



FIRST

VISIONS

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The Pastor Ponders



"CHANGED LIVES"

On October 10th I preached the funeral of a close friend. His name was Harry Ranville.

I was a young man - really just an overgrown teenager, fresh out of college, living alone 1,800 miles from family and friends in a strange place whose name I could not yet spell: Albuquerque. I'd been hired by Sandia National Laboratories. I was also a novice Christian, having been initiated into the faith by a college roommate only a year or so before.

One Saturday afternoon I was driving in Albuquerque's South Valley and chanced to pass a small church building. There some men were hard at labor, laying concrete block adjacent to the church building. I stopped and asked what they were doing. One of them replied, "We're building a fellowship hall for our church. We couldn't afford to have it built by a contractor, so we're doing it ourselves." I was fascinated. Could grown men actually believe that much in Jesus that they'd spend Saturdays working on His house? The man I was talking with continued, "Why don't you come by here tomorrow morning and worship with us?" I didn't know what else to say but, "OK. I'll try to come."

The man I talked with that Saturday, now nearly forty years ago, was Harry Ranville. I went to church the next day in response to Harry's invitation. And the following Saturday he had me outside with the other men, laying block for the fellowship hall of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church.

Within just a couple of weeks Harry invited me to his home for Sunday dinner with his family: wife Pat, sons Tom, Tim and Matt, daughter Diane.

That was an eye-opening experience for me. I'd not been raised in a Christian home. My family of origin more often than not put the "dys" in "functional." The Ranville's were, to me, a model of family life - as God planned it. Although their kitchen table was already crowded, they were open to extending it to another young man. No formal ceremony ever took place, but it wasn't very long at all before Tom and Tim had an adopted older brother, and I, Dave Ring, had a Christian family.

When you receive this newsletter on Oct. 20th, I'll be in Baltimore, Maryland, attending my 40th high school reunion. This will be only my second time ever to attend such. Five years ago, when I showed up for the 35th, most of my classmates were both surprised and amazed to see me. Since I'd been voted "Most Likely to Serve Time for a Felony" by my graduating class (that's not a joke) they thought I'd be dead or in prison. They were even further amazed to learn that I was a Christian minister.

Dave Ring today is a very different man than the rough model of four decades previous. My life has been changed - by Jesus Christ - through the influence of many faithful disciples, among them Harry Ranville.

The Church is in the business of changing lives. You are the Church. Whose life are you changing, by your witness for Jesus, this week?

Dave Ring

Outreach/Mission Committee Movie Night

On October 30th at 6:30 pm the Outreach Missions Committee as part of an Environmental Justice theme will show the controversial movie "AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH."

If the movie is to be believed, humanity may be sitting on a ticking time bomb. If some of the world's scientists are right, we have just ten years to avert a major catastrophe that could send our entire planet into a tail-spin of epic destruction involving extreme weather, floods, droughts, epidemics and killer heat waves beyond anything we have ever experienced.

If that sounds like a recipe for serious gloom and doom -- think again. From director Davis Guggenheim comes the Sundance Film Festival hit, An Inconvenient Truth, which offers a passionate and inspirational look at one man's fervent crusade to halt global warming's deadly progress in its tracks by exposing the myths and misconceptions that surround it. That man is former Vice President Al Gore, who, in the wake of defeat in the 2000 election, re-set the course of his life to focus on a last-ditch, all-out effort to help save the planet from irrevocable change. In this eye-opening and poignant

portrait of Gore and his "traveling global warming show," Gore also proves himself to be one of the most misunderstood characters in modern American public life. Here he is seen as never before in the media - funny, engaging, open and downright on fire about getting the surprisingly stirring truth about what he calls our "planetary emergency" out to ordinary citizens before it's too late.

With wit, smarts, and hope, AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH ultimately brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we can no longer afford to view global warming as a political issue - rather, it is the biggest moral challenges facing our global civilization.

Paramount Classics and Participant Productions present a film directed by Davis Guggenheim, An Inconvenient Truth. Featuring Al Gore, the film is produced by Laurie David, Lawrence Bender and Scott Z. Burns. Jeff Skoll and Davis Guggenheim are the executive producers and the coproducer is Leslie Chilcott.

Popcorn and drinks will be served.

Date: October 30, 2006

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: FUMC

Friendship Center or Fellowship Hall



Lia & Edward Brodnax with their new little girl, Kathleen Rebekah Brodnax
September 15, 2006

REFRESHING

RENEWING

REJUVENATING

FALL 2006 REVIVAL

LOS ALAMOS FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 5-8, 2006

RECHARGING

REFILLING

REVITALIZING



Revivalist John Barrett

REVIVAL! First UM Church, Los Alamos, is planning an exciting Fall 2006 Revival Nov. 5th-8th. The Rev. John Barrett will be our featured speaker for this life-changing series of events. John's theme is "Take Your Hand off the Cup" (and allow God to fill you!) An outline of the planned schedule is as follows:

- Nov. 4th, 6 PM - Pre-revival church leaders' potluck dinner and challenge from John
- Nov. 5th, Sunday morning 8 AM and 10:30 AM - John will preach
 Sunday morning 9:15 AM - John will meet with the Sunday School children (grades K-6)
 Sunday evening 6:30 PM - John will meet with children in grades K-6 in a Bible-learning experience called "B-L-T's"
 7 PM - Revival praise and worship; John will preach
 8:30 PM - Light refreshments served in Friendship Center
- Nov. 6th, Monday morning 6:30 AM - United Methodist Men will host a churchwide breakfast; John will speak
 Monday evening 6:30 PM - John will meet with children in grades K-6 - "B-L-T's"
 7 PM - Revival praise and worship; John will preach
 8:30 PM - Light refreshments served in Friendship Center
- Nov. 7th, Tuesday Noon - United Methodist Women will host a churchwide luncheon; John will speak
 Tuesday evening 6:30 PM - John will meet with children in grades K-6 - "B-L-T's"
 7 PM - Revival praise and worship; John will preach
 8:30 PM - Light refreshments served in Friendship Center
- Nov. 8th, Wednesday evening 6:30 PM - John will meet with children in grades K-6 - "B-L-T's"
 7 PM - Revival praise and worship; John will preach; concluding with Holy Communion
 8:30 PM - Light refreshments served in Friendship Center



Clayton Pearson was baptized at the 8 am service on 10/8. (He was later confirmed with the rest at the 10:30 AM service.) This picture shows him with his parents immediately after his baptism.

Confirmation and Transfer of Membership
October 8, 2006

- Lynne Marie Cash
- Robert Brent Warren Collom
- Shelby Marie Courtright
- Devin Lloyd Grider
- William Thomas Kluegel
- David Albert Siebe
- David Cole Trimmer
- John Ezekiel Zumbro
- Transfers from FUMC, Commerce, TX:
- Ken and Glenda Ashley



Acquire the Fire Registration Extended

CALLING ALL YOUTH... MYF is looking for youth who are interested in attending this awesome event. Acquire the Fire: Branded By God. This weekend event is being held in Albuquerque, November 17-18. This year's speakers are Ron Luce and Mike Guzzardo and this year's bands are Pillar, KJ52, and The Autumn Ashley Band.

So if you are an interested youth or the interested parent of a youth you think would enjoy this event please pick up a information brochure from the kiosk, a permission slip from the church office or if you have

a questions please talk with a MYF Sponsor or visit www.battelecry.com for more information.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO TUESDAY OCTOBER 31, 2006. INFORMATION BROCHURES ARE IN THE KIOSK AND PERMISSION SLIPS ARE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

MYF Meetings

Please mark your calendars with the following dates all of which will be Sundays: October 22, 2006, November 5, 2006, November 19, 2006, December

3, 2006, and December 17, 2006. These are the dates of all upcoming MYF meetings. Meetings are from 4:00-6:00pm in the Sr. High Room and there are always plenty of snacks. Also remember that all youth in the 6th Grade are invited to attend all MYF meetings, help with any and all MYF Fundraisers and attend all trips planned for MYF. MYF is an open youth group and all youth who attend already and any youth interested in attending are encouraged to bring a friend.

Missions Fair-- Enjoyed by All

Missions/Outreach presented a Missions Fair this weekend in celebration of the ongoing missions work that this church participates in. Exhibits of mission activities around the world filled the outer walls of the Fellowship Hall. Laptop computers displayed slide shows filled with pictures taken by our own people working in various missionary fields including Kenya and Nicaragua. Videos

about missions around the world were also shown. The center screen was filled with information about our latest mission challenge to Quito, Ecuador.

While people moved from one area to another augmenting their knowledge of FUMC's involvement in missions, others found themselves drawn by the aromas of Central American food. Plates full of authentic

Latin American cuisine were offered to all attendees.

Part of the Fair's purpose was to raise money for the upcoming mission to Quito, Ecuador. Over \$2,000 was raised leaving the mission still to raise about \$3,000. If you can help, please leave a check in the church office or offering plate with Quito Mission as your designation. Thank you to all who have already given to this project.



Hygiene Demonstration at Mission Fair

Quito Mission Display



Quito



Ecuador Mission



Hogar Betania Senior Center



Needs include laundry, wiring, garden, and sprinkling system.

Los Alamos First United Methodist Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Congratulations on paying at least 100% of your Shared Ministry items well in advance of the December 31 deadline. Your contributions enable the making of disciples of Jesus Christ and the transformation of individuals' lives.

A college student described the impact of the Wesley Foundation ministry on his life. He spoke of the support he found during a particular crisis. He said, "I felt they saved my life and my soul." A child attending a Camp at Sacramento, described how she came to know Jesus in a more personal way and returned home anxious to lead a more Christ-like life. This past May 100% of the graduating seniors at McCurdy were accepted and enrolled to receive a college education.

You helped to make these moments happen. Your Shared Ministry gifts are sending missionaries to various countries throughout the world, training Sunday School teachers, advertising The United Methodist Church, educating future pastors, and helping to start new congregations. You are making a difference in your community, state, nation, and world. I give thanks to God for all you do to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Grace & Peace,

D. Max Whitfield

Quito Mission Prayer Request

November 9 - 16, 2006

The November 9th VIM mission trip to Quito, Ecuador is just around the corner, as I write this it is less than one month away. For some us it is a first time mission, others a first time out-of-country mission, and for others a first time leading an out-of-country mission.

We have asked you to help support us financially and I can only hope that we had a great turn-out at the Mission Fair for Quito. It is my hope and prayer, that all of the missions funds were raised and that we have extra to further assist with the purchase of the industrial washing machine that they are praying for.

But at this late date, most of you will be reading this article just before the end of October. The mission trip will be less than two weeks away, how can I thank you and bless you for all of your support.

This mission trip is pretty much a first for our church; we as a church have participated in foreign missions with a variety of other organizations: Christian Hands in Action, better known as CHIA, Church World Service, and Living Water International to name a few. We have church members who have family who work overseas with various Christian organizations, a true blessing.

But this time, we, the First United Methodist Church of Los Alamos, through the power of the Holy Spirit, are leading our own team to a foreign land. What a blessing for our church, what a blessing for the individuals who participate in the field, their lives will be changed forever. When a foreign coun-

try becomes personal, when it is no longer a blurb on CNN, when you have a personal relationship with those to whom you have served, it all becomes family. The world is so large, but oh so small.

It takes less than 6 hours by air to get to Quito, once there, we will check into the Nazarene Seminary and Friday morning we will report to Hogar Betania. We will spend four and half days sharing the love of Christ through acts of work, spending quality time with the residents of Hogar Betania, and sharing ourselves with the staff.

At this time money may or may not be an issue, but what is needed between now and November 9th is prayer. We will need prayer during those days we are in Quito, as we try to bend our Western ways and tools to the society and culture of Ecuador. It is my prayer to all of you that Alice Carter or some other hardy soul will take up the challenge of finding us prayer partners and pray warriors who will keep us in prayer as much as possible while we are away. To pray for health of the team, pray for family members who remain behind, to pray for safe travel and that all of the planned mission activities are successful.

Each of you are a blessing, you each have contributed in some small part of this mission, I and all of the team members of this mission want to say thank you.

Quito Team Members: David Ring, Jim Little, Aaron Goldman, John Stong, Jan Stong, Mel Lora, Faye Lora, Sue Maier, Susan Nava, and Dennis Trumblee.

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

Attendance on October 15th was 160 for both services.

Our Giving

Figures through October 15th-- Ministry budget for 2006	\$475,000
Ministry gifts needed each week	9,134
Ministry gifts needed to date	383,628
Ministry gifts received to date	368,065
Shortage	15,563
Special gifts received to date for ministries outside our budget	32,876

Special October Days

Birthdays:

Emma Jean Mader	10/01
Jon Sollid	10/01
Michael Hundley	10/02
Doris Jackson	10/02
Matthew Ricketts	10/02
Nels Hoffman	10/04
Alice Carter	10/05
Geniece Courtright	10/05
George Balog	10/12
Susannah Rousculp	10/12
Peggy Goldman	10/13
Sarah Hoffman	10/14
Don Zickert	10/14
James Barefield	10/15
Gerald Collom	10/18
Jane Lloyd	10/18

Susan Hodgson	10/20
Ray Trimmer	10/20
Ella Leschnitzer	10/22
David Trimmer	10/25
John Blackadar	10/26
Daniel Sheppard	10/26
Diana Sheppard	10/26
Edith Potter	10/27
Herman Ramsey	10/28
Dave Scudder	10/29
Charles Knapp	10/30

Anniversaries:

October 8
Fred & Hazel DeVries
October 10
Lee & Jan Weinland

Ark Halloween Parade

Tuesday, October 31

9 am sharp

Come and enjoy with us!



First United Methodist Church

called to:

Seek God,
Share Christ's Word,
Serve His World

The next edition of Visions will be dated November 3.
The deadline for articles is Wednesday, October 25.

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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

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 people who put time and effort into the Missions Fair including Dennis Trumblee, Susan Nava, Dr. Dave Ring, Jim and Gail Little, John and Jan Stong, Sue Maier, and Aaron Goldman. Thanks to those who gave items for the

silent auction: Dr. Dave Ring, Susan Nave, Dennis Trumblee, Charlotte McQuillan, and Peggy Goldman Thank you to Emily Collom, Tyrone Clemons, Al Blackstock, and Carol Mead who pitched in by serving food and cleaning up the kitchen at the Fair.

Kudos to Denny Armstrong, Susan Nava, and Dennis Trumblee who set up the coffee tasting demonstration on Sunday. Thank you also to Cathy Hinojosa who put in a lot of prep work on getting the coffee mission to our church.

Upcoming Events Highlights

Sermon Titles

October 22: Laity Sunday
"Where Are You in the Picture? Luke 15:11-32. This sermon will be presented by Dennis Gill.

October 29: Reformation
Stewardship Emphasis #3
Sermon Message: "C" for Consecration

These sermons will be presented by Dr. Dave Ring, pastor at LAFUMC.

November 5: Revival
Sunday/All Saints' Day
The Rev. John Barrett will preach (Holy Communion will not be observed)

MYF Youth Group

October 22, 4 pm in the Senior High Room

Martha Circle

October 24, 1:15 pm at the home of Charlotte McQuillan

Ark Open House

October 24, 5 pm

Revival Prayer Meeting

October 27, 11:30 am in the church sanctuary

Set Clocks Back

October 29--just after midnight on Saturday night

MYF Potato Bar Lunch & Halloween Party

October 29, 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

Training for SPRC

October 29, 2 pm in the Friendship Center

Annual Church Conference

October 29, 3 pm in the Friendship Center

Movie Night

October 30, 6 pm in the Friendship Center

Create & Discover

November 2, at the home of Jan Stong

The Way

November 4, 7 am in the Friendship Center for breakfast, 7:45--go out in service to the community

Revival Begins

November 5-8, see Revival article on Page 4 for more information about the events on each day

MYF Youth Group

November 5, 4 pm in the Senior High Room

Quito Mission

November 9th through the 16th

Offices Closed

November 10 for Veterans' Day

Even Further Ahead . . .

LAF Crafts

November 12, 4 pm in the Friendship Center

Church Council

November 19, at 7 pm in the Friendship Center

CAC

November 20, 5:30 am in the Friendship Center

Christmas Drama Practice

Sundays during Children's Church in the Friendship Center

Full Cast Rehearsal

December 10, at 12 noon in the Sanctuary

the Sanctuary

Full Cast Rehearsal

December 17, at 9 am in the Sanctuary

Christmas Drama Presented

December 18, at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary

Food, Treats, & Games!

The first fundraiser of the MYF season is upon us. Coming up on Sunday October 29, 2006 following 2nd Service we will be holding a Potato Bar and Mini Halloween Carnival. This will be a free donation fundraiser to help us raise funds for some improvements in our Youth Group Room, as well as help fund any upcoming trips. MYF will provide all the potatoes, fixings for baked potatoes, and a variety of soups. We will also have a small

variety of carnival games available for children and the young at heart. Games at this year's carnival will include: Cake Walk, Treasure Hunt, Guessing



2005 Potato Bar

Table (guess the number of Candy Corns, the number of M&M's, and guess the weight of the pumpkin), Fishing Booth, and a Basketball Toss. We

would like to ask for donations to help load up the cake walk table with lots of goodies for the winners. If you would like to contribute a yummy treat please speak with one of the MYF sponsors and thank you in advance for all of your help.