money. A BIG thanks goes out to Linda Grimm who was in charge of VBS. Shake It Up Café' was where we learned that the ingredients to Carrying Out God's Word are "Be Ready For God", "Give Happily to God", "Remember Jesus Often" and "Celebrate God Forever" SHAKE IT UP!! We had a new Bible Bite each day as well as games, stories and crafts. We were visited by the surprise celebrities Paula Bean, Rachael Fay, Bobbie Play, and Emerill Lograss. Paula Bean (Martha Kovar) taught the Pre-School and Kindergarten Chefs. Rachael Fay (Theresa Goetz) along with Bobbie Play (Andrew Stolte) and Emerill Lograss (Matthew Goetz) ran the Foodology experiments. Along with our celebrities were teachers, chefs, and helpers. Chef Basil (Linda Kennedy), Chef Rosemary (Rosemary Mathis), Chef Oregano (Donna Larkin), and Chef Cayene (Barbara Smith) ran the kitchen. Our craft center teachers were Chef McDonald (Peggy Weise), Chef Thyme (Wanda Hobbs) and helper Chef Dari Queen (Darian Davidson). Our teachers were Brenda Pritchard, Susan Rose, Jana Heine and storyteller Marlene Coffman. Helpers were Chef Paprika (Emily Drumm), Jordan Heine, Kara Goetz, Jordan Schramm, Savannah Garcia, Ashleigh Paulin, Caitlin Garcia, and Justin Sowers.

Article written by Marlene Coffman



The following is an excerpt from a blog posted by Katie Rose. Katie is in Zambia sharing the Good News of God's love. You can read the rest of her posting at katieandamandatozambia.blogspot.com

On Wednesday, Melody, Audrye and I were so humbled by a visit to the pediatric ward at the hospital here in Livingstone. We went there to pray for the children and share Jesus with the parents and workers. There were children with malnutrition, HIV, Malaria, Tuberculosis, Pneumonia, the flu, and other unidentified problems. All I can say is that it absolutely breaks your heart. But praise God that that kind of brokenness spurs compassionate, pleading prayers. There was one precious baby girl named Lillian who was born at 6 months and weighs a little over 3 pounds now. She is such a fighter and we are believing the Lord for her growth and health! When we first got to the hospital there was such a burden and sadness for those children, but praying for them gave their mothers and caretakers such hope and joy! Before we left the hospital we prayed for God's Name and Glory to be made known in that place and, for there to be restoration and health in every child. The rejoicing really came when I decided to go for a run that afternoon, and wanted to run back by the hospital to give out a few baby outfits we had received in the mail (thanks mom!). When I went back inside the hospital the whole atmosphere had changed, and I felt much joy in that place. I believe the Lord really touched the entire pediatric ward! I ask some of the mothers how their day had been and how their baby was doing now, and many of them said, "oh they are very much fine now!" Meaning, they are doing well!!! Praise God! As I passed out outfits and watched



the mother's faces when their baby got a brand new outfit from America, my heart was just ruined with love for them. Leaving the hospital, I was saying goodbye and that I hoped to see all of them again sometime, and one of the mothers said, "yes we hope to see you, but we will not see you here, because we will be well and at home!!" I left that place praising the Lord, because I know that He is Healer and that that one mother's statement is the truth.

"I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and comfort him and his mourners, creating words of praise. The Lord says, 'Peace, peace to the one who is far or near, and I will heal him'." –Isaiah 57:18-19.

Friends, all I can say at this point is that our Lord Jesus Christ is real and He is good. His compassion is endless and His grace and mercies are new everyday. This is our Lord, believe it!

HELP SPONSOR NEW CONGREGATIONS & CHURCH RENEWAL

Become a "From the Ground Up" Shareholder

New churches are needed in every Texas Annual Conference district. The West District in recent years has received major funding for the St. Luke's UMC and Hispanic ministry initiative in Bryan. The amount for these two undertakings alone has totaled several hundred thousand dollars. In addition, church revitalization efforts in existing congregations take place every year. During 2011 three of our district congregations received major grants in order to launch revitalization programs.

One major source of financial support for these worthy endeavors is the **From the Ground Up** share program. Methodists throughout the Texas Annual Conference agree to sponsor a "share," which amounts to two \$50 gifts each year (\$100 total). You will receive a letter each time it is time to send in one of these gifts. Shares are ongoing commitments – they will continue from year to year, unless you choose to cancel them.

Your gifts will help to train new church pastors, provide salary support in their first few years, and underwrite expenses for worship sites. Additionally, you will be assisting many congregations, including some close to home, with efforts at leadership training and enhancement of their ministry efforts.

The Texas Annual Conference has set a goal of subscribing at least one share for every 25 church members in each local congregation. Thousands are already shareholders, participating in God's work through the **From the Ground Up** program. Won't you join them? Investing in the Kingdom is one of the greatest privileges of every Christian. Please let your church know that you are willing to take out a share in **From the Ground Up**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

MISSION

The mission of Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church is to reach out and welcome all peoples to become disciples for Christ.

VISION

The vision of Pleasant Retreat United Methodist Church is to be a community of Holy Spirit inspired people providing facilities and ministries to enable us to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

We're on the web!
www.umcthorndale.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

TRUSTEES MEETING
August 9, 2011—7 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
August 15, 2011—7 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

HUB CHARGE CONFERENCE
October 16, 4 p.m.
FUMC, Caldwell

Fifth Sunday Community
WORSHIP SERVICE

July 31, 2011—6:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Come and experience our unity
through Jesus Christ!

Worship is the “work of *all* God’s people!”

It has been a joy to see how PRUMC members and friends fully participate in the Sunday morning worship. It would be wonderful if some are willing to help lead our time together on Sunday morning. There are many ways to do so—leading prayer, reading Scripture, singing with the choir, greeting, ushering—perhaps even more ways than I can think. Please let me know if God is calling you to provide some leadership during our worship time.

Pastor Terry

LOVE FUND

Otherwise known as the pastor’s discretionary fund. A fund has been established to enable the pastor to meet emergency needs of church and community members. The gifts given at VBS will provide \$140 to the Love Fund. You are invited to contribute on the first Sunday of each month with an offering placed on the Communion rail.

THE CHURCH NEEDS YOUR USED PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES. PLEASE PLACE THEM IN THE BOX NEAR THE CHURCH FRONT DOOR OR BRING THEM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE. THESE CARTRIDGES WILL HELP OFFSET THE COST OF CHURCH OFFICE SUPPLIES

Remember to bring your canned goods on the first Sunday of each month to support the Food Pantry at Shiloh Baptist Church.

Hope you enjoy our new monthly newsletters. If you have announcements, articles or pictures that you want to submit for the September 1 issue, please submit them to Pastor Terry no later than August 24th.

FISH FRY

\$8.00 per plate
DINE IN OR TAKE OUT
Sunday, August 7, 2011
Serving begins at 11:00 a.m.
Thorndale Fireman’s Hall

MENU: Fried catfish, beans, noodles, cole slaw, bread, pickles, onions
Desserts will be available.

SILENT AUCTION

Proceeds to benefit the
BULLDOG BAND