



News From Holland

Holland First United Methodist Church
February 2008 **Rev. Victor Pena, Pastor**
Web Site: www.hollandum.org

FROM THE PASTOR

How to interpret the Scripture

We are currently studying the Book of Romans in our Bible Study. As might be expected there are many different translations of the bible present and as many different interpretations of what we read.

I am often asked the question, Well, Pastor how did you get that interpretation out of that Scripture. I just don't see it! Or, I don't know how to interpret the scriptures can you tell me how. And they are often surprised when I say – No! I cannot interpret the scripture for you. You must do that. I can only help you see what God has helped me to see.

My wife and I were talking about this very thing on the way home from Bible Study one night and she put it in girly terms – which surprised me a little because it still made good sense to me!

Karen compared the Scripture to a bouquet of Roses. If you stood in the entrance of the church and handed everyone a Rose when they entered, you would have many different reactions. Some would be delighted to receive the Rose while others might even wish to decline and give the rose to some one else. Some would admire its beautiful color and fragrance while someone else might remark they could not smell it at all. See where this is going?

We both continued to add to the possibilities. Some would remark and ask the giver 'How on earth did you get your roses to grow so pretty?' But others might remark, "I would like it better without any thorns!"

The reactions are limitless as are the ways we interpret the scripture in the bible.

The only way to understand the bible is to study the bible. You cannot go to church for one hour on Sunday Morning and come away with total understanding of the Bible. And you can't read it just one time and say – that's it. Done that already! You have to keep studying.

So you want to study the bible do you? Here's how to start ...

I suggest a good study bible – the kind with the notes at the bottom of the page that adds information to help understand the scripture above.
And a highlighter pen to mark scriptures that stand out. I even write in the margins of my bible. Names, dates, and specifics about what the scripture means.

And start where you start most books – at the beginning.

Before you begin to read, take a moment to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to come and help you understand what you are reading! Then enter into the adventure of the scripture.

Romans 8:26 says “Likewise, the spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for word

Cowboy Church

Our January Cowboy Church was cancelled due to cold and rainy weather. The committee will be meeting in the near future to plan future dates.

U M W News

The Holland UMW met at the Fellowship Hall in January to plan our meetings for the coming year. Cynthia Norville assisted by Kathy Hegar will once again present our study. We meet on Feb 20th at 1:00 pm at the Fellowship Hall and Judy Gotcher will be presenting the program. Please join us!

Judy's News

New Calling – New Church

You all have been so great in supporting me in this new venture at Granger. I am learning so much and feel your love along with theirs. They wanted me to convey their appreciation for all your support as well. It is going well. I just know God has a plan and I am willing to be patient and obedient to see where He is going to lead us. I appreciate all your prayers and support. Please keep them coming!

Adult Bible Study

Larry and Cynthia purchased the book, **The Purpose Driven Life**, one for each of us. The Class is reading it as a study. Please pick one up if you haven't already. It is so worth reading. A BIG THANKS to the Norvilles for this wonderful gift! Of course they would welcome you to their class as well! Still have room for more!

Monthly Luncheons

The lunch for January was cancelled because of the cold weather. We will try for Thursday, February 28th (Gertrude Weiss' birthday) at the Golden Dragon at 11:30 A.M. Let me know the Monday before if you can attend so I can reserve a place.

Bowling

As you know Action World Bowl burnt so we have been without a place to bowl. By the Grace of God and Hallmark's welcome, we started bowling in Killeen at their lanes, but still as Temple Association. We have three leagues there now – a total of 176 bowlers. Praise God all this has come about. A lot of Senior bowlers depend on bowling for their exercise as well as fellowship. To some, we are the only family they have. God is good! Doris Severson, Mary Cude, Lory Haley, Charley Mack and I are members of these leagues.

Laity Banquet

The Laity Banquet will be Monday, March 3rd at 6:00 P.M. at the Mayborn Center. I will be picking up tickets this Thursday for both churches. Mark that date. It is a wonderful event.

**Holland First United Methodist Church
204 N. Hogan Street
Holland, Texas 76534**

First Class Mail

**This newsletter is published monthly
By Holland First United Methodist Church
Worship Service – 9:00 AM
Sunday School – 10:00 AM**