



May 5, 2026
The Acorn
 Newsletter for

First United Methodist Church

“The Lord your God is in your midst...He will create calm with his love; he will rejoice over you with singing.” Zephaniah 3:17



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FROM THE Celebrating Mother's Day



PASTOR

Have you ever wondered about the origins of celebrating Mother's Day? Mother's Day came from the minds of a mother and daughter, who were both Methodist Women. In May 1908, Anna Jarvis organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. She was continuing the work of her mother, Ann Jarvis, but the origin was different than you may think.

Ann Reeves Jarvis organized women's clubs in the 1860s to serve suffering mothers and children. She lived in a coal mining part of what is now West Virginia and was concerned by the effects of poverty on the women and their children of the area. She formed mothers' clubs to talk about infant hydration, sanitation and nutrition for children. Her desire was for better living conditions for mothers and their children.

When the Civil War began, her emphasis changed, and she formed a field hospital to care for the sick and wounded, asking the women of the area to volunteer as nurses. Witnessing the ravages of war, she was soon convinced that it was the mothers who would be the best people to work for peace. It was the mothers who could clearly see how war was damaging their husbands and their sons. It was the mothers' voices that would be the most powerful plea for peace.

(From the Pastor, *continued*)

In 1868, Ann Jarvis, organized a committee to establish a "Mother's Friendship Day", the purpose of which was "to reunite families that had been divided during the Civil War." Ann Jarvis, who had previously organized Mother's Day Work Clubs to improve sanitation and health for both Union and Confederate encampments undergoing a typhoid outbreak, wanted to expand these into an annual memorial for mothers.

Anna Jarvis died in 1905 before the annual celebration was established. Her daughter, Ann would continue her mother's efforts. Ann Jarvis envisioned Mother's Day as a time to write a personal letter to your mother, a time to send her an inexpensive carnation (a flower in which the petals hold tight like a mother's love) and a time to visit or attend church together.

On May 9, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation declaring the first national Mother's Day. As Anna Jarvis knew, it is every mother's prayer that her children live in a peaceful, safe world. Honor your mother and the women in your life who have given you unconditional love and pray for the peace which is every mother's wish. Happy Mother's Day!

Blessings to all the special women in our lives.

Pastor Kevin

Ways you can **SERVE**

Ushers for May

Jane and David Aberg

Would you like to serve in Worship as an usher? See David Aberg!

Worship Assistants for May

May 10 – Judy Pelowski

May 17 – Curtis Doyle

May 24 – Anthony McKnight

May 31 – Jo Wilsford

Would you like to serve in Worship as a Worship Assistant? See Jo.

Would you like to serve Communion on the first Sunday of the month? See Jo.

Communion Servers needed for Sunday, June 7th.





Wednesday Evening Activities

Everyone is invited to join our church family for our Wednesday evening activities. Bible study will be led by Pastor Kevin at 6:15 PM. There is a fellowship dinner each Wednesday with Bible Study and Youth Small Group following the dinner. Please join us for fellowship, prayer, study and singing! See the winter/spring dates and schedule below:

Schedule: 5:30 PM – Fellowship Dinner (donations are welcome; proceeds go to the sponsoring Ministry Team or designated fund)
6:15 PM – Pastor’s Bible Study & Youth Small Group
7:00 PM – Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Spring Date: May 6 (Tacos) (**Last date** for Wednesday activities until fall)

Regular Wednesday Night Activities end on May 6th...



HOWEVER, plans are being made to show Seasons 4 and 5 of “The Chosen” beginning on Wednesday nights starting on May 13th at 5:30 PM. “The Chosen” is a Christian historical drama television series. It is the first multi-season series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the 1st century, the series centers on Jesus and the people who met and followed him.

The showings are open free of charge for the church and community. Stay tuned for more details... **Coming to a Fellowship Hall near you...**

United Methodist SPECIAL OFFERING Sundays

Throughout the year, the United Methodist Church highlights mission areas in which funds may be given for special ministries and missions. There are six of these Sunday special offering dates during the year.

May 31st is Peace with Justice Sunday. Donations support peace with justice ministries through the General Board of Church and Society and the annual conferences to enrich ministries of reconciliation in the United States and around the world. If you would like to make a donation to this fund, please make your check out to FUMCRO with “Peace with Justice” in the memo line. Donations may be made at any time or put in the special envelope on Sunday, May 31st.

Looking ahead....upcoming 2026 United Methodist Special Offering Sundays:

October 4 – World Communion; and November 29 – United Methodist Student Day.





PENTECOST: What is it? Why is it important in the Christian Church?

The Christian holy day of Pentecost, which is celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter, commemorates the descent and gift of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles. It is celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter (the name comes from the Greek pentekoste, "fiftieth").

On **Sunday, May 24th**, Christians across the world will celebrate Pentecost. Pentecost is not as well-known as Christmas and Easter, although it commemorates a watershed event in Christian history. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church." Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus, **Pentecost is the church's birthday.**

Christians did not invent the phrase "fiftieth day." Rather, they borrowed it from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish holiday. This holiday was known as the Festival of Weeks, or, more simply, Weeks (*Shavuot* in Hebrew). This name comes from an expression in Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or "fifty days" from the end of Passover to the beginning of the next holiday.

The Pentecost event is recorded in the New Testament book, *The Acts of the Apostles*. Chapter 2 begins, "And when the day of Pentecost had come, they [the first followers of Jesus] were all together in one place" (2:1). All of a sudden, a sound came from heaven, like a strong wind, filling the house where the people had gathered. Something like tongues of fire rested on their heads. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak" (2:4). The languages spoken by the early Christians were intelligible (not other worldly) and were heard by thousands of Jewish pilgrims who had come to Jerusalem to celebrate *Shavuot*.

The content of the miraculous messages had to do with God's mighty works (2:11). Many who heard these messages in their own languages were amazed, though others thought the Christians were just drunk (2:12).

At one point, Peter, the apostle, stood up and preached his first sermon. He interpreted the events of that morning in light of a prophecy of the Hebrew prophet Joel. In that text, God promised to pour out his Spirit on all flesh, empowering diverse people to exercise divine power. This would be a sign of the coming "day of the Lord" (Acts 2:16-21; Joel 2:28-32).

Peter went on to explain that Jesus had been raised and had poured out the Spirit in fulfillment of God's promise through Joel (2:32-33). When the crowd asked what they should do, Peter urged them to turn their lives around and be baptized in the name of Jesus. Then they would be forgiven and would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (2:37-39). Acts reports that about 3,000 people were added to the church that day (2:41). Not a bad response to Peter's first sermon!

Let's rejoice and celebrate together the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church on Sunday, May 24th!oh, and wear RED!



MAY CALENDAR

- Sunday, May 3**
- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 12)
 - Children's & Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
 - Worship Service, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM
- Tuesday, May 5**
- Communion at Red Oak Rehab, 2:00 PM
- Wednesday, May 6**
- Wednesday Night Activities (p. 3; tacos)
 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, May 7**
- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p.17 for Zoom invitation)
- Saturday, May 9**
- Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 13)
 - UMM Breakfast & Meeting, 8:00 AM
- Sunday, May 10**
Happy Mother's Day
- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 12)
 - Children's & Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
 - Worship Service, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - NO Youth Fellowship
- Tuesday, May 12**
- OHM Meeting (6:00 PM)
- Wednesday, May 13**
- Showing of "The Chosen" – Season 4, 5:30 – 7:00 PM
 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, May 14**
- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 17 for Zoom invitation)
- Saturday, May 16**
- Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 13)
 - Prayer Shawl, 10:00 AM
- Sunday, May 17**
- NO Enrichment Class
 - Celebrate Graduating Senior – Churchwide Breakfast, 9:30 AM, p. 6
 - Worship Service, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM
- Graduation Sunday**
- Tuesday, May 19**
- Bingo at Red Oak Rehab, 2:00 PM
- Wednesday, May 20**
- Showing of "The Chosen" – Season 4, 5:30 – 7:00 PM
 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, May 21**
- Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 17 for Zoom invitation)
 - UWF Friendship Circle Out to Eat! 6:30 PM
- Saturday, May 23**
- Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 13)
- Sunday, May 24**
- Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 12)
 - Children's & Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
 - Worship Service, 11:00 AM
 - Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
 - Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM
- Pentecost**
Remember to wear RED!
- Monday, May 25**
- Memorial Day – **Office Closed**



MAY CALENDAR (cont.)

- Tuesday, May 26** - UWF Circle of Love Out to Eat!! – 10:30 AM
- Wednesday, May 27** - Showing of “The Chosen” – Season 4, 5:30 – 7:00 PM
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, May 28** - Zoom Prayer Group, 6:15 PM (see p. 17 for Zoom invitation)
- Saturday, May 30** - Sunshine Class, 9:00 AM (p. 13)
- Sunday, May 31** - Enrichment Class, 9:30/9:45 AM (p. 12)
- Children’s & Youth Sunday School, 9:45 AM
- Worship Service, 11:00 AM
- Worship Service live-streamed at www.fumcro.org, 11:00 AM
- Youth Fellowship, 5:30 PM

**Peace with
Justice**

Sunday, May 31 – Wednesday, June 3 – Horizon Texas Conference Annual Conference

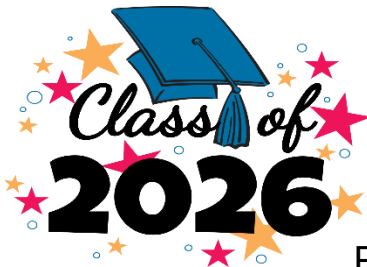
2026 Graduating Seniors!

This month, FUMCRO would like to honor and recognize 2026 graduating seniors...high school or college... in our church. Please let the church office know of any young people who are graduating seniors this year and are a part of our church family... or extended church family. We don't want to miss anyone!



Congratulations to Kyler Keene

2026 Graduating Senior



FUMCRO wants to applaud and recognize the accomplishments of Kyler Keene, a high school senior who is graduating this year. To celebrate Kyler's graduation, we will have a **covered dish breakfast on Sunday morning, May 17th**.

Please plan to bring a dish and celebrate with Kyler and his family at breakfast. We will also celebrate this event with him and his family with a recognition time during the worship service on May 17th. We are sure he would appreciate cards of “Congratulations” and encouragement from his church family. There will a gift bag for him on the table in the foyer in which you may put cards/gift cards.

Congratulations, Kyler; this church family is SO proud of you!

BIRTHDAYS of FUMCRO MEMBERS!

If your birthday is not listed, please call (972-617-9100) or email (firstumcredoak@gmail.com) the church office so that we can update our list; we don't want to miss anyone! To celebrate their SPECIAL day, make a phone call, or send a text or card!



May

1 Gabriel Munoz
1 Brenda Payne
5 Judy Pelowski

May

17 Glen Parker
23 Tim Brownlee
23 Eddie Mae Newman

LOOKING AHEAD!



June

5 Beth Britton
5 Ron Nobles
6 Suzanne Barry
6 Jill Gunderson
9 Rusty Lyons
11 Gary Ashford
13 Sam Grandstaff
16 Juana Payne
21 Gene Ratcliff
23 Sherry Martin



June

23 Susan McCord
25 Damian Rudd
25 Lori Stricker
26 Pam Briden
26 Matthew McKnight
26 Charles Payne
27 Kevin Wilson
27 Lynda Robinson





Notes from Larry McCord, Minister of Music



“Rain Down”



While the precise source of this well-known proverb is not clear, in the 14th century Chaucer opened Canterbury tales with a stanza extolling the April showers that bring an end to the draught of March and another English poet, Thomas Tusser, in the 16th century wrote a short poem indicating that these same showers do indeed result in flowers in May (Tusser wrote a tract titled “Five Hundred Points of Husbandry” about growing plants!!). Scripture also includes many statements regarding the rain that is needed to nurture and grow crops, flowers and trees. In the 55th chapter of Isaiah, we read the following:

“For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

Just after God’s Spirit speaking through the prophet reminds us that God’s ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts than our thoughts, he encourages us to be patient as we wait for God to do what He has promised in our lives. As the proverb quoted above reminds us that the rain we receive in one month will surely result in the beauty of flowers but not until at least a month later, so when God is working out his purpose in our lives and promises “a hope and a future,” we must be willing to wait for the seed of His promise to sprout and flourish over time. The same God who knows us better than we know ourselves may also be trusted to finish what He has started in us.

Christ spoke to his followers about the need for patience and faith, using a similar metaphor:

“Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

(Notes from Larry McCord, *continued*)

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?"

Sometimes we like to gloss over the part of this passage where Christ asks us to consider "how they grow." The beauty of these flowers does not result from anything on their part, for "they toil not, neither do they spin." Yet, Christ says, their beauty exceeds even the glory of Solomon, one of the richest and most accomplished individuals in their history. God is perfectly capable of producing wonderful results without our involvement...but sometimes we are privileged to play a role.

This month, we also celebrate Pentecost, the manifestation of the Holy Spirit and what some refer to as "the birth of the church." Throughout scripture, the Holy Spirit and water are associated with one another. Christ was said to be the one who "baptized with water and the Spirit." I believe that God's Spirit is the rain that "makes it bring forth and bud" in our lives. May we be a church who welcomes the rain of God's Spirit in our lives and looks forward expectantly for all that God has planned for us!



May always feels like a month that leans forward. The world around us is blooming, school years are winding down, and our calendars fill with milestones that remind us how quickly life moves. In the church, May becomes a sacred intersection of celebration, gratitude, and anticipation.

We celebrate **our graduates**, who stand on the threshold of new chapters. Whether they are stepping out of kindergarten, crossing a high-school stage, or completing a degree, we honor the courage it takes to grow. Graduation is more than an ending; it is a sending. As a church family, we bless them with the reminder that God goes before them, walks beside them, and strengthens them for every step ahead.

(From the Youth Director, *continued*)

We also pause to give thanks on **Mother's Day**, recognizing the women who have shaped our faith, our families, and our futures. Some nurture through parenting, some through mentoring, some through friendship, and some through the quiet, steady presence that reflects the love of Christ. We hold space for the joy and the complexity of this day—celebrating those who mother, remembering those we miss, and praying for those who long for healing.

In the rhythm of the Christian year, May often brings us to **Pentecost**, the moment the Holy Spirit breathed life into the early church. It is a reminder that God's Spirit still moves among us—igniting creativity, stirring compassion, and empowering us to be Christ's hands and feet in Red Oak and beyond. Pentecost invites us to ask not only what the Spirit did long ago, but what the Spirit is doing in us now.

And as summer approaches, we shift into a season of **renewal**. Families travel, students rest, and our ministries prepare for new opportunities—VBS, mission projects, and the slower, deeper conversations that warm weather seems to make possible. May encourages us to breathe, to notice, and to trust that God is at work in every transition.

So as we step into this month of blossoming, may we open our hearts to the Spirit's movement. May we celebrate boldly, pray deeply, and walk together into the new things God is growing among us.

“See, I am doing a new thing... do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19)
May we have eyes to see and hearts ready to respond.

Anthony McKnight

This 'n That

Please remember, as you enter the sanctuary, there is a clipboard for you to write down any new prayer requests or praises that you have. Those prayer requests will be given to Pastor Kevin to read as we begin our prayer time in the worship service.





Secret Sister Program!

Secret Sisters, please remember to look on the table just outside the Fellowship Hall to see if you have a gift or card from your Secret Sister.

Remember, also, each month you may leave a note/card or small gift for your Secret Sister in the basket just outside the Fellowship Hall. If you want to send a card through the mail, you can use the church's return address (P. O. Box 25, Red Oak, 75154) to keep your address a secret. *Put some SPRING in your step and remember your Secret Sister a card or small gift! If your Secret Sister is a mother, remember Mother's Day is May 10th! Have fun and be creative!*

A Note about Altar Flowers – 2026 Flower Calendar

The 2026 flower calendar is posted in the foyer. Flower arrangements are \$40 and may be taken home following the 11:00 AM worship service or may be picked up the following week from the church office. Please make your check to FUMC with the notation "flowers" in the memo line. Please fill in the information on the flower calendar on your selected date(s) or you can call the church office to let Jo know the date(s) you would like and what occasion or in whose honor/memory the flowers are for. There are many open dates still left on the calendar for this year.... September 13 and October 11 plus several November dates are open!



		<u>Altar Flowers</u> MAY		
		<u>Given by:</u>	<u>Occasion:</u>	
3 rd	Dani Muckleroy		In loving memory of her Grandmother!	
10 th	Jane & David Aberg		In honor of all mothers, present & past!	
17 th	Jo & Byrum Wilsford		In celebration of May family birthdays!	
24 th	Dani Muckleroy		On Memorial Day, in honor of all who gave their lives for our freedom!	
31 st	Neva & Tommy Ransom		In celebration of their 42 nd anniversary!	
Altar flowers are \$40; please mark your check "flowers." Thank you.				



THE ENRICHMENT CLASS

The Enrichment Class continues its study of the book: *Uncomplicate It: Permission to Enjoy God in Your Unique Way*

What if connecting with God could be simpler—and more personal—than you ever imagined?

What if your personality, learning style, background, and current season of life weren't obstacles to overcome, but actually the keys to a deeper, more fulfilling relationship with God?

In *Uncomplicate It*, international speaker Hosanna Wong invites you to move past the lie that your relationship with God must look like someone else's, or that it must look like it did years ago. Instead, she unpacks what God's Word actually says about connecting with Him and offers you a permission slip to enjoy God in the unique way He's created you to.

Hosanna will help you

- break free from unrealistic expectations that don't come from God;
- overcome six common roadblocks that keep you from enjoying your life and relationship with Him;
- unlock six practical shortcuts to connecting with God in your current season;
- learn from the real-life stories of over a thousand believers who've found their own unique ways to encounter God; and
- release the guilt, shame, and comparison that come from the lie that your relationship with Jesus must look one certain way, or else.

A real relationship with God is not one-size-fits-all. Your relationship with God doesn't have to look like anyone else's—or even like it's looked in the past. This is your permission slip to uncomplicate your faith, embrace the way God made you, and fully receive the peace and joy that He has for you today.

Come join us for donuts, coffee and chit chat at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Class begins at 9:45.

NOTE: Class will not meet on May 17, but come for the covered dish breakfast honoring our graduating senior, Kyler Keene.



Enrichment Class



Sunshine Class – Meeting on Saturday Mornings

The Sunshine Class, led by Dani Muckleroy, meets on **Saturday** morning at **9:00 AM** in the church's Fellowship Hall. This spring, the Bible lessons follow the theme "Exclusion and Embrace." They offer a series of lessons that encourage considering what we need to let go of and what we need to take on as followers of Jesus. The studies in May will focus on the theme of water in Scripture. In John's Gospel, water is life-giving and life-changing. The many mentions of water in John's Gospel are always about more than just water; as the lessons will reveal.

YOU are invited to come and join this lively group in fellowship and Bible study.



News from United Women in Faith (UWF)



United
Women
in Faith

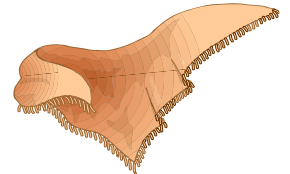
UWF Friendship Circle

The UWF Friendship Circle's next meeting is on Thursday, May 21st at **6:30 PM**. We will go out to eat together at Roma's in Red Oak. If you wish to carpool, meet at the church at 6:15 PM. We will continue our study of "REALLY Bad Girls of the Bible" in August. Need more information? Call Jo Wilsford at 214-793-5497.



UWF Circle of Hope & Healing (Prayer Shawl)

The UWF Prayer Shawl Circle will meet on **May 16th at 10:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. Keep knitting and crocheting those beautiful shawls!



UWF Circle of Love

The Circle of Love will meet on Tuesday, May 26th, at **10:30 AM** in the Fellowship Hall for a brief meeting and then will go out to eat together at Gravy in Red Oak. Join us for fellowship, light refreshments and a program! Need more information?

Call Jennifer McKnight at 214-354-8373

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you know anyone—hurting, healing, grieving or celebrating—to whom you would like to give a prayer shawl? Just let Beth Norris or Jo Wilsford know; we have several from which to choose.



MISSION & OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



Oatmeal and Spaghetti...AND Some Other Needs

FUMCRO has volunteered to donate **oatmeal and spaghetti** on an ongoing basis to North Ellis County Outreach (NECO). The next time you are at the grocery store or ordering groceries online, please remember to pick up/order extra spaghetti and oatmeal for FUMCRO's donation to NECO. Our support of these donations will enable the Outreach center to continue work and help in our community.

NECO is also currently in need of **kid friendly foods and the following items: soups (heathy choice, low sodium & tomato), toilet paper, pasta sauce, no salt added carrots, no salt added mixed vegetables, pinto beans, boxed cereal, boxed oatmeal variety pack, shampoo, and ladies' deodorant.** **The current need for May is canned JELLY or JAM.** *Thank you for your generosity.*



An Ongoing Mission: Providing Kid-Friendly Take-Home Meals

For several years, one of FUMCRO's ongoing mission projects has been helping to stock the food pantry for the 70+ students in Mentors Care at Red Oak High School and also providing snacks for them during mentoring time. Since the school year is coming to a close this month, we are going to pause our participation for a few months and resume our donations the first of August. THANK YOU to all who have given so generously to these students. Your concern and love in sharing has truly made a difference in their lives!

From the Outreach, Hospitality, Mission Team (OHM)

Upcoming events....put the dates on your calendar!

The OHM is looking forward to providing some fun-filled events this year.

- ~ Save the dates for **Bingo & Banana Splits** on June 13th, July 11th & August 8th.
- ~ Again this year we will be **showing "The Chosen"** Seasons 4 & 5 every Wednesday evening, starting May 13th through August 28th (see page 3)
- ~ **Founders' Day** at Watkins Park will be September 19th.
- ~ Bring your fur babies to the Pumpkin Patch October 4th for **Blessing of the Animals.**

We will continue to support the Red Oak High School Mentor's Care Food Pantry, Red Oak Rehab, Schupmann Elementary, Red Oak ISD school supply drive, Meals on Wheels, North Ellis County Outreach seniors, UMCOR and so much more!

We could not do this without your support.

We are grateful for our FUMCRO church family!

A Mission and Community Outreach Opportunity at Red Oak Rehabilitation Center



FUMCRO's mission and outreach project continues to involve assisting the Red Oak Rehabilitation and Nursing Home in various ways. On **Tuesday, May 5th**, volunteers are needed to assist clients in taking communion. On **Tuesday, May 19th**, assistance is needed as they play **Bingo from 2:00 – 4:00 PM**. Small tokens and gifts are also needed as Bingo prizes. There is a list in the foyer. Can you spare a little time to help?
For more details, please call/text Dani Muckleroy at 972-839-8946 (cell - text is best)



FINANCE UPDATE

We thank God for you and your worship through your tithes and offerings. If you are unable to attend church, you may give your tithes and offerings in several ways: (1) via mail to the church's mailing address P.O. Box 25, Red Oak, TX 75154, by check or money order payable to First UMC Red Oak or (2) by giving online at any time through our church website, <http://www.fumcro.org/main/home>.

April 5 th Giving/Offering	\$5585.00*
April 12 th Giving/Offering	\$4356.00*
April 19 th Giving/Offering	\$3373.00*
April 26 th Giving/Offering	\$3690.00*

*To meet our 2026 budget and Connectional Mission Giving for 2026, the offering each week needs to total at least \$5,500.

(Finance Update, *continued*)

2026 Connectional Mission Giving (CMG)
Apportionments/Connectional Mission Giving (CMG)

Total Due: \$17,811 (by December 31, 2026)

First Quarter Total Paid: \$2,000 leaving a total of **\$15,811** unpaid.

The \$2000 was from the following sources:

- ~ \$500 from General budget 1st quarter offerings;
- ~ \$815 from individual member donations,
- ~ \$105 from the Shop 'n Give Store, and
- ~ \$580 from FUMCRO ministry teams (Wednesday night dinner donations)

As in the past, plans for 2026 are to send a portion of FUMCRO's Connectional Mission Giving for 2026 to the Conference office at the end of each quarter as the budget allows or as members or ministries give to our church's important pledge to our Conference.



As always, if you would like to make a second-mile giving gift that will help pay our church's Connectional Mission Giving, just mark your check **CMG** in the memo line.

THANK YOU to those of you who have continued to give your offering/pledge whether **by online, mail or in person!** Because of YOU, the ministries and operations of the church have been able to continue! ***And THANK YOU for giving beyond your pledge to the second mile giving of special offerings and mission projects. What a wonderful, giving congregation FUMCRO is!***

Prayers of the Church

FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer



ALL FUMCRO members as all try to stay healthy and safe

Joe Cadenhead
Marcy Ratcliff
Pat McAlister
Jan Parker
Helen Malone

Helen Malone
Lori Stricker
David Taub
Eddie Mae Newman

The United Methodist Church & Horizon Texas Conference
Red Oak First United Methodist Church
All those affected by gun violence and victims of natural disasters
Our Nation

Prayers of the Church (*continued*)

Friends and Family of FUMCRO Members in Need of Prayer

Gary Way (Parkers)	Family of Dave Miller (David Aberg's friend)
Tony Doshier (Muckleroy)	Amy Burguss (Muckleroy)
Family of Charles Trainor (grandson of Lila Sackett)	John Bott (Nix)
"Ski" Pelowski (Judy Pelowski's husband)	John Ferebee
Ruth Johnson & Wendy Ragan (Lori Stricker)	Tim O'Connor (Malone)
Doug Curry (Grandstaff)	Susan Nix (Nix's sister-in-law)
Callie White (Pelowski)	Jesse & Sharla Chavez (Helen Malone's neighbors)
Virginia Zinck (Jennifer McKnight's mother)	Andrea & Jason Briden (Briden's son & daughter-in-law)
Rebecca Aspinall (McCord)	Pamela Young (Jill Gunderson)
Ian & Katie Dittmar	Charlotte Masters (Muckleroy)
James Apple (Sandra Doyle's brother)	Karen Herriott (Becky Monnette)
Jodi Byrd (Glen Parker's daughter)	Dan Lana Ellis (Doyles' friend)
Joan Ratcliff (Gene Ratcliff's mother)	Joe Fletcher (Doyles' friend)
Mason Ellis (Doyle)	Carl & Betty Ashford (Gary Ashford's parents)
Michele Webb (Aberg)	Betty Briden (Ron Briden's sister)
Elizabeth Tull (Troy Dollar)	Karen Lemoine (Mike Martin's sister)
Amy Bramblett (Judy Pelowski's niece)	Mary Hays (Suzanne Barry's mother)
Kathy Rodrique, Nancy Hendrix, Paul Garrison (Dani Muckleroy)	Dale Koeff (Rusty Lyons)
Jan Lenig (Sherry Martin's sister)	Lacy Lyons (Rusty Lyons)
Linda Smith (Ron Briden's sister)	Lee Gravely (Grandstaff's friend); Scotty Lyons (Rusty Lyons)
Debbie Doyle (Doyles' daughter)	Raymond Raasch (Rusty Lyons)
Martha Lamb (Briden)	

UM Missionary, Rev. Natallia Manyeza, Sierra Leone

NOTE: *If we can give praises that prayers have been answered and someone you placed on the prayer list can be removed, please let the church office know.*

Remember that new prayer requests can be added at any time on Sunday morning by writing them on the prayer request list before the service or by calling/emailing the church office.

Prayer Group ZOOM Meeting Invitation – Thursdays, 6:15 PM

The Prayer Group meets each Thursday evening. Judy will open the meeting at 6:00 PM and will begin the readings at 6:15 PM. Remember to come prepared to lift the names and situations you want to pray for during the service. The Prayer Group reading will be sent by email prior to the meeting. Judy Pelowski is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Prayer

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84361524186?pwd=RIBkNE1OMHcwV2dQMkdsOGdJdndhQT09>

Meeting ID: 843 6152 4186

Passcode: 6WiMbB

*Have a great weekend! Stay safe!
See you in person or online on Sunday!*

Contact Information

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Senior Pastor**
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First United Methodist Church

Red Oak

600 Daubitz Dr.

P.O. Box 25 (Mailing Address)

Red Oak, TX 75154

WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Sundays

9:30 am Enrichment Class

9:45 am Children's & Youth Classes

11:00 am In-Person Blended Worship

11:00 am Worship Service live streamed

5:30 pm Youth Fellowship (In-person)

Wednesdays (Jan – May; Sept – Dec)

5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner

6:15 pm Pastor's Bible Study

7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

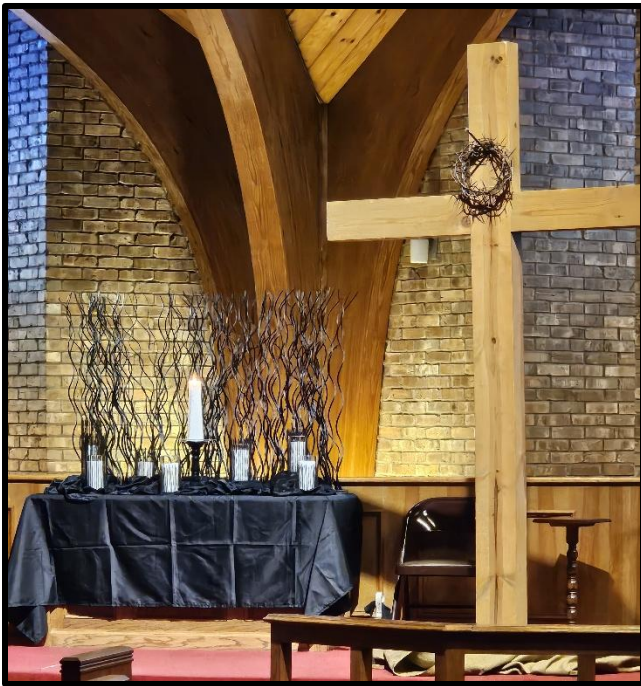
Thursdays, 6:15 PM

Prayer Group on Zoom

PICTURES!

Good Friday Service, April 3, 2026

Scriptures read, hymns sung, lights dimmed...as we remembered the suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ...



but...then comes the JOY of...

EASTER MORNING!

April 5, 2026

Sunrise Service



A little chilly, but warmed by the fellowship, the music, the Word,
and the Spirit of Resurrection Sunday!



Traditional Easter Service

...from darkness into the light of the Resurrection!



Beautiful Flowers and Special Music Spoke JOY as We Worshipped!



78th Annual Mother and Daughter Luncheon & Soul Care, May 2, 2026



Through Thick & Thin...
Unstoppable Together!

Great Fellowship and Lunch with
Beautiful Sisters in God's Kin-dom!



Did I mention delicious FOOD?



Friends and family...

and friends of friends...



After lunch, the ladies finished out the day with a little Soul Care... a devotional from Lynne Grandstaff, some chair Yoga with Judy Pelowski, and...

... a great session on "Navigating Life's Transitions" with Dr. Shannon Davis-Wills.





...and it would not be a Mother & Daughter luncheon without our awesome UMM servers! What a great group!
Thank you, UMM!

Pictures provided by Jill Gunderson. Thank you, Jill!