

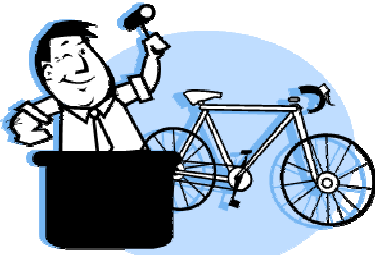
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# THE ACORN

August 1, 2010, Issue 8

## LORD'S ACRE DAY! \* \* \* \* \* SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>!

**“So what exactly is Lord’s Acre Day?” you ask?  
Here is a small explanation to either fill you in or refresh your memory.**



Lord’s Acre Day started at this church in 1957 when some dedicated church members wanted to raise money for the church.

Different forms of donations came in and were auctioned off. At our previous location a pen was set up on the parking lot with livestock. George Ogelsby donated a calf that had to be rounded up in the mud! Wallace Cockerham donated bales of cotton. He brought samples to be bid on and then delivered the full bales. Beautiful handmade furniture & pieces of needlework have always been ‘heated’ items on the auction block.

The Lord’s Acre Quilt has been an important part of our history also. It’s an amazing piece of work that couldn’t be done without the labor of several women of our congregation. It is hard to tell them how much we appreciate their contribution. In the coming weeks there will be a list of the winners of the quilt for you to see.

Because of the Lord’s Acre Day we have been able to pay off the current sanctuary’s building note. Also, we have paid different notes for upgrade and fix ups. We are now working on the parsonage note!

We pray that each one of you will be in prayer & thought as to your contribution. We will have several areas for you to participate! — Lord’s Acre Committee

### ATTENTION :

#### Wednesday Activities to Begin September 15<sup>th</sup>

Mark your calendars! Wednesday evening dinners (6:00 PM) and Children’s Choirs and Bible Study (6:30 PM) will begin for the fall on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Menus and more information to follow.

- > All Committee Sunday August 1, Beginning at 12:00pm
- > UMM Breakfast Saturday Aug. 14, 8:00 am
- > Lord’s Acre Hot Dog & Watermelon Fest – August 8.
- > Youth Mission Trip

## FIFTH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER- & COMMITTEE DISPLAYS

**Sunday, August 29th 12:00 pm**

Please mark your calendar for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Dinner on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Bring your best dishes and enough to share! In addition to the dinner, church committees will have information booths set up to answer questions about the work they do. Come eat, share, and learn! Clean-up Crew is Evangelism Committee.



## Church Dinner



Thanks to **Sherry Doty** for the beautiful new green (Kingdomtide) paraments on the pulpit and communion table. What a wonderful gift to brighten our joyful worship!

Continued from  
**THE BACK PAGE**

will know the hope that we have if all of us witness to the power of God's Holy Spirit this week, 2, 10, 100, 300? And if we do that for one year how many? See, our faithful witness reaches thousands of people within just one year.

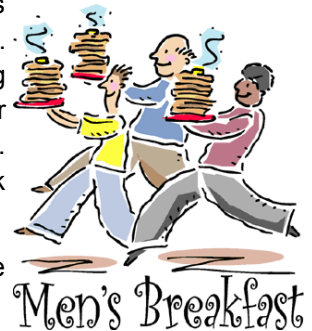
Will you join me on this journey? Will you covenant with God to invite two people to church, to share hope with two people, to care for two people in Jesus' name? I don't have a plan for you to follow. God will open your eyes to whom you can help. If you would like to talk about it, please join me during the week or on Sunday. We would love to see you.

Grace and peace to you, Allen

## UNITED METHODIST MEN COOKING

The United Methodist Men will have their monthly Men's Breakfast on the second Saturday of August at 8:00 am. All men of any age are invited to attend. John Young and Tom Rogers will prepare the breakfast. Tom Kiker will provide an inspirational message for the meeting. The men will be discussing their plans for the Red Oak "Founder's Day" event.

If you would like more information, please contact Steve Smiley, President at 214-263-9919.



## DECORELLIS EMMAUS GATHERING AT RED OAK

Please join us at the First United Methodist Church in Red Oak on August 3rd at 7:00 pm. Our fourth day speaker will be Beth Norris. We begin with praise music. If you play an instrument you are welcome to join in. Please bring a snack to share for fellowship after the service.

## PASTOR BEGINS SERMON SERIES

For the past several weeks, the Gospel of Luke has been leading us to an understanding of just how much Christ asks of us as his disciples. He wants us to give it all away. He wants us to take risks and help strangers, even our enemies. He wants us to look for turning points where we might meet God and be changed ourselves.

Our world is seeking hope and help during this difficult economic time. We have that hope. So beginning next Sunday, August 8, the pastor will begin a series of sermons based on Bishop Robert Schnase's book, "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations."

**Radical Hospitality**  
**Passionate Worship**  
**Risk – Taking Mission & Service**  
**Intentional Faith Development**  
**Extravagant Generosity**

Look at those adjectives. They are not usually associated with hospitality, worship, missions, faith develop-

ment and giving. These are powerful words. And if you want to know more, Pastor Allen will begin leading a Sunday School study of Bishop Schnase's book the following week. Copies have been ordered and you may purchase one soon.

Also, beginning September 15 we will resume our Wednesday night meals followed by children's activities and adult studies. Pastor Allen will begin the fall Bible Study. There will be additional studies available also.

Would you like to get control over your finances and get out of debt? Keven Davis will begin a 13 week series of studies from Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. In this study, you will learn ways to pay off credit cards, save for the future and live on a pay as you go basis. You will learn how to live like no one else, so that you can live like no one else. There is a cost involved for this course, that and more will be announced later.

## LORD'S ACRE HOT DOG & WATERMELON FEST



Come join us after Church on Sunday, August 8 at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a fun time of food and fellowship to benefit LORD'S ACRE. Lord's Acre committee provides all the food and refreshments, Your donations go toward paying off the parsonage debt.

## MORE LORD'S ACRE NEWS

Last Call for: Lord's Acre quilt blocks.....Beth Britton is currently working on getting the blocks sewn together to make the quilt top. She hopes to be finished with it soon. Thanks Beth and Helen for all your hard work on the quilt. She has been a driving force for many years in the cutting and sewing of our quilt. Once the quilt top is ready, it will be given to Linda Kemp to quilt.

Once our quilt is finished it will be on display in the sanctuary; thanks to the hard work of so many ladies in our congregation. The quilt has always been the one item to bring in the largest amount of money during our live auction so it is easily considered the most important auction item.

Please take the time to reflect on what you can contribute this year to our live or silent auction. We like to have new or very very gently-used items. The better the items donated the more money FUMC will make to put towards our church debts (ie: Parsonage Loan). Suggested items: hand-crafted furniture, electronics, computers & accessories, decorative wreaths, holiday items, services from your place of business, lawn & patio items, art work, tickets to sporting events, home-baked goods, gift baskets, and anything else creative.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:40 am - Meet in the Sanctuary.**

**Jr. & Senior HI: Meeting in the Youth ONE Room. Lead by Tammy Ashford**

**Sunshine Class: Meeting in classroom on the right of the Sanctuary. Rotating Teachers: August study: Christian Commitment in Today's World; Unit 3: The Marks of Christian Commitment; Philippians 1:18-29, 2:1-13, 3:7-16, 4:2-14 and Acts 28:16-25a, 28-31.**

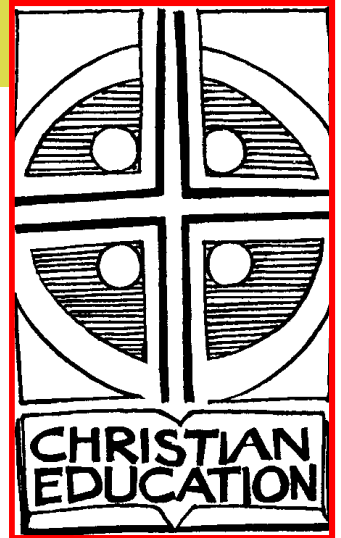
**Enrichment Class: - Meets in the Fellowship Hall. Teacher: Rotating Teachers; Studying: "Twenty Hot Potatoes Christians are Afraid to Touch" by Tony Compolo**

**Nomads: Meeting in the PDO Office Classroom Teacher: Joanna Johnson. Studying "Top Ten Christian List" by James W. Moore**

**Young Adult Class -Meeting in the Church Library. Teacher: Katie Almond & Arnell Kimbro. Study series of Open Forum Discussions: "Science & Religion", "Priorities & Commitment", "Gossip", "Environmental Stewardship", "Food", and "The Cost of Living The Gospel".**

**Pastor Class: Aug. 8 Place to be announced. Study: "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations"**

**Adult Bible Study: Wednesday bible studies will begin on September 15**



## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:40 AM

### Schedule of Servants:

- Communion
- Flowers given by:
  - 8/1 Dean & Sherry Doty Anni.
  - 8/8 Herbert Shelton memory Eris
  - 8/15 Doty's for Amy & Sarah.
  - 8/22 Sackett's memory of Shurtleffs
  - 8/29 Lynda Robinson for Family
- Acolytes Please sign up with Ms. Jo for a week that you are available. Call Jo Wilsford at 214-793-5497 or see her prior to the service
- Ushers—
  - 8:30 Tamela & Scott Sackett;
  - 10:50 TBA
- Counters:
  - 8/1 Neva Ransom & Melody Durazo
  - 8/8 Jerry Kirby & Andy Malone
  - 8/15 Brian Goodloe & Betty Wood
  - 8/22 Neva Ransom & Suzanne Barry
  - 8/29 Charles Daubitz & Curtis Doyle
- Sound Technicians:
  - 8:30 / 10:50
  - 8/1 Don Newman/ Jack Smiley
  - 8/8 Les Mitchell / Kayleigh K.
  - 8/15 Don Newman / Tom Rogers
  - 8/22 Les Mitchell / Jack Smiley
  - 8/29 Don Newman / Kayleigh K.
- Power Point: Stu Dorsey
- Video: Youth ONE
- Children's Church Volunteers -
  - 8/1 VBS Sunday — NO Children's Church
  - 8/8 Communion Sunday — no Children's Church
  - 8/15 Tammy Ashford & Judy Cox
  - 8/22 Backpack Blessing & Promotion Sunday no Children's Church
  - 8/29 Katie & Savannah Almond & Suzanne Neel



## Backpack Blessing and Rally Sunday

On Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, everyone —children and adults—who attend school, or work in or for the school district are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, or book/work satchels to the worship service to receive a blessing and prayer for the school year.

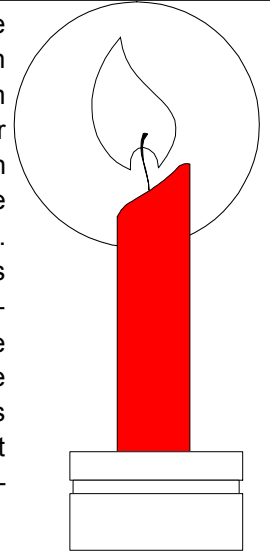
The Children's Council will present Bibles during the services to those children going into the third grade. If you have a child going into grade 3 please inform the church office so that no one is left out.

Also on this Sunday, during the Sunday School hour beginning at 9:40 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall, the Children's Council will provide breakfast. Children, ages 3 through Grade 5 will receive promotion certificates and will move to their new classes toward the end of the Sunday School hour.

These education events are of vital importance in the lives of many people in our church. Please join us as we continue to build the "firm foundation" of Christian education.

## Burning of the Candle – 2010 – REMINDER

Each year the money collected for the Burning of the Candle ceremony is used to fund the UMW's total mission program. In 2010, it will cost \$31.65 to support the total mission program for one minute. Money in any amount is given by UMW units or individuals as an honorarium or memorial. A candle for each district will be burned at the annual meeting for the exact time that each district has funded a portion of the mission program. Names of individuals in whose honor or memory money has been contributed will be printed in a book; the deadline for submission of money is **August 8<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to contribute to the Burning of the Candle, please give your money and the name of the individual in whose honor or memory the money is given to Jo Wilsford, Lynne Grandstaff, or Jennifer McKnight by August 8<sup>th</sup>. Checks may be made payable to FUMC – UMW; please write "Burning of the Candle" in the memo line.



## UMW Friendship Circle Bible Study

The Friendship Circle of the United Methodist Women will have its first fall meeting on **Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM** in the Young Adult classroom just behind the sanctuary. The Bible study for this year is "Journeys Through *Revelation*: Apocalyptic Hope for Today". Many Christians are curious, if not intimidated, by the images and interpretations of the book of *Revelation*; however, this study will show that it ultimately is a book of hope. Each month's lesson will lead to a vision of a renewed creation in which God comes to live with us on earth. We will discover that the words of *Revelation* can help guide the choices we make as we seek to live into the renewal that God promises for our world. At this month's meeting, we will begin with the Introduction and Lesson 1: "An Apocalypse, an Author, and a Witness". Jo Wilsford will provide the devotional and refreshments for the first meeting. **All women are invited to become a part of this UMW circle of friends; see Jo on Sunday for your copy of the study book.** We always have good fellowship, delicious refreshments, and lively discussions (most of the time on the Bible study!)...come join us! If childcare is needed, please call the church office. Call Jo Wilsford (972-617-0672) if more information is needed.

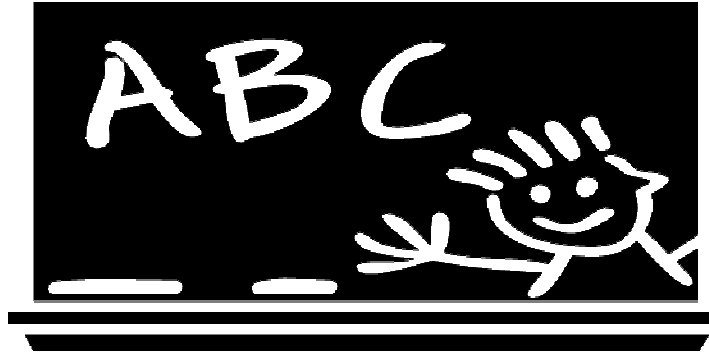
## NORTH ELLIS COUNTY OUTREACH

First Church continues to support the North Ellis County Outreach. We have collected 7 backpacks for this up coming school year. The outreach need backpacks for Jr. & Sr. High Girls and Boys. FUMC VBS will be collecting school supplies to go directly to the Red Oak ISD. Please join us in providing for needy children in our area.


FUMCRO continues to provide oatmeal in canisters and 12oz packages of pasta on a monthly basis. The outreach is always in need of low salt and sugar free food for the elderly and diabetics.


Thank you for helping with this ministry. You can place your donations in the grocery cart or baskets in the foyer. School supplies can be left in the church office.

# Parents Day Out @ FUMC Red Oak



## Now Enrolling!

Qualified teaching staff.  Exercise program.

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Christian environment.  Chapel time.

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**WWW.FUMCRO.ORG**

**CLICK CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES.**

# Time Talent Treasure

*Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.”  
1 Cori++drnthians 12:4-6*

## Time, Talent, and Interest Survey—It’s Coming!

“In addition to prayers, presence, gifts and witness, church members vow to offer their service as they faithfully participate in the work of the church. As we look at the many opportunities for service on church committees, leading Bible studies, teaching Sunday School and other areas, you will be given an opportunity through a Commitment of Time, Talent, and Interest survey to indicate your interest in areas of service. Please be in prayer about your commitment of service and look for the survey in the worship bulletin on August 29<sup>th</sup> and in the September newsletter!

Not sure where your specific talent/interest fits into the work of our church? Join us for the Fellowship Dinner on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Before, during and after the dinner, the various committees of the church will have “booths” set up with displays of what each committee does. Committee chairs will be available to answer questions. If you are interested in serving on a committee or just want to know more about the work of the committees of our church, this is an excellent opportunity to learn more.

### UMW—Reading Program Forms Due

Ladies, If you have been reading books for our program, this is the time to turn in your forms. Please have them to Lori Stricker no later than August 8 so that they will count on this year’s program. For more information call Lori Stricker at 972-765-0327.



YOUTH ONE MISSION TRIP TO  
OKLAHOMA  
JUNE 13-JUNE 19



First United Methodist Church  
600 Daubitz Dr.  
PO Box 25  
Red Oak, Texas 75154

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**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

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

**Rev. Allen Grant  
Senior Pastor**

Stu Dorsey, Music Minister

Sunmi Goodwin, Pianist

Lori Stricker, Office Manager

Judy Cox, Building /Nursery Mgr.

Marilyn Woodson, Tabitha  
Turrentine & Maudie McNeeley,  
Nursery Attendants

Michelle Carson,  
Day School Director

Bailey Malone, Day School  
Assistant

Office Hours  
Monday–Friday 9 am– 4 pm  
(972) 617-9100  
Fax: (972) 576-3276

-Do you have a "JOY OR CONCERN" your church family needs to know? Contact Lori Stricker at 972-617-9100 or email at one of the addresses listed below.

-Senior Pastor Allen Grant: PASTOR@fumcro.org

-Newsletter & Prayer Requests: manager@fumcro.org

-Website changes: Webservant@fumcro.org



Don't  
Forget  
Your  
Pledge  
This Summer

**We're on the Web! FUMCRO.org**

**THE BACK PAGE**



"Are we there yet?" I imagine that many of us have heard that this summer. If not, then we may remember hearing that or saying that when going on a long trip with children. But it is a sentiment, a thought, a desire, not just of children but also of adults. We now live in the age of instant gratification. We want our hamburgers by the time we move to the next window. We want our computers to respond as fast as we think. And many of us want our religion, our faith, our spiritual lives to be contained in quick catch phrases or something like sound bytes so we don't have to think on them very long.

Have you ever found yourself listening in church and wondering about when we are going to arrive at our spiritual destination? When is it going to be enough? When are we just going to be able to sit back and relax and know that we have accomplished our tasks, the goals are reached and the work is done?

Of course, the answer is obvious. Our spiritual work is never done. We are and should be always seeking ways to grow closer to God. Wesley called that "going on to perfection." He did not mean we could overcome all of our own sinfulness by ourselves but with the grace of God we can move toward that perfect image of Christ in whom we were created (remember the Genesis story that we were created in the image of God).

So right now, I am asking you to join me in creating a culture of making disciples of Jesus Christ. That does not involve a new program or curriculum but developing a way of life that leads all of us to look for ways to share the gospel. We will meet many people during the weeks of our lives. And those folks are also looking for instant religion so they can move on to something else. We don't have that. What we do have is a Savior who can transform their lives.

This week, I asked the congregation to make a Holy Covenant with God that every week until God calls us from this life, we will bear witness of Christ to at least two people. Think about that for a moment. How many people will know that God loves them because you chose to share Christ with them this week? Two? But also how many (cont'd page 2)