



# The Messenger

May 2026

**First United Methodist Church, Quitman, Texas**

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

May marks the end of another school year and the start of summer! Growing up May was my favorite month of the year because schools were letting out for the summer and the promise of three months of vacations, trips, camps, and just playing with friends around the neighborhood lay ahead of us.



On Wednesday May 20th we will have our annual graduation rehearsal breakfast at 8:30am honoring all our QISD Seniors and Advisors. Help us celebrate our seniors by praying for their next chapter of life as they move beyond High School.

On September 5<sup>th</sup> we are taking our Youth to the “Rock the Pines” worship event at the Mineola Nature Preserve. If you would like to attend the event with us, please let us know by the end of May.

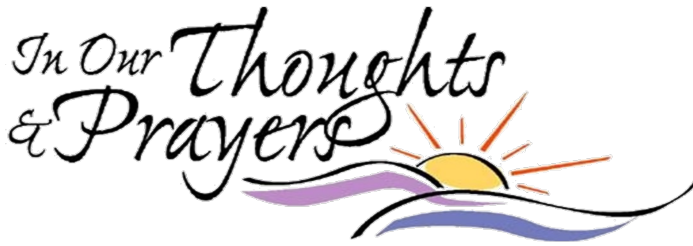
Our current sermon series is “Our Shared Faith,” where each week we are looking at the historic affirmation of faith known as the Apostle’s Creed. How was the creed formed and why was it written in the way that it was? Join us on Sunday’s as we explore the tenants of our faith together.

Our Wednesday night Bible Study is continuing to study “The Epistles of Paul.” Where we are looking at Paul's various letters to the different churches following Christ’s resurrection. This study will take us right up to our summer break at the end of May. Beginning in June we will stop meeting on Wednesday nights for the Summer but will plan to Start back up in the fall where we will study the gospel of John. Be sure to join us every Wednesday night at 6pm in the celebration classroom.

There is a lot going on in the life of the church these days, I hope that you will join us in the coming months. May God grant you peace and new life in your travels and know that your church home is here for you this summer!

-Rev. Thomas Harper

**Come &** 



Mickey & Glenda Barnett	Diana King
Darlene Blair	Jan Lumley
Harriett Bevil	Saundra Mott
Ann Crawford	Sandy Narkiewicz
Claudette Dixon	Pat Neel
Pamela Dountas	Marilyn Odom
Lynda Gibson	Martha Scroggins
Sally Green	Gary Simpkins
	Maddox Story

**\*Mark Your Calendars**

**Sunday**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship Sanctuary  
 9:00 a.m. Ignite J.O.Y. Hall  
 9:30 a.m. Gathering J.O.Y. Hall  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship Sanctuary

**Monday**  
 9:00 a.m. Line Dancing

**Tuesday**  
 12:00 p.m. \*Bell Rehearsal

**Wednesday**  
 6:00 pm WNL Bible Study  
 7:00 p.m. \*Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday**  
 9:00 am Line Dancing

\*Next Bell rehearsal: May 12th  
 Next Choir rehearsal: May 13th

**Reignite Your Sundays  
 with Ignite Worship**

Ignite Worship meets every Sunday at **9:00 a.m. in Joy Hall**. With fresh coffee and a *come as you are* atmosphere, the service creates an inviting space for worship and community.

The service features contemporary worship music that is uplifting and Spirit-filled, creating a joyful and encouraging environment to connect with God and prepare your heart for the day and week ahead.

**Ignite Worship**  
 Sundays at **9:00 a.m.**  
**Joy Hall**

Come experience what Ignite is all about — and let your faith be fired up. ☹️



**May 2026**

**8:30 a.m.**

Jon & Sally Seekins

**11:00 a.m.**

Greg Eberhardt  
 Shelby Tackett  
 Bolton Rhodes

**Financial Update as of 3/30/26**

YTD Income	\$105,566
YTD Expense	\$ 95,874



May 7, 2026  
is  
National Day  
of  
Prayer



- May 01 Lynda Gibson
- May 01 Stella Lundy
- May 01 Sarah Roberts
- May 01 Candy Whitenton
- May 03 Michelle Dobbs
- May 03 Garrett Peek
- May 06 Richard Lyne
- May 07 Dr. Mark Young
- May 11 Bryan O'Neal
- May 11 Carol Denson
- May 11 Tony Gardner
- May 15 Michael Kostial
- May 19 Teresa Fulce
- May 20 Sandra Narkiewicz
- May 21 Daisy Bennett
- May 23 Karen Steele
- May 24 Andrew Marcee
- May 24 Craig Perry
- May 26 Addison Marcee
- May 27 Ricky Cameron
- May 28 Judy Johnson
- May 29 Melanie Poppenhusen



**Church Council**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

The Church Council will meet at 1:30 pm in the Celebration Classroom:

July 12th  
October 11th

**About FUMC's May Rail Offering**

**TJC Wesley House**

Wesley House, formerly known as the Tyler Wesley Foundation, is the United Methodist student center on the campus of Tyler Junior College in Tyler, Texas. Wesley House serves as home to approximately 80 students each semester. Their mission is to provide a living, learning and play environment compatible with the ideals of Christian love, and to serve God and God's people on campus, in the community and world.

The Easter egg hunt was a great success and we would like to recognize Judy Johnson for all of her hard work with planning and coordinating the event. We would also like to thank Pete O'Neal for being the best Easter bunny ever! .



## COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES PARTNERING WITH THE EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK

### Summer Food Program for Children

Our church is partnering with the East Texas Food Bank (ETFB) by participating in their Summer Food Program for Children. The program will start on June 2nd and go through August 4th. Its purpose is to provide summer meals to children in need within our community.

The ETFB will deliver bulk meals to JOY Hall at mid-morning each Tuesday. Our first delivery will consist of 50 boxes and 50 bags of non-perishable food items. Each delivery is intended to provide children with 2 meals a day for 7 days. The delivery volume may be adjusted afterwards according to demand.

We will distribute the meals to families on Tuesday evenings from 4:30pm to 6:00pm, or until we run out, using a drive-through distribution process under the covered area of JOY Hall.

We need at least 3 volunteers to receive the meals from ETFB on Tuesday morning throughout the summer. We also need 3 volunteers to distribute the meals to families on Tuesday evening.

The ETFB will provide training on food handling and program administration on May 20th from 1:00pm until 4:00pm in their Fair Community Room located at 3201 Robertson Rd. in Tyler.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist with this important distribution, please contact JoAnn Zimmerman at 979-285-4165 or [joann.zimmerman@gmail.com](mailto:joann.zimmerman@gmail.com).

### Monthly Mobile Distribution

In addition to the Summer Food Program for Children, we are continuing our long-standing participation in the East Texas Food Bank Mobile Distribution that is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:00am at Bud Moody stadium. April's event was very successful with reaching over 300 of our neighbors in need. If you are interested in volunteering for the monthly distribution program, please contact Pastor Harper.

### Plastic Grocery Bag Collection

FUMC Quitman needs your plastic grocery bags to be used for the monthly East Texas Food Bank distribution. Collection bins are now placed in both the entrance to Joy Hall and the Narthex. Please drop off your bags here every month, they will be put to good use. Thank you!!

# VETERANS ★ Breakfast ★

From 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. on the first Tuesday of every month, J.O.Y Hall is the location for a Breakfast honoring Wood County's military veterans.

The breakfast is provided by Wesley House Nursing Home, Quitman Wellness and Rehab Facility (formerly Caraday Healthcare) and Reflections Hospice.

This monthly event would not be possible without them and the generous financial assistance from other local businesses.



There will be several opportunities for our Children & Youth to participate in summer activities.



This year's camp will be June 22nd - 26th and is open to 1st graders thru graduated seniors.



For information, contact Judy Johnson or Pastor Harper.



On Saturday September 5th we will be attending the Rock of the Pines Christian Music Festival at the beautiful Nature Preserve in Mineola. If you are interested in attending please see Judy Johnson or call Pam in the church office at 903-763-4127 to get signed up. The deadline to sign up is the end of May.

**July 27th - 30th  
for FUMC VBS.**

Judy Johnson is the 2026 VBS Coordinator

Volunteers are needed.

To volunteer, please contact Judy at 214-770-3135.

It's going to be fun.!!!





“Be the church we are called to be!”

**First United Methodist Church**  
406 E. Lane Street 903.763.4127  
Sanctuary Worship 8:30 am  
Ignite Worship in J.O.Y. Hall 9:00 am  
Gathering in The Well 9:30 am  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m  
Sanctuary Worship 11:00 am  
YouTube Delayed Recording 6:00 pm  
**fumcquitman.org**

**Help Us Reduce the MESSENGER Cost!**  
If you are receiving this newsletter by mail and you have access to the web, please consider switching to the on-line version of the MESSENGER. It will reduce printing and postage costs and get it to you several days sooner, and in color! Call 903-763-4127 to opt in.

**HAVE YOU MOVED, CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL?**  
If so, please contact the church office.

**DONATIONS MADE EASY**  
Want to simplify your giving of tithes, memorials, and other offerings? Then consider using the “Give On-Line” link on the Church’s web-site, fumcquitman.org. or simply activate the QR Code on the right.  
The “Tithe.ly Donation System” is safe and reliable, and it allows you to Add Special Instructions that specify how your donation is to be applied. It will also provide you with an emailed receipt for your bookkeeping and tax records.  
The Quitman First United Methodist Church is a 501(c)3 non-profit religious organization. Your donations are both tax deductible and sincerely appreciated.



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“Transforming God’s Children Into Disciples”