



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Weatherford, OK

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local church website . . . [fumcmethodistok.org](http://fumcmethodistok.org)  
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find us on Facebook at . . . Weatherford Fumc

Our Mission . . . Making disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world,  
with more people, younger people, and more diverse people.

**May 2021**

Rooted In God's Love—

Passionate | Relevant | Life Changing



This is the month of May and May has always been the month of so many events that is hard to keep up from Mother's Day, graduations of all kinds, and culminating with Memorial Day and the events surrounding it. We usually see it as the kick off to summer and summer activities. We will see if the weather will work with us this year.

I will have to admit I have enjoyed seeing so many people returning to church and the faces of those who are greeting them. Everyone seems to be enjoying what we once took for granted seeing smiling faces in church.

I know that it is nice to have a renewed sense of fellowship within the church family. If you have wondering if church is like church was before the pandemic most all Sunday school classes are back to their studies and both services of church are moving along as they did before. If you have wondered when you should return we are here and receiving all who will come.

## Senior Recognition Sunday



**Karly Brooks**

During the 10:30am worship service on Sunday, May 16, we would like to recognize our two members, Karly Brooks and Hannah Strickler, who will be graduating from Weatherford High School. Graduation is set for Saturday, May 15, at 11:00am and will be held at the Weatherford Eagle Baseball Field. There will also be a baccalaureate service at 2:30pm on Sunday, May 9, at the HS PAC.



**Hannah Strickler**

## Loving an EGR

During a conversation over coffee, a friend mentioned an "EGR." I had to interrupt and ask for a definition: Extra Grace Required — in other words, people who can seem tough to love. Often, they're the most in *need* of love because they're hurting. Perhaps Jesus was referring to EGRs when he said, "If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much" (Matthew 5:46, NLT).

Truly loving others — even EGRs — might not be as tough as we think. Simple gestures such as smiling, truly listening, sending a note or extending an invitation go a long way toward expressing care and softening hearts.

At times, we all require extra grace. Thankfully, God has an unlimited amount to extend *to* us and then *through* us. Out of joy, we can find ways — even simple ones — to share God's grace and love with people who need it.

—Janna Firestone

## A Note from Our Pastor

It has come to the attention of the Oklahoma United Methodist Conference that some communication pieces from various groups have been sent out concerning what is going to happen with the United Methodist Church and that will not be determined until General Conference 2022. As United Methodist ministers we have been asked to keep this information before you so you can know what we know. (please see Bishop Nunn's letter inserted in this newsletter) I will also read this letter from the pulpit this next Sunday.

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### Extended Care Facilities & Homebound

#### Corn, Corn

Duane Rea  
Mary Statser #F-3  
Gene Hays #C4

#### Weatherwood

Dale Crowder #17  
Sheila Lewis #21  
Darlene Gray #43

#### Brookdale

Mary Phelps #104  
Jewell Crall #106  
Ruby Gum #110  
Pat Sturm #128  
Ernestine Hoelker #131

Curly McAlpin, Bell Ave,  
Elk City  
JoAnn McClendon,  
Lubbock, TX

### Those In The Service of Our Country

- Oklahoma State Legislature
  - Our Nation's Leaders
  - Armed Forces & Military Service and Families
  - All Police, Law Enforcements & Corrections Officers
  - Brent Webb, USAF
  - Lt. Col. Judy Webb-Hapgood, USAF
  - William Johnston, US Army serving in Iraq
  - Austin Baugh USMC
  - Reeve Winters, US Army, son of Linda Berrong
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## Weatherford UMW News

### UMW has May meeting at Local Restaurant!

Frances Good UMW Circle meets on May 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Luigi's Restaurant in Weatherford. Joyce Teghtmeyer will share a devotional moment and we can enjoy fellowship. We would invite any women in the church who would like to be part of UMW to join this gathering. Put the date and time on your schedule. Let Faye Henson ([epita@cebridge.net](mailto:epita@cebridge.net)) know if you plan to attend so we can plan for seating at the restaurant.

### Prayer & Self-Denial Program in April

Thank you to Madella Shelton for presenting the "She Leads – Empowering Women to Make A Difference" program on Prayer and Self-Denial in April. When UMW members give to the Prayer and Self-Denial special emphasis, these funds support programs offered by National Mission Institutions and international partner organizations that promote leadership development and foster the well-being of underserved women, children, and families. Leadership Development projects supported this year includes The Poultry Project (Entrepreneurship Advocacy), Girls Without Future Sewing Project (Empowerment Program), Soap Project Skill Development), Moore Community House (Women in Construction), Red Bird Mission (Vocational-Technical School), and Gum Moon (ESL classes). Check out the bulletin board close to the Fellowship Hall for more information. Weatherford UMW members that did not get to attend may support the 2021 Prayer and Self Denial projects by sending a check payable to Weatherford UMW with Prayer & Self-Denial offering in the memo line to the church office – Attn: UMW.

### What's happening over the summer?

#### How about reading books in the UMW Collection in the church library?

You can read books from 2015 – 2022 book listings for recognition in 2021. You keep track of the books you read and after turning in your reading list, you are recognized as a participant or for achievement of Reading Level I – IV. Books for the most recent years can be ordered from your favorite book supplier or read by e-book options. There is a selection of 2015-2018 books that can be found in the library or by checking the Reading Program Catalog for 2019, 2020, and 2021-2022 at <https://www.umwmissionresources.org> (Click on Reading Program and you can find an online listing of the books for each of the years listed.) There is a printout of the 2021-2022 book listing in the library also. There are plenty of other books from earlier years in our UMW collection that you might enjoy reading. Please report any books that you read, and I will include them in your Reading Program recognition. The Reading Program includes books in the focus areas of Leadership Development, Spiritual Growth, Social Action, Nurturing for Community, and Education for Mission plus there are children and youth books available in each of these areas. Adults can read the children and youth selections for Reading Program recognition. Contact Faye Henson, UMW President, 580-330-2015 or [epita@cebridge.net](mailto:epita@cebridge.net) if you have questions.

Weatherford UMW keeps working to connect women and girls to the mission work of the church as well as developing informed leaders for tomorrow.

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**The United Methodist Church**

**Oklahoma Conference**

**Bishop James G. Nunn**

March 25, 2021

Greetings in the name of Christ.

On Sunday, we will gather for worship to celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. On that day, some 2,000 years ago, Jesus entered Jerusalem to face his own death. The events of that week have been remembered ever since. In many ways, the days we call Holy Week, are a reminder that uncertainty, betrayal and even death do not have the last word for followers of Christ. Resurrection and new life are!

These days there is much uncertainty and confusion in our beloved United Methodist Church. You may have recently heard that the United Methodist General Conference has been rescheduled from the fall of 2021 to the fall of 2022. In addition to that change, the Council of Bishops announced a special called General Conference for May and then, for many reasons, rescinded the call. And finally, at this time we are unclear as to when the next Jurisdictional Conference may be held. The news sometimes comes faster than imaginable.

I want to share a few thoughts about how you can make sense of this. First, until the General Conference meets in 2022, nothing in our church polity, doctrine or discipline will change. Recently many people have received communication pieces suggesting that substantive changes to our church law are expected and inviting United Methodists to align with one of two not yet formed churches before the meeting of the General Conference and any vote on proposed changes. While we support freedom of expression, it is important that you be aware that these communications have not been sent to you by, nor are they endorsed by, the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the UMC. You can expect that all communication regarding any decisions that will impact you, as a United Methodist or the United Methodist Church will come from our official email system and will be clearly identified with the conference logo.

We are also posting updated information and an FAQ (frequently asked questions) section at our website: <https://www.okumc.org/gc2020resources>. I will be meeting with the Oklahoma Conference delegation on April 9<sup>th</sup> to answer questions and explore with them what the future might hold. We will keep you informed as new developments occur.

Certainly, as is always the case, committed United Methodists will ask the General Conference to consider legislation they believe will improve the witness of our church. That has been a strength of our tradition. I invite you to join with me to prepare to discern God's will for the future of our denomination in these ways. Let us all covenant to pray – that our churches, conference, and denomination will

continue to be a beautiful witness to Christ Jesus and his redeeming grace. There is much good we can accomplish for the kingdom of God in this present moment. We know that people are hurting and we can respond with compassion and with the love of Christ.

I encourage you to utilize the conference website as well as United Methodist New Service (<https://www.umnews.org/en>) to keep up to date on official information regarding the General Conference and other denominational related matters.

Finally, we must remain focused on our mission – “To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” Focusing on your own church’s discipleship system, missional outreach, leadership development and spiritual formation will allow us to do the work we are called to do in our own contexts. We provide many resources to assist you and your church at our website: <https://www.okumc.org/discipleship>.

In the twelfth chapter of Paul’s letter to the Romans, he writes, “Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers” (12:9-13). May these marks of our Christian life be our guideposts as we *journey together through* these days of uncertainty.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Munn". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and connected.

## MAY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:00 PM Children's Activities 6:00 PM Youth	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	<b>3</b> 5:30 PM Trustees	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00 PM Children's Activities 6:00 PM Youth	<b>6</b> 7:00 PM Worship Committee	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 2:30 PM HS Baccalaureate	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 PM Children's Activities 6:00 PM Youth	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> 11:00 AM HS Graduation
<b>16</b> <b>Senior Recognition Sunday</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	<b>17</b> 5:30 PM Finance	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00 PM Youth	<b>20</b> 6:30 PM Frances Good Circle	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	<b>31</b> Memorial Day - Office Closed	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

## Dogs' best friend

A 71-year-old graduate in Turkey has become an inspiration to many. Fevzi Uyar had retired after teaching biology for 42 years but decided to pursue another degree. Known as the “grandfather” of homeless animals, he routinely traveled 90 miles every two days to feed stray dogs, who came to recognize his van. Uyar also built dozens of plywood shelters, complete with rugs and blankets, for the dogs.

But Uyar often encountered dogs needing medical care and racked up debts with a local veterinarian, so he enrolled in classes himself. The recent graduate now vaccinates and treats the animals he loves so much.

“God spoke: ‘Let us make human beings in our image, ... so they can be responsible for ... every animal that moves on the face of Earth’” (Genesis 1:26, MSG). Fevzi Uyar’s care for stray dogs beautifully reflects God’s intent for creation.



# A lasting promise

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.

*Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.*

Find a letter that's in  but not in  \_\_\_\_\_

Find a letter that's in  but not in  \_\_\_\_\_

Find a letter that's in  but not in  \_\_\_\_\_

Find a letter that's in  but not in  \_\_\_\_\_

Find a letter that's in  but not in  \_\_\_\_\_

**“But you will receive \_\_\_\_\_ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

ACTS 1:8, NIV

Answers: power



# WHERE IN THE WORLD?



Jesus commands us to be his witnesses. This craft is a reminder to reach out to all our “circles.”

**What you need:**

- 5 bowls or cups (assorted sizes)
- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Brad fastener
- Crayons or markers

**What you do:**

1. Place the bowls and cups upside down, each on a different color of paper. Trace around the circles and cut them out.
2. With a pencil, pierce a small hole atop each circle. Layer circles on each other from largest to smallest, aligning the holes. Insert the brad through all layers.
3. Starting in the center, label the circles *my house, my city, my state, my country, the world*. Draw a picture on each one.
4. Pray, asking Jesus how you can spread his message.

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