

## Postcards from Israel: Dear Church Family, Wish You Were Here!



1st-UMC-Odessa member Lynn Correa is pictured riding a camel during the 10-trip to Israel, hosted by senior pastor Todd Salzwedel. Perhaps she is waving to all of us back in Odessa. Lynn is one of 43 travelers from our church who experienced the Holy Lands from October 15-24. Pastor Todd describes trips such as these as "a life transforming experience which deepens our spiritual history." Our group traveled throughout Israel to "visit, meditate, and worship in some of the most holy places on Earth." Please turn to page 5 for more pictures depicting the sacred and lighthearted moments of the trip. You can see more photos on [fumcodessa.org](http://fumcodessa.org) FaceBook.

## Weather Tricks Trunk-or-Treat But Fun Shines Through



Rain forced Trunk-or-Treat from the church parking lot to the cozy warm Fellowship Center on Wednesday, Oct 24. Regardless of location, joyful festivities created a great time for our **FoundationKids** and our **Children's Center**. Activities included games, face painting, costumes and hand puppets with music director David Corman.



Meanwhile, back at Ratliff Ranch, the **echo Student** ministry were inside a cozy barn for Halloween festivities. S'mores by fire pits and launching Chinese lanterns were a tad soggy but overall, middle school and high school spirits were not dampened by the weather.



Family Ministry Director Caleb Eckel wants the congregation to know the fabulous students active in Echo Student Ministry. This month's student is **Bryndle Meinkowsky**

**Bryndle is a Senior at Permian High School.**

**Involvement at PHS:** Officer in Marching Band for four years. National Honors Society for four years and Junior Board.

**Favorite animal:** Sloth

**Future plans:** Doctorate in Speech Pathology and Audiology

**Involvement at 1<sup>st</sup>-UMC:**

ECHO youth group for 6 years; Confirmation Class of 2017; VBS volunteer for 2 years; has attended 5 church camps and a mission trip with ECHO youth. Bryndle has also served as a Greeter and played in the brass Quartet for the Contemporary service.



Bryndle, on the right, and Alex Salazar are pictured working at the Coastal Bend Food Bank in Port Aransas during the 2018 Mission Trip.

**Bryndle said this about the 2018 Mission trip to Port Aransas,** "It was very humbling to be there to help out and clean up the community after hurricane Harvey."

**Favorite youth group moment occurred at Camp Glorieta in 2016,** "When we sat out and camped under the stars, we had s'mores and cooked dinner around the fire."

**How is God working in your life?**

"God has pushed me more to focus more on myself and less on what others think of me. That has helped me to make better friends and remove toxic people out of my life."

## D6 Sunday School Studies for NOVEMBER 2018

### ELEMENTARY THROUGH ADULT – When Life Gets Hard


Every believer will face times when life gets hard. This study considers some of the most common and complex experiences of grief and loss and outlines appropriate responses for those who are grieving and those who care for them. Students can prepare to effectively navigate their own hardships as well as understand how to comfort others.

D6 2GEN CURRICULUM	Nov. 4	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25
	Broken Relationship	Death of Loved One	Depression & Anxiety	Life-Altering Circumstances
	Matthew 18: 15-20 Luke 15:11-19	Acts 12:1-5; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Romans 8:38-39	1 Kings 19; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 5:7; Revelation 21:4	Matthew 3: 1-17; 14: 1-10; 11: 1-19

### PRESCHOOL – Paul in Hard Times

This unit provides a survey of difficult times faced by the apostle Paul. Students will be encouraged to recognize the truth *God Is With Us All the Time* as the encounter biblical accounts from Paul's life and examine his response to those difficulties.





### Remembering Our Saints...

Thelma Allmond  
Benna Babb  
Robert Bacon  
Ronald Baker  
Evelyn Bauman  
Rowena Byrd  
Craig "Doc" Cody  
AnEll Crudup  
Chrystal Fouche  
Edwin Guilbeau  
Ruth Jones  
Alice Learned  
Shirley Rybolt  
Brian Willett

United Methodists celebrate All Saints Day on the first Sunday in November.

The candles lit at All Saints Day Worship observances are an acknowledgement that our loved ones in Christ are not gone forever, the light that was lit in their hearts when they came into the family of God continues to shine in the presence of God.

It is with Christian love that fourteen candles represent our 1st UMC-Odessa saints.



*I personally invite you to join with other churches in celebrating Mackey Chapel's 81<sup>st</sup> year in ministry. Rev. Robert Templeton from Mt. Olive Baptist Church will be the guest pastor leading the theme of The Way Maker, Isaiah 43:15-19. Worship, music from various churches (including FUMC), and fellowship. Of course, enjoy a dinner to go grilled by the men! Really hope you can join us, Karin Carlson ~ Pastor, Mackey Chapel*

## WELCOME ALL PEOPLE...

I am convinced that our character as a congregation is deeply permeated by the spirit of radical hospitality, because we strive to **welcome all people into life-changing relationship with God and others**. Christian hospitality is the active desire to invite, welcome, receive, and care for those who are strangers so that they find a spiritual home and discover for themselves the unending richness of life in Christ.

Most people discover their need for God's grace and for the love of Christ through the experience of receiving it.

*What do people need that we can offer?* People need to know God loves them, that they are of supreme value, and that their life has significance. People need to know that they are not alone; that when they face life's difficulties, they are surrounded by a community of grace; and that they do not have to figure out entirely for themselves how to cope with family tensions, self-doubts, periods of despair, economic

reversal, and the temptations that hurt themselves or others. People need to learn how to offer and accept forgiveness and how to serve and be served.

The church becomes a congregation where people learn from one another how to love. People need to know that life is not having something to live on but something to live for, that life comes not from taking for oneself but by giving of oneself. People need a sustaining sense of purpose.

"Welcoming all people" is a powerful statement of reconciliation and vital work for the transformation of the world. Through hospitality, we can build meaningful relationships, which in turn gives way to opportunities to strive together for peace and justice. **Radical hospitality** begins with a single heart, a growing openness, a prayerful desire for the highest good of a stranger.

Do it again, Lord, do it again.

*Karin Carlson, Associate Pastor*

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

## Save These Dates For Meetings, Fun Events & Advent Services

### **Monday, November 5 Charge Conference & Ministry Celebration**

with all Odessa United Methodist Churches participating 6pm

### **Wednesday, November 9 — Parents & Children Fun Night**

### **Sunday, November 11 — Pulpit Swap,**

Pastor Karin at 1st-UMC; Pastor Todd at Mackey Chapel-UMC

*Celebration of Mackey Chapel's 81st Anniversary at 3pm*

### **Friday, November 16 — Family Date Night**

**Saturday, November 17** Women's Empowerment Luncheon,  
a **Royal Tea Party** in conjunction with Daughters of The King.

### **Sunday, November 18 Bake Sale by UMW**

proceeds go to their mission outreach

### **November 21-23 Church Offices closed for Thanksgiving**

### **Sunday, November 25—Hanging Of The Greens**

4-6 pm Sanctuary and Fellowship Center

### **Wednesday, November 28 — Family Advent Night**

Chili Cook off and Mac & Cheese Throwdown 6-7:30pm

### **Saturday, December 1 — Family Ministry (Foundation Kids)**

in Heritage Holiday Lighted Parade

### **Tuesday, December 11—Blue Christmas**

Service of Hope and Healing 6pm

### **Sunday, December 16 Sanctuary Choir Cantata** 9am Service

### **Sunday, December 23** 9am and 11am

**Children's Christmas Program** both services in sanctuary

### **Monday, December 24 — Christmas Eve Services**

4pm Contemporary, in Fellowship Center

6pm Traditional, in Sanctuary



## Postcards From Israel

1st-UMC member Fred Girard and Rev. Todd Salzwedel beam after Fred's reaffirmation of his baptism in the River Jordan. Fred is one of 30 members who were submerged in the sacred waters of Jordan River.

Pictures below show Judy Hayes listening to lectures about the mural depicting the woman who was healed when she touched the hem of Jesus's robe. (Rev. Mark Alexander used the same photo in his sermon at 1st-UMC while the group was in Israel.) Other photos show John Mark Weaver at the prayer wall; the hands of Lynn Correa and Pastor Todd at the anointing stone at Church of the Holy Sepulcher; and members praying at the Church of Saint Anne, in Jerusalem.



These photos show intrepid travelers Carol Millsap, Julie Brown in Synagogue in Capernaum Pastor Todd, Steve and Kris Riley, Gary Sims, Peggy and Jody Wallin at Yad Vashem. Connie Grewell overlooking the valley of Megiddo Everyone gathered in Pontius Pilate's Fortress for a group picture.





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.

## Welcome New Members



Becky and Chris Guerrero joined our church family on September 23 during the Traditional worship service. They have two children Levi and Taylor. They are active in the Mosaic class.

**Will you be one of the *Foster Angels* who brightens a Foster Child's Christmas?**



**Children's Protective Services has entrusted to our church the names of 50 children.**

**Names will be available Sundays, November 11 & 18.**

**Please return your gifts by Sunday, November 25.**

New Mexico CCYM Presents

# Service Camp

Giving back for our Future  
...Featuring a Back to the Future theme

• Fellowship • Service • Worship • Giving back •

**November 16-18 2018**

**Sacramento, NM**

Grades 6-12  
+any adults  
are welcome

Hope to see you there!

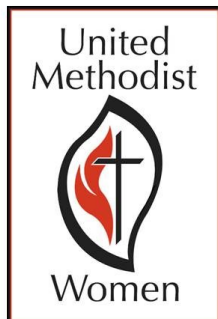
Conference Council on Youth Ministries

Contact Caleb for more information

*Daughter's of the King*  
*Presents*  
*Royal Tea*  
*Saturday, November 17, 2018*

**Location:**  
First United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Center  
217 W. 5th Street  
Odessa, TX

**Time:**  
2:30p - 4:30p



**Sunday November 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**Before & After both services in the**  
**Main Building and Fellowship Center**



## Miss a Sermon?



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

**subscribe to**  
**our podcast**

## Family Advent Night

**Games and Singing**



**November 28**  
**6-8pm**  
**Fellowship Center**



**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Prizes for each**

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### NEW BABY

**Georgianna Van Amburgh**

**October 16, 2018**

**Proud Grandparents**

**Lynn & Craig Van Amburgh**

Join in the fun of Family Advent Night. Enjoy playing games, and singing. Challenge reigning Chili cook off champion Susan Henry, who won last year's event with her grandmother's recipe. This year a new category of Mac N Cheese has been added, and who doesn't love Mac N Cheese? If Chili or Mac isn't your dish, bring some cornbread and join the fun! Contact the Church office for more information on this fun night! 432.337.1527



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**Us!!**

[www.fumcodessa.org](http://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.







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## Bring A Friend This Sunday

8:00 AM	<b>Adult Bible Class</b>
9:00 AM	<b>Traditional Worship</b> —Sanctuary
10:00 AM	<b>Sunday School, all ages</b>
10:16 AM	<b>The Bridge Worship,</b> —3901 E. Yukon
11:00 AM	<b>Fellowship Worship</b> —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**nvoke them to join us as we **F**ollow  
Christ, who **E**mpowers us to make a difference.*



## Family Date Night Nov. 9th

**\$5.00 per child**  
**6:00pm-8:00pm**

**Sign up now!**  
**Contact: Melanie Taylor**  
**Melanie@fumcodessa.org**

**Enjoy a date night with your child painting a Thanksgiving canvas!**

**All age groups are welcome**  
**Food will be provided**