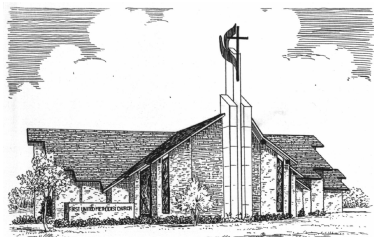


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



THE ACORN  
RED OAK, TEXAS



October 2010, Issue 10

GOD AT WORK IN CENTRAL TEXAS



TURKEY DINNERS  
FOR RED OAK  
OUTREACH  
DUE NOV. 1

- > \$10 for turkey or frozen Turkey, Ham or Chicken
- > Stuffing Mix
- > Instant Potatoes
- > Gravy Mix
- > Cranberry Sauce
- > 2 cans Green Beans
- > 2 cans Corn
- > Evaporated Milk
- > Canned Chicken Broth
- > Dinner Roll or Cornbread Mix
- > Pie Filling & Crust or Cake Mix & Icing.

A 100-year anniversary is a once-in-a-lifetime benchmark for most folks. That's why the Centennial Celebration of the Central Texas Conference on Saturday, Oct. 23, is such a significant event.

Ever since the Northwest Texas Conference of the then Methodist Episcopal Church split in 1910 to create the new Central Texas Conference, God has been changing lives through the discipleship building in our local churches and many outreach ministries.

**Stories of a Bygone Era**

There is a now comical temperance picture that has been circulating recently about this bygone era that reminds us of the many colorful stories to be told about our past 100 years. Several members of the conference Student Leadership Team have taken on the task of creating skits to share four specific eras in our history during the Centennial Celebration.

It has been a century of miraculous changes. One hundred years ago, only 8 percent of U.S. households had a telephone. Today, there is a digital phone for almost every man, woman and child, and we spend more time with them glued to our ears than we might want to admit. The digital world has become a major force in God's plan for making disciples in this new digital age.

In 1910, most Methodists pulled up to the church for Sunday worship services in a horse and buggy; today, the expanding size of our vehicles and parking lots are a necessary consideration in our church planning.

One thing that has remained fairly consistent for Central Texas Methodists is our ability to grow by sharing our faith with others. Even today, while the United Methodist Church is declining in the U.S., the Central Texas Conference has been in a consistent growth pattern for over 40 years.

This conference experienced a decrease in membership only 25 times between 1866 (when the first church was established) and 2010. It has also had the highest percentage of growing churches in the South Central Jurisdiction, and in 2006 was the fourth fastest growth conference in American Methodist. Now that's a record to celebrate. The Central Texas Conference is proud of another record. It has paid 100 percent of its General Church support (apportionments) for 28 out of the past 35 years.

**Our Strongest Witness for Christ**

But that's not even our strongest witness for Christ over the past 100 years. God's people and church in the Center Texas Conference have achieved great strides in:

- bringing medical care to multiple communities with the establishment of Harris Methodist Hospital System (now Texas Health Resources)
- bringing early child development and family empowerment to low income areas through what became United Community Centers in Tarrant County (started by Methodist women) and childcare and development at the Methodist Children's Home and Laura Edwards Childcare Center, both in Waco

Continued on Page 7 CTC Centennial Celebration



PARTY IN THE PATCH  
October 30—see inside



**Men's Breakfast**  
**October 9**  
**Saturday**  
**8:00 am**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**FIDDLER ON THE  
ROOF**  
**OCTOBER 22—24**  
**AT**

Waxahachie Community Theatre presents "Fiddler on the Roof" October 22, 23rd and 24th, **The Chautaugua Auditorium** in Waxahachie. The cast rehearsed here at FUMCRO in August and September and our own Mary Ann Paquin is in the cast. Advance tickets are \$10 adults; \$8 student and seniors (over 55). If you are not already a season ticket holder, please see Mary Ann or Don Newman for tickets.

**UNITED METHODIST MEN**

The men are having their regular Men's Breakfast on Saturday, October 9 at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Herbert Shelton and Don Newman will be preparing breakfast for the men and Terry Brown will provide a devotional. All men are encouraged to attend this meeting.

**DECORELLIS EMMAUS GATHERING**

The Monthly Emmaus Gathering is held on the first Tuesday of each month **at 7:00 pm**. In October the gathering was held at The Body of Christ Church in Red Oak. Please watch for announcements about the November Gathering. All are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship and bring a friend. If you play a musical instrument please come and join the band. Everyone is asked to bring food, snack or drink item(s) to share. For more information call Lori in the church office.

**WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS**

**Church Dinner**



The Wednesday Fellowship Dinners have returned after a short break for the Summer. Mary Young with the help of Curtis Vassallo, Mike Stricker, Travis Young, John Young, Lois Wakefield, and Dolores Moore & others prepare and serve our meals. You can be assured not to go home hungry on Wednesday nights.

Dinner is served beginning at 5:45 pm to accommodate those in the Financial Peace Class this fall season. No dinner will be served on October 13. Cost is by donation only. The menus are as follows:

- Oct. 13: No Dinner— Activities as planned.
- Oct. 20: Brisket, Corn, Scalloped Potatoes, Cherry Cobbler & Ice Cream
- Oct. 27: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Rolls, Ice Cream
- Nov. 3: Sloppy Joes, French Fries, Carrots & Celery & Pickle Sticks, Sherbet
- Nov. 10: Hamburger Pie, Corn, Salad, Angel Cookies
- Nov. 17: Breakfast Tacos, Hash Browns, Blueberry Squares, Chocolate Milk
- Dec. 8: Broasted Chicken, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Chocolate Chip Cookies.

If you would like to help, a cleanup crew is needed after the dinner is served. Call Mary Young 972-741-3120 or Mike Stricker 972-765-0326

**Continued from "The Back Page":**

The second kind of goal is the BHAG goal – those goals that are **BIG HAIRY AUDACIOUS GOALS** that are just amazing. Those can be reached, accomplished and done but take a bit more planning and time. I want to hear about your BHAG goals for the church too.

What I am asking you to do is come up with some great ideas that we can use to turn Red Oak upside down. Thank you for reaching out to others for Christ. I enjoy sharing the gospel with you. Allen

# PUMPKIN PATCH IS HERE

**The Pumpkins are finally here, let the fundraising begin!** It took a great devoted Church family effort to unload over 2,000 pumpkins on Wednesday night! Please continue to help our children's ministries by signing up to man the patch daily. With your help we can raise thousands of dollars this month that will help build our children's relationships with God.

We have fair priced pumpkins ranging in size from little mini pumpkins to giant big pumpkins! We even have some unusual colored pumpkins. If you are looking for The Great Pumpkin like Charlie Brown you just might find it right here!

Please show your support by making a decision to be a "Pumpkin Bumpkin" and volunteer your time in the patch!!!

The Patch is staffed from 1:00 am to Dark on weekdays; Saturday's The Patch opens at 10:00 am and on Sundays it opens at 12:30 pm. Each group of volunteers work for one and a half hour slots. We would like to have at least two volunteers for each session and more may be needed on Saturday. Please contact Liz Sanden at 214-733-3009 or call the church office at 972-617-9100 or email at [manager@fumcro.org](mailto:manager@fumcro.org). Lori will forward your request to the scheduling committee.

We will be hosting our "**PARTY IN THE PATCH**" and **TRUNK OR TREAT** on the same day this year! On Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 2 -4 pm the "Party in the Patch" will begin in our front yard. Our UMM will be cooking hot dogs for our patrons for a donation! Also – we will have a bounce house, hayrides, crafts, and games set up for the children to enjoy! Then at 4:00 pm on the same day we will join the city wide "**TRUNK OR TREAT**" on **Waller Street** 4:00pm – 6:00 pm. Prizes will be given to the best dressed trunk! Sign up sheets are in the foyer. The city will be having more activities in the Park and at Acorn Academy gym during the day.

Please plan on participating somehow in this wonderful church event! We need lots of volunteers in many different areas! Most of all, we need everyone to help get the word out about our patch! If you have a magnet for your car – please drive around proudly with it on your vehicle! When you work the Pumpkin Patch please wear your "Pumpkin Patch" t-shirt if at all possible. We also have some aprons that were made to wear in the patch. Or come in costume on Oct. 30 & 31. Get in the spirit of Fall and have some fun.

Thanks in advance for all of your support and prayers! We're looking forward to another successful year at the patch! For any additional questions, comments, or suggestions please feel free to contact Elizabeth Sanden at 214-733-3009. See you soon in the patch



## Schedule of Servants:

- Flowers given by:
  - 10/10 **Hugh Grandstoffs**
  - 10/17 **Doyle Family**
  - 10/24 **Wilson Family**
  - 10/31 **Byars & Newman Families**
  - 11/7 **Sackett Family**
- Acolytes **TBA**
- Ushers— 8:30 **Steve & Charlotte Yeadon**; 10:50 Right Door: **John & Barbara Persefield**; Left Door & Greeters: **Curtis & Stephanie vassallo & Nick & Shannon Wilson.**
- Counters:
  - 10/10 **Jerry Kirby & Andy Malone**
  - 10/17 **Brian Goodloe & Betty Wood**
  - 10/24 **Neva Ransom & Suzanne Barry**
  - 10/31 **Curtis Doyle & Charles Daubitz**
  - 11/7 **Arnell Kimbro & Melody Durazo**
- Sound Technicians:
  - 8:30 **Les Mitchell & Don Newman**
  - 10:50 **Tom Rogers, Jack Smiley, and Kayleigh Kitzman**
- Power Point: **Stu Dorsey**
- Video: **Youth ONE**
- Children's Church Volunteers -
  - 10/10 **TBA**
  - 10/17 **Stephanie Vassallo & Claudia Mason**
  - 10/24 **Dale Etchieson & TBA**
  - 10/31 **Elizabeth Sanden & Laura Osentoski**
  - 11/7 **Communion Sunday**

## A PERFECT GIFT OF LOVE – MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



Check out the bulletin board in the foyer for more information on Marriage Encounter Weekend!  
Dallas Location  
Oct. 22–24

### United Methodist Marriage Encounter Dallas Weekend October 22-24, 2010

Take your Marriage to a New Level!!  
Reservations at [www.encounter.org](http://www.encounter.org)

#### Refresh your relationship

- Take a new look at your marriage, priorities and lifestyle
- Learn simple, effective communication techniques
- Enhance the love that you share
- Rediscover your hopes and dreams

#### You will benefit if...

- You want to enrich a good marriage
- You want to expand and deepen your communication
- You want to learn to love more deeply

Want to Attend? Need more information? [WWW.ENCOUNTER.ORG](http://WWW.ENCOUNTER.ORG)

Contact: Mickey & Linda Wheeler: [jamesw3681@aol.com](mailto:jamesw3681@aol.com); 972-594-0232  
Or Inge & Johnny Jones at 972-617-3999

alzheimer's association®



We're on the **MOVE**  
to end Alzheimer's  
memory walk®

### Memory Walk Café

**When:** Friday, November 5, Hours 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

**Where:** Red Oak Health & Rehab – 101 Reese Road

Red Oak Health and Rehab is on the MOVE to end Alzheimer's. Please come by our Memory Walk Café for lunch.

You will be spending your lunch money on good eats served up with a big smile! And...100% of your tab goes to helping the fight to end Alzheimer's! Enjoy....

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| • Hot Diggity Dogs                             | \$1.00          |
| • Loaded Dogs (Chili, Cheese, Onions and more) | \$2.00          |
| • Barkin' Nacho Bar ( Cheese or Loaded)        | \$1.00 / \$2.00 |
| • Dipping Apples with Carmel Sauce             | \$1.00          |
| • Fresh Baked Cookies & Brownies               | \$1.00          |
| • Soda Pop and Chips                           | \$1.00          |

## 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 Heather Rodenberg

**Sunshine Class:** Meeting in classroom on the right of the Sanctuary. Rotating Teachers: October study: The Inescapable God; Unit 2: **God Sustains:** God's Majesty & Human Dignity, Psalm 8; God's Law Sustains, Psalm 19:7-14; God Provides Refuge, Psalm 46:1-7; God Is in Charge, Psalm 47; and God's Presence Comforts and Assures, Psalm 63. Unit 3: **God Protects:** God Is Awesome, Psalm 66:1-12.

**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 Church Office. Classroom Teacher: Joanna Johnson. Studying "If God Is Your Co-Pilot, Swap Seats" by James W. Moore, This study asks you to invite God to take over the driver's seat in your life and put God first.

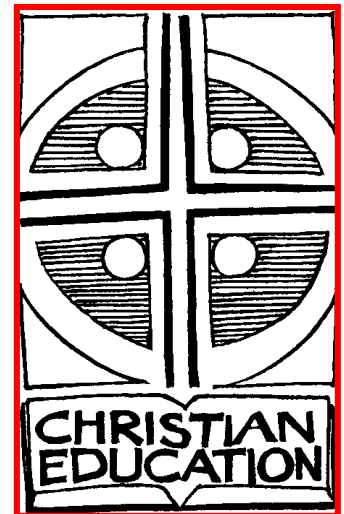
**Young Adult Class** -Meeting in the Church Library. New Study Beginning: Alive Now.

**Pastor Class:** Classroom next to Youth Room. Study: "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations"

**Adult Bible Study:** Pastor's Wednesday bible studies have begun at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm Study of the bible.

**Financial Peace:** Teacher: Keven & Dana Davis—Class begins at 6:00 pm on Wednesday. Please check with Keven if you did not begin with the class.

**Letters from Dad:** Second Tuesday - October 12, 6:00 pm



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

## LIGHT UP THE NIGHT—BELK'S FUNDRAISER NOV. 5—6—10 AM

Winter is upon us with shorter days and we still need lighting around the church. We will partner again with Belk Department Store in Waxahachie for their Charity Day Sale to raise some more money toward this goal. Belk's has an awesome reputation for supporting non-profit groups in the areas in which they are located. The Charity Day Sale is just one of the many ways they give back to the community.

The members and friends that attended the sale last time were impressed with the true bargains during the sale, so this is a win, win situation. And Christmas is coming.

You buy a ticket for \$5 to the event. The church keeps the \$5. The event will be held Saturday November 5 from 6-10 a.m. When you make your purchase at the store, you will receive a \$5 discount (your ticket price) in addition to all the other discounts available. Only those with tickets will be allowed into the sale. If we can sell 100 tickets, we make \$500, so invite your friends to participate.

Tickets will be sold at the door that day and at Belk's several days prior to the sale. The church will receive only a portion of those sales IF we man a table. Dani helped during the sale last year and brought in several more dollars for her time. However, this year, she has another commitment, and will need some help if we are to earn these extra dollars. It was great fun helping at the store that day. She visited with lots of church members and helped them spend their money. Just before the store was opened to the public, she was able to make her own purchases.

Tickets will be available in the church office, or call Dani 972-217-5005/972-839-8946. Please support this easy and truly rewarding fund raiser that will get the church well lit at night! Thanks for your support.

### Youth Important Dates

- October 10<sup>th</sup> – 6pm YouthOne Group  
 October 16<sup>th</sup> – 7pm – 12am Haunted house trip.  
 October 17<sup>th</sup> – 3pm Vikings vs. Cowboys foot ball party. Location TBD. (There is no youth group that evening due to the party. Please bring a snack to share.)  
 October 30<sup>th</sup> – 2-4pm Pumpkin Patch, 4-6pm Trunk or Treat. Come and hand out candy (in costume preferably).  
 October 31<sup>st</sup> – No YouthOne Group. Have a safe and happy Halloween.

Join us on the following Wednesday nights at 6:30pm for bible study: October 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>.

### *Great Questions* to Ask Your Kids

**Dive deeper into kids' thoughts about priorities and schedules by asking:**

1. What are the three most important things in your life? Are they evident by how you spend your time? Explain.
2. How are your priorities similar to or different from those of your friends?
3. How well do you manage time? What would you do with more hours in each day?
4. What are our family's priorities, and how might they need to be rearranged?

Support your school painlessly! Protect the environment!  
 Donate unwanted cell phones to Global High School's fundraiser!



Global High School is proud to bring you their first ever fundraiser with ZERO out of pocket expense! There is nothing to buy! We are simply asking you to donate cell phones for recycling. We accept all phones in any condition.

We receive **\$\$\$\$** for every phone we collect!

With an estimated 800 million phones that are out of use and taking up space in a drawer or on a shelf somewhere, consider checking with friends and family to see if they would like to put their unwanted phones to better use.

Along with helping our school, your donation will also help protect the environment. Did you know that, if improperly disposed, one cell phone can pollute up to 35,000 gallons of water? So help keep Waxahachie **green** and help the kids by donating your cell phones.

We greatly appreciate your support! Funds will benefit our Robotics Club as the "Wolf Pack" gets ready for participation in the **FIRST Robotics** competition.

Drop off location - Main Office at Global High School, 600 W Second Street, Waxahachie, TX  
 Contact - Lisa Hoops -214-208-4758

Box for donation of cell phones located in the Library at FUMCRO

**YOUTH ONE INFORMATION CONTINUED:  
ONE GOD — ONE FAITH — ONE WAY**



**MINISTER OF YOUTH HIRED**

Heather Rodenborg is our new Youth Minister, she is a graduate of Arizona University with a degree in religious studies.

Heather is a certified candidate for the ministry and an incoming student at Perkins School of Theology at SMU in Dallas.

You can email Heather at [hrodenborg@gmail.com](mailto:hrodenborg@gmail.com)

**Parents of Youth**

Please join us at 3pm on October 17<sup>th</sup> for the football party. I would like to meet you all and give you a chance to get to know me. I will also be going over some up and coming events that evening. So come, have some fun, watch some football, and enjoy some fellowship!

**MEMBER UPDATES**

**NEW MEMBERS**

Russell Lloyd & Michelle  
124 Milas Ln.  
Glenn Heights 972-268-3809

Dale & Dana Ellard;  
Gracie & Ethan  
912 Hummingbird  
Desoto 469-643-6300

Lois Wakefield  
4214 Oak Hollow  
Midlothian 214-538-1993

**NEW ADDRESS**

Mara & Jon Bailey  
1914 Irving St.  
Beatrice, NE 68310

**CTC Centennial Celebration Continued:**

- bringing higher education to those who seek a brighter future through the establishment of what is now Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, and support to Southwestern University in Georgetown and Southern Methodist University in Dallas, and to connect academic pursuits with the Christian community through campus ministry programs on seven college campuses and two chaplaincy programs in Central Texas area universities
- supporting those who are aging and those with developmental and life problems at the Wesleyan Homes in Georgetown, Methodist Mission Home in San Antonio, and Aldersgate Enrichment Center in Brownwood (started by Methodist men)
- answering emergency and ongoing critical needs in our communities by establishing the Metropolitan Board of Missions in Tarrant County and scores of local church-run food and clothing banks around Central Texas
- coming to the aid of those around the world who struggle to survive in the face of natural disasters and the unnatural disasters created by man through out emergency disaster response and outreach mission ministries
- exposing our young people to the joy of selflessly showing God's love to others through our CTCYM program that was established after the floods in Missouri in 1992 and continues to send each summer as many as 3,000 youth into the mission field
- witnessing Christ's love for all in our communities with our faithful worship and discipleship development over the past 100 years
- hosting two of the denomination's General Conferences, the latest in 2008
- nurturing and celebrating the many among us who have chosen a life of ministry, including more than 100 families that have had two or more members become ordained — seven members of the Barcus family have served in ordained ministry, five members from the Shuler and Robbins families, four members from the Canafax family, and three members from 13 other families

**Tickets are required. Please call Susan Briles** in the conference office at 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or [susan@ctcumc.org](mailto:susan@ctcumc.org). if you have not purchase your tickets. PLEASE NOTE: NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR ON CELEBRATION DAY!

# THE BACK PAGE



The Back Page By Allen Grant:

Recently, I have enjoyed two terrific church events, The Lord's Acre and the arrival of the pumpkins. Why, you ask? Well, what thrilled me the most was the laughing, the fun and the great team that we are for Christ. Church members, old, young, new, long-term, children, adults, youth all gathered for these two events. In fact, that is the spirit in which everything at FUMCRO happens. Thank you for being the Church here and in the community.

I also wanted to let you know I have a new phone number. Please know that I want you to call me when you need me. (972-333-4197) Please call me when someone goes to the hospital, when there is an illness or a need. I want to and like to come and visit with you whenever you need pastoral care. If you want to email me, please do so at [pastor@fumcro.org](mailto:pastor@fumcro.org) or directly to [agrant1812@gmail.com](mailto:agrant1812@gmail.com). I am grateful for you and for your commitment to Christ. This is a wonderful congregation and as we move out into the world, we will find others who want to be part of our family here.

We completed our Annual Charge Conference and from that event, some new ideas are being developed. Please stay tuned for more information on what God might want to do in Red Oak during the next year. No goals were adopted at that meeting. Instead, I would like to ask you to share some ideas about how we can reach into the community with me. There are two kinds of goals: the first kind are the ones that are reachable and measurable. So if you have an idea that we can do, let's talk about when we need to do this, who will be responsible for getting it done and how can we measure if the goal was successful or not. Continued on page 2

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

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

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

**[pastor@fumcro.org](mailto:pastor@fumcro.org)**

Heather Rodenborg, Youth Minister

Stu Dorsey, Music Minister

Sunmi Goodwin, Pianist

Lori Stricker, Office Manager  
[manager@fumcro.org](mailto:manager@fumcro.org)

Judy Cox, Building /Nursery Mgr.

Michelle Carson,  
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](http://www.FUMCRO.ORG)

(nursery provided at all services)