

United Church of God, IA-East Texas/Texarkana

Announcements • January 5, 2008

Ken Treybig, Pastor

Phone: 903-844-9246

Web site: www.ucgeasttexas.org

SABBATH SERVICES

Texarkana – 10 a.m.

Song Leader – Lonnie Neff
Sermonette – James Neff
Sermon – Ken Treybig

East Texas – 2:30 p.m.

Song Leader – Jim Stewart
Sermonette – Loren Weinbrenner
Sermon – Ken Treybig

CHURCH HALL NOTES

Please Pardon Our Dust!

Since some of the rooms still need touch-up paint and cove base installed, the Construction Manager has requested that the Décor Committee hold off putting all the furnishings and accessories in each room. Please bear with us as we await approval to put the final floor plan furniture arrangements and accessories into place.

Also, the restroom partitions have not arrived yet, but we do have temporary privacy curtains for now. The Mother's Room is not yet ready for occupancy, so an area of the Ladies Restroom has been setup to accommodate our mothers.

Auditorium Carpet

As a reminder, please remember no food or drinks are allowed on the carpeted areas in the Auditorium, as is the case in most nice facilities.

Auditorium Chairs

For your convenience, our auditorium chairs have bookracks with rear access, so that you may place personal belongings in the rack of the chair in front of you.

Kitchen

For safety reasons, we ask that no unattended children be allowed in the Kitchen. Thank you for your cooperation.

Traffic Alert

As we begin using our church hall,

please be extra careful when entering or leaving. The speed limit is a roaring 70 mph right in front of our building. We will petition to have it lowered, but right now we ask that everyone be very careful to use your turn signal and be very watchful of traffic. After last week's 'first run' we will allow entry from both drives, with the south drive designated as "one-way" entering the property up to the Handicapped parking lot. So if you plan to drop anyone or any supplies off under the Portico, please use the south entrance to minimize two-way traffic in our drives. Please also be careful to look both ways when exiting the property since our entrances are both in a passing zone.

PRETEEN EVENTS

Sabbath School Today

Class will be held *today* during the sermonette time in the rear corner of the Multi-Purpose Area. Please remember to bring your Bible and notebook, and dress warmly for a fun interactive class!

Preteen Basketball



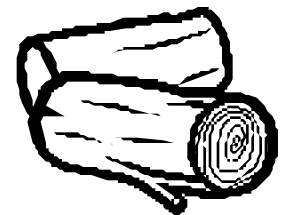
We are planning to offer co-ed basketball for preteens aged 8 years and up. Our goal is to provide a fun, recreational activity. Please sign the list at Information if you would like to join the fun! Practices may vary from Sundays at 9 – 9:30 a.m., or Saturday nights from 7 – 7:30 p.m. Please see Walter Crane if you need more information.

Children's Choir Practice

The Children's Choir will perform with the Adult Choir at the Dedication for the building on January 19. We will have combined practices with the Adult Choir shortly after services **today**, as well as after services next Sabbath, January 12. Our final practice will be *before* services on January 19. Please contact Laura Moody if you have any questions or need a copy of the CD and lyrics.

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Fundraisers



Don't forget the two teen fundraisers—selling firewood and selling 2008 calendars. See one of the teens or the Shipmans for details.

Teen Bible Study Tonight

Teens and families, our Teen Bible Study, meal, and game night is this evening, **January 5**, beginning at 6 p.m. at our church hall. Please bring your family's favorite chili or soup and a salad or dessert for the meal. And don't forget your favorite games! If you have any questions, please contact the Hahns.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

United Youth Corps Projects

Do you want to make a positive difference in the world? Do you want to live the Christian principle of serving your brethren in the Church and setting an example of service for other people in the world? Do you want to experience the enriching education and adventure of international travel? Would you like to do all these things

at the same time? If so, the United Youth Corps might be for you.

The United Youth Corps program offers opportunities for service, leadership training, and travel for our young adults in the Church. This is the ninth year of offering United Youth Corps opportunities, and to date we have over 60 young adults who have participated in 18 projects in eight countries.

We are pleased and excited to announce we are now accepting applications for this year's programs in:

- **Philippines, Asia**
April 27 to May 11
- **Ghana, West Africa**
August 6 to 20
- **Nigeria, West Africa**
August 11 to 27
- **Amman, Jordan, & Israel**
June 16 to Aug. 3
- **Kenya, East Africa**
December 10 to 24

United Youth Corps international projects may not be for everyone; however, if you think one might be for you, please see the fact sheets giving information on the various projects offered this year. Fact Sheets and application forms are available from your pastor *today*. You may also view and download fact sheets and applications for any of the projects by visiting the United Youth Corps Web site at www.ucgyouthcorps.org.

Financial Aid/Subsidy: This year United Youth Corps is offering to subsidize up to 50 percent of the airfare cost of all accepted United Youth Corps applicants. Also, those applicants who may have additional fund limitations can apply for *additional financial aid*. This is a new financial commitment that United Church of God is making to this education and service program for our young adults. Financial Aid forms can be acquired from Mr. Treybig.

Note: The deadline for applications to the projects in the Philippines and Jordan/Israel is **Feb. 1** (other projects have later deadlines). Therefore, we encourage all of you to not delay in

finding out more about how you can make a positive difference in the Church and in the world while living unique international adventures. You can do all this by participating in the United Youth Corps!

Young Adult Regional Weekend

Once again, Dallas is hosting a regional weekend for the Young Adults of the United Church of God on **Feb. 15 – 17**. This year's theme is "**Men and Women: Being the Best You Can Be!**" Come for fellowship, learning, and fun as we explore the uniqueness of men and women (their talents, needs, and roles) from the perspective of the Word of God! We will have a social mixer on Friday evening, seminars on Sabbath and Sunday, and a costume dance Saturday night. The cost for the seminars and all activities will be \$35, *if registering by Jan 26*.

Housing is available at the Quality Inn (where many of the activities will be held) for \$50 per night per room. Please mention that you are with the "**United Church of God Regional Weekend**" for this special rate.

Please register by Jan 26 so we can get an accurate head count. Flyers are available at Information with all the details. Register at our Web site www.ucg-dallas.org/ya. Please direct questions to Phillip Sandilands at sandilands@tx.rr.com.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Media Library

DVD copies of the first Sabbath Service (December 29) in our new hall are now available for checkout at the Media Library. You may also view video of the service on our local Web site: www.ucgeasttexas.org.

Fox News Radio Interview

Jerold Aust was recently interviewed by Alan Colmes on Fox News Radio. Following are the links if you would like to hear the 26-minute segment. Streaming audio link:

<http://www.ucgeasttexas.org/ColmesAustOnFox.m3u> and the File download link:

<http://www.ucgeasttexas.org/ColmesAustOnFox.mp3>.

Home Office Announcement

The Council of Elders is at the beginning stages of a strategic planning process that will guide our priorities for the next several years. The Council believes that our dedicated members, elders, and staff can provide critical input into the directions we should consider.

To this end, we want to give all members, elders, and employees an opportunity to share their thoughts on broad strategic issues such as where we are, where we need to be, and how we might get there.

To do so, we have crafted a confidential survey for the members, elders, and employees of the United Church of God. The survey contains quantitative questions as well as questions which allow you to give written responses. Please be as frank, honest, and constructive as you can. This is an opportunity for the Council of Elders to hear the members', elders' and staff's best thinking about the directions we should consider taking.

We will be utilizing a Web-based survey to collect responses and collate data. All surveys must be completed online, which will reduce the time and expense of processing responses. You may access the survey by going to the members Website at <http://members.ucg.org> and click on the members survey link.

The deadline for completing the survey is January 6, 2008. It should take about 30 minutes to complete the survey, and we really hope you will invest the time to offer your input! Thank you in advance.

~ Clyde Kilough
President

Local Hall Areas of Service

As has been stated several times over the past couple of years, once we are in our own building we will need new lists of volunteers. There are some service areas we will need now that we have not needed in the past. Building cleaning and parking are just two examples of that. There is a set of

new sign-up lists at Information. We would appreciate it if you would take the time to think about the different options and sign up to help out in whatever area/areas you would like.

Special Thanks for Service

There have been two recent changes in service areas. Melton McNeely has served as Treasurer for years. He is going to be replaced by Penny Urwiller. We deeply appreciate all the work he has done as Treasurer and a vital contact with our bank, especially during our building construction. We will begin the transition immediately, so questions for the Treasurer can be directed to Penny.

In addition, Lucy Richmond has served in arranging the flowers for the Stage for many years, doing a beautiful job. Despite having money in the budget, she usually chose to donate her time and efforts as a service to the local congregation. She has decided it's now time for a change. We deeply appreciate all she has done, and will be making a transition in that service area, so you will now also find a sign-up list for stage flowers at Information. If you are interested in serving in that area, please sign the list.

Choir Practice Today

In preparation for the Dedication weekend, the adult choir will practice shortly after services **today**, as well as after services next Sabbath, January 12. The final practice will be *before* services on January 19. Please see Ed Weiss if you need a copy of the music or the parts CD.

Basketball Practice Tomorrow

Our next practice will be tomorrow, **January 6**, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, at the Big Sandy Middle School. The preteens will practice from 9 – 9:30 a.m., the teens from 9:30 – 11 a.m., and adults from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. The other practices in January will be on Saturday nights, from 7 – 10 p.m. Our first set of regional games will be in Houston on January 26 – 27.

Dedication Planning Meeting

Our final meeting to discuss plans for the Dedication weekend will be held in the church hall this Monday, **January 7**, at 7 p.m. We appreciate all the input and good ideas that have been shared so far to make the weekend special.

Congregational Bible Study

We'll have another congregational Bible Study next Sabbath, **January 12**. We hope you'll join us.

Bible Reading Program

A program to read through the Bible in a year was recently offered from Mr. Jack Hendren, pastor in Corpus Christi. We've just started the new year, so you're welcome to participate if you'd like. The program was sent via email (it's in an Excel file) and has scheduled breaks for the feasts. It was suggested if anyone misses at any time, that they don't try to go back and catch up—just go directly to the current day's reading and pick up from there. Some copies of the January reading schedule are at Information.

Dedication Reception

The sign-up lists for refreshments for the Dedication weekend are available at Information. Please note the details. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Worthen.

Branson Family Weekend

The Presidents' Day Family Weekend in Branson, MO is now only eight weeks away, **Feb. 15 – 17, 2008!** It promises to be bigger and better than ever. This year we will have seven seminars, Sabbath services featuring our guest speaker, council member Mr. Richard Thompson, a fun show, a family dance, a roller skating party, an indoor miniature golf outing, as well as a game night and plenty of fellowship time for meeting new friends or renewing old friendships.

A delicious Italian dinner (at a nominal fee) is planned for Saturday evening. We will also have a delicious lunch on Sunday (at a nominal fee), as well as a fun fellowship reception on Friday evening. A copy of the

overall schedule is on the Information Table. Final costs for the meals, seminar subjects, and sign-up sheets for the Talent/Fun show will be available in a couple of weeks.

Go ahead and make your reservations at the Ramada Inn, 417-334-1000, for this fun and educational weekend for the whole family. Cost of rooms at the Ramada Inn will be \$37 per room per night. A full breakfast for everyone in the motel room is included in the price. This is a great mid-winter break from the normal activities and will recharge your batteries for the rest of the winter. See you in Branson for the 13th Annual Presidents' Day Family Weekend!

Greece Educational Tour

During the Days of Unleavened Bread in 2008, the education travel program will offer a biblical study tour of Greece. We will focus on the travels of the apostle Paul and his letters to the Corinthians, examining the meaning and symbols for the New Testament Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread.

A detailed description of the tour is available on the Travel Gallery Web site, www.travelgallery.com, or you may call Travel Gallery's office at (800) 858-6999. **The deposit deadline is January 8, 2008.**

If you have additional questions, please contact David Register at the home office or by e-mail, David.Register@ucg.org.

BUILDING UPDATES

Work Progress

We will continue to work on a number of punch-out items during the next two weeks in hopes of being completed by our Dedication weekend. This week several more items were completed and we have more to do this Sunday. The restroom partitions are scheduled to come in late this week, as are transition materials (to put along the edge of the tile where it transitions to concrete), and the remaining door hardware and locks.

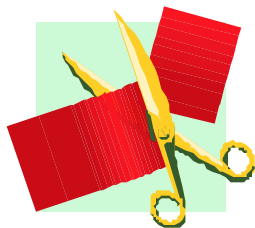
Another work party will take place tomorrow, **January 6**, starting at 9

a.m., to work on lowering the drain cleanouts in the parking lot, do tile work on the backsplashes in the Kitchen, and other details that still need to be done before our Dedication weekend. We would appreciate all who can help out!

Many thanks for all the volunteer labor on the building, the prayers, the food, and those who are able to make monthly donations to the fund!

Check out the latest building photos on our local Web site at <http://www.ucgeasttexas.org/cpg/home/index.php> along with the link at <http://www.ucgeasttexas.org/cpg/home/thumbnails.php?album=4> for the furnishings acquired so far.

Building Dedication Plans



January 19 – 20, 2008 will be the weekend for our building dedication. The weekend will consist of the Dedication to be held on the Sabbath, and a Ribbon Cutting and Open House for the public the next day on Sunday, starting at 2 p.m. We hope as many local members as possible will be able to be there to welcome our visitors.

CHURCH BUILDING FUND

Contributions to the Building Fund this past week totaled \$1,219. During the month of December, the Building Fund increased by \$4,002.

Our current total of funds collected is \$282,245.

To make donations, checks should be made out to United Church of God, East Texas and mailed to Sarah Baker, P.O. Box 1111, Hawkins, TX 75765.

PRAYER UPDATES

Mrs. Maxine Neff fell and broke her right hip. Surgery was performed this past Wednesday at ETMC. She is able to put weight on it already, but it is extremely painful unless lying still in bed. She is expected to move to

rehab soon and will be there for awhile before being released. Please remember the Neff family in your prayers.