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**First United Methodist Church – Iraan**

**NOVEMBER**



**First United Methodist Church – McCamey**

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## *The Pastor's Page*

When you think of November, what comes to mind? As I was putting the newsletter together, it was still the middle of October, and already, I had seen the first Christmas sale on TV. Once upon a time, in a land close at hand, November was about the lead-up to Thanksgiving. Christmas was held at bay until the weekend after Thanksgiving. So, what are you thinking about as November begins?

“In early autumn of 1621, the 53 surviving Pilgrims celebrated their successful harvest, as was the English custom. During this time, "many of the Indians coming... amongst the rest their great king Massasoit, with some ninety men." That 1621 celebration is remembered as the "First Thanksgiving in Plymouth. The Pilgrims did not call this harvest festival a "Thanksgiving," although they did give thanks to God. To them, a Day of Thanksgiving was purely religious. The first recorded religious Day of Thanksgiving was held in 1623 in response to a providential rainfall.

The religious day of thanksgiving and the harvest festival evolved into a single event: a yearly Thanksgiving, proclaimed by individual governors for a Thursday in November. The custom of an annual Thanksgiving celebrating abundance and family spread across America. Some presidents proclaimed Thanksgivings, others did not. Abraham Lincoln began the tradition of an annual national Thanksgiving in 1863.

Thanksgiving is an enduring symbol from which millions of immigrants have learned "Americanism." While not all Native Peoples celebrate the day, the story of the Pilgrims and Wampanoag sharing a harvest celebration remains an inspiration to many.” - *From the website of the [Pilgrim Hall Museum](#) in Plymouth, Massachusetts*

As I consider the coming month, I am thinking about the lives that will be touched by the ministries of our two congregations. I am thinking about the ten months we've shared together since Belinda and I first arrived in west Texas. I am thinking about the differences we have, and the common bond we share as people of God. I know I can't do anything about stopping or even slowing the secular observance of football, shopping and the like, the things that pass for "important" in our culture. What I can do is remember that each day is a gift from God, and every day is a day of thanksgiving to our God.

***Every blessing, Pastor Charles***

"As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your "prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?" *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, p. 93

## PRAYERS

**RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS:** The Barnes family on the death of their 8-year old son, Cleatus Brooks, Lewis Blackburn, Tommy Dale King Bullard, family of Leola Curry, Jonnie Dempsey, Donnie Feagan, Mary Garcia, Robert Gill, Greg Haggard, Linda Harrison, Tom Hill, Giselle Holland, Eeva Huffaker, Jordan Jernigan, Elmer Jones, Payton Kennedy, Kade Kothman, Jim & Teresa Lovingood, Billie McKenzie, Lois Ann McKenzie, Shane McKenzie, family of Eugene Myers, Kathy Pearce, family of Johnny Ross, Geraldo Salazar, Philip Shankle, Doug Smith, Sandy Smith, family of Hal Sykes, Teresa Valenzuela, Jean Vandigriff (Pastor Charles' mother), Eva Venegas' family, 1LT Bradley Ward, Ronnie Ward and Henry White.

### **Recent Prayer Joys:**

Dr. Pat Cole's new position with the VA in Kerrville; the Monarch butterfly migration; the marriage of Lexi & Jordan Highland (Jordan is James & Deanna Jordan's grandson); Eric & Sara Hill's expecting their first child in May.

**Please pray** for those living on Drake Street & W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Iraan and for those living on Crenshaw Drive and E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street in McCamey.

**Please lift** up the ministries of the Rev. Alan Delafield and the congregation of the [First UMC](#) in Brady, Texas.

## PRESENCE (October – 4 Sun.'s)

**Average Weekly  
Worship Attendance**  
Iraan: 16 McCamey: 38  
Convalescent Center: 18  
Badgers for Christ: 18

**Average Weekly Faith  
Formation Attendance**  
Iraan: NA McCamey: 6

## GIFTS:

*"Each of you must make up your own mind about how much to give. But don't feel sorry that you must give and don't feel that you are forced to give. God loves people who love to give."*

2 Corinthians 9:7 (*Contemporary English Version*)

## UMC Quick Quiz (answers are on page nine)

1. Who wrote, "*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*?"
2. John & Charles Wesley went to the colony of Georgia in 1733. What was the name of the ship upon which they sailed on?
3. The United Methodist Church opposes gambling in any form. Why?



NURTURE – OUTREACH – WITNESS

**The Ministries of the  
United Methodist Churches  
in Iraan and McCamey**

*Nurture*



**November 7<sup>th</sup>**

Sunday after Pentecost	November	SCRIPTURE LESSON	SERMON
<b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b>	7 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	<i>Church Conference</i>
<b>Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	14 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 65:17-25	<i>“The rumors abound”</i>
<b>CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY</b>	21 <sup>st</sup>	Luke 23:33-43	<i>“The throne of our King”</i>
<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	28 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 2:1-5 & Romans 13:11-14	<i>“It is time”</i>

**A Time to Give Thanks**

Please join us at the First UMC in McCamey on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm for McCamey’s annual community Thanksgiving service.

*“I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with **thanksgiving**.”*  
-Psalm 69:30

Advent Devotionals

The Advent devotional will be available on the blogs of both congregations starting on Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.

Print copies will be available by reserving your copy by Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.

**The Hand Bell Choir**

rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 pm.

No experience is required –

You CAN play the bells too!

The October meeting of the United Methodist Women took place with Peggy Garner presenting the program. The program dealt with the topic of women supporting other women across the generations. A great group of ladies (and a couple of husbands) come together each month, join us!



## **The United Methodist Women @ FUMC - McCamey**

**Next meeting: November 8<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7:00 p.m.**



Why do people join a particular community of faith? Just ask the newest members of our churches!

We are on the move at the First UMC in Iraan and the First UMC in McCamey!!!

**Remember:**  
*Everything* you do is evangelism!

(L-R) Phil & Grace Moody, Belinda Alkula, Sara & Eric Hill (Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>)

The next FUMC meal will be a lunch on **November 7<sup>th</sup>** in the fellowship hall following the church conference.

# Breakfast in Iraan!

Thanks to the wonderful cooks who made our October breakfast potluck such a delicious occasion! And thanks to everyone who shared of themselves, after all, what good is great food without nice people to share it with?



## First UMC on the Town

You're invited to join other United Methodists at **Benoit's** in McCamey on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. for a "Dutch Treat" meal. No muss – no fuss – no program. Just some United Methodists enjoying each other's company. Fifteen of us met at Benoit's on October 8<sup>th</sup>. We'll see you in November 12<sup>th</sup>!!!





The kick-off breakfast on October 16<sup>th</sup> brought six hungry men to the First UMC in McCamey! Thanks to Donny Wiley for cooking breakfast for us!

Glen Smart was selected as the group's president and Jim Witcher volunteered to be the group's treasurer.



**Top:** The men pause during breakfast for a picture.

**Left:** Donny Wiley cooks up breakfast.

**Right:** Jim Witcher chats with Jay McWilliams by the table while Roy Kephart and Glen Smart do the same in the kitchen.

The next UMM breakfast will be on **November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m.** Glen Smart will be making his famous breakfast casserole for us.

(We'll be gathering on the first Saturday of each month starting in November)

## ***LARGE PRINT HYMNALS***

Thanks to the generous people of the First UMC in Iraan and the First UMC in McCamey, we will be able to dedicate twenty large-print United Methodist hymnals during our worship services on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Some of the hymnals will be used by each congregation in worship; the rest will be used at the McCamey Convalescent Center.

### **The hymnals were dedicated by:**

Coy & Joan Coe – in memory of Mr. & Mrs. W.L. Wagnon  
and Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Dill

Dr. Edwin & Chris Franks – in appreciation of the patients and  
staff of the Iraan and McCamey hospitals

Jack & Peggy Garner – to the glory of God

Theodora Matthews – to the glory of God

Gloria Odom – in memory of Eddie J. Odom

Cytha Peters – in memory of Gladys Elliott

Jack & Sherry Phillips – in memory of Kenneth Babcock

LouAnn Watson – in memory of Henry L. Watson

Bill and Bobbie Lester – in memory of Justin R. Lester

### **Presented by the First UMC – McCamey in honor of:**

Mary “Frankie” Adams – Gloria Allen – Lottie Bradshaw

Cleatus Brooks – Ardell Elliott – Vera Lucas

Minette Peterson – Ona Lea Sharp – Sandy Smith

Shirley Smith – Cecelia Teas – Mary Trammell

Dorothy Sanders & Bennie Wienkauf

# Outreach



## BADGERS FOR CHRIST

The next  
**Badgers for Christ**  
will be on November 17<sup>th</sup>  
at 12:15 p.m.

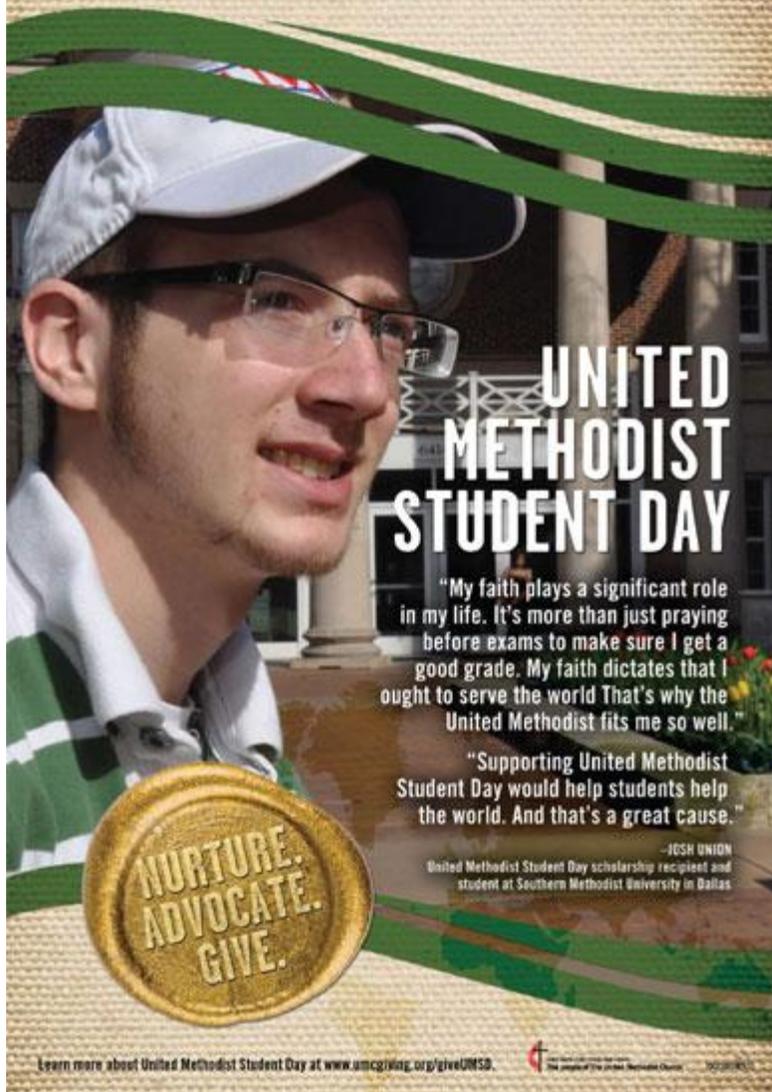


Tandy Adams, Jean Myrick and Gini Christian (the San Angelo District office program coordinator) were on hand to serve up a home-made meal to the hungry Badgers in October!

### UMC QUIZ ANSWERS (from page three)

1. "Hark, how the welkin rings, Glory to the King of kings" was the original wording of this popular hymn written by Charles Wesley. Read more at [this link](#).
2. They sailed aboard the [Simmonds](#).
3. The church's position is stated in the denomination's Social Principles (§ 163G of the [2008 Book of Discipline](#)).

Changing the World, One Life at a Time



**UNITED  
METHODIST  
STUDENT DAY**

"My faith plays a significant role in my life. It's more than just praying before exams to make sure I get a good grade. My faith dictates that I ought to serve the world. That's why the United Methodist fits me so well."

"Supporting United Methodist Student Day would help students help the world. And that's a great cause."

— JOSH UNION  
United Methodist Student Day scholarship recipient and student at Southern Methodist University in Dallas

**NURTURE.  
ADVOCATE.  
GIVE.**

Learn more about United Methodist Student Day at [www.umcgriving.org/giveUMSD](http://www.umcgriving.org/giveUMSD).

## United Methodist Student Day

In 1866, a special fund was established for the advanced education of Sunday-school children and the educational preparation of persons for the ministry and missionary service. The 1940 General Conference established Methodist Student Day with a church-wide offering. The 1968 Uniting Conference continued this connectional student-aid program to be funded by the United Methodist Student Day offering. Dates for taking the offering have changed through the years.

This year, November 22 has been designated as **United Methodist Student Day**. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) oversees the program and directs the offerings into scholarships and loans to UM students in many fields of study. Each year, 10 percent of the contributions also are returned to the annual conferences for merit scholarships.



## SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

A single, two-hour seminar that gives practical advice on dealing with grief and the holidays. If you, or someone you know, have experienced loss in their life, this is a resource not to be missed.

Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. @ First UMC – Iraan  
Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. @ First UMC – McCamey

# Witness

## *McCamey Ministerial Alliance (MMA) News*

### **November events:**

\*Badgers for Christ will be on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m.

\*The EXCELL youth program will be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

\*5<sup>th</sup> Quarter will take place on November 5<sup>th</sup> following the football game with Van Horn. The location this month is the First Baptist Church.

\*The Community Thanksgiving service is on the 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the First UMC.

\*The next MMA meeting is November 9<sup>th</sup> at noon at Benoit's.

**Friendship Center update:** The building will be cleaned out on November 6<sup>th</sup> as part of the city-wide clean-up effort. The windows are to be installed at a later date.

**The BLOGS of FUMC - Iraan &  
FUMC - McCamey:**  
[www.fumc-mccamey.blogspot.com](http://www.fumc-mccamey.blogspot.com)  
or [www.fumc-iraan.blogspot.com](http://www.fumc-iraan.blogspot.com)

**(Be sure to sign up as a follower!)**



The membership in our Facebook groups is growing! Come be a part of this e-ministry!

### ***Advent Devotional***

The following people have shared their gifts early this year through submissions for the **2010 Advent Devotional**: Mary "Frankie" Adams, Jennifer Aguilar, Belinda Alkula, Gloria Allen, Cleatus Brooks, Marian Brown, Gini Christian, Peggy Garner, Margaret Holmes, Rev. Bob Hunter, Roy Kephart, Bill Lester, Bobbie Lester, Vera Lucas, Donna & Rex Mann, Lee & Dottie Mann, Jay McWilliams, Wanda Morrow, Cytha Peters, Minette Peterson, Marie Richardson, Leigh Ann Scallorn, Glen Smart, Shirley Smith, Cecelia Teas, Mary Trammell, Evans Turpin, Donny Wiley, Jim & Mary Witcher. Pastor Charles will be writing entries for the Twelve Days of Christmas (December 25 – January 5).

If you would like a print copy of this effort, please contact [Pastor Charles](#) by November 14<sup>th</sup>. The blogs (for both congregations) will have daily entries with links and artwork illustrations. What a blessing this will be!



# Calendar

<<< Fall back on November 7<sup>th</sup>

## **First UMC – Iraan**

### **Each Sunday –**

Fellowship Time @ 9:00 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Church School @ 10:30 a.m.

### **Other events:**

### **Surviving the Holidays –**

Nov. 3, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

### **Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> –**

**Church Conference** (during the worship service @ 11am) –

**PPRC meeting with the D.S.**

(following worship) & **Fellowship lunch** (also following worship)

**Pastor Charles in Iraan –**

November 3, 10, 17

**Ad Board –** Nov. 17, 6:00 p.m.

## **First UMC – McCamey**

### **Each Sunday –**

Fellowship Time @ 9:30 a.m.

Church School @ 10:00 a.m.

Worship @ 11:00 a.m. Convalescent Center @ 1:00 p.m.

### **Each Wednesday –**

Choir @ 7:00 pm, Bells @ 8:00

**Each Thursday –** Coffee @

Convalescent Center, 10:00 a.m.

### **Other events:**

**UMM –** Nov. 6 @ 7:00 a.m.

**Church Conference –**

Nov. 7 @ 9:30 a.m.

**UMW –** Nov. 8 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Ministerial Alliance –**

Nov. 9, noon at Benoit's

**UMC Night Out @** Benoit's –

Nov. 12 @ 6:00 p.m.

**Surviving the Holidays –**

Nov. 14, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

**Badgers for Christ –**

Nov. 17 @ noon

**Community Thanksgiving**

**Service –** Nov. 21 @ 6:00 p.m.

(at First UMC – McCamey)

*The 2010 Church Conference (for both churches) will be held on Sunday, **November 7<sup>th</sup>** during the morning worship services.*

**PLEASE NOTE  
THE TIME FOR EACH  
CHURCH:**

*9:30 a.m. in McCamey*

*11:00 a.m. in Iraan*

# Thank You Notes

## Iraan:

\*\*Thanks to **James Jordan** for the terrific effort in pulling together the reports Pastor Charles needed for the church conference.

\*\*Thanks to **Wanda Carpenter, Wanda Morrow** and **James Jordan** for their help with the membership audit.

\*\*Thanks to **Kirke McKenzie** for the surprise breakfast casserole he shared during the October 17<sup>th</sup> fellowship time, it was wonderful!

\*\*Thanks to everyone who shared the bounty of food and fellowship during the monthly **breakfast potluck** on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*Thanks to **Wanda Carpenter** for bringing the message on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

## McCamey:

\*\*You have been extremely supportive through this difficult time. You may not realize what a blessing you have been. Thanks for the help. **Louisa Garcia**

p.s. Your church was the first to respond. Thank you so much.

\*\* [sent to Bill Lester] Thank you for the church letter. Good to learn of the renewed spirit at the church and the arrival of Pastor Charles. Allow me to add my contribution, albeit reduced, to the burgeoning spirit. Thanks again for the letter. **Russell Wheat**

\*\*Thanks to **Donny Wiley** for cooking for the first men's breakfast

\*\*Thanks for the volunteers at this month's *Badgers for Christ*: **Tandy Adams, Gini Christian** and **Jean Myrick**. A special thanks to Tandy for making the spaghetti sauce (from scratch!). Thanks also go to **Donny Wiley** for doing the marketing for the lunch and to **Debbie White** for supplying the drinks.

\*\*Thanks to **Bill Lester** for his help in getting the church conference materials together for Pastor Charles. A second thanks to Bill for his invaluable assistance with the membership audit.

\*\*Thanks to **Mary Witcher** for decorating the fellowship hall so beautifully.

\*\*Thanks to **Gloria Odom** for her ministry of liturgical visual artistic offerings on the communion table every week.

\*\*Thanks to **Bill Lester** for the new spotlight installed to light the stained glass window in the front of the church.

\*\*Thanks to **Louise Carll, Cytha Peters, Mike Sherrod** and **the choir** for their musical ministry.

\*\*Thanks to **Glen Smart** for becoming the president and to **Jim Witcher** for becoming the treasurer of the new United Methodist Men's unit.

\*\*Thanks to **Bobbie & Bill Lester** for leading the worship on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Humor, as we learned from Reader's Digest, is the best medicine. That being the case, here is a dose of humor to keep you fit as you go through November:

**If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?**  
Pilgrims!

**If the Pilgrim's were alive today,  
what would they be most famous for?**  
Their age!

**Why can't you take a turkey to church?**  
They use such FOWL language!

**What kind of music did the Pilgrim's listen to?**  
Plymouth Rock!

**Where did the first corn come from?**  
The stalk brought it!

**How did the Mayflower show that it liked America?**  
It hugged the shore!

**What sound does a space turkey make?**  
Hubble, Hubble, Hubble!

