

Robinson FUMC

THE HERALD

August 2026

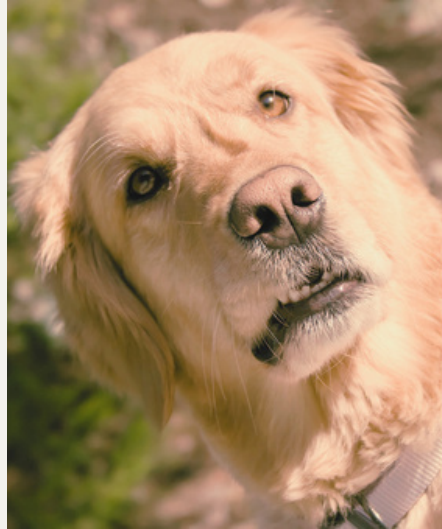
THE PASTOR'S PEN: WHEN THE DOG BITES...

There is an old story about a man who was bitten by a dog that was later discovered to be rabid. He was rushed to the hospital, where tests confirmed that he had contracted rabies. At that time, there was no effective treatment for the disease. The doctor faced the difficult task of telling him the devastating news.

"Sir," the doctor said, "we will do everything we can to keep you comfortable. But I cannot give you false hope. There is nothing we can do to cure this disease. My best advice is to put your affairs in order as soon as possible."

The man sank back in his bed in shock. After a few moments, he asked for a pen and some paper. He immediately began writing with great intensity. An hour later, the doctor returned and found him still writing.

"I'm glad to see you're working on your will," the doctor remarked. "This ain't no will, Doc," the man replied. "This is a list of the people I'm going to bite before I die."



As amusing as that story may be, it illustrates a sad truth. Too often, we are more like the bitten man than we are like Christ. Instead of extending forgiveness, we keep a list of those who have hurt us.

Paul addresses this very issue in Colossians 3:13:

"Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other."

The key to forgiving others is remembering how much God has forgiven us. When we slow down and truly reflect on the forgiveness that has been freely

given for our sins, our hearts begin to change. We are called to live out the faith we profess. Christ calls us to be like Him, reminding us that every person is created in the image of God.

When we choose the attitude of Christ instead of the attitude of the bitten man, we become people who freely extend forgiveness to those who have wronged us. Jesus teaches us that when we ask for grace, He gives grace. When we ask for forgiveness, He gives forgiveness. When we pray for compassion, He fills us with compassion.

The grace, forgiveness, and compassion we have received were never meant to stop with us. They are gifts to be shared. As God has forgiven you, forgive others. As He has shown you grace, extend grace. As He has loved you, love those around you. In doing so, we reflect the heart of Christ to a world that desperately needs His mercy.

See You in Church,

Pastor Terry



CONTACT PASTOR TERRY AT ROBINSONFUMCPASTOR@GMAIL.COM

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What's Happening at Robinson FUMC?

NURTURE NEWS

DID YOU KNOW? *Koinonia*, is a Greek word that means Christian fellowship, or a body of believers. ~Merriam Webster.

You see, we are not meant to do life alone. We are meant to come together and share our spiritual connection with one another. Here at the First United Methodist Church, our Nurture Team thoughtfully plans events to bring us together to exercise our Christian fellowship. Of course, we most always have a meal. I mean, we really do have some wonderful cooks in our congregation!

Two events are scheduled for August:

SECOND WEDNESDAY Dinner will be August 12th at 5:30 pm in Asbury Hall. This meal will be hosted by our very own Outreach Committee.

FIFTH SUNDAY BRUNCH will be August 30th, following our church service (instead of Sunday School) in Asbury Hall

Look for the sign-up sheets in the Narthex, and get that written on your calendars. We challenge you to invite someone that normally does not attend the meals. It could be someone sitting in front of you in the pew on Sunday, a neighbor, loved one, or friend, or even yourself. Plenty of "Koinonia" to go around! Let's flex that Christian fellowship muscle!

-Nurture Team

STEWARDSHIP

Bible Verse of the Month

The following verse for August concerns Environmental Stewardship:

Genesis 2:15

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." NIV

We are so blessed to live in this beautiful world that was created by God. And it is clear from the above verse that God's plan from the beginning was for us to be caretakers of His creation. We are all accountable to Him to be good stewards of our environment and to use our resources wisely.

Thank you for all you do!!

-Finance Team

NOW PROGRAM

NOW Summer lunches have been extended to Aug 19th! If you would like to volunteer to serve lunch at either Washington Park or Robinson City Park please let Kirbie know!

The School year begins on August 19th! Our first Summer lunch bagging will be Thursday, August 27th at 4:00 pm!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

On August 30th during 5th Sunday brunch), we will be kicking off the new year of Sunday School classes!

In addition to the Deep Dive and Spice, we will be introducing a new Sunday School class that is coming soon! Stay tuned for more details...

-Education Team



SOMETHING TO ADD NEXT MONTH? EMAIL FIRSTUMCROB.COMMS@GMAIL.COM

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Care News from Stephen Ministry



Decades of Care Through Stephen Ministry

Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people from around the world have received emotional and spiritual care from a Stephen Minister during a challenging time in their life.

Robinson First United Methodist Church became part of this half-century legacy of care in 2019 when Janis Daugherty, Janelle Oxford, Rev. Jay Regennitter, and Marcia Schmidlin attended training and were commissioned as Stephen Leaders in Orlando, Florida. The following spring our church commissioned our first class of Stephen Ministers. Our leaders have trained and commissioned additional ministers including last year's class. Over the years, our Stephen Ministers have cared for people in our congregation and community for a wide range of needs: loss of a loved one, divorce, job loss, medical crises, and many other life transitions and difficulties.

As shown by the millions who have benefited from Stephen Ministry over the decades, this ministry is for everyone, no matter their background or walk of life.

"I didn't think I needed a Stephen Minister at first," said one care receiver. "But I quickly discovered that everything was so much more manageable when I had someone I could just unload on with everything I was worried and anxious about. It didn't fix my situation, but it did help me get through without feeling completely overwhelmed."

Here at Robinson FUMC, our Stephen Ministers are ready to come alongside you, no matter what you're facing. They're trained to provide a non-judgmental presence, a patient listening ear, and Christ-centered care that meets you where you are in life.

If you're going through a difficult time, we encourage you to consider having a Stephen Minister. Join the thousands of others who have benefited from a caring Christian presence walking with them through challenging times. You can learn more about Stephen Ministry or request a Stephen Minister by contacting Janelle Oxford, (618 553-9598) or Marcia Schmidlin, (618 553-2710).

Odds & Ends

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/4 Mike Parker
8/7 Tyler Carter,
Nancy Mattsey
8/8 Brian Wilson,
Denny Knight
8/10 Phuong Quick
8/12 Matthew Schmidlin
8/13 Kirbie Ackman,
Mason Brinkman
8/15 Janet Clark;
Emerson Reinoehl
8/19 Paula Summers
8/22 Joyce Owen,
Janelle Oxford
8/27 Brent Owen
8/28 Mike Bell
8/29 Antje Pippin
8/30 Justin Aydt, Amy Hartke
8/31 Walker Odom

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/2 Chris & Jennifer Emken
8/3 Brandon & Melinda
Harmon
8/4 Jim & Suzanna Wallace
8/14 Jason & Amy Hartke
8/15 Brian & Julie Wilson

PRAYER REQUESTS

Hazel DeDoming; Nancy Holley; Miranda Bedwell; Brenna Aydt; Jon Anderson; Mary Kindt; Dorcas Sills; Olivia Brinkman; Sherell Oxford; Anderson; Paul Sizemore; Mike Kelshimer; Jack Frakes; Sue Roales; Pat Campbell; Tyler Wortham; David Anderson; Floyd & Amanda Brinkman; The Family of Ryder Terry; Charlie Ferguson; Kevin Bradbury

To add or remove anyone from the Prayer List or Birthday/Anniversary lists, please contact the church office.



WE ARE ALWAYS NEEDING VOLUNTEERS! CONTACT KIRBIE TO GET INVOLVED!

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August 2026 Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	3 6:00 pm • Lay Leadership Meeting	4 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	5 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 6:00 pm • Outreach Meeting	6 9:00 am • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	7 9:00 am • NOW Shopping Day Setup	8 8:00 am • NOW Shopping Day
9 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	10	11 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	12 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 5:30 pm • Second Wednesday Dinner 6:00 pm • Stephen Ministry	13 9:00 am • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	14	15
16 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	17 6:00 pm • Finance Meeting • SPRC Meeting	18 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 5:00 pm • Nurture Meeting	19 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches 11:30 am • Circle of Love 6:00 pm • Education & Trustees Meetings 7:00 pm • Church Council	20 9:00 am • CHEW 10:30 am • NOW Summer Lunches	21	22
23 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	24	25	26 6:00 pm • Stephen Ministry	27 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Weekend Bagging	28	29
30 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Fifth Sunday Brunch	31					