



# First United Methodist Church

## Red Oak, Texas

### **The Acorn**

"A Small Package of Large Possibilities"



Issue 2008-20

May 27, 2008



I feel the most profound statement I heard over the Memorial weekend was that everyday should be Memorial Day. At first I was not sure how to take this, but with time I came to understand that we should remember those that died defending our freedoms everyday. It is never easy remembering those that have passed away, especially if they are close friends or family, because it causes us grief. As Americans we must never forget those that have died defending our country and our freedoms. Christians should understand this better than anyone as our Savior died for us so we could be free from the death of sin. There is never a time that I do not get a lump in my throat when I hear the Star Spangle Banner or hear Taps. I am here today writing this because there have been men and women that sacrificed. Never take our freedoms for granted as Americans and Christians.

Sunday we will take a look at what it means to be in service in the body of Christ. It ties into our prayers and presence within the body, so plan to explore the idea of service with me. See you Sunday. Pastor Doug



### **Graduation**

### Congratulations! Seniors 2008 Senior Class Breakfast June 1st

Congratulations to the high school graduating seniors of 2008: **Jessica Aberg, Amanda Byars, Katie Paquin, Rebecca Rogers, Stephanie Schuster, Josh Williams, and Whitney Young.** The United Methodist Women invite the seniors and their families to a breakfast given in their honor on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:45 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

Following the breakfast at the 10:50 A.M. worship service, seniors and their families will be recognized. Also, a special presentation will be made to each senior. We are so proud that these special young people are a part of our church family.

### **Come Celebrate with the Seniors for a Fundraiser Lunch - June 1st**

The senior class of 2008 would like to invite the church to celebrate their graduation at a luncheon reception after church on Sunday, June 1st. We hope you will come and join us as we continue to celebrate the wonderful achievements of these seniors and wish them well as they prepare for the next stage of their lives. All proceeds from the lunch will go towards the continuing missional activities of the YouthONE program.



**All Committee Meetings This Sunday  
12:30 Program Committee Meetings; 1:40 Administrative Council**



## Vacation Bible School Starts June 22<sup>nd</sup>

Sign Up Now! We need kids, lots and lots of kids! And YOU can volunteer one day or five days. We need lots and lots of volunteers in many ways. We need your help to lead the children to their classes, to teach a class, help with food and refreshments. If you can't help please make a donation to this great outreach to our own children and the children of our community. Vacation Bible School starts **Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**. The theme is **"SURFIN' THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES"**. VBS starts about 5:30 with dinner for five evenings at First Church Red Oak. Lots of volunteers are needed to make this beach party a smashing hit! Sign up sheets are available in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to make a donation you can place it in the offering plate on Sunday. Just be sure to mark VBS in the memo. Any questions call Teresa McGee (972-824-2939) or Paige Davis (972-523-8400) if you are interested in volunteering or helping call the church office at 972-617-9100.

**"Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." 1John 3:18**

**Laugh & Learn Day  
School  
End of School Program  
& Graduation  
First United Methodist  
Church Sanctuary  
Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 PM**



## Youth News!

Thanks to all who came and supported the Youth at the fish fry last Sunday. This event raised over \$600 for the Mission Trip! Thanks for supporting the youth as they work towards their mission trip goal this summer.

This next Sunday is Senior Sunday at church. Senior High School Graduates will be recognized during the second worship service at 10:50 am. After the service there will be a church-wide lunch in continued celebration of our graduates. All Seniors are asked to bring some photos and other important objects that help the church family know a little more about their time in high school as well as their plans for next year.

Youth One Fellowship will have their normal meeting time on Sunday at 6:00 pm in the youth room.  
See you Soon! Mara Bailey

**ONE GOD, ONE FAITH, ONE WAY!**

## Lord's Acre News:



We have had several quilt blocks turned in but just wanted to remind everyone the dead line for turning in the quilt blocks will be this coming Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are having trouble getting your block finished and don't think you will be able to get it done please call Chuck or Renee @ 972-938-2968. We can finish it for you. Again we want to thank everyone who embroidered a block, this is such a big part of getting the quilt done and we really appreciate the help.

We also want to tell you it is never too early to start thinking about donations for the Lord's Acre Day Auction. We will be taking donations for the silent auction and the live auction in September which will be here before we know it.

Our next project will be a Hamburger – Ice-cream Social in July. Information for this event will be coming in soon in the newsletter.

## HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!

**Going to Texas?**

**Go to Ignite!**

A Christian Camp for You  
and a hundred of your new **best friends**.

[www.ignitetexas.org](http://www.ignitetexas.org)

August 14 - 17, 2008

## Attention Members & Leaders:

Summer is around the corner, and utility costs are going back up. Winter was hard on our congregation with the building being used almost every day. Please be good stewards of our resources. Turn out the lights (and air-conditioning) when you leave a room. When you leave the building check to make sure the lights in the restrooms are out also. Also, as you leave the building check the doors, turn off the lights and air-conditioning and set the alarm. If the alarm will not set, a door is ajar. If you have problems call Judy Cox 972-935-3639 or Jon Bailey cell #-515-537-4041. Thank you for your help!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



**-CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 9:45 -  
Meet in the Sanctuary for singing first.  
"Teach Us How to Pray" (Story-telling,  
Science, Music, Art, Cooking & Games) (6  
week -Rotation Sunday School.)

**-Jr. & Senior Hi:** Mara & Jon Bailey Study  
"Life of Christ"

**-Sunshine Class:** Rotating Teachers: Study: Summer Study  
Theme: **Images of Christ** (Hebrews & Gospels)

**-Enrichment Class:** - Rotating Teachers: "Faith Links"

**-Nomad& Seekers** have combined for a study together: -  
Rotating Teachers "Is There Life After Stress" by James  
Moore.

**-Young Adult Class** -Teacher: Jon Bailey. Meeting in the  
Library: **The Methodist Book of Disciple.**

## Waxahachie District Choir Forming for Superintendent Installation

Don Scott, our soon to be District Superintendent, has requested that a district-wide choir sing at his installation on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Ferris Heights United Methodist Church, 108 Center St. in Waxahachie.

Rehearsal times will be Sunday, June 15 at 5 - 7 p.m. and 6:00 pm on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> (one hour before the installation), at Ferris Heights UMC. Anyone who has a passion for singing the Gospel is invited to be involved in this awesome occasion. If you have any questions, please call Ed Gibson, Director of Music at First United Methodist of Waxahachie. 972-937-4400.

*All Invited to celebrate*

*Jessica Aberg's Graduation*

*Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>*

*6:00 - 8:00 pm*

*Country Garden Activity Center*

*104 Cobblestone Dr.*

*Red Oak, TX.*

*RSVP 972-978-1062*

*or email: jeaberg@att.net*

A Big Thanks to the UMM and others for helping to do the cooking for the Grand opening of the new North Ellis County Outreach Center. The Center & Pennies from Heaven opened at their new location at 404 S. Hwy. 342. The Grand Opening was a great success. Thanks again for all your help.

## Emmaus Gathering & Communion Service

**June 5<sup>th</sup>, 7;00 pm**

**Ferris Heights UMC, 108 Center St.**

**Waxahachie**

Please bring a snack or drink to share. Also any one who plays a musical instrument is invited to join us to "Rock for the Lord".

## THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES

**Wednesday, May 28**

- 9:15 Laugh & Learn Day School
- 6:30 Day School End of Year Party & Graduation
- 6:30 Adult Bible Study
- 7:30 Adult Choir Practice

**Thursday, May 29**

- 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
- 8:30 Gambler's Anonymous

**Sunday, June 1**

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE BEGINS

Communion Sunday

- 8:30 Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 Sunday School for All Ages
- 9:45 High School Senior Breakfast
- 10:50 Blended Worship Service
- 12:00 Youth Fund-raiser Lunch to Honor Graduating Seniors
- 12:30 All Program Committees Meet
- 1:40 Administrative Council

**Monday, June 2**

### NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE IN OFFICE

**Tuesday, June 3**

- 6:30 Girl Scout Parent Meeting
- 7:00 Kids University - Graduation
- 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous

**Wednesday, June 4**

- 7:30 Adult Choir Practice

**Thursday, June 5**

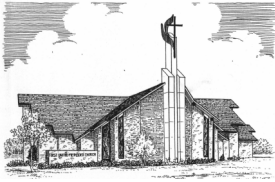
- 7:00 Emmaus Gathering at Ferris Heights UMC

**Friday, June 6**

**Relay for Life at Maypearl HS Stadium**

**7:00 pm - 7:00 am (Saturday)**

**10:00 Candelight**



**First United Methodist Church**  
**600 West Red Oak Road ~ 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*  
*Jon & Mara Bailey, Assistant Pastors*  
*Stuart Dorsey, Music Minister*  
*Sunmi Goodwin, Pianist*  
*Shannon Vinson, Laugh & Learn Day*  
*School Director*  
*Judy Cox, Nursery./Bldg. Mgr.*  
*Dana Ellard, Casi Holmes*  
*& Amanda Byers, Nursery Attendants*  
*Lori Stricker, Office Mgr.*

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

**Our Prayers**

Please refer to the June Prayer List included in this newsletter. Email or add your additions to the list by filling out a prayer request at the church.

-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](http://www.fumcro.org)

- Up dates: [Webservant@fumcro.org](mailto:Webservant@fumcro.org)

-Newsletter & prayer requests: [manager@fumcro.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@fumcro.org)

**ATTENTION:**  
**IH 35 E frontage road**  
**permanently**  
**converted to ONE- Way**  
**May 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am**

**Our Presence**

Sunday School – 9:45 am ..... 78  
 Morning Worship:  
 Last Sunday – 8:30 Traditional Service ..... 36  
 Last Sunday – 10:50 Blended Service ..... 126

**Our Service**

-The Flower arrangement this Sunday is given by **The Almond & Malone Families** in honor of the birth of **Jude Andrew Malone on May 21<sup>st</sup> (10:00 pm 8lbs. 9oz., 20 1/4 inches).**

**-Communion setup: Joanna Johnson & Jo Wilsford**

-Acolytes are: **TBA.**

-Ushers this week are: 8:30 **Lynne Grandstaff & Philip Trees.** 10:50 (right door) **Sherry & Megan Grandstaff;** (left door) **Gretchen & Kayleigh Kitzman.**

-Offering Stewards are: **Travis Young & Monica Ball.**

-Sound Technicians: 8:30 **Les Mitchell;** 10:50 **Tom Rogers**

-Nursery Volunteer is Dolores Moore. Nursery is available every Sunday.

-No Children’s Church.

**Our Gifts**

Total Budget 2008 ..... \$ 386,000  
 General Budget needed weekly ..... \$ 7,432  
 General Budget Rec’d last week ..... \$ 8,055  
 Yearly Apportionment (Benevelence) ..... \$ 47,572  
 Apportionment Paid to date ..... \$ 5,823