



## 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 # 2 & # 3 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. Below is a report of where we are:

**Goal # 4: Continue to Offer Christ to All through ministries of mission / evangelism / outreach & witness.**

**Objectives:**a. Continue and improve the following:

Visitation – *Being Done*

Alpha – *Being Done*

Youth - *Being Done*

Summer Camp – *Being Done*

Emmaus – *Being Done*

Kairos – *Being Done*

Epiphany – *Being Done*

Chrysalis – *Not Yet*

Cross Walk at Easter – *Being Done*

## First Annual Laity Banquet

The expression "Laity Banquet" is a familiar term to United Methodists who are involved with and attend church functions above the local church level. Each district in our conference (The Southwest Texas Conference), celebrates it's laity achievements at it's Annual Laity Banquet. This year our district (the San Antonio District) banquet was held at Laurel Heights United Methodist Church on March 17th 2008. Our Church submitted three candidates to be recognized at this years banquet. Do you know who they were?

Last month I reported several initiatives from our Hospitality Training. Among these initiatives was a proposal for conducting a local laity banquet. The thought is that although Hospitality Training is geared primarily at welcoming new people, that hospitality is not simply about greeting new people. Hospitality must be extended to every person that walks through the doors of the church. Accordingly a Laity Banquet could be one way of showing hospitality to our members.

Beyond hospitality, a local Laity Banquet would serve other meaningful purposes to include but not limited to; showing appreciation to our members; providing a common

P.A.C.E. – *Being Done*

Cantata – *Not Yet*

Easter Play - *Not this year*

Support Food Pantry – *Being Done*

& Highway Clean-up - *Being Done*

As can be seen we are progressing well in most every area. Some items are seasonal and not done yet.

b. Implement or upgrade the following:

VIM *In Process*

Firestarters inside Loop 410 – *Not Yet*

Upgrade the church's webpage – *Being Done*

Mission Fair - *Done*

Order of St. Luke the Physician - *Not Yet*

Welcoming Congregation and Igniting Ministry – *Being Done*

Stephen's Ministry – *Not Yet*

Publicize & Promote LVUMC through advertising *Being Done*

As can be seen among these we have more work to be done in some of these areas. In most cases it is a matter of someone taking charge to make plans and follow through on them

**Goal # 5: Continue to Provide training for staff & members of the basic administrative committees.**

**Objectives:**a. Provide continuing education during Staff meetings. *Being Done*

b. Provide a Power Point Presentation from UM Guidelines for each of the Administrative Committees. *Being Done*

c. Provide study groups on the UM Book of Discipline. *Not Yet*

I am surprised and concerned that not many are interested in studying more about our identity and strength as United Methodists. I will keep offering opportunities.

**SHALOM! Pastor Harry.**

platform for gathering our diverse membership; and providing a pool of church wide recognized candidates for submission to the District Laity Banquet.

Jimmy McFadin has agreed to work with our Lay Leader, Jack Pool, in making our First Annual Laity Banquet a reality. To make their planning a success they will need the corporation of every small group in the church; from the tiniest small group of 2 or 3 people to our larger groups of over 40 people. They will be asking each group to recognize one person or group from their circle by submitting a write up on how/why that person or group has supported their group, other groups, the church, community or other entity. Every person or group submitted will be recognized before the church. In addition, from the write ups received, four people or groups will be chosen for special awards and again from all submissions, four will be chosen for submission for district recognition. So begin thinking about who from your group(s) to recognize and help make our First Annual Laity Banquet a success.

How/why that person or group has supported their group, other groups, the church, community or other entity. Every person or group submitted will be recognized before the church. In addition, from the write ups received, four people or groups will be chosen for special awards and again from all submissions, four will be chosen for submission for district recognition. So begin thinking about who from your group(s) to recognize and help make our First Annual Laity Banquet a success.

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## HERE WE GROW AGAIN!

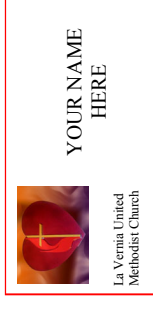
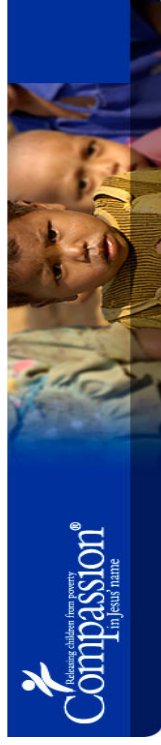


Our 2008 Confirmation Class consisted of Alexander Craft, Travis Good, Braden Mangum, Mariel McFadin, Hallie Pace & Shelby Rumsey. Alexander Craft, Braden Mangum and Shelby Rumsey were also baptized. Travis Good joined the church in January. The rest of the class joined us by profession of faith on Easter Sunday.

## COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL

If you took the time to visit the Compassion International (CI) table during our Mission Fair on March 30<sup>th</sup>, I pray that you were moved by the Holy Spirit to pray and make a commitment to become a sponsor to a child in one of the 24 countries where CI has a full service ministry. If you need more information, you can go to their web site at [www.compassion.com](http://www.compassion.com) or [www.ci.org](http://www.ci.org) or call (800) 336-7676. Soon there will be a CI bulletin board that will be hanging in our main building that will post CI informative materials and LVUMC's involvement in this very dynamic missionary organization.

If you are already a sponsor, please let the Church Office know so we can post your names on the bulletin board when it goes up. Our thanks and blessings go to the following sponsors: Cross Fire Youth Group; Bruce and Charlotte Finley; and Cal and Rosalie Cochran. If you are interested in helping to work in this ministry at our church, please call the church office at 830-779-2621.



YOUR NAME  
HERE

La Vernia United  
Methodist Church

church continues to grow.

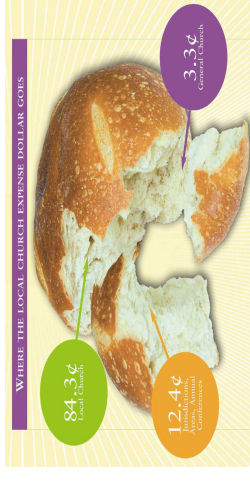
These new name tags are durable and are designed to take with you. They include the church name and our unique LVUMC logo, making them ideal for wear in church as well as various settings throughout our community. We have a great church and you can help us build an even stronger congregation by putting a name with that smiling face!

If you don't see your name tag there, just sign up on the sheet and your new name tag should be available for pick up the following week. If your name is misspelled or you prefer a nickname, please add it to the list.

# Ministries of our Church

## 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:



## ECUMENICAL CAUSES

This apportionment supports the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund and Southwest Texas Conference involvement in the Texas Conference of Churches. The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund provides the United Methodist share of the basic budgets of the Consultation on Church Union, the National Council of Churches in the U.S.A. and the World Council of Churches. **The total apportioned to all churches in the Southwest Texas Conference for ECUMENICAL CAUSES in 2008 is \$54,117 of which La Vernia UMC's share is \$255.**

## Name Tag Ministry

A significant way that we share the love of God in Christ is by welcoming newcomers. As part of our welcoming congregation, we encourage you to wear a name tag to help us welcome others and get to know you better! This will become even more important as our community and church continues to grow. These new name tags are durable and are designed to take with you. They include the church name and our unique LVUMC logo, making them ideal for wear in church as well as various settings throughout our community. We have a great church and you can help us build an even stronger congregation by putting a name with that smiling face! If you don't see your name tag there, just sign up on the sheet and your new name tag should be available for pick up the following week. If your name is misspelled or you prefer a nickname, please add it to the list.

Pastor Jerry