



First United Methodist Church

Red Oak, Texas

The Acorn

"A Small Package of Large Possibilities"



Issue 2009 - 13

April 14, 2009



Bear witness

Every life, every story deserves to have its witnesses. As we retell the stories from the Gospels we become witnesses to Jesus Christ. We tend to think of witnessing as going out and telling people about Jesus, but there is an aspect of witnessing that is simply about being present to the one whose story is being told.

We have many opportunities to be present to other people's stories. Every life story deserves its witnesses.

Sometimes we feel inadequate as we listen because we are hearing about struggle or difficulty, and we want to be able to help the storyteller. But the greatest, and the least, we can do is to bear witness; to be saying silently inside ourselves as we sit with the person, read their story or watch it on television or listen to the radio, "In the name of Jesus Christ, I hear you."

Even stories from previous generations require witnesses. The Killing Fields of Cambodia and the Holocaust experiences are still in the flesh and bones of those whose families lived through it. Witness them whenever you are asked to, it is the least, and the most, we can do.

one, group, or community setting.

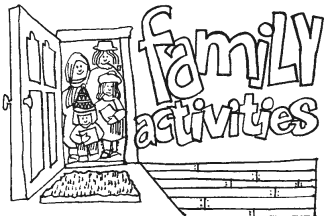
Stories also build community. We find an affinity with other people's experiences. They vindicate and shed new light on our own stories. Warm connections are made in the act of talking and listening, whether it takes place in a one on

Some stories are carried by generation after generation, like torch bearers in an Olympic relay ceremony. The Gospel, for example, has been faithfully carried through the centuries, never losing its vibrancy, its power to convert, its potential for transformation, or its capacity to create community.

Let us treat stories with reverence, giving the gift of witness to Jesus Christ and to others so that they know they are not alone and that their story has been heard. And let us reverently carry the Gospel and other sacred stories and hand them on to succeeding generations. (From Editor's Clip Sheets Vol. 26 #2 Feb. 2006)

- Ann Siddall

Ann Siddall is a Spiritual Director working within the life of the Uniting Church. She lives in South Australia.



FAMILY FUN & GAME NIGHT FELLOWSHIP HALL AT FUMC RED OAK SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH - 4-8 PM

COME AND ENJOY A NIGHT OF FUN AND GAMES SPONSORED BY THE LORD'S ACRE COMMITTEE. PLAN ON BRINGING YOUR FAVORITE GAMES. CARDS, DOMINOS, BOARD GAMES AND OUTSIDE GAMES. DINNER WILL BE MARY YOUNG'S FAMOUS BAKED ZITI, SALAD AND GARLIC BREAD, AND HOMEMADE DESSERTS. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVEN'T SIGNED UP SO WE WILL KNOW HOW MANY TO COOK FOR. NOTHING TO BUY, BUT FREE WILL DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED TO BENEFIT THE LORD'S ACRE DAY PROCEEDS.

Mission Committee to Sponsor Blood Drive

This year the Mission Committee will be sponsoring two blood drives. Set your calendars for Saturday, June 13 following the Men's Breakfast and Saturday, September 19 during Founder's Day. In June the Carter Blood Mobile will be outside in the Church Parking Lot. During Founder's Day the drive will be held in the Fellowship Hall for more space and comfort of the participants. Please note that the last day to give blood prior to the June 13th date is this week on April 18th. Carter has a new donation Center in Cedar Hill at 613 Uptown Blvd. Suite #107. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church office or look up Carter's website at carterbloodcare.org

2009 Flower Calendar

The 2009 Calendar has been filled except two Sundays. May 31 and July 12 are still available for flower sign up. Please call the church office if you would like to sponsor flowers on one of those days. The cost of flowers has been increased to \$35.00. This is the first increase in several years. We thank you for your generosity in sponsoring flowers for the altar. You may pick up your flowers after the 10:50 am service or on Monday Morning. Flowers are ordered by the office from Red Oak Florist. If you have a request of colors, please call the office the week before you are providing the flowers for the Sunday altar.



Youth ONE News!!



I hope everyone had a great Easter celebrating the Risen Lord! This coming Sunday at youth we will be celebrating Bright Sunday with some fun games and activities. Dinner on Sunday is prepared by the Yates and Valerius families. Have a great week! Mara

ONE GOD, ONE FAITH, ONE WAY



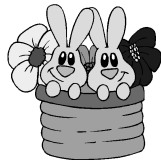
American Cancer Teams to sponsor Garage Sale - April 18th

Waxahachie High School Parking Lot at 1000 N. Hwy. 77, Waxahachie, Tx.

FUMC'S RELAY FOR LIFE Team: Wesley's Warriors will have a booth on April 18th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to raise money for our team's fundraising for the American Cancer Society. Come by the booth to support your team.

If you would like to donate items for the sale, please contact Jane Aberg at 972-978-1062 or email: jeaberg@att.net

Easter Egg Hunt & Family Fun Day a HUGE SUCCESS!



Once again we had a wonderful turnout for the Easter Egg Hunt and Fun Day. Approximately 80 children attended the event with their parents and grandparents. One of the highlights of the day was the "One of a Kind Pony Rides and Petting Zoo". The pony had pink hair and purple glitter hooves for the occasion. Children first were read the Easter story by Pastor Doug Blackford. After the egg hunt, children colored eggs, spoke with the Easter Bunny, enjoyed the Petting Zoo and ate lots of hotdogs and hamburgers. Special thanks go out to the UM Men for cooking the food and to everyone on the committee and others who assisted in the celebration.

UM Women District Spring Meeting

Please join us April 18 for the Waxahachie District UMW Spring Meeting and Mission Study - "I Love Jesus." If you would like to car pool to the meeting in Corsicana, meet at FUMC parking lot by 8:15 a.m. We can arrange for child care at the church if needed, so if you'd like to come but need a sitter please notify the church office by April 10th.

Our general Meeting will be on April 19th and will be the conclusion of the mission study "I Love Jesus" led by Melba Watson. SAVE THE DATE: For the Mother Daughter Banquet on May 8th at 7:30.

Don't forget "Stock the Pantry" - UM Women's 2009 Mission Project

"YAWN"

Saturday, April 18 at 8:30 am

Youth Room of FUMCRO

The Young Adult Women's Group will meet on Saturday morning. This is a once a month Third Saturday meeting. Bailey Malone will present the devotion. Ladies, if you have finished your books from the Library, this is a good time to return them and check out another.



NORTH ELLIS COUNTY OUTREACH

The Outreach Center has our church signed up to provide oatmeal in canisters and 12 oz packages of pasta on a monthly basis. If you don't have time to shop, you can make a monetary donation. \$5 will purchase 30 lbs. of food. Your \$25.00 could help get 150 lbs. of food. Each family gets enough food for two weeks each month.

Lion's Club Breakfast

Saturday, April 18

7 - 9 a.m.

Lion's Club on Red Oak Road



Congratulations! It's a Boy

Braylon Eugene

born 4/13/2009

7:20 a.m.

10 lbs. 2 oz. - 21 1/2 inches

**Proud parents are Mary & Chris
Voigtlander, big sister is Kaylee, and
Judy Cox, grandmother.**

ATTENTION: NEW PROCEDURE ON NEWSLETTERS

First UMC has implemented a new procedure for the newsletter. **Those receiving a newsletter by US mail will receive only one newsletter a month.** This newsletter will contain the monthly prayer list and church calendar. Printed newsletters will be available in hard copy to pick up at the church in the foyer. If you are not on the email list at this time, please send an email to the church Office Manager, Lori Stricker at strickerlori@yahoo.com. If you want to be taken off the mailing list all together, you can call the church office at 972-617-9100. We will be going to twice a month newsletters with only one mailed at this time. Thank you for your cooperation.

New Members:

Earl & Lynn Barr

Richard & Ryan Puglisi

2742 Sunset Strip Dr.

Glenn Heights, TX 75154



Mandatory Mission Trip Meeting!

We will be heading up to St. Luke UMC this Saturday, April 18 for the UMYF Mission Trip Training. This is a **MANDATORY** Meeting for all mission trip participants (youth and adults). So, contact Mara Bailey ASAP if you **cannot** attend! We will meet at FUMCRO at 10:45 am to head up to St. Luke, Haltom City and have lunch. We will return by about 2:30 pm.



Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners at 6:00 PM

April 15: Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, & Cookies.

April 22: Chicken Linguine, Salad, Garlic Bread & Ice Cream.

April 29: Hamburgers, Chips, Veggies & Ice Cream

-CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:

9:45 - Meet in the Sanctuary. The curriculum "Live Big," Hear, See and Live your Belief in God. Class begins with a video & singing in the Sanctuary.



-JR. & SENIOR HI: Mara Bailey Leader Study "Bible 101"

-SUNSHINE CLASS: (In Sunshine Classroom right of the Sanctuary) New Study: **New Creation in Christ, The Promise, Path & Way of New Life.**

-ENRICHMENT CLASS (In Fellowship Hall) - Study: "Watching the Disciples"

-SEEKERS (In PDO Office)- "Jesus' Parables of the Lost & Found"

-YOUNG ADULT CLASS -(In the Library) - "The Bible Jesus Read - Old Testament"

-ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Teacher: Pastor Doug. Wednesday at 10:30 am & 6:30pm Study: **The Bible**

Our Gifts

Total Budget 2009	\$ 377,411
Budget Needed to Date	\$ 109,647
Total Received to Date	\$95,735
Budget Needed weekly	\$ 7,258
Budget Rec'd this week	\$ 5,828
Apportionments Rec'd this week	\$1,612
Apportionments/Connectional Giving due to date	\$ 14,485
Apportionments Paid for 2009	\$ 6,615

Opportunities for the Week!

Wednesday, April 15

9:15	Laugh & Learn Day School
10:30	Adult Bible Study
5:00	Confirmation Class
6:00	Wednesday Fellowship Dinner
6:30	Little Acorns Emmaus Group
6:30	Children's Choir Practice
6:30	Adult, Young Adult & Youth Bible Studies
7:30	Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, April 16

9:30	Scrapbooking
6:30	Daisy Scouts
7:00	Alcoholics Anonymous
8:30	Gambler's Anonymous

Friday, April 17

9:15	Fun Filled Fridays
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Saturday, April 18

8:00 - 4:00	Relay for Life Yard Sale at Waxahachie HS
8:30	"YAWN"
8:30	UM Women' District Meeting in Corsicana
10:45	Mission Trip Training

Sunday, April 19

Bright Sunday

8:30	Traditional Service
9:45	Sunday School for all Ages
10:50	Blended Service
2:00	Girl Scouts
3:30	UMW - Executive Committee Meeting
4:00	Boy Scouts
4:30	UM Women's General Meeting
6:00	YOUTH ONE - Bright Sunday Fun & Games

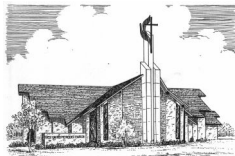
Monday, April 20

9:15	Laugh & Learn Day School
7:00	Cub Scouts

Tuesday, April 21

6:30	Brownie Scouts
7:00	Alcoholics Anonymous

First United Methodist Church
600 Daubitz Drive
PO Box 25
Red Oak, TX 75154



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OUR MISSION STATEMENT
Reaching Up To God
Moving Into The World
Making Disciples For Christ

Douglas Blackford, Pastor
Mara Bailey, Intern Pastor
& Youth Minister
Jon Bailey, Assistant Pastor
Stu Dorsey, Music Minister
Sunmi Goodwin, Pianist
Lori Stricker, Office Mgr.
Judy Cox, Nursery./Building Mgr.
Casi Holmes & Dana Ellard,
Nursery Attendants
Parent's Day Out Director:
Michelle Carson

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

Prayers

Please refer to the April Prayer list and add the following names: Betty Wood; Rene Valerius, Eli Malone; P.K. Harmon; Bob Nix; Ron Briden & Family in the passing of his mother; Lisa McKenzie (Lori's sister).

Our Service

- The Flowers this week are given in love by **Scott & Tamela Sackett** in honor of **Jonathan & Matthew's Birthday**.
- Acolytes are: **TBA (please speak to Ms. Jo before the service)**.
- Ushers this week are: 8:30: **Melba Watson & Philip Trees**; 10:50 left door: **Curtis & Stephanie Vassallo**; right door: **Gretchen Kitzman; and Ron & Pam Briden** (counters) (Right Door counts the attendance)
- Offering Stewards are: **4/12: Jerry Kirby & TBA**
- Technicians: Sound: 8:30 **Les Mitchell**, 10:50 **Tom Rogers**
 Video: **Jon Bailey & Youth ONE**
- Nursery** is available every Sunday. Volunteer is **Judy Cox**.
Volunteers needed to help in the 10:50 Service, call the church office if you would like to help hold a baby.
- Children's Church Volunteers: **4/19 TBA**
4/29: Lori Stricker & Diane Blackford

Our Attendance

Last Sunday Worship (Easter)	
8:30	91
10:50	221
Sunday School	96
Maundy Thurs	80
Good Friday	120
Easter Fun Day	150

- Do You have a "**JOY OR CONCERN**" your church family needs to know? Contact Lori Stricker (972-617-9100) or email at the address listed below.
- Web site address: **www.fumcro.org**
- Website changes etc.: **Webservant@fumcro.org**
- Newsletter & prayer requests: **manager@fumcro.org**
- If you have an emergency which requires the immediate attention of the pastor, please call **Pastor Doug Blackford at 972-576-5570; or Jon Bailey at 972-576-2224** or Email: **pastor@fumcro.org**