



*God, the one and only— I'll wait as long as he says.
Everything I need comes from him, so why not?
He's solid rock under my feet, breathing room for
my soul, an impregnable castle: I'm set for life.*



~Psalm 62:1-2 (The Message)

In Search of the Rock ~ Part 2

We ended last month's newsletter with a family trip to Tres Ritos, NM – a trip whose sole purpose was to help my mother-in-law locate a large rock that had been the centerpiece of the camp spot she and her family had visited every year when she was a child. Our journey began as a vision – could we find the Rock in that wilderness? Could we find the Rock that had been such an abiding presence to generations before us? Could we even get close to the spot? And so we set out – my husband, his brother and sister, all of their spouses, and “the parents” – both in their 80's. Let it be known that we did find the Rock – for those details, see last month's newsletter – but here are some of my reflections about our journey, and about what it means to find The Rock again.

- ◆ Even though my mother-in-law had been intimately acquainted with the Rock summer after summer, and she knew where to find it when she was young, she couldn't find it at first. The years had changed the physical surroundings; but once she drew closer to it, she saw that the Rock itself had not changed.
- ◆ In our early scouting expedition for the Rock, before my mother-in-law arrived, we knew we had found it; but when it was her turn to look, we didn't tell her where it was. We gave her ample opportunity to look for herself. When she missed it, we couldn't allow her to go home without telling her about our findings, so we pointed her in the right direction and encouraged her to examine the Rock. We helped her to focus on the Rock itself, and not the physical surroundings she remembered from her childhood.
- ◆ Once she saw the Rock up close, and listened to us explain what we knew to be true, she understood and accepted the reality of the Rock's existence.
- ◆ Even in the face of the evidence, and even though all were convinced, at least one person in our party refused to believe we had found the Rock we had come so far to see.
- ◆ People can miss the Rock when it's right in front of them because to believe something you can't prove means having to change your view of life.

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REMINDER: COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH AT 10:30 A.M.



Hope Circle

We meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 4:00 P.M. in the Gathering Room. We would love to have you join us. For more information contact Tiffany Klaerner at 347-6034.



During these tough economic times the need is great, and we continue to assist families with their utility bills. If you feel moved to help with this important ministry or if you want to know more about the UMM, please contact Pat Reardon at 347-0275.

The United Methodist Men will hold their monthly breakfast on *Wednesday, May 10th at 7:00 A.M.* in the Social Hall. Coffee will be ready at 6:45 A.M., so come early and join us for good food and good fellowship!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 6

8:30 A.M. & 10:50 A.M. Worship
9:45 A.M. Sunday School
Gini Christian

Sunday, September 13

**Combined Worship Service
@ 10:30 A.M.**
9:30 A.M. Sunday School.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 9 6:00 P.M. Choir practice

Sept. 13 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Combined Service
Teacher Appreciation & Presentation of the
3rd Grade Bibles followed by a
Covered Dish Lunch.

Sept. 26 Fall Festival of Churches.

Oct. 22-25 Women's Walk to Emmaus.
Please contact the office for more details.

Staff Email Addresses

Please make changes to your contact list.

Maureen Shanks	officemgr@fumcmason.org
Julia Jordan	secretary@fumcmason.org
Ashley Osbourn	familyministries@fumcmason.org
Rhett Vacek	rhettvacek@gmail.com
Tiffany Stidham	steadysteps@fumcmason.org

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY September 13, 2015

**Teacher Appreciation Sunday & 3rd Grade Bibles
Worship Service is at 10:30 A.M.**

Sunday School will be at 9:30 A.M.

Covered Dish Lunch immediately following the service.

**Year to date as of
August 28, 2015**

Budget \$ 269,632.93

Offering \$ 245,528.28

Budget for 2015 - \$ 409,395.15

Weekly Budget - \$7,873.04



Prayer

Requests

Prayer requests may be made by writing them on the prayer request card and placing it in the offering plate or by calling the Church Office.

Please pray for our members and loved ones who are homebound and/or residing in nursing homes.

Mary Beam, Odessa Dannheim, Carolyn Smith, Terry Smith, Charlene Schuessler, Marilyn Kahan, John Earl, Jr., Art Davis, Audry Collins, Tommie Lou Luckenbach, Connie Stockbridge, Danny Karen and Danny Lee McCleery, Jesse Cavaness, Carrol Hahn, Morgan Johnson, Carolyn Toepfich, Keith Kahn, Angie Young, Dominic Pachuilu, Wyatt Carr, John & Susan Ceynowa family, and Prayers for Pastor Colleen and her family during her sabbatical and guidance for our church while she is away.

Please pray for our members and loved ones who are in the military.

Matt Adam (USAF), Houston Haley (USAF), Neil Shanks (USAF), Terry Simonton (USAF), Joseph Alba (U.S. Army), Matt Irwin (U.S. Army), T.J. Schovajsa (U.S. Army), Jared Hudson (USMC), Melissa Garrison-Jensen (U.S. Navy), Ferd T. Slocum III (U.S. Navy), James Vacek (U.S. Navy)



Lay Readers, Ushers & Acolytes are needed this summer. Please consider giving your time to these ministries. You can sign up in the Social Hall or call Chuck Bearden (347-6162) or Bruce Strickland (409-283-1213) to volunteer as an Usher. To serve as a Lay Reader, call Lynn Hedges (325-347-0152)

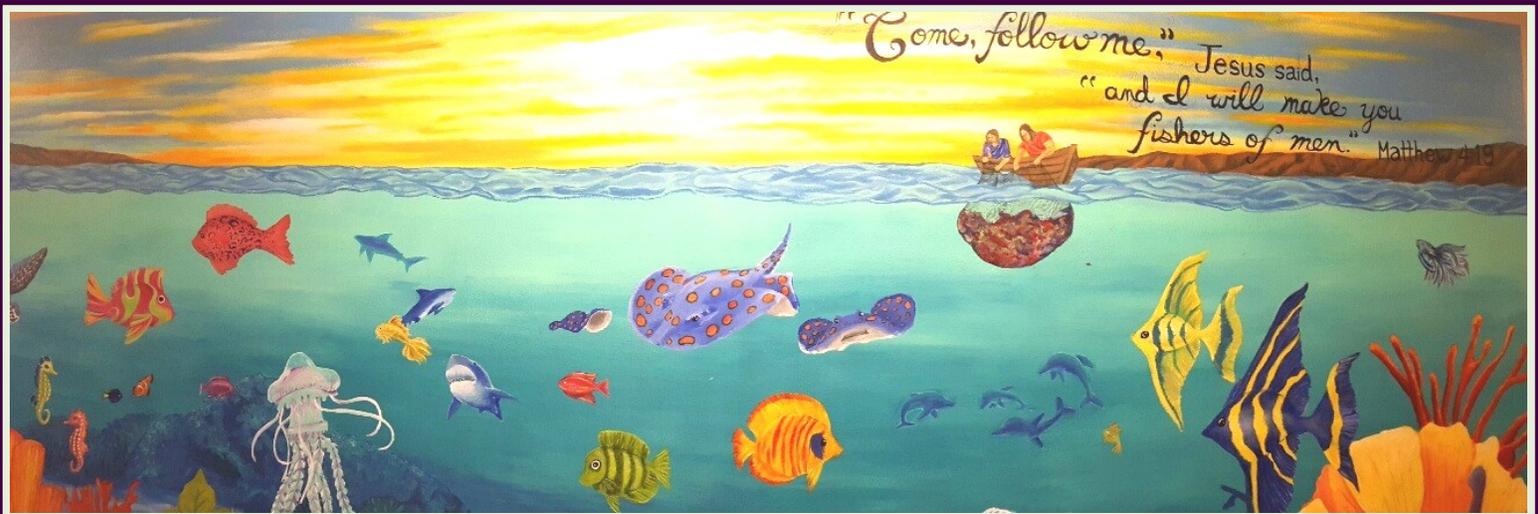
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- ◆ We can disengage from all the changes around us – technology, changing cultural norms, violence, world problems; but changing ourselves – our habits, our viewpoints, our vision of life – is too costly for most people.
- ◆ Situations can change so drastically that the familiar can become unrecognizable. The Rock remains unchanged even though our surroundings and circumstances may change.

The Rock is all around us. It doesn't reside only in Tres Ritos, NM. King David spent many years in the Wilderness fighting real and imagined enemies, but The Rock was his protection, his salvation, and his sustenance – even in the Wilderness. *God, the one and only— I'll wait as long as he says. Everything I need comes from him, so why not? He's solid rock under my feet, breathing room for my soul, an impregnable castle: I'm set for life. I'm set for life.....*

My mother-in-law waited 70+ years to visit the place where she spent so many summers surrounded by the love and security of her grandparents and other extended family. Every summer, they gathered around the Rock. She never forgot the importance of that time or the importance the Rock would play in her life – molding her and shaping her into the person she is today. God is our only Rock. Thanks be to God.

*In Christ,
Colleen*



VI AL SIGNS by Ann Scarth, R.N., Wesley Nurse

Now here is a real nursie question for you: have you had your colonoscopy? I don't think there is a delicate way of talking about this topic, but it is something you need to consider. "About 90% of all colorectal cancers are found in people age 50 and older. Excluding skin cancers, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer diagnosed in both men and women in the United States." Therefore, the American Cancer Society recommends that all men & women get a colonoscopy beginning at the tender age of 50. They believe that a colonoscopy is not just for early detection, but prevention of colorectal cancer should also be considered a major reason for being tested. If you are at an increased risk or high risk, your healthcare provider will hopefully recommend screening before the age of 50 (if not, be assertive & ask for the screening). Those at increased risk include: a person with a history of colorectal cancer or polyps; a person with a history of inflammatory bowel disease such as ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease; strong family history of colorectal cancer or polyps; a known family history of a hereditary colorectal cancer syndrome such as familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or hereditary non-polyposis colon cancer (HNPCC). It has been noted that thanks to improvements in prevention, early detection, & treatment, there have been more than a million people in the US who count themselves as survivors of colon or rectum cancer (colorectal cancer). Screening is considered to be one of the most powerful weapons for the prevention for colorectal cancer. I hope this information is the nudge you need to take the next step in taking care of yourself. Chat with you later. Ann

Missions News

Thanks for the generosity of our congregation, on Tuesday, August 11th, the Back to School Drive was able to help 70 students with their school supplies. Thanks to those who brought gently used clothing. The families were excited to have them.

Children & Youth News

Loose Change Offering: The children will collect your pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters on Sunday, June 7. This offering is given by our youth for a mission project. Thank you for helping us to be the hands and feet of Christ!

Youth Group – Will resume for the 2015-2016 school year on Wednesday, September 9th.

Wonderful Wednesday – Will resume for the 2015-2016 on September 16th.

Teacher Appreciation and Presentation of 3rd Grade Bibles - September 13th.

Vacation Bible School was a success ! Daily attendance was 121 with a total of 141 youth and 40 helpers.

Volunteers are needed for Sunday School and Wonderful Wednesdays. Please see Ashley Osbourn for more information.

We had 4 youth attend Seekers of the Kingdom camp at Camp Butman in Merkel, TX.

Check out the finished mural project that is in the Education wing on **page 3** of the Newsletter. Thank you Abby Nash and everyone who helped!



REMINDER: COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH AT 10:30 A.M.



First United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 178
Mason, TX 76856

- Rev. Colleen Haley.....Pastor
- Maureen Shanks.....Office Manager
- Julia Jordan.....Secretary
- Ashley Osbourn.....Family Ministries Coordinator
- Marilyn Kahan.....Organist/Pianist
- Tiffany Stidham.....Steady Steps Director
- Ann Scarth.....Wesley Nurse
- Rhett Vacek.....A/V Tech
- Rebecca Moneyhon.....Nursery
- Raegan Palacio.....Nursery
- Kendra Klaerner.....Nursery

Office Phone: 325-347-5105 Fax Number: 325-347-5289
Email: officemgr@fumcmason.org (Office Manager)
Website: www.fumcmason.org

Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday
8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
(Lunch from 12:00 P.M.—1:00 P.M.)
Friday : 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 Noon

8:30 A.M. Worship Service with Holy Communion
9:45 A.M. Sunday School
10:50 A.M. Worship Service
(Holy Communion served on the first Sunday of the month)



September 2015