

Easter Sunday April 21

Please to turn pages
4 & 5 for schedule
of the rich traditions
honored at FUMC



Community-Wide Easter Sunrise Service

Lead by the Odessa Ministerial Alliance
Ratliff Stadium 7:00 A.M.

Church Work Day

Saturday

April 6

8am-1pm



Time for Spring Cleaning
at our House of Worship
Join the Building Trustees
to Help Spiff Up the Church.

Contact the church office for
more information,
432.337.1527

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | MAY 2, 2019

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU JOHN 13:34



NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG #LOVE1ANOTHER

The Odessa Ministerial Alliance, with the assistance of Rev. Todd Salzwedel who is a member of the OMA and a committee from FUMC, is hosting The National Day Of Prayer luncheon on May 2. This exciting event will be enjoyed at the MCM Elegante Hotel, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Tickets (\$25) are available at <https://nationaldayofprayerodessa2019.eventbrite.com>.

A prayer guide and more information is posted on FaceBook, National Day Of Prayer Odessa.



Todd Salzwedel

It wasn't that long ago the some of my mentor pastors would recall the hectic schedules leading up to Easter and all that entailed! They would talk about the purposeful worship planning including the many special services and music ministry offerings on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter. Easter Egg hunts, ordering palm fronds and the number of out of the ordinary aspects of the season seemed to haunt them as if they were still in fear they might have forgotten something and a parishioner was lurking around the corner to tell them all about their mistake!

After the Easter PTSD passed, they would then talk about the lull in action around the church for a few weeks after expending so much energy celebrating that momentous time in our spiritual lives. Many of them took vacation immediately after and all meetings were on hiatus until further notice. This is the memory that was shared with me as I started in ministry.

In some ways, I have always found that a bit odd. When we read each of the Gospel accounts post resurrection, there seemed to be a lot of action. Questions were asked among Jesus' followers, they moved from place to place to encounter Jesus over the next month plus, and they seemed busy trying to figure out what they would be doing next. (You might point out though that the disciples did try to get in a little fishing during that period...according to John). Nevertheless, the period after Easter was anything but uneventful!

Easter is not the end of the story – either for Jesus or us! Instead, it's the beginning of a brand new chapter in which we as the church play a principle role. While the need for rest and reflection is important, we also need to be prepared to step into a new stage of our discipleship... namely to share the message of a risen Lord with the world!

I am so excited to participate in the worship services here at First UMC, including the children processing on Palm Sunday...the moving Maundy Thursday service and amazing music of Good Friday during Holy Week...and of course our time together on Easter. I pray that you are planning to participate in each of these opportunities as well as the Easter Egg hunt open to the community on April 10th here at the church.


But I also hope that we follow the example of the early disciples to share the risen Christ with the world. With many other churches, we will gather at Ratliff Stadium at 7am Easter morning for the Community Sunrise Service. About ten days later, we will gather with other believers, civic leaders and churches to pray for our community, our nation, our families and many other things at the National Day of Prayer held at the MCM Elegante. You can purchase tickets at <https://nationaldayofprayerodessa2019.eventbrite.com>. It is my hope that all of our efforts are simply opportunities to share in the Great Commission found at the end of Matthew's gospel. To share Christ with the world, we can begin by sharing Him in our homes and community! I look forward to you joining me each step of the way!

Pastor Todd, Senior Pastor

D6 Sunday School Studies for APRIL 2019

ELEMENTARY THROUGH ADULT – Jesus The Savior

Through His teaching and personal encounters, Jesus demonstrated a relentless quest to rescue the outcast and the wayward. Through this study of select passages from the book of Luke, students can comprehend the depth of God's love for them and the extent to which He will go to reach them.

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
	Loving Your Neighbor	Seeking the Lost	From Death to Life	Seeking the Savior
	Luke 10:25-37	Luke 15:1-32	Luke 23:26-46 and 24:1-12	Luke 19:1-19

PRE-SCHOOL Easter

Students will learn the truth *Jesus Is The Risen King* as they explore the biblical account of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. The unit challenges students to identify the true meaning of Easter and to make the choice to worship King Jesus in response



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

Tabitha Jones

Sophomore at Montessori Mastery School of Odessa.

Favorite Ice Cream Flavor:

Lemon Pie Ice Cream (from Bolivia)

Interesting fact: I do Pilates for exercise. I sing and I can play the guitar, piano, ukulele, recorder and the violin.

Future Plans: Singing Teacher and run my own music academy

Involvement at FUMC: Tabitha has attended FUMC for 3 years, been involved in ECHO youth group for 3 years and has attended Sunday school for 3 years. Tabitha has served as a greeter and has sung with the praise band as well.



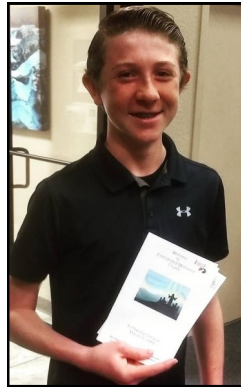
Ricardo Llanez and Luke Williams assist Tabitha Jones

Why do you attend ECHO Youth Group?

"I really like the people, how open and warm they are every time I visit. I can see the love they have and how everyone strives to learn about God."

How is God working in your life?

"I've gone through some tough struggles with disease and bullying. Without God and my passion for music I probably wouldn't be here. Every time I go through a struggle I write a song, it's a musical prayer which helps me draw near to Him and gives me peace."



ECHO youth group teamed up with Keep Odessa Beautiful in March to pick up garbage on the streets and parks around our community. It was amazing how much trash we picked up in just a few hours! Despite the wind chill, the youth really enjoyed cleaning up and so we will be picking up trash around our community monthly.

This picture shows chilly but enthusiastic youth who are living our mission statement of making a difference in our community.



Non-Traditional Day For Traditional Egg Hunt

D6 Our traditional Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 10, 6:00—7:30pm.**

That night coordinates with our quarterly Family Night activities. The Family Night events allow parents to focus on just having fun with their children for 90-minutes of planned activities.

With that in mind, Family Ministry leaders Melanie Taylor and Caleb Eckel are joining forces with our Children's Center director Wendy Dancer to provide a comprehensive evening of hunting for eggs in the plaza, followed by snacks, arts and crafts projects.

The purposeful outreach to Children's Center parents is another method of demonstrating that our church cares about the children beyond the work week. Since the parents are already comfortable walking through our doors every day, inviting them to return for a fun night time adventure showcases why our church is unique.

Church members are asked to donate candy for the egg hunt. Last year, FoundationKids and Children's Center worked together for the Halloween Trunk-N-Treat. Based on that success, it is anticipated more families will come back for the Family Egg Hunt.

The Family Egg Hunt is also a component of the overall Easter schedule that will be promoted through television advertising, billboards, FaceBook, and handouts to be handed out by smiling church members.



Choir Notes

Durufle Requiem



The combined sanctuary and UTPB choirs will perform the Durufle' Requiem on Friday, April 19. This musical piece was chosen because I think it is a great work of art. When I first sang this work with the New England Symphony in 1986, it impressed me then as a real work of musical genius, and more importantly a work of worship! The Requiem has a haunting "otherworldliness" that calls us out of our everyday lives to contemplate eternity. The Requiem by the French composer Maurice Durufle (1902-1986) was published in 1948. It is separated into 9 movements and is 40 minutes in length.

It is a beautiful work melding the musical styles of Romanticism, Impressionism, Gregorian Chant, and the atonality of the 20th Century.

Our worship service on Good Friday will feature 9 Stations of the Cross with the Requiem. There will be dramatic readings from the Garden of Gethsemane, the Betrayal and Arrest, the Sanhedrin, Peter, Pilate, the Scourging and the Crown of Thorns, Jesus Takes the Cross, Jesus is Crucified, and Jesus on the Cross.

Dr. Frank Eychaner, Director of Choral Studies at UTPB, will conduct a combined choir and chamber orchestra of nearly 100 participants from FUMC, UTPB, and the Midland/Odessa Symphony. It will also feature soloists from FUMC and Gayle Bizzell on organ.

My Lenten prayer for our FUMC congregation is "Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis" – "Eternal rest give to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."

- Under His Mercy, David Corman, Traditional Worship Leader

Good Friday Musical Worship Service
April 19 7:00pm Sanctuary

Pastor Todd is shown imposing ashes on the foreheads of children during Ash Wednesday service just for them. The FoundationKids had an amazing experience learning about Ash Wednesday. The children were able to receive ashes during their Wednesday night Bible study class. This lenten season the children have all received lent activities for the 40 days leading up to Easter to help them understand the season of Lent.

—Melanie Taylor, FoundationKids

Partaking In The Lenten & Resurrection Season

Wednesday, April 10

**Family Night
Resurrection Egg Hunt
6:00—7:30 p.m.**

Sunday, April 14

**Palm Sunday Services
with Children's Processional
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM**

Thursday, April 18

**Maundy Thursday Service
Last Supper Communion
Fellowship Center
7:00 PM**

Friday, April 19

**Good Friday Service
Duruflé Requiem
Sanctuary
7:00 PM**

Sunday, April 21

**Resurrection Easter Sunday
Community Sunrise Service
Ratliff Stadium
7:00 AM**

**9:00 AM Sanctuary
Glorious Traditional Worship**

**11:00 AM Fellowship Center
Inspiring Contemporary Worship**





This photo shows the **first-ever gathering of Lay Leaders** representing United Methodist Churches from Odessa, Crane and Ft Davis. Mackey Chapel hosted the event. El Paso District Lay Leader Kathy Jewell organized the meeting as part of the on-going effort to educate and empower church leadership among congregations.

UMW program this month was on *Prayer and Self Denial*. This month we learned how to pray with prayer beads: Closeness of God in Your Hands. Reminding us that God is with us every day.

Gene Johnson gave each one of us a small prayer box, containing a mini note pad and



pen. Just right for our prayer beads. In this

silent place of communion with God who has done all things to redeem us, we trust that the Lord carries us along in His prayers for us, in us, and through us.

Our next meeting is **April 11, 9:30, room 102**

On January 29, we welcomed local guest speaker Lucinda Hurlbut to the first **Parent Quarterly** session for 2019. Lucinda is the Special Populations/Programs Director at UTPB STEM Academy. Twenty-two parents and children's center teachers and staff gathered to learn about **ACCEPTANCE: "Loving your children just as they are and right where they are in life"**.

Lucinda focused on the vitality of to accept yourself because if not, how can you accept children in your life. As parent's (and church family) help navigate a child's whole life, we need to let the children have failures as they grow up and accept them, teach them and love them along the way. Accepting ourselves begins with "what is it that you need to do to accept yourself?" and "what is your child doing now and how can you accept him/her?" Daily practice to



begin accepting ourselves can be as simple as verbally speaking positive thoughts and daily affirmations about yourself such as *I am enough or Today I will walk through my fears.*

The **purpose of the Parent Quarterly sessions** is to be

intentional with the family ministry's mission to partner with the home to be ministers. Each quarter, we will bring in an esteemed speaker to present and facilitate discussion on a relevant topic of interest to FUMC Families. Our next Parent Quarterly will be during summer VBS...mark your calendars **June 24-28!**

—Pastor Karin Carlson

Mackey Chapel invites FUMC to their **Annual Human Relations Tea**

The history of this special event is to build — as well as keep — relationships with the community churches.

This is a come-and-go event with various churches — choirs or individuals singing while people fellowship over cookies, tea or punch.

**Sunday, April 7
3:00—5:00 pm
306 W Clements**



Memorials

**In Memory of
Gloria Lambert
Given by
Wanda Chenault**

**In Memory of
Shelly Weaver
Given by
Wanda Chenault**

**In Memory of
Jane Reid
Given by
Christine Little**

**In Memory of
Ruth Jones
Given by
Judy Wagner**

Children's Clothes Closet

**In Memory of
Charles Hildebrand
Given by
Tammy & Tommy Hawkins**

**In Memory of
Charle Scott
Given by
Tammy & Tommy Hawkins**

**In Memory of
Sara Bennie
Given by
Tammy & Tommy Hawkins**

**In Memory of
Justin Cunningham
Given by
Tammy & Tommy Hawkins**

**In Memory of
James Headlee
Given by
Tammy & Tommy Hawkins**

**Sanctuary Choir Fund
In Memory of
Geneva Mosley Joslin
Given by
8am Sunday School Class**



*Lenten
Sermon Series*

*March 10
through
April 21*


Check us out on

facebook

Video clips, photos and the sermon are posted each week on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOdessa/>



www.EOtravelmytrip Tour = HL20 Date = 01/27/20 Code = T ID = 52256

EO 
Educational Opportunities Tours

Join Rev. Todd Salzwedel

Bible Land Exploration

January 27 - February 5, 2020

Join Pastor Todd on a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2020. Contact the church office for more information. 432.337.1572

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



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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."

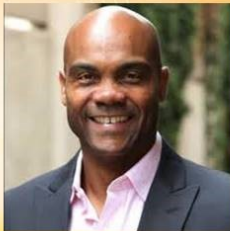
The *CULTIVATOR* is a monthly publication whose exclusive purpose is to help FUMC-Odessa accomplish its Mission by communicating and "cultivating the presence of Christ in the lives of this congregation."

First United Methodist Church-Odessa Mission Statement

*We exist for **LIFE**...*

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

"Beloved Community"



Guest Speaker:
Dr. Marcus Goodloe

Night of Praise!

Friday, May 3, 2019

7:00pm

**First United Methodist
Church**

HOSTED BY

**First United Methodist Church, Mackey Chapel,
Daughters of the King Permian Basin, Local Praise Choirs/Teams**