



SHARING MORE GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR LA VERNIA UMC IN 2008

As a result of the ReVision Process last Spring and Summer, we developed the priorities for 2008 which is the basis for our Vision & Mission Statement, the logo and Goal,s # 8 below. These will serve like a compass to guide us in our mission and ministry at La Vernia UMC. We will provide an evaluation of these as part of the Church conference in October and the end of the year report at the Administrative Board meeting scheduled for 12-18-08.

VISION: The vision of La Vernia UMC is to love God, self and you.

MISSION: The mission of La Vernia UMC is to serve, share and offer Christ.

LOGO: The Logo of La Vernia UMC is the cross & flame inside a heart.

The following is a list of goals for La Vernia UMC for 2008. Under each goal is listed a number of objectives and actions to be done to fulfill each goal. At the Administrative Board meeting on 4-17-08 we considered what we have done so far. We will re-evaluate at the Administrative Board scheduled for July 24. Below is a report of where we are:

Goal # 8: Be open to God's Kairos opportunities for ministry and service.

Some Examples:

Reopening of Twice Blessed Thrift Ministry

I pray the following statement was true of all Americans - The month of July reminds us to give thanks to God for the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America.

- The month of July begins with tremendous parades, countless flags flying high and spectacular fireworks displays, lighting up the sky. These impressive events, rehearsed yearly, all stand to remind us that our privileges came through people who were dedicated to a cause and a quest of Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. Those laying our nations foundation were willing to give their lives for what they believed.

- The month of July find our beaches, lakes, amusement parks, city parks, state parks and all places of amusement and fun filled to capacity - people enjoying what they can of life in spite of ambient temperatures, which on some occasions, exceed 100 degrees.

- The month of July comes to us as summer vacations are entering full stride. (For Vickey and I we missed the July target. This year we took our vacation early, going on a cruise to the Western Caribbean with dear friends in late June. We hope that all will have the opportunity and take that

Marriage Course

Clowns as part of Children's Sermons

Medical Mission to Chiapas

Scholarship for Lydia Patterson Institute

Lenten Bible Study

Joyful Noise Praise Band to Wales

Compassion International

Over Eaters Anonymous

Parents' Night Out

Men's Fishing Trip

Mentoring Program for CCM

One of the ways we do ministry here at LVUMC is through the advocacy of the Council of Ministries, under the leadership of Don Miller. Any person or group who has a ministry idea or inspiration are encouraged to meet with the Council of Ministries to share that idea or inspiration. We do all we can to help launch the program, but each ministry is expected to provide its own leadership and funding. The COM helps to coordinate scheduling and meeting space as well as publicity. If and when the leadership, funding and participation dwindles, then the COM helps to discontinue the ministry with a blessing and appreciation for all the good done while the ministry served the people of God. Thank you for your faithfulness.

SHALOM! Pastor Harry.



opportunity to recreate or re-create)

I'm sure there is lots more that July offers in the way of Life and Liberty as baseball, the traditional American sport, takes center stage among the sports we enjoy as a nation.

On the down side - I recently read an article which declared that as many as half of all Americans are confused about what we commemorate on July 4th, what country we fought against in the Revolutionary War, or what ideals America's Founding Fathers fought for and against. The article also stated that 30% of people interviewed thought "Independence Day" had something to do with the freeing of the slaves.

As I considered the impact of America forgetting the why, how and who of our Independence, I could not help but consider Christians forgetting the same of a Christian's new Life and Liberty found in Jesus Christ our Lord. This summer I pray we will remember the why, how and who of our nations liberties but even more important remember the why, how and who of our Christian liberty. Remember to worship religiously this summer, it will bring you Life and Liberty.

Pastor Jerry

Ministries of our Church

SCHOLARSHIP FOR

LYDIA PATTERSON INSTITUTE

Lydia Patterson Institute is a United Methodist secondary and preparatory school in El Paso, Texas, where students from Mexico come to learn English-as-a Second Language and a high school education. Ninety-five percent gone on to college and university. Pastor Harry and Belia served there for 14 years and Pastor Harry has been on the Board of Trustees there since 2000.

It would be a wonderful witness from our church if we could sponsor at least a half-tuition scholarship of approximately \$1,300. for the year. Presently we have \$400 in an account. Sunday School classes, small groups and individuals are welcome to participate. Please make a check out to La Vernia UMC and indicate it is for LPI Scholarship. Pastor Harry is willing to share info and/or a presentation about LPI. We hope to be able to send \$1,300 in August to cover that academic year 2008-2009.



Come and Go Kitchen & Bath Shower

The Childcare Ministry will be hosting a Come and Go kitchen and bath shower for April Bass, to help replace the items that were lost in a recent house fire, on Tuesday, July 1st between 12:15 pm and 2 pm in the Sanctuary Building kitchen. Desserts will be served. Gift cards to HEB, Walmart, and local restaurants are very welcome. If you wish to make a monetary contribution make the check out to LVUMC and note "to the April Bass Family".

April and Darryl Bass, along with their children, have been members of LVUMC for many years. April has taught preschool in our Childcare Ministry for many years and also drives a school bus for LVISD. Darryl is a coach for the Judson ISD. The boys have graduated from La Vernia ISD and Cami will be a sophomore this year.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

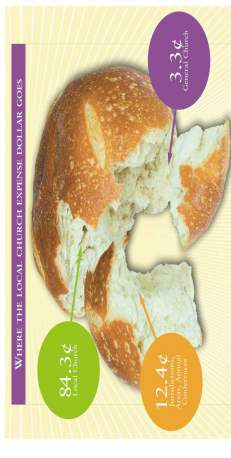


Mission Trip to Chiapas Mexico

There will be a mission trip to Chiapas Mexico in the Fall. If you would like to go you will need a passport. It will take about two months to get a passport so you need to start the process now. You can obtain a passport at your local post office. If you have any questions call Richard Good at 210-647-2675 or the church office.

A PORTION MEANT FOR OTHERS

Each month we will feature information about where the apportionments from La Vernia UMC goes to support ministry regionally and around the world. Every four years General Conference, made up of 500 elected Lay Delegates and 500 elected Clergy Delegates vote on a budget for the entire United Methodist Church. The General Council on Finance and Administration uses a formula to distribute funding request to each of the 65 Annual Conferences in the UMC. In 2008 the request for the entire UMC is \$161,577,500. The Southwest Texas Conferences takes the amount requested of it adds what it needs to operate along with what each district needs to operate and divides it among the 348 local churches according to a formula based on how much each spends on itself, mainly salaries and programs, excluding capital expenditures and giving to mission causes. For 2008 the entire amount for the SWTC is \$9,419,477. In 2006 LVUMC's apportionment was \$39,298. In 2007 our apportionment was \$45,406. In 2008 it will be \$48,130. Below continues an explanation of a portion-meant for others:



PENSIONS AND HEALTH INSURANCE

This apportionment finances a portion of medical coverage and retirement benefits for clergy members and some lay church employees. The apportionment also provides funds for sabbatical and disability payments to clergy members.

The total apportioned to all churches in the Southwest Texas Conference for Pensions and Health Insurance in 2008 is \$2,151,000 of which La Vernia UMC's share is \$10,124.

Missions Children's Home

Methodist Children's Home will be presenting an informational meeting on foster care July 24th, 2008 from 6 pm to 8 pm at University United Methodist Church, which is located at 5084 De Zavala Rd, San Antonio, TX 78249 in from S212-213. Methodist Children's Home is looking for heroic families to provide temporary foster care for children in need. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Joshua Duran at 210 773-3904 or email him at mch_jduran@yahoo.com