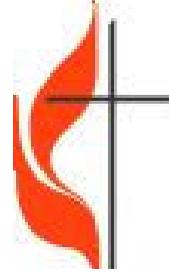


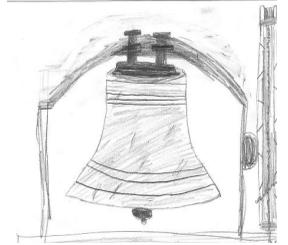
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The Herald

May 2015 Newsletter
Robinson First UMC



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Prayers Concerns

Charlie Clark; Bev Harness; Donita Holmes; Jerry Phillipe; Vicki Lewis; Harold & Bernie Limper; Margie Moore McNamara; Sam Mitchell; Taya Harmon; Jim Currie; Greta Rich; Eleanor Laswell; Debbie Doom; Peg, John, Jeremy, and Greg Markello; Ruth Rice; Nora Busby; Ashley Reed; Dee Dee Trout; Erma Baum; Tom Carrow, Deb Goff; Carolyn Enlow Nickum; Lucille Hedges; Jay Holtzhouser; Ken Martin; Jennifer Null; Donald Boehm; Waneta McCann; Justin Weger

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Shirley Treadway at gwtsea@hotmail.com, so that request can be shared with the prayer chain.

Baccalaureate

The Robinson High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Crawford County Ministerial Alliance are sponsoring RHS baccalaureate.

This year's service is at Highland Church of Christ on May 17th at 7:30 pm. Please come and support our students through prayer and worship as they approach a life transition.



Did you know that 22 adults and 13 youth have participated in *Serving from the Heart*, our spiritual gifts discover workshop? The 22 adults participated on Saturday, April 11 or Sunday April 12 in a three-hour seminar, and the youth have been going through the workshop each week in Sunday school.

Do you know your spiritual gifts? Do you know how to use them in service? Do you know your skills and talents, dreams and passions? Our next spiritual gifts workshop is on Sunday, May 17 from 1:00-4:00 pm. Sign up at the welcome center by Wednesday, May 6, to ensure that we have materials for you. There is no cost to attend!

Pastor's Pen

Friends,

I just wanted to share with you a piece of good news! This may come as a shock to you, but I love to crunch numbers and study trends. The first 16 weeks of 2014, we averaged 87 people in worship. In the first 16 weeks of 2015, we are averaging 132 people in worship. That's a 66% increase in worship attendance. What a difference a year makes! For the last four weeks (taking Easter out of the average), we've worshiped with 148 people. Isn't it amazing what God is doing at First UMC?

We can attribute these trends to several areas. First, we've moved out of the confining space of Asbury Hall and into our new worship space. Second, we have people who are becoming much more regular in their worship attendance. Third, people are coming out of curiosity about what's happening here, both from what they see from construction and from what they hear in the community. And last, people are coming because you've invited them!

A personal invitation is still the greatest way to engage someone with our faith community. Who do you know that does not participate in a faith community? Family members? Coworkers? Neighbors? Friends? The person who mows your lawn or cuts your hair (hopefully not the same person!), or your waitstaff at the restaurant? Who might you invite to help this exciting trend continue?

I will see you in worship!



Grace and peace,



With the opening of the new building, our "Just One" collection container is not nearly as visible, but the items needed are just as important as they were before!

For the month of May, please consider getting just one box of 24-count crayons (any brand is fine), and place them in the bin marked "Just One" by the coat racks in the education wing. Thank you for your support!

2nd Wednesday Dinner

This month's second Wednesday dinner is on Wednesday, May 13, at 5:30 pm.

We will have a carry-in meal this month. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Beverages and table service will be provided.

Fife Opera House

Will be having an **Open House** on May 3.

They will be serving Meat loaf, chicken & Noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans & corn, stewed apples, tossed salad & various desserts. Adults - \$12, Children \$6 age 6 + under 5 yrs. - free

Thank you

To our Church Family, thank you for the joyful church service on Easter. I was so happy to hear the clear, distinct sounds of the broadcast, which means so much to those of us in the radio audience. The music from Brenda, handbell choir and the chancel choir, seemed to be here in my apartment. Thank you, Pastor Jay, for the impressive message and I will always remember the Easter Sunday prayers for me and for all your radio listeners.

- Bernyce Coleman

Our Appreciation

We wish to express our appreciation to our FUM family for their prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, food and all expressions of sympathy. Your words of comfort and support helped us face this very difficult time. To Pastor Jay, we say a heart felt "Thank You" for providing special prayer at the visitation and graveside service. Your continued caring and prayers helped to give us needed strength.

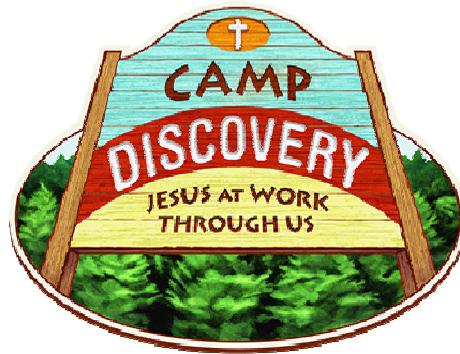
Family of William (Bill) Ross
Barbara, Craig and Jewell, Doug Ross and Grandchildren

FUMC Library

Can't find a specific book to check out? There is a request box in the library! Please include the title and author and the library volunteers will do their best to acquire the appropriate items. Help keep your church library fresh with new and popular book ideas. And remember, if you liked a book, recommend it to your friends!

Save The Date!

First UMC will team up with St. Elizabeth Catholic Church to offer VBS this summer. Our *Camp Discovery* will take us to Robinson City Park on July 8, 15, 22, 29, and August 5 from 9:00-11:00 am. Enjoy food, crafts, games, lessons, and more as we journey together. Sign-ups for volunteers will be available at the welcome center by mid-May!



Nursery Volunteers

Nursery Help

5/3 – Becky Veenstra
5/10 – Michele Elliott
5/17 – Pam & Audra Bell
5/24 – Tricia Anderson
5/31

Children's Church

5/3
5/10 – Gary Oxford
5/17 – Erica List
5/24 – Kathy Harbison
5/31

Thank you for your service!

UMYF

Youth are headed to the Veenstra's cabin for a school's out bash from 3:00-8:00 pm on Sunday, May 3. We'll have a cookout, games, plan worship for May 30, and more! You won't want to miss it. Make sure you bring a swimsuit and towel with you!

On May 17, we'll meet from 5:00-6:30 pm for our last school-year event, a photo scavenger hunt. Following the hunt, we'll go to the FCA Baccalaureate at Highland Church of Christ.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee News

We're blessed to have a great staff here at First UMC! As you know, Debbie Dunlap has retired from her nursery position. We are fortunate to have hired Tara Wever as our new nursery staff person. We are continuing to search for a second nursery staff person to care for our children.

We want to assure you that we are moving forward with the Music Director search. We have had several applicants and are awaiting resumes from some others who have indicated an interest in the position. We hope to be able to hire someone and have them begin their ministry among us during the summer or before the new school year begins. Thanks to Gaytha Vail and Brenda Graham for all that they do in music ministry.

Finally, because we budgeted for two nursery staff and for a full music director position, but have not filled those positions as of May 1, we have reallocated that unused staff money for a new staff position. Our communications coordinator will build projection for Sunday worship services, take over newsletter design, develop graphics and advertising for the church, and work with our website and social media. We are excited to share that Brennan Tracy will serve in this part-time position, beginning May 1.

Welcome to our new staff!

May Birthdays

5/2 Gary Oxford, Jr, Mary Truitt,
Henry Treadway
5/3 Sydney Jones
5/4 Patience Regennitter
5/5 Melissa Newbold
5/10 Lillian Bertram, Garrett Graham,
Susan Sills, Chance Harmon
5/11 Ann Pfeiffer
5/12 John Schmidlin
5/13 Margaret Conner
5/14 Avery DeDoming, Gerald Gordy
Jay Steinmann, Deanna Watson
5/15 Ron Veenstra
5/17 Jeannie Bibby, Gary Null
5/19 Amy DeDoming, Juanita Fox
5/23 Mary Correll, Sue Roales,
5/25 Tim Thompson
5/26 Keith Carter, Madelyn Storckman,
Lynn McCord,
5/27 Shannon Goebel
5/29 David Foote
5/30 John Gifford, Kwyn Goebel
5/31 Eve Diel, Paul Johnson



May Anniversaries

5/6 John & Martha Markello
5/20 Dennis & Susan Inboden
5/21 Mike & Pam Bell
5/29 Garrett & Brenda Graham
Jerry & Lori Crozier
5/31 Fred & Tancy Finkbiner
Ernie & Sue Roales
Shannon & Kurtis Goebel



Children's Choir and Minors

Children's Choir (only) will sing on Sunday, May 10th in 9 a.m. service

The children should meet in sanctuary at 8:15 a.m. for a short rehearsal. This will be their last Sunday until Fall.

Minors (only) will continue meeting until Sunday, May 17th. They will be singing on a Sunday in the summer. Please contact the church office, Gaytha or Brenda if there is a Sunday you will be gone. A date for performance will be forthcoming.

Gaytha and Brenda

May 2015

					1	2
3 8:00am choir 9:00am service 10:15am SS 11:00 am choir 3:00 pm UMYF	4 9:30am Chrismon Ladies	5	6 3:00pm Kids' Club 6:00 Worship Committee	7 6:00pm Building Committee 7:00pm Handbells	8	9
10 8:00am choir 9:00am service 10:15am SS 11:00am choir 2:30pm Vespers at Heritage	11 9:30am Chrismon Ladies	12	13 3:00pm Kids' Club 5:30pm 2 nd Wed. Dinner 6:30 SPRC	14 7:00pm Handbells	15	16
17 8:00am choir 9:00am service 10:15am SS 11:00am choir 1:00pm Spiritual gifts workshop 5:00pm UMYF 7:30pm baccalaureate	18 9:30am Chrismon Ladies	19	20 3:00pm Kids' Club	21 6:00pm Building Committee 7:00pm Handbells	22	23
24 8:00am choir 9:00am service 10:15am SS	25 9:30am Chrismon Ladies	26	27 3:00pm Kids' Club 6:00pm Trustees	28 7:00pm Handbells	29	30
31 9:00am service 10:15am SS						