



**RETURN
SERVICE
REQUESTED**

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 43
ODESSA, TEXAS
79761

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 **L**ove others, **I**nvide them to join us as we **F**ollow
Christ, who **E**mpowers us to make a difference.***

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.

UMW is helping Four Corners Native American Ministry!



Please donate **hats, gloves, mittens & scarves** through November 5th in both services or in the church office.

Thank you from the United Methodist Women!



CULTIVATOR

Cultivating Christ's Presence in Our Congregation
Volume 16, Issue 10
October 2018

Children's Choir Practice For Monthly Presentations



Children and teachers are seen rehearsing for the monthly children's choir presentation during the 9:00 and 11:00 worship services. The children's choir is part of the expanding and active Family Ministry here at 1st-UMC. Practice is every Wednesday night.

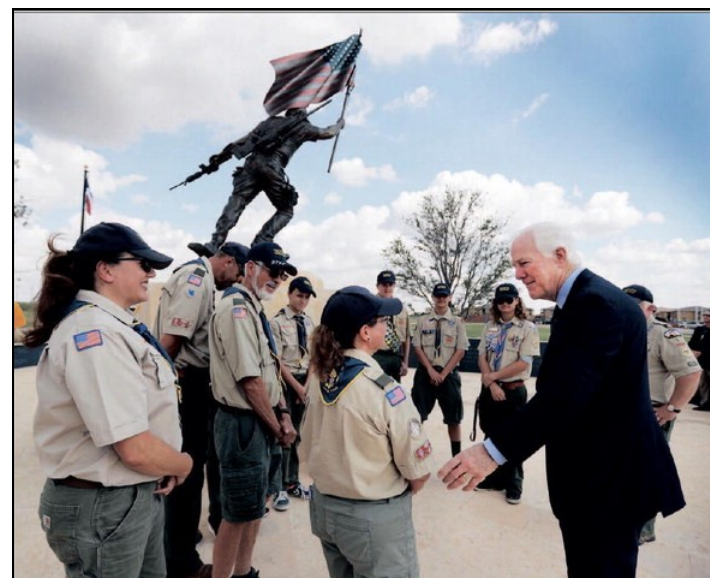
Thousands Expected At New Downtown Event, Oct. 31



See page 5 for details about this exciting new endeavor.

Our Troop 91 Headlines Front Page Of Odessa & Midland's Newspapers

The September 12 editions of the OA and MRT featured photos of Boy Scout Troop 91.



Cornyn talks to Odessa's Troop 91
Assistant Scout Master Emilee Bates after the ceremony. U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) was in Odessa Monday on the day before the National Day of Service & Remembrance. He was joined by local Boy Scouts volunteering at the Chris Kyle Memorial in Odessa. Cornyn thanked the Boy Scouts for the example they set and also visited with community leaders. The memorial is located at TX-191 Frontage Road near Mission Fitness. *Photo by MARK ROGERS ODESSA AMERICAN*



Todd Salzwedel
Senior Pastor

Some wise people say that our life is marked by the defining moments we experience, while others say the character of our lives is evident in the time between those moments. I suppose at some level, I agree with that.

This month, many people from our church and community will get the opportunity to experience one of those defining moments in their

lives. For most people I have traveled with, or I have known to travel to Israel to “walk the fifth gospel”, it has proven to be a life transforming experience that will color your understanding and appreciation for our spiritual history in an unparalleled way.

But this experience does not need to be exclusive to those who get to actually make the trip this time. Instead, just as we have a mandate from Jesus to share our faith, so must we share how God is working in our lives day to day with one another to build up and not tear down.

I ask you to be in prayer for the 43 of us that will be travelling together for ten days throughout Israel as we

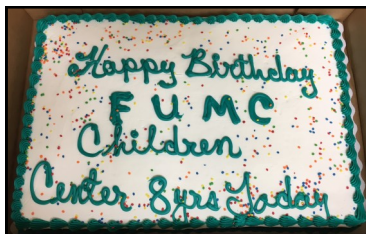
visit, meditate, and worship in some of the most holy places on Earth. While the bulk of the group will return on October 24th, seven of us will continue on to Jordan to visit ancient Edom, Petra (from *Indiana Jones* fame you know!), and other areas east of the Dead Sea. That last group will return on October 28th.

In addition to your prayers, I want to invite you follow us along on our journey through the First UMC Facebook page. I will be posting pictures regularly so that you can travel virtually with us. You will find a brief itinerary that will show where we will be each day ([see page 7](#)) If you’re interested in specific places we visit on those days, you can call the church office or look to my postings on Facebook.

Remember, Israel is 8 hours ahead of us here in Odessa, so we will be underway each day as you awake. As we walk in the footsteps of Jesus, we know that we have you beside us covering us all in prayer!

*Blessings,
Pastor Todd*

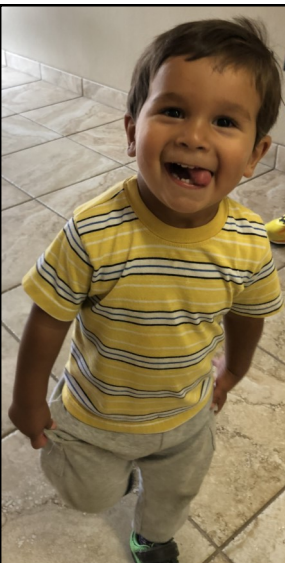
FUMC Children’s Center 8th Anniversary Celebration



On September 20, 2018 FUMC Children’s Center celebrated its 8th

birthday! Children, parents, and staff all enjoyed a birthday cake to commemorate the event. The Children’s Center began with a vision as a way to minister to the children and families in the surrounding area and eight years ago Cindy Lewis

stepped up as the Director. The Center is now overseen by Wendy Dancer. It continues to be a place where parents can bring their children and know that they are cared for, loved, and above all shown the love of God. We look forward to serving our community for many years to come!



The Spice of Life group met Thursday, September. 20. Russell Kimble, and Steve & Debra Meador prepared a great meal. We had a great time of fellowship, food and desert!

Our birthday honorees this month of September were, L-R Paul Janssen, Betty Kay King, Mike Parker, Phil Szenasi, and Jody Wallin. Marsha Melton decorated our tables with beautiful decorations.

We had two door prizes and Jody gave a short program on the season of Autumn.

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*

ISRAEL ITINERARY (Pastor Todd will update Facebook as they journey)

- 10/15 & 10/16—Depart & Arrive in Holy Land
- 10/17—Caesarea by the Sea, Mount Carmel, Megiddo & Nazareth
- 10/18—Sea of Galilee
- 10/19—Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Golan Heights, Bethsaida & Jordan River
- 10/20—Jericho, Qumran, Masada & Dead Sea
- 10/21—Bethlehem, Yad Vashem & Israel Museum
- 10/22—Jerusalem
- 10/23—Jerusalem
- 10/24—Return to USA and Odessa
- (7 remain for travel to Wonders of Petra)
- 10/24—Jerusalem
- 10/25—Cross the Allenby Bridge in Jordan, Mt. Nebo & Madaba
- 10/26—Petra & Dead Sea
- 10/27—Jerash and return to Israel
- 10/28—Return to USA and Odessa



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.



New Baby

Gwendolyn Anneliese Voigt

September 4, 2018, 8lbs 1oz.

Proud Parents are Jennifer & Tyson Voigt

With Deepest Sympathy

To Betsy Triplett-Hurt & Buzz Hurt

For the loss of Buzz’s brother

Sam Fuqua Hurt, Jr.

Memorials

In Memory of
Ruth Jones
Given by
Sally Allen

In Memory of
Ruth Jones
Given by
June & Jerry Hogue

Miss a Sermon?



Search "FUMC Odessa's"
In iTunes Under Podcasts
Or Podpoint.com

subscribe to
our podcast

United Methodist Women Get Ready For Bake Sale

United Methodist Women held their monthly meeting on September 13. Just as we are asking church members to donate, we reminded ourselves that all need to bring our hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves to the church office or drop them off after each service in the container that is marked for them. These items are for the Four Corners Native American Ministry.

We also scheduled our **annual bake sale for November 18, 2018**, which will be set up for both services. This year not only will we



have baked items, we will also offer a few Christmas decorations for sale. We invite anyone who would like to bring a baked good or a Christmas decoration to our bake sale, to have it there no later than 8am the morning of the sale. All donations will be given to missions that will be listed at the bake sale.

Our next meeting is October 11 at 9:30 in room 102. Karen Hildebrand will be there to discuss the Crisis Center. *God Blessings, UMW*

Opportunity To Make A Difference In Our Church...

LIKE WORKING
BEHIND-THE-SCENES?

WE ARE IN NEED OF

MEDIA
Volunteers

ALL AGES WELCOME



Opportunity To Make A Difference In Our Community...



**Become a Mentor
for a child at
Cavazos Elementary**



Contact the church office
for more information
432.337.1527

Opportunity To Grow...

DISCIPLE
FAST TRACK **REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE**

Major & Minor Prophets 12 weeks
Letters of Paul 12 weeks

9:30-11:00am
Parks Methodist Retirement Village

6:00-7:30pm
FUMC, B5

SEPTEMBER 12



Opportunity For Fellowship...

2nd Sunday church cookout
2nd Sunday of the
Month
11:00am – 1pm



Main Dish – Spaghetti & Meat Sauce

Plaza Area &
Dining Hall

Bring a Side Dish
Come and Go

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S BOLD VISION

Rev. Dr. Eduardo Rivera is the El Paso District Superintendent and he wants to reach all 1.5 million people in the geographical span of the district. This is a God-size vision! I am excited about the challenge because it is missional and relational. This bold missional movement aims for the churches to serve together so everyone has a place to *Believe, Belong, and Be Useful*.

Therefore, the District Leadership Team (on which Todd and I both serve) has met since last year to create an action plan. One of the first actions was to divide all the churches in the district into 11

Missional Area Teams, whose purpose is for a team of laity, clergy and 13 committee members to foster the following:

- ✦ Mutual support, networking and cooperation among the congregations in the Missional Area
- ✦ Assessment of potential ways to reach people in their community through existing churches and new faith communities
- ✦ Establishment of collaborative ministries and outreach projects
- ✦ Living out the connectedness of the United Methodist Church
- ✦ Partnering within and beyond the Missional Area to increase effective ministry, outreach to new people and faith development
- ✦ Building strong, visionary, and vital

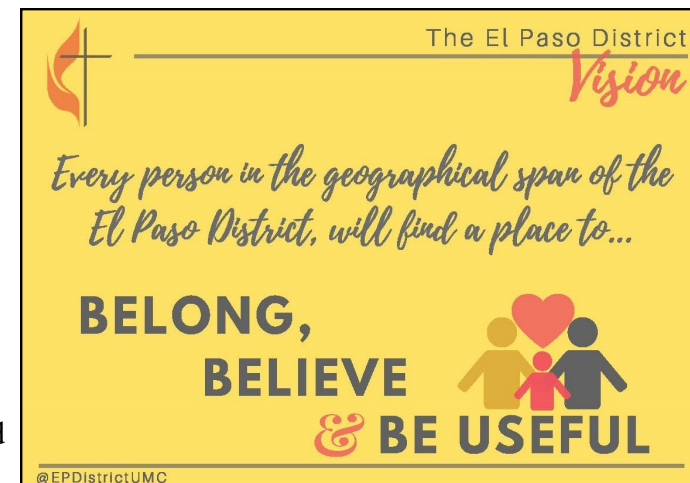
congregations

The **Odessa Missional Area Team** consists of Asbury, First, Highland, Mackey Chapel, Resurrection and the Bridge. We have met four times this year to begin discussions about:

What can we do better together?

- ✦ How are we intentionally reaching more new people, more young people and more diverse people for Christ?
- ✦ How are we helping these new people and our existing members to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ?

All six United Methodist churches in Odessa planning and praying together for God's guidance on *what can we do together that we cannot do by ourselves* is needed and happening! **The Odessa Missional Area Team will propose an action plan for 2019 that is relational and sustainable at Charge Conference on November 5 at 6:00pm at 1st UMC for lay leaders to adopt.**



We ask you to pray for this missional movement and how you will allow God to use you to reach more people so they have a place to *Believe, Belong, and Be Useful*.

In His Service, Pastor Karin

Church Charge Conference Monday, November 5, 2018 6:00 p.m. 1st-UMC Odessa

FUMC is a part of the El Paso District of the New Mexico Conference. The vision statement for our District is *We believe that every person in the geographical span of the El Paso District will find a place to Belong, Believe and Be Useful*.

The **Church Conference** will be held on November 5, 2018 at 6pm and will be a little different this year. All six Odessa area United Methodist Churches will join **together** for this important conference. The Charge/Church Conference for each church will be held and a Ministries Celebration worship service will follow.

This service will include hymns, Scripture reading and a devotional from our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Eddie Rivera. The Odessa Missional Area Team will propose a ministry project for 2019 that will be voted on by all six churches. The conference will conclude with a Ministries Celebration Commissioning of the Missional Area Churches.

You are invited to attend as we all do our part to fulfill the mission of the United Methodist Church in *making disciples for the transformation of the world*.

*Nursery (up to 2yrs) is available, please contact the church office to make arrangements (432.337.1527).


New Event For D6 and Children’s Center

We are very excited to introduce a new event to the FUMC family “trunk or treat.” This event is a wonderful opportunity for family and friends to decorate their car trunk and hand out candy, to dress up in their best costumes, to come together to help build a safe and fun environment for all the FUMC family and friends. The FoundationKids Children Ministry and the Children Center are joining together to work as a team to build the church community to reach out to the children and the families of FUMC and of the Children’s Center. This event will take place on **October 24, at 6:00-7:30 pm**, which is the week before Halloween.



Face painting, arts and crafts, and food will be provided. Volunteers are needed to decorate their car, and pass out candy to the children. FoundationKids is asking for candy donations; boxes will be placed in the Narthex of the Sanctuary and the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Center. We are all very excited about this upcoming event to fellowship as a church family, and look forward to many more opportunities. *Melanie Taylor, Assistant Family Ministry Pastor*
Matthew 18:20 “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

OCTOBER 2018 NEW TESTAMENT: FREEDOM

ELEMENTARY THROUGH ADULT – Romans 1 of 2				
Part 1 of a 2-part study of the book of Romans investigates the theological aspect of sin and analyzes what Scripture says about the effects, extent, and remedy for sin. Students can contrast the bondage of sin with freedom in Christ.				
	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28
	Curse of Sin	Cure for Sin	Justified by Faith	Freed from Sin
	Romans 1:16-32	Romans 3:10-31	Romans 5:1-21	Romans 6:1-23
PRESCHOOL – Following Jesus				
Students will explore biblical accounts of Jesus’ call to His followers and be challenged to respond to the truth that <i>I Can Follow Jesus</i> . They will see various examples to discuss and consider what following Jesus looks like today.				

TWO GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR KIDS AT FUMC!



D6 SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR KIDS EVERY SUNDAY MORNING AT 10AM
ages PRESCHOOL -5TH GRADE!

NEW DEEP BLUE CURRICULUM & LOTS OF FUN
activities every WEDNESDAY
6-7:30PM ages PRESCHOOL -5TH GRADE!



There is always NURSERY for the BABIES every SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY!
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MELANIE OR CALEB 432.337.1527



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

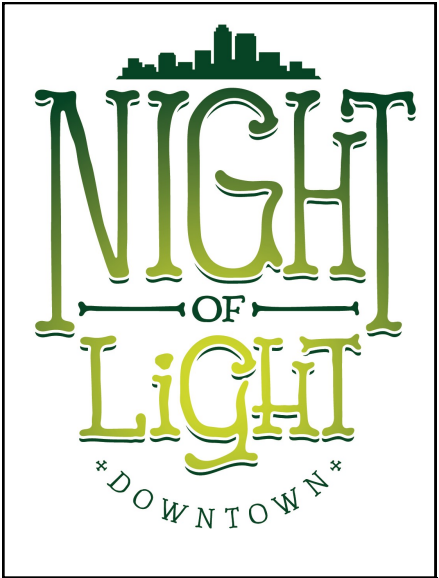
WHEN: Every Wednesday at 6:00
WHO: 6th-12th Grade Students
WHERE: 1st-UMC Student Ministry Center

Be The Face Of Our Church To Thousands At Night Of Light Downtown

Night of Light Downtown is a fun and safe environment for Halloween. In the past, Crossroads Fellowship has had Night of Light on its parking lot on Highway 191. That location attracted thousands of people from all over the Permian Basin. This year Crossroads reached out to Downtown Odessa, Inc., 1st UMC, and many other sponsors as partners to host this event *downtown* in the blocks surrounding Noel Heritage Plaza on **Wednesday, October 31st from 5:30-8:30 PM**.

*****Streets will be blocked off from 4th - 7th, Lee to Sam Houston*****

Night of Light Downtown will feature food trucks, a Ferris Wheel, amusement rides, over 60 inflatable jumpers, a rock wall, game booths, prize giveaways, candy, and much more! Kids and parents are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite costumes. **This event is free to all to attend.**
How is FUMC Involved?
When I first heard about *Night of Lights Downtown*, I immediately saw it as a wonderful opportunity. We have the opportunity to have literally thousands of people pass by our church and interact with us. To borrow from best-seller author, Rev. Tim Keller, we are to have a, “faithful presence within” our community.
We are to be faithful to who we are as Christians. We are also to be fully present in our community. It’s what Pastor Todd has said before about vocational living. There is no separation between the sacred and the secular; rather, quoting Colossians 3:17: *“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”*
Lastly, we are to be within the culture by



Event:
Night of Light Downtown
When:
October 31st, 5:30-8:30 PM
Where:
Downtown from 4th to 7th and from Lee St. to Sam Houston St.
Estimated Attendance:
15,000-18,000

partnering with other organizations that are working for the common good of all. As best as we can, we should work within already established organizations for the good of our community.
Family Ministry Director Caleb Eckel, and Assistant Family Ministry Director Melanie Taylor are lining up our youth to manage a variety of activities in and around our church campus. From a practical standpoint, *Night of Light Downtown* provides us an opportunity to partner with several other organizations and churches to serve our community.
How can I be Involved?
This is an “all hands on deck” moment for First United Methodist Church. Though our Youth Group will be serving as volunteers, we’re going to need the support of the whole congregation. *Night of Light Downtown* is a huge

collaborative effort, so there will be other needs as well that arise.
There will be two shifts for this event: a 5:30-7:00 PM shift, and a 7:00-8:30 shift. Please arrive 15 minutes before your shift so that you’re ready to serve in whatever capacity we need you. Meet in the Plaza/Playground area at FUMC.
Each volunteer will receive a free *Night of Lights Downtown* T-shirt. Contact the church office or colin@fumcodessa.org if you would like to volunteer.
What a great way to live out our mission statement...*We exist for LIFE, To Love others, Invited them to join us as we Follow Christ, who Empowers us to make a difference.*

Yours in Christ, Colin Proft
Creative Arts and Outreach Pastor