

MAY
2024

A Publication of First United Methodist Church

1411 Broadway | Lubbock, TX 79401 | 806.763.4607 | fumc.com

THE WINDOW



Creating grace-filled environments where Jesus Christ transforms lives.

Pg. 02

Welcome
Dr. Eric Allen
Permanently

Pg. 03

Upcoming
Events

Pg. 04

Testimony
HQ



SENIOR PASTOR
Todd Salzwedel

Greetings First UMC Family!

As I sit to write this article, I am sitting in a hotel room in Charlotte, NC on the first day of General Conference.

To be sure, by the time you are reading

this article, we will have celebrated worship together with brothers and sisters from around the world. Music will have been led by people from different lands and cultures, we will have broken bread together

and shared in Holy Communion, remembering that while there might be vast distances that separate us, we are bound together by the gift of the Holy Spirit drawing us near to each other. I will have shared in meals and gatherings with the delegates from the Congo one evening followed by the same experience with our Filipino Methodists the next night. And of course, there will have been a great deal of work done with respect to our work forward as the United Methodist Church. All of this will be bathed in prayer and holy conferencing.

One of the things that brings me great joy is reconnecting with people I haven't seen in many years. Rekindling relationships and

building new bonds with new friends always brings a new sense of hope and excitement! On this first day of General Conference, I finished the day over a meal with Bishop Bill Hutchinson and his wife, Kay. Bishop Hutchinson served as the Episcopal leader in Louisiana for twelve years. Long before he served in that capacity, he was my pastor when I was a boy. We shared memories of friends and colleagues, caught up on each other's families, and ultimately began to share memories of our ministries over the years.

I shared with Bishop Hutchinson about First and the exciting things that we have been about over the past number of months. He could

sense my excitement as I spoke of our church hosting Annual conference a few weeks after I return to Lubbock. Additionally, he recognized the pride as I spoke of the discernment that both Tessa and Dakota were undertaking on their path to potential ordination. It is a path that both of us understood well, and we smiled, both knowing the amazing adventure that lay before them both!

This year, though, is very special for another reason. While Tessa and Dakota are just beginning this leg of their call, Shera will experience the end of one chapter and the beginning of another. On May 19, we will affirm her hard work and years of faithful service in following her call to ordination. I know that as Bishop Nunn lays his hands upon Shera's head that evening, it will call to memory my own ordination sixteen

years ago. At that moment, Shera – like those who have come before her – will join the company of those who have come before her. That lineage can, in theory, be traced all the way back to the early Jerusalem Council almost two thousand years ago! From the moment that Bishop Nunn lays his hands upon her head, she will represent that devotion and leadership of those who will continue the Kingdom building work of Jesus Christ long into the future!

As Bishop Hutchinson and I shared stories and recollections of faithful clergy and lay people who have, and continue, to be strong witnesses of the reign of Christ in our world, we were both reminded of the theme for General Conference – “Know that I am God”. The theme is taken directly from Psalm 46, specifically the 10th verse. Preceding this simple phrase

is the instruction to “(B)e still”. Amid all that occupies our busy schedules, we can surely forget to follow this important act. I encourage us all to take just a moment – a beat – to be still and know that God is still God and continuing to move amongst His people. I invite you all to be present on May 19 as we affirm and recognize all the God has and is doing in Shera's life amongst us as well as in all our lives. And when the hands of Bishop Nunn lay upon her head, maybe we call all join and remember to “Be still and know that He is still God!”

Blessings, and I look forward to being back with you all very soon!

Pastor Todd

WELCOME, DR. ERIC ALLEN – PERMANENTLY!



The Staff Parish Relations Committee of FUMC is pleased to announce that Dr. Eric Allen will be permanently joining the excellent staff of First UMC!

Eric has led the choir the past seven months in weekly worship, special worship services, and choral presentations with the Symphony and other great musicians! Eric, along with our great Bradley Vogel, has been an exciting and valuable asset in leading our music program and we are eager to see what the future holds!

Eric is also a tenured Professor of Music at Texas Tech University. He and his family have called Lubbock their home since 2012 when he joined the faculty at Tech after finishing his Doctorate at the University of Minnesota. While his music accolades are plenty, he and his family have a deep history of service to the church!

Eric and his wife Emily have four wonderful children. Their oldest, Audrey, is at Angelo State University preparing to become a commercial pilot. Brady attends Frenship High School, Steven is at Heritage Middle

School, and Ruth is at Crestview Elementary.

Please welcome Eric on a permanent basis. In addition, let us all thank Bradley Vogel for his tireless work and dedication to the music ministry of First and the great work he has done over the past eight months as well. Together, Dr. Allen and Bradley will continue to lead our music ministry in exciting new directions for the glory of God! Welcome Eric, and a great big thank you to both Bradley and Eric!

Reserve your spot for the Mother's Day Lunch at fumc.com/mothers-day, or scan the QR code.

Mother's DAY
♥ Lunch ♥
Sunday MAY 12 Gym/CLC
12:15 PM RIGHT AFTER SERVICE
RSVP BY MAY 9 AT FUMC.COM/MOTHERS-DAY

Scan for RSVP

Celebrate Mother's Day with us! Indulge in a delicious steak and baked potato lunch crafted specially for our wonderful mothers. Join us for great food and even better company at just \$15 per plate. See you there!

All women are invited to attend. Please join us on May 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the CLC.

Women's Society for Christian Service
(WSCS)

MONDAY MAY 13 5:30 P.M. CLC

Join us for a charcuterie dinner followed by a presentation from the Family Promise director!

For info contact Pam Allison
806-773-5651
or pallison282@gmail.com

Ladies, mark your calendars for a day of Sabbath, fun, food, and fellowship.

Save the Date

Women's Summer Retreat
July 25



Shera Atkinson
Minister of Spiritual Formation and Congregational Care

Dear Church Family,

This summer, the Games of the XXXIII Olympia will take place in Paris. From July 26 through August 1, you will, in the evenings, find me watching our best athletes compete for the gold. Even though I can't actually be in Paris, there is an almost palpable feeling of unity as we all join together pulling for our country's team. Thursday, May 2,

we have the opportunity to experience that same kind of unity as we all collectively pray for our families, schools, officials, and our country during the annual National Day of Prayer. To be clear, God invites us to be unified in prayer throughout the year. Prayer is a way to connect with Him and realign our hearts with His. It is a way of inviting God into our lives and receiving His guidance.

This National Day of Prayer, be looking in your mailbox for a gift from FUMC! You will receive the book, "Prayer is the Answer" which contains 30 classic writings on prayer by John Wesley, Andrew Murray, and E.M. Bounds. I invite you to commit to reading one short devotion a day and spend time in prayer. This is a great time to unite as a church and grow in our prayer life!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Shera

TESTIMONY HQ MOMENT

This session of Testimony HQ, has two teachings: pray intentionally and pray often.

Jesus' intentionality with prayer would take himself away from others from time to time. He would go to a deserted place to pray before God. We need to quiet the daily distractions and be more intentional with our prayers. As soon as our eyes open before the day starts, a quiet time in the middle of the day when a busy mom's children are napping, before getting in bed at night, or finding a comfortable spot in your home where you can read a lesson and pray are ways to be intentional.

Next, Jesus prayed often. He prayed in moments of decision, in grief, after success, and day-to-day pressure. When we pray often, it becomes easier to be open with our thoughts and feelings. This reminds me of relationships in my own life. When I see and speak with a friend often, they know my family, my heart, my struggles and successes. Conversation is easy. When I haven't seen someone or even spoken to someone in years, you spend a lot of time catching up and conversation potentially could be more strained – what should we touch on? How does this person feel about certain topics?

It can be easier to pray when things are terrible because it may feel like it's all you have left. On the flip side, it can be easier to be thankful and pray to God in times of success. But we need to pray during all the day-to-day moments in between, as well as the peaks and valleys of life.

So, let's make an effort to pray intentionally and often.

Courtney Norton

We turn our attention from seeking God's presence in our lives to sharing those experiences with others. We are called to share God with others by telling our God stories — the good news! We are familiar with the meaning of gospel and the relevance of good news in the New Testament, but in Isaiah 52:7 the Old Testament reveres the good news and those who bring it:

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'"

In the New Testament, Paul alludes to this passage in Romans 10:14-15:

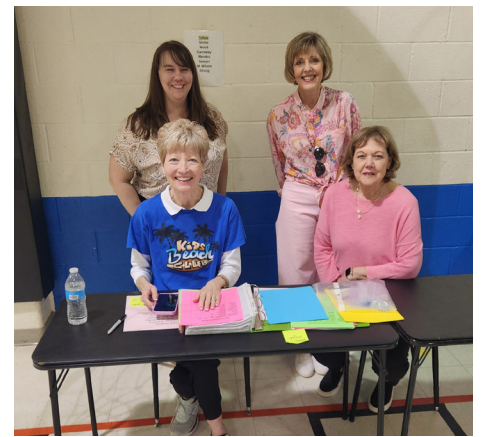
"And How are they to believe in one of whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"

This passage is encouragement to us to find places and our voices to bring the good news of God's impact on our lives to others.

J.R. Norton



KIDS BEACH CLUB AT BAYLESS ELEMENTARY



We had another great year at Kids Beach Club! Please consider joining in on the fun next school year! Contact Leslie Moss, leslie@wendellinepapers.com for more information on how you can volunteer.

... FROM THE ARCHIVES

In 1917 First Methodist Church in Lubbock burned down. In 1920, a gray brick church, “the most beautiful and commodious church in the city and the pride of all Lubbock” housed the congregation. The architecture of the time, long before Accessibility Laws, included a broad sweep of thirteen steps to what Texas State Historical



Association called “a monumental pedimented portico” with towering columns. The church was torn down in 1956 after the current sanctuary was built, but Vera Murfee had a four-foot portion of one of the church columns placed on her property on 14th Street. At

her death in 1982, Betty Carr had it moved to the Furr Memorial Garden on Broadway. In 2017, the FUMC archivists had a plaque explaining its history placed on the pillar which stands next to a Texas Historical Marker celebrating 100 years of First Methodist Church. The pillar

is a reminder of the vision and commitment of First Methodist Church through the years.



FIRST STUDENTS

UPCOMING ————— EVENTS

🌐 fumc.com/youth
📷 @firststudents_lbk
📺 @FirststudentsLBK

May

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- 1: Small Groups
- 5: Sunday Night Students
- 8: Small Groups
- 12: No Sunday Night Students
- 15: Small Groups
- 19: Senior Sunday
- Last Sunday Night

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

SENIOR SUNDAY

May 19
9:30 A.M. | Senior Rose Breakfast
11:00 A.M. | Class Presentation in Sanctuary during Traditional Service

REGISTER FOR ONE WAY CAMP!

Middle School: June 10–14
High School: June 17–21
fumc.com/youth or cetacanyon.org

HELLO SUMMER!

Summer is just around the corner, and we have a ton of fun things planned!

SUMMER KICK OFF

June 5, 6–8 p.m.
Details TBD

Look for our summer mailer coming soon for more info about all things summer!

FIRST STUDENTS OLYMPICS

COMING IN JULY

There will be activities for everyone!

THURSDAY LUNCHES

BEGINNING JUNE 27



SENIOR SUNDAY

SUNDAY

may 19, 2024

9:30 a.m.
SENIOR ROSE BREAKFAST

11:00 a.m.
PRESENTATION IN TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Memorials & Honorariums – April 15

EVERLIVING TRUST

In memory of Don McInturff by Beverly Hutcheson McDuff

In memory of Dwayne West by Jo Anne Smith

In memory of Dwayne West by Douglas and Stephanie Moen

In memory of Dwayne West by Pat Enloe

In memory of Dwayne West by Don and Robin Walker

In memory of Tommie Hatch, by Carl and Linda Andersen

In memory of Dwayne West by Carl and Linda Andersen

In memory of Wanda Mason by Carl and Linda Andersen

In memory of Don McInturff by Terry

and Katy Dane

In memory of Jimmy and Wanda Mason by Becky Hammonds

In memory of Tommie Hatch by Becky Hammonds

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

In honor of Bryan Smitherman by Mamie Hurt

In honor of Dr. and Mrs. David Bush by City Bank

In memory of Debbie Settler by Bryan Smitherman

GENERAL FUND

In memory Glen Ross by Patsie Ross

In memory Dwayne West by Patsie Ross

In memory of Dwayne West by Harold Bob and Ruth Bennett

In memory of Tommie Hatch by Lubbock Country Club

MUSIC MINISTRY

In memory of Don McInturff by Bob and Martha York

SECOND HELPINGS

In memory of Dwayne West by Paul and Carol Whitmer and Maxine Fox

In memory of Dwayne West by Don and Nell Furgeson

In honor of Tom and Susan Clark by Becky Hammonds

TV MINISTRY

In memory of Tommie Hatch by Betty Van Ness

Our Life Together

SYMPATHIES

Sympathies to Beverly West and family on the death of Dwayne. He passed away March 4. A memorial service was held March 9 officiated by Dr. Todd Salzwedel and Dr. Shera Atkinson. He was a member of the Friends of Music, the HI Robinson Sunday School, volunteered in Second Helpings, and a member of First United Lubbock since March 9, 1997.

Sympathies to the Fleming family on the death of Idalou. She passed away March 18. A graveside service was held March 23 at Kyle Cemetery in Kyle. She was a member of First United Methodist since January 5, 1992.

Sympathies to Jamie Thomason and family on the death of her

father, Fuston McCarty. He passed away April 16. He was a member of the Friends of Music and a member of First United Methodist of Lubbock since February 2, 1975. A memorial service was held April 22 officiated by Dr. Shera Atkinson.



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WORSHIP SERVICES

Traditional

8:45 a.m. - Sanctuary
9 a.m. Bowman Chapel
11 a.m. Sanctuary

Contemporary

11 a.m. Christian Life Center

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