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First UMC – Iraan



First UMC - McCamey



Everyday Disciples

*The newsletter of the United
 Methodists in Iraan & McCamey*

February 2011

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FROM THE PASTOR

At the beginning of each month I send to the San Angelo District office a form titled, "Vital Signs: Pastor's Monthly Report. This form shows results from the previous month and tracks some of statistics that help our district superintendent and our bishop see where we are growing as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

These numbers are broken down into three broad areas: **Membership, Worship Attendance** and **Church School Attendance**. Of course it can be argued that these numbers don't tell the whole story of whether we are growing as disciples who are growing in the faith. But the numbers do point to trends that can help us hone in on those areas where we might be needing to spend more time and resources in order to continue to grow, both numerically and spiritually.

Also on the form is a place to record the goals each church has for the current year in these three areas. I pray about these reports and the souls who are reflected in the numbers on each page. This is what I believe is possible in 2011:

For Iraan, I believe that we can grow from our current membership (at the beginning of January) from 61 to 70 this year. At the same time as we grow in numbers we can grow as disciples who spend time in ministry, study, and worship. This would be reflected in the goal of reaching 25 (up from 17) every Sunday in worship and 15 (up from 6) in church school (in at least two classes).

For McCamey, I believe that we can grow from our current membership (at the beginning of January) from 92 to 105 this year. This will be a challenge as more than 25 names are due to be removed from the membership roll at the next church conference. At the same time, as we grow in numbers we can also grow as disciples who spend time in ministry, study, and worship. This would be reflected in the goal of reaching 50 every Sunday morning in worship (with another 20 at the McCamey Convalescent Center) and 20 in church school (in at least two classes).

I believe our God has commissioned each one of us to share the good news, to grow in the faith we have claimed, and to come together at every opportunity to celebrate the transformation of the world in the name of the Risen Christ.

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 Joys: New members in McCamey; Cole is DONE with all of his chemotherapy treatments; Brittany Templeton's recovery; The fun we had at the monthly supper outing in McCamey; The amazing bounty shared at the Iraan monthly breakfast potluck; A great time at the Badgers for Christ; moisture (even if it was just freezing fog); visitor's in worship;

Recent Prayer Concerns: Maggie Byrd's father, Buddy Card, Giselle Holland, Elmer Jones, Gene Klutts, Geraldo Salazar, Philip Shankle, Barbara Snyder (Pastor's aunt), Bruce Treadway's family, Teresa Valenzuela, Jean Vandigriff (Pastor's mother), Lelah Watson (Lou Ann's mother-in-law) and Henry White.

Please pray for those living on Alley Oop Lane and E. 11th Street in Iraan and for those living on N. Emerson Street and W. 1st Street in McCamey.

Please lift up the ministries of the Rev. Wade Powell and the congregation of [Trinity United Methodist Church](#) in Castell (Texas).

PRESENCE (January 2-23)

Average Weekly Worship Attendance
Iraan: 15 McCamey: 36
Convalescent Center: 21

Average Weekly Faith
Formation Attendance
Iraan: 7 McCamey: 9

GIFTS: Each Sunday FUMC - McCamey celebrates those in our church who have birthdays or anniversaries in the coming week. Each person or couple is invited to place a special donation in the "celebration box." The money collected goes to support **Safe Place of the Permian Basin**, a shelter for abused women and children. In December, \$309 was sent to support this worthy cause.

Other giving includes the communion rail offering, in January \$40 was sent to support of the denomination's Human Relations Sunday special offering. February's offering will go the Methodist Children's Home.

UMC Quick Quiz

(answers on page eight)

1. What is Connectional Giving?
2. The United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) is located where?
3. Prior to be elected to the episcopacy in 2008, in which Annual Conference did Bishop Dorff serve as a pastor?



**First
United
Methodist
Church**

NURTURE – OUTREACH – WITNESS

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

Nurture

	February	SCRIPTURE LESSON	SERMON
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	6	Mathew 5:13-20	<i>Salt & Light</i>
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany	13	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	<i>In simple terms</i>
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany	20	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18	<i>Spelling it out</i>
Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany	27	Matthew 6:24-34	<i>What, me worry?</i>

First Baptist Church in Iraan will be hosting a video event called “**The Art of Marriage**” February 11-12. This fresh material is fun, entertaining, and profoundly Biblical. It includes engaging stories, real life testimonies, man-on-the-street interviews and humorous vignettes.

Cost of this event is \$45 per couple which includes a participant’s notebook for each spouse and a luncheon on Saturday. Child care is provided. Sign up deadline is February 7 – call Michael Meek @ 432-302-0856 or via email at meekbraves2000@yahoo.com.

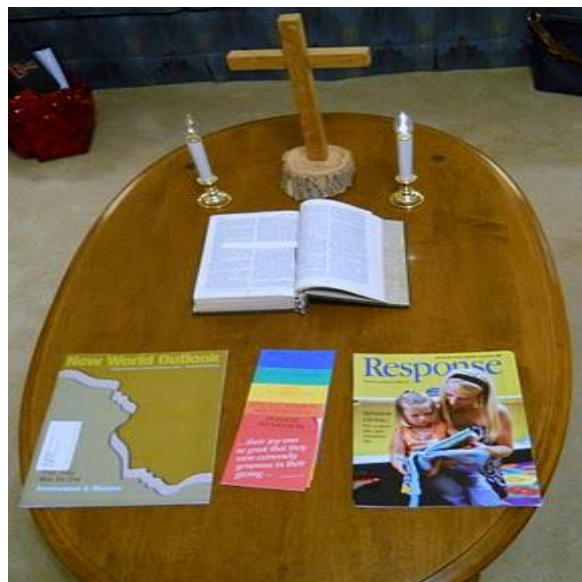
The January meeting of the **United Methodist Women** took place in the parlor of the FUMC in McCamey with nine present.

Louise Carll presented the pledge service program which asked members to consider the ways they can give to the ministries of the UMW in 2011.



As part of the program, the group sang “*Lord, Make Us One,*” and “*Let There Be Peace on Earth.*” Cytha Peters offered her musical gift on the piano which is always a welcome addition to our gatherings.

Belinda Alkula was the hostess this month and offered a variety of tasty treats and some hot apple cider (very welcome on a cold night in west Texas!).



The next meeting will take place on **February 14th at 7:00 p.m.**





Calling All Men!

The annual conference event for the United Methodist Men will be held at Mt. Wesley on February 25-27 in Kerrville. There will be a meal on Friday, the 25th. On Saturday, opportunities for golf in Kerrville or a visit to the WWII museum in Fredericksburg are on tap during the day. In the evening, an evening worship service and a dynamic presentation on Islam will bring the day to a close. On Sunday morning it is hoped that Bishop Dorff will be our preacher.

Due to the first Saturday of January being New Year's Day, the UMM did not meet in January.

The first breakfast get-together of 2011 will be on February 5th at 7:00 a.m.

~~~~~  
Also, put on your calendars the **San Angelo District UMM's annual fishing outing** to be held May 2-4 to Lake Amistad. More details as they become available.

## McCamey UMC's on the Town



January's gathering took place at *Benoit's* (on the 21<sup>st</sup>). Fifteen enjoyed each other's company and shared some chocolate treats and celebrated the Garner's early February anniversary.



**Next: February 18<sup>th</sup> at Elena's in McCamey.**

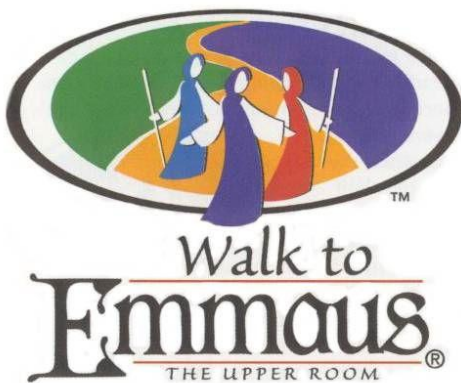
# Iraan Fellowship



The fellowship hall at FUMC – Iraan comes alive every Sunday morning before the worship service. Come and join us!



February's fellowship  
breakfast potluck will  
be on the 27<sup>th</sup> @  
8:30 a.m.



Please visit [this link](#) on the Southwest Conference web site to learn more about Emmaus.

There are fourteen walks for men and ten for women schedule between February and June.

Individuals who have participated in an Emmaus event are invited to become part of a "Fourth Day group." Please let Pastor Charles know if you are interested in participating in the *Way Out West* fourth day community organized at FUMC – Rankin.

# MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

First UMC in McCamey celebrated Baptism of the Lord Sunday on January 9<sup>th</sup> with four baptisms and six new adult members. Joining our community of faith in January:



Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism were: **Cadyn Ramsey Miles, Bradyn Ryan Medina, Luann Strickland Elliott and Connie Elliott Miles**

**Our newest members at First UMC in McCamey:**

**Luann Strickland Elliott** joins us by profession of faith.

**Connie Elliott Miles** joins us by profession of faith.

**Marian Brown** comes to us by letter of transfer from the True-Lite Christian Fellowship in Midland, Texas.

**Billie Mitchell** comes to us by letter of transfer from the (former) First Christian Church here in McCamey.

**Jerry & Marilyn Whitaker** (parents of Jennifer Aguilar) come to us by letter of transfer from Heritage UMC in Littleton, Colorado.



# Outreach



To volunteer,  
Please visit  
[www.tda.org](http://www.tda.org) and  
from there click on  
McCamey.

**SOW is sponsored  
by the McCamey  
Ministerial  
Alliance.**

**Smiles on Wheels (SOW)** is a non-profit, one day event in dental care. Dentists from across Texas donate their time and resources to spend the day in a community and offer FREE dental services. This is open to anyone, no age or financial restrictions are used. This is a first come, first served event.

SOW will take place in the McCamey Park Building on **February 21<sup>st</sup>**, with doors opening at **6:00 a.m.** and will conclude with the last patient being seen at 4:00 p.m. To be seen you simply need to show up. Services offered include cleaning, fillings, extractions, and root canals. The organizers estimate that at least \$100,000 worth of dental work be done on that day.



The first **Badgers for Christ** in 2011 had over 40 in attendance with Bill Lester providing the talk.



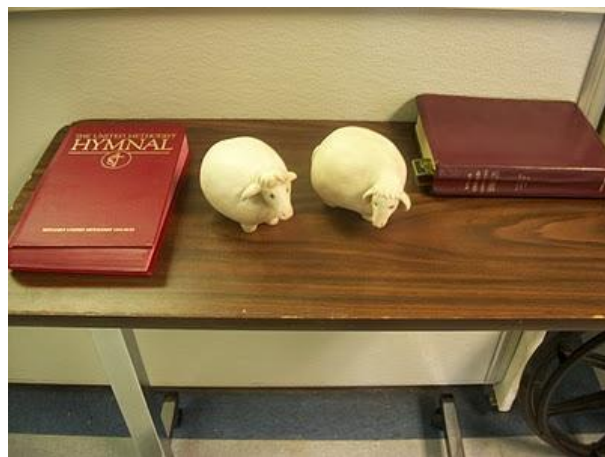
The next **Badgers for Christ** will be on February 16<sup>th</sup>.

# McCamey Convalescent Center Ministry



Every Thursday morning at 10:00, volunteers from the McCamey community come for a time of visiting and sharing coffee and donuts with the residents.

Members of First UMC in McCamey are among the volunteers who share in the reading the McCamey News and catching up on the latest family news.



The McCamey Convalescent Center comes alive with the sound of worship every Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. Pastor Charles and members of the First UMC in McCamey leads this worship service which has been meeting in the hallway since Thanksgiving due to renovations to the dining room.

This month, the large-print UMC hymnals will be used for the first time as the dining room re-opens.

The **EXCELL program** (a youth ministry supported by the McCamey Ministerial Alliance) met at the FUMC – McCamey on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Over fifty students and adults gathered for a meal provided by the First Baptist Church and the program presented by MAAS ([the Midland/Odessa Area Aids Support](#))



**2011 Relay For Life of Crane TX  
May 6th at 6:00 PM at Crane High School Track**

If you would like to participate in this event, please contact Pastor Charles (who will be walking in this event) by the end of February. Pastor Charles is walking in memory of three uncles, one grandfather and his dad, all of whom died of cancer, an aunt who is fighting cancer and his mother who is a cancer survivor. Who will join him by walking or donating to this effort to create a cancer-free world?

**To sign up, [please visit this link.](#)**

**FOOD  
FRUITS  
VEGETABLES**

The UMM are supporting the community food pantry located at the First Baptist Church (FBC) in McCamey (this replaces the pantry support previously given to the Friendship Center which is now closed). Non-perishable donations can be brought to the church and placed in the large basket at the entrance between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall. Frozen items or other perishable items should be taken directly to the FBC in McCamey

**The pantry is looking for these items:**

Butter  
Canned fruit  
Canned meat (example: tuna, chicken, sausage...)  
Cereal  
Cheese  
Chili  
Chip or crackers  
Corn bread mix  
Evaporated milk  
Frozen foods (FBC has a freezer)  
Jell-o  
Juice – any kind  
Meat (FBC has a freezer)  
Oatmeal  
Pancake mix & syrup  
Powdered milk  
Soup  
Sugar  
Tomato sauce/paste

*“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...”*  
Matthew 25:35a

**UMC Quiz Answers** (from p. 3)

1. Connectional Giving is as simple as people coming together, combining their money to accomplish something bigger than themselves. United Methodists support apportioned and designated funds through their connectional gifts. To read more, please visit [this link](#).
2. The [GBHEM](#) is located in Nashville, Tennessee.
3. [Bishop Dorff](#) served as a pastor in the North Texas Conference.

# Witness



(Visit [this link](#) to learn more about The Advance)

[sent to FUMC – McCamey]

Dear friends in mission:

Thank you for your gift received on 12/21/10 for \$30.00 to the General Board of Global Ministries through The Advance, the designated mission giving channel of The United Methodist Church. We are please to share that 100% of your contribution will go to Humble United Methodist School and Vocational High School sponsorship program, Advance #1419A.

The generosity of faithful people such as you makes it possible for the church to extend God’s mission around the world. Ministries, missionaries, and projects that United Methodists can support through The Advance exist in more than 100 countries and in many areas of the United States.

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)



Find us on  
Facebook



## **Lay Ministry Training**

*Basic and Advanced Lay Speaking*  
Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> @ First UMC  
in Sonora, 201 N. Water Ave.

Course books for the basic course are limited, so pre- registration is required.

Contact [Buster Terrell](#), district director of Lay Speaking or [Gini Christian](#) at the district office for more information.

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*“From your hearts to theirs” –*  
An Advanced Lay Speaking training which shows how to develop and deliver an effective message.

March 4-6 @ Mt. Wesley (Kerrville)  
Register by February 20<sup>th</sup>.

See Pastor Charles for a registration form.

# Calendar

## **First UMC – Iraan**

### **Each Sunday –**

Fellowship Time @ 9:00 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Church School @ 10:30 a.m.

### **Other events:**

**Ad Board** – Feb.16, 6:00 p.m.

**Potluck Breakfast** –

Feb. 27, 8:30 a.m.

**Pastor Charles in Iraan**

February 2, 16, 23

## **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 p.m.

### **Each Thursday – Coffee @**

Convalescent Center, 10:00 a.m.

### **Other events:**

**UMM** – Feb. 5 @ 7:00 a.m.

**Delta Kappa Gamma** meeting

– Feb. 7 @ 5:30 p.m.

**Ministerial Alliance** –

Feb 8, Noon @ Benoit's

**UMW** – Feb. 14 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Ad Board** – Feb. 20, 6:00 p.m.

**Chamber of Commerce** –

Feb. 8, Noon @ Benoit's

**Smiles on Wheels** (at Park Bldg.) –

Feb. 12 @ 6:00 a.m.

**Badgers for Christ** –

Feb. 16, Noon

**UMC Night Out** @ Elena's

Feb. 18 @ 6:00 p.m.

The SWTX Conference reported that of the 337 churches in the Conference, 278 gave 100% or more of their apportioned share for connectional ministry.

Both FUMC – Iraan and FUMC – McCamey are included in the group of 278!

The San Angelo District (of which we are part) led the way for the Conference's seven districts, giving 99.85% of its apportioned amount.

# Thank You Notes

## Iraan:

\*Thanks to **Deanna & James Jordan** for taking down and storing the Christmas decorations.

\*Thanks to **Burton Lanehart** for the lovely UM crosses he is making for the congregation.

\*Thanks to **James Jordan** for his ministry as lay reader and song leader last month.

\*Thanks to those who contributed to the one of the best **breakfast potlucks** to date in January! This just becomes better and better every month!

## McCamey:

\*Thanks to **Randy Brown, Gary Elliott, Roy Kephart, Bobbie & Bill Lester** and **Debbie White** for their efforts in taking down and storing the Christmas decorations.

\*Thanks to everyone who helped at the January **Badgers for Christ** gathering: **Belinda & Pastor Charles, Andy Andrews, Bill Lester, Billie Mitchell, Jean Myrick, Gloria Odom, Luann Watson** and **Debbie White**.

\*Thanks to **Gloria Odom** for her ministry of the communion table decorations.

\*Thanks to Belinda Alkula, Verla Flading, Bill & Bobbie Lester and Alice Kephart and Cytha Peters for their participation last month in the Convalescent Center ministry.

\*Thanks to **Mary Witcher** and **Billie Mitchell** for their hospitality ministry of decorating the fellowship hall.

\*Thanks to **Bill Lester** for sharing part of his story at the Badgers for Christ gathering in January.

\*Thanks to **Glen Smart** for taking the food pantry donations to the First Baptist Church.

\***Methodist Children's Home** (in Waco) sent a thank you letter to the congregation for the \$195.00 contributed as a result of our Christmas Eve offering.

\* Thanks to **Jim and Mary Witcher** for conducting a safety/health inspection of the church and parsonage! Their report will really help this year's group of trustees!

\*Thanks to **Debbie White** for helping with the ushering duties last month.