



The Messenger

First United Methodist Church, Quitman, Texas

June 2022

“Come expectantly seeking Jesus. Follow Him boldly. Go witness intentionally.”



Many years ago, a man named Leslie Weatherhead wrote a book called The Significance of Silence. It is a collection of his sermons. One of the chapters near the end of the book is called, “Resting in God’s Infinity” and it was Weatherhead’s attempt at expressing how great God really is. At the beginning of his talk he writes, “*all of the great biblical writers set the thought of God’s greatness over against the need of man.*” (p. 185).

He goes on to quote Psalm 34:3: “Oh magnify the Lord with me...”. This, he says, is not to make us grovel around, crawl at God’s feet, and tell God how wonderful a person He is. No, instead we should see this phrase as our realization of how truly BIG God is. He is more than adequate for our needs, our worried minds, and restless hearts. He is truly big enough for our worries, our loved ones, and our world. Weatherhead exclaims that we should have a “*great God...not...an elderly gentleman in a black frock coat, who is almost wholly absorbed in our little denominational chapel.*” His main argument in this message seems to be that more likely than not, that we have made God way too small. And when we make God too small there are three things that can happen.

First, God will then be too small for our lives. You may even find yourself saying, “I’m afraid you can’t do anything to help me.” And this, of course, vastly underestimates God. The second thing that can happen if we make God too small is that we might believe He is too small for our prayers. And by this he means that we may fall prey to the misunderstanding that God can’t possibly always hear all prayers from all people and keep them straight. His cool little analogy for this example is likened to us making God like, “...the old woman in the shoe who had so many children she didn’t know what to do!” You see, God is infinite. It is not harder for God to guide two people than it is for one. And finally, if we make God too small, we might end up saying, “God is too small for our problems.”

We might look at evil in the world and say God is not there. We might look at injustice and say that God is not there. We might look at unfair things and say that God is not there either. Each is a mistake. With much more detail Mr. Weatherhead explains his view, but he ends up giving us three things we should always hold onto...no matter what. There are three certainties. One, the values of God are truth, goodness, justice, beauty, and kindness. People who know God best exemplify these qualities. Two, our blessedness is God’s goal. In spite of any evidence to the contrary, God wants our wellbeing. Three, when we look at Jesus, we look at God. Jesus was loving, patient, kind, and caring. Jesus was forgiving, healing, life-giving and so much more.

This is who God is. So, to quote a poem called The Marshes of Glenn that Weatherhead quotes in his book, “*Behold, I will build me a nest on the greatness of God...*” We cannot comprehend the infinity of God, nor can we comprehend the infinity of God’s goodness, but we sure can rest in it. Where are you building your nest?

Mike

Happy Birthday

June 01	Bobby Phipps	June 22	Ben Burroughs
June 06	Kathy Thurman	June 23	John Seekins
June 07	David Simpkins	June 23	Janeva Tuell
June 08	Kim Wilson	June 25	Jo Anna Nelson
June 09	Gary Simpkins	June 26	Gary Taylor
June 16	Mandy Hubbard	June 27	Baylee Eberhart
June 16	Mike Narkiewicz	June 28	Kent Gibson
June 18	Mary Ann Nichols	June 29	Nicholas O'Neal



Beth Aikman	Jerry Nichols
Bob Asmussen	Marilyn Odom
Elaine Asmussen	Bobby Phipps
Mickey Barnett	Mary Phipps
Bert & Darlene Blair	Gary Simpkins
Betty Bozeman	Mary Wimp
Wally Bradfield	Ron Wimp
Ann Crawford	Keith Zimmerman
Lynn Emmert	
Bruce Grider	
Mike Kostial	
Diane Mosley	

Taste n See: Summer 2022

A fellowship Bible study for young women in our community

Summer Gathering Dates

June 12, 2022
July 10, 2022
August 14, 2022

6-7:30 pm at Lost Creek Ranch

Contact Sharon at 903-765-3137 by the Friday before gathering so she can set a place at the dinner table just for you.



June 2022

8:30 a.m.

Mike Narkiewicz
Randy Bennett

*11:00 a.m.

Stephen Fulce
Peyton Kruckner
Ryan Wideman

***We need ushers! Please call the church office to volunteer.**

Financial Update (As of May 26, 2022)

(YTD) Giving: \$ 178,134
(YTD) Expenses: \$ 178,123
(YTD) Budgeted Expenses: \$ 185,089

*Mark Your Calendars Weekly at FUMC

Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Youth Game Night

Monday

9:00 a.m. Line Dancing
5:15 p.m. Bell Rehearsal

Wednesday

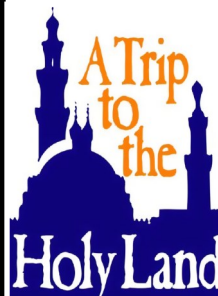
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (June 1)

Thursday

9:00 a.m. Line Dancing
5:30-7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts meet in J.O.Y Hall

Communion Rail Offering

CS Food Pantry



There will be an informational meeting for the Holy Land trip on July 11, 2022 at 6:30 pm in the Open Door Classroom. All who are interested should attend, if possible.

Rebecca Owens, of Owens Travel, will present a video and review the itinerary for the **2023** trip scheduled for November 7-17.

Susan Jarrell

**FUMC QUITMAN AND LIBERTY UMC QISD GRADUATING SENIORS
CONGRATULATIONS!!**



Alexis O'Neal



Wyatt Hightower



Mitchel Fry



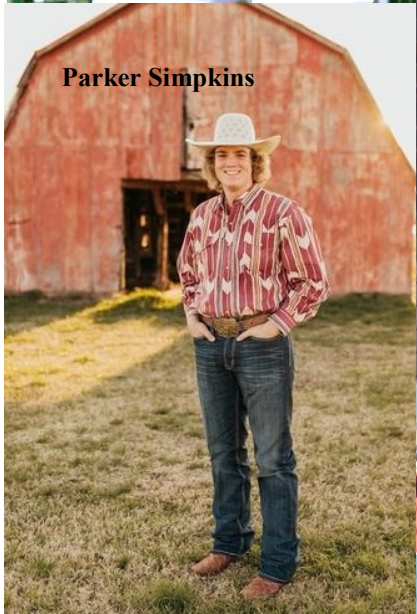
Ava Burroughs



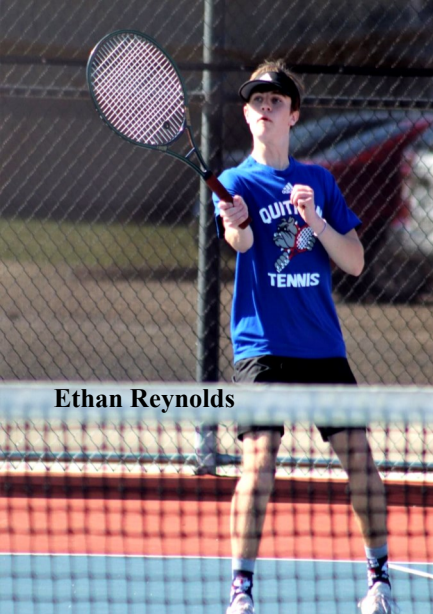
Avery von Reyn



Brooklyn Marcee



Parker Simpkins



Ethan Reynolds



Christian Adamson

BELLS ARE RINGING!!!



This month brings a much needed rest for our Ringers! They have worked very hard to ring (together) our praises to our Lord and Savior. We certainly have a enjoyable time together and extend our fellowship to anyone who might be

interested in being a part of our group. We will resume our practices again in August when everyone will be refreshed and eager to ring again.

This month I want to introduce our newest member of the choir, Kim Blake. Kim has rung bells before and is an added addition to our choir. She and her husband live in Yantis and are in the home building business. If you see Kim after one of our performances, please introduce yourself and let her know what a friendly church we have here.

Becky Bradfield



CHOIR NOTES



I can't believe it's already June. This year is going by quickly! With the

summer approaching, the choir will take a bit of a break starting June 29th. Until then we will have practice on Wednesday nights at 6:00 in the sanctuary. On June 22nd we will have a choir party in Joy Hall with fun, food, fellowship and, of course, a little bit of singing!

This coming November, several in the choir will be traveling to NYC again to sing at the newly renovated Lincoln Center under the direction of Joseph Martin. In July - look out for the date - we will have a fun filled evening of song and an auction to fund raise for this event.

Also coming up - possibly in late August - an evening of gospel music. We will invite the community to join us for a night of worship and praise.

Keep Singing His Praise,
Vickie Smolek

YOUTH NEWS

June 2022

Perhaps you think of this as often as I do. Being a parent of a teenager and one coming into that age, this generation of youth does not avoid the most challenging issues of today. In fact, youth want to talk about them. The youth of today don't want to simply listen but they want to be part of the conversation about the topics at hand. Often times, their conversation come from a one-sided viewpoint.

When I was a kid, my mother would tell me to clean my room. After debate and learning that my life would be better if I understand that it was going to be her way or... well her way, I would go into my room and close the door. I would often distract myself with other activities hoping that my mom would forget what she asked of me. In the end, I would shove things into the closet and under my bed making it appear that I had cleaned my room. It would "fool" my mom when she looked in to see if I had obeyed until my room started to smell.

This is kind of what the Church has done with the hot topics of today. We have simply given the impression that we have managed the issue at hand well and "fooled" those that might look in on occasion. This generation of youth are looking for genuine conversations about the things that are all around them. It is time for the Church to "roll up our sleeves" and sincerely challenge hard issues of today with truth and grace.

This summer, the youth ministry will continue with Wednesday Night Live. During the summer months we are going to explore and form a worldview on what we are calling the "Untouchables." We will be teaching on issues that are mostly ignored by the Church. We want to end our summer with a rally of community students that will encourage them to take a stand to live a life that honors themselves, their community and school, and God.

We are busy this summer with camp and mission trip as well as other events throughout the coming months. I look forward to the opportunities to hang out with the youth, enjoy the activities, and connect with other leaders.

I want to direct you to our church website to find out all the details of what the youth ministry is going to be doing over the next two months.

Lastly, in order to make the events of the summer possible, we are in need of several people to help us out. We want to ensure that we have the ability to make these events happen but also make sure that we have the resources to make them memorable. If you would like to know what we are looking for please reach out to me or Jennifer and we would love to get you plugged in where you are comfortable.

Thank you for the encouragement and support as we embark on one of the (if not the) busiest times in youth ministry.

Joseph Goodson

**June 4...Youth Trip to Six Flags 8:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
(Adult leaders and helpers needed)**

June 19-25 Church Camp, Glorieta, New Mexico

**July 10 Mission Trip
Final prep meeting after church in The Well**

July 17. Frisco Roughriders Baseball Game (Adult leaders and helpers needed)

July 20-24 Big House Mission Trip, Frankston, TX

July 29 Danny Gokey Concert in Tyler, TX

July 31 Youth Sunday



Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Night 5:30-7:00 p.m.

WNL Events will be announced



Hello All!!!

We have a great fun and fellowship planned for this coming summer, starting with VBS! We have numerous opportunities for you to volunteer, whether it is for decorating, sitting and being a second person for Safe Sanctuary, or taking a more active role.

(Volunteers will need to be current with Safe Sanctuary Training and Background checks.)

June 27th—30th

9am—Noon

Volunteers

8am till 12:30pm

Please, contact the church office to volunteer! (903) 763-4127

- Director**
- Co-Director**
- Bus Driver**
- Group Leaders**
- Decoration**
- Door Monitor**
- Registration**
- Bible Study**
- Snack s**
- Crafts**
- Music**
- Outdoor Rec**



Liberty Lines

By: John Sparks

Methodists have been debating their denomination's stance on issues related to an official stance on the "Gay Lifestyle." Methodism has historically been based on what the greater Church calls The Book of Discipline. In other words— *"The Bible"* re: issues confronting the Church and it's role in establishing an understanding of what Methodism is and isn't for its' members and prospective members.

The Methodist Book of Discipline has been subject to change historically. And, it has been edited through a rigorous democratic process over the years. Importantly, one of those editorial changes occurred in 1972, when the following language was added: "The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching."

Over the decades since that editorial change to our Book of Discipline in 1972, Delegates to every quadrennial meeting of the Methodist Church have debated that change with proposals ranging from: drop the language as it exists or make editorial changes which would redefine what the language means. The most immediate impact the Church's full implementation on the denomination's stance related to the official acceptance of an important consideration. That is: the ordaining and assignment to pastor status of an individual who was of homosexual persuasion.

Delegations to the 2019 special session approved something called the "Traditional Plan" which strengthened enforcement of language in *The Discipline* against the ordination and marriage of LGBTQ members.

Since then the issue has been identified as one that apparently is unsolvable through editing of the "Church's Bible" and a fundamental disagreement between individuals and congregations on both sides of the issue.

In the meantime since the adoption of the 1972 change decades ago, we who are members of United Methodist Church and especially those who have attended meetings and Annual Conferences locally and around the world have attempted to make peace and find a negotiated solution to this very fundamental disagreement to no avail.

Delegates to numerous World Conferences representing the world-wide church have obviously been dealing with the same issue with the same result—NO PROGRESS. So, for the past three General Conferences formal proposals have been considered to provide for splitting up of the United Methodist Church into what amounts to "Progressives" and "Conservatives." Obviously there has not been a formal vote taken on this proposed solution with the postponements of the last two World Conferences.

Sunday May 1, 2022 was the launch of a new theologically conservative denomination splintering from "The United Methodist Church." Leaders of the this newly established denomination to be based upon the existing Book of Discipline have named this new entity as the "Global Methodist Church."

Out of space for this issue—to be continued!



Liberty United Methodist Church
2581 Highway 154 East
Quitman, TX 75783
www.libertymc-Texas.com

8:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. Prayer Group

www.libertymc-texas.com

As of May 22, 2022

YTD Giving: \$53,001.62

YTD Expenses: \$40,044.25



Holy Communion Offering

Golden Cross

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 05 Martha Gould
June 06 Diann Lee
June 07 Tommy Bingham
June 12 Chuck Holt
June 13 Twila Wanker
June 26 Gene Deuson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 05 Jerry & Patty Hurt
June 20 Dean & Donna Bengé
June 24 Marty Vess



These Quitman High School graduates started school together as students of the FUMC sponsored preschool, Mrs. Marilyn's.

The school was initially located in the FUMC office building then later at FUMC Annex.

Every year at FUMC's Senior Breakfast, a group picture is taken with Marilyn Robinson to recognize these seniors.

First United Methodist Church

406 E. Lane Street
903.763.4127

Sanctuary Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sanctuary Worship 11:00 a.m.
YouTube Delayed Recording 6:00 p.m.
FUMC Quitman

www.fumcquitman.org

Liberty United Methodist Church

2581 E. St Hwy 154
903.638.9634

Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Worship 9:30 a.m.

www.libertymc-Texas.com

**HAVE YOU MOVED, CHANGED
YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR
EMAIL?**

If so, please contact the church office.



First United Methodist Church
P O Box 1643
Quitman, TX 75783

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“Transforming God’s Children Into Disciples”