

**THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST MIRROR**  
*First United Methodist Church*  
*Mexia, Texas*  
*April 7, 2006*

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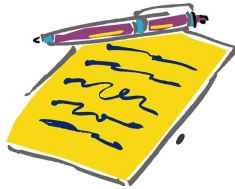
**Church Staff**

*Dr. Max K. Burkhead, Pastor*  
*Richard Morgan, Minister of Music*  
*Walt Harrison, Minister of Youth*  
*Martha McCain, Administrative Assistant*

*Wynona Lipsett, Organist*  
*Mary Benson, Fiscal Coordinator*  
*Michael Robbins, Building Superintendent*

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*. . . a note from your pastor*

By now, most of you know that I will be leaving in the first part of June to assume a new position within our annual conference. I am preparing to begin my work as the Associate Director of the Central Texas Methodist Foundation in Fort Worth. We are excited about the move and yet we leave with mixed emotions. The past six years have been filled with the usual highs and lows, and yet we will always remember the high points of our ministry with you. This is not the final column I will write, but it will be close. The person succeeding me will, without a doubt, be blessed by your excitement and enthusiasm for serving Jesus Christ. As we prepare for a time of transition, may I ask that you consider the following things. First, I would like to leave knowing that our conference apportionments are as close to being halfway paid by June 1st. We always do a superb job in meeting our conference askings and this year will be no different. I would like to see that your new pastor comes in without the worry of having to catch up on apportionments and can go right to work getting to know you and doing ministry here in Mexia. Second, let me ask you to please continue your giving and remember that the biblical standard for giving is the tithe. As we approach the close of my ministry here, please pray for our family as we move into a new area of ministry and work. And know that we will always keep you in our thoughts and prayers for the rest of our days on this earth. See you Sunday!

*Max K. Burkhead*

*Remembering you in  
our thoughts and prayers*

Robin Adams Jayce Black Kathy Bowe  
 Jeanie Brown Shirley Brown Joe Bounds  
 Cindy Brooks Dr. Buchmeyer Pat Buyher  
 Olen Clary Herman Collier Lindsey Cotton  
 Brenda Greer Craft Sherrie Dolph Roy Englebert  
 Jeremy Ferguson Nancy Flagg Lisa Findley  
 Andrew Gordon Russell Hawkins Eloise Hart  
 Melissa-Heath Hill Bob Henry Rena Hodge  
 Ellie Hoskins Albert Hudson Debbie Johnson  
 Gladys Jones Bill and Shirley Lane  
 Henry and Dottie Lawson Holly Lewis  
 Karen Liddell Don McCord Jerry McKeand  
 Kyle Morgan Peggy Morrison Francis Owens  
 Estalee Price Sunday Crider-Pirkle Jim Ramsey  
 Keith Ritz Mike Ray Robert Redding Marty Rial  
 Wayne Robbins Mike Rule Jack Sanders  
 Beata Schueller Linda Sims Vickie Smith  
 Nancy Spence Patti Smith M.R. (Billy) Sterling  
 Debbie Sunday Jackie Sunday Micky Sunday  
 Faye, Tasha & Jackson Tacker Chad Thomas  
 Vickie Taylor J.W. Tyner Cindy Williford  
 Richard Williams Bryan Wilson Charlotte Wampler



**APRIL**

**Birthdays**

**2nd—Jackie Tidwell, 4th—Mary Ann Ray  
 5th—Ed Marcotte, 6th—Austyn Edwards  
 9th—Nancy Hughes, Nils Haterius,  
 Shayna Robbins, 11th—Jan Paschal  
 12th—Lewis Blunt. Ginger Kott.  
 17th—Kathleen Flowers, Linda Kegerreis  
 19th—Bob Wright, Ed Cunningham  
 Dan Franks, Trey Fulmer, Mike Ray  
 20th—Cindy Williford, 22th—Lindsey  
 Beard, Bryce Ray, 24th—Ruby Hitt  
 25th—William Shelton  
 26th—Michael Miller  
 27th—Janise Shivers, 30th—Lula Goswick**

**Anniversaries**

**Bob and Patsy Henry, 2nd  
 James and Merl Shivers, 4th  
 Tad and Ima Burroughs, 5th  
 Roger and Michelda Brown, 5th  
 Bill and Cathy Ward, 7th  
 Jim and Leslie Clements, 13th  
 Max and Polly Burkhead, 19th  
 Bob and Peggy Wright, 19th  
 Bobby and Roy Baccus, 29th  
 Walt and Gael McKeever, 30th**

—  
 "As I live,  
 says the Lord,  
 every knee shall bow  
 to me, and every  
 tongue shall give  
 praise to God."

Romans 14:11, NRSV



## From the Trench

FUMC Youth News



Greetings from the trench! This weekend, "The Trench" took 11 members of the youth to the *Acquire the Fire* youth rally in Dallas at Reunion Arena. *Acquire the Fire* is a 2-day event that engages youth with their Christianity. The weekend was based around a drama of two young adults in the future who were placed on trial for being Christians! As the weekend continues, speakers such as Mike Guzzardo talked about what is happening during the trial and how the events of the present facts. He said at the current rate of evangelism, this generation will only be 4% of Christian believers. Now compare that to 34% of the baby boomers and 64% of the greatest generation, our WWII generation. This was a key point for our youth to step up and win their generation to Christ. Christian bands such as Jeremy Camp, Pillar and Michael Gungor performed throughout the weekend. The life changing event is in conjunction with other *Battle Cry* events throughout the nation. Keep your eyes peeled for more information about the city rally we will be having on the First Mexia Bank parking lot on Thursday, May 11th.

*In Christ, Walt*



*March 24th—April 7th, 2006*

Sidney Johnston—Kenneth and Johnnie Christian  
Cecil Stephens—Jesse and Kathleen Flowers  
Jerry Willett—Kenneth and Johnnie Christian

Thanks  
for all that  
you do!!

**Thank you to the members of the First United Methodist Church for your support as we bring the message of God's Love, Grace and Forgiveness to the Youth at Mexia State School. Epiphany Number 3 was wonderful and we appreciate all of you for your support!**

*(From the Mexia State School Epiphany Unit Advisory Committee.)*



**Seniors and College Students. . .It's time to begin thinking about College for the fall. I know, you haven't even gotten out of school for the summer, but FUMC scholarship applications must be in the church office by May 1st. Applications are on the foyer table. If you would like for me to send you an application, please call the church office at 2540562-5567.**

**As we come to this time of the year, we are reminded of Christ's death and resurrection. In the chancel, there is a Tall Candle known as the Paschal. As we light it each Sunday between now and Ascension Sunday, we remember the time when Jesus was on earth in a resurrected body. The visible symbol re-enforces the scripture lessons that we hear these Sundays about this part of the "Story of Jesus."**



April is my favorite time of the year. You can feel springtime in the air, all that was dormant is now turning green, flowers are blooming, the air is a bit warmer and our beautiful sanctuary will be adorned with lilies for Easter Sunday, April 16th. All lilies will be \$15.00 each. There will be slips of paper to record your Memorials and Honorariums on the foyer table.



...from your  
music director

It doesn't matter what context I have worshipped in, whether formal or informal, whether contemporary or traditional (and I've experienced them all), when it comes to Holy Week, my life has been richly blessed by the variety of services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, no matter what the style.

These two services can be incredible downers—our Maundy Thursday service ends with a stripping of the altar that symbolizes the rejection and desolation Jesus must have felt, and Good Friday concludes with the tolling of the church bell 33 times, once for each year of Jesus' earthly life and ministry. How can we re-enter the world after Jesus' suffering and death, experienced so powerfully in those services? But, that's the point, isn't it? Jesus' disciples finally got the message at the cross—they finally understood what their master had been trying to tell them—remember me, my days are numbered, people will reject me, etc.

Their understanding was incomplete, though. They understood a bit more on the following Sunday when they discovered the empty tomb, and encountered the risen Lord. And it may not have been until Pentecost that they truly understood the whole picture.

Pentecost—the proclamation of Jesus' message to the entire world—is impossible without Easter, and Easter is impossible without Jesus' agony and death. It is the same for us, I think. We must die and be reborn to live the new, Christian life. It's hard to die, really hard to die to the world, to leave behind the familiar and the comfortable for that 'new life in Christ.'

That's what Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are all about. If we hope to participate in the resurrection of Easter, we must go through the pains that precede.

I hope you will join us for our Holy Week services. Bring someone with you. These worship services are one way in which we, as Christians, can tell our story to the world.

*Blessings, Richard*

**Join a fellowship of Christians  
As we celebrate the events of Holy Week  
In Worship at First United Methodist Church**

**Maundy Thursday, April 13**

6:00 p.m. *"Disciples Share a Meal."* Supper together in Fellowship Hall begins our observance of Jesus' final evening of anguish and betrayal. All are welcome to share this sacred meal. Join us for the meal, or join us for the service at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

7:00 p.m. *"O Come and Mourn With Me Awhile."* In the Sanctuary, we celebrate Jesus' Last Supper, concluding with the dramatic stripping of the altar, symbolic of preparations for the Crucifixion.

**Good Friday, April 14**

7:00 p.m. *"I Survey the Wondrous Cross."* In prayer, scripture and music, we celebrate a Service of Tenebrae (darkness and shadows). Candles are progressively extinguished as Jesus' death on the Cross approaches.

**Easter Sunday, April 16**

10:30 a.m. *"The Cross Transformed."* We celebrate Jesus' resurrection with the flowering of the cross, restoration of the altar, pealing of bells, and the Easter Proclamation: He Is Risen! The Lord Is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!



**Men's Prayer Breakfast  
each Thursday at  
6:30 a.m.**

**First Presbyterian Church  
April 13, 2006  
April 20, 2006**

**Financial Stewardship**

**Needed each week:**

**\$4,649.88**

**Needed to date: (as of April 2nd)**

**\$65,098.32**

**Received to date:**

**\$57,566.90**

**Shortfall:**

**-\$7,531.42**

**Attendance**

**Sunday School**

**Mar 26 64**

**Apr 02 64**

**Worship**

**Mar 26 139**

**Apr 02 121**

# You are Invited!!!

**Bob and Pam Crider are hosting a social mixer at the Mexia Civic Center, April 22, 2006.**

**The famous "Roy Orbison" will be in concert! (actually Wayne Kind of Houston).**

**The party will begin at 6:30ish p.m. and end at 11:30ish p.m.**

**Please "RSVP" with names to:  
cox@glade.net or send a card to  
P.O. Box 988, Mexia, TX 76667  
Or call 254-562-5149  
no later than April 15, 2006.**



## Six Flags Over Texas



**Hey Kids!!**

**Mark your Calendars. . .**

**for Six Flags**

**April 15th, 2006**

**We will leave the church parking lot**

**at 8:00 a.m.**

**More details later!!!**



First United Methodist Church  
 203 North Canton Street  
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 mexiafumcpastor@sbcglobal.net  
 www.fumcmexia.org

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*The good Lord didn't create  
 anything without a purpose,  
 but mosquitoes come close.*



**ATTENTION!**

The next issue of the  
 Mirror will be on  
 Friday, April 21st, 2006.  
 The deadline for information  
 to be included in the edition  
 will be 12:00 noon  
 Monday, April 17th, 2006.

**Financial Stewards**  
 Apr 09: Diane Burks and Ken Christian  
 Apr 16: Ken Christian and Becky Brady  
 Apr 23: Becky Brady and Vickie Beard  
 Apr 30: Vickie Beard and Frances Williams



**Monday—Friday  
 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.  
 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.**

**For Emergencies, call:  
 Pastor's Cell Phone:  
 903-388-9207**