



FIRST

VISIONS

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INSIDE FIRST VISIONS

From the Editor's Desk

Crop Walk Success

Messiah Presentation

Methodist Children's Home

1 A

We Witness

Special December Days

Our Applause

Learn, Accomplish, Fellowship

Dewey's Daily Cup

8 A

Lion, Witch, & What?

by Jan Stong

Seven books became my favorites during my childhood and I have never tired of reading them. Those books, written by one of the twentieth century's foremost Christian apologists, C. S. Lewis, written to appeal to young people and adults, are, of course, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, including *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*.

When I was young, these books thrilled me as a grand fantasy adventure. As I matured, I began to see them as much more. The world that always remained forever winter, but never Christmas; the boy, who fails to do what he

knows is right, who earns punishment; the lion, who gives up his life for another; all these tell another saga, as well, an allegorical tale of Christian experience.

Members and friends of FUMC will be examining these stories of C. S. Lewis. First, we view the new movie based on this work on December 10, at 10:00 am at the Reel Deal Theater. FUMC has purchased a private showing of this movie just for us. Tickets are available to you at the church office on a first come basis. The tickets are going quickly so come by the office soon.

Later, starting on January 8 at 4:00 pm, we will begin a study of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Whether you see the movie, have read the books, or not, join us for a delightful discussion of the allegorical connections in *The Chronicles of Narnia* and C. S. Lewis's wonderful insights into Christianity.



Crop Walk Success

by Aaron Goldman

The CROP Walk held Sunday afternoon on November 20 listed over 80 participants and raised nearly \$6,000 for Church World Service and LA Cares. The United Church led the way with the most contributors and the largest donation mainly due to an outstanding effort by their youth group.

FUMC and The Jewish Center turned in a goodly share and Bethlehem Lutheran also chipped in.

Many thanks go to the members of FUMC for their support and kudos to Dennis Trumblee and Susan Nova for leading the way. Please contact Aaron Goldman if you would like to contribute - you can still help through December 20.



Merry Christmas!

MESSIAH Presentation

by Sarah Kelly

The Chancel Choir will present the Christmas portion of MESSIAH by G. F. Handel on Sunday, December 4 during the 10:30 am worship service. A brief service, which will include a call to worship, hymn of praise, lighting of the Advent candle, and offertory, will precede the presentation. The entire service will be approximately one hour and 15 minutes in length.

The soloists are Michael Beauchamp, Rene LeClaire, Louise Mendius, and Jan

Watson.

A chamber orchestra of musicians from our church and the community will accompany the choir and soloists. The instrumentalists will be: Douglas Alde, Loretta Barker, Valerie Collins, Margaret Gibson, Bob Kelly, Cindy Little, Alice Mutschlecner, Mary Helen Klare, Jackie MacFarlane, Frances Naffziger, Carol Nielson, Marion Pack, Andrea Palounek, Fredrica Smith, Len Stovall, David Watkins, Charmaine Weber, and Thomas Weber.



Methodist Children's Home

by Jan Stong

Several weeks ago Astria Smith from Methodist Children's Home visited our church. We talked the work Methodist Children's Home does with young people who are having difficulties. Children come here from many different situations, deaths in the family, broken homes, or trouble with the law or drugs. Here they receive strong Christian support and love, as well as, an excellent education. Through the love and encouragement residents receive, these young people are enabled to discover a sense of self-worth and pur-

pose for their lives.

Astria wanted to tell you how much Methodist Children's Home appreciates what our church does for their children. On Sunday, December 11, we will be distributing brochures telling about the ministries of Methodist Children's Home in Waco, Texas and Methodist Mission Home in San Antonio, Texas. Please give prayerful consideration to giving to these organizations in this special Advent offering.

"God bless you for your hard work and your generosity towards our children." -- Astria Smith

We Witness

Our Church Vows

We will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with our prayers, presence, gifts and service.

Our Prayers

There are many, many prayer needs in our church family and community. The caring board by the church office is filled to overflowing, and there are too many prayer needs to put in this space

without leaving out some other equally important needs. Having the complete prayer list is as simple as sending your email address to the church office and asking to be placed on the email list for prayer needs.

Our Presence

Thanksgiving Sunday services on November 20th were attended by 202 people.

Special December Days



Birthdays:

Kelly While 12/03
Bill Mead 12/06
Nancee Beebe 12/08
Zeke Zumbro 12/10
Nancy Warnes 12/11
Chelsea Pearson 12/13
Rod Douglass 12/14
Hazel DeVries 12/17
Maurice Sheppard 12/25
Joey Grindstaff 12/25
Lucy Malone 12/26

Loui Janecky 12/27

Anniversaries:

December 19
Brent & Robyn Collum
December 20
David & Loui Janecky
December 28
Herald & Peggy Kruse

MYF Youth and Adults helping out at the Albuquerque Relief Shelter

The next edition of Visions will be dated December 16.

The deadline for articles is Wednesday, December 7.

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Sunday Services & Activities
8:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
Wednesday Activities
MYF 6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir 7 p.m.
United Skates, Friday evenings
First Session 5:00-6:45 p.m. for children third grade and younger, \$2.00 includes skate rental
Second Session for third grade and up, \$2.50 includes skate rental



Our Applause

Thank you to all the members of the CIC team (Connected in Christ): Mark Hodgson, David Miller, Sharon Sole, Geniece Courtright, and Barry Dickens, for the set-up work and presentation on November 13.

We offer words of appreciation to the Crop Walk organiz-

ers: Aaron Goldman, Dennis and Susan Trumblee.

Many thanks to our missionaries to Granada, Peggy Goldman and Alice Carter, for their insightful presentation at the November Potluck.

Kudos to Peggy Goldman for the liaison work she did to enable the Navajo's with their

Craft Fair and Dinner. The day was a rousing success.

Our church has been transformed into the Christmas season thanks to Doris Jackson and a team of helpers this past week. Thank you all for beautifying the church for Christ's birthday celebration this year!

Learn, Accomplish, Fellowship

by Peggy Goldman

LAF (Learn, Accomplish, Fellowship) is an intergenerational group which meets on the second Sunday of each month from 4 to 7 pm in the FUMC Friendship Center. The purpose of the group is to provide an opportunity for members and friends of all ages to get together and learn from each other, get unfinished proj-

ects completed and help one another with places we may be stuck. We have seen a variety of projects being worked on including sewing (both hand and machine), knitting, latch hook, embroidery, mending, crochet, scrapbooking, quilting, crafts, etc. Besides personal projects we have had a number of people working on tote bags for UMCOR school

kits and shawls for a shawl knitting ministry. The next meeting will be on Sunday, December 11, 4-7 pm, so dig out those unfinished projects or start a new one (perhaps for a Christmas gift) and come join us for a time of fellowship and accomplishment. Contact Cathy Siebe or Peggy Goldman for more information.



Dewey's Daily Cup

by Dewey Moede

I do not know where to begin to talk about www.deweysdailycup.com I am just a lay person like many of you trying to make a difference in the world and to answer the calling of the Lord.

I grew up in Windom, a small town in Southwestern Minnesota, a town with a big heart! My friends have made fun of me all my life saying--you grew up in Mayberry! Everyone knew each other and cared for each other. If you were downtown and you were misbehaving, anybody would feel free to scold you and tell your parents--as we all respected each other. The Policeman, Teachers, Shop owners, Pastors, everyone was your friend. You trusted everyone! The doors to your house were never locked! Neighbors would gather at the porch and talk till dark! I grew up trusting folks and trusting everyone until they proved me wrong.

I have always enjoyed talk-

ing with people and making friends. That is why radio turned out to be such a natural for me....communicating with people and trying to make a difference in their lives.

A few years ago I started sending a morning email to a few friends..an inspirational email...and then it grew to over a hundred and then I was encouraged by some friends to put up a web site. My friends, like graphic designer Monica Crick of Crick Design, gathered together to get this going and all of a sudden we find ourselves today reaching people from Washington State to Washington D.C. to Minnesota to Costa Rica. We are now planning to send out a Daily Cup newsletter version twice a month to Shut-in's and nursing homes, once again a friend has volunteered to do this, Martha Montano.

I have wonderful friends who have been such a blessing to me. Folks have come to Christ through our web site, many say it keeps them going

everyday. Many folks have tremendous challenges and they write about them and we pray for them. I feel with all my heart that the Lord is calling me to do this everyday and I will keep going with the help of many friends.

My wife, Sharon, who is an RN, also writes a column from time to time on Medical facts as does friend Dr. Mark Schwartz. Attorney David Standridge and Financial Advisor Rick Griffin also write columns for the Daily Cup. Michael Ross is, also, a frequent contributor. Son Lars keeps the computer running! The Lord has created a wonderful neighborhood here at www.deweysdailycup.com and we hope you will stop by and have a cup of coffee with us each day! I leave you with this. Let your roots grow down into Christ and draw up nourishment from him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth. Colossians 2:7 LB