

## Our Values

WORSHIP OF GOD THAT  
INSPIRES HEARTS AND MINDS

SERVICE TO OUR MEMBERS, OUR  
NEIGHBORS, AND THE WORLD

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

BEING A CARING COMMUNITY  
OF FAITH

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# Strawbridge

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## The Messenger

October 2010

### From the Pastor's Desk

#### reConnect: Spiritual Growth Campaign 2010

*"reConnect" with God and His Body...  
through our Prayers, our Presence, our Gifts, and our Service*

*O God, you are my God, I seek you,  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. (Psalms 63:1)*

*"They all joined together constantly" (Acts 1:14)*

*"Our Souls are restless until  
they find their only rest in you." (St. Augustine)*



From time to time, it is good to get beyond mere recital of the marks of discipleship. From time to time, Faithful have found it important to prayerfully reflect upon the Means of Grace, to examine their hearts, and to recommit to the ideals of Graceful living (and devotional practices and disciplines which undergird and support these ideals). "Faith without works is dead," writes St. James. Talk without walk is empty.

And so, we come to a time of year we've traditionally set aside to remember our vows to Christ and to the Body of Christ: to support the ministries of the Church and to further our growth as disciples through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service. In many ways, this year's process will mirror last year's:

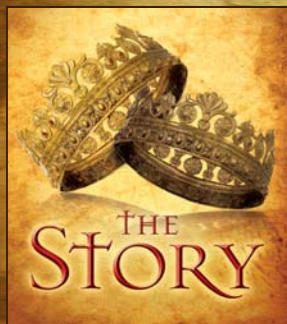
- While morning messages will remain focused on "The Story" series, October Sundays (and the days that surround them) will give us an opportunity to prayerfully consider what it is to support our Christian growth and the growth of others through our prayers, presence, gifts, and service;
- The second half of the month "Volunteer Opportunity Guides" which outline all 2011 ministry opportunities will arrive, along with a Pledge Card (through which members can register their support of the church by renewing the vows they made when they joined Strawbridge); and
- Sunday, October 31, we will bring our pledge cards to the Altar in a meaningful Service of Renewed Commitment (with subsequent weeks serving as a follow-up period to make sure every member has an opportunity to respond).

"reConnect" is the title of this year's campaign. I sincerely believe that, for those so willing and desiring, this will be a most significant season of reconnecting—to God and to each other in His Body!

With You, in the Ongoing Journey of Connecting... and reConnecting,

*Pastor Jim*

# OCTOBER 2010



10/3	No Ordinary Man Jesus	Jesus	Matthew 5-7; 9; 14; Mark 4-6; Luke 10; 15
10/10	Jesus, the Son of God Jesus	Jesus	Matthew 17; 21; Mark 8-1 2; 14; Luke 9
10/17	The Hour of Darkness Jesus	Jesus	Matthew 26-27; Mark 14-15; Luke 22-23
10/24	The Resurrection Jesus (Easter)	Jesus	Matthew 27-28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 19-21
10/31	New Beginnings The Early Church	Paul	Acts 1-10; 12

## Women's Retreat January 2011—Think About It!



*"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."* —Matthew 18:20

The hot, drippy air weighs down each afternoon and the pool towels aren't put away yet. You want me to think about January? In 2011? **Yes.**

On the weekend of January 7-9, caravans of Strawbridge women and their friends will escape to the Texas Hill Country for an inspiring retreat. The timing, somehow, will be God's perfect timing. The holidays will be packed away (or not!) and the new year will call.

Think about January now? **Yes.**

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### Is there a main topic?

Kathy Reiter, an experienced retreat speaker, will guide us through the idea of "Becoming New Again" based on Isaiah 43:19. Look it up!

#### How do we get there?

However your prefer. We are happy to provide names of others who wish to car-pool. Let us know of any



meals. The weekend package includes four meals; Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus Sunday breakfast. Of course, food preferences are very personal. If you have serious dietary needs, let us know.

#### What are the sleeping arrangements?

Each house on the property is unique. Most rooms contain three to five beds and one bathroom. Double sinks and counter space are the norm. We will each have our own bed (usually full size or larger). While not as private as a hotel room (\$\$\$), the retreat team inspected these rooms, finding them functional, clean, and comfortable.

#### What if I snore?

We are sorry to hear that!! Snoring is welcome. So are earplugs if you are a light sleeper. All retreat participants should consider, in advance, any items that will facilitate a comfortable stay.


transportation needs you have.

#### How long is the drive?

The retreat center is approximately 90 minutes from Kingwood, although most folks will stop for dinner along the way. Plan accordingly.

#### How is the food?

Delicious. According to first-hand reports, the retreat center provides very good



**XYZ Bible Studies**  
Did you know there are two new XYZ (Extra Years of Zest 55+ Fellowship) Bible Studies? One meets every Monday at 10 a.m. in the Bride's Room (Room 152) at church. Another study meets each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at Rose Burnett's home. Contact Trish King, 281-360-4500.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Women's Retreat 2011

(Continued from page 2)

### What is the schedule?

A general schedule is available in the Women's Retreat brochure. Find brochures at the publicity table and on the SUMC web site.

### Will there be any free time?

Yes. A few hours of free time are scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Also, "play time" is scheduled for Saturday evening.

### What does this weekend cost?

\$175.

### Are scholarships available?

Our philosophy is that every woman who really wants to attend should attend. If your financial situation is seriously challenged, let us know. If you are able, please consider adding a donation to your registration fee to be used for scholarships.

### When can I sign up?

Now. **The registration deadline is November 15**, and we encourage you to sign up sooner. We don't want anyone to accidentally miss

the deadline! Partial payments are acceptable. See the registration form at the publicity table or online for details.

### I'm so excited about the retreat! Can I help?

YES! We love to share our enthusiasm. Let us know who you are! Contact Barbie Bugner at [bugner-branches@cebridge.net](mailto:bugner-branches@cebridge.net) or 281-360-5278, or Cheryl Burnett at [cheryldburnett@hotmail.com](mailto:cheryldburnett@hotmail.com) or 281-360-5127.



Baptized on Sunday,  
September 5, 2010

Javier Leon Benton  
Talon Duke Benton, and  
Raven Kathryn Vivia  
Benton,  
Children of  
Kara and Javier Benton

## Children's Choirs

### Children's Choirs Are Singing in October

Come enjoy great music and support our children! The children's choirs (Cherub Choir, Joyful Sounds Choir, and Celebration Singers) will sing at worship services on October 10. The Cherub Choir will sing at the 11 a.m. service, and the Joyful Sounds and Celebration singers will sing at both the 8:30 and 11

a.m. services. To learn more about these choirs, contact [Debbie Norris](#).

### You Can Still Join Us!

Children's choirs have begun rehearsing, but there's room for you! Three-year-olds (as of 9/1/10) meet in room 113 from 5:15 to 6 p.m. Four-year-olds and Kindergarteners meet in room 151 from 5:15 to 6 p.m. First through third

graders meet in the Sanctuary from 5:15 to 6 p.m. Fourth through sixth graders meet in the Sanctuary from 6 to 7 p.m. Children's Choirs have fun learning about music and praising God. They also sing occasionally at worship services, and present a Christmas and spring musical every year. Contact [Debbie Norris](#).



### Thank You!

Thanks so much for providing toiletries and back packs for our homeless kids living downtown. The Board of Directors of Open Gate ministries is thrilled with Strawbridge's willingness to assist, and we appreciate your donations.

On a personal note I must tell you that the items were timely, as they arrived just as we had run completely out of our supply of toothbrushes and toothpaste. One young man was thrilled and said "It's just so nice to be able to scrub my teeth!" Thanks too to the Crusaders Class for their donation for the purchase of back packs. While we always hope to place young adults in housing as quickly as possible, it's nice for them to not have to carry their possessions in plastic sacks.

-Trish

# Fall Fest-4-All

Dunk Tank (Look out Pastor Jim!)

Chili cook-off and Pie Contest

Pony Rides & Train Ride

Cupcake Walk

Bounce House

*Come in costume!*

Trunk-or-Treat & Carnival Games

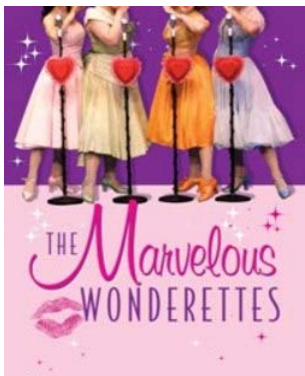
*Decorate your cars and bring treats!*

Contact [kelliebornstein@yahoo.com](mailto:kelliebornstein@yahoo.com) or  
[cagreenley@gmail.com](mailto:cagreenley@gmail.com).

Where's the  
Dunk Tank?

October 31, 3 - 6 p.m.

At Strawbridge UMC



Join the ZYXs (Extra Years of Zest—55+ fellowship group) Sunday, October 10 to see “The Marvelous Wonderettes” starring SUCM’s own, Holland Vavra. Holland’s proud dad, David Vavra, is our sound guy here. We will car pool from the church and leave at 1:30 p.m. for the 3 p.m. performance. Tickets are \$25. Please sign up and pay in the church office.

The Marvelous Wonderettes is a cotton-candy-colored, non-stop, pop musical, blast from the past that follows four girls from their high school prom to their ten-year reunion.

At the 1958 Springfield High School prom we meet the Wonderettes—Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy and Suzy, four girls with hopes and dreams as big as their crino-

line skirts, and voices to match! As we learn about their lives and loves, the girls perform classic hits such as Lollipop, Dream Lover, Stupid Cupid, Lipstick on Your Collar, It’s My Party, It’s in His Kiss (The Shoop Shoop Song) and many more!

Contact Trish King at 281-360-4500.

### October Mission Focus—SUMC Lifeline Fund

We've all learned to expect the unexpected—out of nowhere, adversity can strike. As Christians, our mission is to reach out; provide a "lifeline" to those with urgent needs, particularly when they're part of our family of faith.

The SUMC Lifeline Fund is being established to help support this ministry of caring. The pastoral staff will have discretionary and confidential

access to the fund. The Mission Committee will use it as a non-designated fund that can be tapped as appropriate to support unanticipated, local outreach needs and opportunities. Your donation can truly make a difference—perhaps even to you and your family if the unexpected happens!



October 2

MEMBERS AT WORK

**Work Day**  
at Church

It's time to spruce up for fall! We will work in classrooms, outdoors, in the hallways, and other areas of the church campus to repair, organize, and clean. Contact Lesa Carter, [lesalcarter@gmail.com](mailto:lesalcarter@gmail.com).

### How Many Days til Christmas?

There are only 85 days until Christmas! Does this throw you into panic mode? Or, does it make you wonder how you can make Christmas more meaningful and a reflection of Christ at work?

Strawbridge is going to partner again with Mission Milby by connecting with families that need our support. Your family, small group, or Sunday School class can have a direct experience with a family (or families) and help to make their Christmas brighter. Mission Milby will

match your family or group with a family in need. After you specify the size family that you would like to support, you'll be provided with names, sizes, and wishes. Then, you will purchase gifts for the family. You may deliver gifts to Mission Milby yourself or others can deliver the gifts for you.

On Saturday, December 11, Mission Milby will host a very special celebration for the families. Breakfast will be served, Santa will visit the children, and families will pick

up their gifts. Volunteers are needed to help Mission Milby with this event.

If you, your family, or your group wish to participate in any way, please contact Jan Boatman at 281-358-7531, or [janboatman@gmail.com](mailto:janboatman@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

**Mission Milby needs to know the number of families that SUMC plans to support by October 15.**



## Holiday Food Drive

To help Humble Area Assistance Ministries (HAAM) with food for their Thanksgiving baskets, we are having a food drive. SUMC has been asked to collect at least 500 cans of yellow and green vegetables. Please bring donations to the baskets in the sign-up hall, or outside the Children's Ministry office.






**Wednesday Evening Dinner**


Dinner is served from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$5 per adult, \$2.50 per child (12 and under) with a family max of \$20. Advanced reservations are required. Please contact the church office by noon on Monday, 281-360-4500.

**ADD/ADHD Support Group**

The Attention Deficit Disorder Association—Southern Region (ADDA-SR) Kingwood/Humble/Atascocita Chapter is a nonprofit organization that meets monthly, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 2929 Woodland Hills Drive, Kingwood in Room 211. Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 14.

Nancy Eisenberg, MSW, LCSW, LMFT will be our guest speaker. Please bring all your ADD/ADHD questions for an “Ask the Expert” question and answer session! The community is invited to attend.

For more information, please contact: Susan Mac Hugh at 281-812-3182, or [MrsQ123@aol.com](mailto:MrsQ123@aol.com).

**Join the Choir** 

Participation is open to all who enjoy singing for the glory of God. No prior experience is necessary, just a singing spirit! There is no audition and the ability to read music, though helpful, is not required.

For more information about choirs and musical groups for ages preschool to adult, contact Debbie Norris at [debbie.norris@strawbridge-umc.org](mailto:debbie.norris@strawbridge-umc.org).

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Sunday, September 5</b> 8:30 111 11:00 215 11:00 Chapel 37 Sunday School 180	<b>Sunday, September 12</b> 8:30 131 11:00 208 11:00 Chapel 27 Sunday School 221	<b>Sunday, September 19</b> 8:30 114 11:00 188 11:00 Chapel 49 Sunday School 251	<b>Sunday, September 26</b> 8:30 132 11:00 178 11:00 Chapel 19 Sunday School 207
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 **UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS**

**October 9: KPark Homecoming Tailgate Party, 5-6 p.m.** - Meet at SUMC parking lot for food and fun then caravan to the game. Bring a snack or drink to share and let's celebrate our team!

**October 10-11: Cardboard City, 3:30 p.m. Sunday to 8 a.m. Monday-** Would you give up your bed for one night if it could make a difference? Bring awareness and a face to the hundreds of homeless children and their families in our area by building and sleeping in your own “cardboard city” for a night, (along with food and fun). Hosted by Family Promise. Meet at Atascocita UMC, 19325 Pinehurst Trail Dr., Humble, Texas 77346.

**October 23: 80s Theme Skate Night, 6-9 p.m.** - Get your best 80s gear on and come skate at Humble Family Skate Center. Admission with skate rental is \$7 (\$10 for rollerblades) + extra spending money for snacks. Meet at SUMC.

**October 31: SUMC Fall Fest-4-All, 1-7:30 p.m.** - Dress in costume and help with set up and break down, games, etc. It's your chance to dunk Paul and Jim!

# Prayer Requests

## Sympathy

Kevin and Ellen Larson and family on the death of Kevin's cousin, Jim Hunter.  
Todd and Lori Miller and family on the death of Todd's father, Terry Miller.  
The family and friends of Rosemary Weber.



To honor the need for privacy regarding medical information, it is necessary to list first names only for some of our friends and family.

## For our family and friends who are experiencing illness or injury.

Pauline Jones (Erin Robbins' brother's mother-in-law); Kathy Reiter; Teddy O'Neal (co-worker of Paul Fagin); Emmitt Etlinger (father of a friend of Elisha James); Kathy Spirakes (friend of Beth Chenault); Elaine Wilkin (relative of a friend of Jane Christensen); Arch and Shelley Moore (brother and sister-in-law of Joy Sievertson); Marguerite Armistead's father; Patsy Shaw (mother of Kathy Reiter); Kevin Larson; Thomas Joseph Stanton; Shirley White; Alicia (niece of Pauline and Garry Musy); David Wells (brother of Carolyn Reed); Mike Harris

## For our family and friends who are recovering from surgery.

Lee Kidd; Debra Marine (friend of Sandra Plilar); Reid Larson; Lori Rose; Inman Vaughn (father of Beth Chenault); Amy Countiss (niece of Rick and Ann Bryan); Rose Brown; Chris Burnett

## For our military family and friends who are deployed overseas.

Michael Cox (son of Karla Goolsby); John Sarno (nephew of Judy Brown); Chris Wycoff (son of Dennis and Marsha Wycoff); Heather Lane; Lance Stephens

## For our family and friends who are living with cancer.

Andrea, and Mary Anne (friends of Frank and Marsha Johnson)  
Ryan (God son of Amelia Keel)  
Joel  
Sam (father of Sindi Sonnier)  
Jeanette (friend of Jan and Freddie Black)  
Rosalyn (co-worker of Elisha James)  
Jean (friend of Sandra Plilar)  
Bill (brother-in-law of Ron Flinn)  
Joyce (friend of Kelsey Belflower)  
Stacey (niece of Cindy Rasch)  
Cade (13-year-old friend of Ann Bryan's daughter's family)  
Catherine (niece of Rick and Ann Bryan)  
Kris (brother of Rick Bryan)  
Lucy (3-year-old daughter of a friend of David Bornstein)  
Linda (sister of Sherry Burger)  
Greg (brother-in-law of Alan Stivers)  
Richard  
Debbie (cousin of Linda Barnett)  
Marge, Lucy, and Mr. Miller (friends of John Barnett)  
Jack (friend of John and Linda Barnett)  
Morgan (friend of the Drees family)  
Charlie (3-year-old cousin of the Drees Family)  
Meagan (Jennifer Cargill's sister-in-law's mother)  
Anne (friend of Jennifer Cargill)  
Peggy (sister of Sam Ellington)  
Howard (brother of Carolyn Treynor)  
Greg Williams' father (friend of Cliff and Carol Hensley)

Linda Barnett's housekeeper's 10-year-old nephew  
Jeane (grandmother of Laurel Erickson)  
Ward (father of Sky Cheney)  
Vivian (friend of Theresa Snyder)  
Rob (son-in-law of Sue and Donald Howlett)  
Carol (friend of Paul and Brenda Hulse)  
Maria (friend of Laurie Zalewski)  
Heather (friend of the Ahmanns)  
Frank (grandfather of Erin Robbins)  
Jennifer (cousin of LaNell Anderson)  
David (friend of Bill Chenault)  
Mary  
Jim (stepfather of Gary Williams)  
Mike (friend of Richard and Doris Anne Moomaw)  
Martha (mother of George and Carolyn Reed)  
Debbie (cousin of Linda Bell)  
Tom (brother of Cheryl Burnett)  
Keith (friend of Layne Smith)  
Sean (friend of Lauren Llewellyn)  
Richard (cousin of Barbara Stream)  
Grant (BBLC student)  
Wanda (friend of Pat Flinn)  
Tom (father of Doug Henry)  
Matt (nephew of Layne Smith)  
Ron (friend of Carolyn Ruth)



*Welcome!*  
**To The SUMC  
Family  
Of Faith**

**We Welcome These New Members  
Who Joined in September!**

**Chris and Gayle Hanz, and their  
children, Sarabeth and Hannah**

**Aaron and Krystal Clark**

**STRAWBRIDGE  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

5629 Kingwood Drive  
Kingwood, Texas 77345  
281-360-4500  
www.strawbridge-umc.org

**E-mail submissions to:**  
[karla.goolsby@strawbridge-umc.org](mailto:karla.goolsby@strawbridge-umc.org)

Submission Deadline:	For Issue:
October 15	November

**Strawbridge United  
Methodist Church Staff**

**SR. PASTOR**  
The Rev. Dr. James H. Reiter

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR**  
The Rev. Beth Chenault

**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES**  
Paul Belk

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DIRECTOR**  
Kimberly Kurtz

**SR. ADULT MINISTRY DIRECTOR**  
Trish King

**SMALL GROUP MINISTRY DIRECTOR**  
Joy Johnston

**MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
Richard Aslanian

**ORGANIST**  
Leslie D. Boyette, Jr.

**OFFICE AND FINANCIAL MANAGER**  
Ann Bryan

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
Sandra Plilar

**CHURCH SECRETARY**  
Marsha Wycoff

**MUSIC ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
Debbie Norris

**COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**  
Karla Goolsby

**AUDIO DIRECTOR**  
David Vavra

**DIRECTOR OF VISUAL ARTS**  
Jeff Rose

**CROSSROADS PRAISE BAND LEADER**  
Chris Dickson

*A Spiritual Sanctuary in a Hectic World*

**October Birthdays**

10/1	Cindy Rasch	10/11	Lee Kidd	10/21	Brayden Carroll
10/1	Christian Davis	10/11	Nathan Kortus	10/22	Paige Stroud
10/2	Alexander Suarez	10/11	Ryan Hensley	10/22	Jennifer Yoder
10/2	Erin Harrison	10/11	Joseph Szeplaki	10/22	Christopher Yoder
10/2	Lori Tierney	10/11	Daniel Tatarzyn	10/22	Kristen Deerhake
10/3	Camryn Creech	10/12	David Campbell	10/23	Kitty Houser
10/3	Martha Paradysz	10/12	Brian Blakemore	10/23	Michael Cargill
10/3	David Price	10/12	Lauren Worzel	10/24	James Slaughter
10/5	Kristen Genter	10/12	Garry Musy	10/24	Anne Van Dyke
10/5	Chardonnay Phelan	10/13	Robert Anderson	10/25	Ellen Turnell
10/5	Tom Stream	10/14	Hannah Dove	10/25	Jazmin Villegas
10/5	Kathryn Alexander	10/14	Andy McMahan	10/25	Lindsey Ott
10/5	Brett Lee	10/15	Annette Hall	10/25	Michael Thrash
10/5	Carley Liebst	10/15	Bill Elston	10/26	Helen Acord
10/5	John Paradysz	10/16	Hunter Leahy	10/26	Dan Herink
10/5	Christina Marshall	10/16	Lee Danner	10/26	Liz Cepeda
10/6	David Sommer	10/16	Linda Knight	10/27	Alex Averill
10/6	Kay Burleson	10/16	Kyle Welborn	10/28	Meagan Roy
10/6	Richard Vannauker	10/17	Sarah Hoener	10/28	James Livesay
10/7	Ashley Rollo	10/17	Michael Szeplaki	10/28	Lindsay Plilar
10/7	Jake Pinkston	10/17	Jill Henderson	10/29	Rose Burnett
10/7	Clayton Marshall	10/18	Angela Morisette	10/29	Jason Welborn
10/7	Gwenn Caldwell	10/18	Kimberly Hurlbert	10/29	Chris Vick
10/8	Peter May	10/18	Corie Vittitow	10/30	Damian Bornstein
10/8	Michael Stroud	10/18	Rachel Duncan	10/30	Jan Boatman
10/8	Connie Belk	10/19	Randy Kortus	10/30	Claire Livesay
10/9	Claire Ardoin	10/19	Marlee Magee	10/30	Sophie Webb
10/9	Audrey Gardner	10/20	Stefani Claros	10/30	Cameron Bright
10/9	Tom Chandler	10/20	Anna Larson	10/31	Jennifer Neidinger
10/10	Lisa Swank	10/20	Jeff Grantham	10/31	Jennifer Goens
10/10	Tony Redus	10/20	Jennifer Schmidt	10/31	Jerry Hoose
10/10	Maddie Ross	10/20	Annie Price	10/31	Sharon Flood
10/11	Lexi Clidienst	10/21	Craig Freeman		