



FIRST FAMILY NEWS

Rev. Mike Alexander
Sr. Pastor

January 18, 2012

Linda Fricker
Admin. Secretary

MIKE FOSSUM SPEAKS AT FUMC Sunday, February 5th / In the Great Hall / 1:00 PM

On Sunday, Feb. 5 at 1:00 pm in the Great Hall, Mike Fossum, NASA astronaut and husband of the former Melanie London, will speak about his recent 6-month stay aboard the International Space Station, where he served first as Flight Engineer and then as Commander.

Prior to this flight, Mike had logged more than 636 hours in space, including more than 42 hours in six EVAs (spacewalks), as a mission specialist aboard space shuttle Discovery on STS-121 (July 4-17, 2006) and STS-124 (May 31-June 14, 2008).

Mike *is also a* retired Colonel from the USAF Reserves. He holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Texas A&M University, an M.S. in Systems Engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology, and an M.S. in Space Science from the University of Houston-Clear Lake.



Mike and his wife Melanie have four children and one grandchild. Melanie is the daughter of FUMC long-time member Gretchen London.

A luncheon will be served in Mike's honor at 12:00 in Martin Hall before his program begins. Please call Helen Montfort (903-874-8824) for reservations if you wish to have lunch. Only 100 people will be served due to the limited space in Martin Hall.



Prayer and Self-Denial

A CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF-DENIAL

Monday, January 23rd / 9:30 am
Friendship Classroom

This annual service is open to all women of the church, not just the women who participate in UMW circles. This year's program is "A Time for Change" with the focus on technology. Mark the date on your calendar and join the group for a time of reflection and prayer.

FROM THE PASTOR



We are blessed with a brand new year. We know that when we look at the calendar, but it is more than a calendar item. It is God's gift to us! 2011 was a challenging year with change and a number of challenges. We had to dig deep to achieve our financial goals, but we were successful thanks to the faithfulness of so many. We begin again with a clean slate and a new opportunity to minister to others with the love of Christ!

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not yet perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. (Isaiah 43:19) God is always at work, far ahead of us, wooing us to follow, to trust God's leading, to be who God calls us to be. The Holy Spirit is at work, but one thing is clear. It is not easy. It can be painful, often unpopular, perhaps a little scary. **We always pay a price.**

Remember that is this year, in every year, in every moment and opportunity in your life. **We always pay a price.** We pay a price when we stay in our rut. We pay a price when we do what we have never done before. We pay a price when we go forward and fearfully do what used to be unthinkable. In everything we do that price is paid. We succeed; we fail. We stumble; we rise up. We wound; we heal. This is the stuff of life for everyone. But, for us, there is something different.

We follow Jesus, the one who makes all things new. As long as I follow Jesus, I am in good company, and I will never be lost as long as I trust in Him. Do you want to follow Jesus? Do you want to be led by his love? Do you really want to trust Him?

Jesus is not standing still. Jesus is not sitting on his hands. Jesus is on the move. That is our joy; this is our adventure. Jesus is doing something new. Would you like to follow along?

I am very blessed to walk this journey with you. I am proud to be your pastor. May God's richest blessings fill your life this year.

In Jesus Name,



CONFIRMATION CLASS BEGINS!



Our Confirmation Class for our youth begins this weekend with a retreat at Glen Lake Camp! We have had an excellent response for this class with about 15 youth registered. We will be leaving this Friday from the church parking lot at 4:00 p.m. for Glen Lake Camp. We will return to Corsicana around 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. The first four sessions of the Confirmation experience will be on the retreat. The remaining eight sessions will be at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon beginning February 19th. Mike Alexander and Jay Frazee will be leading in these sessions. The Confirmation Class is open to our youth currently in the 6th grade or above.



Associate Pastor

Our sermon series, *The Gospels in Hollywood* continues as we examine our call to ministry. This week we look at Andrew, Peter, James, and John and their call from the perilous waters of Galilee as fishermen to the treacherous life of a Disciple. Quite possibly, their deadliest catch may have nothing to do with the rough waves and squalls of the sea.

As we continue to grow I know that “attendance numbers” only give a snap-shot in time and “numbers” are not the only thing. That being said “number” represent people who come each Sunday to be fed and to fellowship with other believers. In our first two Sunday’s back we have averaged over 100 in worship at The Current and 10:50 Traditional. We are off to a great start as we seek to bring others in and offer Christ to a world in need. I hope you will continue to reach out with enthusiasm and invite others to church. And Yes, it is true... you never now what we are going to do at the Current... Whether it is hearing Strauss or Whitesnake we’ll keep you on your toes. Who knows what crazy thing we will do this week as we come together to worship our wonderful Lord and creator... Then again, maybe our worship will be just “normal” contemporary... whatever that means.

I’ll see you Sunday if not before, and bring a friend.

Peace,

Jay

Youth News

This year’s **Valentine Veranda on Sunday, February 12th** will be a Tour of Europe. Start making your plans now to attend this wonderful event. The youth are doing most all of the planning on this event this year and are looking forward to making this an event that the entire church will enjoy. The Romantic tour of Europe will take us through Spain, Greece, France and Italy with salads and appetizers representing each of these areas as well as entertainment. The cost will once again be \$25 for a couple and \$15 for an individual. As with each year, the funds will be used to offset the cost of the meal and raise money for youth activities including the summer Mission Trip to Arkansas with the Central Texas Conference Youth in Mission.



Valentine Veranda Menu

- Tortilla Soup
- Greek Salad
- Chicken Parmesan with Bowtie Pasta and Red Sauce
- Green Beans
- Garlic Bread Sticks
- Crepes

- January 18 6:15 Youth Bible Study (After Wed. Meal) – Conflict with Friends
- January 22 6:00 Mystery Trip – Don’t worry; I don’t know what we are doing either.
Meal provided for by the Cofer family
- January 25 6:15 Youth Bible Study (After Wed. Meal) – Conflict with Authority
- January 29 6:00 Preparation for Valentine Veranda
Meal provided for by the Frazee family
- February 1 6:15 Youth Bible Study (After Wed. Meal) – Conflict with God
- February 5 6:00 Youth Worship and preparation for Valentine Veranda
Meal provided for by the Ally Watson family
- February 8 6:15 Prepare for Valentine Veranda
- February 12 6:00 Valentine Veranda



Food for Fitness

I am looking for someone to take over the Food for Fitness program at our church. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact me at 903-641-9921.

Thank you,
Cindy Humphries



Memorial Gifts

Joyce Collins

Bob & Kathryn Corley (Stained Glass)

JoAnn Gordon Ailshie Doss

Nellie Judson (Stained Glass)

Linda Goodner

Bob & Kathryn Corley (Stained Glass)

Gerald & Ann York (Endowment)

Jeanne Cox Harper

Nellie Judson (Stained Glass)

Beverly Rodgers

The Ron Watson Family (Stained Glass)



Caregivers Support Group Feb. 22nd @ 2PM Church Library.

Mission Statement

The purpose of Caregiver's Support Group is to provide emotional support, friendship

and assistance to all who are caring for loved ones. We share problems, possible solutions, available resources, tips on personal care and the importance of taking care of oneself in dealing with grief, anger, or guilt feelings.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

February Birthdays

01 – Gretchen London

02 – Zane Stearman

04 – Lesa Goins,

Leland Cook

05 – Marcus Preston

06 Hartley Young, Lisa Updegrove

07 – Russell Stites

08 – Candi Dill, Jeff Vandegraaf

10 – S.F. Herod, Donna Jackson

12 – Caleb Rogers, Melanie Hardeman, Russell McKeown

13 – Blanche Moore, Bree Ann Mixon

15 – Cody carroll

16 – Brenda Aycock

17 – Ellen Ford, Sara Lasater, Phil Sims

18 – Clint Montfort

19 – Kendall Dill, Jan Noblett, Sue Reed

20 – Pat Hudson, Billy Baton, Molley Paschal, Bobbie Nichols

21 – Jean Crawford

22 – Steve Morgan

23 – Bryan Terry, Elizabeth Rice

24 – Zachary Thomson

25 – Bradley Skinner

26 – Renee Frazee

February Anniversaries

19 – Zane & Susan Stites

22 – Dwayne & Helen Garrison

27 – Bob & Willa Kral

ROAD TO RECOVERY



Cancer patients from our community need your help to get to and from their medical treatments. Road to Recovery, and

American Cancer Society program, needs kind people to volunteer their time and use their personal vehicles to drive patients to and from their appointments. Schedules are flexible. For more information, call 903-597-1383 or 1-800-227-2345.

Welcome New Members



We would like to welcome our newest members to the FUMC Family, Kirstin Griffiths and her son David Cowan joined at The Current on January 8.

While Kirsten and David live in Kerens, they are not strangers to Corsicana or FUMC. They have each been involved in productions at The Warehouse and were recently an integral part of the cast and crew of *The King and I* that took the stage at The Palace this past November. David will be participating in the Confirmation Class that begins with a retreat this week-end. Once again, we welcome Kirstin and David and look forward to a wonderful ministry with them in the years to come.

UMW MISSION LUNCHEON

Sunday, January 22nd
After 10:50 Worship

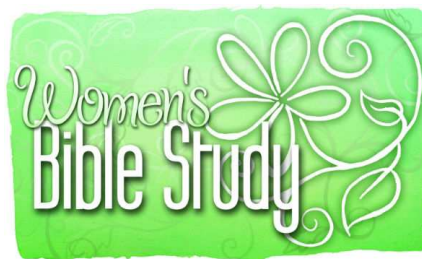


Spaghetti Lunch

The United Methodist women are inviting everyone to stay after church for a spaghetti luncheon in the Great Hall. They are serving Turkey Spaghetti and Italian Spaghetti as well, with Salad and YUMMY desserts. This is the annual luncheon where checks are given out to all the missions that the UMW supports. These are the funds that UMW makes from their Bazaar. Please plan to stay for lunch.

VITAL SIGNS – January 15, 2011

Worship Attendance	272
Sunday School	169
Offering needed January	\$58,390.00
Gifts thru January 15th	\$48,341.60



WOMEN'S NEW BIBLE STUDY

Are you ready for a fun Bible study? I have picked a book titled, "**Bad Girls of the Bible**" by Liz Curtis Higgs.

This is what the catalogue says:

Jezebel...Lot's Wife...Delilah. Oh, those bad girls! What's a good girl to do? Learn from their mistakes-and, by God's grace, choose a better path! Combining humor with spiritual insight, Higgs contemporary retelling of stories of 10 of the "baddest" women in the Bible shows you how NOT to handle life's challenges. Included is a workbook with stimulating end-of-chapter discussion questions.

This sounds like it will be a lot of fun, several people have recommended it to me. Class will be on Wednesday's from 12:00 noon to 1:00 PM. We are going to start on February 1st and will be done around April 18th.

If you would like to join this study please let me know by Monday, January 23rd. I will order books that evening so they will arrive by Feb. 1st. E-mail or text me 903-654-8238.

Ann Stites

BLOOD DRIVE
Thursday, February 2nd
12:30 to 5:30
Martin Hall



**BLOOD
DRIVE**

CALLED TO SERVE – January 22, 2011

MARTIN HALL FELLOWSHIP

Genesis Class

VAN DRIVER

Matt Jackson

GREETERS

Sanctuary

8:30 – Carolyn Carpenter

10:30 – Jack & Susan McMath

Elevator

9:30 – Barbara & Larry McVay

ACOLYTES

8:30 – Erin Derden

10:50 – Jonathan Thomson & Timothy Thomson

SOUND

Neal Green

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Rockie Glicksman & Angie Vance

USHERS

8:30 – Hartley Young – Head Usher, Tracy Watson

10:50 – Rudy Carroll-Head Usher, Bob Parrish,

Bob Carroll, Gene McLain, Jack Summitt,

John Taylor Jr., Scott Thomson, Marcus Preston,

Charles Worsham

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Serving @ 5:30 / \$5.00 Per Plate

January 25 - Friendship Class

Smothered Pork Chops

Mashed Potatoes

Italian Green Beans

Green Salad

Pies for Dessert

CALLED TO SERVE – January 29, 2011

MARTIN HALL FELLOWSHIP

Seekers

VAN DRIVER

Matt Jackson

GREETERS

Sanctuary

8:30 – Jan Noblett

10:30 – Harry & Pat Hudson

Elevator

9:30 – Tim & Ann Stites

ACOLYTES

8:30 – Erin Derden

10:50 – Kayla Rozelle & Neal Green

SOUND

George Winningham

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Renee Fraze & Jennifer Cofer

USHERS

8:30 – K.C. Wyatt – Head Usher, Hartley Young,

Frank Murchison, Don Gibson, Billy Richards

10:50 – Rudy Carroll-Head Usher, Bob Parrish,

Bob Carroll, Marcus Preston, John Taylor, Jr.,

Charles Worsham, Scott Thomson

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

Serving @ 5:30 / \$5.00 Per Plate

Feb. 01 – Family Focus

Chicken Strips

Mashed Potatoes / Gravy

Green Beans

Tossed Salad

Dessert