



March 4, 2020

# 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*

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**REMEMBER:** Daylight Savings Time begins this Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>...**SPRING forward!**

## BREAKING NEWS!



### Lord's Acre Chili Cook-Off Winners

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Roy & Natalie Pender
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Mike Martin
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Curtis Doyle

### Lord's Acre Dessert Cook-Off Winners

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Geneise Waltmon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Lisa Smith
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Vita Montoya

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!**  
**Great job, Lord's Acre Committee!**



We are now in the season of Lent. We began with Ash Wednesday last week with a great soup supper followed by a tremendous service. We had an amazing attendance, **91, for Ash Wednesday!** Lent is such a significant season of the year. We prepare our hearts as we approach the sorrow of our Crucified Jesus, his Passion, and **Jesus' glorious Resurrection** as our Risen Lord and Savior!

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. The season prepares us for the joy of Easter Sunday.

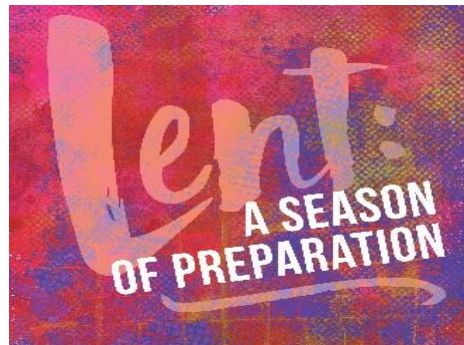
Lent has become a time for penitence for all Christians. Because Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent is lessened for the joyful expectation of the Resurrection. **Holy Week is the final week of Lent**, beginning with Passion/Palm Sunday and concluding with Holy Saturday. During these days, we focus on the final days of Jesus' suffering and death.

***The important thing to remember about the Lenten season is this: This season is for you, as it is for me. I hope we will take this personally and with devotion. THIS SEASON IS OUR TIME TO RENEW AND DEEPEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS, OUR CRUCIFIED AND RISEN LORD.***

We can do that through our personal devotions (you can access the Upper Room Devotional at [upperroom.org](http://upperroom.org)), in our Sunday worship, and the special worship opportunities we have. Our Easter Cantata is Palm Sunday, April 5. Maundy Thursday Communion is April 9, and Good Friday worship is April 10. Easter Sunday is April 12.

I hope to see you Sunday!

Mike Alexander





## Notes from Larry McCord



### Bring Back the Springtime

*... when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord Acts 3:19*

Have you ever thought about all the songs that have the word “spring” or references to springtime in their titles and/or lyrics?

“It Might As Well Be Spring” from the musical State Fair  
“Younger Than Springtime” from the Broadway musical South Pacific  
“Spring Fever” from Girl Happy (Elvis)  
Rite of Spring, a ballet by Stravinsky  
Appalachian Spring, a ballet by Copland

These are, of course, but a few and the trend stretches back to the earliest days of music. One of the examples of musical storytelling I have my music appreciation students listen to is the “Spring” concerto, part of The Four Seasons by Vivaldi of the Baroque era, which most of you would recognize immediately, even if you didn’t know the title. This composition has an accompanying poem that speaks of the birds singing, babbling brook and fearsome thunderstorms.

In 1975, Kurt Kaiser put out a new song titled, “Bring Back the Springtime,” which has since been recorded by numerous artists, including Dale Evans on an album with Kaiser conducting and producing. A true example of the often seen bumper sticker, “I wasn’t born in Texas, but I got here as quick as I could!”, Kaiser was born in Chicago but moved to Waco, TX, the home of Word Music Publishing, in 1959. Thus began a career that would produce over 300 original songs and collaboration with Ralph Carmichael on numerous youth musicals. Kaiser’s music had such an impact on contemporary Christian music that he was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame and received a Lifetime Achievement Award from ASCAP.

“Bring Back the Springtime” has been included in hymnals (including Sing and Celebrate and The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration) and has been arranged for choirs and other ensembles. In Isaiah 28, the prophet speaks of how God wished to bring refreshment and rest to His people but was pushed away. Likewise, Peter, preaching after the healing of the lame man outside the temple, tells the people to turn to God so that they may experience the refreshing presence of the Lord. As any botanist could explain, when trees appear dormant and dead to us, the sap has simply not risen up into the tree because of the season. In our spiritual lives, though we may feel dead and no longer in touch with God, His Spirit is still present within and is ready to rise and bring healing to the whole person. Anyone who has truly walked with God can testify to “the dark night of the soul” which may be caused by wandering or rebellion on our part or may simply be a season through which we must travel. Kaiser’s song and scripture remind us to pray for God to “bring back the springtime” to our souls.

## **MARCH CALENDAR**



<b>Wednesday, March 4</b>	Regular Wednesday Activities - Bible Study – Book Chapter 19 - Community Fellowship Dinner (Tacos)
<b>Sunday, March 8</b>	Daylight Savings Time Begins ! Regular 8:30 & 10:50 AM Worship & 9:40 AM Sunday School Finance Meeting, 12:00 PM Youth Fellowship, 6:00 PM (Wilson/Waltmon provide supper)
<b>Tuesday, March 10</b>	OHM Meeting, 7:00 PM
<b>Wednesday, March 11</b>	<b>NO</b> Wednesday Activities – Spring Break
<b>Saturday, March 14</b>	UM Men's Breakfast, 8:00 AM Circle of Hope & Healing (Prayer Shawl), 10:00 AM
<b>Sunday, March 15</b>	Regular 8:30 & 10:50 AM Worship & 9:40 AM Sunday School Administrative Board Meeting, 12:00 PM Confirmation Class, 4:30 PM Youth Fellowship, 6:00 PM (Sanden/Hobbs provide supper)
<b>Wednesday, March 18</b>	Regular Wednesday Activities - Bible Study – Book Chapter 20 - Fellowship Dinner
<b>Friday, March 20</b>	Bricks 4 Kidz Night Out, 6:00 PM
<b>Saturday, March 21</b>	Hands for Christ Workday begins at 7:30 AM Boy Scout Blue and Gold Banquet
<b>Sunday, March 22</b>	<b>UMCOR Sunday</b> – Special Offering Regular 8:30 & 10:50 AM Worship & 9:40 AM Sunday School Youth Fundraiser Fish Fry, 12:00 PM Confirmation Class, 4:30 PM Youth Fellowship, 6:00 PM (D. Ellard/G. Ellard provide dinner)
<b>Tuesday, March 24</b>	UMW Circle of Love, 10:00 AM
<b>Wednesday, March 25</b>	Regular Wednesday Activities - Bible Study – Book Chapter 21 - Fellowship Dinner
<b>Thursday, March 26</b>	UMW Friendship Circle, 7:00 PM
<b>Saturday, March 28</b>	Circle of Hope & Healing (Prayer Shawl), 10:00 AM
<b>Sunday, March 29</b>	Regular 8:30 & 10:50 AM Worship & 9:40 AM Sunday School Coffee with the Pastor, 9:45 AM Confirmation Class, 4:30 PM Youth Fellowship, 6:00 PM (Doyle/Smock provide dinner)





Everyone is invited to join us as our church family continues our Wednesday activities. Bible study on the book of Luke is led by Pastor Mike; Bible studies are scheduled for 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM. There is a fellowship dinner each Wednesday with prayer group, children's choirs and youth activities following the dinner. Please join us for fellowship, prayer, study and singing! See the dates and schedule below:

**March: 4, 18, 25**

**NOTE:** There will NOT be Wednesday night activities on March 11<sup>th</sup> because most school districts are on Spring Break.

#### **Wednesday Evening Activity SCHEDULE:**

**5:30 PM** Fellowship Supper (suggested donation: \$5, adult; \$3, child)

**6:15 – 6:30 PM** – Prayer Group

**6:15 – 7:00 PM** – Children's Choirs (age 3½ through Grade 6)

**6:30 – 7:30 PM** – Adult Bible Study, Youth WORKS!

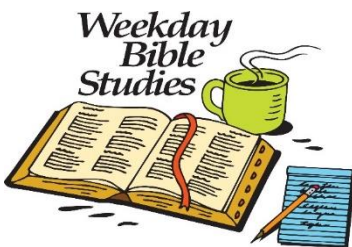
**7:30 PM** – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**NOTE: Wednesday Morning Bible Study (10:30 AM)** will observe the same dates as the Wednesday evening activities.



#### **Community Fellowship Dinners – Every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Night**

The Hospitality/Outreach/Mission (OHM) team is sponsoring 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday night Community Fellowship Dinners. Please reach out to invite friends and neighbors to share a great home style meal and good fellowship at no charge. We know that the key to building our church family is building relationships. We also know that breaking bread together offers the opportunity to do that. Come be part of growing our community of faith. **Future Dates: March 4 & April 1**



#### **Bible Study Schedule** (Bible Study meets at 10:30 AM and at 6:30 PM.)

March 4 – Book Chapter 19: Faith and the Kingdom, Luke 17

March 11 – NO meeting – Spring Break

March 18 – Book Chapter 20: Humility and Trust, Luke 18

March 25 – Book Chapter 21: The Triumphal Entry, Luke 19



## **Administrative Council Meets Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 PM**

The Administrative Council will meet at 12:00 PM on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will not be provided, so bring a snack if you would like. **Please send a report** from your Ministry Team/Committee to the church office ([firstumcredoak@gmail.com](mailto:firstumcredoak@gmail.com)) **by Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>** so that it can be included in the Council packet. Your presence and input is vital to the ministries of the First United Methodist Church of Red Oak. If you are a member of the Administrative Council, please make an effort to be in attendance.

## **LOOKING AHEAD AT FUTURE EVENTS – Mark Your Calendars Now!**



### **Lenten and Holy Week Dates**

**Palm Sunday Worship Service – April 5<sup>th</sup>, ONE SERVICE (10:50 AM) ONLY**

(NOTE: The Chancel Choir's Easter Cantata, *The Day He Wore My Crown*, will be presented on Palm Sunday. There will be only **one worship service** on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:50 AM. (Sunday School will meet at its regular time of 9:40 AM.) At 12:00 PM on Palm Sunday, everyone is invited to bring a dish for a church-wide pot-luck lunch. Following the lunch, all children are invited to participate in an Easter Egg Hunt!

**Maundy/Holy Thursday Communion Service – April 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM**

**Good Friday Service of Light and Darkness – April 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM**

**Easter Sunday Services – April 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 and 10:50 AM**

### **73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Churchwide Mother and Daughter Luncheon, May 16<sup>th</sup>**

**WHO:** Mothers, Daughters, Grandmothers, Neighbors, Friends, Ladies of ALL ages

**WHAT:** A UMW-hosted salad buffet luncheon celebrating Mothers and Daughters

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 16                      11:00 AM – 1:00 PM                      Childcare will be provided.

TICKETS go on sale in April: Adults - \$5.00; Children under 12 - \$3.00;

Children under 3 – free



Kids, Families: looking for something to do this summer?

Why not attend a Glen Lake Summer Camp?

Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center is located in Glen Rose, Texas, and is an extension ministry of the Central Texas United Methodist Conference. The camp is located on the Paluxy River where retreats and campers experience the beautiful Texas hills while staying comfortable in cabins, lodges and education facilities. The unique camp welcomes children, students, adults, volunteers, and their families from all over the nation to experience God in fun-filled adventures on the journey to create disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world!

For more information, please visit [www.glenlake.org](http://www.glenlake.org). Summer camp dates are listed below:

Family Camps (K – 3 Grades with Family) – June 5 – 7 and July 19 – 21

Trek Camp – (Grades 1 – 3) – July 17 – 19

Trailblazer Camps – (Grades 3 – 6) – June 14-19, June 21-26, July 5-10, July 12-17

Expedition Camps – (Grades 6 – 8) – June 14 – 19, July 5 – 10

Pathfinder Camp – (Grades 9 – 13) – June 28 – July 3

(Campers select camp by grade entering in fall 2020.)

Also, ask Roy Pender about the Glen Lake **Emerging Leaders Institute** for high school students currently in Grades 10 – 12.

### **UMCOR Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> - UMCOR Turns 80 This Year!**

Throughout the year, the United Methodist Church highlights mission areas in which funds may be given for special ministries and missions. On six dates during the year, a Special Offering Envelope will be placed in your bulletin so that you may make an additional offering for a highlighted Methodist ministry. The focus of the second ministry this year is UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief, previously known as One Great Hour of Sharing); the offering envelope will be in your bulletin on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The UMCOR offering supports operating activities of the UMC's worldwide relief and development agency. The offering ensures that **100% of donations** given for specific disaster response and other critical needs goes directly to address those needs. UMCOR Sunday calls the church to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. UMCOR services reach children, families and communities who have experienced devastation in the wake of disaster.

Thank you for your second-mile giving on UMCOR Sunday! If your donation is a check, please make it out to Red Oak FUMC with "UMCOR" in the memo line and place the envelope in the offering plate.



## **FUMCRO Contribution to the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive – THANK YOU!**

FUMCRO raised \$1,151 ringing the bell for the Red Kettle Drive on Saturday, December 21, 2019. Church volunteer hours raised more per hour than the paid ringers; in fact, the WalMart pharmacy door raised more in 4 hours than the paid ringer raised the rest of the day! WELL DONE! We covered the grocery door from 10 – 8 and the pharmacy door for 4 hours. Lt. Robert Coriston is very grateful for the help of ***Rusty Lyons, Mike and Sherry Martin, Curtis and Sandra Doyle, David and Jane Aberg, Shirley Templeton, and the Sanden family.*** It was more difficult this year than it has been in the past to fill the kettle; all of the non-profits are fighting the same battle. Please know that your time spent at the kettle will assure that people that need help with food and other necessities will get that help, and that children who require after-school and summer day care will have access to that care. All money raised in Ellis County stays in Ellis County. *from Dani Muckleroy*

## **LORD'S ACRE**

The Lord's Acre Team continues to sell **names for the 2020 Lord's Acre quilt**. Each name is hand stitched by members of our congregation and becomes a part of history! Please look for John or Mary Young or Sue Brown in the foyer before or after each church service to get your names on the quilt. The cost is \$5.00 per name and is due when you fill out the form.

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM NEWS**



Thanks to all the volunteers, the new playground is being installed! Be on the lookout for an "all-call" for volunteers to paint and spruce up the existing equipment. Thank you to all who donated to make this happen!

## **ENRICHMENT CLASS**

Through March 15, the Enrichment class is currently studying The Case for Easter by Lee Strobel. This 4 week study looks at the 4 E's that brought Lee from atheism to acceptance of Christ as his resurrected Savior.

Beginning March 22, the class will begin a 6 week study by Adam Hamilton called The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life. The topics will include: Worship & Prayer, Study, Serve, Give, Share, and the Five Practices from the Cross. Both studies include DVD, book, Bible, and group discussion. Books will be available, or you can purchase the Kindle versions online.

We meet every Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your coffee and donut and join us for fellowship beginning at 9:30 AM. Class is from 9:45-10:30 AM. There's a place for you!



## COME, JOIN AND SING



Each of us has received gifts from God that we are called to share with the body of believers at FUMC Red Oak. Sometimes, however, we think only those with a certain level of talent are called, when the truth is that we may not see the fullness of our ability until we step into the place God has prepared for us to serve. **Many of our current choir and handbell choir members are not music readers and may not have sung or played in a group before.** As we go through the season of Lent leading into Holy Week and Easter, I encourage each of you to listen to that “still, small voice” of God in you and consider whether you might join us to sing in the Chancel Choir, ring with the Handbell Choir or bring your children to sing with the Angel Choir or Methodist Music Makers.



### Stephen Ministry at FUMCRO

Stephen Ministry is a lay caring ministry in our congregation. Stephen Ministers are equipped and empowered to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to “care receivers” who are facing a crisis in life, such as grief, divorce, serious illness, unemployment, hospitalization, spiritual crises, or other life difficulties.

Pastors are always on the “front lines” of care, but there are many needs for ongoing, one-to-one care that pastors cannot effectively meet by themselves. That is where Stephen Ministers help, meeting faithfully with care receivers for about an hour each week for as long as there is a need. All communication is kept confidential. The identity of those receiving care and what takes place in each relationship remain private.

Stephen Ministers participate in 50 hours of training sessions to learn about providing emotional and spiritual care and support to both congregation members and non-members alike. In addition, Stephen Ministers participate in supervision groups and continuing education sessions.

A foundational part of the training is learning to listen to care receivers as well as processing feelings, maintaining boundaries, assertive communication, praying, and sharing Scripture. A key part of Stephen Ministers’ care is that they rely on God for results, not themselves. Stephen Ministers are the caregivers; God is the “curegiver.”

FUMCRO is fortunate to have six Stephen Ministers and two Stephen Minister leaders. In the next few months, you will be hearing more about the FUMCRO Stephen Ministry during worship. Each Sunday, Stephen Ministers are always available for individuals who would like to have prayer. Look for the blue name badges. To learn how to become—or receive care from—a Stephen Minister, talk to Pastor Mike or one of the Stephen Leaders, Sherry Doty or Neva Ransom.

More information is available in brochures on the information board in the foyer or from the Stephen Ministers or Leaders.



The 2020 spring semester Wednesday night youth lessons will revolve around youth-led curriculum. The students will be providing the lessons with Roy's leadership.

Schedule for Youth WORKS! Wednesday nights: 6:30 PM

March 11 – NO meeting – Spring Break

March 18 – Philippians 3:7-9

March 25 – 1 Peter 2:9-11

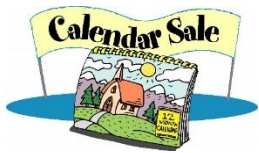
### March Sunday Night Dinner Schedule

Sunday, March 8 – Wilson and Waltmon

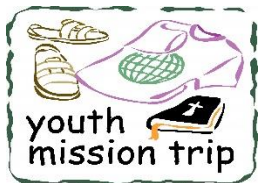
Sunday, March 15 – Sanden and Hobbs

Sunday, March 22 – D. Ellard and G. Ellard

Sunday, March 29 – Doyle and Smock



**Youth Fundraiser!** There are still plenty of calendars left. Pick one up after church this Sunday! Buy a 2020 God's Creation calendar from the FUMCRO Youth **ON SALE...only \$3.00 each!** See the display at the welcome desk in the foyer.



### Summer Mission Trip Information

The dates for the 2020 Youth Mission Trip to Arkansas are June 21 – 27. Individual registration is open for CTCYM (Central Texas Conference Youth in Mission). Early Bird Registration ends on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.



Would you like to become more involved in helping support and encourage the youth of our church? Here are some ways YOU can help:

- ~ Lead a Sunday School lesson
- ~ Worship with the Youth
- ~ Host a Sunday night dinner (and then stay for fun, games and worship)
- ~ Share a life skill/lesson
- ~ Be a mentor
- ~ Help with mission trip fundraising activities
- ~ Go with the Youth on a mission trip
- ~ Host the Youth at your home
- ~ Pray with/for the Youth

The opportunities are ENDLESS! Talk with Roy Pender or Shannon Wilson for more information.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



### Oatmeal and Spaghetti

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, please remember to pick up 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. They are also currently in need of kid friendly foods: jelly, SpaghettiO's or microwaveable foods. Thank you for your generosity!

### Kid-Friendly Food Collection for North Ellis County Outreach

Kid-Friendly  
Food



The Missions Committee continues to collect "kid-friendly" snacks and foods for ROISD kids who may not have enough to eat during the times when they are not in school (weekends, holidays, etc.) and school lunches are not available to them. Please place your donations in the ROISD bucket at the Giving Corner (table just outside the sanctuary).

- Easy open food/snack items such as fruit cups, applesauce cups, granola bars, trail mix, protein bars or breakfast bars
- Microwave oatmeal, soup, macaroni & cheese, or pastas
- Vienna sausages
- Individual tuna packets, tuna salad or chicken salad
- Individual cracker packs

### NEW! Opportunity for Mission – HANDS FOR CHRIST



The Mission Team is excited to introduce Hands for Christ– a program of First United Methodist Church of Red Oak that helps our neighbors in the community. The primary objectives of this ministry are to build relationships and share the love of Christ in practical ways.

This is an ALL CHURCH effort. YOU are wanted and needed to assist. Please put the workday dates on your 2020 calendar NOW and make a commitment to be there.

**The very first HANDS FOR CHRIST workday is Saturday, March 21!**

(Hands for Christ Mission Opportunity *continued*)

Volunteers will offer assistance with many varied tasks. We will help with minor home maintenance and repairs, local transportation, home office tasks, lawn care, and housekeeping. We will be going out to serve the community by cleaning up, fixing up, sprucing up and lending a helping hand.

Two other workdays this spring will be April 18 and May 16. The fall workdays will be the 1st Saturday in October and November.

Volunteers of all ages and abilities are encouraged to come serve. On designated workdays, we will meet at the church at 7:30 AM heading to worksites. Stay as long as you can or until the job is complete. There will be something for everyone to do!

Sign up in the foyer – choose your preferred level of activity, from Gentle (no heavy lifting and mild walking) to Extreme (heavy lifting and using power tools).

Funds to help sponsor the projects may be donated by designating Mission- Hands for Christ in the memo line or on your giving envelope.

If you would like to suggest a project, see Lynne Grandstaff or send an email to the office.

## **\$ FINANCE COMMITTEE 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**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$7916.00
9 <sup>th</sup>	\$5556.00
16 <sup>th</sup>	\$4310.00
23 <sup>rd</sup>	\$7826.00

### **2020 Connectional Mission Giving Total Due**

by December 31, 2020
\$32,001.00

To meet our 2020 budget and Connectional Mission Giving for 2020, the offering each week needs to total at least \$6,000.



## **United Methodist Women (UMW) News**

### **Circle of Hope and Healing (Prayer Shawl) Meets March 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>**

The Circle of Hope and Healing will meet on Saturdays, March 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. If you like to crochet, knit, weave, and pray, please join us in this important ministry.

### **Circle of Love Meets March 24<sup>th</sup>**

The next meeting of the UMW Circle of Love is Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Lynne Grandstaff has the program; Jill Gunderson and Jennifer McKnight are hostesses. All women are invited to join us for the program, good fellowship and a pot-luck lunch.

### **Friendship Circle Meets March 26<sup>th</sup>**

The next meeting of the UMW Friendship Circle is Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Jennifer McKnight will give the devotional, and Valerie Nobles will provide the refreshments for the meeting. We will continue our study of the book *Called: Hearing and Responding to God's Voice* by Susan Robb. We will be discussing "Chapter 6: Leaning In (The Beloved Disciple)" at the March meeting. All women are welcome to join us for Bible-based study, lively discussions, good fellowship, and delicious refreshments. Call Jo Wilsford at 214-793-5497 for information or if childcare is needed.

### **Circle of Hearts 'n Hands, Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

The UMW Circle of Hearts 'n Hands meets to work on mission projects to include simple sewing projects, assembling UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) health kits, making & sending cards to shut-ins, the ill, hospitalized & bereaved, with cards also sent to missionaries. The next meeting of the Circle of Hearts 'n Hands is scheduled for Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Come join this circle of women in mission!

### **Mark your calendars for this important event!**

Saturday, May 16, 11:00 AM – **Mother and Daughter Luncheon** (see p. 6)





### **FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer**

Tamela Sackett  
Lionel Hazard  
Terry Brown  
Mike Stricker  
Rita Dugger  
Rosemarie Anderson  
Wynona Haney  
Gaines Wolaver

Jennie Dunaway  
Art Haffey  
Regina Hazard  
Leah Harp  
Charlotte Yeadon  
Charles Daubitz  
Ann Allen

### **Friends and Family of FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer**

Family of Rev. Greg Tyler (Jill Gunderson's brother)  
Laura Smiley (Melody Durazo's mother)  
Karie Bevill (Helen Malone's friend)  
Foster Children  
Nora Austin (RoseMarie Anderson's daughter)  
Mark Serold (Dani Muckleroy's friend)  
Dean Sprester (Lori Stricker's friend)  
Ruth Dunaway (Jennie Dunaway's mother)  
Robert Dunaway (Jennie Dunaway's brother)  
Dorothy Doty (Dean Doty's mother)  
Ladonna Westfall  
Kathy Schmidt (Helen Malone's friend)  
Kathy Schmitt (Sherry Doty's sister)  
Amber  
Debbie Doyle (Curtis & Sandra Doyle's daughter)

Ron Hammond (Tammy Ashford's uncle)  
Wilma Alderson (RoseMarie Anderson's friend)  
Jenny Danna (Dani Muckleroy's friend)  
Linda Belote (Bill Belote's mother)  
Dale Arnold  
Sherri Parnell (Cindy Belote's sister)  
Tony & Joyce (Pryors' friends)  
Ekaterini "Katy" Linner (Mary & John Young's friend)  
Sue Smock (Jody Smock's mother)  
Chris Harrell  
Julie & Ronnie Williams  
Jean Cecil (Jane Aberg's sister)  
Deborah Waggner (Eva Rudd's friend)  
Bill (Durazo's neighbor)  
Judd Easterling  
VanNaiaya Turner

Parents of Nancy Toney



**Missionary:** Rukang Chikomb (Congo)

## THIS 'N THAT



### Flower Calendar

The flower calendar for 2020 is posted in the foyer. There are still several Sunday dates available for you to honor a loved one or special occasion. **Dates that are still open: May 3, 24, & 31; July 5; and August 30 as well as dates in September and November.** You may sign up on the flower calendar by writing your name and the occasion/person to be celebrated or remembered. Flower arrangements are \$35 and may be taken home following the 10:50 AM worship service. Please make your check out to FUMC with the notation "flowers" in the memo line. Thank you for making our sanctuary even more beautiful with these flowers each Sunday!

### Name Badges – Let's CONNECT!

Please remember each Sunday to pick up your name badge in the foyer. If you need a name badge, please sign the list on the Welcome Desk, and one will be provided for you. The cost of the magnetic name badge is \$11.50; if you would like to make a donation toward paying for your name badge, please make your check out to FUMCRO with "name badge" in the memo line.

### Scheduling Meetings at the Church

Just a reminder: If you want to schedule a meeting or have regularly scheduled activities or meetings at the church, please complete a Calendar/Facility Request Form (available in the church office) or send an email to [firstumcredoak@gmail.com](mailto:firstumcredoak@gmail.com) with requested date(s) and room(s) clearly stated so that your meeting/event can be put on the church calendar. This helps avoid scheduling conflicts with other church and/or community events.

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION**

### Covenant Keepers, Let's CONNECT!

#### Covenant Keepers Worship Report

##### February Attendance

2 <sup>nd</sup>	
8:30 AM Service	65
10:50 AM Service	47
9 <sup>th</sup>	
8:30 AM Service	65
10:50 AM Service	58
16 <sup>th</sup>	
8:30 AM Service	65
10:50 AM Service	48
23 <sup>rd</sup>	
8:30 AM Service	65
10:50 AM Service	45

#### Worship Assistant Schedule

##### 8:30 AM Service

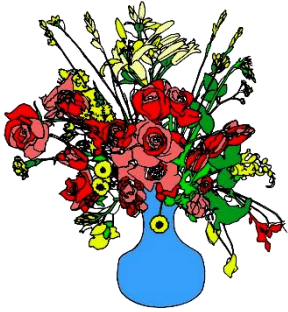
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Shirley Templeton
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Tammy Ashford
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Curtis Doyle
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Dana Davis

If you are interested in assisting as the 8:30 AM Worship Assistant, please contact Jo Wilsford.

#### Children's Time Leaders

March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Mike
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Tammy Ashford
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Geneise Waltmon
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Jody Smock

If you are interested in presenting the children's message, please contact Jo Wilsford.



## Altar Flowers

### March

#### Given by:

#### Occasion:

8 <sup>th</sup>	Lynda Robinson	In celebration of Zach's birthday!
15 <sup>th</sup>	The McAlisters	In loving memory of Paul McAlister
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ed & Hayven Waltmon	In celebration of Geneise's birthday!
29 <sup>th</sup>	Dana Davis	In loving memory of Keven's birthday

Reminder: You may take your flowers home following the 10:50 AM worship service.

Altar flowers are \$35; please mark your check "flowers" and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

### Contact Information

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### First United Methodist Church Red Oak

600 Daubitz Dr.

P.O. Box 25 (Mailing Address)

Red Oak, TX 75154

**WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

#### Sundays

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:40 am Sunday School For All Ages

10:50 am Praise Service

6:00 pm Youth Activities

Wednesdays  
(September – May)

10:30 am Bible Study

5:30 pm Dinner Fellowship

6:15 pm Prayer Group,

Children's Choirs

6:30 pm Bible Study & Youth WORKS!

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

*Have a great week!*  
*See you on Sunday!*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>LENTEN CALENDAR</h1>			<b>26 February</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 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.	<b>27 February</b> 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.	<b>28 February</b> 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, but to a million cherished memories.	<b>29 February</b> 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. Have kids? Take them with you.
<b>1 March</b> Sundays are "in" Lent but not "of" Lent. Sundays aren't counted in the 40 days; Sunday is always a "little Easter." Try shouting for joy today because it's a "little Easter."	<b>2 March</b> 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.	<b>3 March</b> Pray for everyone who brought your food to you today: the growers, harvesters, cooks, marketplace workers, and servers. Thank God for your food.	<b>4 March</b> 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!"	<b>5 March</b> If you don't already, start saying grace before your meals. You can do it silently or start a new practice in your household.	<b>6 March</b> Give up the television remote. Let someone else control it. You know who you are and if this suggestion is for you!	<b>7 March</b> Clear out the chatter. Really listen to other people today. Don't just wait for your turn to talk. Life might get more interesting.
<b>8 March</b> 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.	<b>9 March</b> Jesus says even tiny faith can move mountains. What are the "mountains" you could move with the faith you already have?	<b>10 March</b> 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.	<b>11 March</b> Give up caffeine, sugar, or meat for today. How did your body, mind and soul feel?	<b>12 March</b> Think about what's out of balance for you. Pray for the wisdom to put it right.	<b>13 March</b> A couple of weeks ago, you practiced repentance and asked for forgiveness and reconciliation. How's that going? Spend some time in prayer.	<b>14 March</b> 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.
<b>15 March</b> Sunday is your "little Easter," your day to abandon whatever discipline you have taken up for Lent. Have a donut!	<b>16 March</b> Clear your calendar. If you're over-scheduled, find one thing to cut out so you can have saner days.	<b>17 March</b> Look in the mirror and compliment yourself. Yes, you'll feel silly. Do it anyway.	<b>18 March</b> Make medical appointments you've been putting off. Thank God if you have good health. Pray for those who don't.	<b>19 March</b> This is the 20 <sup>th</sup> 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.	<b>20 March</b> Take a risk, confront something controversial that you care about. Following Jesus requires more than just enjoying the blessings of faith.	<b>21 March</b> Write down ten things you are thankful for. And then write down ten things more.
<b>22 March</b> Give up excuses for not going to church. It's Sunday...just go!	<b>23 March</b> Clear out some of life's clutter. Make a plan or take a first step toward quitting a bad habit.	<b>24 March</b> Delight in the weather...whatever it is.	<b>25 March</b> 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.	<b>26 March</b> 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.	<b>27 March</b> Ask others for help. Clear out guilt and martyrdom.	<b>28 March</b> When you give God priority, everything else falls into place. You'll become hopeful when before you were anxious.
<b>29 March</b> Only God is perfect. You don't have to be. Forgive yourself for mistakes.	<b>30 March</b> 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.	<b>31 March</b> Hand out at least three heartfelt compliments today.	<b>1 April</b> Give up at least one of your prejudices today. Don't have any? Think again.	<b>2 April</b> Give up trying to change other people. Leave that to God. Consider instead changing yourself and how you respond.	<b>3 April</b> Go to bed an hour early tonight. Give up being over-tired and possibly cranky. Your family & co-workers will thank you.	<b>4 April</b> Give up sitting. Get up, stand up, take the stairs, walk around the block, put on music and dance.
<b>5 April</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> Celebrate! Join the parade! Tell the stories of Jesus.	<b>6 April</b> 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.	<b>7 April</b> Getting ready for Easter involves learning to make room for the power of God beyond your capacity to calculate or control.	<b>8 April</b> Give up complicating things. Instead of making mountains out of molehills, be on the lookout for ways to simplify.	<b>9 April</b> Today, have a servant's heart. Take special care of someone you love.	<b>10 April</b> Jesus died on the cross. Think about it. Why did it happen? Ask yourself what you truly believe. Now ask God.	<b>11 April</b> 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."
<b>12 April</b> <b>EASTER</b> Live anew. Have hope. Jesus is risen, indeed!						

