



April 2014

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“The just shall live by faith.”



Acorn News

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend:

- April 12**—2:00-4:00 PM—Easter Egg Hunt and Party
- April 13**—8:30 and 10:50 AM—Palm Sunday Worship Services
- April 17**—7:00 PM Holy/Maundy Thursday Service, a reenactment of the Last Supper
- April 18**—7:00 PM—Good Friday Service of Tenebrae
- April 20**—8:30 and 10:50 AM—Easter Sunday Worship Services
- May 1**—12:00-7:00 PM—National Day of Prayer
- May 9**—7:00 PM—Mother and Daughter Banquet (tickets on sale beginning April 20)
- May 18**—1:30 PM—Administrative Council (reports due by email by April 25)

Contact Information

Senior Pastor.....Allen Grant
 Associate Pastor....Owen McKnight
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Pastor's Corner

Good afternoon my friends. This week Owen is planning on leading worship including the message Sunday morning. His scripture will be from the Ezekiel passage posted in our weekly scripture list. This is the passage when God breathes out the Spirit on those dry bones and they come back to life. Sounds too fantastic to be true doesn't it? The story is really about what can happen in our lives when we experience the breath of God. When the Holy Spirit comes upon you after much prayer and listening to God, our dry bones get filled again too.

I don't know where you are in your Spiritual life, but if things have been a bit dry for a while and you would like to experience the powerful presence of God's Spirit, then come

on back to church. Come to worship and also come get involved with one of our Bible study groups. Come and ask some questions. come and listen to a good teacher. Come with your Bible and learn. Most of all, come and pray, listening to God for guidance. We will be glad to help.

Come on by this week and let's talk about it. God loves you and we want to. Come get to know us as we seek to be a people who reach up to God, move into the world and become disciples of Jesus Christ.

“When the Holy Spirit comes upon you after much prayer and listening to God, our dry bones get filled again too.”

Music Notes

God's Ringtones (the children's chime choir), will meet on the following Wednesday dates from 6:30-7:15 PM. All children, ages 4 through 6th grade, are welcome for a good time of singing and learning how to play chimes!

April 2, 9, 23, and 30, May 7(no meeting April 16 because of preparations for Holy Week services)

Children's choirs will resume after summer break in September.

[God's Ringtones will sing and play chimes on Palm Sunday, April 13 at the 10:50 AM worship service.](#)



Youth Happenings

YouthOne will be serving **hamburgers to-go** this Sunday, **April 6**, following second services. The meal is by donation. This will help support our youth group and our events this summer.

Our **Cross Fundraiser** is off to a great start. If you have not had the chance to take an envelope from the cross and fill it with your prayerful, financial support, we will have youth in the narthex to assist you and answer any

questions you may have about our **Mission Trip Fundraiser**. We are hoping to empty the cross by Resurrection Sunday!

If you and/or your student are interested in going on **Mission Trip** this year, your presence is requested at our **Mission Trip Informational Meeting** following services on April 13th. The meeting will last **30 minutes** and address any questions parents and students may have about signing up for our trips to **Mississippi and East Texas** this summer.



Laugh and Learn Preschool

Laugh and Learn Preschool is an amazing place to work, learn, and grow! We are adding to our enrollment numbers weekly, even as the year is coming to an end. Please continue praying with us that we always keep God as the center of our program and that each teacher would be a beacon of Jesus' love to the families to whom we minister.

Our preschool will have a booth at the Red Oak Business and Home Improvement Expo on Saturday, April 5th. The event will be held in the Red Oak High School cafeteria from 10:00 AM-3:00PM. If you know anyone with preschool age kids (6 months-4 years), please let them know that they can get \$10 off their registration fee for next year by paying at our booth on Saturday. We will also be drawing for some great prizes including FREE registration and a FREE month of tuition!

If you have a heart for young children, please consider making a monetary donation to Laugh and Learn Preschool. We are currently raising money to buy much needed, high-quality, age appropriate, teaching materials for each classroom. We are off to a great start after your generous donations at the Wednesday night dinner we hosted. If you are interested in this giving opportunity, please contact Angela Cameron at 214.704.7082.

New Years and Lent 2014
 By: Joan Pomeroy
 Writing for Enjoyment

Did you ever notice how New Years resolutions and giving up something for Lent are similar? In my opinion they both focus on self improvement.

One year I decided to give up a bad habit for New Years resolution. As the year went by, I worked on getting rid of the bad habit. At first it was an every day ordeal, by June Jerry had noticed how I was not repeating this habit and by Christmas it was gone. To this day I thank the Good Lord for helping me get rid of the bad habit.

Lenten season has taught me in giving up something for Lent I pray every time it pops up in my life; sometimes it is a quick prayer such as "Lord Jesus, please help me now to resist the temptation I am facing." I soon realized that I am not alone in facing temptations every day, for Jesus will help me. Thus I draw closer to the Good Lord as I continue to focus more on Him.

We are now at that quiet time of winter, between the Christmas and Easter. The day light is growing longer by the minute every day, so slow we don't notice it. Just like the strength we can receive from keeping our resolutions.

I take this time to think about the Lenten Season, and what I can give up that would help me draw closer to the Good Lord and also improve my life. This year it is not an easy task since I am still recovering from the cancer surgery. I am deciding between; accepting the thing I can not change; forgiving the people who have not met my expectations, or sit back and do nothing. Of course I realize nothing comes from nothing.

My New Years resolution is to be more kind and positive in the way I act and speak. Praying to the Good Lord before opening my mouth, saying "Lord help me to make the words of my mouth kinder than I feel right now, and may I be positive with what I say."

Prayer List

- Arnell Kimbro
- Darlene Grant
- Sherre Beth Nichols
- Philip Trees
- Barbara McKelvey-Hudson
- Weny Syfrett
- Russ & Lynn Schupmann
- Tom Rogers
- Billy S. Lyons
- Michelle Lyons
- Chester Neel
- Lori Stricker
- Abba Mufti
- Annie Eaton
- Oma Mitchell

Scripture Readings

Sunday, April 6, 2014

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8: 6-11

John 11: 1-45

April Memory Verse

Philippians 4:6

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and Supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.”

Easter Lilies or Spring Flowers

If you would like to order an Easter lily or Spring flower in honor, or in memory, of a loved one, please contact the church office. The last date to order is Monday, April 14. The cost is \$10 for either a lily or flower. You will be able to take your lily or flower home with you following the 10:50 AM wor-

ship service on Easter Sunday morning. (April 20)



Looking for 2014 Graduating High School Seniors!

The church and the United Methodist Women will honor and recognize any high school graduating seniors and their families on Sunday, June 1st at the 10:50 AM worship service. If you know of any high school graduating seniors attending our church, please let Jo Wilsford know.

(email: bewilsford@sbcglobal.net or phone 972.617.0672)

North Ellis County Outreach—Oatmeal

North Ellis County Outreach provides many needed services to families needing assistance in Ellis County. NECO has an amazing Food Pantry, programs to help clients pay bills when they are faced with unexpected challenges, a thrift store where families can find bargains, as well as many classes to help families learn about topics such as parenting, budgeting, marriage, communication, boundaries, and many others.

There are many opportunities to help at NECO. This month, our church is being asked to bring oatmeal to help stock the food pantry. Any type or brand will be fine. Thank you in advance for your generous donations to help your neighbors who may be experiencing unexpected financial need.



Upcoming Events

- United Methodist Men—Wild Game Dinner on April 5 at 6:00 PM
- New UMW groups being formed: Gathering at the Well and Proverbs 31
- All ministry teams meet on Sunday, April 6, at 12:30 PM in the Sanctuary
- Sanctuary Cleaning—April 12 from 10-2

“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

Fundraising Opportunities

Relay for Life—Thank you to everyone who has donated to this worthy cause. If you would like to donate to this cause, one way you can help is by donating money towards a luminaire. The suggested donation is \$10 for one, \$15 for two, or \$20 for three. You can get one in memory or in honor of someone who has battled or is battling cancer. Relay is also having a Garage Sale on May 17th at Waxahachie High School parking lot. If you are doing any spring cleaning and have any items you would like to donate, please give Jane Aberg a call. She can make arrangements to pick up your items. We are always looking for new team members so if you want to join the team get with Jane. If you have any questions, give Jane a call at 972.978.1062.

Church Van—Thanks to a generous donor, we are looking for a 15 passenger mini bus that will carry all generations from children to Senior Adults. We already have a little over \$30,000 in savings for this need.

Lawn Mower - Each year, our Building Manager, Jusy has to mow our church lawn. Our mower is just about worn out and she is tak-

ing a beating trying to drive it on our large 8 acre lot. The Trustees have agreed to purchase a Kubota commercial mower for the church, but there are no funds available. The cost is about \$8,000. We have had \$1,000 donated. If you can give over and above your regular tithes and offerings to help Judy get our lawn cared for, please mark your donation “lawn mower” and we will place that toward the purchase of a new mower.

Daniel's Den Homeless Ministry—It is time again for the Belk Charity Sale. The sale is May 3rd from 6am to 10am. You need a ticket in order to get into the sale. The tickets are \$5 and you can get one from either Dani Muckleroy or Jane Aberg. FUMCRO gets to keep the \$5 and we will be donating the money to Daniel's Den. On the day of the sale you get your \$5 back off the price of your purchase. See Dani Muckleroy or Jane Aberg. The money we receive goes to help Daniel's Den Homeless Ministry.



... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
Hebrews 12:1



Refuge
for the
Homeless

April 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<p>1 5-6:30 Jr. Girl Scouts 6:30-8 UMW Gathering at the Well 6:30-7:30 Ala-non & Alateen 7-8 AA 7-9 Emmaus Gathering</p>	<p>2 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 10:30-11:30 Bible Study 5:30-6:30 Fellowship Supper 6-7 Youth Bible Study 6:30-7:30 Kid's Music 6:30-7:30 Adult Bible Study 7:30-8:30 Adult Choir</p>	<p>3 6-7 Jr. Girl Scouts 6:30-9 Stephen Ministry Training 7-8 4-H 7-8 AA 7-8 Daisy Scouts</p>	<p>4 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 8-9 Ala-non</p>	<p>5 9-12 UMW Proverbs 31 Couponing 10-3 Red Oak Business Expo 6-7 Men's Wild Game Dinner</p>
<p>6 8:30-9:30 Traditional 9:40-10:30 Sunday School 10:50-11:50 Blended 12 Fundraiser Lunch 12:30-1:30 Team Meetings 2:30-3:30 Girl Scouts 4-6 Confirmation 4-5:30 Girl Scouts 4-5 Boy Scouts 6-7:30 Disciple Bible Study 6-7:30 Youth Fellowship</p>	<p>7 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 5:30-6:30 Girl Scouts 7-8 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>8 5-6:30 Jr. Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 Ala-non & Alateen 7-8 AA 7-8 PDO Board Meeting 7-8 Rehearsal Last Supper</p>	<p>9 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 10:30-11:30 Bible Study 5:30-6:30 Fellowship Supper 6-7 Youth Bible Study 6:30-7:30 Kid's Music 6:30-7:30 Adult Bible Study 7:30-8:30 Adult Choir</p>	<p>10 6-7 Jr. Girl Scouts 6-7 Girl Scouts 6:30-9 Stephen Ministry Training 6:45-7:45 Brownies 7-8 AA</p>	<p>11 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 8-9 Ala-non</p>	<p>12 8-9 Men's Breakfast 10-2 Sanctuary Cleaning 10-12 Prayer Shawl Circle 2-4 Easter Egg Hunt and Party 5:30-6:30 Scrapbooking</p>
<p>13 8:30-9:30 Traditional 9:40-10:30 Sunday School 10:50-11:50 Blended 12-1 Finance 3:30-4:30 UMW Board 4-6 Confirmation 4-5:30 Girl Scouts 4-5 Boy Scouts 4-6 Cub Scouts 4:30-5:30 UMW Mtg. 6-7:30 Disciple Bible</p>	<p>14 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 5:30-6:30 Girl Scouts 7-8 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>15 5-6:30 Jr. Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 Ala-non & Alateen 6:30-8:30 Cub Scouts 7-8 AA 7-8 Girl Scouts 7-10 Rehearsal Last Supper</p>	<p>16 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 10:30-11:30 Bible Study 5:30-6:30 Fellowship Supper 7:30-8:30 Adult Choir</p>	<p>17 9:30-12:30 Scrapbooking 6-7 Jr. Girl Scouts 7-8 AA 7-8 Daisies 7-8 Maundy Thursday</p>	<p>18 7-8 Good Friday Worship 8-9 Ala-non</p>	<p>19 7-11 Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast</p>
<p>20 8:30-9:30 Traditional 9:40-10:30 Sunday School 10:50-11:50 Blended 12-1 Coffee with the Pastors 2:30-3:30 Girl Scouts 4-5:30 Girl Scouts 4-5 Boy Scouts 6-7:30 Disciple Bible Study</p>	<p>21 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 5:30-6:30 Girl Scouts 7-8 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>22 10-12:30 UMW Circle of Love 5-6:30 Jr. Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 Ala-non & Alateen 7-8 AA 7:30-8:30 Ala-non Group Conscience</p>	<p>23 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 10:30-11:30 Bible Study 5:30-6:30 Fellowship Supper 6-7 Youth Bible Study 6:30-7:30 Kid's Music 6:30-7:30 Adult Bible Study 7:30-8:30 Adult Choir</p>	<p>24 6-7 Jr. Girl Scouts 6-7:30 Girl Scouts 6:30-9 Stephen Ministry Training 6:45-7:45 Brownies 7-8 AA</p>	<p>25 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 8-9 Ala-non</p>	<p>26 10-12 Prayer Shawl Circle</p>
<p>27 8:30-9:30 Traditional 9:40-10:30 Sunday School 10:50-11:50 Blended 4-6 Confirmation 4-5:30 Girl Scouts 4-5 Boy Scouts 4-6 Cub Scouts 6-7:30 Disciple Bible Study 6-7:30 Youth Fellowship</p>	<p>28 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 5:30-6:30 Girl Scouts 7-8 Cub Scouts 7-8 Boy Scouts 7-8 UMW Friendship Circle</p>	<p>29 5-6:30 Jr. Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 Ala-non & Alateen 7-8 AA</p>	<p>30 9:15-2:15 Laugh and Learn Preschool 10:30-11:30 Bible Study 5:30-6:30 Fellowship Supper 6-7 Youth Bible Study 6:30-7:30 Kid's Music 6:30-7:30 Adult Bible Study 7:30-8:30 Adult Choir</p>			