



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

TUESDAY

10 a.m. L.A.M.B.S.

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

October 1, 2011

From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise. Philipians 4:8

What do you see when you drive down the road? Do you only see the dead branches of a mature tree and begin to worry that if they cannot survive this draught, what can? Or do you marvel that a tree can have such a long, long life before succumbing to the forces of nature? Are you able to see the flowers blooming, seemingly thriving in this hot, dry weather? Ultimately, our hope, our happiness depends upon what we choose to pay attention to. We, ones who trust in God's goodness and love, know that God is with us through all things.



See you Sunday! Pastor Terry

Chili Supper and Auction a Great Success

Thank you to everyone who worked to make this year's event successful. Through your efforts and the support of our church and community, **\$3395.86** profit was realized. Ten percent of that amount will be added to the pastor's discretionary fund (that's an emergency fund to help people in need). The rest will go toward the annual budget.

The money made by the event is not the only thing that made it a success. These type of events do much to foster a cooperative spirit in a community. They give people an opportunity to sit down and have a conversation, perhaps even to see some folks who are not here regularly. It's also a chance to invite people in our community over to "our" place for a visit. I am already looking forward to our next big event!

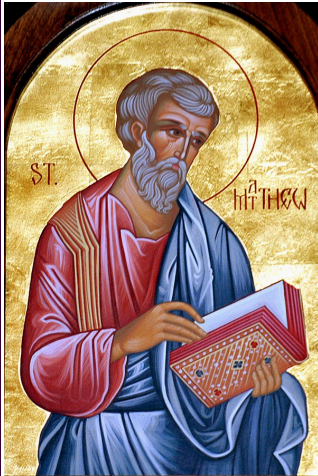


Good Food...

Going once, going twice... SOLD!!!

...Great Folks!

More pictures on pg. 5



SUNDAY SERMONS

Several special Sundays to look forward to in October. World Communion Sunday is October 2. On October 16 we celebrate Laity Sunday. Then on October 30 Katie Rose will speak of her experience in Zambia.

OCTOBER 2 World Communion Sunday
Matthew 22:1-14 Everyone's Invited!

OCTOBER 9
Matthew 21:33-46 Lousy Tenants

OCTOBER 16 LAITY SUNDAY
Shirley McCoy will bring the message.

OCTOBER 23
Matthew 22:34-46 So You Say You Are a Christian

OCTOBER 30
Matthew 23:1-12 Katie Rose speaking

In Our Prayers



Assisting in Worship this Month

October 2 Mark Drumm
October 9 Linda Kennedy
October 16 LAITY SUNDAY
October 23 Ken Pritchard
October 30 Jonica Taylor

Grace Hall
Darlene Biehle
U.S. Armed Forces
Betty Nutt/Rose
Brian Roger/Kovar
Jerry Brown/Lucas
James Dawson/Hobbs
RAIN

Glen Anders
Charlene McDaniel
Pioneer Mission
Michael Deutsch
Beverly Scott/Pritchard
Janice Michalk
Bob Scarborough

David Pritchard
Shirley Ling
Jerry Hill
Sue Rogers
Carla Meadors
New Tribes
Caregivers

Current Prayer Concerns

Flood Victims
Ruth Shigley
Barbara Rogers/Kovar
Bruce (Big Tracks) Hendricks
Client Murphy
Fire Victims

Susan Ponder
Graham Dickerson
John Michaels
Goetz Family

Michael Goldman
Berdie Gambrell
Nancy Foster
Will Neely Family
Smith Family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Patsy Davidson 10/2
Rylee Towery 10/5
Henry Jordan 10/6
Dale Holman 10/10
Hershel McCoy 10/11
David Soto 10/12
Carla Goetz 10/14
Emily Drumm 10/17
Kevin McCoy 10/23
Toby Towery 10/17
John Delacarda 10/24
Darrell Gambrell 10/30
Donna Larkin 10/30
Marlene Coffman 10/31



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Joyce and Hershel McCoy 10/6

*Three things will last forever
- faith, hope and love - and the
greatest of these is love.*

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. 3: Meaningful Worship

The heart of the congregation's life is its gathering for worship. Again, the purpose of this article is not to provide a detailed manual for worship design, but simply to point out that worship is central to the Church and that it must spiritually engage those who attend.

Worship is not a matter of style or form. There may be certain styles or forms that strike deeper chords with the culture or segments of society than others do at a given time. However, meaningful worship does not imply one particular methodology over and against another. Neither does it imply a liturgical or non-liturgical stance. I have participated in very traditional worship services in which the congregants were really engaged and deriving great significance from what was going on. I have also participated in very traditional services that were spiritually empty. I have attended very lively and engaging contemporary style worship services. I have also been a part of contemporary services in which the people in the seats were very detached and simply spectators watching the folks "up front" perform. I have worshiped meaningfully in very small churches and I have been left cold in very big churches ... and vice-versa.

The first question the pastor and leaders of a congregation must be ruthlessly honest about is this: *do we really worship when we come to church each week?* If the answer to this is fuzzy, then changes need to be made. Some small congregations make a huge mistake by trying to replicate the format and music of big churches. Usually, these efforts are meager and unappealing. The worship service in a small church may need to look very different from the large church. Yet, the key uniting factor of any approach to worship is that those who worship are seriously engaged and being spiritually enriched by the service.

Obviously, the pastor's sermon is a vital element in most worship services. Each pastor must find his or her unique style that fits their individual gifts. As is the case with prayer, music is also integral to the worship experience. The worship leaders may seek over time to introduce new songs and widen the congregation's "favorites" list. But if the leaders simply try to impose their will on a congregation musically, the result is not always positive. In a small church, an accompaniment CD may be a better option than a very bad piano player (or no piano player at all). Some small congregations have a member who is a competent enough guitar player that this may be a better music option than piano. A newer electronic keyboard may be more viable than an old organ or out of tune piano. Be flexible. The main thing is that people are singing praises to God. If almost no one is singing, than little serious worship is likely to be taking place in the congregation.

Next Month — **Blueprint item no. 4: A Heart for Missions**

A Call For Discernment Conference

October 2nd Through 4th 2011

Hosted by FBC Thrall and FBC Thorndale

Oct 2: 4-5 PM Introductory Session: The Duty of Discernment

5-6 PM: Supper

6-8 PM Session 1: Dangerous Doctrines

Oct 3: 6-8 PM Session 2: Mangled Manifestations

Oct 4: 6-8 PM Session 3: The Hurt of Healing

LOCATION:

FBC, THORNDALE

Sunday School is Fun!

Children's Classes will be held each Sunday at 10:15 a.m.—10:45 a.m.

Remember how much fun the kids had at Vacation Bible School? We are taking the best ideas from VBS and use them on Sunday morning. Each Sunday the children will experience a Bible story in a new way—our first story will be Adam and Eve and the story of God's creation. All children ages 3—11 years old are welcome!

Children's Sunday School Teachers

Nettie Dee Harper	Story Time
Jonica Taylor	Music
Theresia Goetz	Science
Rebecca Fisher	Games
Linda Grimm	Crafts
Linda Kennedy	Kitchen



Parents and other adults are invited to stick around to enjoy a cup a coffee and an opportunity to fellowship in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 10:15 a.m.

Jr./Sr. High Sunday School

Want to learn what the movies you love have to do with your faith? Invite a friend to join you and come and see! Class begins at 10:15 a.m.—Don't be late! Teachers will be Brenda Pritchard, Client Murphy and Christine Sower.



There's Always More to Learn!

Our Adult Sunday School class meets in the "old kitchen" area behind the Sanctuary. Class begins at 9:45 a.m. Currently we are studying the topic of Tradition and Wisdom as found in the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon.

In *Why? Making Sense of God's Will* best-selling author Adam Hamilton brings fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, Hamilton addresses how we can comprehend God's plan for the world and ourselves.

JOIN PASTOR TERRY IN THIS INTERESTING STUDY!

Tuesday, September 27, October 4, October 18 and October 25 at 6:30 p.m.
Each week we will explore a different topic so come to as many nights as you are able.



We all shop for groceries, sometimes two or three times a week. Now turn those shopping trips into easy cash for your school, and encourage friends to do the same! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of products like Cheerios, Hamburger Helper and Kleenex in almost every aisle of the store—each one is worth 10 cents for your school.

Please cut out your box tops and drop them in the basket in the church Narthex.

All tops collected will be evenly divided between our Teachers of the Thorndale, Lexington and Copeland Schools.

CHILI SUPPER 2010



Fun times
inside and out

DUE TO A SCHEDULING CONFLICT THIS PROGRAM WILL BE RE-SCHEDULED AT A LATER DATE Democracy from the inside out: Let the conversation begin!

In *Healing the Heart of Democracy*, author Parker Palmer discusses five “habits of the heart” that we need to cultivate in our lives as citizens:

- An understanding that we are all in this together
- An appreciation of the value of “otherness”
- An ability to hold tension in life-giving ways
- A sense of personal voice and agency
- A capacity to create community

Those habits of the heart—and the venues of local life in which they are formed—constitute democracy’s infrastructure which, like our physical infrastructure, is in serious disrepair. We believe that our approach can help restore it. We also believe that the thousands of people who have been through the Center’s programs can help by exercising leadership in some of those “habit-forming” venues of local life: the family, the neighborhood, classrooms, congregations, and workplaces of many sorts.



PRUMC gave \$983 to assist those affected by the recent fires in Texas. Friendship UMC donated \$315.50 to help with recovery. Thank you for your caring generosity!

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

WHY? ADULT STUDY
September 27, October 4, 18, 25
6:30 — 8:00 p.m.

**A CALL FOR DISCERNMENT
CONFERENCE** at FBC, THORNDALE
October 2, 3 and 4, 2011
See page 5 for details and time

BACON, BULL & BLESSINGS
Men's Breakfast
October 8 — 8 a.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MTG.
October 10 — 7 p.m.

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

TRUSTEES MEETING
October 30 — 2 p.m.

FIFTH SUNDAY ECUMENICAL WORSHIP
Mt. Zion Baptist Church
October 30—7 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE...

*Meeting with Bishop Huie
Christ UMC, College Station
November 17— 6 p.m.*

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. (s.a. the paper used for this newsletter!)

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Laity Sunday
October 16, 2011
The pastor will take a seat in the pew as our lay leaders lead our worship.

LOVE FUND

**Otherwise known as the
pastor's discretionary fund.
A fund has been established to
enable the pastor to meet emer-
gency needs of church and com-
munity members. You are invited
to contribute on the first Sunday
of each month with an offering
placed on the Communion rail.**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

You won't want to miss hearing about Katie Rose's mission experience in Zambia this past summer! Katie will share her story during the 11 a.m. worship service.

Hope you enjoy our monthly newsletters. If you have announcements, articles or pictures that you want to submit for November 1 issue, please submit them to Pastor Terry no later than October 26th.