

“Serve And Continue To Learn Among Us” — Bishop Bledsoe

Las Cruces, NM, June 2, 2017

The ceremony is dryly worded, “The Service Of Word and Table for the Ordination of Elders with Commissioning of Orders and Fixing of Appointments.” However, on the afternoon of June 2, the majesty of tradition was heightened by the beauty of the sanctuary of St. Paul’s UMC, making the ceremony an awe inspiring moment. As the processional of more than 100 robed reverends lined up, retiring senior pastor Terry Tamplen walked behind two people whom he had mentored and helped get—literally—to the positions in line ahead of him. Our associate pastor, Karin Carlson was in line as the only Deacon to be commissioned; Dustin Burrow was one of two ministers to be ordained as an Elder. Reverend Tamplen was in the processional as the retiring Elder, who would ceremonially pass the mantle to the new full-member class of Elders.

To be *commissioned* as a Deacon, Karin has now begun a three-year provisional time of on-hands serving, learning and training before she will be qualified to be *ordained* as a Deacon. According to the Book of Discipline, **Deacons** devote themselves to the ministry of the Word, which includes sharing, teaching, and modeling the word of God. Additionally, deacons are called to a lifetime of servant leadership, serving both

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Text from Commissioning Service: “You are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the church and no other, to look after the concerns of God’s kingdom above all.” The Bishop then grasps the hands of the commissioned provisional member, saying, “Karin Sue Carlson, serve and continue to learn among us.”



Bishop Rev. Earl Bledsoe, Rev. Terry Tamplen, Rev. Donnie Williams, Brent and Kat Sims, with Brynnley Sims holding the One Matters Discipleship Award at annual conference in Las Cruces, NM, June 1, 2017.

The One Matters Discipleship Award was presented to FUMC-Odessa’s The Bridge at the annual conference in Las Cruces, NM. The theme for this

year’s conference was New Places – New People. District Superintendent Rev. Eddie Rivera recommended The Bridge because it reflected the conference theme. Rivera added that The Bridge is the result of FUMC-Odessa’s vision of making new disciples in north Odessa by providing the investment of resources and people.

According to the United Methodist Church website, the award, which includes \$1,000 and a One Matters Discipleship Award plaque, is presented to the pastor and lay leaders of a congregation which has done significant work to have positive numbers of new members and baptisms. The UMC website states that “Each “1” in those categories represents a transformed life – a life that matters to God, and a life that should matter to us.” In 2016, The Bridge baptized 9 and added 16 members to their rolls.

Congratulations to The Bridge!



Donnie & Terry with One Matters Award

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



What's Going on at Celebrate Recovery for JUNE?

Every Monday - 6:30p.m., Student Ministry Building

On June 5, Celebrate Recovery began its *fifth* year of meeting every Monday, 6:30—9:00 pm in the Student Ministry Building.

The first lesson was on Denial.

We all have a hurt, hang-up, or a habit. Learn how letting God in your life, can change your life. *Now* is a good time to start *your* recovery.



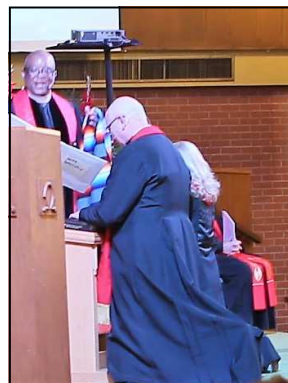
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the congregation and the world. A deacon is called to serve all people, particularly the poor, the sick, and the marginalized, and to equip and lead the laity in ministries of compassion, justice, and service. (¶¶ 328-331).

Elders are committed to a lifetime of service, although this service manifests itself in different ways than deacons or the laity. The elder embodies, or brings to life, Christ's teachings in servant ministries and servant leadership and gives pastoral leadership in ordering the life of the congregation for service. Elders devote themselves to the ministry of the Word, which includes primary responsibility for preaching and teaching the Word of God (¶¶ 332-335)



Karin Carlson, Dustin Burrow stand by their mentor, Rev. Terry Tamplen.



Pastor Terry passes the mantle to Rev. Janet Norden. Terry served for 32-years. Rev. Norden begins her first year.



The service included "fixing of appointments" with each ministers of each district standing to be "sent forth with blessings" to serve. This included the official appointment of Rev. Todd Salzwedel to be senior pastor of our church.

...who Empowers us to make a difference.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER During This Busy Summer

JUNE 13—16 FoundationKids trip to **MISSION ARLINGTON**
Arlington, TX

JUNE 19—23 **RITMO YOUTH CONFERENCE CAMP**
Sacramento, NM

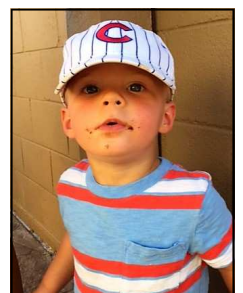
JULY 2—7 **Youth Mission Trip to Osage Nation,**
Oklahoma

JULY 15—29 **National Boy Scout Jamboree, West Virginia**



FoundationKids had a taco party and bouncy house to celebrate the end of the school year. We had a little over 60 kids and their parents turn out for a great time of fellowship.

I have truly enjoyed having each of your children this past year and look forward to what the summer has in store for us. Be on the lookout for the weekly (Thursday) outings taking place beginning June 22. I hope to see you all at VBS! *April Cole, Children's Pastor*



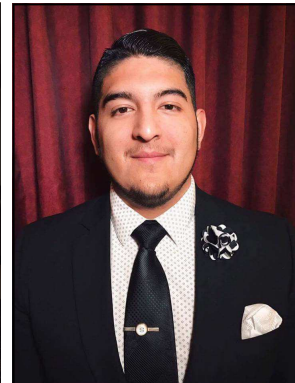
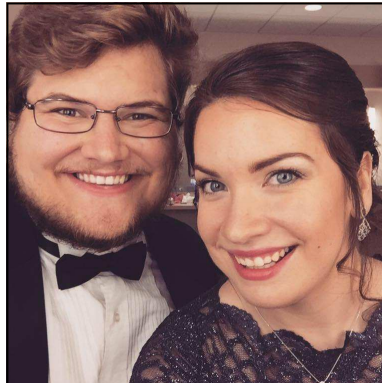


A loving spotlight shines on academic achievements and graduating students, Sunday, May 14 as Student Ministry Pastor Caleb Eckel visits with Alex Wilson during the Traditional worship service. (L-R) Odessa College Jeb Harris and Rachel Holder; Caleb, Alex, high school grads Michaela Hansen, Kanen Meinkowsky, Karalyn Marshall, Rebekah Scott, Kendall Smith; OC students Gilbert Espinoza and Jacob Corman.

Odessa College Graduates

You've seen and heard these Odessa College students enhance our traditional choir on Sundays and all of the outstanding choral performances.

We have been blessed as they shared their musical gifts and talents.



(L-R) Jacob Corman, Rachel Holder, Gilbert Espinoza, Texas King, and Jeb Harris.

(Photos courtesy of FaceBook, Odessa College, Odessa American and Cultivator file photos)



Godspeed And Best Wishes To Our Graduating Students

Our church has been blessed with active students throughout the year. Sunday, May 14, was a day to say "Thank You" for your faithfulness and best wishes for your future.

Graduating Nursery workers

Kaylea Dancer—Permian High
Rebekah Scott—Permian High
Kendall Smith—Permian High

Children's Center

Diana Portillo—Odessa College



Echo Student Ministries Graduates

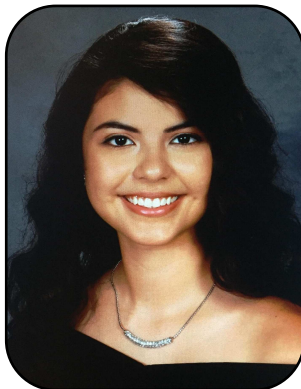
Breely Bohanan
Heidi Cabalero
Jordan Czarnikow
Jeremy Fulton
Jordan Groening
Michaela Hansen
JaLaynie Kidd
Saarah Llanez
Karalyn Marshall
Nathan Mathis
Kanen Meinkowsky
Nokomi Sanchez
Alex Wilson

Snapshots from some of our seniors



Karalyn Marshall

✚ Permian High
✚ Attend Odessa College to major in Nursing
✚ *The Lord is on my side and I am not afraid of what others can do to me.*
—Psalms 118:6



Nokomi Sanchez

✚ Permian High
✚ UTSA and major in biology
✚ *Even youth grows tired and weary, and you men stumble and all; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*
Isaiah 40: 28-31



Saarah Llanez

✚ Odessa High
✚ Attend Odessa College and study Animation and computers.
✚ *I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.*
Psalms 118:17



Alex Wilson

✚ Permian High
✚ Attend Angelo State
✚ Music/Cello
✚ Satin Strings
✚ Playing cello at church
✚ *I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.*
Phil 4:16

UMW Learning & Serving In Month Of May

United Methodist Women's monthly meeting was a trip to the West Texas Food Bank. FUMC-Odessa Food Pantry chairman, Phil Szenasi arranged the tour.



They graciously greeted us, and amazed us with their huge and very clean facility. Rosie Simmons, the assistant to the director, is pictured as she gave us a tour and enlightened us with lots of information.

West Texas Food Bank cooks for and delivers food Monday-Friday to the Boys and Girls clubs in Odessa and Midland. They deliver every day so these children can have a warm meal, feeding approximately 400 a day and 900 during the summer.

They provide the food for Food 2 Kids. Volunteers sack for about 2000 children and deliver to the schools so the children can have food for the weekends. They also add extra food for siblings.

We saw where FUMC's volunteers work. They continue to sack food for

those in need the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The West Texas Food Bank abides by the guidelines of

feeding America. They go through all food items checking for expired dates, damage to items, bent cans or spoiled food. They discard all that doesn't meet the requirements.

They never turn anyone away and foods banks around the area all work together. They now have transportation for those that need it to get to the food bank and back. They also have a nice play area for the children, while the volunteers are working.

They grow some of their own vegetables. They go Presidio taking a full truck of food each month and stay there for two days.

Last year, 5.8 million pounds of food were distributed. Odessa should be very proud to have this facility serving the hungry in our community.

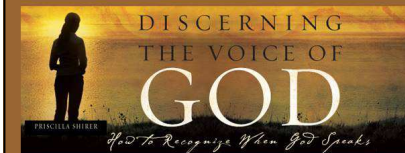


Multi-generations of mothers enjoyed the beautiful Mother's Day Tea hosted by UMW on May 14 in the parlor. The combination of hugs and laughter and delicious home-baked pastries created a special time for the special women of our church.



New Baby
Samuel James Utley
May 1, 2017, 7lbs 14oz.
Proud Parents are
Kara & Brandon Utley

WOMEN'S SUMMER 2017 STUDY



Wednesday 9:30 am

Begins June 7

sign up 432.337.1527
or fumcodessa.org



Like
Us!!

www.fumcodessa.org



Scan this QRC (Quick Response Code) with your smart phone to link to the online

giving page on our website. Use it to make contributions, donations, or to pay for registrations.

Boy Scout Troop 91 Eager To Go To National Scout Jamboree

Ten boys and one adult from First United Methodist's Boy Scout Troop 91 will be attending the 2017 National Boy Scout Jamboree in West Virginia July 15-29 along with 40,000 other scouts from across the nation.

They will be joining 28 other boys from across West Texas to form Jamboree Troop 4219. They will travel to Washington, DC and Baltimore on their way to West Virginia. Planned activities include a White House tour, laying a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery, a tour of the United States Naval Academy; visits to the Capitol, the National Cathedral, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam



memorials; whitewater rafting, etc. You can keep up to date on their trip by following the Facebook page "2017 National Jamboree Troop 4219"! We are excited about so many of our boys getting to attend, and they have been working hard to prepare and earn the money for this trip. National Jamborees are only held every four years, dating back to 1937 when the first one was held on The Mall in Washington DC. FUMC's Troop 91 had six boys and one leader attend the most recent Jamboree in 2013.—
Paul Lucas, Scout Master, Troop 91

Leadership Odessa Award



Creative Arts & Outreach Pastor Colin Proft pictured with Renee Earls – President/CEO of the Odessa Chamber of Commerce, Austin Keith 2016 – 2017 Chairman of the Odessa Chamber of Commerce, Crystale Galindo and Hope Bolton 2016 – 2017 Leadership Odessa Chairs. The event was held on May 25th at the Odessa Country Club. Colin was one of 46 participants that graduated that evening. Dr. David Watts was the keynote speaker.

Spice of Life

The Spice of Life group met May 18, and had a great time together.

There were roughly 25 in attendance. Russell Kimble, Steve and Debra Meador prepared a great meal with the main entrée being smoked pork loin and the desert was coconut cream pie with whipped cream topping. It was all "over the top" and so good!



Our birthday honoree this month was, Fae Jones. Marsha Melton decorated our tables with beautiful decoration. Marlene Moss made a State of Texas plaque as the door prize, and Jody Wallin gave a short program based on the Mother's Day theme, "Mothers, you just gotta' Love 'Em." If you haven't come to "Spice of Life," we hope you will come join us next month and give us a try. I believe 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

Memorials for May

**In Memory of
John B. Mason
Given by**

Betsy Triplett Hurt & Buzz Hurt
Jonell & Lonnie Sims
Stephanie & John Latimer
Margie & Bill Jackson
The Builders Class
Carole Millsap

**The Children's Clothes
Closet**

**In Memory of
John B. Mason
Given by**

Lynn & Randy Correa
Nancy & William Stewart



**In Memory of
Wayne Scott
Given by**

Lynn & Randy Correa

**In Memory of
Billie Brown David
Given by**
Lynn & Randy Correa



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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, —at LBJ Elementary 6401 Amber Dr.
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 **L**ove others, **I**nvide them to join us as we **F**ollow Christ, who **E**mpowers us to make a difference.*

Get Ready To Welcome New Pastor



Rev. Todd Salzwedel poses with Karin Carlson after the commissioning ceremony during annual conference.

Now that it is officially official that Todd has been assigned to FUMC-Odessa, plans continue to get ready for our new pastor's family.

The parsonage is being tidied up. According to Staff-Parish Relations chair, Cindy Fowler, welcoming events are being planned so get ready to demonstrate our radical hospitality for Alice, Todd, Braeden and Paige.

July 2 will be the first worship service conducted by Todd. So save that date to pack the pews with you, your family and friends.