

Service times:

10:15am - Blended Worship
Livestreaming
Find link on Facebook or
www.willrogersumc.org

9:00am - Sunday School

April 16, 2021 ~ Will Rogers United Methodist Church

Come to church then stay for lunch - it's going to be a...

Fiesta After Church



April 25th
immediately following worship

Sponsored by WR Youth

All proceeds go toward youth camp.
Social distancing will be observed.



When [Jesus] had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Luke 24:50-53 (NIV)

A forgotten holy day on the Christian calendar is the Ascension Thursday or the Feast of the Ascension. This day celebrates the ascension of Jesus Christ to the right hand of the Father 40 days after the Resurrection. The early Christians believed that when Jesus ascended into heaven, he was installed and exalted as King, reigning as Lord of all in the present.

Here are 7 quick facts about the ascension of Jesus.

1. It is recorded in Mark 16:19, Luke 24:51, Acts 1:2-3, 9 and referenced in John 6:63, John 20:17, 1 Corinthians 15:27, Ephesians 4:8-10, Colossians 3:3, 1 Timothy 3:16, 1 Peter 3:22.
2. The ascension of Jesus serves as his proper enthronement over the kingdoms of the world, fulfilling the offer Satan had made during his temptation in the wilderness. (Matthew 4:8-9)
3. The Eastern church refers to the feast as analepsis, or the taking up, and episozomene, which means the salvation as it is seen as the day our salvation was perfected.
4. Acts 1:12 indicates that the ascension took place on the Mount of Olives, perhaps near the town of Bethany.
5. Augustine gives us the earliest written evidence of the observance of the feast day on Ascension Thursday. But he traces its origin to the apostles. John Chrysostom, Gregory of Nyssa, and the Constitution of the Apostles also refer to the feast.
6. There are several worship traditions tied to the ascension: the use of torches in the liturgical procession; the blessings of beans and grapes as a symbolic feast for the dead in heaven; the use of processional banners with images of a lion and at his foot a dragon. This signifies Christ's (the lion) triumph over evil (the dragon); the elevation of a figure of Christ through the roof of the church.
7. Today the feast day is most often observed on Sunday instead of Thursday in many churches since this holy day is not a civic holiday in secular culture.

There is one more important thing to know about the ascension. On the Christian calendar, the season of ascension is 10 days. This season commemorates the days that all of Jesus' disciples joined together constantly in prayer (Acts 1:14). And on the 50th day from the Resurrection, the 10th day of praying together after the ascension, the promise of the Father was fulfilled and the Holy Spirit filled all of them on the day we celebrate as Pentecost.

This year, Ascension Thursday is on May 13, 2021. I want to invite you to join me in commemorating these 10 days before Pentecost the same way the first disciples did, by joining together in prayer and praising God. I plan to be in the sanctuary each day at Noon, so you can join me in person. Or simply gather in prayer where you are. Either way, let's pray together at noon each day from May 13-May 22 as we prepare for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday.

In His Grace!

Pastor Brian



Greyhound Races



Greyhound racing, a popular betting sport in some parts of the country, attracts crowds who enjoy watching incredibly sleek and beautiful dogs run as fast as they can around a track. Unlike racehorses, greyhounds run without the assistance of a jockey. To keep the dogs running in the right direction, they are trained to chase a mechanical rabbit made of fur as it zips along the track in front of them. A man in the press box

electronically controls the speed of the rabbit, keeping the rabbit just out in front of the dogs. The dogs never catch up to it.

At a Florida track some years back, a big race was about to begin. The dogs crouched in their cages, ready to go, while betting spectators finished placing their wagers. At the proper moment, the gun went off. The man in the press box pushed his lever, starting the rabbit down the first stretch, while the cage doors flew open, releasing the dogs to take off after the little rabbit. As the rabbit made the first turn, however, an electrical short in the system caused the rabbit to come to a complete stop, to explode, and to go up in flames. Poof! All that was left was a bit of black stuff hanging on the end of a wire.

Their rabbit gone, the bewildered dogs didn't know how to act. According to news reports, several dogs simply stopped running and laid down on the track, their tongues hanging out. Two dogs, still frenzied with the chase, ran into a wall, breaking several ribs. Another dog began chasing his tail, while the rest howled at the people in the stands.

Not one dog finished the race.

Like racing greyhounds, people pursue their chosen rabbit. Humans need some reason for living—for running the race. What is your goal, your purpose in life, your hope? What if it were taken away? Sadly, many

people chase an illusion, a mechanical rabbit of sorts, that ultimately turns out to offer no hope at all. Paul the apostle wrote out what kept him motivated to run the race: "For to me, to live is Christ" (Philippians 1:21). Jesus is the only one who can give us lasting purpose, meaning, and hope. Paul later wrote, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14). To know Christ is the only lasting, eternal goal.

Join us as we work our way through the book of Philippians on Sunday mornings.

Pastor Greg

Hey FamiliesNeed Help?

www.willrogersumc.org



**Family
Experiences**



How to help
your child
develop
**BETTER
STUDY
HABITS**



Legacy

Student Ministries

1 Timothy 4:12

THOUGHTS TO PONDER #11

"Be Willing" by Helen Rush

When we meet unpleasant tasks squarely we may find them less disagreeable than first anticipated. Our willingness to perform them seems to eliminate much of the dread, which allows us to think more clearly and the task accomplished more efficiently.

These challenges come to us from time to time in order that we may grow stronger in our faith and courage. There is good to be derived in everything we are called upon to do. Perhaps it is

only to learn the task is not so difficult after all.

When we let God work through us, there is an abiding joy in performing even the most routine tasks that leads one to a creative and productive fulfillment.

Steve



April 25th "Fiesta After Church"
..... A Youth Fund Raiser to send youth to camp this summer

May 16th Senior Sunday 2021

Breakfast at 9:00am. And recognition during our

10:15am service

May 22nd Youth Garage Sale Fund Raiser to help send youth to camp this summer.

Faithbuilders Sunday School News: Praises- lost cars found, but one is still missing, the Morrisons were back this morning, Sonny recovering, Judy has a new grandchild

Prayers- the Foster family and Collins family in the loss of Aaron and Doyle, Cecile's cousin passed, Kathy- unspoken, Judy Blick's brother Bob -had a stroke, Cecile's balance problem, the Morrisons son John having both knees replaced, Dana my niece having severe reaction to the vaccine, Gale- job search.

Taut thought: what kind of soul is my heart? Hard, superficial, crowded or cultivated?

JUNE Birthdays

MAY Birthdays

4 – Zac Wofford

5 – Ann Simpson

8 – Richard Mayfield, Wendy Parkhurst

9 – Marquetta Bennefield, Daniel Flores, Keith Geddie

13 – Brandon Stamper

15 – Matthew Rogers

16 – Ron Adams, Diep Vo

23 – Janet Shaffer

24 – Kahner Horn

26 – James Morrison, Haylee Wyatt

27 – Kylee Summers

28 – Elbert Dutke



3 – Joe Reeves

8 – Debi Boyles

9 – Jim Ernst, Mary Lou Harkins

12 – Verna Hedrick

13 – Kristi Graybill

14 – George Riley, Madison Thompson, Tom Winslow

15 – Judy Blickensderfer, Alex Keck

16 – Jerry Hodges

19 – Betty Helen Lawson

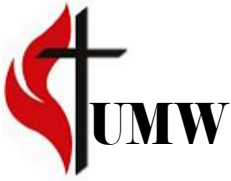
21 – Janae Mangan

23 – Preston Hershberger

24 – June Walker

27 – Jackson Freeman

30 – Sallye Harris



Well Ladies

It's that time of year again!
Even though we had a very
difficult year, because of your
support we were able to carry
through with some of our Mission

work and meet our financial obligations. UMW has
decided to continue for another year providing love,
care and assets to Missions again. These include
Pearl's Hope, the Wesley Foundation, NSP, Cookson
Hills, and our own Food Pantry. We have started out

the year making masks for our church members and
are now putting together a cook book. We meet the
third Thursday of the month in the Food Court and
would love for you to join us. If you want to help with
Missions again this year, please send your pledge to:

Paula Goodwin, UMW Treasurer
5014 E 2nd St
Tulsa, OK 74112

Thank you so much,
WRUMW

FACE MASKS created by our own United Methodist
Women are available in the Narthex

*The masks are free but
DONATIONS are accepted
and appreciated!*



Join us in person this Sunday @ 10:15am
or online Livestreaming.
Find the link on Facebook
or our website.

Singing ~ Scriptures ~ Prayer

THE
GATHERING

Sundays at 5pm in the Parlor

**Journey Camp - June 2nd - 6th
(6th - 8th grades)**

**Day Spring - July 5th - 9th
(9th grade - Graduate)**

*See Steve Irvine &
Register NOW!*

**Youth
Camp**

BUNKO IS BACK!!!

**Join us on
Friday, May 14, at 6:30pm
in the Food Court for Bunko**

Prizes will be brought by Donna N, Lorraine L and Cathy Mc. BTW: Eight of us met Friday, April 9. We had a great time and were glad to be back together. Come join us on May 14 for loads of fun.



Join Pastor Brian on ZOOM every weekday at 6:00am to discuss the Seedbed Daily Text devotion and prayer!



*Contact Pastor Brian for
meeting info*



April 5th began an email series through Seedbed Daily Text called First Love – which focuses on the book of Philippians.

The email series - along with Pastor Brian's Sunday sermons beginning today - will take us all the way from Easter through to Pentecost.

If you haven't already done so, sign up for the Daily Text at the link below, and let's grow together – re-connecting with Jesus as our first love!

www.seedbed.com/daily-text

first love

Series Memorization Passage

“I want to know Christ
and the power of his resurrection
and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings,
becoming like him in his death,
and so somehow,
to attain to the resurrection from the dead.”
Philippians 3:10-11 (NIV 1984)



ways to give



in person



by mail



online



by text

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FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY CALL

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OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9am to 4pm

Online giving anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image or go to www.willrogersumc.org and locate the online giving page.

