

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9	6:00 p.m.	Scrappy Quilters in Library
	7:00 p.m.	Verna Balogh Circle in Fellowship Hall
10	10:00 a.m.	Otta Bond Circle in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
11	5:00 p.m.	Knit Wits Too in Library
	6:00 p.m.	Cluster Meeting at Eastlawn UMC
12-13	4:30 p.m.	Conference Lay Speaking School at Camp Wesley Pines in Gallman
12	6:30 p.m.	Game Night in Fellowship Hall
13	5:30 p.m.	UMYF Event
14	7:30 a.m.	UMM Breakfast
	6:00 p.m.	Cluster Songfest at 1 st UMC Pascagoula
15	6:00 p.m.	Pumpkin Patch Meeting in Fellowship Hall
16	6:00 p.m.	Finance
	6:00 p.m.	Scrappy Quilters in Library
17	5:30 p.m.	Snack Supper and Activities
	6:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
18	5:00 p.m.	Knit Wits Too in Library
	7:00 p.m.	Civitan's Installation in Fellowship Hall
21	5:00 p.m.	UMYF
22	6:00 p.m.	Administrative Council Meeting
23	6:00 p.m.	Scrappy Quilters in Library
	6:30 p.m.	Cursillo Grouping
24	10:00 a.m.	Otta Bond Circle in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
25	5:00 p.m.	Knit Wits Too in Library
26	5:00 p.m.	Youth Event in Fellowship Hall
28	11:10 a.m.	"Low Country Boil"
	5:00 p.m.	UMYF
30	1:00-6:00 p.m.	Red Cross in Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Scrappy Quilters in Library

EVERY ISLAND TRIP - An overnight trip is planned for Avery Island on October 3rd. We will leave at 8 a.m. There is limited seating and limited baggage. The hotel cost is \$92.00 and \$6.25 for the Jungle Tour. The visit to the Tabasco Factory is free. We will also be going to the French Quarter. Deadline is September 30th. Please sign up in the hallway.

APOLOGY/THANK YOU - I need to apologize to Denny Engle and Linda Hyland for not thanking them, in church, for their help with the youth this past Friday night.
God Bless, Teresa Bankston

YOUTH NEWS - Our youth (and some adults) had a tremendous worship experience Friday evening, September 5th in our Family Life Center. Let's do it again soon!

GOODNEWSLETTER

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September 8, 2008

Dear Friends,

Last week, I shared with you a list of contrasts between "live churches" and "dead churches" that John Ed Mathiston wrote some time back. This week I offer you a few additional ideas that might be worthy of us pondering together. See what you think...

In W. James Cowell's book, "*Extending Your Congregation's Welcome*," he lists eight principles that support growth and apply to churches of any size. These eight principles are:

1. The love and acceptance of the membership for each other.
2. A contagious sense of expectancy.
3. Trust between pastor and laity.
4. The congregation's attitude toward change.
5. The congregation's sense of identity.
6. The congregation's commitment to faith development.
7. The physical structure (the buildings).
8. The congregation's reliance upon God.

Let's take a look at the first two this week.

1. The love and acceptance of the membership for each other is not determined by the size of the membership. In some small town churches, persons on the left of the center aisle hardly speak to persons on the right of the center aisle before or after the morning worship service. What's the point? Even in churches that have large memberships, the ministry of acceptance and "touch" is absolutely vital to the overall life of the congregation. Simply smiling, speaking, as well as the touch of the hand are positively vital for the membership to accept one another.

2. A contagious sense of expectancy. Simply put, what this means is that (a) congregations have a good self-image, (b) there is joy in the life and work of the church, (c) there is a sense of the power of the Gospel to change lives; confidence in the ability of this congregation to be an agent of that Gospel, and (d) a desire to excel: to do better and better. The opposite of a contagious sense of expectancy is a defeatist attitude. A contagious sense of expectancy is rooted in a strong faith in God and an overwhelming sense of God's presence and power. Congregations displaying this sense of expectancy are standing on tiptoe to see what God will do next, because things can be accomplished only if God is part of the plan.

More next week...

See YOU at the "LIVE" place Sunday!

James

OUR FAITHFULNESS

September 7, 2008

Sunday School:	68	Sunday School:	\$ 5.00
Worship Attendance:	160	Our Daily Bread:	\$ 25.00
Morning Offering:	\$9721.48	Philippine Ministry:	\$ 35.00
Building Fund:	\$ 935.00	Playground Equip:	\$ 50.00
Communion Fund:	\$ 176.02	Youth Program:	\$140.00
Food Pantry:	\$ 45.00		

PRAISES FOR:

Answered Prayers

ON GOING PRAYERS:

Wallace Gill, Eve Devereaux, Michelle Hardy, Caregivers, Hollie Engle, Marian Pierson, **Norris Taylor, Olene Nixon, Our elderly, Mildred and Ray Long, City and World leaders, Youth for Christ, Service members/families, Joette Patterson, Martha Lewis, **Catalina Weaver, Martha Price, Jane Perry, Ellen Wheeler, **John Hanson, Jim and Phyllis Howland, Our Youth, Rodney Siedell, Marshall Dunn, Prisoners in Bible Study, Bernice and William Rasmussin, Pat and Patti McDonald, Rev. Otis Lewelling, Abigail Upton, Teresa and Jerry Howell, Polly Furr, Louis Ware, John Schrink, Barbara and Lisa, Chris Cursuello, **Emmie Gautier, Clara Charlesworth, Vera Parker, and Ken Muller.

PRAYERS FOR: * denotes hospital ** care facility/rehab

Family of Pat and Patti McDonald
*Linda Cirlot by S. Swensen
Brian Odell by S. Green
*Anders Johnson by N. Green
Robert Smith and Family of Nick Woods by R. Norris
Greg Simms by K. Teesdale
Barbara Wise by J. Wise
Sloan Suddeth by K. Pittman
Marty Freeman and Thelma Bailey by J. McCaskey
Jonathan Vining and Margaret Martin by B. Koch
Fred Abney by M. Peterson
Jim Savage by B. Stuntz
Family of Robert Proffitt by M. Snuggs
Ron Morning, Nancy Hamilton, Unspoken, Cotton Pearce, and Fanni Mae by E. Griffin
Tommie Lee McCormick, Gerry & Blackie Fluke by D. Reiter
Jim Talbot and Unspoken by T. Webb
Maddie Keith by A. Breland
Annette Breland by D. Breland
Bettie Holland by G. Holland
Helen's Son Matthew by J. Davis
Scotty Branham by B. Branham
Wanda Miller and Mitch Doze by M. Doze

UPCOMING EVENTS

UMM BREAKFAST - Attention all men, please plan on attending your United Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting on Sunday, September 14th at 7:30 a.m. Hope to see you there. Special guests will be the Gautier FUMC Choir and Families.

PUMPKIN PATCH - There will be a meeting for all chair persons and anyone interested in helping with the Patch on Monday, September 15th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be selling the Gautier First UMC t-shirts, for the next few Sundays, for only \$5.00 - half price! We only have a few left so hurry and get yours today.

OUR DAILY BREAD - Groups of five people are needed to help cook at Our Daily Bread. Lunch is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We will be going on Tuesday, September 16th and we will leave the church at 10:30 a.m. Please sign up in the hallway.

IT'S COMING! WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE IS GOING TO BE GREAT! **DON'T MISS IT!**

September 17th

5:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Snack supper provided by Ken Arceneaux and UMM (Hamburgers and Hot Dogs)
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Workshop: "Budgeting Part I," by Denny Engle
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.	Children's Friendship Choir Practice (Ages K-5 th grade)
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.	Tutoring Sessions I (any ages needing help)
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.	"Christian Walkers" Get Moving!
6:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Tutoring Session II
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice

Supper, program(s) for adults, activities for children and youth will meet on September 17th and October 1st at 5:30 p.m. beginning with supper in the Family Life Center. We will evaluate this program after these two Wednesday nights.

A LA CARTE! - Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided by the fabulous cooks of our United Methodist Men for Wednesday Night Live on September 17th, but we need some tasty sides to complete the meal. If you are able to provide potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, and/or chips, please contact Lisa McCusker at 249-4435.

PART-TIME CHURCH SECRETARY POSITION - Those interested in applying for this position should contact Mr. John Roberts, Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Chairperson. Applications are available in the Church Office. **The deadline is Sunday, September 14th.**

HELLO FROM KATRINA WORK TEAMS - Dan Armstrong of Evans, GA called last Thursday to check on the church and community after Hurricane Gustav. They're bringing a work team of about 40 people to the coast the weekend after Thanksgiving. Don Coltharp of New Covenant Church in Mt. Holly, NC called Monday to also check on us. They have a work team of about 20 people coming to the coast in November. Both teams hope to come by Gautier FUMC and visit.