



September 2, 2023

THE ACORN

Newsletter for
First United Methodist Church
Red Oak, Texas

"We are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10



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FROM THE



As you can see in this newsletter, there is a lot going on in the life of the church. Each of us will be busy preparing for the coming fall events. And it will be so nice to get outside in temperatures that will not be compared to a blast furnace. Please plan on participating and attending Lord's Acre, Pumpkin Patch, Junk in the Trunk, Trunk or Treat...and of course, worship and Bible Study.

On September 10, I will begin a three week **sermon series** on the **Gospel of the Gridiron**: Lessons we can learn from football. It will be a kickoff Sunday, and I invite you to wear the jersey or colors of your favorite high school, college, or professional team. Even if you hate football, you will connect with a message in this series.

I anticipate leading **Confirmation** for our 6th graders and up, who have not been through confirmation. I want to **meet with parents** of our confirmands after worship on September 10. Bring your calendars; we will make out a schedule for the coming year.

We are planning for a **Great Day of Joining on September 17**. If you desire to join in the ministries of the church and call FUMC Red Oak your church home, please talk with me.

Remembering 9/11

OUR HELP — PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Once again this month, America marks the anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, which ended almost 3,000 lives and changed life forever for millions more. The nation was shaken to its very roots, with violence jolting out of us any assumption that "it can't happen here."

(From the Pastor, *continued*)

September 11 banished any lingering notion that being on the side of “liberty and justice for all” served as insulation against mass tragedy. We now had more to fear than fear itself.

Psalm 46 reminds us that “though the earth should change” (v. 2) — as it did on 9/11 — God remains “our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (v. 1). We are never alone or without hope, even on life-altering days. How have God’s presence and power sustained you through life’s changes? How might sharing your story help someone else when their world or faith gets shaken? —adapted from *The Wired Word*
In Christ,

Kevin

Pastor Kevin’s Sermon Series: “Gospel from the Gridiron”

- ❖ September 10 “Sacrifice to Win” Matthew 16:24-26 & 1 Corinthians 9:24-26
Wear your favorite team colors/jersey to church this Sunday!
- ❖ September 17 “Agony of Defeat” Acts 16:22-2
- ❖ September 24 “Redefining Victory” Matthew 20:20-28



Pastor Kevin’s **Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, September 6th at 6:00 PM.** Chancel Choir meets on Wednesday, September 6th at 7:00 PM.

FUMCRO’s usual Wednesday night activities (dinner & children’s choirs) will begin on Wednesday, **September 13th.**

Schedule for Wednesday night activities, beginning September 13th:

- 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 - 2nd grade
Methodist Music Makers – 3rd – 5th grades)
- 6:15 PM – Pastor’s Bible Study
- 7:15 PM – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Fall Dates:

September 13 (salads/desserts), 20 (lasagna/desserts), 27 (TBD)

October 4, 11, 18 (No Wednesday activities on October 25th – fall break)

November 1, 8, 15, 29 (No Wednesday activities on November 22nd – Thanksgiving)

If your ministry team would like to sign up to provide a meal for a date in the fall, the sign-up sheet is in the foyer.



BABY SHOWER

Let's Have a Baby Shower! Saturday, September 16th, 2 – 4 PM

Gabriel Munoz, infant son of Mary & Michael Munoz and grandson of Judy & Joe Cadenhead, was born prematurely and has been on our prayer list for months. God has answered our many mighty prayers. Even though Baby Gabe is still in the hospital, it's time to welcome him into our church family with a baby shower! **The churchwide shower will be on Saturday, September 16th, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.**

Mary, Gabe's mother, has given us some suggestions as to what they might need when they welcome Baby Gabe home. There is a gift registry on Amazon (<https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/marymichael-munoz-august-2023-waxahachie/GMU813TOWVMO>) and at Target (<https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/gabriel-thor-munoz>). As always, gift cards are welcome! Come, meet Mary & Michael, if you haven't already, enjoy some refreshments and give your best wishes to the parents of this new little gift from God!

Rev. Katie Meek, Missionary to Sierra Leone, is returning to the U.S.



FUMCRO has had Rev. Katie Meek on our prayer list for quite some time and has supported her mission work through prayer and donations. After 6 years in Sierra Leone teaching at the United Methodist University, Katie is returning to the United States. **She is coming to Red Oak FUMC to tell her story on Sunday, October 15th during the worship service. Following the service, there will be a time to meet Katie and ask questions and get to know her a little better.**

The following is a statement from her recent newsletter:

I would love to come and tell the story of my mission at your church. I also want to see face to face so many of you that I have only seen through a zoom screen over the last six years. I want to be able to offer you all a word of thanks in person. I couldn't have done any of this without all of your prayers, friendship, and financial support. Finally, I want you to hear about the work that is continuing in Sierra Leone and (virtually) introduce you to my colleague missionary at the UMU-SL, Rev. Natallia Manyeza. The mission continues and I'm certain you'll want to know about it.



District Gatherings with Bishop Ruben Saenz

Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr. will be visiting districts across the Central Texas and North Texas Conferences throughout the fall. Both laity and clergy from the Central District (of which FUMCRO is a part) are invited to come together for a time of worship and fellowship on **Sunday, September 17th at 3:00 PM at Waxahachie First UMC, 505 W. Marvin Avenue.**



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday, September 3

Holy Communion

- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)
- Children's Sunday School, 9:45 AM
- Worship Service (No Children's Church on Communion Sunday)
- Online Worship Service posted by 4:00 PM (www.fumcro.org)
- NO Youth Fellowship

Monday, September 4

OFFICES CLOSED

Happy (Safe) Labor Day!

- NO Yoga Class

Wednesday, September 6

- Pastor's Bible Study, 6:00 PM
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 PM

Thursday, September 7

- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p.19 for Zoom invitation)

Saturday, September 9

- UMM Breakfast & Meeting, 8:00 AM
- Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 13)
- Prayer Shawl Meeting, 10:00 AM (p. 14)

Sunday, September 10

Wear your favorite team's colors/jersey today!

- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)
- Children's Sunday School, 9:45 AM
- Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM
- **Pastor's Confirmation Meeting with Parents 12:30 PM**
- Youth Fellowship, 6:00 PM

Monday, September 11

- Yoga Class, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, September 12

- OHM Meeting, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, September 13

All Wednesday Activities Begin

- Wednesday Night Activities (p. 2)
- Dinner, 5:30 PM (Salads, bread, dessert)
- Pastor's Bible Study & Children's Choirs, 6:15 PM
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM

Thursday, September 14

- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p.19 for Zoom invitation)

Saturday, September 16

- Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 13)
- Founders' Day, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (p. 15)
- Baby Shower for Gabriel Munoz, 2:00 PM (p. 3)

Sunday, September 17

*UWF Sunday
Great Day of Joining!*

- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)
- 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)
- Youth Fellowship, 6:00 PM

Monday, September 18

- Yoga Class, 10:00 AM

Wednesday, September 20

- Wednesday Night Activities (p. 2)
- Dinner, 5:30 PM
- Pastor's Bible Study & Children's Choirs, 6:15 PM
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM

Thursday, September 21

- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 19 for Zoom invitation)

Saturday, September 23

- Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 13)

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR (cont.)

Sunday, September 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)- 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)- Youth Fellowship, 6:00 PM
Monday, September 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Yoga Class, 10:00 AM
Tuesday, September 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- UWF Circle of Love, 10:00 AM (p. 14)
Wednesday – Friday, September 27 – 29, 6:00 – 8:00 PM – Bring items for Lord's Acre	
Wednesday, September 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wednesday Night Activities (p. 2)- Dinner, 5:30 PM- Pastor's Bible Study & Children's Choirs, 6:15 PM- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
Thursday, September 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 19 for Zoom invitation)- UWF Friendship Circle, 7:00 PM (p. 14)
Saturday, September 30	LORD'S ACRE DAY! (pp. 5, 9-10)



LORD'S ACRE DAY – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH!

“...the Lord brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now we bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given us.... Then we shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord our God has given to us...” Deuteronomy 26:9-11

LORD'S ACRE DAY

The FUMCRO church family, along with friends and neighbors, will gather together on Saturday, September 30th, to celebrate God's bounty and give of our “first fruits” on Lord's Acre Day.

This FUMCRO Lord's Acre tradition started about 65 years ago with members donating crops, calves, hay, baked goods, crafted furniture and other new items to sell at auction for the church's largest annual fundraiser.

Today, this tradition continues with **new or homemade craft or bakery** donated items to be placed in the live auction or silent auction.

The **Lord's Acre Quilt** this year is the traditional one with the names on it and will be the highlighted auction item on Lord's Acre Day. **Read more about Lord's Acre Day and how YOU can help make it a success on pages 9 & 10!**

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!

Looking Ahead...



September

3 James Keene
4 Beth Norris
8 Tamela Sackett
11 Lynn Schupmann
11 Jessica Sanchez
12 Cindy Belote
13 Ian Edwards
15 Jackson Metheny

September

17 Buddy Kelso
18 Terry Edwards
21 Nick Ashford
21 Cassie Sanchez
24 Scott Sackett
25 Emma Sanden

Looking Ahead...



October

1 David Aberg
2 Eva Rudd
5 Chale Payne
5 Killian Williams
5 Bud Norris
5 Melanie Hughes
13 Jay Valerius
15 Mike Sackett

October

17 Ryland Young
24 Hannah Edwards
25 Dana Davis
25 Hugh Grandstaff
26 Anthony McKnight
27 Curtis Doyle
28 Elaine Nobles





Notes from Larry McCord, Minister of Music

The Importance of the Choir in Worship

...it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers *were* as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD....that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

II Chronicles 5: 13-14

Today I read an interview with internationally-renowned Christian composer, conductor and performer Mark Hayes, whose music our choir and pianists have performed many times over the years. As part of the interview, Mr. Hayes was asked what he would say to churches/choir directors who were considering following the trend of many churches today no longer using a choir in worship. I include his full answer, unedited, below:

“Choirs are like mini bodies of Christ. They provide a sense of community and support unlike anything else in the church. They cause all singers to work together toward the common goal of praising God through music. Choirs provide a place where an “average” voice is valued and needed to achieve musical excellence. When people in the congregation see the choir perform, they are more likely to identify with a choir member than a sensational soloist or polished praise team singer. If our goal is to encourage the congregation to join in worship, what the choir models on the platform shows that every voice is valued. I would also encourage choir directors to be flexible in the repertoire they program. Sometimes the contemporary vs. traditional argument is more about one’s personal tastes than it is about what is best for the worship experience.”

I could not agree more and will not add or attempt to interpret what Mr. Hayes has said. I will, however, place his statement in the context of our local congregation.

Over the years I have served as your Minister of Music, I have become keenly aware that the chancel choir of FUMC Red Oak is a functioning body of Christ within the larger body of the congregation. The members of our choir pray for each other and follow up with calls, texts and visits to ensure that the needs of their fellow members are

(Notes from Larry McCord, *continued*)

being met. Not only in times of need, but even more in those time of rejoicing, when prayers have been answered or good things have taken place in one another's lives, they share one another's victories and successes. And William and I are not left out of this caring culture but are regularly asked how we are and what we need. While we are fortunate to have some members with musical training, even beyond high school and college, the majority of our choir is made up of what Mr. Hayes refers to as "average" voices who just want to sing and are faithful in their rehearsal and ministry commitments. We certainly fulfill the last portion of Mr. Hayes' statement, performing a variety of musical styles to hopefully engage as many in the congregation as possible but mainly just because we enjoy doing so.

I have passed a milestone in the history of my work in church music ministry. I have been at FUMC Red Oak longer than any of my previous church positions. Since I came in 2014, I have worked with 5 pastors, 3 youth directors (counting our newest, Anthony), 2 praise band leaders and a handful of administrative assistants. Only Judy is still in the position she held when I was hired. The one constant, other than my wonderful "right hand" Ms. Jo, has been the members of the choir who have treated me as a member of their family and done so much to support, encourage, comfort and share in my joys over the years. I will always remember how thankful I was to be with my church family the night of my first Christmas Eve service in 2014 when I received the news between services that the closest of my siblings, my older brother, had passed away. Pastor Allen came into rehearsal, stopped the choir and led the choir in prayer for me, knowing what a burden I was carrying. When I shared about how meaningful and helpful this was at my first "Epiphany Party" with the choir a few weeks later, I remember Keven Davis, who has also left us now, placing his hand on my shoulder to reassure me. And this is only one example.

As I begin my 10th year of ministry at FUMCRO, I look forward to all that God has in store for us in every aspect of worship and service. And I especially look forward to the many God will lead to join our choir and other music ministries as we fulfill the calling God has placed on our lives.



Our Chancel Choir has resumed rehearsals and will meet at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 6th. Choir rehearsals will begin meeting at 7:15 PM on September 13th. As we begin our preparations to minister through music this fall and into the Advent/Christmas season, I encourage each of you in our congregation to prayerfully consider joining us in this ministry. No musical background or experience is necessary, and you will be welcomed, supported and have great fun with this group. Come on out!!

LORD'S ACRE DAY



It's time to get excited!!

How can YOU help make this Lord's Acre the best EVER?

- Sign up to donate a dessert or potato salad for the Lord's Acre lunch.
- Buy your lunch tickets; tickets will be sold on Sunday mornings, in the church office during the week and at the door on Lord's Acre Day.
- If you have Lord's Acre yard signs hiding in your garage, now is the time to put them out.
- It's time to begin thinking about...and purchasing or making...items you would like to donate! Need some ideas? In the past years, these items have been donated: handmade wood furniture and crafts; small electronics; outdoor art and plants; handmade quilts, paintings, cakes, jams, sauces, and pies; sports memorabilia; gift baskets; activity baskets.
- Hopefully, you have been saving to go the extra mile beyond your pledged tithes and offerings in your generosity on Lord's Acre Day. **COME** on Lord's Acre Day, help keep the bidding going, and bring your checkbook, cash, debit/credit cards.

(Proceeds from this, the largest churchwide FUMCRO fundraiser of the year, will go toward missions of the church as well as capital improvement projects prioritized by the Trustees)

Important information YOU need to know:

- AGAIN this year! **LIVE music** - Dave Washburn & The Three Quarters Fast Jazz Band will perform starting at 11:45 AM!
- **Silent Auction** 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM & **UWF General Store**: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- **Live Auction** begins at 1:00 PM. Glen Parker is our auctioneer!
- **Lunch tickets** will be sold starting this Sunday before and after the worship service: \$12 for adults; \$5 for ages 3-12; under 3 – free
Lunch is available from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM and will include BBQ (brisket, chicken, sausage), beans, potato salad and dessert. A sign-up list is available for those who would like to donate potato salad or a dessert.
- **Donated items** for the silent or live auctions can be **brought to the church between 6:00 – 8:00 PM on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Sept. 27-29.**

The Lord's Acre Committee is ready to have a great day....all we need is **YOU!**



AND...in addition to all the above, the UWF will again have its **Lord's Acre UWF General Store** which will be open from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Each year the United Women in Faith work hard to make a significant contribution to Lord's Acre Day. This year, the UWF will again sponsor a *General Store* located in just inside the front doors. Be sure to visit the store to check out items for sale benefitting Lord's Acre and UWF mission work.

A few items we will have for sale: 2024 calendars; frozen casseroles, pies, cakes, cookies, knitted/crocheted items, commemorative church plates and ornaments, and other "crafty items." A special "Hidden Treasures" room will also be available...you never know what kinds of surprises you might find that you absolutely *cannot live without!* Also, a special corner will be filled with very cuddly stuffed animals...perfect for a child or grandchild for Christmas! **A sign-up sheet to pre-order frozen chicken spaghetti casseroles is on a table in the foyer;** casseroles may be paid for and picked up on Lord's Acre Day. **WHEW! Lord's Acre Day ...**

What a great way to celebrate & give thanks for the Lord's grace and abundance!

Children's Council News and Updates

Pumpkin Patch....Coming in October!

The Children's Council is planning for **Pumpkin Patch** in October. Plans are for pumpkins to be sold **starting October 7th**. Plenty of photo opportunities will be available in the Patch too. All Pumpkin Patch proceeds benefit FUMCRO Children's Ministries.



Beginning in early September, the Children's Council will have sign-up sheets to volunteer in the Patch.

Look for more Pumpkin Patch details in upcoming newsletters.



Plans are for the Youth to meet 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.

On Sunday night, September 10th, come and officially welcome the new Youth Director, Anthony McKnight! No Youth meeting on September 3rd because of Labor Day.

Dinner Schedule

Sunday, September 10 – Waltmon & Ransom

Sunday, September 17 – Young & Wilsford

Sunday, September 24 – Penders



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.



Thank You from Red Oak ISD

Do you remember 'way back in July when FUMCRO collected donations to assist Red Oak ISD purchase school supplies for students in need and we sent them a check for \$1,325? We recently received this thank you note:

Dear Pastor Kevin Wilson and FUMC Congregation,

Thank you for your support of the ROISD Back to School BASH. Your generosity helped thousands of families start school with supplies and much more. We appreciate your partnership.

Beth Trimble, Executive Director of Communications



Secret Sister Reminder!

Secret Sisters, please remember to look on the table just outside the Fellowship Hall to see if you have a gift from your Secret Sister.

Remember, also, 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!*

Invitation to Join Thursday Prayer Warriors! We Need YOU!

Please consider joining our Zoom prayer group every Thursday from 6:00 - 6:30 PM. In addition to the reading of a selected scripture, at intercession we pray for each individual listed on our church prayer list and add others in our community. We are currently seven in number; however, we want to invite and welcome all additional Prayer Warriors! (See Zoom invitation on page 19.)



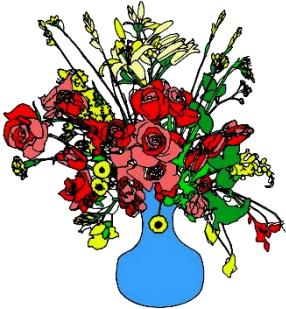
Acts of Kindness Coins

"Kindness tokens" are available in the foyer. Slip a couple in your purse or pocket and let someone know you appreciate all that they do by giving them a coin.



A Note about Altar Flowers – 2023 Flower Calendar

The flower calendar for 2023 is posted in the foyer. 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 can 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. There are **OPEN** dates on **September 24th** and **November 5th & 12th**.



Altar Flowers – September

	<u>Given by:</u>	<u>Occasion:</u>
3 rd	Bud Norris	In celebration of Beth Norris' birthday!
10 th	The Abergers	In loving memory of Dad's birthday.
17 th	Red Oak FUMC UWF	In celebration of UWF sisters in Christ!
24 th	OPEN	
Altar flowers are \$35; please mark your check “flowers.” Thank you.		

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES



Children's and Youth 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. **Ms. Mary Young will begin a new class for 6th – 8th graders on Sunday, September 10th. A Youth Class for Grades 9 – 12 will also begin Sunday, September 10th with Anthony McKnight as the teacher.** 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 continues its study- "He Gets Us: Experiencing the Confounding Love, Forgiveness, and Relevance of Jesus" by Max Lucado.

Jesus understands our lives because he was human too. He faced the same hardships and personal struggles that we encounter on a daily basis. He felt our deepest sadness and experienced our darkest solitude. Above all, Jesus gets us.

In Jesus' time, communities were deeply divided by bitter differences in religious beliefs, political positions, income inequality, legal status, and ethnic differences. But where was Jesus in all of this? Did he align with the religious elites? Or did he start an uprising to overthrow them? Neither of the above.

Instead, he went from town to town, offering hope, new life, and modeling a different way to live and to change the world. Instead of pursuing power, money, or religious authority, he shared a loving and sacrificially generous way of living--he championed a better way. But how can we understand the Jesus of the Bible today?

Inside the pages of *He Gets Us*, you'll find 14 of the most frequently asked questions about Jesus, including:

Was Jesus ever stressed?

Was Jesus ever lonely?

Did Jesus ever mourn?

Did Jesus have fun?

How did Jesus deal with injustice?

Was Jesus fed up with politics?

We hope you'll join us as we discuss the answers to these and other questions about Jesus! Books are available, or you can order an e-book at Amazon. We gather at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall for donuts, coffee and chit chat. Class begins at 9:45 AM and there's a place for you!



Enrichment Class



Sunshine Class – Meeting on Saturday Mornings

The Sunshine Class, led by Dani Muckleroy, meets on **Saturday** morning at **9:00 AM** in the church's Fellowship Hall.

The fall quarter Bible lessons center around the theme "**God Provides**" and remind us of the ways God meets our needs and of God's call to us to help those who lack life's essentials of food, water, and shelter.

September's lessons focus on FOOD. Scripture recognizes that hunger, famine, and food insecurity make people vulnerable to a variety of threats. It also testifies to God's generous provision of food for humans and wild creatures and to human responsibility to help those who are hungry and in need. From God's provision of manna in the wilderness to divine provision during famine, from Jesus' feeding of crowds to his teaching of a new way of being with the poor and marginalized through table fellowship, Scripture bears witness to God's graciousness and our responsibility as its recipients.

Spiritual Practice: Feasting

YOU are invited to come and join this lively group in fellowship and Bible study!

News from United Women in Faith (UWF)

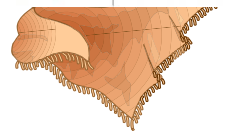


The Circle of Hope & Healing (Prayer Shawl)

The next meeting of the UWF Prayer Shawl Circle is scheduled for **Saturday, September 9** at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. If you like to crochet, knit, weave, sew, and pray, please join us in this ministry.



United
Women
in Faith



UWF Circle of Love



The Circle of Love will meet on Tuesday, September 26, at 10:00 AM. Jo Wilsford has the program and Jan Parker is the hostess and will provide light snacks for this meeting. Instead of having a potluck lunch, we now will have light snacks at each meeting. Come, join us for a time of fellowship as we meet and “snack” together!

Need more information? Call Jennifer McKnight at 214-354-8373.

UWF Friendship Circle

The UWF Friendship Circle's next meeting is on Thursday, September 28. We will discuss the 2nd session in our study book, *The Belonging Project: Finding Your Tribe and Learning to Thrive*. Cheryl Wilson will present the devotional; Sandra Doyle will provide refreshments and Judy Pelowski is the session facilitator.



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

**Come join us in worship on
UWF Sunday, September 17th, at 11:00 AM!**

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.

Thank you for your generosity!

From the Outreach, Hospitality, Mission Team (OHM)

Founders' Day, Saturday, September 16th **FUMCRO Volunteers Needed!**

The City of Red Oak is sponsoring the city's celebration of Founders' Day once again this year on Saturday, September 16th. Founders Day kicks off with a parade down Red Oak Rd beginning at 9:00 AM, and will continue with a festival in Watson Park until 2:00 PM! There will be vendors, food trucks, community organizations, live music, and fun for the kids during the celebration.



During the day, **FUMCRO volunteers will be stationed in the church parking lot** and will offer free parking and hand out bottled water and flyers advertising its upcoming events: Lord's Acre, Pumpkin Patch, and Trunk or Treat. **Volunteers are needed to help set up canopy at 8:00 AM, put water in ice chests, and bring bags out from the church. Greeters are needed from 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM to welcome vehicles and give out water and bags and then help close down.** If you would like to help the OHM Team in any way at any time during the day, they could use several volunteers. There will be a sign-up list in the foyer.

Got Junk in the Trunk....or in Your House...or in Your Storage Unit??

Junk in the Trunk will be here before you know it. Remember to claim your spot by September 18th for the discounted price!! Contact Jill Gunderson to make your reservations.



If you are like many people these days, particularly those who are a little older, throughout the years you may have gathered a lot of "junk" ... or you may be downsizing your living space.

Whatever the reason, here's a wonderful way to get rid of some of that "junk" (which, as the saying goes, may be someone else's treasure!!).

On Saturday, October 14th the Outreach, Hospitality and Mission Ministry Team is sponsoring an event called **Junk in the Trunk!** For a small fee (\$25 by September 18th or \$35 after September 18th), you may rent a single parking space in FUMCRO's parking lot to sell your "junk." The event is from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, with set-up at 8:00 AM. You must provide your own table, chair, or awning, if needed. This event is open to vendors, individuals & groups. It's going to happen rain or shine!

To reserve your space, please email Jill Gunderson at jillbean647@aol.com or text or call her at 715-432-1085. There are flyers advertising this event in the church foyer; take a few to hand out to neighbors and friends. If you don't have any "junk," (I can't imagine that!), come and see what treasures you can find to buy!

A Mission and Community Outreach Opportunity at Red Oak Rehabilitation Center

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Red Oak Rehab Activities Director, Julie Gaitan, reached out to FUMCRO for help with programing for patients. One of her requests was for **Bible lessons, hymns, and communion**. Pastor Kevin will start a pilot program to also offer communion.

There are 140 residents in Rehab: 24 are in Memory Care, and about 48 in the main nursing home that are bed fast. Communion will be delivered to these residents after the elements are blessed. Those that are ambulatory will come to the dining area and will be served there. **We need some man/ woman power, please.**



Tuesday afternoons are usually Bingo afternoons with either Julie or her assistant calling the numbers, and we are there to assist the residents with their cards. Many are not able to identify the numbers, so you get to play about 8 or 9 cards as you stroll around the tables to be sure numbers are covered. The patients are so thrilled when they win!!!! It is 2 hours well spent in helping others have a bit of happiness. We have taken treats -- ice cream and fried pies -- and small prizes for bingo - lotion is very well received, as are puzzle books.

Outreach, Hospitality and Missions Committee is heading up this outreach program and is asking the congregation for help in the following ways/times:

- 1) Your time for communion (date & time TBD)
- 2) Your time for either Tuesday morning (10:00 -12:00) or afternoon (2:00-4:00).
2 people are needed for each shift.
- 3) Your time, as you have it, to spend visiting, praying or reading to bedfast residents. These people often only see the nurse or aides. Family visits are rare. Residents are lonely. A list will be at the front desk of the Rehab center with names and room numbers. Please leave your name by the name(s) of the resident(s) you see. We need to visit as many of these folks as we can, please.
- 4) Craft supplies - all kinds - clean out your hobby closet. There will be a collection basket in the foyer of the church.
- 5) Bingo prizes - Dollar Tree price range. They love cookies and candy and coloring books and colored pencils or crayons.
- 6) Nail polish of all colors, polish remover and wipes, finger nail files and clippers for Julie and her assistant to use on residents
- 7) Your old magazines can be placed in the same basket
- 8) Money to buy treats and/or prizes for Tuesdays. Checks can be made to FUMCRO with RO Rehab in the memo line

OHM is hoping you can respond in some way to these needs. Please pray over your help with this outreach mission; I hope the Holy Spirit sends you to me to schedule a time or to ask a question.

Blessings, Dani Muckleroy

972-839-8946 (cell - text is best)

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>.

August Giving/Offerings

6 th	\$15,868
13 th	\$5,885
20 th	\$4,380*
23 rd	\$3,415*

*To meet our 2023 budget and Connectional Mission Giving for 2023, the offering each week needs to total at least \$5600.

2023 Apportionments/Connectional Mission Giving (CMG)

Total Due: \$26,354 (by December 31, 2023)

Total Paid: \$12,761.47 leaving a total of \$13,592.53 unpaid.

A portion of FUMCRO's Connectional Mission Giving for 2023 was sent to the Conference office in April and an additional \$1000 in May (donated by the Enrichment Class) and an additional \$5,000 in July (a generous donation from a FUMCRO member). Several other members have also given toward the CMG. An additional \$3,342 was sent in August.

Plans are to send a portion of FUMCRO's Connectional Mission Giving for 2023 to the Conference office as the budget allows.

As always, 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!



FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer

ALL FUMCRO members as all try to stay healthy and safe

Lori Stricker
Glen Parker
Carol Haffey
Troy Dollar
Cindy Casey

Mike Stricker
Mary Munoz & baby, Gabriel
Helen Malone
Rita Dugger
Wynona Haney

Brothers & Sisters in Christ in the Ukraine
Victims & Families of Victims of Gun Violence
Students, Teachers and other Educators
Victims of Maui Fires and Florida Hurricane
The United Methodist Church
Red Oak First United Methodist Church

Friends and Family of FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer

Family of Frank Gnoza (previous FUMCRO member)
Wayne Crocker (Ashfords)
Jessie Chavez (Helen Malone)
Johnny Walker (Grandstaff's employee)
Jaycee Watson (Lynne Grandstaff's friend)
Jenna & Ryan, Jacob & Lucas (Norris's friends)
Bobby McKnight (McKnight's friend)
Tom Britt (Helen Malone's friend)
Lacy Lyons (Rusty Lyons)
Patrick Leisge (Aberg's friend)
Lee Gravely (Grandstaff's friend)
Mike & Darryl Hosfield (friends of Helen Malone)
Blake Rogers (family friends of Susan McCord)
Jody Smock
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)
Andrea & Jason Briden (Briden's daughter-in-law & son)
Joyce Gipson (Pryor's friend)

Family of Phyllis Fife (Aberg)
Shannon Robbins (wife of Rev. Tom Robbins)
George Grimes (Pat McAlister)
John Muckleroy (Dani Muckleroy' brother)
JoAnn Hardin (Curtis Doyle's sister)
Jacob & Lucas (Norris' friends)
Monica Ross (Natalie Pender's friend)
Rick Malone (Helen Malone's Step-son)
Grant Stanfill
VanNaiaya Turner
Tonia Garcia (Judy Pelowski's son's mother-in-law)
Buford Sharp (Suzanne Barry's uncle)
Raymond Raasch (Rusty Lyons)
Scotty Lyons (Rusty Lyons)
Tony & Maryjane Riesenbergen (friends of the Youngs)
Cathy Cochrell (Mary Young's friend)
Sandy & Brad Morton (Pryors' friends)
Woody Wood (Larry McCord's friend)
Marilee Stephan (Jerry McAlister's cousin)
Johnny Knight (Lynne Grandstaff's friend)
Richard Knapp (Helen Malone's neighbor)
Sylvia Grandstaff (Grandstaff's daughter-in-law)
Rhoda Flores (Eva Rudd's sister-in-law)
Debbie Doyle (Doyle's daughter)
Joan Apple (Sandra Doyle's sister-in-law)

NOTE: *If we can give praises that prayers have been answered and someone you placed on the prayer list can be removed, please let the church office know.*

Remember that new prayer requests can be added at any time on Sunday morning by writing them on the prayer request list before the service or by calling/emailing the church office.

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>

Have a great Labor Day weekend! Stay safe!

See you in person or online on Sunday!

Contact Information

**Rev. Kevin Wilson,
Senior Pastor**

kevtherevumc@gmail.com

Larry McCord, Minister of Music
fumcromusic@gmail.com

Anthony McKnight, Youth Director
youth@fumcro.org

Jo Wilsford, Office Administrator
firstumcredoak@gmail.com

Judy Cadenhead, Building Manager/Nursery
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Phone

972-617-9100

Web

www.fumcro.org
facebook.com/fumcro

First United Methodist Church

Red Oak

600 Daubitz Dr.

P.O. Box 25 (Mailing Address)

Red Oak, TX 75154

WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Sundays

9:30 am Enrichment Class

9:45 am Children's Classes

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

6:15 pm Pastor's Bible Study

7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays, 6:15 PM

Prayer Group on Zoom