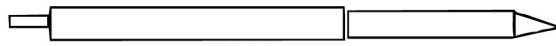




Medina Messenger

Newsletter of the Medina United Methodist Church

June 2007



FROM THE PASTOR

I read this week in a book by Patrick Morley called, "The Man in the Mirror," about a dad who took his son to Alaska fishing. I highly recommend the book and the following is used by permission:

The salmon nearly leaped onto their hooks! That was a far cry from the day before when the four anglers couldn't even seem to catch an old boot.

Disappointed but not discouraged, they had climbed aboard their small seaplane and skimmed over the Alaskan mountains to a pristine, secluded bay where the fish were sure to bite.

They parked their aircraft and waded upstream, where the water teemed with ready-to-catch salmon. Later that afternoon, when they returned to their camp, they were surprised to find the seaplane high and dry. The tides fluctuated twenty-three feet in that particular bay, and the pontoons rested on a bed of gravel. Since they couldn't fly out till morning, they settled in for the night and enjoyed some of their catch for dinner, then slept in the plane.

In the morning the seaplane was adrift, so they promptly cranked the engine

and started to take off. Too late, they discovered one of the pontoons had been punctured and was filled with water. The extra weight threw the plane into a circular pattern. Within moments from liftoff the seaplane careened into the sea and capsized.

Dr. Phil Littleford determined that everyone was alive, including his twelve-year-old son, Mark. He suggested they pray, which the other two men quickly endorsed. No safety equipment could be found on board-no life vests, no flares, nothing. The plane gurgled and submerged into the blackness of the icy morning sea. Fortunately, they all had waders which they inflated. The frigid Alaskan water chilled their breath.

They all began to swim for shore, but the riptide countered every stroke. The two men alongside Phil and Mark were strong swimmers and they both made shore, one just catching the tip of land as the tides pulled them out toward sea.

Their two companions last saw Phil and Mark as a disappearing dot on the horizon, swept arm-in-arm out to sea.

The Coast Guard reported they proba-

(continued on page 2)

Medina United Methodist Church

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Medina United Methodist Church Worship Schedule

Sunday

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School
11:00 a.m. – Traditional Service

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. – Mid-week Study

Administrative Council meets the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise announced.



Our Vision

"We invite everyone into the family of GOD, where the LORD is praised and felt, love is shared, and lives are blessed."

(continued from page 1)

ably lasted no more than an hour in the freezing waters - hypothermia would chill the body functions and they would go to sleep. Mark with a smaller body mass, would fall asleep first in his father's arms. Phil could have made the shoreline, too, but that would have meant abandoning his son. Their bodies were never found.

What father wouldn't be willing to die for his son? My question is different. If we are willing to go so far as to die for our children, why is it that we often don't seem willing to live for them? (taken from "Man in the Mirror" p. 105)

The story is a heart wrenching story for me, as a dad. That dad was faced with the choice of either swimming to shore and saving himself or being swept out to sea with his son. That tugs at my heart because I know I would do the

same thing. I think most fathers would rather die with their children than watch them die alone. What father wouldn't be willing to die for his son? The question I think we all wrestle with is why we aren't more willing to live for our children if we'd be willing to die for them.

I remember a couple of years ago when our church went through the 40 Days of Purpose. Rick Warren said at the Simulcast at Deer Creek Camp that he has yet to minister to anyone on their death bed who wished that they had spent more time in the office. What he remembers are people saying how they wished they had spent more time with their families.

This Father's Day let us MEN (and ladies) recommit ourselves to make God and Family our first priority.

*Happy Father's Day,
Bill*

PromiseKeepers is coming to San Antonio July 13-14

AT&T Center
www.promisekeepers.org
1.866.PROMISE
Anyone interested in going talk to Pastor Bill

Annual Conference June 6th through the 9th at Corpus Christi

Pastor Bill will be our Clergy Delegate and Caleb Windham will be our Lay Delegate.

Please be in prayer for the Annual Conference... this is the year we elect from among ourselves representatives to General Conference which meets every four years to vote on the Discipline of the United Methodist Church!

Vacation Bible School

July 16th through the 20th at Medina United Methodist Church
9AM to 12:05PM

The Game Is On...

...and excitement is in the air! LifeWay's VBS 2007, Game Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made™, will get kids in the game and help them learn how to become heroes both on and off the field by focusing on



Jesus and following God's plan for their lives.

During Game Day Central VBS, kids will have an all-access pass for everything from the Worship Rally Arena to the Crafts Fan Zone. So, get ready for a record-setting Vacation Bible School with LifeWay's Game Day Central VBS-it's where heroes are made!

Kitchen Update

The Kitchen is now in it's last stages. The rain delayed a few things, but the tile is completely laid and we're now awaiting the delivery of the appliances (*which were donated... Thank You to whoever made the donation!*) All that's really left is for the electrician to finish up and the counter tops to be installed.

Women's Emmaus Walk September 27th-30th at Mount Wesley in Kerrville

Pastor Bill will be one of the Spiritual Directors for a Women's Emmaus Walk in September. If you've never been on the "Walk to Emmaus" this will be the perfect time to go.

The Walk to Emmaus is a 4 day Spiritual Retreat designed to renew and empower people's commitment to Christ. It's designed to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all." The Upper Room, a ministry unit of the General Board of

Discipleship of The United Methodist Church, sponsors the Walk to Emmaus and offers it through local Emmaus groups around the world. Although connected through The Upper Room to The United Methodist Church, The Walk to Emmaus is ecumenical

If you have any questions you can visit the Emmaus Website at <http://www.upperroom.org/emmaus/>. You can also talk to the many people who have been on the Walk: Bill and Anna Stegemueller, Clint and Dorothy Bock, Carolyn Pendland, Challie Thornton, Clovis and Mag Barker, Marcia Bower, CL Bower, Norman and Mary Carolyn Stephens, Michael and Merry Langlinais, Donna Payne, Clara Ann McWilliams and Darlene Stevens. (and others I know I'm probably leaving out.)

Bricks

Have you purchased your brick yet? Please do so and mail your completed form along with your check to the church.

Medina United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 208
Medina, TX 78055

UMW MEETING

(United Methodist Women)

The UMW will meet on Wednesday, June 20, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in the Craddock Cottage.

Program:
Native American Ministries

Leader:
Rev. Celina Price

Hostess:
Marcia Bower

**Come and enjoy the Program, Refreshments and Fellowship!
Men are invited, too!!**

TRUTH

Girly Pooh has changed their name to TRUTH. We took a little break to re-group and now we're back with a new name and a new time and day. We are meeting on Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. We may or may not be meeting during the summer so stay tuned for more information.

SUMMER CAMP

Methodist Camps at Mount Wesley in Kerrville:

3rd and 4th Graders~

Dates: June 17-20, 2007

Place: Mt. Wesley

5th and 6th Graders~

Dates: June 24-28, 2007

Place: Mt. Wesley

6th thru 8th Graders~

Dates: July 1-5, 2007 - \$225 - Mt. Wesley Retreat

Speaker: Ryan Barnett.

Worship Leader: Mark Swayze Band

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS:

Energizing worship, dodge ball, arts & crafts, river swim, water olympics, volleyball, Camo Night (bring camouflage to wear), Hippie Party, capture the flag, small groups, new friends, get to know God. A good ole' traditional Mt. Wesley summer camp with a few new surprises! For more information go to www.reachingyouth.org

9th thru 12th Graders

July 22-26, 2007 - \$225 - Mt. Wesley Retreat Center

Speaker: Ryan Barnett.

Worship Leader: Mark Swayze Band

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS:

Incredible worship, water olympics, volleyball, arts & crafts, river swim, Camo Night (bring camouflage to wear), Hippie Party, capture the flag, small groups, new friends, grow with God. A good ole' traditional Mt. Wesley summer camp with an energizing speaker and a call to walk deeper with God. For more information go to www.reachingyouth.org

At Deer Creek Camp right here in Medina:

There are Summer Camps all Summer Long at Deer Creek. As most people know, Deer Creek offers a FIRST CLASS Christian Camp Experience. Check out their website www.deercreekcamp.com or Call Pam Behling at 589-7123.