

ALVIN FIRST UMC NEWS

First United Methodist Church
of Alvin, Texas
611 W. South St. (281)331-3482

June 2010



As I sit to write this to you, I do so with a heavy heart. Dr. Andrew Lester, Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at Brite Divinity School in Ft. Worth, passed away from a lengthy illness. Dr. Lester was my pastoral care teacher. Dr. Lester was not only an exceptional teacher, but one who brought caring and compassion to the teaching profession. He will be missed.

Dr. Lester believed that we do not act or behave so much because of our past but in how we view ourselves in the future. "Never forget," said Dr. Lester, "that all human beings have a future tense, stories that can be shaped for our despair, or for our hope." We act today because of how we see ourselves in the future rather than where we have been. Whether we hope or whether we despair depends on the portrait we have of ourselves one year, two years, five years, or ten years from now. If we wish to change our present, we must first change the future story we tell ourselves each day.

"Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure." (1 John 3:2-3, NIV) For those who believe in the Resurrected Christ, our future is shaped not by our wants, desires, or any outside circumstance. Our future lies in the loving grace of God who calls us each "son" or "daughter." If our future is secured by the One who loves us, we live in the present not with despair but with hope.

How do you see yourself one year from now? Two years? Five years? Ten years? Before you begin to write your future story, let God write it for you.

God's peace,

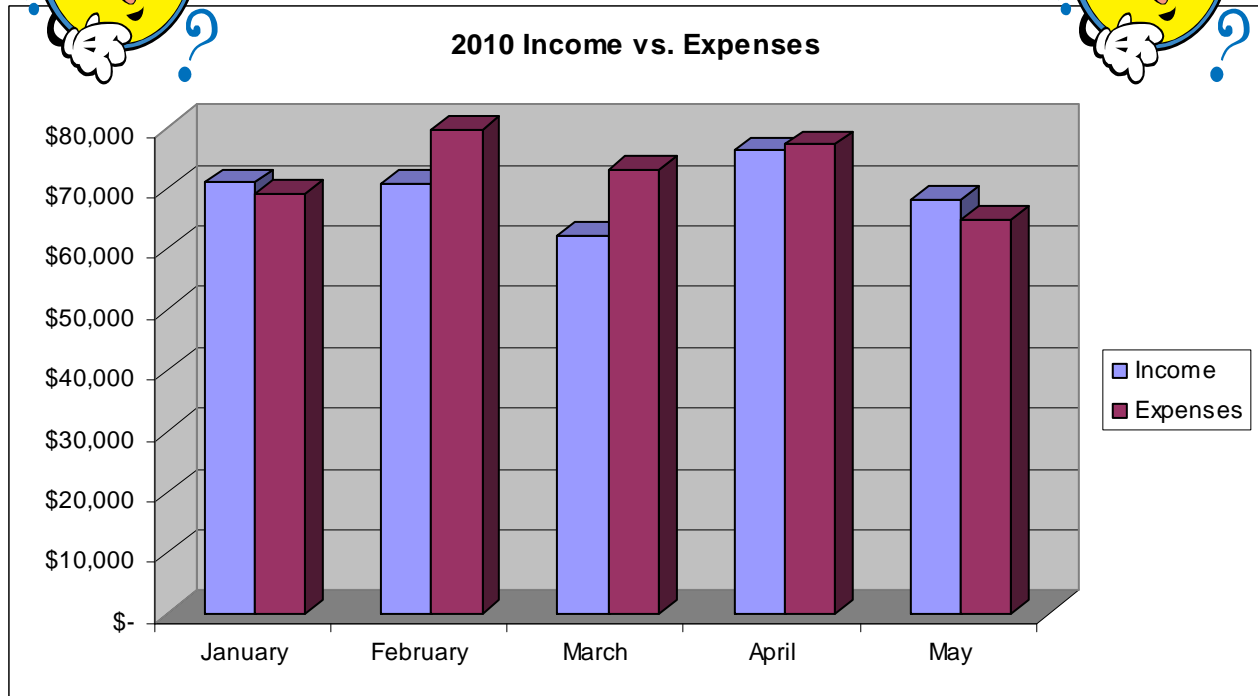
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Eric".

Rev. Eric

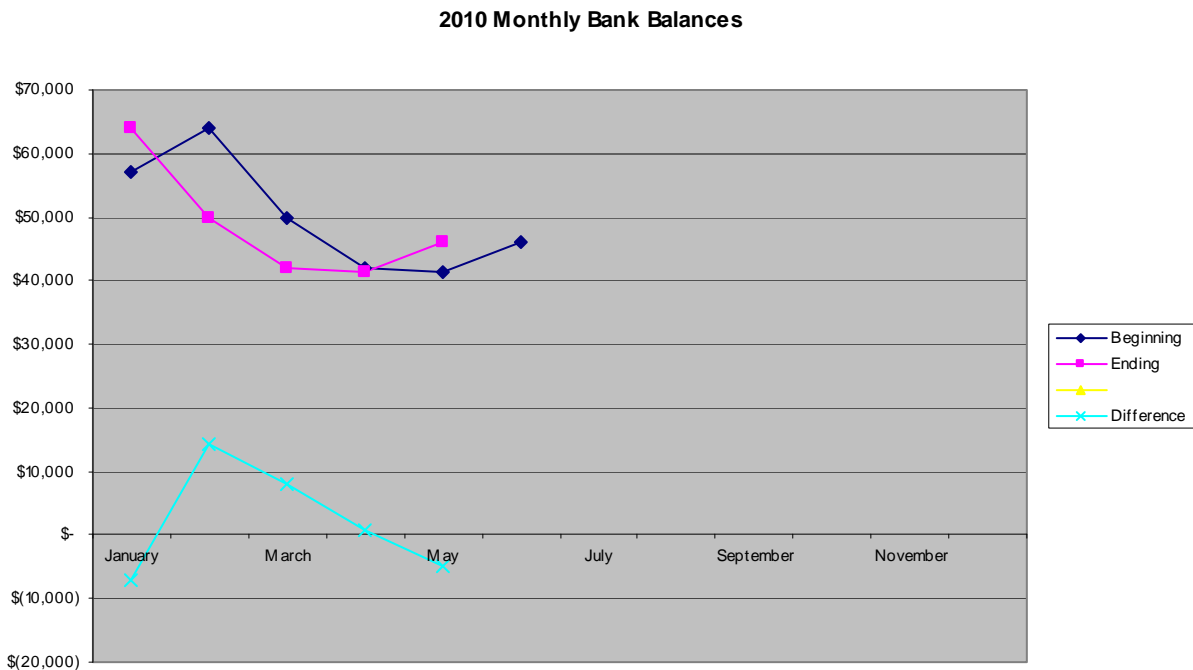
Rev. Eric will be taking a spiritual formation sabbatical and will be out of the office from June 21st to July 17th.



Did You Know?



2010 Income vs. Expenses						
Description	January	February	March	April	May	
Income	\$ 70,944	\$ 70,799	\$ 62,271	\$ 76,255	\$ 68,247	
Expenses	\$ 69,139	\$ 79,696	\$ 73,162	\$ 77,169	\$ 64,898	
Difference	\$ 1,805	\$ (8,897)	\$ (10,891)	\$ (914)	\$ 3,349	





E-Giving Reminder

Summer is just around the corner and with summer comes vacation and you being out-of-town or away from church on Sunday. Please consider signing up for electronic giving now, so your support of First UMC Alvin will continue in its regularity throughout the summer, no matter which beach you're lying on, which mountain you are hiking up or which historical site you are visiting. You can obtain an enrollment form from Wanda Johnson in the church office. *Thank you!*

Volunteer Opportunity

Compassionate Chorale is a Sin-Along Nursing Home, Music Ministry sponsored by Alvin First Methodist Church. We need 1 or 2 volunteers who can help us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month from 2:45 to 3:45pm at Evening Star Assisted Living. Must be able to hand out and take up songbooks, turn pages for residents needing help, and visit a short while after each program (12-14 hymns, a Scripture and Lords Prayer.) If interested, call Marlena Nelson at 832-385-1770 and leave name and number.



Members enjoyed Spring Luncheon at home of Betty Speed on March 18th.

Dear Church Family,

The family of Pat Finger would like to express their appreciation to the church family for their concerns, prayers visits and calls. Thanks to the bereavement committee for the after service reception.

Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for the Bickley Education Fund Scholarship. I will use this towards books while attending Western Texas college. I appreciate the scholarship. *Tori Moore*

First United Methodist Church Prayer Group,

Let me thank you so very much for all your prayers to help me through my medical ordeal. It turned out to be more than I had planned on but God held my hand and helped me through it. I'm feeling much better -- your prayers helped me -- God bless all of you, *Sue Baker*

Dear Covenant Prayer Group,

Your prayers and thoughtfulness truly blessed me. Thanks so much. *Joan Pagan*

The family of David James would like to thank you for the visits, cards, calls and food. Your expression of sympathy was deeply appreciated.

Dear Covenant Prayer Group,

Just a note to let the prayer group know how much I really appreciate your prayers. I just thank God each morning for another wonderful day. Without the prayers of wonderful friends like you and the miracle healing of God's hand, I wouldn't be here. Thanks again, *Lloyd Nunnery*

Thank you for all your wonderful prayers and cards. *Louise Haugen and girls*

Dear Church Family,

How do you say thank you to such a wonderful church family? Since my accident you have been so wonderful to me. I am healing good. Again thank you for all of your prayers and support. In Christian Love, *Susan Selzer*

Dear Covenant Prayer Group,

Thank you so much for thinking of me and my family. May God bless you and guide you. Love, *Florence Bird*

Live a God-Pleasing Life!



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Web site: www.alvinmethodist.org

You are welcome at the Alvin First United Methodist Church.
Our staff is here to help you!

Alvin First UMC Ministers:

The Congregation

Alvin First UMC Staff:

Pastor: Eric E. Ryburn

Associate Pastor: Linda Snow

Lay Leader: Kenny Carter

Parish Council Chairman: Bill Wharton

Director of Church Operations: Roxann Corona

Director of Music Ministries: Matt Hogan

Director of Youth Ministries:

Director of Children's Ministry: Sandy Wendel

Director of Finance: Wanda Johnson

Pianist: Sheila Hernandez

Organist: Rachel Hunter

Pre-School/Mother's Day Out: Lorraine Holston

Parish Visitor: Suzanne Palmer

Audio-Visual Coordinator: Pat Singletary

Audio-Visual Technicians: Julie Matteson, Andrew McCravy,

Amy Metzger, Sarah Wade, Matt Singletary

Director of Nursery: Linda Carter

The Next Newsletter Deadline will be by June 27th.

Ice Cream Social

Do you know how to make homemade ice cream?
Do you like to eat ice cream? Well, then this is for
you! We are planning an ice cream social on July
4th. This is in the planning stages. We will keep
you posted on details!

