



Acorn News

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend:

- May 1—12:00-7:00 PM—National Day of Prayer
- May 1—All forms and insurance due for Summer Missions
- May 3—9:00-11:00AM UMW Proverbs 31 Series: Healthcare 101
- May 5-9—Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 9—7:00 PM—Mother and Daughter Banquet (Tickets on sale now!)
- May 11—Mother’s Day
- May 15-17—Directory Photos
- May 18—Heritage Sunday
- May 18—12:30PM—Extravagant Generosity Meeting
- May 18—1:30 PM—Administrative Council (reports due by email by April 25)
- May 21—Last day of Laugh and Learn Preschool
- May 21—6:30PM Laugh and Learn Preschool Graduation and End of Year Program
- June 1—10:50 AM Worship Service—High School Seniors honored
- June 8—Dedication of Summer Missionaries
- June 15—Father’s Day—UMM Leading both services
- June 15-22—Senior High mission trip to Mississippi
- June 22—Commissioning of Stephen Ministers
- June 29—5th Sunday Potluck Lunch & Missionary Sunday
- July 13-18—Junior High mission trip to East Texas
- July 20-24—Vacation Bible School

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Please scan the QR code for immediate donations. The QR code allows you to make Electronic funds Transfers or Debit Card donations.



Pastor's Corner



Good afternoon everyone, Darlene and I want to thank all of you for your prayers for her through her knee replacement surgery and recovery. She is at home and walking much better. The pain she feels now is muscle pain and healing pain. There is no more bone rubbing on bone. This will go away and she will be like new again. We are grateful to serve a wonderful congregation that cares enough to pray for us and of course to feed us. We love the food. We are also grateful for the skilled doctors, nurses and others who cared for her at Charlton Methodist Medical Center as well as Shannon Wilson and the staff at Red Oak Rehab where she completed two weeks of intense therapy. The care she received in both facilities was just outstanding. This past week, we confirmed the professions of faith of seven of our youth. These young people are making their spiritual journey. I

want to also thank their mentors Ann Allen, Tim Brownlee, Dana Davis, Glen Parker, Mike Sackett, and Shirley Templeton. These dedicated Christian adults gave of their time for three months to guide these sixth and seventh graders as they learned what being a Christian and a member of the church is all about. Please thank them when you get the chance. Their faithfulness is making a difference in the lives of young people. Come this week as we participate in the baptism of Campbell Faith Cardwell, grandchild of Jody and Shannon Smock and daughter of Kelly and Aaron Cardwell at the late service. At both services we will receive Holy Communion. Come, my friends, and celebrate the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Allen

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” -Matthew 28:19

Music Notes

Our Sanctuary Choir will resume choir practice this Wednesday night from 7:30-8:45 PM in the choir room. We are a welcoming group of varied experience levels and skillsets. We are always happy to include anyone interested in joining us for short term or long term music ministry. We sing almost every Sunday morning in our 8:30 service. This Sunday we will be singing *Here is Bread, Here is Wine* by Graham Kendrick. Come join our fun-loving, inviting, and talented Sanctuary Choir.

Q - What do you get when you drop a piano down a mine shaft?

A - A Flat Minor



Youth Happenings

Our Senior High Mission Trip to Mississippi is June 15-22.

Our Junior High Mission Trip to East Texas is July 13-18.

This Wednesday night we will be finalizing forms and other documents for our summer mission trips at the beginning of youth. Our church deadline for registration and forms is Thursday, May 1st. We are already having a record setting year for youth signing up for mission trips. We are still in need of a couple

adults, over 25, who would be willing to go on either trip as work team adults. If you are unable to go on mission trip but would be willing to offer some tools for the weeks of mission, it would be greatly appreciated. Furthermore, if you would be willing to scholarship a student this year, we are still in need of two \$160 scholarships. For more information, please email Owen at opmc-knight@aol.com or reach him at the church Monday, Wednesday, or Friday.

Please be in prayer for our youth and leaders as they prepare to go and do Christ's work in the world.

Laugh and Learn Preschool

It is hard to believe that the school year is almost over. Our preschoolers have learned so much this year! Probably the accomplishment I am most proud of is the Spiritual growth I am seeing in our little ones. If you are ever having a “down” day on Wednesday morning, stop by the sanctuary at 10AM and watch our little ones praise Jesus! It will make your heart smile to see the love and enthusiasm in their spirits as they praise our Lord!



If you can't make it by on a Wednesday morning, make plans to attend our Preschool Graduation and End of Year Program on May 21 at 6:30PM. You can see for yourself the Joy of the Lord that lives inside our kiddos!

It isn't possible for me to write an article for the May newsletter without mentioning our fabulous teachers! May 5-9 is teacher appreciation week! If you see one of our wonderful Laugh and Learn teachers, be sure to give her a big hug and thank her for her HARD work in making our program a success. Thanks to Dana Ellard, Flory Stanford, Casi Holmes, Michelle Carson, Tiffany Kelly, Marilyn Woodson, Liz Mancha, and Holly Jones, as well as our TERRIFIC substitute teachers Jessica Aberg and Jennifer Lacy. Thanks for all you do, ladies! You are a blessing to our kids each and every day!

Mother and Daughter Banquet, May 9

The 67th annual Mother and Daughter Banquet is scheduled for Friday, May 9th at 7:00 PM. Ladies of all ages are invited to attend this special celebration of mothers and daughters. Invite your daughter, mother, friend, or next door neighbor and join us for a delicious Mexican food buffet and humorously inspirational program, *Accessories "R" Us*. Tickets for the banquet (Adults - \$6.00; children under 12 - \$3.00; children 3 and under free) will be on sale after church services beginning May 4th.

Need a Mother's Day Gift for a Mother Who "Has Everything?"

If your mother is someone who "has everything" and you need a unique and meaningful gift to give her on Mother's Day, please consider a Gift to Mission through the United Methodist Women. These gifts support both domestic and international missions, especially for women and youth. A minimum gift is \$5. A special Mother's Day card will be sent informing the recipient of your Gift to Mission in her honor. Please see Jo Wilsford or Charlotte Yeadon by May 6th to arrange this special tribute for your special Mom!

Prayer List

- Arnell Kimbro
- Wayne Kimbro
- Darlene Grant
- Sherre Beth Nichols
- Philip Trees
- Barbara McKelvey-Hudson
- Wendy Syfrett
- Russ & Lynn Schupmann
- Tom Rogers
- The family of Billy S. Lyons
- Michelle Lyons
- Chester Neel
- Lori Stricker
- Abba Mufti
- Annie Eaton
- Dolores Moore
- Oma Mitchell
- Oma's mother
- Shelina Costlow
- Robert Doyle
- David Doyle
- Beth Britton

United Methodist Women

The UMW is proud to announce two new offerings- **Gathering at the Well** and **Proverbs 31 Series**.

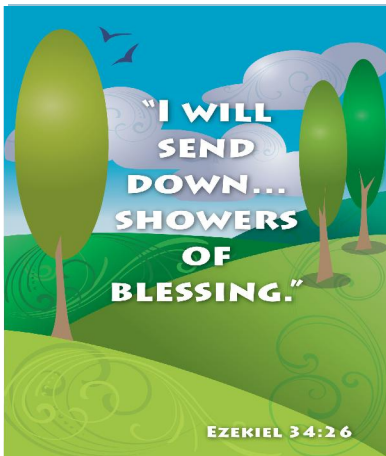
Gathering at the Well: The well in Biblical times was a place that women often gathered to share a conversation, a refreshing drink, or a community concern. Just as the well offers us life-giving water, Jesus offers us "living water", salvation, through Him. Much like the women of Biblical days, this UMW Circle comes together to share thoughts and ideas and offer comfort and sustenance to one another as we center ourselves around understanding and applying God's Word to our lives. We are a book club, Bible study. And community group all wrapped into one "gathering." We invite women of all ages to join us the first Tuesday evening of every month as



we discuss a book, study and apply Biblical teaching, share joys and concerns, and have a great time!

Proverbs 31 Series: The wise woman of Proverbs 31 is an ideal model for many of us, but often we find ourselves overwhelmed by the many day-to-day tasks this esteemed lady seems to handle with such perfection. Yet, we all have women all around us who excel in different practical areas, such as cooking, finances, fitness, and missions. The goal of this monthly series, sponsored by the UMW, is to increase our knowledge in every-day activities, encourage one another and impart practical wisdom. This is a very low-key, comfortable event that offers many a chance to invite friends who may otherwise not be interested in stepping into a church. Although the topics are practical, the connections we make with one another at these events can be life changing! We encourage all women to join us!

"Just as the well offers us life-giving water, Jesus offers us "living water", salvation, through Him."



You are invited to attend:

Baby Shower for Jennifer Pick on June 22 from 2-3:30PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Briday Shower for Whitney Young on June 29 from 2-4PM in the Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome!

Stephen Ministry

On June 22, 2014, First United Methodist Church Red Oak will commission 10 new Stephen Ministers. They are Tammy Ashford, Jo Wilsford, Keven Davis, Jan Parker, Dani Muckleroy, Neva Ransom, Sandra Doyle, and Judy Cox. Stephen Leaders are Mary Brownlee and Sherry Doty.

These 10 people will have completed 50 hours of specialized training in Christian caregiving. Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing a crisis or going through a difficult time. Stephen Ministers meet weekly with their care receiver for around an hour to listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support for the person. Caring relationships last for as long as the person's need persists.

Please lift up our new Stephen Ministers in your prayers as they continue to prepare, asking that God bless their ministry, and work through them to bring hope and healing to those they will serve.

Our congregation is one of more than 11,000 worldwide, representing 160 Christian denominations, that use the Stephen Series system of lay caring ministry developed by Stephen Ministries in St. Louis.

In Honor of all Mothers

By: Joan Pomeroy, Writing for Enjoyment

Corinthians (NIV); 13: 4-7 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others; it is not self-seeking, It is not easily angered; it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always preserves.

Mother's Day as we know it today is not what it was in the beginning. Then it was a day to honor mothers, not with material gifts but with visits and special dinners where the mother was the guest of honor. A day to honor mothers dates back to the Greek's ancient history. In the United States it took the work of Anna Jarvis, in honor of her Mother. Anna Jarvis and a group of supporters wrote letters to people in power, asking them to lobby for the official Mother's Day. On May 8, 1914 President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

(Information from the Internet)

Webster's Dictionary stated: (adjective) 1- A: to give birth to, B: to give raise to: produce. 2 to care for or protect like a mother. I interpret this definition as meaning; any women who nurture others as well as the women who have given birth should be honored on Mother's Day.

Not everyone has a mother they admire; I know several men and women who were abused by their mothers. No one deserves to be abused, Colossians 3:13 (NIV) states; Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Forgiving is not easy, however I learned that in doing this a burden has been lifted from my shoulders. I realized the abusive person is not going to change. I am not guilty or a bad person because of an abusive mother. I do not have to put myself in harm's way by being around the abusive person. It was then that I could see the good things that my mother did for me.

In honoring mothers I feel I do not have to buy expensive gifts, nor do I feel that a mother with children at home should give up her day to spend with her mother or his mother. Our daughter decides what she wants to do for Mother's Day; often this is not to visit with Jerry and me. She and I pick a day when school has ended for the summer, and on that day we choose something both of us would like to do.

If every person could live by Corinthians (NIV) 13: 4-7, following these guide lines and applying them to how we conduct ourselves with one another, would we then live in a world where love, between husband and wife, parents and child, foster a mutual respect for each other?

North Ellis County Outreach Item

Oatmeal—individual packets or 18-42 oz canisters

Scripture Readings

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Acts 2:14a, 3b-41

Psalm 116 :1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

May Memory Verse

Ephesians 2: 8-10

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.



God's Ringtones - Children's Chime Choir

The last meeting for God's Ringtones (the children's chime choir) will be on Wednesday, May 7th from 6:30 – 7:15 PM. All children, ages 4 through 6th grade, are welcome for a good time of learning how to play chimes! **God's Ringtones will present a special Mother's Day song at the 10:50 AM service on Mother's Day, May 11th.**

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

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is July 20-24. It's coming up faster than you think! Bailey Malone has graciously agreed to be our leader for VBS this year. We are needing adult volunteers to help us out. If you would like to volunteer as a shepherd for a super cool group of kids or a session leader please contact Bailey Malone at bmalone81@gmail.com or 469-387-3827.

We would also like to ask our wonderful Sunday school groups to each sponsor a dinner. Please look into your hearts and let us know how you would like to help.



Funds Needed

Church Van—We are in search of a 15 passenger mini bus that will carry all generations from children to Senior Adults. Thanks to a generous donor, we have a little over \$30,000 in savings for this need. If you can contribute to this need, make your envelope "church van."

Lawn Mower—We are still in need of \$5500 to cover the cost of a new lawn mower. Please give generously to this purchase as the heavy mowing season is coming! Mark your donation "lawn mower."

Relay for Life—Would you like to buy a luminaire to support cancer research? The suggested donation is \$10 for one, \$15 of two, or \$20 for three. You can buy on ein memory or in honor of someone who has battled or is battling cancer.

Relay for Life Garage Sale in May 17th in the Waxahachie High School parking lot. If you have any items to donate, please contact Jane Aberg at 972.978.1062.

May 2014

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 National Day of Prayer 12-7p Jr. Girl Scouts 6-7p Stephen Ministry Training 6:30-9p AA 7-8p 4-H 7-8p Daisy Scouts 7-8p	2 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p Masonic Lodge Dinner 3-9:30p Ala-non 8-9p	3 Proverbs 31 Ministry 9-11a
4 Communion Baptism Traditional 8:30-9:30a Sunday School 9:40-10:30a Blended 10:50-11:50a Girls Scouts 2:30-3:30p Cub Scouts 4-6p Brownies 4-5p Boy Scouts 4-5p Bible Study 6-7:30 YouthOne 6-7:30p	5 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30p Cub Scouts 7-8p	6 Jr. Girl Scouts 5-6:30p UMW Gathering at the Well 6:30-8p Ala-Teen 6:30-7:30p Ala-Non 6:30-7:30p Emmaus 7-9p AA 7-8p Girl Scouts 7-8	7 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p Fellowship Supper 5:30-6:30p YouthOne Bible Study 6-7p Kids Music Lab 6:30-7:15p Adult Bible Studies 6:30-7:30p Adult Choir 7:30-8:30p	8 Girl Scouts 6-7:30p Jr. Girl Scouts 6-7p Stephen Ministry Training 6:30-9p AA 7-8p Brownies 6:45-7:45p	9 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p Mother & Daughter Banquet 7-8:30p Ala-non 8-9p	10 UM Men's Breakfast 8-9a Prayer Shawl Circle 10a-12p Scrapbooking 5:30-6:30p
11 Mother's Day Traditional 8:30-9:30a Sunday School 9:40-10:30a Blended 10:50-11:50a Cub Scouts 4-6p Brownies 4-5:50p Boy Scouts 4-5p Bible Study 6-7:30p YouthOne 6-7:30p	12 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30p Cub Scouts 7-8p	13 Jr. Girl Scouts 5-6:30p Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30-8p Ala-Teen 6:30-7:30p Ala-Non 6:30-7:30p AA 7-8p PDO Board 7-8p	14 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p YouthOne Bible Study 6-7p Adult Choir 7:30-8:30p	15 Scrapbooking 9:30a-12:30p Church Directory 1:30-8:30p Jr. Girl Scouts 6-7p Stephen Ministry Training 6:30-9p AA 7-8p Daisy Scouts 7-8p	16 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p Church Directory 1:30-8:30p Ala-Non 8-9p	17 Lion's Club Breakfast 7-11a Church Directory 8:30-3:30p Youth Tool Training 9a-6p 
18 Traditional 8:30-9:30a Sunday School 9:40-10:30p Blended 10:50-11:50a Coffee w/Pastors 12-1p Extravagant Generosity 12:30p Admin Council 1:30p Girl Scouts 2:30-3:30p Cub Scouts 4-6p Brownies 4-5:30p Boy Scouts 4-5p YouthOne 6-7:30p	19 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p Girl Scouts 5:30-6:30p Cub Scouts 7-8p	20 Jr. Girl Scouts 5-6:30p Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30-8:30p Ala-Teen 6:30-7:30p Ala-Non 6:30-7:30p AA 7-8p Girl Scouts 7-8p	21 Laugh & Learn 9:15a-2:15p (Last Day) Youth Bible study 6-7p Laugh & Learn End of Year Program 6:30-8:30p Adult Choir 7:30-8:30p	22 Girl Scouts 6-7:30p Jr. Girl Scouts 6-7p Stephen Ministry 6:30-9p Brownies 6:45-7:45p AA 7-8p	23 Ala-non 8-9p	24 Prayer Shawl Circle 10a-12p
25 Prayer Shawl Blessing Traditional 8:30-9:30a Sunday School 9:40-10:30a Blended 10:50-11:50a Cub Scouts 4-6p Brownies 4-5:30p Boy Scouts 4-5p YouthOne 6-7:30p	26 Memorial Day Office Closed 	27 UMW Circle of Love Out to Eat 10:30a-12:30p Jr. Girl Scouts 5-6:30p Ala-Teen 6:30-7:30p Ala-Non 6:30-7:30p AA 7-8p Ala-Non Group Conscience 7:30-8:30p	28 YouthOne Bible Study 6-7p Adult Choir 7:30-8:30p	29 Jr. Girl Scouts 6-7 Stephen Ministry Training 6:30-9p AA 7-8p Desoto Private School Graduation 7-9p	30 Desoto Private School Kindergarten Graduation 7-9p Ala-Non 8-9p	31 Scrap Saturday

National Day of Prayer, May 1

May 1st is designated on the calendar as the 63rd Annual Observance of the National Day of Prayer. The theme for this year is "One Voice, United in Prayer." Because prayer is a very significant and vital part of our Christian spiritual life, the church sanctuary and altar will be open for prayer from 12:00 Noon to 7:00 PM on Thursday, May 1st. A notebook in which to record prayer requests will be available as well as candles to light as intercessory prayers are made for specific persons. If the weather is nice, the Prayer Garden at the entrance of the church may also be used. Everyone is invited to come for a time of quiet reflection and prayer.



Heritage Sunday, May 18

The First United Methodist Church of Red Oak (established 1848) has a long and rich heritage which we will celebrate on Sunday, May 18th, Heritage Sunday. If you have any pictures of church activities (the older, the better) and would like to share them, please plan to bring the pictures for a display in the foyer on this special Sunday of remembrance. If possible, label your pictures with dates, names and type of activity, and to ensure their prompt return, write your name on the back of each picture. If you need more information, please contact Jo Wilsford (972-617-0672).

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