



First United Methodist Church

Red Oak, Texas

The Acorn

"A Small Package of Large Possibilities"



Issue 2009 - 8

February 24, 2009



February 25th

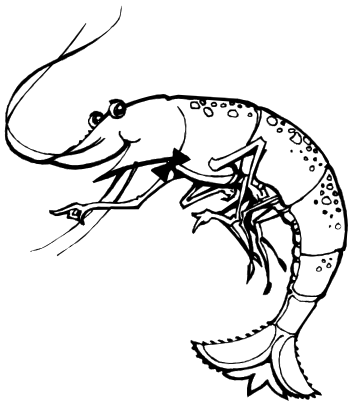
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper

Minestrone Soup & Grilled Cheese Sandwiches

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

World Day of Prayer – March 6th

March 6th is designated on the calendar as World Day of 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 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM on Friday, March 6th. 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. Everyone is invited to come for a time of quiet reflection and prayer.



Coming Soon:

LOOZIANA SATURDAY NITE

CAJUN FEST!!!!

At FUMCRO - SATURDAY - MARCH 7TH

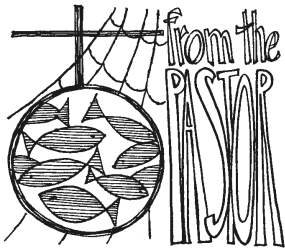
Mark your calendars now for this fun time

with lots of Cajun Food (& special menu for the kids)

to benefit "Connectional Giving". Tickets available on Sunday.

(Our Church's benevolent giving to the Central Texas Conference of the UMC)





Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!:

Now that Lent has started we can now look at our journey of faith as we consider the journey of Christ from baptism to the cross. Lent is a time of penitence. During the season of Lent I will be wearing an alb. I do this to remind myself and the church that we are servants of God, not of ourselves. The alb is a garb that servants wore in ages past. This will help me remember that I am on a journey of faith following Christ to his redemptive act for us.

I feel that it is important that the church have this season to remind us of our need to have Christ as our Lord and Savior. To remember that it is through him that we have eternal life and we are restored to God. This should be a season of reflection, as we examine our own lives and where we are with God. I pray that this season of Lent will be a time of renewal for each of us. I know that we need to have a spiritual life in the midst of our busy days. I hope that each of us will use this season of Lent to develop a spiritual discipline as we move toward the cross and then celebrate resurrection. May each of you find time to spend with God each day as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter Sunday?



See you Sunday! Grace & Peace, Pastor Doug



Youth ONE News!!

On Sunday the youth helped to plan several upcoming events. We also talked about plans for mission trip this summer. A reminder to get your mission trip sign-ups in by **Sunday March 8th** along with your deposit! Have a great week and we will see you next Sunday at 6! Have a great week! Mara

ONE GOD, ONE FAITH, ONE WAY

Rent-A-Youth

Time to clean out the garage or get the yard ready for spring? Rent-A-Youth can help! We will be working all day on **Saturday March 14th** from 9-4. Submit your work projects to Mara (youth@fumcro.org). We will have another Rent-A-Youth day on Saturday, April 25th.

Youth Spring Dinner and Dance

Join the youth for a spring-themed dinner and dance on Saturday, March 28th. A great menu will be served (prime rib or chicken, salad, breads, side vegetables, and dessert). Special meal and activities for children 12 and under. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, March 8th.



Wednesday Fellowship Dinners

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Please come join us for the Wednesday Fellowship Dinners every Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall. Our chefs are Katie Almond, Mary Young, Travis Young. Mike Stricker & Dolores Moore assist. *Suggested Freewill offering is \$4 per adult, Children under 12 - \$3.*

March 4 = Turkey Breast, dressing & gravy, corn & pumpkin pie

March 11 = Spaghetti & Meat Sauce, salad, garlic bread & cake.

March 18 = Spring Break - No Dinner

March 25 = Scrambled Eggs, sausage & biscuit casserole and fruit.

ELLIS COUNTY OUTREACH

First United Methodist Church continues to provide oatmeal in canisters and 12 oz packages of pasta on a monthly basis.



Military of the Week:

Curtis Windsor

Please drop a note or card in the mail to let him know that we are thinking about him and praying for him. Curtis is a relative of Suzanne Neel. He is stationed in Korea until next October. His wife's name is Sarah.

PFC Windsor, Curtis W.

SVC C. 4-5 ADA

Unit # 15784 (Box #295)

AP, APO 96260-5788



CHURCH YARD SALE

to benefit Children's Council Activities

Saturday, March 14th - 7 am

Start saving your yard sale worthy items for the Children's Council's first Annual Yard sale! We will be accepting items in the Fellowship Hall March 9th - 12th. The yard sale will start at 7 am on Saturday, March 14th. All moneys raised will go towards our upcoming Easter Fun Day and Vacation Bible School. All donations are appreciated!



Hearts and Flowers Tea

Come join the United Methodist Women for their Sixth Annual Hearts and Flowers Tea. The "Formal" Tea is scheduled for March 8 from 3-4:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. ALL ladies- young and young at heart - are invited to attend!

Guests can look forward to beautifully appointed tables, delicious finger sandwiches, an array of sweet treats, fresh fruit and a selection of hot and iced teas and lemonade. The tea has become one of the highlights of our UMW year. Hats and gloves are optional - but really add to the fun. So search them out of the back of your closet (or your mom's or grand mom's) and get ready for the fun, fellowship and - of course-food! The event is FREE! Childcare will be available, but we ask that you let us know how many children you are bringing so that we can make arrangements for nursery attendants.

Please call TODAY to say you will come! RSVP to Lori at the church office 972-617-9100 or Lynne at 972-617-3515

New Address:

Mitchell & Norma Jones phone #817-542-0013
1503 Royal Arch Court East, Unit #B
Arlington, Texas 76012

UMWomen's Call to Prayer:

The annual UMW Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program is scheduled for 4:30 PM, Sunday, March 8, 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 focus for this year's program is on the importance of "Creating Communities Through Information Technology." A special offering will be taken during the service to fund programs related to marginalized communities such as the poor, the physically challenged and others—especially women, children and youth—that do not have access to information technology. Funds will be used nationally and worldwide to support opportunities for computer literacy, information technology training, ESL classes, and career enhancement and development of job-seeking skills. All women and girls are invited to join us in the sanctuary for this special program.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Red Oak UMW is collecting box tops and labels from many products to send to some of the Missions that UMW supports. These labels are on items from baking, beverages, cereal, frozen foods, meals & side dishes, refrigerated & dairy, snacks, baby & child care, storage bags & containers, paper products, personal care, disposable tableware and waste bags. Please look for the icon that reads "Box Top Education". A complete list of products will be posted on the UMW Bulletin Board and will be provided with the Newsletter at a later date.

Congratulations, New Acolyte

Congratulations to new acolyte, **Gavin Yates**, who completed the acolyte training class on February 15th. Gavin will begin serving as an acolyte and helping to lead in worship during March. He has pledged to be a faithful follower of Jesus, actively participate in worship, be faithful in carrying out the acolyte duties and set a good example for others to follow. As Gavin begins and continues his service to Christ and His church in this important position, please support him with your prayers. The next acolyte training class will be held in September for 3rd through 6th graders

UMVIM Young Adult Mission Trip

March 26 - 29, 2009

Join CTC Young Adults - college age, students, and young professionals for a long weekend of service: Aldersgate Enrichment Center in Early, Texas. If interested please contact Janet Wood Jan@ctcumc.org

EMMAUS GATHERING - FIRST THURSDAY

7:00 PM - March 5th at SARDIS UMC

-CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:
9:45 - Meet in the Sanctuary. **New 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**, Ezekiel, Luke & Ephesians are studied.

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

-SEEKERS (In PDO Office)- Starting new book. **"Jesus' Parables of the Lost & Found"**

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

-Lenten Bible Study- Teacher: Mara Bailey 7:00 pm Mondays

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

Christ's Final Week Study

During the weeks of Lent, Mara Bailey will be leading an evening adult Bible Study on the Last Week of Christ's Life. We will be meeting on Mondays starting March 2nd at 7pm.

Enrichment Class "Watching the Disciples"

Beginning March 1, the Enrichment Sunday School class will be sharing a seven week study ending on Easter Sunday.

"Watching the Disciples" looks at the twelve disciples as they tried to follow Jesus and live the challenging life to which he had called them. Examining the mistakes of the Twelve can help us to assess our own discipleship in order to see where it may need strengthening. During these weeks of Lent, as we join the Twelve in their on-the-job-training to become disciples of Jesus, we hope to find guidance for our pilgrimage.

Please join us at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Easter.

(We will still be rotating teachers for this 7 week study. After Easter we will go back to Faithlinks)

UM MEN'S BREAKFAST
Second Saturday of Each Month
8:00 am
Fellowship Hall



UM Women's Bible Studies

The Red Oak UMW has begun it's 2009 Bible Studies. The Mission Study for the Gen Mtg on the 2nd Sun is "I Believe in Jesus". Melba Watson did part 1 of this study at the Feb mtg, on Feb 8th. Part 2 will be given on Apr 12th at that Gen Mtg, with a recap of Part 1.

The study being given at the Tues morning Circle meeting is "Giving Our Hearts Away – Native American Survival". Melba will do Part 1 of this study on Tue, Feb 24th, with Part 2 on Tues, Mar 24th. Open invitation to all women. Please plan to attend all of these.

UMW Friendship Circle Bible Study

The Friendship Circle of the United Methodist Women will meet this **Thursday, February 26, at 7:00 PM** in the Young Adult Classroom at the church. The Bible study for this year is "Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor." This month, we will be studying and discussing Lesson 6, "Enemies Become Neighbors;" the scripture for this lesson is Luke 10:25-37; 17:11-19. Mary Young will provide the devotional and Beth Norris will provide refreshments for this meeting. **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! If childcare is needed, please call the church office. Call Jo Wilsford (972-617-0672) if more information is needed.

Soft and sweet, a bundle of joy, our Mommy to be is expecting a Boy!

Please join us for a Baby Shower in honor of

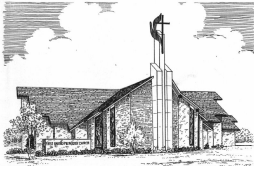


Mary Voigtlander
March 1, 2009 - 2:00 pm

First United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall

*Given by Jo Wilsford,
Jessica Bell & Judy Cox*

Mary is registered at Target & Walmart



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

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org
 US Postage
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 Red Oak TX
 Permit #16

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
Interim Day School Director:
Michelle Carson

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

Our Prayers

Please refer to the March Prayer list enclosed in this newsletter. Additions will be added weekly.

Our Service

- Flowers this week are given in by **Charles & Dortha Daubitz** in honor of **their Anniversary**
- Acolytes are: **Gavin Yates & Matthew McKnight**
- Ushers this week are: 8:30: **Tim & Mary Brownlee**; 10:50 left door: **Susan & Jordan Brown**; right door: **Eddy & Terri Yates & Elizabeth & Randy Sanden** (counters) (Right Door counts the attendance)
- Offering Stewards are: **Beth Norris & Arnell Kimbro**
- Technicians: Sound: 8:30 **Les Mitchell**, 10:50 **Kayleigh Kitzman**; Video: **Jon & Mara Bailey**.
- Nursery** is available every Sunday. Volunteer is **Judy Cox**. **Volunteers needed to help in the 10:50 Service.**
- No Children's Church on Communion Sunday

Our Attendance

Last Sunday Worship	
8:30	39
10:50	125
Sunday School	74

Our Gifts

Total Budget 2009	\$ 377,411
Budget Needed to Date	\$ 57,571
Budget Received for 2009	\$49,951
Budget Needed weekly	\$ 7,258
Budget Rec'd this week	\$ 6,641
Apportionments/Connectional Giving for 2009	\$ 50,141
Apportionments Paid for 2009	\$ 2,105

-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**

- Up dates: **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**