



Wesley Circuit Rider

united methodist church

Volume XXXX, Issue 10

March 8, 2006

40 DAYS OF PURPOSE

A PURPOSE-DRIVEN LIFE CAMPAIGN

Week Three — You Were Formed for God’s Family

God wants a family, and he created you to be part of it. This is God’s second purpose for your life, which he intended before you were born. The entire Bible is the story of God building a family who will love him, honor him, and reign with him forever.

How was your first week of purpose-driven living? Hopefully you now have a new verse of scripture locked away in your mind, and you have been developing a lifestyle of worship through your daily readings in *The Purpose Driven Life*. Next week we will learn about the second purpose, Fellowship. We were formed to be a part of God’s family, and if you are connecting with other people in a *40 Days of Purpose* small group or Sunday School class, you are experiencing some great fellowship! It’s not too late to join one of the Campaign groups or Sunday School classes; call Kathy Haskins in the church office for more information.

Complete these readings from *The Purpose Driven Life* for the week of March 12th:

WEEK 3: You Were Formed for God’s Family
(Fellowship) DATE

- Day 15 Formed for God’s Family _____
- Day 16 What Matters Most _____
- Day 17 A Place to Belong _____
- Day 18 Experiencing Life Together _____
- Day 19 Cultivating Community _____
- Day 20 Restoring Broken Fellowship _____
- Day 21 Protecting Your Church _____

Small groups will discuss these readings in their groups the week of March 12th.

Scripture Verse for the Week: Romans 12:5 (NIV)

So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

We invite you to commit this scripture to memory as we consider Fellowship — one of God’s purposes for our lives.

The graphic features a large '40' in a circle with 'DAYS OF PURPOSE' written below it. The background has a faint, repeating pattern of the words 'The Purpose Driven Life'. Below the graphic is a 2x3 grid of boxes:

What on earth am I here for?	WORSHIP
FELLOWSHIP	DISCIPLESHIP
MINISTRY	EVANGELISM

Birthdays

March 13

Zachary Guzi
Richard Hebert

March 14

Robyn Ahysen
Ashleigh Griffin
Charlene Stough

March 15

Gary Korry
Meghan Larson
Megan Quinn
Randy Still
Joe Tumlinson

March 16

Makenzie Hearn
Jan Kirk

March 17

Nolan Andress
Amanda McDonald
Pat Pilgrim
Adam Rose
Doreen Van Dyke

March 18

Katie Baird
Billie Branson
Nona Butler
Mary Griswold
Alana Herrera
Armon Husband
Hollis Smith
Mary Speight

March 19

Amy Andress
Amanda Barry
Charlie Busceme
Cara Busceme

Hunter Davidson
Ryan Flosi-Ingram
Brent Hill
Debbie Loeb
Brianna Munlin
Jim Stockie
Anthony Vaughan



Memorials

Budget Fund

In loving memory of Dan Thomas
The Gessel and Thomas Family
Marguerite Church

In honor of Bubba & Pat Lane
Juanita Boyd

In loving memory of Lonnie Colvin
Mary & Jay Matthews

In loving memory of Olivia Wyatt
George & Helen Huckins

In loving memory of Marianne Lytle
George & Helen Huckins

Praise Center Fund

In loving memory of Al Mattar
Tim & Elaine Beard

St. Stephens Fund

In honor of the Friendship Bible Class
Louis & Bettye DeSoto

Bell Choir Fund

In loving memory of Lonnie Colvin
Bell Choir Members

Church Office Hours

The Church office hours are Monday—Thursday, 8:30—4:30pm and Friday 8:30—12:30 pm. If for any reason there is only one person in the office by themselves, the doors to the outside will be locked. There is an intercom system that has been installed so that we are always available to you and can let you into the building.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in honor of Makenzie Hearn and Glenda Murphy.

Offering and Attendance

Sunday, February 26, 2006

Budget	\$ 19,573.82	8:00 am	132
Other	\$ 5,10883	9:15 am	242
Total	\$ 24,682.65	10:30 am	331
		Sunday School	372
		Total	705

Annual Society of St. Stephen Garage Sale

Start looking around your house for wonderful things that you want to send to a new home. We have no storage space for things here at the church, so please hold on to your items until near sale time. Someone usually needs just about anything you want to pass on. Dig deep into those closets and under those beds. Help us make a difference to someone in need.

We will set up for the garage sale in the Praise and Family Life Center on Thursday, May 4 and 5. The Sale will be on Saturday May 6 from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Children's Ministry— Building Champions for Christ!

Bible Training



Bible Training for third and fourth graders has begun in the 9:15 am Sunday School class. They will be learning how to use their Bibles. They will be running through Bible drills and playing other Bible games. Come and see what the special book has to offer as we learn our way through the Bible.

Coffee Cans

Coffee cans are still needed for the children's ministry area. Please bring the cleaned cans with the lids to the church office or set them outside the education storage closet, across the hall from the teachers lounge in the CE building. Thank you for your help.

Easter Candy & Eggs

Easter is coming. The Children Ministries needs donations of candy and eggs for this year's Easter Egg Hunt, April 15th. Eggs and candy may be dropped by the church office or placed outside the Education Supply Closet. No chocolate please. Thank you for your support.

Purpose Driven Life

Why are we here? The children of Wesley will learn why they were created while using fun & games.. Dinner starts at 5 pm and we gather at 5:45 pm in room 112/114. Come & join the fun!



Bring a Friend This Sunday

Important Dates

May 13th—Saturday
Mother, Daughter, Sister, and Friends Luncheon
Watch for more details.

June 5th-9th
9:00 am—12:00 pm.
Vacation Bible School (VBS)
Marketplace—Jerusalem come join the adventure.

June 26th—30th
District Church Camp
Lakeview, Texas
Cost is \$175 and payment plans are available.
Children entering 4th grade and older are eligible for church camp.

Sanctuary Lamp

There is still time for you to get your requests in to Malana for the sanctuary lamp to be burned in honor or in memory of someone. I know some of you have special days you would like to reserve, so be sure to get those dates in to Malana as soon as possible. Remember, it is only \$5 for each honoree or remembrance that you request. If you have any questions, please call Malana in the church office, 892-7733.



She's Here...

Almost.
Last week Brook and Peter got the call they had been waiting to get for over a year. They have a baby girl to go pick up in China. Her name is (ready for this) Olivia Rhea Xiao Miller. She is healthy and happy

and Peter and Brooke are waiting anxiously to travel to China and bring her home.

Oh how times for them are changing, and changing, and changing!

Follow Peter & Brook Miller's journey to China:
<http://miller.redthreadkids.org/>

Fully
Rely
On
God





James' Epistle

We are in our 40 Days of Purpose Campaign. Last week, we looked at the first purpose God created us to fulfill — worship. You were planned for God's pleasure. Bringing enjoyment to God through worship, living for his pleasure, is the first purpose of your life. Worship is more than an hour on Sunday morning, but a lifestyle of response to God's love.

This week we will consider the second purpose God made us for — fellowship. Our first purpose is a vertical relationship with God. Our second purpose is a horizontal relationship with each other. We often speak of Wesley UMC as our church family. I like that metaphor. The Bible says we are brothers and sisters in Christ. We are family. "His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure." (Ephesians 1.5 NLT)

You are called to belong, not just believe. From the beginning of creation, God said, "It is not good for man to be alone." We are social beings. God made us that way from day one.

Rick Warren accurately says: "We were created for community,

fashioned for fellowship, and formed for family, and none of us can fulfill God's purposes by ourselves. The Bible knows nothing of solitary saints or spiritual hermits isolated from other believers and deprived of fellowship... While your relationship with Christ is personal, God never intends it to be private." (PDL, p. 130)

One of the vital truths of family is that we are all important. Everyone belongs. That is what the Apostle Paul says in his letter to the Corinthian church: "Now all of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it." (1 Corinthians 12.27 NLT) We are all important. Everyone matters. God needs each of us working together to make the church. We are all part of the family of God.

I am reminded of a story about a second grade Sunday School teacher who was welcoming her students to class one Sunday morning when she noticed a visitor. It was a little 7-year-old boy named Davey. Immediately, the teacher noticed his empty sleeve. The little boy was missing a left arm.

The teacher tried to be sensitive so as not to call undue attention to the little boy who had no left arm. She had had no opportunity to prepare the other children for this situation, so she proceeded nervously, hoping she wouldn't call on the boy to do something he couldn't do... and praying the children wouldn't say anything to embarrass him.

Usually, they would circle up and hold hands to say the opening prayer, but she purposefully skipped over that. Finally, as the class time came to a close and all had gone well, she relaxed a bit and called on the children to come forward and join in their closing ceremony.

"O. K., boys and girls... let's make our churches. Here's the church and here's the steeple, open the door and..." With a sickening thud it hit her. She had done the very thing she didn't want to do. As she stood there speechless, one of the little second graders saved the day... a little girl named Karen rose to the occasion. Gently, little Karen reached over to the little boy. She placed her left hand in his right hand and said, "It's O. K. Teacher. Davey and I will make the church together."

Together we make the church.
Together we are the family of God.

You and I, we need each other.
Everyone is important. Everyone has a place. Everyone matters. We stick together to help each other. That's what families do.

You were formed for God's family.
See you Sunday at our next family gathering.

Grace and peace,
Jim



Message Series Schedule

February 19	Don't Waste Your Life
February 26	What on Earth Am I Here For?
March 5	You Were Planned for God's Pleasure
March 12	You Were Formed for God's Family
March 19	You Were Created to Become Like Christ
March 26	You Were Shaped for Serving God
April 2	You Were Made for a Mission
April 9	What Have We Learned?

Wesley Spring Blood Drive

The first 2006 Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, March 19 in Room 202. Starting at 8:30 a.m. and ending after 12:30 p.m., you can donate. Before worship, after worship, before or after Sunday School: you can pick the time!



Be an everyday hero: give the gift of life.
Donate Blood.



There will be sign up sheets before and after worship.

Remember: If only 40% of Wesley's active membership gives, all of Wesley will be covered under the Donor Benefit Plan. That means Lifeshare will reimburse up to \$500 per person for many of the fees attached to blood transfusions for one year.

Anyone in general good health, 17 years old or older, who weighs at least 110 pounds can donate blood.

Diabetics, people on blood pressure medication or those with rheumatoid arthritis are all eligible to give blood.

If your iron level prevented you from donating once in the past, it does not mean that you cannot ever give again. More often than not, that is a temporary condition.

For questions or more information: Call Kathy in the office.

Something to Sing About: Let's Have Another Great Trip!



Mark your calendars and call Kathy for your reservations! On Monday April 3, we are heading to College Station for our annual Bluebonnet Trip. There will be a wonderful visit to the George Bush Presidential Library (even Democrats will enjoy it!) This would be an overnight trip; we'll return home Tuesday April 4 after noon.

Cost will be around \$50 for everything—transportation, hotel, and the sights, and you'll pay for your own meals.

Call to reserve your spot on the bus! Kathy's numbers 892-7733, 790-3540 or email her: khaskins@wesleyumc.com

Let's have a great turn out—we had so much fun last year when we all went to Brenham!



The Great Awakening

Bring your daughters, mothers, granddaughters, and friends to this event on Saturday, March 11. It is a community-wide, interdenominational gathering of women to be held at First United Methodist Church in downtown Beaumont. With dynamic speakers, Rachel Norris and Leslie Bledsoe, the program begins at 8:30 a.m. and lasts until 3:00 p.m. This should be a wonderful day of worship, music and praise, with two gifted speakers who will share their stories of faith. Rachel Norris ministers through her gifts as a potter, speaking as she enacts the molding of her spiritual life while working the potter's wheel. Finding herself blind overnight just two years ago, Leslie Bledsoe tells how God has blessed her to deal with her adversity with humor.

Cost is \$25 for adults, \$15 for seniors and teens, and includes lunch. Go online www.Firstbeaumont.org to make reservations or call 832-0295. Child care is available by reservation also.

Upper Room Devotionals

The Upper Rooms for March and April are out in the Welcome Center and near the main doors to the Praise & Worship Center. The church is glad to make these wonderful daily devotional books available to members and guests. There are the regular small publications and the large print editions as well. Please remember that the \$1 donation for each book helps to defray to cost.

Also, if you are interested, the Upper Room publishes a very different sort of devotional called *Alive Now*. It has essays and poetry, as well as more unusual photographs and artwork. Each issue is built around a Christian theme and can be a wonderful addition to your daily reading. (We receive only 12 copies of this every other month.) Call or come by Kathy's office to get a copy of *Alive Now*.



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The people of Wesley United Methodist Church are called to know God and to make God known.



Church Staff

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<p>Noel Turner Music Ministries Nturner@wesleyumc.com 861-1751 home</p>	<p>Linda Carroll Preschool Director</p>
	<p>Kay Bender MDO Director</p>

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 12
 Traditional Worship.....8:00 & 10:30 am
In the Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship.....9:15 am
Praise & Worship Center

Sunday School.....9:10 am
 Second Hour Classes.....10:30 am

Knitting Class.....5:00 pm

Monday, March 13
 Monday Evening Study Group..6:30 pm
 Boy Scouts.....7:00 pm

Tuesday, March 14
 Some Other Place.....8:00 am
 Crafters.....1:30 pm
 Women's Bible Study.....6:30 pm
 AIAnon.....7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 15
 Mary Martha Circle.....2:00 pm
 Communion.....12:15 pm

Wednesday Evening5:00 pm
 Programs.....6:00 pm
 AA Meeting.....7:30 pm
 Overeaters Anonymous.....7:30 pm

Thursday, March 16
 Brown Bag Bible Study.....12:15 pm
 Senior Games Day.....1:00 pm
 AA Meeting.....7:30 pm
 Alateen.....7:30 pm
 AIAnon.....7:30 pm

Friday, March 17
 No activities

Saturday, March 18
 Lawn Service.....7:00 am
 AA Meeting.....7:30 pm