



The Messenger

First United Methodist Church, Quitman, Texas

September 2026

"Come expectantly seeking Jesus. Follow Him boldly. Go witness intentionally."



It's Football season again and that means it's also Fall Kickoff around the church. August has seen our youth and children returning to school and the busy fall schedule. Please continue to pray for our students as they get back into the swing of things.

With a brand-new season comes a great opportunity to invite people to come back to church. Consider who you might welcome back to FUMC Quitman or perhaps invite someone to visit for the first time.

After a long summer, people are looking to get back into the swing of things and there is no better place to start than with Sunday Morning Worship.

Our fall kickoff series, "What Robs our Joy", will run from August 9th – September 20th. In this series we will be looking at how seven things can rob us of the joy that God has for our lives.

Our Wednesday Night Live (WNL!) Bible Study returns with a brand-new look at the Gospel of John. Why did John decide to write this fourth telling of Jesus' ministry so late in the Apostle's life? Why is the style and structure of John so different from the other synoptic Gospels? Join us on Wednesdays at 6pm as we explore John's version of the greatest story ever told.

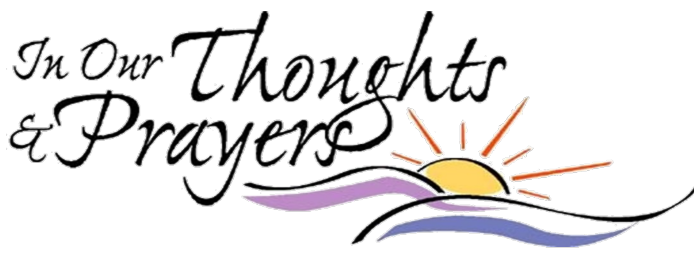
We found the two "game nights" held this past summer to be quite rewarding. So, beginning in October, we will have a dinner and game night the first Wednesday of each month instead of the normal WNL! Bible Study. This is a great opportunity for food and fellowship with our church community and a wonderful time to invite someone new to come on Wednesdays.

There is a lot going on in the life of the church these days, If you have taken a break over the summer, now is the perfect time to jump back into the life and ministry of the church. May God grant you peace and new life as you begin the new fall semester!

-Rev. Thomas Harper

*Come &
Worship*





Barnett Family	Lumley Family
Harriett Bevil	Saundra Mott
Darlene Blair	Sandy Narkiewicz
Ann Crawford	Pat Neel
Claudette Dixon	Marilyn Odom
Pamela Dountas	Robbins Family
Martha & Jim Gould	Martha Scroggins
Sally Greene	Gary Simpkins
Venita Holbrook	Janna Simants
Amelia Hood	Swenson Family
King Family	

*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
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Tuesday

12:00 p.m.	Bell Practice
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Wednesday

7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
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Thursday

9:00 a.m.	Line Dancing
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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. ☕



September 2026

8:30 a.m.

John Seekins
Sally Seekins

11:00 a.m.

Brad Medlin
Beth Medlin

Financial Update as of 7/31/26

YTD Income	\$274,397
YTD Expense	\$255,389



September 03 Michelle Cameron
 September 03 Susan Kincaid
 September 04 Keith Zimmerman
 September 09 Stuart Dunkle
 September 14 Bill Bonnette
 September 20 Pete O'Neal
 September 21 Tracie Jackson
 September 23 Becky McPherson
 September 24 Louann Dunkle
 September 24 Kay Andres
 September 26 Christy Floyd
 September 27 Deena Eberhart
 September 28 Zachary McFerran

Church Council

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

October 11th

Our Current Sermon Series



FUMC's September Rail Offering

The Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

Operation Christmas Child is part of a mission to share the Good News and bring Great Joy with children around the world. Our Church participates by filling Shoe Boxes and serves as the Wood County Shoe Box collection site.

Communion Preparation

Bill & Becky McPherson



Are you ready for some worship?

A Wednesday Night Party.

Pastor Thomas will be sharing the faith

Ready to get the good time started.

We've got the gospel of John and we've turned up the lights.

All my faithful friends are back for Wednesday Nights!

In lieu of Bible Study we will be hosting dinner and game night on the 1st Wednesday of each month beginning in October.

Food will be provided and donations will be greatly appreciated!

Come and join us on Wednesday, October 7th at 6:00 pm for a wonderful meal and fellowship as we play.....



Operation Christmas Child News!

I am excited to begin this season's Operation Christmas Child shoebox ministry! On August 29th, I served as a volunteer at our area's Project Leader Workshop. I was so happy to see the growing interest in OCC, as was evident in the attendance doubling from last year. The enthusiasm was infectious and I hope with convey this to each of you in the coming months.

In the meantime, expect to see shoebox displays begin to pop up in the Sanctuary and in Joy Hall early September. If you have questions about what to buy, please text or email me and I will be happy to share some ideas with you, but this information will also be provided inside each shoebox you pick up at church.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, I am looking for volunteers to work during the 8-day National Collection Week. Our church begins its 16th year as the Wood County Shoebox Drop Off Site. The dates are Monday, November 16th through Monday, November 23rd. Most times will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please block your calendar for that week! If you'd like to sign up, please email me at pat.kostial@gmail.com.

I am looking forward to a blessed, exciting and transformative experience for each and every volunteer and donor who comes to our Drop Off Site. Get ready to feel the love!

Thank you all,

Pat Kostial
OCC Wood County Drop Off Site Leader



11th ANNUAL

TIPS FOR TOTS: LIGHTS, CAMERA, COMPASSION FUNDRAISER EVENT

Benefiting the Wood County Child Protection & Welfare
Board to Support Foster Children of Wood County



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

LOCATION:

WINNSBORO CIVIC
CENTER
915 Wheeler Dr
Winnsboro, Texas



Use QR code for Tips for Tots
Tickets, Donations, or
Sponsorships or by going to
<https://wccwpb.org/eventsb>.

ACTION begins at 5:30pm

Tickets \$25

Catered meal by Seth's

Tickets can be purchased at the door.

★ Live Auction

★ Raffle Items

★ Celebrity Waiters

*Remember to bring spending money! Tips for
waiters, raffle tickets, and auction purchases
are all part of the fun and help support the
children served by the Wood County Child
Protection Board.*

The Wood County Child Protection Board, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization,
Therefore donations are tax deductible to the extent granted by law. For more
information email inquiries to: wccchildprotectionboard@gmail.com.



We hope that you can join us for the 11th Annual Tips for Tots fundraiser being held on Monday, September 14th. Pastor Thomas and Sam will join other celebrity waiters from around the county to serve the event patrons. All of the tips that they earn will be donated to this wonderful cause. The celebrity waiters that earn the most tips will have bragging rights for the entire year, so come and plan to tip generously!

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Quitman ISD Back-Pack Food Program

The mission of the Backpack Program is to help alleviate child hunger by providing children with nutritious and easy to prepare food at times when food resources are less available, such as on weekends. Once again our church has the honor of partnering with the Rotary Club and the East Texas Food Bank (ETFB) to provide this essential service to our Quitman ISD youth that are in need.

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!!



“Be the church we are called to be!”

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.

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

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.



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

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Quitman, TX

“Transforming God’s Children Into Disciples”