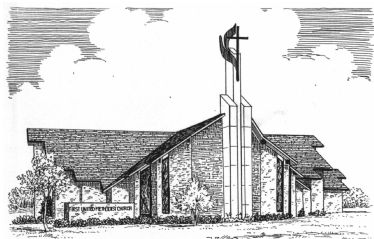


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



THE ACORN RED OAK, TEXAS



“A Small Package of Large Possibilities”

FEBRUARY 2011, Issue 1

OUR MISSION
Reaching Up to God
Moving into the World
Making Disciples for Christ

Acolyte Training Class Scheduled, February 13th

Being an acolyte is an important way in which the children of the church may take part in the worship service.



During the acolyte training class scheduled for **Sunday, February 13th**, the children will not only practice how to be acolytes, but also study the different parts of the worship service, the seasons of the Christian year, and the symbols of our faith.

The classes are open to **all second through sixth graders** and will take place immediately following the 10:50 AM worship service. A snack lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall and then the class will be held in the sanctuary. The class will dismiss at 1:45 PM.

Children who have already completed the training are encouraged to attend for a “refresher” and practice. A schedule including new and experienced acolytes will be developed for February through May during the class. Please call Jo Wilsford (972-617-0672) if you have any questions about the training class.

Sunday, February 20—Hearts & Flowers Tea Attention: Ladies of All Ages

Hearts and Flowers Tea

The United Methodist Women are hosting their annual Hearts and Flowers Tea on Sunday, February 20th, at 3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Tables will be decorated with our finest china and crystal; hats and gloves are encouraged and fun to wear and show off! Tea, coffee, finger sandwiches and delightful desserts will be served. All women, youth, and girls are invited; bring your mothers, daughters, and friends...anyone who would enjoy an afternoon of good food, fun, and fellowship. Please RSVP to the church office so that we will know how many places to set. Child care will be available. Call Jo Wilsford (972-617-0672) for more information.



UMW Call to Prayer

The annual UMW Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program is scheduled for 4:30 – 5:00 PM, Sunday, February 20th, following the Hearts and Flowers Tea. The program is a time for prayer and reflection upon our reason for being—our mission—as both Christian disciples and as United Methodist women. The theme for this year’s program is “Give the Gift of Love.” A special offering will be taken during the service to support the Retirement Benefits Fund which provides pensions and health care for retired United Methodist Women deaconesses and missionaries. All women and girls are invited to join us in the sanctuary for this special program.



CHRISTY NIVEN ACCEPTS DAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR POSITION

We welcome Mrs. Christy Niven as she joins our Parent's Day Out Staff as our Director. Ms. Christy is certified as a teacher, principal, and superintendent and has 10 years of experience as a staff member at licensed day care facilities. She has been a "stay at home" mom since moving to red Oak in 2007 with her husband Scott, ROISD Superintendent, and their children Makenzie (18), Morgann (16), and Matthew (4).

Christy's work experience also includes teaching at the 2nd, 3rd and 5th grade levels, serving as director of Gifted and Talented and Career and Technology programs, working as assistant principal and principal of elementary schools in Texarkana.

We are excited about Ms. Christy's experience and expertise and the potential she has to make the PDO we all love even better for our church, for our parents and most importantly for our children. Please stop by and meet our new director, Christi Niven.

Schedule of Servants:

- Flowers given by
2/13 : John & Mary Young in honor of their Anniversary & Brandi's 22nd Birthday
2/20: Kristen Smith in honor of John's Birthday
2/27: John Young in honor of Mary Young's Birthday
- Prayers for Pastor
2/13: Jerry Pomeroy & John Young
2/20: Don Newman/Curtis Doyle
2/27: Jerry Pomeroy/Mike Stricker
- Ushers & Greeters — 8:30
Steve & Charlotte Yeadon 10:50
Dale & Jennifer McKnight,
Chuck & Renee Fouts, John Young & Paul Young.
- Counters
2/13 Jerry Kirby & Tim Brownlee
2/20 Lionel Hazard & Suzanne Barry
2/27 Brandy Young & Curtis Doyle
3/6 Melody Durazo & Stephanie Vassallo
- Sound Technicians
8:30 Les Mitchell & Don Newman
10:50 Tom Rogers, Jack Smiley, and Kayleigh Kitzman
- Video: Carolyn Haffey / Youth ONE

Imagine NO Malaria

United Methodists worldwide are joining together to **Imagine No Malaria**. Imagine No Malaria is a comprehensive approach to creating a sustainable victory over malaria. This commitment will expand prevention activities, strengthen health delivery systems and train health care workers to effectively treat the disease.

On the 20th our district will have the opportunity to learn more about this ministry and how to engage our congregations in this scaled-up effort. Mission volunteers from each church should attend this district workshop. Our goal is to have 10 representatives from every congregation come together to **Imagine No Malaria**. Please contact the Church office by Monday Feb. 14, if **you are able to attend on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH- 1st WAXAHACHIE 3:00 PM**

FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

Church Dinner



The Wednesday Fellowship Dinners are held on Wednesdays at 5:40 pm weather permitting. The donations collected will benefit the Apportionments / Connectional Giving.

Menus are as listed below. If you would like to help, the crew is always in need of extra help for cleanup after the dinner is served. For more information call Mary Young 972-741-3120 or Mike Stricker 972-765-0326.

- 2/16 **Oven Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Texas Sheet Cake.**
- 2/23 **Hot Dogs, Mac & Cheese, Potato Chips, Carrots & Celery & Pickle Sticks.**
- 3/2 **Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Frosted Crispy Squares.**

Rent a Scout

Help a Boy Scout out to pay for camp or other activities

___ March 5 ___ April 2

If you need anything cleaned, raked, lights taken down, mowing grass, trim hedges, painting, you name we can decide if the boys can do it!! Just let us know.

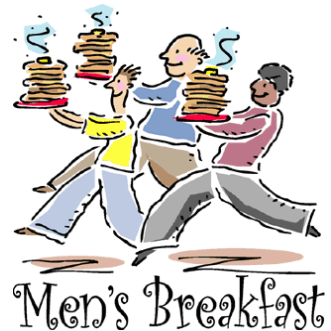
Please call Tamela Sackett @ 469 230 4560

Light, Life, & Love- Finding Wholeness in God's Presence

Spiritual Growth Retreat- March 4-5, March 4 & 5 at Lakeview Camp & Conference Center. This year the United Methodist Women of the CTC are making a special effort to get young women to attend. There are **11 scholarships available for young women** (40 and below) through the conference. This is a perfect way to become familiar with United Methodist Women outside the local unit and develop a strong creative, supportive fellowship among women of all ages. The scholarship and registration for this event are available from Jo Wilsford or in the church office. Spread the word! We need everyone to come- young, old, and in between. Children can also attend this Retreat.

UM MEN

The Monthly Men's Breakfast is held on the second Saturday of each month at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The breakfast is provided by the UMM with different men signed up each month. If someone would like to provide a devotional please contact Steve at 214-263-9919. All men are invited to attend this meeting.



**Come and Enjoy!!
Our Annual Lord's Acre**

**"Red Hot Chili" & "Dessert" Cook-off
February 27TH - 12:00 PM**



The Lord's Acre Committee presents once again the **Chili & Dessert Cook-Off!** We will have special judges to impartially decide on the best entries of the Cook-Off. Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday February 27th at 12:00, noon.

Contestants in both categories pay \$10 to participate. Call the Church Office or John Young to register. All Chili and Dessert entries must be in the fellowship hall **NO LATER** than 11:00 a.m. on Judging Day. Entries will be judged during the second service by the judges. Prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in each category. Come and enjoy fellowship and help us raise funds for our church debt.

SAVE THE DATE 2011

The Administrative Council and Committees of our church met in January and set dates for 2011. Please mark these dates on your calendars and plan to attend these special services or events; watch future newsletter and Sunday morning announcements for detailed information or date and time revisions as dates approach.

February 13 – noon to 1:45 PM – Acolyte Training Class (Grades 2 – 6)
 February 20 – 3:00 PM – Hearts and Flowers Tea
 February 20 – 4:30 PM – UMW Call to Prayer Service
 February 27 – Noon – Lord's Acre Chili and Desert Cook-off
 March 4 – World Day of Prayer; sanctuary open for prayer noon to 7:00 PM
 March 9 – 6:00 PM – Soup Supper; 7:00 PM – Ash Wednesday Service
 March 13 – Daylight Savings Time begins
 April 17 – Palm Sunday
 April 21 – 7:00 PM – Holy/Maundy Thursday Communion Service
 April 22 – 7:00 PM – Good Friday Service
 April 23 – 10:00 AM – Easter Egg Hunt
 April 24 – 8:30 and 10:50 AM – Easter Celebration Services
 May 1 – Confirmation Sunday
 May 5 – National Day of Prayer; sanctuary open for prayer noon to 7:00 PM
 May 6 – 7:30 PM – Mother and Daughter Banquet
 May 15 – 9:45 AM – Graduating Seniors' Breakfast and 10:50 AM – Senior Recognition
 June 12 – 18 – Youth Mission Trip
 July 10 – 14 – Vacation Bible School
 August 21 – Rally/Promotion/Backpack Blessing Sunday
 September 24 – Lord's Acre Day
 October – Pumpkin Patch all month
 October 30 – 2:00 – 4:00 PM – Party in the Patch; 4:00 – 6:00 PM – Trunk or Treat
 November 6 – All Saints' Sunday; Daylight Savings Time ends
 November 27 – Hanging of the Greens Service
 December 4 – 4:30 – 6:00 PM – Advent Event; 7:00 PM – Carols Around the Table
 December 11 – Children's Christmas Pageant (11:50 service)
 December 18 – 6:00 PM Blue Christmas Worship Service of Hope and Healing
 December 24 – 5:30 PM and 8:00 PM – Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services
 December 25 – Christmas Day; 10:00 Worship Service (no Sunday School)

NEW EAST DISTRICT FORMED

As many of you know, our Conference voted in November to realign the districts as part of an exercise in reducing the number of folks at the conference level and saving money for our apportionments.



Rev. Bob Holloway—DS East

Bishop Lowrey announced this week that our new District Superintendent for the new East District is a former pastor of FUMCRO. Rev Bob Holloway will become our new DS on June 1. Several of our members will remember Bob and Judy. Please pray for them as they move to the North East part of Tarrant County to the new offices of the East District and become our leader.

FRIDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB



Friday Night Book Club began a new book and a new cycle of gatherings on Friday, February 11th. We had a great time with our first book – lots of spirited discussion! Now that football season is over, please consider joining us for this second go-round. It's a very informal gathering and we'd love to welcome you. Meetings are once a month.

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

First United Methodist Church of Red Oak wants to let you know that we offer electronic giving now as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Debit Card Giving lets you make offerings automatically on a predetermined schedule using a debit card.

Online Giving lets you go to www.fumcro.org at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:40 am - Meet in the Sanctuary for singing/video and then go to classes. Idea for February: "We believe that the Bible helps us discover what God wants us to do and be." Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 6:5

Jr. & Senior HI: Meeting in the Youth ONE Room. Lead by Heather Rodenburg

Sunshine Class: Meeting in classroom on the right of the Sanctuary. Rotating Teachers: February Study: Assuring Hope; Unit 3: Jesus, the Promised Servant-Leader; Mark 8, 9, 10 & 13.

Enrichment Class: - Meets in the Fellowship Hall. New Sunday School materials arrived. Prepping for Adam Hamilton's study on World Religions. 6 week study begins Feb. 13; 9:45

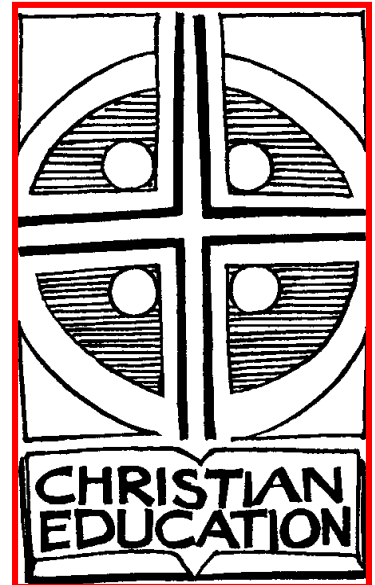
Nomads: Meeting in the Church Office. Classroom Teacher: Joanna Johnson. Studying "When the World Takes the Wind Out of Your Sails" by Moore.

Young Adult Class - Meeting in the Church Library. Study new every Sunday from the Upper Room: "Alive Now".

Pastor Class: Will meet in the Sanctuary to study.

Adult Bible Study: Wednesday at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm.

Financial Peace: Teacher: Terry Brown—Class begins at 6:00 pm on Wednesday evenings.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
FOR ALL AGES :
9:40—10:35 AM**

THE TRUE COST OF LOW PRICES

Proverbs 14:31 "He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God."

Hasidic Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of the Ukraine tells this story. The rabbi visited the owner of a tavern. Two peasants were at a table. They were drinking with reckless abandon with arms around each other saying how much they loved each other. Ivan said to Peter: "Peter, can you tell me what hurts me?" Weary-eyed, Peter looked at Ivan: "How do I know what hurts you?" Ivan's answer was swift: "If you don't know what hurts me, how can you say you love me?"

Many of us have a clear conscience about the United States having accumulated and possessing more wealth than any other country. Few of us understand how our lifestyles are supported by the blood, sweat and tears of very poor people, most of them women and some of whom are children or slaves. – Vincent Gallagher

The True Cost of Low Prices – The Violence of Globalization by Vincent Gallagher will be the basis for an 8-week pre-Lenten study that challenges us to take personal responsibility for the hardships suffered by those who labor to bring us our food, clothing, and almost all our consumer goods. If we are informed about the choices we make, each one of us can make a difference.

The study group will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:15, January 12th through March 2nd and will be led by Katie Almond and Elizabeth Sanden. Please join us for this journey. ALSO: This book counts for the UMW's Reading Program

ONE GOD — ONE FAITH — ONE WAY — YOUTH ONE CORNER

Mission Trip 2011



This summer our church will be sending 23 participants on a weeklong mission trip to the East Texas/Louisiana coastal regions. The trip will take place on June 12th through the 18th. During this trip, participants will help with home repairs for persons who are in need within the area.

These trips are very fundamental in building faith, friendships, and life skills for the youth. The youth are not only hearing about God but are experiencing God.

I encourage you to become a shareholder for this summer's trip. What is a shareholder and what are the benefits? Good questions! Well by making a donation and purchasing a full share, $\frac{1}{2}$ share, or a $\frac{1}{4}$ share, you are making an investment into changing the life of a teenager. As a shareholder, you will receive the name of a participant(s) that will be going on the trip. You will travel with them in spirit and pray for them while they are gone. Once everyone returns from the trip, you will be invited to a shareholders dinner where you will get to hear about and see how the trip has changed the lives of these youth. I would ask that you prayerfully consider becoming a shareholder.

Shares can be purchased by stopping by the church office or dropping the payment in the Sunday offering. Please mark "Youth Mission Share" when giving. You will then receive a shareholder certificate as the trip approaches with the name and picture of the participant(s). If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with Heather Rodenburg, our youth minister.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP SHARES

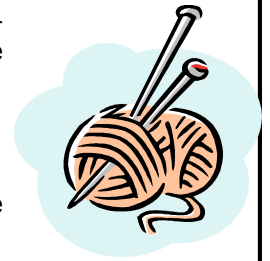


**MINISTER
OF YOUTH**
Heather Rodenburg
FUMCROYouth@gmail.com

Donate to Youth Mission Trip. We need a total of 25 shares.
1 Share = \$300
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Share = \$150
 $\frac{1}{4}$ Share = \$75
Please mark Youth Mission when donating.

The Circle of Hope and Healing & Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of the Hope and Healing Circle has been very busy creating and delivering more than 30 prayer shawls since we started in October, 2010. Each shawl is created with love and an attitude of prayer and positive energy. Once a shawl is completed, it is labeled with a label created especially for our ministry and then tagged with information about the shawl. [The prayer shawl ministry group holds a blessing in the sanctuary with laying on of hands and](#) the shawls are then held (if time allows) for our congregational blessing once a month. Shawls are then wrapped in tissue and ribbon, and a personalized card with a prayer is placed with each shawl. We continue to pray for the people that have received the shawls at our monthly meetings. If you would like to request a shawl for someone, please let the church office know of your request and they will pass that on to our group.



The shawls are not for sale and there is never a charge for them. We rely totally on the contributions or donations of the women in the group and our church family. Financial donations are used for yarn, tissue for wrapping the shawls, money for stationary and postage for mailing of shawls etc. If you would like to make a financial contribution/donation, please make your check out to United Methodist Women and in the memo section please state Prayer Shawl Ministry or PSM. Donations of yarn and fleece fabric to make "tied throws" are also very much appreciated.

The ladies of this ministry have shared that they feel they are blessed to be able to take part in and contribute to this ministry. During our twice monthly Saturday and once monthly Friday meetings, we meet in the Fellowship Hall for fellowship and prayers as well as to share ideas, techniques and ongoing lessons/tips for knitting and crocheting. If you would like more information about becoming a member of this group, please contact Beth Norris or Jo Wilsford.

Thank you all for the donations we have received and for your continued prayers and support of this ministry.
God Bless, Prayer Shawl Ministry of the Hope and Healing Circle

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S CIRCLE NEWS



- **Y*A*W*N Circle** will meet first Monday of the month in the church office at 7:30 pm. All are welcome. For more information call Melody Durazo at 469-964-4188.

- **General Meeting** of UM Women is held on the second Sunday of the month at 4:30 pm in the Sunshine Classroom. This is where all the circles come together for study, fellowship and discussion of activities. Childcare will be provided upon request.

- **Circle of Love** meets on the 4th Tuesday of the Month at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone should bring a covered dish to share. All the women of the church are invited to attend. Meetings are not held in the Summer months.

- **Friendship Circle** meets on the fourth **Thursday of the month** except November at **7:00 P.M in the Fellowship Hall**. This circle does not meet in June or July. After discussion of the Lesson, refreshments are provided by a member of the group. This month the group will be discussing Lesson Seven: Rapture, Violence, and Exodus from our Bible study, *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*. The scripture is Revelation 13, 15, 16, and 19. Lori Stricker will present the devotional, and Suzanne Neel will provide refreshments. **All women are invited to become a part of this UMW circle of friends.** We always have good fellowship, delicious refreshments, and lively discussions. come join us!

- **The Circle of Hope and Healing** conducts our Prayer Shawl Ministry. They at 10:00 am on the first and third Saturday and second Friday of the month at the Church.

- **The United Methodist Women** are collecting disposable diapers and baby formula (powdered) for the United Community Center. We continue to collect "Box Tops for Education" and Campbell's soup labels for Education. Baby items can be placed in the collection bag in the foyer for this purpose. Labels go in the mailbox on the UMW bulletin board.

If childcare is needed during any UMW activity, please call the church office to schedule.

First United Methodist Church
PO Box 25
Red Oak, Texas 75154

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75154
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Rev. Allen Grant
Senior Pastor
972-333-4197

pastor@fumcro.org

Heather Rodenburg, Youth Minister

Stu Dorsey, Music Minister

Sunmi Goodwin, Pianist

Lori Stricker, Office Manager
manager@fumcro.org

Judy Cox, Building /Nursery Mgr.

Christy Niven,
Day School Director

Bailey Malone, Day School Assistant

Worship Times: Sunday
8:30 & 10:50 am

Sunday School 9:40 am
Office Hours

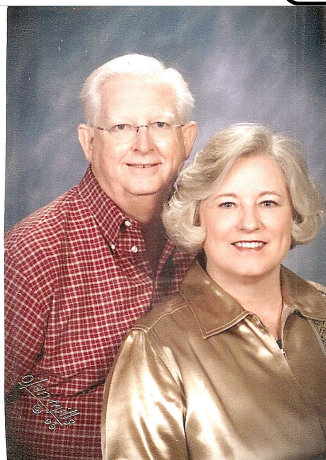
Monday–Friday 9 am– 4 pm
(972) 617-9100

Fax: (972) 576-3276

Website: www.FUMCRO.ORG
(nursery provided at all services)

Located at 600 Daubitz Dr. (formerly Red Oak Rd.)
Red Oak, Texas

THE BACK PAGE BY ALLEN GRANT



This week, we are preparing to honor the Boy Scouts of America and our troops and dens that are a mission of our church. If you have not been involved in scouting and would like to, or if you have a boy who is interested the contact Terry Brown or Steve Hardi in our church for more information.

The Scouting program is more than just an activity for our youth to learn about the outdoors. Scouting provides fun, fellowship, and training to our youth as well as youth in our community. It emphasizes honesty, self-reliance, and respect. Through a year-round program, it affects character, citizenship, and personal fitness.

But the success of our Scouting depends on our volunteers, who serve in a variety of leadership roles so that our young people may benefit from our Scouting ministry.

As we recognize the Boy Scouts of Troop 652 this week, we salute the splendid volunteers who serve as Cub masters, Scoutmasters, and others in positions of leadership.

We have had a great beginning to the New Year. There are many exciting adventures awaiting all of us. Thank you for supporting the organizations that are a vital part of making lives better. You are indeed making a difference in the lives of those around us. Blessings, Pastor Allen Grant