



First United Methodist Church of Sterling City

September News, 2021

Word from Our Pastor



Just the other day, a new little friend decided to make our back yard its home. Now, some of you might think of a garden hose reel box as a place to *store* your garden hose, but this little friend of mine has instead decided to make it into a skunk condo. And, as friendly as I might seem, I'm not quite ready to share the back yard

with him. So, as I attempted to explain this to Mr. Skunk, by kindly waking it up with running water from another hose in the yard, all while still giving it some personal space, it decided that it needed to upgrade its dwelling from the hose reel box to a huge bush located outside our bedroom window. So, now, instead of it residing in the corner of our back yard, it now resides within a large bush surrounding our A/C unit next to our home. Consequently, for the remainder of that day and the next, my mind has been consumed with the skunk and not much else.

You see, my attention towards the skunk might also mirror our reactions towards feelings of hurt or frustration in our lives. Our feelings might be from the global news or from unexpected events in our lives.

They may be from memories of mistakes made that were hurtful or embarrassing, or from moments in our lives causing grief. We might even attempt to chase those feelings away. And when we eventually face them again, they might consume our thoughts as we try and process them, leading some of us to feel hopeless and alone. But you see, this could not be furthest from the truth. God's truth is that He is always with us, no matter the distance we feel from anyone or from Him. We find this truth in the fact that when humanity was its furthest spiritually from God, He came to us. And so, when these moments arrive in our lives, take a second to find rest in Jesus by taking up His yoke and remembering that His Spirit is not only active within the world but also within you.

Peace!

Pastor Derrick

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Father Hear Our Prayers

O radiant God, in the midst of tribulation, suffering, crippled hope and shattered dreams, stand by these Your servants until they are well once more.

Amy Calhoun	Jim Noble	Kairos Prison Ministry
Bruce & Jere Thomas	Phillip Rawlings	Soldiers & First Responders
Diana & Herman Fox	Sydney Jordan	Jason Kelly
Prayers for travelers	Rileigh Spears	Kenneth Collier
Julia Gauwain	Stephen Foster	Curtis & Janice McClure
Le Ruth Stewart	Royce Hight	Hailey Peters
Sara Stevens	Torrey Clay	Ramon & Connie Lozano
Cynthia Keele	The Duncan & Bolding Families	Pat Copeland
Leadership of our Country	Tristan Himes	Grace Copeland
Mike & Jaynell Bodine	Clayton Cooper	Becky Johnson
Marilyn & Tom Newman	Mark Erwin	Patty Ahern
Arnulfo & Dina Trevino	Barney Sisco	Sid & Carolyn Long
Kasey Lumpkin	Fred Buck	Bitsy Durham
Betty Fields	Matthew Robinson	Carolyn Davis
Lupe Escobar	Abe Scott	Rain
Eileen Sonberg		

Announcements

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays @ 10am
in the Fellowship Hall.
All women are invited!

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST

Wednesdays @ 6am
in the Fellowship Hall.
All men are invited!

Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

14th Riggie Halfmann	
1st Laura Gladden	16th Melinda Gaines
2nd Mary Helen Glass	18th Carly Janca
6th Doris McClellan	24th Melissa Orsak
9th Bryce Thomas	25th Ross Copeland
13th Pat Copeland	28th Starr Foster
13th Morgan Cox	
13th Linda Horwood	

ANNIVERSARIES

3rd Steve & Rose Monreal
18th Michael & Deana Jaramillo
24th Tooter & Rosanne Jameson

FUMC Pre-school

is looking for Substitutes.

*If you are interested,
please go by the office to
get an application. You may
also contact Ashley /
Jessica.*

**School day schedule*

**Flexible work schedule.*

**Enjoys working with
children*

**Being a part of sharing
God's love.*



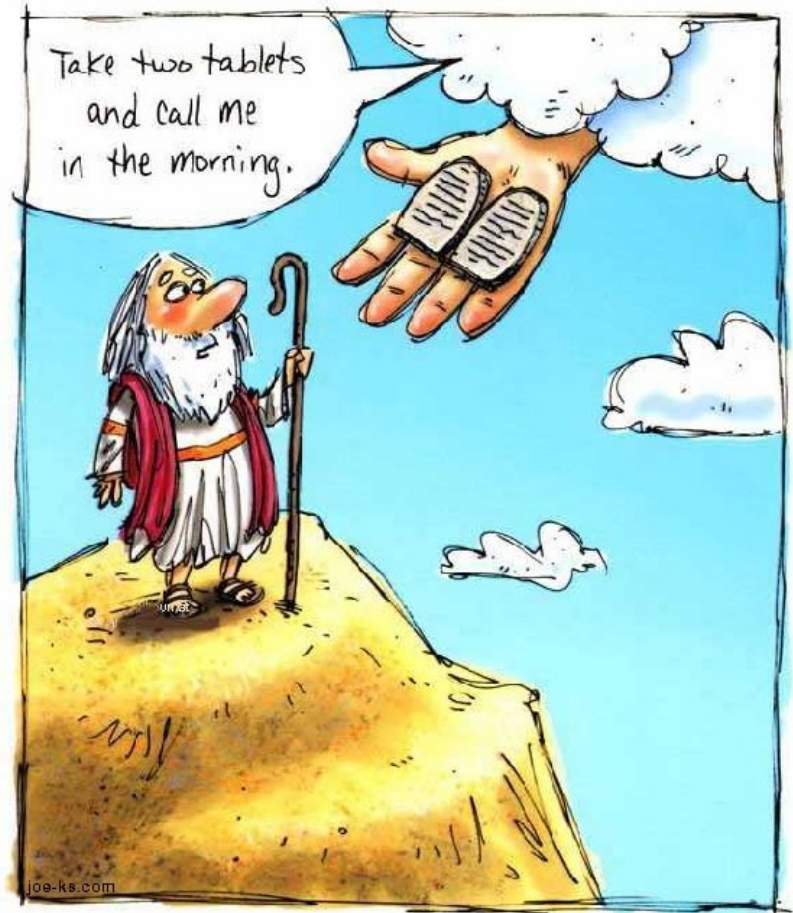
If you have anything to include for the Monthly Newsletter to please send it to me by the 25th of each month fumc299@gmail.com . We would like to keep everyone informed of what's going on in our church. Especially those that don't have internet . Thank you!

Ellen

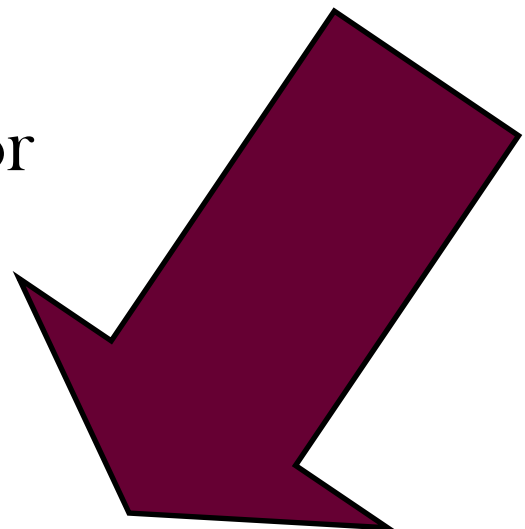
BIBLE HUMOR

Too Soon for Sunday School?

During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam's ribs. Later in the week, the boy's mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: "Mom, I have a pain in my side - I think I'm getting a wife."



Click on the link below for
Family Feud Bible Fun
with your family!



4496-Family-Feud-Bible-Questions.pdf (ltkcdn.net)

BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

Teach the Children (Deut. 6:4-9)

R	C	E	F	T	A	L	K	F	G	M
W	C	L	R	N	W	A	L	K	A	I
H	L	D	O	O	R	P	O	S	T	S
E	B	I	N	D	A	K	H	T	E	R
N	P	L	T	F	H	E	A	R	S	A
C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	E	I	E
O	E	G	E	R	P	N	D	N	G	L
M	A	E	T	O	D	A	Y	G	N	O
M	R	N	S	O	U	L	R	T	C	V
A	T	T	E	A	C	H	I	H	Y	E
N	Y	L	O	R	D	E	S	L	F	F
D	F	Y	H	O	U	S	E	Y	E	S

BIND
DILIGENTLY
FRONTLETS
HEAR
ISRAEL
RISE
STRENGTH
TODAY

CHILDREN
DOORPOSTS
GATES
HEART
LORD
SIGN
TALK
WALK

COMMAND
EYES
HAND
HOUSE
LOVE
SOUL
TEACH
WHEN



**GOD'S MERCY
IS BIGGER THAN
ANY OF YOUR MISTAKES**
LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

Why would God want ME? Author Unknown

I'm not perfect. I have all kinds of problems. I have no ability. I have no gifts. I'm just not worthy. Why would God want me?

Well, did you know that

Moses stuttered.
David's armor didn't fit.
John Mark deserted Paul.
Timothy had ulcers.
Hosea's wife was a prostitute.
Amos' only training was in the school of fig-tree pruning.
Jacob was a liar.
David had an affair.
Solomon was too rich.
Jesus was too poor.
Abraham was too old.
David was too young.
Peter was afraid of death.
Lazarus was dead.
John was self-righteous.
Naomi was a widow.
Paul was a persecutor of the church.
Moses was a murderer.
Jonah ran from God's will.
Miriam was a gossip.
Gideon and Thomas both doubted.
Jeremiah was depressed and suicidal.
Elijah was burned out.
John the Baptist was a loudmouth.
Martha was a worry-wart.
Noah got drunk.
Did I mention that Moses had a short fuse?
So did Peter, Paul - well, lots of folks did.

But God doesn't require a job interview for salvation. He's our Heavenly Father. He doesn't look at financial gain or loss. He's not prejudiced or partial, not judging, grudging, sassy, or brassy, not deaf to our cry, not blind to our need. He knows who we are and what we are and loves us in spite of ourselves

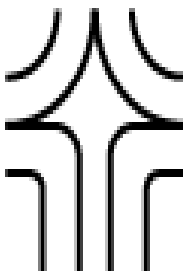
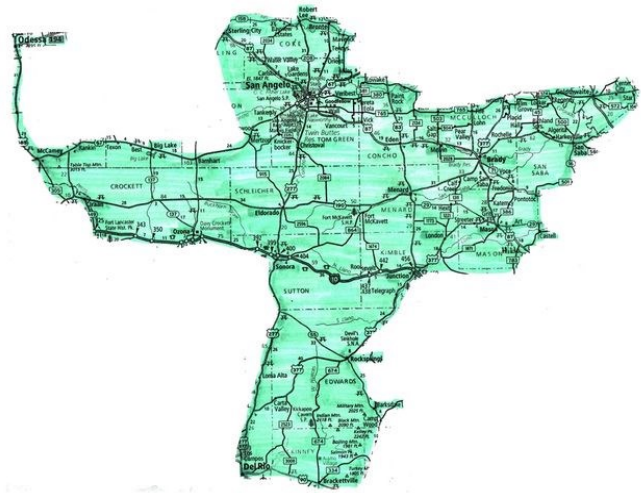
SATAN SAYS, "YOU'RE NOT WORTHY."
JESUS SAYS, "SO WHAT? I AM."
SATAN LOOKS BACK AND SEES OUR MISTAKES.
GOD LOOKS BACK AND SEES THE CROSS.

He doesn't calculate how you failed in '99.
It's not even on the record.

Sure, there are lots of reasons why God shouldn't call us. But if we are in love with Him, if we hunger for Him, He'll use us in spite of who we are, where we've been, what we have done, or the fact that we are not perfect!



WEST DISTRICT
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
RIO TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE



SIMPLE SEMINARY

What is Simple Seminary?

Simple Seminary is a way to engage biblical understanding with leadership development. We will engage a variety of teachers that will not only provide a sound scriptural foundation but also practical application. We believe that all God's people are created to thrive in the Kingdom and it is our hope to help on this pathway of discovery. We have designed this program for people who may not have the time or the resources to go to a traditional seminary but would like the training. We have greatly reduced the time and financial commitment in order to make Simple Seminary accessible to all. We will be drawing from leaders that hold PhD's in theological education as well as experts who have practiced successful ministry over many years. Our format is to watch online teaching and then gather weekly for in-person dialogue and discipleship. This program is a 2-year program that will begin September of 2021.

For more information:

Email: linda@whatisqkd.com www.whatissimpleseminary.com

Call: 210.373.1437

To register: www.whatissimpleseminary.com/register



To Walk a Trail Is an Exercise in Trust

August 11, 2021 - Corbett, Oregon

To walk a trail is an exercise in trust.

First, it is exercise - one of its main purposes. Trails are not really about getting from one place to another; they are not thorough-fares. Most trails are traversed out and back. One ends up where one started (hopefully with a restroom at the trailhead).

So, trails are about walking. Whether my walking is leisurely or brisk paced. Today I choose leisurely.

Walking a trail is an exercise in trust. I trust that the trail actually leads me somewhere. That I will be able to follow it. That I will be safe. That there will be some payoff at the trail's end, or at some point or points on the loop some vista, some grandeur, some colors rarely seen. Tranquility. Accomplishment. Peace.

So, I give thanks for the trail. For he/she/they that first envisioned and made it.

They saw something that inspired them and desired to share it with me.

To point the way. To make the way - often through some wilderness.

I give thanks for those who mark it. For those who maintain it. For those who preserve it.

It is said by trail walkers: Thank you, Lord, for the trail. May I leave nothing but footprints. May I take nothing but memories. Amen.

Andy

Andy

Miles United Methodist Church's
Annual

Sausage FESTIVAL

**Sunday,
OCTOBER 3**

Weatherby Hall — Miles, Texas

10:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

DRIVE THRU ONLY — NO DINE IN

\$12⁰⁰
PLATE

Menu Includes:

- Sausage
- German Potatoes
- Coleslaw
- Dessert
- Sauerkraut
- Green Beans
- Rolls

— SAUSAGE PRE-SALE —

Fresh Link Sausage For Sale By The Pound

Raw Or Cooked

\$8/Pound Raw • \$10/Pound Cooked

RAFFLE TICKETS

Drawing For ...

- Outdoor Gourmet Flat Top Griddle
- Gift Card To Ideal Food Store
- Gift Card #1 To The Depot At Top Tier
- Gift Card #2 To The Depot At Top Tier

\$1 EACH



**Fresh Sausage Must Be
Pre-Ordered This Year!**

Deadline: September 26

Please Contact:

Mark Sklenarik: 325.895.0511

Bill Book: 325.895.0622

Janice Alexander: 325.895.0403

For More Information:

facebook.com/Miles-United-Methodist-Church