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Bring A Friend This Sunday

8:00 AM	Adult Bible Class
9:00 AM	Traditional Worship —Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Sunday School, all ages
10:16 AM	The Bridge Worship, —3901 E. Yukon
11:00 AM	Fellowship Worship —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.*

CELEBRATING US! JUNE 10TH

CHURCH COOKOUT



2nd Sunday of the Month
11:30am – 1pm

**Plaza Area &
Dining Hall**

**Bring a Side Dish
Come and Go**

June 10th will be our first monthly cookout. Burgers will be cooked in the Plaza area. Round #1 will be ready by 11:30, and Round #2 will be cooked to be ready at 12:15 pm. **Bring a side dish or dessert to share!**



CULTIVATOR

Cultivating Christ's Presence in Our Congregation
Volume 16, Issue 6
June 2018

Celebrating Recovery



For five years, the outreach ministry Celebrate Recovery has been changing lives of so many people. The leadership team is pictured here at the 5th anniversary regular meeting, May 7. According to Congregational Care Minister Jody Wallin, CR has conducted 272 meetings every Monday, with the exception of one on Christmas and two due to poor weather. The faith-based, twelve-step program is for everyone who wants to overcome a habit, a hurt, or a hang-up.



True to their servant hearts, the CR team hosted a brunch for the entire congregation on May 20 to celebrate the 5th Anniversary. CR provided the delicious food and joyful table decorations.

Celebrating Women

All women were honored on Mother's Day, May 13, with a carnation given by cheerful FoundationKids girls and a reception hosted by the United Methodist Women.



On May 19, *Daughters Of The King West Texas* hosted the Women's Empowerment Luncheon based on 1 John 3:1. Sixty-seven women from nine churches enjoyed the day of prayer, praise, and inspiration. *Daughters of The King West Texas* is a faith-based organization that provides loving, compassionate care with guidance to empower and educate women based on Scripture.





Todd Salzwedel
Senior Pastor

As you receive this newsletter, my family and I will be spending time on vacation with my sister Carey and her family. My brother-in-law, Tim, is a Chief Master Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, attaining the highest rank possible for an enlisted airman. They have three amazing sons that God has blessed them with, and I look forward to spending time with the whole family! Oh yeah, did I forget to tell you, they happen to live in Hawaii? Trust me, we wouldn't be going to visit there had we not had the opportunity to stay with them on Hickam Air Base! Alice, the kids and I are excited to spend time together and with our extended family, especially in such a beautiful environment. More than that though, I've been reflecting of late the people that God has put in my life and the lives of my family. Tim is one of those people. Every time I am around him, I am both impressed and in awe of the things that he has been a part of in service to our country. He is one of those people that does the job set before him with great humility and an amazing sense of purpose. While we occasionally talk about his responsibilities and duties, I am always blessed that the attention is inevitably drawn back to the men and women with whom he feels lucky to serve

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
— Hebrews 12:1-2

with. The combination of humility in purpose and pride in those surrounding him continues to inspire me. Recently, I have been spending time studying the book of Hebrews. There is a strong understanding that those whom we surround ourselves with have direct impact on who it is that we are becoming. Further, understanding that while the road we sometimes find ourselves on is not always easy, persevering in that journey is a combination of will, determination, travelling companions ("great cloud of witnesses") and a clear purpose for being. In our case, as it was for those early believers, our purpose is to follow Christ, who did in fact endure the cross for our sake in sure and certain knowledge of the ultimate aim ahead. I look forward to visiting again with Tim and the rest of the family. I know that God will bless our time together and that I will come away inspired by Tim and those men and women in uniform that follow a well-defined purpose and aim. It will remind me that back home in Odessa, we are blessed to be a part of a church, a cloud of witnesses, which perseveres toward the goal that all people might be invited to a life-changing relationship with God and one another! I, like Tim, am honored and blessed to get to serve with each of you, as God walks with us towards the prize in Christ Jesus! — *Pastor Todd*



Colin Proft is pictured with Cavazos Elementary Assistant Principal, Lalonne King

Celebrating Cavazos Elementary

On May 23, I picked up over 500 items that Cavazos Elementary had donated in their "Love Pack Food Drive." The generosity of these students is a beautiful expression of love and trust for others. Cavazos is one of the poorest schools in ECISD, yet they stepped forward to make a significant impact on the needs of the homeless. The 1st Grade class won the in-house competition to raise the most items, totaling over 300 articles in just two of their classes! — *Outreach Pastor, Colin Proft*



Celebrating Infant Baptism



Sara and Brad Dyrstad hold daughter Nellie Anne during her baptism at the Fellowship worship service on May 6. Older brother, Max, completes the joyful family.



With Deepest Sympathy

To the friends and family of
Maxine Hudson

To the friends and family of
Howard Purvis

To Becky & Caleb Eckel
for the loss of Becky's grandmother
Audrey Marie Roberts

To Tana Pipes
for the loss of her husband
Michael Pipes

To the friends and family of
Edwin "Eddie" Guilbeau

Memorials

**In Memory of
Betty Purvis**
Given by
Jonell & Lonnie Sims

**In Memory of
Maxine Hudson**
Given by
Gloria & LaDoyce Lambert
Builders Sunday School Class

**In Memory of
Eddie Guilbeau**
Given by
Buzz & Betsy Hurt

FUMC Sanctuary Choir
**In Memory of
Evelyn Bauman**
Given by
Lura & Dick Sivalls

Food Pantry
**In Memory of
Marian Clark**
Given by
Kay & Phill Szenasi

**In Memory of
Dan Cooper**
Given by
Kay & Phil Szenasi

**In Memory of
Maxine Hudson**
Given by
Kay I Phil Szenasi

UMCOR Project
**In Honor of
Jody Wallin**
Given by
Alice Learned

FUMC Youth Program
**In Memory of
Eddie Guilbeau**
Given by
Lura & Dick Sivalls

June 7

Abilene Zoo

Completed K-5th Grade
\$12 children \$15 for adults
(includes zoo and lunch)
Leaving church at 7am and return 6pm
RSVP to April

LADIES SUMMER STUDY

Preparing to Hear From God

June 6 - July 25
First United Methodist Church

Wednesdays 9:30-11:00am
Fellowship Center

Sundays 6:00-7:30pm
Room 102

Cost \$ 14

To register, call the church or visit www.fumcodelssa.org

Celebrating Covert Caring and



Lynn Correa thanks whomever crocheted this beautiful prayer shawl for her. It was given to Lynn by Pastor Karin Carlson, with the instructions that the creator requested to remain anonymous. According to Pastor Karin, the caring person prayed for Lynn with each stitch. The shawl was created after the death of Chrystal Fouche, the mother of Lynn Correa and Phil Fouche. Lynn is pictured showing the shawl to members of the 8:00 AM Sunday School Class on Mother's Day.

Overt Generosity



Pastor Todd shares this thank you note from Gideon Clint Kuhlmann for the 2,456 Testaments that will be distributed from the recent donations from our congregations.

Dear Todd,
I just wanted to Thank You for inviting the Gideons to be part of your worship services!
I sure enjoyed meeting you and I really liked your John 3:16 story. Sometimes, I like to imagine just who on Earth and where on Earth the Scripture your generous congregation purchased will help.
With warmest regards, your brother in Christ,
Clint Kuhlmann



The Spice of Life group last met on Thursday, May 17, 2018. Russell Kimble, Steve and Debra Meador provided the delicious home-made meal. Marsha Melton provided the table decorations, and Marlene Moss provided the beautiful door prize. As always, we are very blessed by our volunteers that work so hard to make Spice of Life a wonderful outreach ministry.

The program was given by Jody Wallin, and it was based on the Mother's Day and Pentecost. Birthday wishes were given, and Happy Birthday was sung to our birthday ladies.

If you are in the 60+ year old category, we invite you to come join us next month. You will enjoy the food and fellowship and be glad you came. We always meet on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 – 1:00.

Blessings to you all,
Jody Wallin, Congregational Care Pastor



Celebrating May birthdays is Kay Szenasi and Maggie Hunter pictured with Congregational Care Pastor Jody Wallin

Celebrating Risk-Taking Mission

Greetings,
The El Paso District Superintendent, Dr. Eduardo Rivera, has a God-sized vision for the El Paso District of the New Mexico UMC Conference: *Every person within the geographical span of the El Paso District will find a place to **Belong**, to **Believe**, and to **Be** useful.*

The life of this missional vision began in 2018 with a tour of gatherings with clergy, church representatives and community leaders for fellowship and strategizing within each of the 11 missional areas. The Odessa Area consists of 6 churches: Asbury, First, Highland, Mackey Chapel, Resurrection, and the Bridge. We will have 3 gatherings in 2018.

The first gathering session was held on May 15 at the Bridge. First UMC had a strong presence as we gathered for fellowship, food, worship (led by Colin Proft and Hylance Mahan), and prayer. Dr. Rivera led a message from John 14:11-13 on "Extreme Methods Produce Powerful Results." He emphasized how Paul produced powerful results by becoming someone he was not; went to places he had not been before; did things he had never done before; and experienced opposition like never before. Dr. Rivera and district lay leader, Kathy Jewell, served



Dist. Superintendent Eddie Rivera speaks at The Bridge during Odessa Area Gathering Session #1

Holy Communion and then identified the **Odessa Area Mission Team**, consisting of: one clergy and one laity from each church. We are to also find a community person from education, government and corporate to be on the Mission Team. Our task: ONE big ministry that is sustainable and permanent for Odessa.

The second of three gatherings occurs before Annual Conference on June 13. My task is to meet with the Odessa

Area Mission Team and narrow our focus down to 3 critical mission needs in Odessa. We will present these at Annual Conference. Finally, the third gathering session will be at Charge Conference this year.

This is exciting, risk-taking mission that all six Odessa churches are intentionally planning together! I am thrilled, but will be patient, to see how God leads ALL of us, His Church, to reach people in Odessa that are "out of reach". Please pray for this vision, the Odessa Area Mission Team and how you will allow God to use you as His vessel on mission in Odessa.

Sincerely, Pastor Karin Carlson
District Leadership Team of 12 Servants

ON-LINE SIGN UP FOR KIDS TO ATTEND
ON-LINE SIGN UP FOR VOLUNTEERS



JUNE ELEMENT: STEWARDSHIP				
June 2018 THE BELIVER'S ROLE AS A STEWARD OF THE GOSPEL				
	June 3	June 10	June 17	June 24
	The Believer's Quest	The Believer's Identity	The Believer's Testimony	The Believer's Strength
	2 Corinthians 4:1-18	2 Corinthians 5:1-21	2 Corinthians 6:1-7:1	2 Corinthians 12:1-9

Celebrating Summer By Serving



New & Fun Outreach
Right In Our Backyard
Every Friday at
Hot Summer Nights
music concerts



Why Serve At Hot Summer Nights?

There are at least 3 reasons:

1. community involvement;
2. high visibility; and
3. the chance to share the Gospel.

Hot Summer Nights is a very well-attended community event that has occurred in our backyard for at least 10 years. This will be

the first year we've partnered with the Odessa Arts or Downtown Odessa Incorporated ("D.O.I.").

This is an opportunity for our church to serve the community and take weight off of the Downtown Odessa, Inc. staff who struggle to find volunteers.

Secondly, this is an incredible amount of *free visibility* in the community. Not only will we have a canopy with our church logo under which we will hand out water and connect with concert goers, the D.O.I. and Odessa Arts Council will be actively promoting us on their social media, banners, and quite likely from the stage every Friday night. That's incredible! Every Friday night we'll receive a thanks from the state for serving!

Finally — and most importantly in my opinion — we will have several opportunities every Friday to share the Gospel with our community. Who are you? Why do you serve? What is 1st-UMC about?

I hope we are bold enough to hold out the Word of Life to many people this summer.
— *Pastor Colin Proft, Outreach Pastor*

Ways to Volunteer:

Golf Cart Driver: If you love shuttling people around in a golf cart and engaging in some humorous banter, this role is perfect for you. You must be 18+ for this, as it involves a significant amount of driving and care.

Give Away Water Bottles: If you are comfortable talking with people about FUMC, sharing your faith, and listening, this is the right place for you to serve. It's an excellent opportunity to connect with others and potentially share the Gospel.

Children's Area: The Downtown Odessa Inc. sets up a children's outdoor activity area prior to each night. If you enjoy helping children play safely and are comfortable with lots of energy, we need you in this role! This is one of the most important roles for Hot Summer Nights.

Time and Date Commitment:

Volunteers can serve on the these Fridays: **June 1, 8, 15, 22** and **July 6, 13, 20, 27.**

This is **not** a summer-long commitment, but rather a day-by-day commitment.

People may serve on as many Fridays as they choose.

The time commitment for each Friday is from 6:30 - 9:30 PM in the Noel Plaza.

Shirts will be provided for easy identification with 1st-UMC.

How to serve?

With the strength and love of Christ.

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

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

Celebrating Our High School Graduate

Claryssa Simmons, graduate of Permian High School.
Daughter of Christi and Irvin Simmons.

Favorite bible verse:

Encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory. 1 Thess. 2:12

Activities: Dance, variety color guard team for 3 years, orchestra National Honor Society for 3 years, member of Phi Beta Kappa at OC, NSLS

Fun Fact: I've appeared in 3 movies and 4 commercials

Future plans: Mary-Hardin Baylor.

Major in Christian ministries; minor in Early childhood Education.

Goal to be Children's Pastor.

Involved in at 1st-UMC: children's ministry from the time I was 4; youth group since 7th grade; Sunday school; baptized in 2014, confirmation in 2017.

Serving at 1st-UMC: started Teen Girl's Bible Study;

VBS; Parent's Night Out; day care center during women's studies; and, liturgist.

Favorite youth group moment: First time I ever came. I walked in a super shy person and three seniors would ask me questions that I had to answer. I left a lot more outgoing than coming in.

How is God working in your life? He pointed me in the right direction for college and career.



Girl's Bible Study

6th-12th Grade

Sunday's 6-8pm
7 Amethyst Cove
Bible Study, Music
and Dinner

Mothers are welcomed

For more info contact
Beth (903) 746-0657

MISSION TRIP TO PORT ARANSAS JULY 15-20

HELP CLEAN UP THE DAMAGE LEFT BY
HURRICANE HARVEY,
BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS

ECHO SWIM N' STUDIES

WHO: 6-12th grade students
WHERE: Eckels' place, 1203 E 11th
WHAT: POOL, FOOD & BIBLE STUDY
WHEN: 5-7pm
DATES: June 5, June 13, July 3, July 11