



September 3, 2024

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



Dear Church members and friends,

"This is a day of new beginnings..." Each year when the church returns to the fall programming for the year, I am reminded of new beginnings. Surrounded by the plans of new Bible studies to be taught, the pile of paperwork to be completed by charge conference, and making sure each item is crossed off the ever-growing to do list offers both anxiety and joy.

It is amid the seeming chaos and plans that I am reminded of a beloved hymn. "This is a Day of New Beginnings," a hymn written by Brian Wren. Originally, the hymn was written for a New Year's Day Service. While Wren created the hymn for a singular event, he shares, "in itself, the new year is an arbitrary convention, its "newness" a mere mark on the calendar. The recurrent awakening of life in nature is not a strong enough foundation for hope of real change. Yet by faith in the really new events of the Christian story, a day, or a month, or an hour can become charged with promise, and be a springboard to a changed life."

As we begin our new program year, I invite us into this attitude of 'newness'. With discernment from leadership of the church, we are beginning this season with remembering our history and identity, living in the present, and striving towards perfection as we hope for our future. Years ago, the church discerned a call and mission to center us as followers of Jesus.

Reaching up to God – in prayer, study and worship.

Moving into the world – taking opportunities to meet the needs of our neighbors and community.

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(from the Pastor, *continued*)

Making disciples of Jesus Christ by sharing the good news of God's grace and love and inviting others to join us in loving God and loving neighbor as Jesus taught.

Bishop Saenz has also asked the churches to follow five priorities in mission: **Multiply Jesus Followers, Champion Children and Youth, Maximize Care and Healing, Pursue and Embrace Diversity, and Tell Our Story.**

This program year, we are returning to our roots as we envision again our call to, “Reach up to God, Move into the world, and Make disciples of Jesus Christ.” This year we will spend intentional time living into this mission: studying together, praying together, worshiping, and serving the least and lost together. I invite each of you to join us in this new mission as we strive towards an ever-growing faithfulness.

“This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that’s gone.” The first verse is a call, a much-needed call to set aside the hurt and worries of our past and current disappointments and disillusionments and live into this new day. God has called us to this new season, and we remember and give thanks for who we have been. Now, we must also set aside the past as our guide for the future; rather, we are called to put our new hope in Christ’s vision for who we are meant to be.

While this may cause anxiety and feelings of uncertainty, Wren offers in verses three and four the following words, “Then let us, with the Spirit’s daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find. Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.” May we find peace that Christ goes before us. We do not journey alone, and I pray that this year will be one filled with joy, laughter, holy discomfort, and answering to God’s love, a love that fills and perfects us. Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us, “love God, love others, and serve the world!” It is a day of new beginnings!

In Christ,

Pastor Kevin



Wednesday night activities (dinner, Bible study & children’s choirs) begin on **September 11th**.

Come join us for fellowship, a good meal, Bible study and singing!

Schedule for Wednesday night activities, beginning September 11th:

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 11 (tacos), 18 (casseroles), 25 (sub sandwiches)

October 2, 9, 16, 23 (No Wednesday activities on October 30th – fall break)

November 6, 13, 20 (No Wednesday activities on November 27th – Thanksgiving)



LORD'S ACRE DAY – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH!

"...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 28th, to celebrate God's bounty and give of our "first fruits" on Lord's Acre Day.

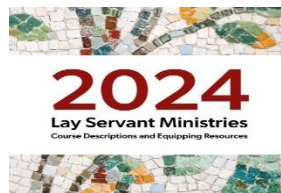
This FUMCRO Lord's Acre tradition started about 66 years ago with members donating crops, calves, hay, baked goods, crafted furniture and other new items to sell at auction for the church's largest annual fundraiser.

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 8 & 9!**

Let's make this year's Lord's Acre a banner year for this awesome fundraiser!

From the Central Texas Conference, South-Central District Office **Lay Servant Ministry Classes**



Registration is available for the following upcoming Lay Servant Ministries Classes:

"The United Methodist Way, Living Our Beliefs": September 14, 9AM-5PM & September 15, 2PM-4PM at Florence UMC (302 302 E Curry St. Florence, TX)

"Leading Worship": October 26, 8AM-4PM & October 27, 2PM-4PM at Grace UMC (101 W Ave F, Copperas Cove, TX)

Preregistration and book purchase is required. Register by contacting Pat Broadstreet (broadstw@gmail.com) or Bill Johnson (billjohnson1976@outlook.com)

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!



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
17 Ryland Young

October

22 Christy Kelso
24 Hannah Edwards
25 Dana Davis
25 Hugh Grandstaff
25 Penelopi Young
26 Anthony McKnight
27 Curtis Doyle
28 Elaine Nobles





SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- Tuesday, September 3** - Emmaus Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, September 4** - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
- Thursday, September 5** - Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p.22 for Zoom invitation)
- Saturday, September 7** - Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 14)
- Sunday, September 8**
- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)
 - Children's and Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
 - Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM
- Monday, September 9** - Yoga Class, 10:00 AM
- Tuesday, September 10** - OHM Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, September 11**
- All Wednesday Activities Begin*
- Wednesday Night Activities (p. 2)
 - Dinner, 5:30 PM (Tacos)
 - Pastor's Bible Study, Youth & Children's Choirs, 6:15 PM
 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
- Thursday, September 12** - Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p.22 for Zoom invitation)
- Saturday, September 14**
- UMM Breakfast & Meeting, 8:00 AM
 - Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 14)
- Sunday, September 15**
- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)
 - Children's and Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
 - Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM
- Monday, September 16** - Yoga Class, 10:00 AM
- Tuesday, September 17** - Cancer & Caregiver Support Group, 7:00 PM, (p. 11)
- Wednesday, September 18**
- Wednesday Night Activities (p. 2)
 - Dinner, 5:30 PM (Casseroles)
 - Pastor's Bible Study, Youth & Children's Choirs, 6:15 PM
 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
- Thursday, September 19**
- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 22 for Zoom invitation)
 - UWF Friendship Circle meeting, 7:00 PM (p. 15)
- Saturday, September 21**
- RED OAK FOUNDERS' DAY**
- Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 14)
 - Prayer Shawl Meeting, 10:00 AM (p. 15)
- Sunday, September 22**
- UWF Sunday*
- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)
 - Children's and Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
 - Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM
- Monday, September 23** - Yoga Class, 10:00 AM
- Tuesday, September 24** - UWF Circle of Love, 10:00 AM (p. 15)

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR (cont.)

Wednesday – Friday, September 25 – 27, 5:30 – 7:30 PM – Bring items for Lord's Acre

- Wednesday, September 25**
- Wednesday Night Activities (p. 2)
 - Dinner, 5:30 PM (sub sandwiches)
 - Pastor's Bible Study, Youth & Children's Choirs, 6:15 PM
 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
- Thursday, September 26**
- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 22 for Zoom invitation)
- Saturday, September 28**
- **LORD'S ACRE DAY!! (pp. 3, 8 & 9)**
 - Horizon Texas Unifying Conference in Abilene
- Sunday, September 29**
- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 13)
 - Children's and Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
 - Worship Service & Children's Church, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM
- Monday, September 30**
- Yoga Class, 10:00 AM



PARSONAGE PAINTING & CLEANING PROJECT

Parsonage Needs a Little Renovation!

Can you help? Pleeeeeeeeze??

Before the church parsonage is leased to new tenants, it needs some work. The Trustees Committee is asking for your help. The carpet will be replaced with vinyl by professionals, but before that takes place, most of the house needs to be cleaned and painted. Church funds will cover the cost of the flooring, but there are not funds available for a professional paint job. There is an "all call" meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 8th, at 5:00 PM, at the parsonage (107 Hollow Tree, Red Oak) to preview the work that needs to be done and for YOU to volunteer to complete some of that work. There are small jobs and large jobs; everyone is welcome to come and see where they can help complete these tasks so the parsonage can be leased as soon as possible. The rent from the parsonage goes to support the pastor's compensation.

We hope to see you there next Sunday! Where there is a need, our church family always rises to the occasion! Let's do it, FUMCRO!!



Notes from Larry McCord, Minister of Music

Revive Us Again



Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?
Psalm 85:6 KJV

Though the heat we continue to experience here in Texas reminds us we're still officially in the summer season, later this month the calendar indicates we move into fall. The trees will eventually start shedding their leaves and temperatures will cool down (hopefully!). Then we transition to winter, when many plants and trees may appear dead. Absent disease of some type, however, we know that spring will eventually come, the sap will rise in the trees buds will open and nature will once again bloom in all of her glory.

Churches, like nature, go through seasons. Membership drops off, pews aren't as full on Sunday morning, giving ebbs and worship may seem dry and lifeless. In some cases, this may be a sign of spiritual disease, calling for prayer, discernment and change. In others, this represent the natural ebb and flow of spiritual life, and we are called to wait prayerfully as God works behind the scenes to bring us back to life and good health.

On the first Sunday of this month, we sang the old gospel hymn, "Revive Us Again". The writer of this hymn obviously understood that, from time to time, the church needs reviving, whether because of spiritual illness or the seasonal change of spiritual life. Regardless of the reason, when we sense a dearth of spiritual vitality in the church, we should seek God's guidance and pray with the hymn writer "may each soul be rekindled with fire from above."



Our Chancel Choir rehearses each Wednesday, at 7:15 PM. 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:

- **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 on Sundays before and after the worship service: \$10 for adults; \$5 for ages 3-12; under 3 – free
Lunch is available from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM and will include pulled pork sandwiches, 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 5:30 – 7:30 PM on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Sept. 25-27.**

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



(Lord's Acre information, *continued*)

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 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: frozen chicken spaghetti casseroles, pies, cakes, cookies, 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!* **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



Sunday School Teacher Needed for Early Elementary Class

Starting Sunday, September 1, **Jane Aberg** will be teaching the 3rd – 5th grade Sunday School class! Yay! Thank you, Jane, for saying "Yes" to this important opportunity.

We still need a teacher to teach the K-2nd grade class. The classes are held each Sunday morning from 9:45 – 10:30 AM. Weekly curriculum is provided. Our littlest disciples need to hear the stories of Jesus and welcome the love of the teachers who teach and love them. Please let Jo Wilsford know if you are interested in teaching the K-2nd grade class. Rewards are innumerable! 😊

Pumpkin Patch....Coming in October!

The Children's Council is planning for **Pumpkin Patch** in October. Plans are for the Patch to be open on **October 6th**. Plenty of photo opportunities will be available in the Patch too. All Pumpkin Patch proceeds benefit FUMCRO Children's Ministries.

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

If you have a child who would like to attend summer camp next summer at Glen Lake, they will receive credit toward their trip for each shift they work in the Pumpkin Patch. We would love to be able to cover the cost of all kids to go to camp next summer, but would like to see them "invest" in the cause through service to the church.



§ Save the date for Lunch and Dessert Auction Fundraiser, 12:30 PM, Sunday, October 20th....

Would you like to show off your baking skills by donating a dessert to auction? Also, we would like donations of gift cards (have any lying around that you haven't used?) for a fun part of our fundraiser. Sign-ups and more details to come!

§ Save the date for Trunk or Treat/ Party in the Patch on Sunday, October 27th, 4:30 – 6:00 PM...

This year, we would like to add some PARTY back into the Trunk or Treat! We need folks to decorate a trunk (or a spot in the Patch, if you prefer). We will have a bounce house, games and refreshments. As we get closer to the date, we will be asking for donations of candy and small toy prizes to hand out.

Look for more Pumpkin Patch details in upcoming newsletters.



Youth Fellowship is starting at a new time on Sunday nights to serve our students better. Our new time will be 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM. We are starting a new series called "Good Call." This sports-related series will examine how God is our coach and how his wisdom should guide our strategy and our "plays" as we make decisions in our lives. We are in need of volunteers to help with youth on Sunday nights from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. If you are interested, please let me know. Thank you for your continued support of our students.

Anthony

In September, the Youth will continue meeting on Sunday evenings at 5:30 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. **Could you help provide dinner for the Youth on a Sunday evening? Please let Anthony know!**



September YOUTH Dinner Schedule:

Sunday, September 8 – Pryor & Keene
Sunday, September 15 – McKnight & Kelso
Sunday, September 22 – Waltmon & Ransom
Sunday, September 29 – Wilsford & Cadenhead



This 'n That

Please remember, as you enter the sanctuary, there is a form 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.



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. It's FALL, y'all...*be creative and have fun!*



NEW! Cancer & Caregiver Support Group

A new small group to support those who are dealing with cancer (either as a patient or caregiver) and other caregivers is having its second meeting on September 17th at 7:00 PM. Many resources and information will be shared as well as an opportunity to share prayers and concerns. Please see Judy Cadenhead or Beth Norris for more details or if you are interested in attending.

Invitation to Join Thursday Prayer Warriors! We Need YOU!

Philippians 4:6-7 *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."*

There is strength in numbers as the Scripture says in Matthew 18:20: "For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among 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 want to invite and welcome all additional Prayer Warriors! (See Zoom invitation on page 22.)



Ways you can SERVE

Ushers for August

Jane & David Aberg

Would you like to serve in Worship as an usher? See David Aberg!

Worship Assistants for September

September 8 – Curtis Doyle

September 15 – Jan Parker

September 22 – Jill Gunderson

September 29 – Jo Wilsford

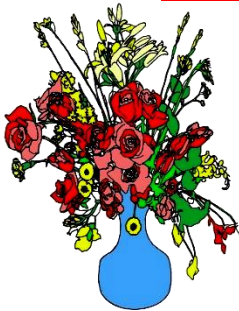
Would you like to serve in Worship as a Worship Assistant? See Jo.

Communion Servers for September

September – Susan & Larry McCord

Would you like to serve Communion on the first Sunday of the month? See Jo.

A Note about Altar Flowers – 2024 Flower Calendar



The flower calendar for 2024 is posted in the foyer. Flower arrangements are \$40 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 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 three **OPEN** dates on November 17th and December 8th and 22nd.

Altar Flowers - September

	<u>Given by:</u>	<u>Occasion:</u>
1 st	Dana Davis	Happy Birthday to Thomas, Nora, Tamara, & Jaden
8 th	The Abergs	In loving memory of Dad's birthday.
15 th	Melanie & Dallas Hughes	In loving memory of R. E. Mashburn, Melanie's father
22 th	United Women in Faith	In celebration of the mission work of the UWF!
29 th	Lynne & Hugh Grandstaff	In loving memory of Lynne's mother, Verna Geihl's birthday & in loving memory of Hugh's mother, Claire Grandstaff's birthday.

Altar flowers are \$40; 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. Jane now 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! The Youth Sunday School class (Grades 6-12) meets on Sunday morning from 9:45 – 10:30 AM in the Youth Room. Anthony McKnight is the teacher.



ENRICHMENT CLASS

“Gospel of John: A Beginner’s Guide to the Way, the Truth and the Life”

The Enrichment Class will begin a 6-week book and DVD study by Amy-Jill Levine on September 8. John’s Gospel offers readers a new language—of being born anew, of living water, of wind and spirit, of the “I am”—that enhances how we understand the divine, how we experience the world, and how we participate in the mystery of



Enrichment Class

faith.

With her characteristic wit and charm, Amy-Jill Levine introduces readers to the world of the Gospel of John by unpacking the stories in their original context, along with examining how the text is read today. This book considers the Gospel of John in its entirety, moving through the Gospel and exploring the prologue, the wedding at Cana, the Samaritan woman at the well and the woman caught in adultery, the healing of the man at the pool and the man born blind, foot washing, Mary Magdalene and Doubting Thomas, and the Lamb of God.

AJ is insightful, clever and humorous in her presentation of what we think are familiar stories of Jesus- surprising us with new twists and different perspectives- encouraging us to see things differently with delightful new understanding.

The study will include personal study, video, and discussion. Books are available in class or e-books can be ordered online.

We gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM for donuts, coffee and chit chat. Class begins at 9:45 AM.

There's a place for you!



Sunshine Class – Meeting on Saturday Mornings

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

This fall, the Bible lessons follow the theme, "Claiming Identity." They look at and explore the concept of identity by examining the life and experiences of Esther and how we find our identity in Christ.

September lessons follow the story of Esther and approach it from the viewpoint of five emotions experienced by the central characters: grief, fear, anger, disgust, and joy. They challenge us to face life with the courage and faith Esther and Mordecai displayed and in ways that identify us as followers of Christ.

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

News from United Women in Faith (UWF)

United Women in Faith
welcome
ALL women of faith,
no church membership required.

We are women like you, a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children, and youth, we act for justice and transform communities.

FINAL Central Texas Conference UWF Fall Gathering

Saturday, October 26, 2024

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Hurst FUMC, 521 W. Pipeline Rd., Hurst, Texas

Let's carpool! Please let Lynne Grandstaff know if you can go!

(NOTE: This is the FINAL CTC UWF Fall Gathering, because in January 2025, CTC will join with other Conferences to form the Horizon Texas Conference – see information on Horizon Texas Conference UWF inaugural gathering below.)

Soon the United Women in Faith of the Central Texas + North Texas + Northwest Texas Conferences will join together in the new Horizon Texas Conference.

Please join us for our inaugural gathering, Saturday, November 9, 2024 in Abilene, TX.
Registration will open in early September.

Let's carpool and go together to this historic gathering!

Horizon Texas
Conference



United
Women
in Faith

New Dawning!

Keynote: Sally Vonner, UWFaith CEO
Inaugural Annual Meeting & Lunch

10 am - 2 pm Saturday, November 9, 2024

@ McMurry University's
Garrison United Methodist
Student Center in Abilene



Details & Registration
UWFaithHTC.org

BE PART OF THIS HISTORICAL EVENT EXPANDING OUR SISTERHOOD!



Circle meetings begin meeting this month! Read on for details.



United
Women
in Faith

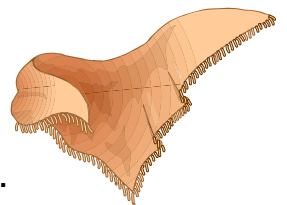
UWF Friendship Circle

The UWF Friendship Circle's next meeting is on **Thursday, September 19th at 7:00 PM**. At this meeting, we will continue our study on *Fierce: Women of the Bible Who Changed the World*. We will be studying Lesson/Week 5: Dorcas, pp. 138 - 168. Jo will give the devotional and Pam will provide refreshments. Jo will be the facilitator for this session. Need more information? Call Jo Wilsford at 214-793-5497.



The Circle of Hope & Healing (Prayer Shawl)

The next meeting of the UWF Prayer Shawl Circle is scheduled for **Saturday, September 21st at 10:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. If you like to crochet, knit, weave, sew, and pray, please join us in this ministry.



UWF Circle of Love

The Circle of Love will meet on **Tuesday, September 24th, at 10:00 AM**. The program will be presented by Lynne Grandstaff. We will have light snacks provided by Jan Parker. Come, join us for a time of fellowship as we meet and eat together!

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

Come join us in worship on UWF Sunday, September 22nd



On UWF Sunday, the members of FUMC United Women in Faith will lead the worship service and share not only the UWF purpose but also the deeper meaning of its motto: Faith, Hope and Love *IN ACTION!* There will be special music, and a guest speaker, Darlene Alfred.

Darlene Alfred recently completed a 4-year term on the Board of Directors for the United Women in Faith and has previously served as Social Action Coordinator at Conference, District and local church level as well as serving as Vice President for the South District. Her passion for education and social equality has allowed her to be a positive change agent for social action and gender equality. She is a member of the Board of Directors for Texas Impact and the General Board of Global Ministries, representing the United Women in Faith. Darlene is well-known throughout our Conference as she served from 2020-2024 as Conference Lay Leader of the Central Texas and served as delegate to the General /Jurisdiction Conference.

Come join us in worship on UWF Sunday!



United
Women
in Faith

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 & OUTREACH 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!

K-12 Tutoring at FUMCRO on Tuesdays & Thursdays

It's that time of year! Tutoring time! We will begin tutoring on September 10th from 4:30-6:30 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Volunteers will be needed again. You can contact me, Jennifer McKnight, at 214-354-8373. It takes a village to raise children. Please consider being part of that village. (See flyer on p. 23)



A Mission and Community Outreach Opportunity at Red Oak Rehabilitation Center



Thanks to all who have contributed to the parties, games and crafts at Red Oak Rehab. It is a joy to see the residents look forward to communion at 2:00 PM on the Tuesday following our church communion Sunday. And Bingo has been a winner from day one. As you can, please continue to donate small prizes for the Bingo games. See the list of suggestions on the table in the foyer. Come and witness the pleasure you are giving these residents! For more details, please call/text Dani Muckleroy at 972-839-8946 (cell - text is best).

An Ongoing Mission: Providing Kid-Friendly Take-Home Meals



Several of our FUMCRO members are mentors at Red Oak High School. Since ROISD recognizes the need for weekend food for food insecure homes, First United Methodist Church of Red Oak has been asked **to participate in stocking a food pantry for the 70+ students in Mentors Care.** Our church will focus on weekend backpacks of kid-friendly food. Can you help? Please consider adding one or more of the items below to your grocery list each week. A list of the items is on the table in the foyer as well as a basket for donations. And, as always, you may make a monetary donation by writing a check made out to FUMC or giving cash in an offering envelope and labeling either one "Mentors Care" then we'll do the shopping! Let's make sure these kids do not go hungry!

The kids, the Mentors Care coordinator and Mentors truly appreciate you!

Thank you for your support.

Interested in becoming a mentor? Talk to Dani Muckleroy...she is Mentors Care best ambassador, loves mentoring and will be glad to share the mentoring benefits for kids (and mentors!).

Suggestions for quick take-home meals for kids:

- ~ Cereal bars
- ~ Boxes of raisins, yogurt-covered cravings
- ~ Animal crackers
- ~ Nutella & Go with breadsticks packs
- ~ Gardettos Snack Mix bags
- ~ Mac-'n-Cheese (microwavable)
- ~ Ramen noodles
- ~ Single serve oatmeal
- ~ Single packages of cereal
- ~ Easy-open soups
- ~ Easy-open cans of ravioli, spaghetti, etc.
- ~ Peanut butter, Nutella, jelly

LAST WEEK to Donate for Teacher Survival Kits for Schupmann Elementary Teachers/Staff

Red Oak ISD teachers are the BEST!



The Outreach, Hospitality & Missions (OHM) Ministry Team is asking for donations of items to fill a “Survival Kit” to welcome teachers at Schupmann Elementary back to school for the 2024 – 2025 school year. Can YOU help? Please pick up a list of suggested items from the table in the foyer. **Please bring your**

donations to the church by Sunday, September 8th.

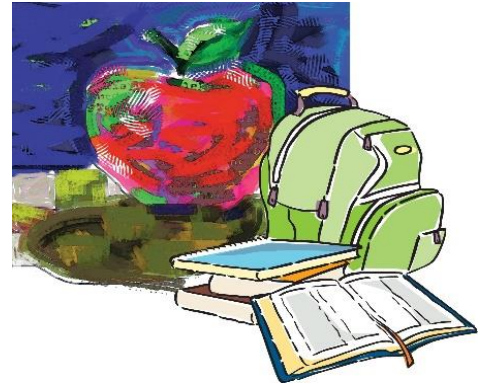
Monetary donations are always welcome and WE will buy the items! Make your check out to FUMC with “Teachers” in the memo line.

“Teacher Survival Kit” suggestions:

ChapStick	Band-aids	Snack bars (sweet & salty)
Hair Clips	Mints	Sticky Note Pads
Safety Pins	Highlighters	Travel Size Lotion
Rubber Bands	Paper Clips	Travel Size Hand Sanitizer
Tea Bags	Nail File	Spiral Key Holder (kind that goes on the wrist)
Toasty Socks	Stickers	

Reading Tutors Needed for Schupmann Elementary School

Tutoring in reading for students at Schupmann Elementary School...what a wonderful ministry! Please sign the list on the table in the foyer. Details are forthcoming.



Founders' Day, Saturday, September 21st FUMCRO Volunteers Needed!

The City of Red Oak is sponsoring the city's celebration of Founders' Day once again this year on Saturday, September 21st. 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 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM! Come out and enjoy activities for kids and families-- vendors, food trucks, classic cars, bounce houses, climbing wall, petting zoo, pony rides, Archery Tag, entertainment, and loads of fun!



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 a 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.

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

4 th	\$5179.00*
11 th	\$3532.00*
18 th	\$9528.00
25 th	\$5478.00*

*To meet our 2024 budget and Connectional Mission Giving for 2024, the offering each week needs to total at least \$5600.

2024 Connectional Mission Giving (CMG) **Apportionments/Connectional Mission Giving (CMG)**

Total Due: \$26,354 (by December 31, 2024)

Total Paid: \$7,146.90 leaving a total of **\$17,487.10** unpaid.

Plans are to send a portion of FUMCRO's Connectional Mission Giving for 2024 to the Conference office after the end of the third quarter of 2024. 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

Ron Briden
John Barry
Lori Stricker
Troy Dollar
Eddie Mae Newman

Gene Ratcliff
Sandra Doyle
Helen Malone
Mike Stricker

Victims & families of victims of gun violence
The United Methodist Church
Red Oak First United Methodist Church
Families affected by wildfires, tornadoes & floods

Friends and Family of FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer

"Ski" Pelowski (Judy Pelowski's husband)
Family of Elmer Stricker (Mike Stricker's father)
Debbie Doyle (Doyle's daughter)
Rhonda Wilson Dulworth (Wilsford's neighbor)
Virginia Anderson (Beth Norris' friend)
Andrea & Jason Briden (Briden's son & daughter-in-law)
Donna Ingram (Lori Stricker's friend)
James Apple (Sandra Doyle's brother)
Donny Davis
Randy Alexander (Rev. Mike Alexander's brother)
Cheri Garcia (Beth Norris' friend)
Victoria Dewbre (Dani Muckleroy's friend)
Johnny Walker (Grandstaff's employee)
Jenna & Ryan & baby boys, Jacob & Lucas (Norris' friends)
VanNaiaya Turner
Lee Gravely (Grandstaff's friend)
Lori-Proctor Smith (Briden's daughter)

Family of Verna Geihl (Lynne Grandstaff's mother)
Family of Mary Stricker (Mike Stricker's sister)
Martha Lamb (Briden)
Salvation Army Major Lola Meldonado (Dani Muckleroy's friend)
Dale Koeff (Rusty Lyons friend)
Lisa Doyle (Curtis Doyle's sister-in-law)
Jonah Gassiot (Lila Sackett's grandson)
John & Ann Muckleroy (Dani Muckleroy)
Kensley Bowman (Hughes' granddaughter)
Lacy Lyons (Rusty Lyons)
Patrick Leisge (Abergs' friend)
Buford Sharp (Suzanne Barry's uncle)
Raymond Raasch (Rusty Lyons)
Scotty Lyons (Rusty Lyons)
Johnny Knight (Lynne Grandstaff's friend)
Sylvia Grandstaff (Grandstaff's daughter-in-law)
Rhoda Flores (Eva Rudd's sister-in-law)
Betty Ashford (Gary Ashford's mother)

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.

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



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF RED OAK

NEED HELP WITH YOUR SCHOOL WORK?

Free tutoring available for grades K - 12
Snacks Provided!



TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 3-5:30 PM
BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6TH

600 Daubitz Dr. Red Oak, Texas 75154
972-617-9100



*Have a great week! 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
umcredoakjudy@gmail.com

Phone
972-617-9100

Web
www.fumcro.org
facebook.com/fumcro
Youth facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556079140517>

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
5:30 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