



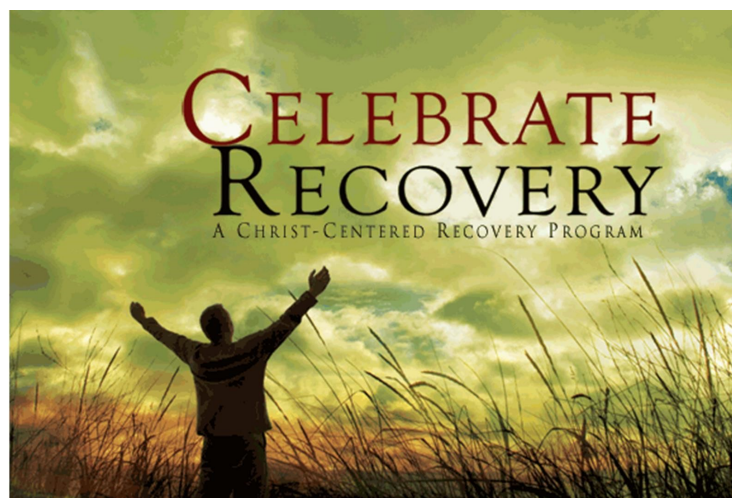
**RETURN  
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ODESSA, TEXAS  
79761

| Bring A Friend This Sunday |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 8:00 AM                    | Adult Bible Class                        |
| 9:00 AM                    | Traditional Worship<br>—Sanctuary        |
| 10:00 AM                   | Sunday School, all ages                  |
| 10:16 AM                   | The Bridge Worship,<br>—3901 E. Yukon    |
| 11:00 AM                   | Fellowship Worship<br>—Fellowship Center |

First United Methodist Church, Odessa, Texas, founded in 1890, is a community of Christians who have pledged to support this church with their presence, their service, their gifts and their prayers. We dedicate ourselves to spreading God's Word throughout our community and to providing meaningful worship experiences, fellowship, and opportunities to fulfill the teachings of Jesus Christ through a variety of ministries. As United Methodists, "our doors, our hearts and our minds are open to all those who seek God's Grace."  
The *CULTIVATOR* is a monthly publication whose exclusive purpose is to help FUMC-Odessa accomplish its Mission by communicating and "cultivating" the presence of Christ in the lives of this congregation.

**First United Methodist Church-Odessa  
Mission Statement**  
*We exist for **LIFE**...*  
*To **Love** others, **Invite** them to join us as we **Follow**  
Christ, who **Empowers** us to make a difference.*



**Celebrate Recovery Brunch**  
**10am Sunday, May 20**  
**Fellowship Dining Room**

**5 Years of making a difference  
in the lives of people with hurts,  
hang-ups and bad habits.  
Truly Something To Celebrate**

United Methodist Women  
presents an invitation to celebrate all women!



**Church Parlor**  
**10:00 - 11:00 am**  
**Sunday, May 13**



# CULTIVATOR

Cultivating Christ's Presence in Our Congregation  
Volume 16, Issue 5  
May 2018

**May The Holy Spirit Work Within You And Be A Fruitful Disciple Of Jesus Christ**



Four youth from Mackey Chapel UMC joined four youth from 1st-UMC to create an awesome eight-some during the Confirmation process. On April 8, all of the youth were presented at the Traditional worship service, with four of them baptized during the Fellowship worship service. On April 29, all were presented at Mackey Chapel worship service with three more being baptized. Please view all of photos at the church website, [www.fumcodessa.org](http://www.fumcodessa.org).



1. Cameron Blake Curry with Tanda Curry.
  2. Jemima Estrada Macias with Teresa & Jeremiah Macias.
  3. Samuel Chase Simmons with Irvin and Christi Simmons.
  4. Jade Alexandria Smith with Lori Smith
  5. Kheeauna and Kheeaundre Webbs with Faye Webbs.
- Not available for photographs are  
Domincke Crosby and Jayla Jackson.







Todd Salzwedel  
Senior Pastor

*"Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."*  
-Colossians 3:17

This passage, written by the apostle Paul to the church in Colossae, was meant to be an encouragement to early believers in Jesus who at times were becoming easily swayed by the arguments and words of others that taught things contrary to what Paul and his followers were proclaiming. The community was made up of primarily Gentile believers in an urban center that at one time commanded great respect and influence. As a crossroads of commerce, they were adept at understanding different cultures and integrating them into their own community. What they struggled with was consistency in their own lives as they traversed this new journey of faith they now proclaimed.

I've always been drawn to the verse above in terms of how I understand stewardship. I don't simply mean our financial stewardship, but rather how we utilize our talents, our relationships, our experiences, and our determination for the glory of God. The "desire to be better tomorrow than we are today" (in every facet of our lives) is another way of stating this. The trouble is, life isn't predictable or consistent.

I was reminded of this recently while golfing with my son and a few men from church. Golf is a funny game, chasing a little white ball around a manicured lawn, beating it mercilessly towards a hole that requires gentle touch in order to sink the putt! I have a sign in my office that says, "When an ancient man screamed and beat the ground with sticks, they called it witchcraft. Today, we call it golf!" The way I've hit the ball recently, I think there might be a bit more to the witchcraft argument! But in talking with my son later, he reflected on the good shots he hit. He didn't focus on the times the ball went the wrong direction, or the multiple strokes it took many of us to finish a hole. Rather, he recalled those few well hit and pure shots. That's the magic of golf...those few good shots will bring you back to try and replicate that moment over and over again.


To be successful at golf, or any endeavor for that matter, requires consistency. Consistency is the result of practice. And effective practice is the result of good instruction. Paul understood this. We understand it today. Nevertheless, it is so easy to get distracted and have our focus redirected.

A good friend and avid golfer once gave me a card that reminded me "the golf course of life doesn't steer us from the hazards and traps of life, but carries us through them." God knew we would continue to find ourselves in difficult situations... and He promised to be with us each step of the way. So, whatever you do, in word or deed, do it in the name of the Lord...and give thanks always!  
*Pastor Todd*

Please join District Superintendent Eddie Rivera as the Odessa churches meet on Tuesday, May 15, at 5:30 at The Bridge.

*The purpose of the meeting is to organize how to fulfill the Vision of the El Paso District: Every person will find a place to Belong, Believe and Be Useful.*

For more information, please contact Pastor Karin Carlson, [karin@fumcodessa.org](mailto:karin@fumcodessa.org).




The El Paso District

*Vision*

*Every person in the geographical span of the El Paso District, will find a place to...*

**BELONG,  
BELIEVE  
& BE USEFUL**



...who Empowers us to make a difference in our church, our community and our world.



The Spice of Life group met on April 19, and we had a great meeting. Russell Kimble, and Steve & Debra Meador prepared our meal, and it was wonderful as usual. As a special treat, Debra fixed two **cakes** for dessert, and I was especially fond of them since coconut was involved!

This month our Birthday honorees were Joyce Thompson and Mary Lynn, sister of Carole Millsap pictured with Pastor Jody who provided the program based on the theme, "What Difference Does Easter Make?"

We hope you will come join us next month and give us a try if you haven't attended. We always meet on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 – 1:00. Early arrivers are welcome. *Blessings to you all, Jody Wallin, Congregational Care Pastor*





**Making a difference  
in our world...**

United Methodist Committee On Relief

Please help our Annual Conference provide Hygiene Kits to survivors of disasters anywhere in the world. Your donations of supplies will be assembled into kits during Annual Conference in June. Contact Pastor Karin for more information, [karin@fumcodessa.org](mailto:karin@fumcodessa.org).

**Hygiene Kit Materials**

- 1 Hand towel - 15 x25 inches to 17 x 27 inches. 1 Washcloth
- 1 Toothbrush - Adult size only (Do not remove from original packaging)
- 6 Adhesive bandages - 3/4 inch to 1 inch-size Band-Aids
- 1 Bath-size soap - 3 oz. and larger sizes only (No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content.
- 1 Comb - comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches
- 1 Toenail clipper
- 1 Plastic bag - One-gallon size sealable bag only
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

**Collecting through June 5th**

*Memorials*

**In Memory of  
Evelyn Bauman**

**Given by**  
Ellen Miller  
Robin & James Bauman  
Southwest District  
Gloria & LaDoyce Lambert  
Ronald Bennett

**In Memory of  
Chrystal Fouche**  
**Given by**  
Betty Dale

**FUMC Children's Center**

**In Memory of  
Juanita Gilbert**  
**Given by**  
Caroline Ater Howard

*Potluck and Bible Study*



**1st & 3rd Sundays from 12:30 - 2:00 PM**  
Open to all (no registration needed) and child care provided!

*For potluck information: [britaniseverance@yahoo.com](mailto:britaniseverance@yahoo.com)*



We exist for LIFE...To LOVE others, INVITE them to join us as we FOLLOW Christ...

Stock Sales help Students go on Mission Trip



Westen & Amaya

Hello, I'm a student in Echo Youth here at our church. Will you help me be the hands and feet of Jesus to those in Port Aransas? We will be there July 15—20 to continue cleaning up damage from Hurricane Harvey. Stock shares are \$25 each. Thank you for your time, your donations and your prayers.  
*Echo Youth*



Summer Camp  
  
**GLORIETA  
FUGE CAMP  
SIGN UP TODAY  
June 23-27**

Contact  
[caleb@fumcodessa.org](mailto:caleb@fumcodessa.org)  
to sign up

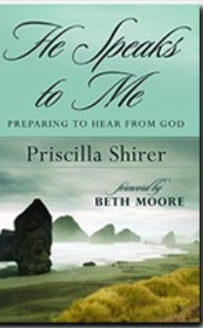
**MISSION TRIP TO PORT ARANSAS  
JULY 15-20  
HELP CLEAN UP THE DAMAGE LEFT BY  
HURRICANE HARVEY.  
BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS.  
\$50 TO REGISTER  
TO SIGN UP CONTACT CALEB.  
432.337.1527**



Helping to make a beautiful difference in our community: these 1st-UMC women were models for the Pilot Club's annual Administrative & Professionals Luncheon and Style Show on April 24. Pilot Club president is Mary Blain. Models are Kelly Allgood, Lisa Brazile, Nancy Stewart, Tiffany Wood, Tamara Stumpner. The very successful luncheon raises funding for many local projects.

**LADIES SUMMER STUDY**

*Preparing to Hear From God*



**June 6 - July 25**

First United Methodist Church

**Wednesdays** or **Sundays**  
9:30-11:00am or 6:00-7:30pm  
Fellowship Center Room 102



Cost \$ 14

To register, call the church or visit [www.fumcodessa.org](http://www.fumcodessa.org)

**Joyful Celebration Of Eight Baptisms On April 8**



Fellowship worship service celebrated the baptisms of six members on April 8. The joyful line up is pictured in the top photo to the left, with family and friends surrounding the new members. Confirmation youth and Fellowship service adults participated in the baptisms: Cameron Curry, Jade Smith, Jemima Macias, Samuel Simmons, Richard Llanez, and Aric Blaze Llanez

Sanctuary Choir members DeYanira Carrasco and Destinee Altier are surrounded in love by Kimberly and Choir Director David Corman after their baptisms on April 8 during the Traditional worship service. DeYanira and Destinee are students at Odessa College.



| MAY ELEMENT: CHARACTER OF GOD                        |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| May 2018 COMPARING THE CONTRASTING ATTRIBUTES OF GOD |   |   |  |   |
|  | May 6   | May 13  | May 20   | May 27                                    |
|  | God is Love   | God is Holy   | God is Sovereign   | God is Unchanging                         |
|  | 1 John 4:8, 16; Psalm 40:11; Ephesians 2:4; John 3:16; Romans 5:8 | Leviticus 19:2; 1 Samuel 2:2; Isaiah 5:16; Psalm 99:1-9; Revelation 4:8 | Isaiah 46:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:15-16; Acts 4:24-28; Psalm 97:1-12 | Numbers 23:19; 2 Timothy 2:13; James 1:17 |

A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated eggs and candy for our Easter egg hunt and to the Echo Youth for filling over 1,300 eggs with candy. Grace Henry was our bunny this year and did a fantastic job making everyone laugh.  
*April Cole, Children's Pastor*



Easter Bunny, a.k.a. Grace Henry



Contact April Cole 432.337.1527



| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY                           | SATURDAY  |
|--|--|---|--|---|----------------------------------|---|
| 29   | 30   | 1   | 2  | 3   | 4                                | 5   |
| May 2018   |  |   |  |   |                                  |   |
| 6  | 7  | 8   | 9  | 10  | 11                               | 12  |
| Israel Meeting<br>12:15pm<br>Fellowship Center   | Celebrate Recovery<br>6:00pm Student Ministry<br>Center  | <i>Into the Woods</i><br>play by<br>Montessori<br>School<br><b>6:00pm</b><br>Fellowship<br>Center | KIDS MIN: Chill Night<br>(STAAR test)<br><br>Echo Youth<br>6-8pm                                       | United Methodist<br>Women Meeting<br>9:30 Room 102  |                                  | <b>Allegro Chorale<br/>Concert 1:30pm<br/>Sanctuary</b>   |
| 13   | 14   | 15  | 16   | 17  | 18                               | 19  |
| <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b><br><br><b>UMW Tea<br/>10:00 in Parlor</b>  | Celebrate Recovery<br>6:00pm Student Ministry<br>Center  |   | <b>Foundation Kids<br/>Family Game Night</b><br>6-8pm<br>Dining Hall<br><br><b>Echo Youth</b><br>6-8pm | <b>Spice of Life</b><br><b>11:30 Dining Hall</b><br><br>Children's Center<br>Graduation<br>4:00 Sanctuary | Parents<br>Night Out<br>6-8:30pm | <b>Ladies Luncheon</b><br><b>11:30am Dining Hall</b><br><br>Homiletics Workshop<br>9:00am-3:30pm & 6-9:00pm<br><br>Matthew Santiago Concert<br>4:00pm Sanctuary |
| 20   | 21   | 22  | 23   | 24  | 25                               | 26  |
| <b>PENTECOST<br/>SUNDAY</b><br><b>Celebrate Recovery</b><br><b>5th Anniversary</b><br><b>Brunch 10am</b><br><b>Dining Hall</b> | Celebrate Recovery<br>6:00pm Student Ministry<br>Center  |   | ECHO Youth End of<br>School Year Party<br><br><b>Foundation KIDS: End<br/>of School Party</b>          | <b>ECISD LAST DAY OF<br/>SCHOOL</b>   |                                  |   |
| 27   | 28   | 29  | 30   | 31  |                                  |   |
| <b>Graduation Sunday</b>   | <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b><br><b>CHURCH OFFICES &amp;<br/>CHILDREN'S CENTER</b><br><b>CLOSED</b><br>Celebrate Recovery<br>6:00pm Student Center | Echo Youth<br>Rockhounds<br>Baseball<br>Game  |  | Ector County Library<br>Summer Reading<br>Kickoff<br>West Parking Lot<br>8am-8pm                          |                                  |   |

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY                                    | FRIDAY                                    | SATURDAY                                |
|--|--|---------|--|---|---|---|
| 28   | 29   | 29      | 30   | 31  | 1   | 2                                       |
| June 2018  |  |         |  |   |   |   |
| 3  | 4  | 5       | 6  | 7   | 8   | 9                                       |
|  | <b>Celebrate<br/>Recovery</b> 6:00pm<br>Student Ministry<br>Center |         | <b>Ladies'<br/>Summer Study</b><br>9:30-11am<br>Echo Youth Swim<br>& Study | <b>Foundation<br/>KIDS:<br/>Abilene Zoo</b> |   |   |
| 10   | 11   | 12      | 13   | 14  | 15  | 16                                      |
| 2nd Sunday<br>Cookout<br>Plaza area<br>11:30-1:30pm                      | <b>Celebrate<br/>Recovery</b> 6:00pm<br>Student Ministry<br>Center |         | <b>ANNUAL CONFERENCE in Albuquerque</b><br>Pastors and lay delegates       |   |   |   |
| 17   | 18   | 19      | 20   | 21  | 22  | 23                                      |
| <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>  | <b>Celebrate<br/>Recovery</b> 6:00pm<br>Student Ministry<br>Center |         | <b>Ladies'<br/>Summer Study</b><br>9:30-11am<br>Echo Youth<br>Swim & Study | UMW 9:30am<br>Room 102                      |   |   |
| <b>VACATION BIBLE STUDY 6:00—8:00 SHIPWRECKED &amp; RESCUED BY JESUS</b> |  |         |  |   |   |   |
|  | <b>Celebrate<br/>Recovery</b> 6:00pm<br>Student Ministry<br>Center |         | <b>Ladies'<br/>Summer Study</b><br>9:30-11am                               | Spice of Life<br>11:30 Dining<br>Hall       | <b>CHURCH<br/>COOKOUT<br/>6:00-8:00PM</b> | <b>ECHO Students<br/>Leave for Camp</b> |
| 24   | 25   | 26      | 27   | 28  | 29  | 30                                      |
| <b>ECHO Students at GLORIETA CAMP in New Mexico</b>                      |  |         |  |   |   |   |
|  | <b>Celebrate<br/>Recovery</b> 6:00pm<br>Student Center             |         | <b>Ladies'<br/>Summer Study</b><br>9:30-11am                               | <b>KIDS: Crisis<br/>Center</b>              |   |   |

Save These Dates
JULY 2018

July 4 CHURCH OFFICES & CHILDREN'S CENTER  
CLOSED  
July 8—2nd Sunday Cookout, Plaza Area  
July 9—13 Foundation Kids: Camp Sacramento  
Grades 4th—6th  
July 15—20 Youth Mission Trip