

Insight

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A monthly publication highlighting the mission of Williams Memorial United Methodist Church

Welcome to Williams

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Our church campus is located at 4000 Moores Lane on the north side of Texarkana. Moores Lane is north of I-30 between Summerhill and Richmond roads.

We invite you to worship with us. Our services are Christ-centered, Biblically grounded, and culturally relevant. The words, music, and means of grace are all designed to empower you to grow in your relationship with God and in ministry to the world.

You are also invited to belong to the faith community. We enter into the family of Christ through baptism. We recognize God's action in baptisms in other faith communities; you do not have to be re-baptized to belong to Williams. If you have not been baptized, we will be honored to baptize you.

We offer the sacrament of Communion on the first Sunday of each month in the Sanctuary at both the 8:15 and the 10:30 a.m. service. On the third Sunday of the month, we offer Communion during the Xperience service in Wesley Hall. We encourage all people to respond to God's grace in receiving the sacrament. We practice open communion, which means you do not have to be a member of Williams or any church to receive from the Lord's table. We offer God's love freely to all persons.

As a faith community we believe every member is in ministry. Your baptism is your authority as a member of God's family. No one can take that away from you. We are all individually gifted and called

to service. We live out that calling within the community.

Our goal is to be like Jesus Christ in this world. We are constantly growing in grace; we have not arrived. We grow through worship, prayer, and study of God's Word. Through large meetings, small groups, and discipleship, we are changed from our old selves to our new selves.

As you pray to God, we hope you will consider belonging to the Williams' faith community. As you respond to God's grace, please talk to one of the pastors at the end of any worship service, and they will be honored to assist you in belonging at Williams.

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Forest or Trees



What do you think when you hear the word “Mission”? Do you think of “Mission Impossible” or the moon shot?

In Christian terms we usually think of Missions as something that happens overseas beyond our national borders. More accurately, mission is realizing our purpose as a church. So what is our “Mission” here at Williams? Why are we here? A few years ago the church developed a mission statement that has been shortened to three simple statements: “Glorify God, Inspire others to follow Christ, and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ”.

The United Methodist mission statement is “Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.” What do these words mean to you? How do we “do” them here in Texarkana? Do these statements direct the use of our time and resources?

We have two distinctly different dangers when it comes to mission. First is mission creep. Mission creep is when many other things are added to our goals so the original mission not only gets lost but may be completely subverted. In highly complex social situations many things need to happen to accomplish our purpose. We can lose sight of the trees because of the forest. The biggest danger to the best is the good. We can spend so much time doing good we neglect making disciples.

www.welcometowilliams.org

The second danger is we have no purpose. We mindlessly go through our days taking care of the immediate situations or desires that face us. We lose sight of the forest because of the trees. The danger is we wake up and ask what happened to the last 10 years. No vision, no goals, no intentional actions that make the world a better place. Our entertainment distracts us into busyness until we die.

Which of these dangers is your temptation? Is it too many goals or no goal? Staying focused on our mission requires the grace of Jesus Christ, because in our weakness we can do nothing good without God. Ask God to give us the help of God’s grace so we may please God both in will and deed.

See you in worship.



Danny Wayman-Senior Pastor

March Sermons

03/6/11

“Foggy Mountaintops”

*Ex 24:12-18**

Ps 99

2 Pet 1:16-21

Mt 17:1-9

03/13/11

“Temptations”

Gen 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Ps 32

Rom 5:12-19

*Mt 4:1-11**

03/20/11

“God Loves The World”

Gen 12:1-4 a

Ps 121

Rom 4:1-5, 13-17

*Jn 3:1-17**

03/27/11

“Is the Lord Among Us or Not?”

*Ex 17:1-7**

Ps 95

Rom 5:1-11

Jn 4:5-42

Risk Taking Missions



In Matthew 13:3-8 Jesus said; "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

This last year, I went on a conference mission trip to Mission, Tx. The first project we looked at was a house that was in horrible shape, and it had me asking questions. Is this house worth any of our time or money? Are we going to do more harm than good? Is there enough time to finish this project? Before we came home, that house had a new roof! It probably wouldn't win any beauty contests, but it would keep the rain out! The family was happy, we were all blessed, and hearts were changed!

What "Risk Taking Mission" is God calling you to step out in faith and participate in? Maybe God is calling you to be an adult counselor on a youth summer mission trip? A church camp counselor? Or maybe God is calling you to volunteer with our

food pantry? Maybe you are being called to help the youth volunteer at the Randy Sams' Outreach Center on the third Wednesday of the month? Who knows, maybe God is calling you to be a missionary in Africa?

Doing the Lord's work is risky! Not every seed that you plant will take root, grow, and produce fruit! In our text, only twenty-five percent of the seed that was scattered brought forth grain! That's not a very good return on the investment; or is it? Love God, act like God, and do the right thing for your neighbor by stepping out in faith through "Risk Taking Missions!"

In Christian love;

Tommy Earl Burton



About the Cover



This month's cover is one of the tables from the 2010 Youth Mission Dinner. The Mission Dinner raises money for youth mission trips through the year.

Find out about this year's Mission Dinner on page 17.

Sunday Schedule

- 8:15 Early Worship in Sanctuary**
- 9:00 Gathering Time**
- 9:15 Sunday School**
- 10:15 Gathering Time**
- 10:30 Xperience Worship in Wesley Hall**
- 10:30 Sanctuary Worship in Sanctuary**
- 3:30 Youth Band**
- 4:00 Cornerstone Worship**
- 5:00 Alive @ 5**
- 5:00 U.M.Y.F.**

Williams News



Pastor's Class

Danny Wayman has begun a Pastor's Class during the Sunday School hour. It started on February 20th and will continue through April 10. Though we have already met for one week, you are still welcome to come join us.

If you are a new member or a visitor to the church and want to learn more about Williams, or if you just have some questions about our beliefs and practices, this class is for you. All are invited to join us in Room 108 at 9:15 - 10:15.

Topics of each week include:

February 20 - How do I know I am a Christian? What does assurance mean to faith? How do I grow closer to God?

February 27 - Why do we baptize? How does Communion work? Why are these things important to me?

March 6 - What do Christians believe? What do United Methodists believe?

March 27 - Why are there different Christian denominations? Where do Methodists fit into the Christian family?

April 3 - History of the Methodist Church.

April 10 - What about Williams UMC, where did we come from? Where do I belong in the family here at Williams?



A visit to Norton Gallery and Gardens in Shreveport will mean an enjoyable day trip for any of us! Join us for a visit to this exceptional free art gallery and its adjoining 40 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens. Fifteen thousand azalea plants including several hundred native azaleas should be blooming. There are also sculptures and garden benches for resting.

Free guided 45 minute tours are available. We will schedule an inside tour. There are exhibit rooms which include incomparable collections of American and European paintings and impressive works by Frederic Remington and Charles M. Russell.

The library features a rare double elephant folio of John J. Audubon's The Birds of America.

We should be able to see the gallery and gardens in about two hours and be ready for lunch at a pleasant restaurant followed by an hour or so of shopping before returning by 4 p.m.

April 6th leave Williams Memorial parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Cost will be only for our transportation (probably around \$20 each by bus or car). Sign up in Welcome Center by April 1st.

Husbands and friends are welcome.

Vacation Bible School Directors Needed



VBS will be here soon, and we are looking for a few outstanding individuals to be our directors.

Directors make plans for the week, find teachers, and oversee the week of Vacation Bible School.

If you would be interested please contact Sue Camp 903-832-8663 or suecamp@cablone.net.

Williams School



Williams School Registration

Monday, March 7th
Current Students,
Church & Parish
Members

Tuesday, March 8th
Church & Parish
Members, Siblings of
Current Students.

Wednesday, March 9th
Open Registration

It's that time of year when parents register for upcoming summer and fall preschool sessions. For any preschool or daycare you may be considering, there are many aspects you'll want to investigate. Here are just a few.



Environment

The school should have a warm, inviting and nurturing atmosphere that is conducive to learning. The building should be clean and secure. Any unlocked doors should be monitored. Toys and play equipment should be age appropriate and in good condition. There should be daily opportunities for large muscle exercise and fresh air. Also, as a Christian school, we strive for an atmosphere that assures each child that he or she are loved as a precious child of God.



A Qualified, Caring Staff

In addition to the CPR/First Aid training and 15 hours of training required by the state for licensed child care facilities, a quality preschool should routinely offer learning opportunities for its staff. As an example, a recent staff meeting included a presentation on "Love and Logic" a positive discipline technique. Staff should have backgrounds in early childhood development or related fields. That's why our teachers either have a teaching degree or solid teaching experience. Likewise our caregivers are mostly moms/college students working towards an education degree.

Curriculum

Curriculum and programs are crucial. A good preschool will offer the academic (letters, numbers, shapes) while stimulating creativity and problem solving. Play is an important part of learning. Your child's school should offer a variety of age appropriate toys and materials. These are the hands on tools for learning. At Williams School, we use a state adopted curriculum called DLM published by McGraw-Hill as a starting point. Teachers supplement the DLM materials to enrich and keep the lessons fresh. Weekly lesson planning sessions encourage teachers to share materials and ideas. Early literacy is a major focus for us. Introducing and strengthening phonetic concepts lay the foundation for every area of study.

Williams School



Special Events

Another way we enhance our program is by having monthly special events. We kick off the school year with Western Day, followed by trick or treating, the Thanksgiving Feast and Christmas program. In January we celebrated Snow Day (check out our "snowy" pictures). February included valentine parties and a field trip for the four-year-olds to Cornerstone. In March we will sharpen our investigative skills during the Science Fair. An Easter Egg Hunt will occur in April followed by Mother's Day Tea and graduation ceremonies for the fours. Then it is time for the end of the year party in June.

Arts Smart

As an ArtsSmart campus, we will host three ArtsSmart events this year. These events give your children an opportunity to see different types of arts, ask questions and interact with the artists.



Our Church

Because we are part of a church family that shares its talents, we have weekly chapel in addition to music classes and library story time for the three and four-year-olds. The threes and four-year-olds use computers in their classrooms. The four-year-olds also have a weekly Spanish class.



Transition

Our four-year-old's teachers work with kindergarten teachers at PG elementary to provide a smooth, well-prepared transition from preschool to kindergarten.

Summer

The summer session is similar to our traditional school year program; but, has more of a camp atmosphere. Each week has a different thematic focus such as transportation, around the world and circus.

Students and Teachers

Although we have a wide variety of programs and activities, the primary focus of any quality preschool has to be the individual child. It is for this reason that we exist at all. That's why it's important that teachers work with each child individually, in small groups and with the whole group over the course of the day. That is one reason why we keep our student/teacher ratio below what is required by minimum standards. We also adhere to philosophy of "safe sanctuary" which schedules two adults with any group of children.

Every preschool experience should offer happy memories with seeds of knowledge, independence and self esteem planted firmly. This is my wish for every child.

Paula Hawkins

Director



Music and Fine Arts



Sherri Waters- Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministry

Remember Who You Are

"Remember Who You Are; and Whose You Are" is a devotional book for the season of Lent. It contains 40 devotions for the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter. These devotions are written by members of our church.

I am grateful for the response to the invitations I gave. Of course, I started with musicians and worship leaders. I am grateful for each person who was willing to step out in faith and write about his or her faith.

Not all of the devotionals are signed, but many are. The book is organized by topics such as Repentance, Acceptance, Gratitude and Joy. If we, as a church, agree to pray through the season of Lent, we will grow in faith and in knowledge of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When we grow we share the love we have been shown. That is a grace filled opportunity for each of us.

Thank you for being a part of this prayer and study time.



Ageless Handchimes is a group of children and adults who are learning to play handchimes. They are marvelous in the speed they have learned the music, and their dexterity. It is fun to work with a happy group of people.

We have fun, and we have great prayer times. Amy Kirk and Sherri Waters team teach this group, and we play part of the time, too. The adults involved are Stefanie Laird, Casey Zverina, Amy and Sherri. The children and youth are, Connor and Molly Laird, Brandon, Cooper and Mikayla Zverina, Olivia Kirk, Sarah Stark, and Caroline Cooper.

In our society, it is rare to have children and adults work together on the same project. I learned how to work and how to be an effective leader by working with adults as a child, youth and college person. Dad didn't think we were grown until we had a full time job. I think he was right. Opportunities to grow together are very special. I am glad that these ringers have taken advantage of this

group. You will hear them ring in the sanctuary service this month. They have accomplished much!

Our Chancel Choir is continuing to grow. We offer a variety of musical styles in worship, so that we can involve each age group and musical style throughout the year. We are continuing the new member choir dinners in my home. It is a great chance to get to know each other, and to extend our community. If you are interested in choir, this is one of the treats that are part of our group. The main joy is being able to share the gospel through music in our worship services.

This year, our Good Friday Service, April 22, will be a joint youth and Chancel Choir event. It will be a service of darkness, which is a very moving service. It deals with the crucifixion of Jesus. I will tell you more about the service as it draws closer to time. I know that you want this special evening on your calendar.

"I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations." Psalm 89:1

Glorify God, Inspire Others to Follow Christ, Make Disciples of Jesus Christ



Hopes, Prayers and Lullabies

Children's Clothes and Toy Drive



Risk Taking mission can take on many forms. As you will read in this month's Insight it can mean traveling to Africa to teach children, or re-roofing houses near the Mexico border. The children have done it as they collected money for St. Jude, and the Youth Mission Dinner proceeds will help the youth as they do mission work in Port Arthur, Texas. For my wife and me, we are stepping out on faith in another area.

Last April Meagan and I made the decision to adopt a child. We had discussed adoption even before we got married as one way we wanted to grow our family. Through six years of marriage, we have not had a child of our own, so we felt that it might be time to consider adoption.

Now, nearly a year later we have completed our home study, sent in our paperwork, and are now listed as a waiting adoptive couple. This means at any time we could receive a phone call letting us know that a birthmom has chosen us.

From the beginning we decided that we wanted to be very open and public about our adoption process. We want others to read about what's going on, to see what's involved and to witness our process, in hopes that we may be an encouragement for others considering adopting too.

We have learned so much along the way during this journey, and we have faced many obstacles. The largest so far has been the tremendous financial costs of adoption.

In October I created and released a CD of lullabies that is for sale online and in our own Good Treasures Bookstore. Through this effort we raised the first payment. This was a great first step, and I am thankful for those who helped.

On April 2nd the L.I.F.E. Group Bible Study will host the **"Hopes Prayers and Lullabies", Children's Clothing, Toys and Furniture Resale**. We are asking you to help in three ways.

First, bring your new or gently used children's items to the church throughout the month of March. Items can be dropped off in the box in front of the Good Treasures Bookstore.

Second plan on coming to the "Hopes Prayers and Lullabies" resale on April 2nd. There be many items to choose from, as well as food, and displays from some local children's stores.

Third spread the word. Tell your friends and neighbors about both the collection and sale. Send them an email, or suggest they join the Hopes Prayers and Lullabies facebook page (facebook.com/lullabycd).

Our mission is not one that will send us around the world, or build a new building for someone. It is a mission that will give hope to a mom facing a difficult situation and a home to a child who needs to know God's love.

Russell Martin

Bring your new or gently used children's items to the church throughout the month of March. Items can be dropped off in the box in front of the Good Treasures Bookstore.

Bonjour from Lubumbashi!



Over the past six months, while living in Lubumbashi, DR Congo, I have noticed several cultural and lifestyle differences between the United States and Congo. I have also taught a full term at The English Speaking-school of Lubumbashi (TESOL) and experienced Christmas and New Year's in Africa. Through this article I hope to give you a better picture of what my life here is like.

When I first arrived in Lubumbashi it was the middle of dry season, which is from May-October or November. During dry season everything is covered in dust. Most people carry around a small cloth with them to wipe the dust off their feet,

foreheads, and the chairs before they sit down. It is also very hot during the dry season. Now it's rainy season and the dust has turned to mud. When it rains, it is usually a thunderstorm and rains almost every day. Most of the time the thunderstorm will last anywhere from 15 minutes to two hours. When it isn't a thunderstorm, it is usually a light rain and can last anywhere from 15 minutes to all day.

Another cultural difference is football or soccer. The people of Lubumbashi are crazy about soccer. The local club soccer team, Mazembe, won the African World cup for the second year in a row this season! It is amazing to watch

the games on TV. It is like the entire city is watching because whenever Mazembe scores, the entire town cheers. Whenever the other team scores, you can hear people shouting. It is a lot of fun to see how the whole city comes together to cheer on their team.

There is no public transportation system in Lubumbashi, but there are taxis and taxi busses. The taxi bus is just a bit larger than a standard minivan in the US. They put two bench seats in the middle and two bench seats along the back sides. A taxi bus could hold about 12 or 14 people comfortably, but most of the time they carry anywhere between 20 and 25 people. It takes two people to run a taxi bus, the driver and the money taker. The money taker usually hangs out of the sliding side door, jumping in and out to let people on or off the taxi bus. He also signals the driver to stop by tapping on the roof of the taxi bus.

I have been teaching at TESOL for 22 weeks now. I teach 6 classes and 8 subjects. My first class of the day is beginning ELL (English Language Learners) and is from 7:30-8:20. I have seven ELL students. Beginning



ELL is for the students who are new to TESOL and have never been to an English-speaking school before and do not know English very well. In Congo, French is the official language. Seeing as how I am in the beginning stages of learning French, teaching English to French speakers was quite terrifying. Through the help of some of the students who know quite a bit of English and games like charades and pictionary, we have made great progress as a class.

I teach grade 5 for second and third period. I teach reading and composition from 8:20-9:05 and social studies, and Christian Education on Fridays from 9:05-9:50.

I have nine 5th graders. Because I have this class for two hours a day, I have gotten to know these students, very well. As with most 5th grade students they are very talkative and are full of stories. They are a fun group, but difficult to keep focused.

Fourth period I teach second grade math. I have 8 second graders. I now have a new appreciation for elementary teachers. Keeping 8 second graders focused on telling time, addition, and subtraction from 9:50-10:35 is my biggest challenge of each day!



From 10:35-11:00 we have a break! Usually during break, the boys play soccer. There is always a group of giggly girls on the swings or sitting in a circle eating their snacks, and the pre-k and kindergartners are running around.

At 11:00 I have grades 6 and 7 for social studies. This class is combined because there are only two 6th graders, there are 10 students in this class. One thing I've learned by teaching at an international school is that middle school girls are the same everywhere. They are all talkative and giggly. I enjoy teaching this group of students a lot. This is my oldest group of students, so I am able to have more discussion with them.

My last class of the day is 4th grade science which is from 11:50-12:45. This group, like the second graders, is challenging because of their short attention spans. In addition to their short attention spans, they are very silly and like to play and ask random questions. Despite the silliness, we somehow manage to get all our work done.

In October I was invited to stay at TESOL for another three or four years. After weeks of prayer and discussion with those close to me, I came to realize that one year at TESOL isn't enough. I believe that God isn't finished using me for his purpose at TESOL.

I will be returning to TESOL August 2011. While I am home this summer I will host a fundraiser, "A Taste of Africa." This fundraiser will be a silent auction of various items I've purchased in Congo, Egypt, and Zambia. There will also be a dinner featuring Congolese food that I have learned to make during my time here. The event will be held on August 14, more details to come.

To keep up with me and read about my adventures, please follow my blog. discipleofgrace.blogspot.com

Au Revoir!

Stacey



Children's Ministries



Upcoming Children's Activities

March 6

Meal- Tacos

Bible Basics-Bowling

Bible Zone- Zone

March 13

No Activities-

Spring Break

March 20

No Activities

Spring Break

March 27

Meal- Chicken

Alive @ Five Children's Ministries

Sunday nights 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

4 & 5 Year Olds-(Story Time)

Story Time / Dinner/ Cherub Choir/ Activities-This class is a great way to learn about Jesus. We tell Bible Stories, play games, and learn songs.

1st & 2nd Graders- (Bible Zone)

Bible Zone/Dinner/ Praise Choir- This lively group gathers for Bible stories, activities and games.

3rd & 4th Graders (Bible Basics)

Bible Basics/Dinner/Praise Choir- Children learn the books of the Bible and memory verses along with related games and activities.

5th & 6th Graders (Junior Youth Fellowship)

Music/ Dinner/JYF

What Happens at Alive @ 5?

Bible study and games are part of Sunday evening activities. In addition, there are trips, events and on-going mission projects.

Children's Choirs

Amy Kirk directs the Sunday evening children's choirs. Activities include learning music to present during worship services, learning music-reading and choral-singing skills, and learning spiritual truths through music.

Meals

A monthly rotating menu of pizza, corn dogs, chicken strips and tacos will be offered. (A donation of \$5.00 a meal or \$35.00 a semester is suggested.)

Risk Taking Missions

Alive @ five children had a mission project in December to work around their homes to earn money to help children who have cancer.

They raised \$855 dollars for St. Jude's Children Hospital in Memory of Maggie Cobb. Great job kids!!!!



JYF SUNDAY LUNCH FUNDRAISER

JYF 5th and 6th graders are having a fundraiser on March 20th after the 10:30 worship services at the Welcome center.

We will be serving Hamburger and Hot dog lunches to go, or you can plan to eat in the parlor.

Cost: \$6:00 includes one hamburger, chips, drink and cookie or two hot dogs, chips, drink and cookie.

Glorify God, Inspire Others to Follow Christ, Make Disciples of Jesus Christ

Good Treasures

Bookstore and Coffee Shop

The Good Treasures Bookstore has a large variety of new items just in time for Spring Decorating, Mother's Day, Graduation and Confirmation. This is in addition to our usual handmade jewelry and clothing, music, and collectible items. Come in to the Good Treasures bookstore and see what's in store.



A New Clothes Pantry Ministry Begins at First Church

You are invited to donate gently used clothing to First United Methodist Church of Texarkana Texas. You may bring those clothes to Williams and we will take them down to First Church to be a part of this new ministry to help those who have need. Spring Cleaning is coming and a great opportunity to utilize those clothes you do not wear anymore.

If you have items to donate please bring them to the church or contact Mary O'Farrell at home 903.794.6952 or cell 903.834.5310

College and Young Adults

I'm Not In Control?

When I was in high school I lived for mission projects. I went on every youth summer and spring break mission trip I could, volunteered to rake leaves for the homebound on the weekends, and served at Randy Sams Homeless Shelter every chance I got. I loved that feeling of knowing that I helped someone with my own two hands and worked hard for it. Of course, that didn't mean I was willing to help my Dad clean the gutters or help Mom pull weeds, but if anyone else was in need, I was all over it.

I didn't get the opportunity to help with a mission trip my first year of college and I really felt something missing. I had been going on mission trips since I was a 7th grader, so it just felt like a weird part of growing up when I missed it that year. Thankfully I found a group in college that was passionate about missions and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

The Wesley Foundation on campus at UNT was planning a trip to a small island in the Bahamas called Eleuthera. I was so excited to go and as the new Programming Director, lead other students on this amazing trip. I couldn't wait to get my hands dirty and do something that seemed powerful like put on a roof or pour concrete. The day after we arrived in Eleuthera, we worked hard and enjoyed an afternoon at the beach. I expected the week to go pretty much the way that first day had gone, and it could only get better from there, right?

That night when we got back to camp, I went off to take a shower and slipped on the way. I twisted my knee really bad and was convinced that the swelling would go down and I would be back at work the next day. The next day when I realized that I could not walk and my knee would not bend, I knew this week was not going as planned. After scrounging up a wooden crutch for a 6' tall man in a local bar and sitting in the town

clinic for six hours the visiting doctor informed me that there was not an x-ray machine on the island and that I would have to fly to Nassau the next day to get it looked at.

The next day I got on a passenger plane and had prime view from the front windshield of the capital city. When I arrived I was picked up in a van full of local Bahamas Methodist Habitat volunteers and was cheerfully added to their carpool. While in the van, I got to listen to Bahamian talk radio, see where some of the locals lived and participate in giving relationship advice to one man struggling to keep his marriage alive -- all while trying to tell myself that I didn't really need that seatbelt that was missing. When I got back to Eleuthera that night I came back with a new brace, crutches, and frame of mind that I am not in control.

For the rest of the trip I had the privilege of personally getting to know the people that we were serving. I was given a completely different experience from the rest of my group and I came home with a different perspective of what mission work meant to me. Missions can sometimes be risk-taking adventures. But the risk is not always danger, in fact, most of the time the risk is that you will have to give up control and let God plan your experience.

I encourage you to think and pray about how missions have been, are now, and will be a part of your life. If you are a college student who will have been out of high school for one year this May, I want to encourage you to sign up for College UMC Army. Williams College and Young Adults will be taking a group down to Conroe, TX May 22-28. The cost of the trip is \$215. Contact Kaitlin McMichael at kaitlin.mcmichael@gmail.com for more information.

Kaitlin McMichael



Kaitlin McMichael- Director College and Young Adult Ministry

Upcoming Events

We meet in the Good Treasures Bookstore at Williams Memorial UMC

Thursday, March 3rd
Feast Bible Study and Dinner at 7pm

Thursday, March 10th
Feast Bible Study and Dinner at 7pm

Thursday, March 17th
Spring Break! No Bible Study

Thursday, March 24th
Feast Bible Study and Dinner at 7pm

Thursday, March 31st
Feast Bible Study and Dinner at 7pm

Thursday, April 7th
Our own Passover Seder at 7pm

Valentines Banquet Photos



For more photos from this and other Williams Memorial events visit our photo page on welcometowilliams.com
www.welcometowilliams.org

Youth Ministries



Weekly Events

Sundays at Williams

Every Sunday morning all students, grades 7 through 12 meet in the Youth Center at 9:15. We eat, discuss upcoming events and then break into the junior and senior high rooms for a Sunday school lesson from LINC.

Sunday nights the youth meet for United Methodist Youth Fellowship (U.M.Y.F.) from 5-7 p.m. in the Youth Center for food, fun & fellowship. After U.M.Y.F. all youth are invited and encouraged to stay for a student-led worship service, Overflow, is from 7:15-8.

Williams on Wednesdays

On Wednesdays the youth meet for Open Gym from 4-6 p.m. Dinner is served, homework is done and games are played! Bible Study is from 6-7 p.m.



Change the World

In March the Youth will be focusing on risk taking missions through our Change the World projects. A group of our senior high students is heading to the Houston area to participate in spring break UMARMY. The junior high youth are going to be volunteering locally in the Texarkana Parish.



Senior Sunday

We will celebrate the graduation of our seniors on Sunday, May 22 during the 10:30 worship services. All pictures for the slide show and photo album must be emailed to Kaitlin McMichael or Courtney Waldrep by Sunday, April 3.

Email Address: kaitlin.mcmichael@gmail.com or courtney.waldrep@gmail.com



Williams Memorial is hosting a "Style Your Soul" Girl's Day on Saturday, April 9 from 2-6 p.m. in the Youth Center. We will have a devotional led by Kerri Crocker and each girl will be designing her own pair of TOMS shoes.

This is a unique mission opportunity for the young women in our community. TOMS is a company that was founded based on a One for One principal; which means that for every pair of TOMS purchased the company will give one new pair of shoes to a child in need.

The purpose of "Style Your Soul" is to promote positive relationships between the girls and God as well

as with each other; and to show them that everyday choices can be incredible opportunities for mission and outreach.

All girls, grades 6-12, are invited to participate in this city-wide event. The total cost is \$50 and includes one pair of white TOMS and art supplies. Sign up sheets are available at the Welcome Center desk, in the Youth Center on Sunday and Wednesday nights and on the Welcome to Williams website, and must be returned to Courtney Waldrep or Kaitlin McMichael by Wednesday, March 9. If you have questions please contact Courtney at courtney.waldrep@gmail.com or at (903) 832-8663.



The youth will host their annual Mission Dinner on Sunday, March 27 from 5-7 p.m. in Wesley Hall. This year we would like to encourage groups at the church to choose a country, investigate its culture and mission needs, then decorate their table and dress accordingly. There will be awards given for: Best Representation of the Theme, Youth's Choice and Most Creative Interpretation.

This year, the youth will decorate your group's table for you, for an additional \$25 donation. Table sign up sheets will be available in the Sunday school rooms and at the Welcome Center desk beginning Sunday, March 6; individual tickets may be purchased in the Good Treasures Bookstore March 6-23.

All tickets are \$15 and include a homemade meal of pork tenderloin, salad, steamed vegetables, a roll, and dessert. Along with dinner, entertainment will be provided by a variety of church members and, as always, diners will be encouraged to participate in the silent and live auctions.

All monies raised will go towards the Youth's summer mission trips to Port Arthur, Texas. If you are unable to attend but would like to contribute, donations can be dropped in the offering plate or left in the Bookstore; please write Youth Missions on the memo line of all checks.

For more information please contact Courtney Waldrep at courtney.waldrep@gmail.com or (903) 832-8663.

Youth Calendar

Sunday, 2/27

Fun Night: The Lion of Judah movie

Wednesday, 3/2

Open Gym/Bible Study

Sunday, 3/6

UMYF: To Save a Life Session 4

Wednesday, 3/9:

Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, 3/13 - 20:

Spring Break: NO UMYF

Sunday 3/13-6

Sr High UM ARMY

Wednesday, 3/16

Randy Sam's (meet in Wesley Hall @ 4)

Sunday, 3/20

District Youth Rally in Mt. Pleasant

Wednesday, 3/23

Open Gym/Bible Study

Sunday, 3/27

Mission Dinner in Wesley Hall

Wednesday, 3/30

Open Gym/Bible Study

Adult Ministries



New Sunday School Class- The Current

From our Wednesday Night Men's Bible Study a new Sunday school class emerges. Several of the guys from the Men's Bible Study wanted to continue to study the Bible on Sunday mornings together. The class is lead by Marty Morones and Bob Westbrook. Our first class was held January 23, 2011. If you are looking for an in depth Bible Study come to the Library at 9:15 am to learn more about God's word.

W2LEO

This is a group of adults, both married and single, that enjoy making friends and eating out. W2LEO will meet at Bryce's Cafeteria at 5:00pm on March 15th to share a meal and fellowship with friends.

XYZ

If games, food, fun and fellowship are things you enjoy, come to Wesley Hall at 9:30am on the 2nd and 4th Thursday. We play dominoes, bridge, skip-bo, etc... We share a meal and enjoying adding eXtra Years of Zest to our lives. Come join us.

Good Treasures Bridge

Our group continues to grow. We welcome anyone that enjoys playing bridge at any level. We meet every Wednesday in the Bookstore at 6:00 pm and play two or three rounds of bridge. If you would like to join, all you have to do is Email John Mercy at jmercy@texarkanalayers.com and let him know you would like to play.

Spiritual Life

A sub-group of UMW meets in the game room at Cornerstone on the second Tuesday of each month. This special Bible study is led by Kitty Harrington. All are welcome to join for any or all of our studies.

Williams Book Club

The Williams Book Club meets on the second Monday of each month. The following is a list of books for the up coming months:

March 14th---Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother by Amy Chua

April 11th---Cleopatra: A Life by Stacy Schiff

May 9th---The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

If you would like to read any of these and join our discussion, come to the Children's Library at 12 noon on the 2nd Monday. If you don't have time to finish the book, join us anyway. Everyone is welcome to join our lively group.

Special New Articles

If your group is having an event and you would like it included in the Insight, please send the article to Sue suecamp@cableone.net or to Vee gnvee@cableone.net before the 5th of the month prior to the event the next month. If the event is May 6, you need to have the article in by April 5th, if it is June 29th in by May 5th.

If you have questions or would like

more information about any group or special event, please contact:

Sue Camp, Christian Ed. Dir.
suecamp@cableone.net

Vee Daniels, Asst. Dir.
gnvee@cableone.net



Sunday School Class Spotlight Singles Class

Are you single and searching for a Sunday School Class with other singles adults to study the Bible with, then our Singles Class is for you. We are a diverse group of individuals from all walks of life that come together each Sunday to study God's word. We range in age from 30 to 60. The Singles Class is competently led by Betty Hankins.

If you are single, and looking for other Christian singles to study the Bible and share God's Word, come to Room 132 Sunday Morning at 9:15 am. You are sure to find others that share the same difficulties and joys of single life.

Annual
Betty Kelly Friendship Circle
Plant Sale

April 16th - 9am to 3pm
Front Church Parking Lot

Proceeds benefit our local Domestic Violence Prevention Center,
Society of St. Stephen Food Pantry, Youth Ministry, and UMCOR.



The annual spring Plant Sale sponsored by the Betty Kelly Friendship circle will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. April 16th in our church front parking lot. This year there will be new varieties, together with larger quantities of last year's surprise favorites - Kimberly queen fern pots and Blackeyed Susan Vine baskets. There will be hundreds of baskets and pots, along with many varieties of annuals grown in flats.

Profits from the sale will be donated to our local Domestic Violence Prevention Center, Williams Memorial St. Steven's charities, Youth Ministries, and to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) where every dollar contributed is used to help people.

During each of the past two years, profits from this one day plant sale have enabled us to contribute substantially to these missions. So be there! This is your chance to help others and enjoy beautiful patios and flower beds all summer.



Williams Memorial United Methodist Church

4000 Moores Lane Texarkana TX 75503
903.832.8663 welcometowilliams.org



Upcoming Events

March 1 Dog Training Orientation

March 7-9 Williams School Registration

March 9 Ash Wednesday Service

March 20 JYF Lunch Fundraiser

March 27 Youth Mission Dinner

April 2 Children's Clothing, Toys and
Furniture resale

April 6 UMW to Norton Gallery and Gardens