



March 4, 2023

THE ACORN

Newsletter for

First United Methodist Church
Red Oak, Texas

"I will send down the showers in their season; they will be showers of blessing." Ezekiel 34:26



REMEMBER: Daylight Savings Time begins
Sunday, March 12th...**SPRING forward!**



Dear Church Family,

Cheryl and I speak often about how blessed we are to be with you. I have transitioned to a new office and welcome the chaos of running to lead worship at three different churches on Sunday morning. We have moved into our new home and are in the midst of unpacking. You have been so welcoming with your words of encouragement, handshakes, and gift cards. Thank you. Thank you.

As we make our transition, we are experiencing a transition in the seasons from winter to spring; from cold to warmer weather. This change includes rain, thunderstorms, and severe weather. Some of it is welcome and some, not so much.

Lent is also a season of transition. Lent is indeed a hard time. It is a time to look in the mirror of truth and see our inner self. We were created as beautiful people in the very image of God. Yet, as a result of sin, evil can invade us and our world. Evil disfigures us individually and collectively.

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(From the Pastor, *continued*)

Lent (the period of 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter) is the time and the place to repent. We need to confess and bring to the Lord Jesus our sins, personally and corporately (selfishness, dishonesty, lust, anger, pride, racism, prejudice, addiction, greed, gluttony, sloth and the like).

Lent is a heart rending time. “Repent your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord your God” (Joel 2:13). It is a time of penitence and change. The focus of Lent is on self-denial, on “giving something up.”

Acts of self-denial and repentance are appropriate when the sacrifice connects with Christian commitment. But there is another view of Lent: a time to prepare to celebrate the Resurrection.

When we prepare to celebrate something, we often do housekeeping chores. If we are going to have a party at our house, we first spend some time cleaning the house. We lay in a supply of refreshments. We decorate. And when all is ready and the guests arrive, we celebrate. Preparing is never quite as much fun as celebrating, but it takes the preparation to make the celebration possible.

Lent is like that — a time for spiritual housecleaning, a time to dust off our sins, make our hearts “right” and “straight”, shine up our commitment, lay in a supply of thanks and decorate our lives with the joy of the Christian life. Then, when Easter comes, we know in our hearts what the celebrating is all about.

And that’s the way it is with Easter. It’s definitely a time for celebration. We celebrate the victory of life over death, of light over darkness, of delight over drabness. Jesus, the Son of God, our brother and Savior, died to sin and rose to glory. Dirt and death hold us no longer. In him, The Risen Savior, we too will rise above our limits, even that of the grave. We can come to a New Life, a New Spring. It’s time for celebration!

Please plan to worship with us during this holy season.

Maundy Thursday – Passover Seder, 6:00 PM on

Thursday, April 6th

Good Friday 7:00 PM on Friday, April 7th

In Christ,

Rev. Kevin Wilson



Simple depiction of the Seder meal—
Jesus’ Last Supper with the Disciples
Topic of Pastor Kevin’s sermon
on Sunday, February 26th.

Pastor Kevin's "The Last Day of Christ" Sermon Series

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| March 5 | 2 nd Sunday in Lent | "Garden of Gethsemane" |
| March 12 | 3 rd Sunday in Lent | "Condemned by the Righteous" |
| March 19 | 4 th Sunday in Lent | "Pilate" |
| March 26 | 5 th Sunday in Lent | "Torture and Humiliation of a King" |



Lenten and Holy Week Dates

Palm Sunday Worship Service & Easter Cantata – April 2nd, 11:00 AM

***Something New at FUMCRO!* Seder Meal, Worship & Communion** –
Thursday, April 6th, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Good Friday Service of Light and Darkness – April 7th, 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday Service – April 9th, 11:00 AM



Mark Your Calendar for These Upcoming Events!

- March 26th – Lord's Acre Chili & Dessert Cook-off, 12:15 PM
- April 1st – FUMCRO Easter Egg Hunt, 2:00 – 3:00 PM
- April 2nd – Palm Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 AM
- ***A NEW Event for FUMCRO!!*** April 6th – Seder Meal, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
- April 7th – Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Light and Darkness, 7:00 PM
- April 9th – Easter Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 AM

Wednesday Evening Activities



Everyone is invited to join our church family for our Wednesday evening activities. Bible study will be led by Pastor Kevin at 6:30 PM. There is a fellowship dinner each Wednesday with children's choirs and Bible Study following the dinner. Please join us for fellowship, prayer, study and singing! See the spring dates and schedule below:

Schedule:

5:30 PM – Fellowship Dinner (donations are welcome; proceeds go to the designated group for that evening)

6:15 PM – Children's Choirs (Angel Choir - ages 3 ½ - 1st grade
Methodist Music Makers – 2nd – 5th grades)

6:30 PM – Pastor's Bible Study

7:15 PM (new time) – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Spring Dates:

March 8, 22, 29 (There will be no Wednesday activities on March 15th because of Red Oak ISD's Spring Break.)

April 12, 19, 26 (There will be NO Wednesday activities on April 5th because of Holy Week services preparation.)

May 4, 10 (May 10th is the last date for Wednesday activities until fall.)

The **March 8th menu will include casseroles, salads, and desserts** and is sponsored by UWF; **proceeds will benefit a new church start.**

The **March 22nd menu will include pancakes with all the toppings and sausage**; proceeds will benefit the Outreach, Hospitality & Missions team.

The **March 29th menu will include salads**; proceeds will benefit the Lord's Acre.

The April 12th Wednesday night supper is OPEN! Will your ministry team step up? Just sign the list in the Fellowship Hall.



Glen Lake Summer Church Camps

Do you have a child or youth who would be interested in attending a Glen Lake Summer Church Camp? It's not too early to register for these summer camps:

Elementary Camp (Grades 3 – 6) – June 18-23, June 25-30, July 16-21 or July 23-28

Junior High Camp (Grades 6 – 8) – June 18-23, June 25-30, July 9-14, July 16-23

High School Camp (Grades 9-12) – July 9-14

Go to www.glenlake.org/summer for more information.



MARCH CALENDAR

| | |
|--|--|
| Monday, March 6 | - Yoga Class, 10:00 AM (p. 11) |
| Wednesday, March 8 | - Wednesday Night Activities (Dinner: casseroles & salad), p. 4 - Choir Rehearsal, 715 PM |
| Thursday, March 9 | - Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p.18 for Zoom invitation) |
| Saturday, March 11 | - United Methodist Men's Breakfast & Meeting, 8:00 AM - Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM, Fellowship Hall (p. 12) |
| Sunday, March 12 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS | - Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 12) - Children's Sunday School, 9:45 AM - Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM - Online Worship Service posted by 4:00 PM (www.fumcro.org) - NO Youth Fellowship |
| Monday, March 13 | - Yoga Class (p. 11) |
| Tuesday, March 14 | - OHM Meeting, 7:00 PM |
| Wednesday, March 15 (Red Oak ISD Spring Break) | - NO Wednesday Night Activities - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 PM |
| Thursday, March 16 | - Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p.18 for Zoom invitation) |
| Saturday, March 18 | - Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 12) |
| Sunday, March 19 UMCOR Offering | - Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 12) - Children's Sunday School, 9:45 AM - Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM - Online Worship Service posted by 4:00 PM (www.fumcro.org) - NO Youth Fellowship |
| Monday, March 20 | - Yoga Class, 10:00 AM (p. 11) |
| Wednesday, March 22 | - Wednesday Night Activities (p. 4; Dinner: pancakes/sausage) - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM |
| Thursday, March 23 | - Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 18 for Zoom invitation) - UWF Friendship Circle, 7:00 PM (p. 13) |
| Saturday, March 25 | - Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 12) |
| Sunday, March 26 | - Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 12) - Children's Sunday School, 9:45 AM - Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM - Lord's Acre Chili-Dessert Cook-off, 12:15 PM (p. 10) - Online Worship Service posted by 4:00 PM (www.fumcro.org) - Youth Workday, 12:30 PM |
| Monday, March 27 | - Yoga Class, 10:00 AM (p. 11) |
| Tuesday, March 28 | - UWF Circle of Love, 10:00 AM (p. 13) |
| Wednesday, March 29 | - Wednesday Night Activities (p. 4; Dinner: Salads) - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM |
| Thursday, March 30 | - Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 18 for Zoom invitation) |



BIRTHDAYS of FUMCRO MEMBERS!

If your birthday is not listed, please call (972-617-9100) or email (firstumcredoak@gmail.com) the church office so that we can update our list; we don't want to miss anyone!

To celebrate their SPECIAL day, make a phone call, or send a text or card!



March

- 1 Dale McKnight
- 2 Joe Cadenhead
- 4 Neva Ransom



March

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 7 Andrew McKnight | 22 Geneise Waltmon |
| 10 Mary Young | 26 Rodrigo Sanchez |
| 12 Mike Stricker | 27 Brenda Payne |
| 14 Rita Dugger | 30 Rachel Grandstaff |
| 18 Allyson Valerius | 31 Joanna Johnson |
| 21 Valerie Nobles | |

Looking Ahead...



April

- 1 Liz Sanden
- 3 Jonathan Sackett
- 4 Jay Kelso
- 6 Kay Bell
- 7 Nathan Wilson
- 8 Tammy Ashford
- 12 Braylon Voigtlander
- 13 Hayven Waltmon

April

- 16 Wynona Haney
- 18 Dana Ellard
- 20 Ethan Ellard
- 20 Larry McCord
- 23 Mary Munoz
- 25 Lila Sackett
- 26 Matthew Sackett



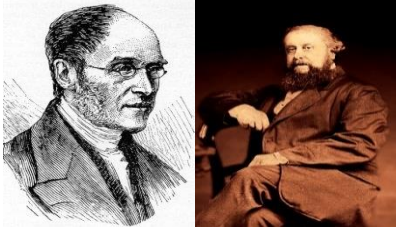


Notes from Larry McCord, Minister of Music

March 2023



“Abide with Me”



Henry F. Lyte William H. Monk

“But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.”

Luke 24:29

Sometimes, when I research the history of hymns, sources are in agreement and the background of the composition is fairly straightforward. Not so, unfortunately, with the text of “Abide with Me” (UMH # 700), our closing hymn on March 5. I found a few sources that appeared to me to have an agenda in their account of Henry F. Lyte’s composing of the text, the date of which is the year of his passing. One account had him sitting on a hillside on his property in England as the sun went down, then returning to his study where he composed the text shortly before his passing. Another indicates that he completed it while on his final convalescent trip to Nice, France (where he did indeed die), mailing a copy to his wife because he knew he was soon to pass. Both of these seem overly sentimental and meant to serve the purposes of the sites that posted them. Sources that acknowledge the uncertainties surrounding his writing of the text indicate that he most likely began his work on the text shortly after the passing of a fellow clergyman and friend. Lyte, who had taken holy orders after abandoning plans to be a physician, spent a great deal of time at his friend’s side as he passed and acknowledged that they both struggled with important spiritual issues. According to his own testimony, “I was greatly affected by the whole matter, and brought to look at life and its issue with a different eye than before; and I began to study my Bible, and preach in another manner than I had previously done.” He is also known to have revisited the text when he realized he was also dying, shortly before making plans to visit Nice.

Lyte and his friend had a fresh encounter with Christ, much as the men on the road to Emmaus described in the passage above which is given as the scriptural foundation for the hymn in the United Methodist Hymnal. Indeed, the opening lines of the hymn echo the words of the men on the road to Emmaus, “Abide with me; fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.”

(Notes from Larry McCord, *continued*)

One thing we do know with certainty is that William H. Monk, while working in committee on the 1861 edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, realized that Lyte's text had no music. Taking a break from his committee meeting (something with which we all can relate), he went to the piano and composed the tune in not more than 10 minutes. Evidently, the tune was a hit, as the hymn is not known to have ever been sung to any other tune since, unlike some of our other hymn texts that even have more than one tune in our current hymnal. Also, we have confirmation of the success of the pairing in the popularity of the hymn which is published in over 1600 hymnals, more than either "Amazing Grace" or "Blessed Assurance"!

FAT Tuesday Pancake Dinner—Fun, Fellowship and Good Food!

Thanks to the OHM Team!



**February 21,
2023**

Tea Party



UWF Ladies Hearts and Flowers Tea February 19, 2023

What a lovely gathering of ladies! Tables were beautiful, food was delicious and good fellowship abounded! We even welcomed Miss Rita after a long absence! Thanks to Lynne Grandstaff for providing the excellent Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program!



Easter Eggstravaganza!! Volunteers & Donations Needed!



The Children's Ministry Team is hosting a community **Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 1st from 2:00 – 3:00 PM at the church.** The event will include an Easter Egg Hunt for children of all ages at scheduled times, plus an interactive telling of the Easter story.

To make this event safe and successful, **we will need everyone's help.** We can use donations of plastic eggs, bagged candy to stuff plastic eggs, already filled plastic eggs, and individually packaged cookies, snacks and drinks (small water bottles or juice boxes) for the snack station.

Volunteers are also needed to help with the Easter Egg Hunt and hand out snacks. If you can volunteer, please let Jo Wilsford or Geneise Waltmon know. Please leave your donations in the basket provided in the foyer on Sunday morning or drop them by the church office during the week. **Items are needed by Sunday, March 26th.** Thank you!



Plans are for the Youth to continue meeting on Sunday evenings at 6:00 PM for dinner, games and fellowship. Youth 6th Grade and above are invited and encouraged to attend.

There are so many ways to volunteer, so please let us know how you would like to help.

March YOUTH Dinner Schedule:

Sunday, March 5 – Pickle Ball – Christy Kelso

Sunday, March 12 – NO Youth (Red Oak ISD Spring Break)

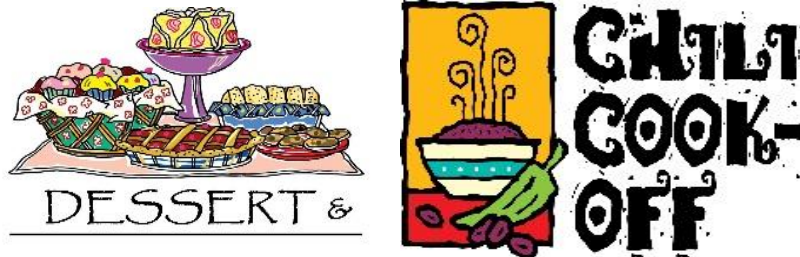
Sunday, March 19 – No Youth

Sunday, March 26 – Youth Workday...Eat at Chili Cook-off, then WORK!



Lord's Acre Team Already at WORK!

Lord's Acre is only SEVEN months away...and will be here before you know it (September 30)! The next Lord's Acre fundraiser for this year is the Dessert and Chili Cook-off.



Lord's Acre Dessert and Chili Cook-Off, Sunday, March 26, 12:15 PM

It's that time again for the Lord's Acre Dessert and Chili Cook-Off! The Cook-Off will be held on Sunday, March 26th in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service. **Contestants may sign up on the sheets in the foyer.**

Contestants will pay \$10 for each entry. All entries must be in the kitchen by 9:30 AM Sunday morning to allow time for judging. There will be special judges for both categories to select the best entries; prizes will be awarded to the winners! Best of all, WE get to eat the chili and dessert for lunch!

Lord's Acre Quilt

This year the Lord's Acre Team is planning on having the traditional red and white quilt ready for auction in September. **If you would like to help embroider names** on the quilt, please see Mary Young on Sunday morning or give her a call/text at 972-741-3120.

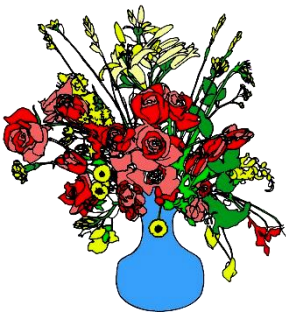
This 'n That



Please remember, as you enter the sanctuary, there is a clipboard for you to write down any new prayer requests or praises that you have. Those prayer requests will be given to Pastor Kevin to read as we begin our prayer time in the worship service.

A Note about Altar Flowers – 2023 Flower Calendar

The flower calendar for 2023 is posted in the foyer. The flowers that are donated each Sunday not only help to make our worship center more attractive, but also allow individuals and families to honor or celebrate a special occasion or individual or remember a loved one who has passed away. Flower arrangements are \$35 and may be taken home following the 11:00 AM worship service or may be picked up the following week from the church office. Please make your check to FUMC with the notation “flowers” in the memo line. Please fill in the information on the flower calendar on your selected date or you may also call the church office to let Jo know the date(s) you would like and what occasion or in whose honor/memory the flowers are for.



Altar Flowers March

Given by:

Occasion:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|--|
| 5 th | Helen Malone | In loving memory of her husband, Marvin Malone, Sr. |
| 12 th | Lori Stricker | In celebration of Mike Stricker's 70 th birthday! |
| 19 th | The McAlisters | In honor of the birthdays of Paul & Connie McAlister |
| 26 th | Lynda Robinson | In loving memory of her Mom's & Dad's birthdays. |

Altar flowers are \$35; please mark your check “flowers.” Thank you.

Secret Sister Program ON GO!

We have 21 women who have begun “secret sistering.” **Remember, sisters**, each month you may leave a note/card or small gift for your Secret Sister in the basket just outside the Fellowship Hall. If you want to send a card through the mail, you can use the church’s return address (P. O. Box 25, Red Oak, 75154) to keep your address a secret. Be creative and have fun!



Want to try YOGA? YOGA Chair Class Offered

Judy Pelowski is offering chair yoga classes at the church on Monday mornings at 10:00 AM. There is a small charge of \$7 for each class. Bring a mat or blanket and wear comfortable clothes that allow you to move freely. *Come and join us as we breathe and stretch and move!*



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Children's Sunday School Classes

Children's Sunday School classes of all ages continue to meet on Sunday mornings. Ms. Judy teaches PreK – 2nd Grade and Ms. Geneise teaches 3rd – 5th Grade. Class begins at 9:45 AM and ends at 10:30 AM. It is so important that the children listen to Bible stories and are taught that they, too, can be disciples of Jesus. Bring your children...we are ready to welcome them!



ENRICHMENT CLASS

The Enrichment Class started a 40 day devotional study on Ash Wednesday. "Unrevealed Until Its Season" by James C. Howell is a "Lenten Journey with Hymns."

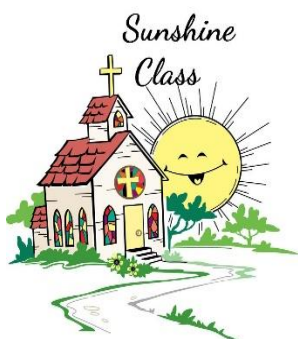
Each brief daily reading will focus on a phrase in a hymn. The weeks of Lent and our Sunday discussions will center on these themes:



Enrichment Class

- Merciful & Mighty: Hymns Praising God
- Beautiful Savior: Hymns About Jesus
- Prone to Wander: Hymns of Forgiveness
- Thy Presence My Light: Hymns of Vision
- With Joy Surround You: Hymns of Beauty
- Stony the Road: Hymns of Holy Week
- Love's Redeeming Work: Hymns of Easter

We hope you'll find your place in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday in Lent. We gather for coffee, donuts and chit chat at 9:30 AM. Class begins at 9:45 AM.



Sunshine Class – Meeting In-Person Saturday Mornings

The Sunshine Class, led by Dani Muckleroy, meets on **Saturday** morning at **9:00 AM** in the church's Fellowship Hall. The spring quarter Bible lessons center around the theme "**Follow**." Lessons focus on "The Mark You Make (March/April)." Discipleship in Mark's Gospel is often described as the way of the cross because of the repeated emphasis upon following Jesus on the way to Jerusalem and the command to take up one's cross and follow Jesus (Mark 8:34). In this season when we commemorate Jesus' journey to Jerusalem, we give our attention to various aspects of discipleship we find in Mark's Gospel. YOU are invited to come and join this lively group in fellowship and Bible study!

News from United Women in Faith (UWF)



Circle meetings continue this month! Keep reading for more details...



United
Women
in Faith

The Circle of Hope & Healing (Prayer Shawl) will not meet during the month of March. Meetings will resume in April!!

UWF Friendship Circle – March 23rd

The UWF Friendship Circle will meet on Thursday, March 23rd, at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

We will continue our study, *The Gift of Years – Growing Older Gracefully* by Joan Chittister. Lynne Grandstaff will facilitate the book discussion, Pam Briden will provide the devotional, and Jane Aberg will bring refreshments for this meeting. All women are welcome to join us for study, lively discussions, good fellowship, and delicious refreshments.

Need more information? Call Jo Wilsford at 214-793-5497.



UWF Circle of Love – March 28th

The Circle of Love will meet on Tuesday, March 28th, at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a covered dish lunch. Lynne Grandstaff will provide the program which will be the mission study from Luke; Jill Gunderson is the hostess for the meeting. Come, join us for a time of inspiration and fellowship!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you know anyone—hurting, healing, grieving or celebrating—to whom you would like to give a prayer shawl? Just let Beth Norris or Jo Wilsford know; we have many from which to choose.



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



Oatmeal and Spaghetti....AND Some Other Needs

FUMCRO has volunteered to donate **oatmeal and spaghetti** on an ongoing basis to North Ellis County Outreach (NECO). The next time you are at the grocery store or ordering groceries online, please remember to pick up/order extra spaghetti and oatmeal for FUMCRO's donation to NECO. Our support of these donations will enable the Outreach center to continue work and help in our community.

NECO is also currently in need of **kid friendly foods and the following items: soups (heathy choice, low sodium & tomato), toilet paper, pasta sauce, no salt added carrots, no salt added mixed vegetables, pinto beans, boxed cereal, boxed oatmeal variety pack, shampoo, and ladies' deodorant.**

Thank you for your generosity!

From the Outreach, Hospitality, Mission Team

March for Meals on Wheels!



Dear Church Family,

Meals on Wheels provides healthy meals to clients that can no longer stand long enough to cook a balanced meal for themselves. The staff of MOW also stays in contact with these clients to be sure they are eating, taking medications, and to see if they need help with anything. This allows the client to remain in their home as long as possible and gives them the dignity that they deserve.

Meals on Wheels receives a government subsidy of about \$5/meal. The cost is closer to \$10. Meals on Wheels must fundraise the difference. This past year inflation has added an additional cost that hasn't even been calculated in their plea for help. And I remind you, Congress hasn't approved the budget for last year OR this year. This non-profit is living on hope.

Will you buy a meal (or two) for a client during the month of March? All donations, of any size, are so appreciated. Drop your check in the offering plate with a MOW notation in the memo line. And if you know of anyone that needs the assistance of Meals on Wheels, please reach out to me so I can get them in contact with a caseworker in a day instead of the 45 days a social worker advises. **March with me this March** to keep Meals on Wheels moving forward.

Dani Muckleroy
972-839-8946

Birthday Gifts for NECO Clients



The OHM Ministry Team continues its **Birthday Gift program for NECO clients.**

This is a sample of what 33 NECO senior clients receive on their birthday from FUMCRO!

Would YOU like to help defray the costs of these gifts? Just place your check in the offering plate marked "NECO birthday."

FINANCE UPDATE

We thank God for you and your worship through your tithes and offerings. If you are unable to attend church, you may give your tithes and offerings in several ways: (1) via mail to the church's mailing address P.O. Box 25, Red Oak, TX 75154, by check or money order payable to First UMC Red Oak or (2) by giving online at any time through our church website, <http://www.fumcro.org/main/home>.

February Giving/Offerings

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| 5 th | \$7552.00 |
| 12 th | \$5574.00* |
| 19 th | \$4070.00* |
| 26 th | \$3482.00* |

*To meet our 2022 budget and Connectional Mission Giving for 2023, the offering each week needs to total at least \$6,000.

2023 Connectional Mission Giving (CMG)



Total Due in 2023 – \$26,354

Plans are to send a portion of FUMCRO's Connectional Mission Giving for 2023 to the Conference office after the end of the first quarter of 2023. If you would like to make a second-mile giving gift that will help pay our church's Connectional Mission Giving, just mark your check CMG in the memo line.



THANK YOU to those of you who have continued to give your offering/pledge whether by online, mail or in person! Because of YOU, the ministries and operations of the church have been able to continue! ***And THANK YOU for giving beyond your pledge to the second mile giving of special offerings and mission projects.***

What a wonderful, giving congregation FUMCRO is!
Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|
|  <h1>LENTEN CALENDAR</h1> | | | 22 February Ash Wednesday It's Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. Read Psalm 51:10-12. Consider what creating a clean heart requires. Ask God to help. | 23 February Lent commemorates the 40 days Jesus spent wandering in the wilderness. Go for a solitary wander through your neighborhood, with no destination in mind. Notice everything. Notice yourself. | 24 February Make time today for the one you love and for God. Each minute is a brick in your life's bridge, not only over troubled waters and loss, but to a million cherished memories. | 25 February If Saturday is your errand day, add this to your list: Go to the grocery store, get ten good food items and drop them off on Sunday in the NECO basket in the church foyer. If you have kids, take them with you. |
| 26 February Sundays are "in" Lent but not "of" Lent. Sundays aren't counted in the 40 days because Sunday is always a "little Easter." Try shouting for joy sometime today because it's a "little Easter." | 27 February Lent is a season of repentance. Look at your life. Is there something you are sorry for? Ask God for forgiveness, and after that, move on to reconciliation. | 28 February Pray for everyone who brought your food to you today: the growers, harvesters, cooks, marketplace workers, and servers. Thank God for your food. | 1 March Think of someone you need to thank and write them an old-fashioned thank-you note, even if it's just to say, "Thank you for being you!" | 2 March If you don't already, start saying grace before your meals. You can do it silently or start a new practice in your household. | 3 March Give up the television remote. Let someone else control it. You know who you are and if this suggestion is for you! | 4 March Clear out the chatter. Really listen to other people today. Don't just wait for your turn to talk. Life might get more interesting. |
| 5 March Remember someone you have loved and lost. Sadness and grief have their place in Lent. The pain of loss is the cost of loving well. Risk it. | 6 March Jesus says even tiny faith can move mountains. What are the "mountains" you could move with the faith you already have? | 7 March Whatever you have too much of, get rid of some of it today. This might mean a trip to Goodwill or one less trip to the refrigerator or an apology you need to make. | 8 March Give up caffeine, sugar, or meat for today. How did your body, mind and soul feel? | 9 March Think about what's out of balance for you. Pray for the wisdom to put it right. | 10 March A couple of weeks ago, you practiced repentance and asked for forgiveness and reconciliation. How's that going? Spend some time in thoughtful prayer. | 11 March In the spirit of Easter, think of three old things you're going to stop worrying about and three new things you're going to look forward to instead. |
| 12 March Sunday is your "little Easter," your day to abandon whatever discipline you have taken up for Lent. Have a donut! | 13 March Clear your calendar. If you're over-scheduled, find one thing to cut out so you can have saner days. | 14 March Look in the mirror and compliment yourself. Yes, you'll feel silly. Do it anyway. | 15 March Make medical appointments you've been putting off. Thank God if you have good health. Pray for those who don't. | 16 March This is the 20 th day of Lent, the half-way mark in the 40 days. Instead of waiting for someone to meet you halfway, go all the way to them. Initiate a call or send a note. | 17 March Take a risk, confront something controversial that you care about. Following Jesus requires more than just enjoying the blessings of faith. | 18 March Write down ten things you are thankful for. And then write down ten things more. |
| 19 March Give up excuses for not going to church. It's Sunday...just go! | 20 March Clear out some of life's clutter. Make a plan or take a first step toward quitting a bad habit. | 21 March Delight in the weather...whatever it is. | 22 March Faith is memory before it is hope. Remember how you've made it through hard times. You can trust that you'll make it through again with God's help. | 23 March Wash your car. Thank God you have a car. Find out if there's someone who needs a ride to church on Sunday. Or anywhere else, on any day. | 24 March Ask others for help. Clear out guilt and martyrdom. | 25 March When you give God priority, everything else falls into place. You'll become hopeful when before you were anxious. |
| 26 March Only God is perfect. You don't have to be. Forgive yourself for mistakes. | 27 March See if you can recycle more than you throw away this week. If it's an option where you live, take public transportation to get somewhere this week. | 28 March Hand out at least three heartfelt compliments today. | 29 March Give up at least one of your prejudices today. Don't have any? Think again. | 30 March Give up trying to change other people. Leave that to God. Consider instead changing yourself and how you respond. | 31 March Go to bed an hour early tonight. Give up being over-tired and possibly cranky. Your family & co-workers will thank you. | 1 April Give up sitting. Get up, stand up, take the stairs, walk around the block, put on music and dance. |
| 2 April Palm Sunday Celebrate! Join the parade! Tell the stories of Jesus. | 3 April Give up anxiety. It's no fun. What is fun is peace. Anxiety takes over the place where peace wants to live in our hearts. Give up anxiety. | 4 April Getting ready for Easter involves learning to make room for the power of God beyond your capacity to calculate or control. | 5 April Give up complicating things. Instead of making mountains out of molehills, be on the lookout for ways to simplify. | 6 April Today, have a servant's heart. Take special care of someone you love. | 7 April Jesus died on the cross. Think about it. Why did it happen? Ask yourself what you truly believe. Now ask God. | 8 April Easter Eve is a time for baptism remembrance. Look into the mirror and say, "I have been baptized. God loves me. I belong to God." |
| 9 April EASTER Live anew. Have hope. Jesus is risen, indeed! |  | | | | | |



FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer

ALL FUMCRO members as all try to stay healthy and safe

Carol Haffey
Jody Smock
Ron Briden
Glen Parker
Cindy Casey
Wynona Haney

Mike Stricker
Curtis Doyle
Leah Harp
Troy Dollar
Helen Malone
Rita Dugger

**Brothers & Sisters in Christ in the Ukraine
Victims of Earthquakes
The United Methodist Church
Red Oak First United Methodist Church**

Friends and Family of FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer

Howard Cody (Aberg's friend)
Blake Rogers (family friends of Susan McCord)
Allison Eaton (Jennifer McKnight's friend)
Alex Canant & family (friends of Durazos)
Tausha Robertson (Tammy Ashford's student)
Jeannie Quick (McKnight's friend)
Terri Gaona (Judy Pelowski's sister)
Johnny Peters (Norris' cousin)
Lori-Proctor Smith (Briden's daughter)
Ruth Johnson (Lori Stricker's friend)
Marcus Ross (Grandstaff's employee)
Molly Hodson (Helen Malone's granddaughter)
Mearl Jones (Grandstaff's employee's mother)
Betty Ashford (Gary Ashford's mother)
Layne & Faye Taylor
Betty Briden (Ron Briden's sister)
Amanda Raskin (Jill Gunderson's daughter)
Andrea & Jason Briden (Briden's daughter-in-law & son)
Joyce Gipson (Pryor's friend)
Joan Apple (Sandra Doyle's sister-in-law)
Debbie Doyle (Doyle's daughter)

Morgan Manus (Martin's Granddaughter)
Patricia Dixon (Susan McCord's cousin)
Randy Ransom (Neva Ransom's son)
Katherine Keenan & new baby (Jennifer McKnight's friends)
Tony & Maryjane Riesenbergs (friends of the Youngs)
Teresa Atwell (Jake Ashford's mother-in-law)
Cathy Cochrell (Mary Young's friend)
Bernie Himmel
Sandy & Brad Morton (Pryors' friends)
Woody Wood (Larry McCord's friend)
Marilee Stephan (Jerry McAlister's cousin)
Johnny Knight (Lynne Grandstaff's friend)
Caleb Larson & family (Smock's friends)
Richard Knapp (Helen Malone's neighbor)
Joe Fletcher (Doyle's friend)
Ron Miller (friend of Judy Pelowski's son)
Sylvia Grandstaff (Grandstaff's daughter-in-law)
Betty Gray (Leah Harp's sister)
Robert Doyle (Curtis Doyle's brother)
Rhoda Flores (Eva Rudd's sister-in-law)
Eileen Lehmberg (Lila Sackett's sister)



**UM Missionary, Katie Meek
Sierra Leone**

Prayer Group ZOOM Meeting Invitation – Thursdays, 6:15 PM

The Prayer Group will continue meeting each Thursday evening. Judy will open the meeting at 6:00 PM and will begin the readings at 6:15 PM. Remember to come prepared to lift the names and situations you want to pray for during the service. The Prayer Group reading will be sent by email prior to the meeting.

NEW! The passcode is 6WiMbB.

Judy Pelowski is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Prayer

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84361524186>

Meeting ID: 843 6152 4186

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,84361524186# US (Houston)

+17193594580,,84361524186# US

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

Meeting ID: 843 6152 4186

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84361524186>

*Have a great week!
Stay safe!
See you in person or online on Sunday!*

Contact Information

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Red Oak, TX 75154

WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Sundays

9:30 am Enrichment Class

11:00 am In-Person Blended Worship

4:00 pm Worship Service posted on website

6:00 pm Youth Fellowship (In-person)

Wednesdays (Jan – May; Sept – Dec)

5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner

6:15 pm Children's Choirs

6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:15 PM

Prayer Group on Zoom