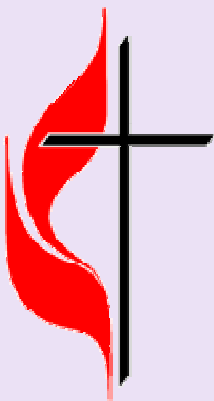


DEER PARK UMC
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DEER PARK, TX
281-930-1300



**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Lenten Focus	1
International Missions	2
VBS - Save the Date	3
Confirmation	4
Holy Land Trip	5
Youth Ministries	6

*Our purpose at Deer Park United Methodist Church is to form a community of faithful disciples who love the God revealed in Jesus Christ through **worship, prayer and study**, and who love their neighbors through **invitation, welcome and service**.*

The Communicator

WWW.DPUMC.ORG

FEBRUARY 15, 2012

It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth.

Matthew 4:4 (The Message)

This year's focus during Lent **More Than Bread**

Join in a time of prayer and fasting during Lent
February 22 through Easter Sunday, April 8



This Lenten season, I invite you to join me in a time of prayer and fasting as we remember that life is more than bread. Real, abundant life is found as we draw nearer to God and together seek God's will for our family, our church, our denomination, our country, and our world. Specifically, I challenge you (as you are medically able) to:

1. Participate daily in the E-100 Readings through the New Testament
2. Pray daily. Please lift up our **church**—as we prepare to be neighbors with San Jacinto Elementary and consider how best to serve the needs of our community and to make disciples for Christ. Pray for the **United Methodist Church**—as we approach **General Conference** (April 24—May 4). I invite you to join with United Methodists all around the globe in reflection and prayer as we participate in 50 Days of Prayer beginning March 16. You can download the prayer guide from our web page dpumc.org. And pray for the two international missions that we are supporting with our Lenten offerings—the Kenya mission to build to build an AIDS orphan home and staff housing at the Maua Methodist Hospital; and the Kingdom of Heaven school educating impoverished children in Pakistan.
3. Fast for 12 day time hours once per week as a spiritual discipline. Save the money you would spend on the meal for our Lenten offering, benefitting the 2 international mission projects.

Blessings, *Deborah*



Fat Tuesday Pancake Fundraiser

5:30-7:30 Feb. 21st in the Concourse
LOVE OFFERING
All Proceeds Go To Youth Missions
and Activities

Read more
about our
International
Missions on
page 2!



On June 13th, 15 or 16 United Methodists (including our own Kent Ping) will leave for Maua, Kenya on a mission trip to build an AIDS Orphan Home and work on staff housing for the Maua Methodist Hospital. Maua Methodist Hospital provides healthcare for a district of 800,000 people. The hospital is the only full-service health care provider. Each month, it gives life-saving health care to in-patients who have little or no funds. Many of these patients are orphans, abandoned children, and children of impoverished families. Since AIDS is an endemic in the Maua area with an estimated prevalence rate of over 15 percent, the hospital serves many AIDS orphans. The project requirement is \$8300. Team members are contributing \$2775, the Texas Annual Conference Partners in Mission office will contribute \$2500, and we need to raise the remaining \$3025. (Each team member is paying their own travel costs for the mission trip.)



Deer Park has been supporting the Kingdom of Heaven school in Pakistan through giving to the Starfish Asia fund for the last 2 years. This school was begun by our church member, Abid Bhatti, and is now run by his brother, Babar. See the article beside from the Starfish Asia newsletter!

New desks and chairs at the KOHM School

Facilities are improving for the students at the Kingdom of Heaven Ministries School in Meher Town, Lahore. Two years ago there was a desperate shortage of space and several classes sat on the ground in the courtyard in summer sun and winter cold. Now all 420 students are in a classroom and new furniture has just been delivered, sufficient for every student. This fine school is now registered, equipped — and still dreaming of having their own building.

Join us for Ash
Wednesday Service
on Feb. 22nd at 6pm

Ash
Wednesday

Keep Your Marriage Vibrant!

The focus of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is on communication between husband and wife. It is an opportunity to spend a weekend together away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life and to concentrate on each other as a couple. It's a unique approach aimed at revitalizing Christian Marriage. This is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together. A time to rediscover each other, and together focus on your relationship for an entire weekend. Every marriage deserves that kind of attention! Rediscover the spark that was there on your wedding day! Rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married!

Join the millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive!

Applications are being accepted for the next weekend in the Houston area on March 23-25. There are also weekends February 24-26 in Austin, and April 20-22 in Dallas. For information and reservation application, go to www.encounter.org or contact Ray and Dana Anderson, rada77099@aol.com, and 713-825-9089.



John 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Get Connected! Stay Connected!

Where will YOU serve in 2012?

Ministry booklets with opportunities and needs available at church. Find your place to serve!

CONNECTING

GROWING

TRANSFORMING

Building a community of faithful disciples who love the God revealed in Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, & study, and who love their neighbors through invitation, welcome, & service...SO THAT lives, families & communities are transformed!



Save the date for Vacation Bible School 2012: Preschool VBS June 12,13 &14, and School Age VBS June 18-22nd.

Vacation
Bible
School

.... AND THE GROCERIES CAME POURING IN!

- The SOUP-er Bowl food drive for the DPUMC Food Bank was an unqualified success. About FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS of food were collected in all. This represents a huge outpouring of concern for the hungry and the food-insecure in our community from all walks of life. The volunteers of the Food Pantry would like to express an equal measure of gratitude to all who made donations. We also want to thank Liz Guyer for all of her second-mile logistical efforts.
- In addition to a wonderful response from the congregation, the Food Pantry received a very big surprise from Cub Scout Pack 268. The boys, their leaders, and their parents collected about THREE HUNDRED POUNDS of food. They spent a large part of a very rainy Saturday going door-to-door collecting donations. Please express your thanks to the boys, their leaders, and their families the next time you see them.
- Despite the wonderful response, the Food Pantry could not fulfill its ongoing mission without CONTINUOUS donations from our members and friends. The Food Pantry distributed, on average, about five 45 lb boxes of food each week in both 2010 and 2011. If no further donations were made, the food collected in the SOUPER-er BOWL drive would only last a little more than two weeks!
- Let me make a CHALLENGE to all grocery shoppers in 2012. EVERY time you make a substantial trip to the grocery store, pick up at least one item for the Food Pantry. (Milk and bread "runs" can be excluded.) This routine habit will obviously benefit our Food Pantry. Perhaps as importantly, it will also sharpen YOUR thankfulness for the food that you can buy and sharpen YOUR concern for the people who can't.

Steve Hartung, Food Pantry Coordinator



Please go to www.dpumc.org for a list of the daily readings



Confirmation Class Spring 2012

Open to youth 6th grade and older. Classes will run on Sunday afternoons from 1-2:30 p.m. in Room #124 of the DPUMC Children's Wing.

Class will begin Sunday, February 26th.

Please check www.dpumc.org for the complete schedule!

Questions? Contact Rev. Melody Kraus at associatepastor@dpumc.org.



Congratulations to Connie Coe Ellis!

Connie Coe Ellis received the "Building Faith in Youth" Award and Medal from Deer Park United Methodist Church for

faithful ministry to youth through the P.R.A.Y. curriculum to youth in the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts of America. The "Building Faith in Youth" Award is designed for Protestant congregations to recognize outstanding individuals who have contributed significantly to the children's and youth ministries of their church through the P.R.A.Y. programs teaching these children about God and earning their Religious Emblems of Faith Awards and Medals. Connie has taught the God and Me, the God and Family, and the God and Church programs to many Scouts throughout the last five years.

Congratulations to Jeremy Coe!

Jeremy has earned the very prestigious and difficult to achieve God and Family Religious



Emblem and Medal from the Boy Scouts of America. He achieved this by fulfilling many requirements and obligations to his church and to his religion and by attending a Religious 6 hour class. This is Jeremy's 2nd Religious Emblem and Medal that he has earned through the Boy Scouts of America.

Way to go Jeremy!

Are you new to DPUMC??

Newcomer reception - February 26th at 9:40 am in the concourse. You are invited to come and learn more about Deer Park UMC; what membership means; and how to get involved. For those who wish, there will be an opportunity to join our church at the reception.

DPUMC Annual Tree Pruning

Feb. 25th starting at 7:30 a.m. Please bring pruners, ladders, rakes, gloves and trash bags. Questions? Call Jim Frantz at 281-470-0946





All boxes are under \$30.00, they are boxed up upon delivery, orders can be placed online or by phone. Menus are available in the front office, the FLC and online at www.dpumc.org. (You can also check them out on Facebook.)



Order Deadline: Sunday February 19th
Order pick up is Saturday, Feb. 25th at 8:30
 at the church.

When ordering online, be sure and choose Deer Park UMC as your outreach center!



Are you interested in going to the Holy Land in 2013?

Rev. Deborah Proctor will be leading a trip to the Holy Land in January, 2013 that will be the trip of a lifetime – to see the land where Jesus lived and visit historic sites. Your Bible reading and devotional life will be enriched as you walk where Jesus walked. If you are interested in receiving information about the trip, please notify Deborah Proctor, srpastor@dpumc.org. We will be having an information/organizational meeting soon!

Next Book Talk: Sunday, March 18th 3 p.m. in room #124!

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, by Jonathan Safran Foer

Oskar is convinced that his father, who died in the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center, has left a final message for him hidden somewhere in the city. Feeling disconnected from his grieving mother and driven by a relentlessly active mind that refuses to believe in things that can't be observed, Oskar begins searching New York City for the lock that fits a mysterious key he found in his father's closet. His journey through the five boroughs takes him beyond his own loss to a greater understanding of the observable world around him.



“We promise to support Deer Park United Methodist Church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness”



2012 Operating Budget	\$685,512
YTD Budget	\$92,278
YTD Received	\$87,488

Attendance	8:30	Growth	10:30
February 5th	203	154	168
February 12th	189	153	219

Little Churches Fund	
Sunday, February 5th	\$167
Sunday, February 12th	\$200

Youth Ministries

Susy's Corner

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE TO DIANNA HUTCHISON

The DPUMC Student Ministry has a wonderful and dedicated teaching staff, which Dianna has been a part of over the years. The time and dedication she has put into teaching and our youth has been exemplary. Dianna will be missed, but the ministry prays blessings on her future endeavors.

FAT TUESDDAY PANCAKE SUPPER YOUTH FUNDRAISER

February 21st 5:30-7:30, the youth will host a pancake fundraiser in the Concourse raising funds for youth missions and activities. Pancakes with all the fixings, bacon and sausage, and drinks will be available that night. Shannon Johnson will have some children's activities during the dinner. Take time to come join in the end of Mardi Gras and prepare for the beginning of Lent. **LOVE OFFERINGS ACCEPTED!** Youth/parents, your help will be greatly appreciated.

SPRING INCENTIVE KICKING OFF

As of February 1st, the student ministry is giving youth an opportunity to help pay all or part of their money for summer camp by being present at the programming being offered. Wednesday Night Live at 6pm in the Family Life Center studying E100, Sunday morning Growth Group 9:45am, and Sunday evening Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) 5:30 attendance can help not only grow you in your relationship with Jesus Christ transforming your heart to be utilized in reaching out to others, but help alleviate some of the cost for camp. This program will run through May 2nd.

Official Christ Disciples (Youth planning team)

If you are a youth who is interested in what goes on in the DPUMC Student Ministry and would like to get involved, this is your chance. The next planning meeting will be February 19th at 4pm in the Family Life Kitchen. It does not matter if you can come every month or only once in a while; your input and help to create an atmosphere of growth, fun, and success is encouraged. Come and try it out.

MYF WITH ST. MARKS BAYTOWN MARCH 4TH

Join in the fun with St. Marks on Sunday March 4th. We will leave at 3:30 returning around 6:30. The new sign up sheet will be posted soon on the blue board in the Family Life Center. This ensures enough drivers so that everyone can attend.

With God's grace,

Susy McAdams