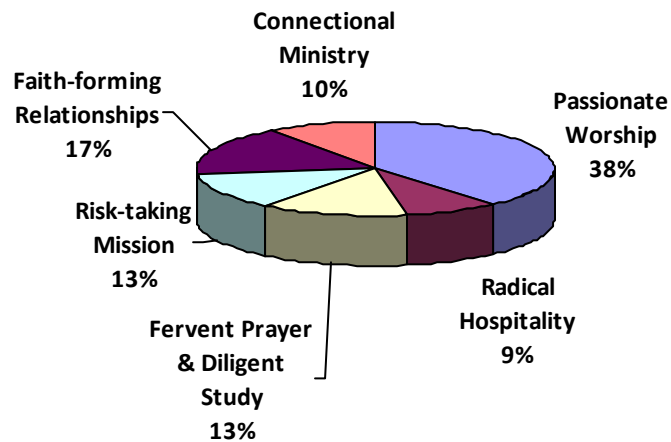


Extravagant Generosity

Giving is not about funding a budget or supporting a particular ministry. It is a part of our faith, a means of worshiping and praising our God who gave so much for us. We understand that our resources are not infinite and that we are stewards of all that God has given us. We offer this information to you so that you can celebrate what God is doing in and through First United Methodist Church in Jefferson, Texas and understand how stewardship is practiced here. As we move forward in ministry in 2009, we ask that you continue to support God's work here through your prayers, presence, gifts and service. If you have any questions or comments about the information in this brochure, please contact the church office or Rev. Allison Byerley.

2009 First United Methodist Church Ministries Budget



First United Methodist Church



2009 Ministries

Making Disciples for Jesus Christ in Jefferson, Texas



First United Methodist Church in Jefferson, Texas, is in the disciple-making business for the transformation of the world to the glory of God. We could not accomplish our mission without your prayers, presence, gifts and service. You are essential to living out our ministry in

our community. We understand stewardship to be the way we use the resources that God has entrusted to us for the purposes to which God has called us. In light of this understanding, we want to acquaint you with the many ministries of our congregation, the benefits they bring, and the costs associated with them.



We hope that as you learn more about church's ministries, you will want to support and participate in what God is doing in and through First United Methodist. We have organized our ministries around the core values of the Texas Annual Conference: passionate worship, radical hospitality, fervent prayer and diligent study, risk-taking

mission, faith-forming relationships, and connective giving.



Connectional Ministry

United Methodists are connected to one another. This means that local congregations are related to one another throughout a district, annual conference, jurisdiction, and the entire denomination. When you are part of a local United Methodist church, you are connected to other United Methodists throughout the world. We are global church with United Methodist congregations in North America, Africa, Asia, Europe and beyond. Through our connectional ministries, we touch the lives of people beyond



The Cramer Retreat Center is an oasis in the city. This conference resource is available for retreats and low-cost housing.



Serving Hurricane Ike evacuees in the Texas Annual Conference.

our community. In Texas, our connectional ministry helps plant new churches and revitalize existing ones. We saw the connection in action last year when Hurricane Ike devastated coastal areas of the Texas Annual Conference. Through connectional ministry, the entire world is our mission field. Approximately 10% of

our annual budget for a total amount of \$14,520 goes to support worship at First United Methodist Church.

Faith-forming Relationships

People may enter our doors as guests, but they quickly find a warm welcome and begin to form close relationships. These relationships embody Christ's love, showing acceptance and holding one another accountable. In the process, our faith is shaped and changed. While faith-forming relationships encompass all ages and places in life, our youth and senior ministries are prime examples at First United Methodist Church.



Enjoying each other's company at the Ladies Afternoon Tea.

Through our youth ministry, young people from throughout the community are welcomed and introduced to Christ. In 2008 four young people professed their faith through our confirmation program and two young families became part of our faith community. We host Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts. Our Super Seniors offers fellowship to senior adults throughout the community. In 2009 we began an outreach to young adults and started a Young Adult Supper Club and Ladies Night Out, an opportunity for women of all generations to fellowship together. We look forward to starting something similar for men. Approximately 17% of our annual budget for a total amount of \$23, 731 goes to support faith-forming relationships at First United Methodist Church.



Don and Dan play for the Super Seniors.



Having fun at Vacation Bible School.

Passionate Worship



The Jefferson Elementary School Choir sings at the 165th anniversary service.

Worship is the way that many of us enter the church. It touches our hearts, feeds our souls, and helps bring God's love into our church and our lives. Worship at First United Methodist Church is centered on hearing God's word proclaimed, praising God for all

God's blessings in our lives, and gaining strength for the week ahead. Our worship features a vibrant music ministry led by our gifted Music Director and growing chancel choir, challenging preaching that encourages growth in knowledge and love of God, and active participation by all ages. Approximately 39% of our annual budget for a total amount of \$55,382 goes to support worship at First United Methodist Church.



Easter Sunday at First UMC

Radical Hospitality

Christianity is the one movement in the world that exists primarily for those who are not its members. Scripture compels us to welcome the stranger and embrace him or her as Christ has embraced us. Hospitality ministries at First United Methodist Church reach out to the community, inviting our neighbors to come and meet God here, and prepare us and our campus to welcome whomever accepts God's invitation.



Serving Jefferson High School dinner before home games

Radical Hospitality (continued)

These ministries include our outreach efforts through advertising, our website, and events like Books Alive and the Pumpkin Patch. Also included is our Transformation ministries, working to update our facilities and provide training for members in welcoming guests. In 2007 these ministries bore fruit when we were officially certified as a Welcoming Congregation in the United Methodist Church. Approximately 9% of our annual budget for a total amount of \$12,357 goes to support hospitality at First United Methodist Church.



Guests at Care & Share, a monthly meal offered to residents at area nursing homes and assisted living.

Fervent Prayer and Diligent Study



Teaching the Bible story at Vacation Bible School.

Through prayer we grow closer to God. Through study we grow as Christians. These two practices have been hallmarks of Methodists since the days of John Wesley, founder of the people called Methodists. It is through these means of grace that we grow in our love and knowl-

edge of God. Our King's Kids and Vacation Bible School ministries introduce the youngest disciples to the stories of our faith. Sunday school classes provide regular avenues for study and growth. In



2009 we began a class for folks who can't meet during traditional Sunday school hours.

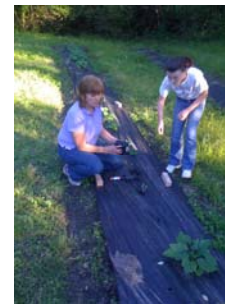
Our prayer ministry is growing also. In 2008 we began our prayer shawl ministry and we have distributed over 100 shawls in our first year.

Approximately 13% of our annual budget for a total amount of \$19,141 goes to support study and prayer at First United Methodist Church.



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry with the fruits of their labors.

Risk-Taking Mission



Planting in the community garden.

In risk-taking mission, we reach out to others as the Good Samaritan did. We focus on showing God's love to others through service. Mission activities at First United Methodist include our youth's witness to God's love through UM ARMY and Big House, our United Methodist Women's actions for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), and our monthly Care & Share

outreach to residents in area nursing homes. In 2008 we started Cinderella's Closet, our prom dress ministry, which continued in 2009. And in 2009 we planted a community garden that promises to help folks eat healthier. Approximately 13% of our annual budget for a total amount of \$18,641 goes to support risk-taking mission at First United Methodist Church.



Wrapping up a dress for a young lady as part of Cinderella's Closet.