

The News Without a Name ~ Yet!

Volume 1, Number 1

August 6, 2006

Mrs. Gwendolyn Patterson Thompson - "Ms. Gwen"



The congregation of Chaires United Methodist Church would like to take this opportunity to honor Mrs. Thompson, or Ms. Gwen, as she is fondly called. What a joy this lady brings to our church! Always smiling, her face lit up for all she meets.

She was born Gwendolyn Patterson to Howell Gwynn and Maggie Beard

Patterson in what is now known as the Shuford house.

She was the oldest of five children and is a descendant of Samuel Parkhill and Kate Hill Chaires, her paternal great grandfather and grandmother. She is also a descendant of John Howell and Annie Chaires Patterson, her grandfather and grandmother.

Ms. Gwen attended Chaires School from first through eleventh grades and Leon High in the twelfth grade. It was closer to town at that time. She graduated in 1938 and then attended Florida State College for Women, graduating in 1942. She lived at home the first two years and took a school bus to Leon High and then walked to the college. The last two years she lived in a

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From Our Youth Pastor

My name is Peter J. Marvin, and I have the privilege of serving the youth of Chaires UMC. I have been called to youth ministry for the past five years and have been teaching youth in public schools and in the private setting since 1998. While earning a degree in music education at Florida State University, I had a wonderful opportunity to help work at a church plant where I received my calling to ministry. After college I felt called to my roots in the United Methodist Church in which I became a member of a local body of believers, started my candidacy for ordained ministry and began working as a minister of youth for Gray Memorial United Methodist Church. I am still working as a music teacher at Mason's School of Music, Leon High School,

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Pastor's Column

Little Bo Peep's Theory of Evangelism



Monday morning I was visiting with Hazel, who sends out cards to folks that have

missed church for a couple of Sundays. It is our way of showing folks that they are missed and loved and we are looking forward to seeing them back in church next Sunday. Knowing that, Hazel handed me an old yellowed piece of paper that goes along with our card ministry here at Chaires.

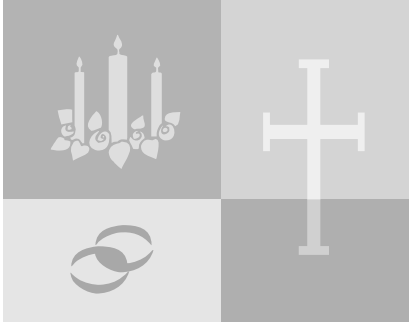
The article said, "Jesus tells a story about a lost sheep and how the Shepard searched until the lost had been recovered." A nursery rhyme by Mother Goose tells another story about sheep; "Little Bo Peep has lost her sheep and can't tell where to find them."

Now, notice the advice she was given - "leave them alone and they'll come home wagging their tails behind them."

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news & announcements

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Pastor's Column ~ cont'd...

Perhaps some churches have adopted the "Little Bo Peep" theory of Evangelism. When young people stop attending church because they have never been given the opportunity to experience a Christ who can help them when the wheels of their life are falling off, just leave them alone and maybe they'll come home to the church.

Perhaps the same goes for inactive members - oh, just leave them alone and eventually they will come home to the church.

And what about those that are going through pain, grief, loneliness, and separation. Oh well, little Bo Peep says, "Leave them alone and they'll come home." Or will they?

Most of us are creatures of habit and sit in the same chair every Sunday. Therefore, it is possible that your neighbors are the same and also sit in the same chair Sunday after Sunday. So when they go missing, send them a card or give them a call telling them
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that they are loved and missed. It is my prayer that none of us ever adopt the "Little Bo Peep" theory of evangelism, leaving them alone and they'll come home.

So fellow "Chairesians", do we follow Christ's example by going after the lost sheep or the advice given by Little Bo Peep?

In Christ's name,

Bill

Second Tuesday of Each Month

Beginning September 12, 2006, the UMW and UMM, (Women's and Men's meetings) will meet the second Tuesday of each month through June of 2007. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., with the meetings held separately at 7:00 p.m. If you are not a member, please come and join us and learn about all the exciting opportunities to serve the Lord at Chaires United Methodist Church.

Please ~ do not leave leftover food or drinks in the refrigerator for more than one week. Take it home, give it away or throw it away. A big **THANK YOU** – from the "Clean-up Crew."

Wednesday Night Family Suppers

Be sure to mark the first Wednesday of each month on your calendar! Mike Linzy (and/or other volunteers) will prepare dinner, including dessert, for a donation of \$4.00 per adult, \$1.50 for children 4-9 yrs., free for children 3 and under with a maximum charge of \$15.00 per family. This event is enjoyed by all and a wonderful opportunity to meet new church people or get better acquainted with those you already know. It's a great deal, don't miss it. Choir practice afterwards and we need you too!

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Volume 1, Issue 1

Editor: Evelyn Brown
Layout: Mulder Brown

We would like to thank the many contributors to this newsletter and to welcome feedback regarding this, our first issue. It is our intent to publish and distribute this newsletter monthly. We look forward to receiving articles from our readers for inclusion in future issues. If you wish to contribute, please notify Evelyn Brown in person, by phone at 877-1975 (H) or at 487-3579 (W). Or, you may contact me by email at evelynbrown@comcast.net.

news around the church

from United Methodist News Service – <http://umns.umc.org>

Bracelets support Gulf Coast

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — “Rebuilding church and communities” reads the inscription on bracelets being offered by the United Methodist Council of Bishops to encourage support for hurricane survivors along the Gulf Coast. Money from sales of the maroon wristbands will be used for the bishops’ Katrina Church Recovery Appeal. Wristbands are \$2 each, with free shipping for orders of 50 or more. Order by calling toll free (888) 346-3862 or online at www.umc.org/churchrecovery. Churches are encouraged to sell the bracelets as a local fundraiser.

Youth will gather for major event in '07

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — More than 10,000 United Methodist youth from across the world are expected to “splat” at Youth2007, the largest quadrennial youth event of the United Methodist Church, July 11-15, 2007, in Greensboro, N.C. While speakers have been confirmed, workshop leaders are needed to reinforce the theme “Seek, Pray, Learn, Act, Teach.” Registration is open at www.Youth2007.org, and more information, including workshop leadership applications is available from Dayna Schoonmaker, Youth2007 office coordinator, at (877) 899-2780, Ext. 7190, or Youth07@gbod.org.

Beware bogus e-mail seeking donations

NEW YORK — Several incidents of bogus e-mails asking for direct donations for United Methodist missionaries or mission programs were reported in early July. Some originated in Nigeria. “The General Board of Global Ministries does not solicit gifts via e-mail,” said Deborah Bass, a staff executive. Designated support for missionaries and mission projects is channeled through the Advance for Christ and

His Church, and each has a distinct number. Some of the messages have contained typical United Methodist terms, such as “covenant relationships” in reference to missionaries, and “UMCOR,” the relief unit of the mission board. If you receive an e-mail claiming to raise funds for the Board of Global Ministries, please write to info@gbgm-umc.org.

Willie Nelson buys church home

ABBOTT, Texas — Abbott United Methodist Church, closed by the 2006 session of the Central Texas Annual Conference, received new life as a community church when it was purchased by country music star Willie Nelson this summer. Nelson grew up in the church, which dates from 1899, and said he couldn’t stand the thought of it being silent, according to the [Houston Chronicle](#).

Youth assist residents through Florida program

GRETNA, Fla. — On the rooftop of a small frame house, the sounds of hammering nails and ripping tar paper pierce the morning air. The youth are part of “Love At Work,” a summer mission program sponsored by Killearn United Methodist Church in Tallahassee, Fla. The goal is to encourage spiritual growth in youth through service to others. Founded in 1993, Love At Work is designed to help residents in Gadsden County, Fla., who live in substandard housing.

Editors note: Six of our young people from Chaires UMC have participated in this ministry this summer.



Working to keep you connected

<http://umns.umc.org>



A Brief History of Chaires UMC

The Chaires United Methodist Church was first organized in 1863 as Mount Zion Church. It was located near the St. Marks River (then known as Gum Creek) near where the Old St. Augustine Road crossed U.S. 27 south, about 2 miles southeast of the Chaires Community. In 1887, Mount Zion Church divided, with part of the members leaving to form New Hope Church. The new church was located in the Rose Community, about five miles south of the Chaires Community near present-day W. W. Kelly Road. H. R. Thompson was appointed as Pastor and “given the instruction to organize the New Hope Church into working order” by the Presiding Elder. In 1904, the name “New Hope” was discontinued in favor of “Chaires”.

In October 1891, the land on which the current “old church” sits was purchased from Ormond Chaires and Rosa B. Chaires for the sum of \$20.00. By January 1, 1892, the present-day “old church” building was complete with steeple and bell and ready for use. Sunday school rooms and restrooms were added in 1957-58.

The original church parsonage was bought from Florence W. Cox for the sum of \$400 in 1904. It was located on Hancock Street at the corner of Hancock and Bloxham Street. In 1925, the Pastor moved into the parsonage in Miccosukee (which he also served) when his wife was given a teaching position in that community. The Chaires parsonage was rented until 1934, until the Pastor at that time decided he wanted to live in the parsonage in

Chaires. In 1965 the land on which the current parsonage sits was bought from the Andy Folsom estate for the sum of \$2,000. In April, 1973, a new parsonage was completed and the old parsonage was sold for \$12,500.

During the 1960-61 church year, a Seaboard “Section house” was bought for the sum of \$75 and moved to property which had been donated by Paul and Ethel Ruff in 1957. This house was completely renovated in 1979 and named the “Maggie Patterson Building” in honor of Mrs. Maggie Patterson (Mrs. Gwen Patterson Thompson’s mother) who had rooted and sold flowers and used much of the “flower money” to renovate the building.

This information is excerpted from a booklet, *OUR RICH HERITAGE, A HISTORY OF CHAIRES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, ONE HUNDRED YEARS* researched and compiled by Gwendolyn Patterson Thompson in 1992, our “Mrs. Gwen” who is featured elsewhere in this newsletter.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2006

Hola Amigos. VBS this year was wonderful!! The theme was “Fiesta, Where Kids are Fired Up About Jesus.” Approximately 40 kids had a week of exciting celebration of Jesus’ love filled with lively mariachi bands, colorful folklorico costumes, and spicy maraca munchies. The kids made crafts each night and visited Chadder’s Dessert Drive-In to find out if Chadder would ever make it to the fiesta? Bible lessons presented included: men bringing their friend to Jesus for healing, Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus calling the disciples, Jesus dying and rising again, and Ananias helping Saul. The adults also had a large class and discussed the “DaVinci Code.” We enjoyed visits from Pedro as he led the program each night and were excited to present a closing program for the parents, but also sad that the week was ending. We look forward to VBS 2007.

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS ON SALE NOW!!! 200 LEFT TO BE SOLD @ \$7.00 EACH

Great gift for family, friends and those from the Old Time Church

ON DISPLAY AT THE BACK WINDOW ~ PLEASE STOP BY AFTER CHURCH

Church Expansion Update

As we continue along the evaluation process to expand the seating capacity of our Sanctuary and use capacity of other spaces within our Church, we have promised to keep the congregation informed of the progress. As those present will recall, we had a presentation and discussion of the reasons and remedies for having run out of space at our Sunday services during the Family Dinner, Wednesday, July 5, 2006, then briefly presented at the Sunday service, July 9, 2006.

A brief recap of the presentation is:

- Attendance growth has often resulted in over capacity seating
- Inadequate space for youth and young adult programs
- Community development continues unabated
- Must expand to meet growth needs, or growth will stagnate
- Inability to meet youth or young adult needs may result in those families affected moving to another church that can meet the needs
- Additional space and equipment needed for choir activities
- Additional space needed for administrative/storage space
- Additional space needed for weather protected entry (Narthex)

One possible expansion was presented, as shown below:



Discussion at each presentation resulted in the congregation's desire to:

- Continue the expansion evaluation.
- Do not "Do Nothing".
- Do not consider multiple Sunday services at this time.

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Church Expansion Update ~ cont'd from previous page...

The path ahead is not only clear, but is strongly guided by The Florida United Methodist Foundation (FUMF) requirements. At the Chaires UMC Trustee's meeting on Thursday, July 20, 2006, the Trustee's agreed to proceed with the next step in the project evaluation, preparations of the Project Worksheet (as provided in the FUMF), with the hopes of this step being complete in August. The Worksheet will then be submitted to the Pastor and District Superintendent for Approval. (The Site Approval step normally occurs at this point; however, since this is an existing site, this step is not needed.) When these two approvals have been given, we will be prepared to present the Project to a Charge Conference of the congregation. We hope to schedule the Charge Conference in October 2006.

There is still plenty of time for each of us to have our say in this process. Please provide your comments (desires and concerns) as soon as possible. Please contact one of the Trustees or the Pastor.

Trustees:

Bob Glover, Chair	Don Dampier
Bob Stephenson, Vice Chair	Lance Harrison
Lynne Fannin, Recording Secretary	Everett Matthews
Bill Ingram, Pastor	Pat Alley
Pam Thompson	Jon Berry

-OR-

Pick up one of the comment sheets located on the table in the back of the church, fill it out and mail it, e-mail it, or put it in the prayer request basket.

We will provide an update in each future newsletter.

Ms. Gwen ~ cont'd from pg. 1...

dormitory and had a "Dining Room Scholarship", which meant she worked in the dining room. She was always assigned to the teacher's tables because they wanted the best person assigned to them. What an honor!

Ms. Gwen met her husband, Murray Thompson, in the twelfth grade in high school. They married later and had a son, Ray, and a daughter, Shirley, who has passed on.

She eventually took a teaching position at Miccosukee School. They moved to Tallahassee and lived in town and she took a teaching position at Caroline Brevard Elementary School. After about three years, she taught at Kate Sullivan Elementary School and then at Chaires School for about fifteen years. With more than enough time to retire, she decided it was time to stay at home and enjoy life.

Ms. Gwen loves to have her hair done and going out to eat at the Seinyard in Woodville. On most Saturdays, it's quite common to see Ray or Pam "driving Ms. Daisy" (as Ray lovingly refers to it) so she can enjoy her favorite pastimes. She also loves raising tropical fish, and has the biggest "fish bowl" around! You'll just have to go and visit her to see it for yourself.

In fact, she would be more than happy to see someone slow down as they come around the curve in Chaires and stop and visit with her. What a joy it was for me!

Word Scramble

eahv tno I enmdodcma ehte? eb ngtors dan fo a dogo rgoceau; eb tno dfiaar rhetein eb uhto yeadmisd: rfo hte ODRL hyt oGd si hwit ehte hheetrwisov ohut setog.

Joshua 1:9(KJV)

The News Without A Name ~ Yet!

A Ministry of Chaires United Methodist Church

August 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Family Night 6:00pm Choir 7:00 pm	3	4	5
6 <u>Kyle Peddie and Family</u> ECHO	7	8	9 Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Choir 7:00pm	10 Church Council Meeting 7:00pm	11	12
13 Communion Sunday	14	15	16 Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Choir 7:00pm	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Choir 7:00pm	24 Trustee's Meeting 6:30pm	25	26
27	28	29	30 Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Choir 7:00pm	31		

Birthdays				Anniversaries	
Kim Wilson	2	Lynne Fannin	13	Bill & Sandra Tuten	3
Will Ingram	3	Pat Alley	15	Jack & Willette Dull	9
Bobby Matthews	4	Virgil Hall	16	Mike & Carol Stallard	18
Dianna Pollock	4	Lynn Glover	18	W.T. & Dot Spence	28
Fernando Garcia	6	Jean Ingram	21		
Chuck Pollock	9	Liz Thompson	30		
Jeanne Robbins	11	Pete Peters	31		

Youth Minister ~ cont'd from pg. 1

and in private lessons. All of this to raise my financial support as a youth minister and as another opportunity to reach youth with the Gospel. I look forward to a strong relationship with the youth and adults at Chaires. I am hopeful that God will bless the youth and body of Chaires UMC.

Youth Group is meeting on Saturday evenings at 5:30 until 8pm. This is a time for fellowship, giving God praise and worship with music and voice, prayer, breaking bread together, devotional study and the practice of His Word. We are having our Sunday school bible study at 9 am before church. This is still a chance to worship God with singing and prayer, but this is when we hope to dive deeper into the Bible and study His Word in greater detail. When school starts, we are hoping to start a monthly outing to movies, bowling, Fun Station, etc... We are also hoping that we will be able to hang out with other youth from all over the county and other churches and youth groups too. We are currently looking into attending "Rock the Universe" in early September. We will hopefully join with several other church youth groups to have a great time worshipping God and having some fun at Universal Studios. Joining Chaires Youth Group is fun and easy; all you have to do is come and have a great time in fellowship and worshipping our Lord. As the youth group increases, as well as its needs, any volunteer help, support, and teachers will be welcomed with open arms.

In Christ,
Peter J. Marvin

**The News Without A Name~Yet!
Chaires United Methodist Church**

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Address Service Requested