

FUMC Edna Newsletter

“¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.”

(Acts 1:10-14)

In this time of the Kingdomtide or Ordinary Time, the season after Pentecost, which spans all of summer and much of the fall, it is easy to be distracted, overwhelmed, gazing at the sky, passively waiting for Jesus to return. Yet this is a season of growth, hence the green color of paraments in our worship spaces. We are called to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We do this by sharing the love of God through our words and actions with all people we encounter, and by helping them grow in the love of God. To help us move forward fulfilling our mission, we need to answer these three questions* individually and corporately (as First UMC Edna).

Who are we now? This is a question of identity. The “now” is added because it is often easier to describe who we were in the past (5, 10, 20, 50 years ago) than who we are in the present. The past shapes whom we are and whom we can become, but it does not restrict us or define us. Who are we now?

What has God called us to do or be now? This is a question of purpose. What disciplines will help us grow into the people and church that God dreams and desires us to become? What has God called us to do or be now?

Who is our neighbor now? This is a question of context. We are in a specific time and location. What is our context? Our context is different from First UMC Seadrift, First UMC Victoria, First UMC Houston, and Iglesia Metodista de Puerto Rico. Our context is also different from First UMC Edna of 1873, of 1973, or of 2003. This area has changed some over the decades and life has changed over the decades. Who is our neighbor now?

I invite and urge you to join me in prayer each day: asking and listening to how God is calling us to answer these questions, and for courage and obedience to follow where God leads.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Kelli

*(from *Holy Conversations* by Rendle & Mann)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

May

1st ~ SPRC, Parlor, 6:30 pm
 2nd ~ UWF General Meeting, Parlor, 4 pm
 4th ~ National Day of Prayer Community Service,
 Courthouse Gazebo, Noon
 8th ~ Finance Committee, Moon Building, 5:15 pm
 8th ~ Trustees Committee, Moon Building, 6 pm
 9th ~ Mary Circle, Martha Theiss & Kay Simons, Port
 Alto, More Details to Come
 9th ~ Ruth Circle, Becky Hanys & Sherrie Bergstrom,
 10 am
 9th ~ Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall, 5:30 pm
 11th ~ Edna ISD Scholarship Awards Ceremony, 6 pm
 14th ~ Mother's Day
 14th ~ Last Sunday School Class for Youth & Children,
 Will break for Summer and Resume in August
 15th ~ Little Church School Board, Parlor, 5:30 pm
 16th ~ Ganado ISD Awards Ceremony, 7 pm
 17th ~ Edna ISD Baccalaureate, HS Auditorium, 6 pm
 18th ~ Lydia/Martha Circle, Lesli Tipton, 7 pm
 19th ~ Ganado ISD Graduation, 7:30 pm
 19th ~ Edna ISD Graduation, 8 pm
 21st ~ Education Committee, Moon Building, 12:15 pm
 21st ~ Crossroads District Conference, Columbus FUMC,
 3 pm

21st ~ Industrial ISD Scholarship Awards Ceremony,
 5:30 pm
 21st ~ Industrial ISD Baccalaureate, 7 pm
 26th ~ Golden Crescent Food Bank Distribution,
 Volunteers Needed, Shelby Park, 8 am
 26th ~ Industrial ISD Graduation, 8 pm
 28th ~ Noisy Offering, Missionary Willie Berman
 29th ~ Memorial Day, Offices Closed

June

4th ~ Education Committee, Moon Building, 12:15 pm
 6th ~ UWF General Meeting, Parlor, 4 pm
 8th - 10th ~ Annual Conference, Corpus Christi
 12th ~ Finance Committee, Moon Building, 5:15 pm
 12th ~ Trustees Committee, Moon Building, 6 pm
 12th - 15th ~ VBS, Fellowship Hall, 5 - 7:30 pm
 13th ~ Mary Circle, Maudie Thomas & Holly Myers,
 9:30 am
 18th ~ Father's Day
 21st ~ July/August Newsletter Submission Deadline
 23rd - July 2nd ~ Missions Trip
 25th ~ Noisy Offering, Blessing Box
 30th ~ Golden Crescent Food Bank Distribution,
 Volunteers Needed, Shelby Park, 8 am

Our District Prayer Partner is First UMC Columbus. Please join us in praying for our brothers and sisters at First UMC Columbus, as they lift our congregation in prayer. We ask blessings upon them that they may be encouraged to seek our Lord and share the Good News with their community.



Soul Food, delicious lunch on 1st Thursdays at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall, lunch served as take-only at this time. A printed devotional is available with each lunch. Please RSVP by contacting the church office at 782-3561 by the Monday prior to the lunch, so we are able to prepare enough food to accommodate those interested!



The Worship Committee asks Worshippers to bring their coins the last Sunday of each month and drop them in the cans. We chose organizations around the area that could use the financial support as they help those in need.

Noisy Offering: last Sunday of the month

Noisy Offering: last Sunday of the month

March: Imagine No Malaria: \$61.30 was collected and sent in.

April: UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief): \$50 was collected and sent in.

Thank you for your support!!

May: Missionary Willie Berman, Director of the Mexican Methodist Border Mission.

"A missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, Guillermo Berman Ramirez is serving in his home country of Mexico as the Mexican Methodist Border Mission Coordinator based in Reynosa. Serving in a similar ministry since 2001, Willie has worked with VIM teams from annual conferences in Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Ohio, Tennessee and Iowa." <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-1552-berman-guillermo.aspx>

June: Helping Hands

"Helping Hands has been in [assistance] business for years, doling out food, clothes, gasoline vouchers, and financial help with things like utility bills and doctor and dentist visits, but without funding and donations, they are forced to turn people away.

The charity accepts monetary donations in the form of cash and checks, and takes donations of good, usable furniture, clothing, shoes, nonperishable food items, and other lightly used items.

Helping Hands, unlike some other charities, sits and meets with those asking for help, and handles things on a case-by-case basis. They evaluate income, including food stamps, HUD assistance, and child support, and then help with necessities as they can." (Jackson County Herald-Tribune)

Wednesday Nite Live

6pm meal, 6th-12th graders have a game and continue their journey through the Bible, to help them grow in their faith. 3rd-5th grade also have class after the 6pm meal. If you would like to provide the meal on 1 Wednesday, please contact the church office or Courtney Mercer. The last gathering of this school year is May 10th, then we will resume in August.

wednesday
night **LIVE!**



If you are interested in being a substitute at Little School, please contact Brittany Powell 361-781-2760.

Helping Hands is looking for few more volunteers on Monday or Thursday mornings. 324 E Main St., Edna, Texas 77957 (361) 782-7543.

Helping Hands is open to clients: Monday & Thursday mornings 9am – noon.

Thank you for your support of Little Church School's Lemonade stand!!!



HaPpY
BiRtHdAY

Happy birthday
JP Strickland!!
We celebrated at WNL!

Pastor Kelli gave a special lesson about Holy Week using Resurrection Eggs to our children during Sunday School on 3/26.



Children sing praises to God and read Scripture at both worship services on Palm Sunday 4/2!



Children's Holy Week Party! (4/2)



Holy Week Party continued....



Children's Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Mike & Diane Powell.

Thank you to Mike & Diane Powell, UWF for the cookies, and the volunteers who stuffed eggs!





Easter Egg Hunt
continued....



Easter Sunday was full of blessings! A Sonrise Service was held at Brackenridge Park,
Decorating of the Flower Cross and Easter Services at both 9 am & 11 am



BEGIN HERE

Stations of the Cross

"This Way of the Cross is a modern adaptation of an old Christian tradition dating back to the fifth century. The fourteen traditional Stations of the Cross mark the passage from the moment Jesus was condemned to death until his burial in the tomb. The Way of the Cross was originally developed and used by Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land, and it came to be identified with the Lenten season to prepare the people of God for the season of repentance that Lent represents — although it can be used at other times of devotion." (GBOD)

"Those used here all have a biblical basis. In any case, the "Way of the Cross" as a devotion went out of style for many, and it slowly lost its place as a form of prayer for the people. This resource seeks to make accessible again a rich experience of Christian prayer and participation in the moments of Christ's passion." (GBOD)

This is further adapted from Bethel UMC, my seminary friend, and Scriptural Stations of the Cross. Copyright © 2002 Bethel United Methodist Church, Pulaski, Tennessee. Used with permission.

Opening prayer:

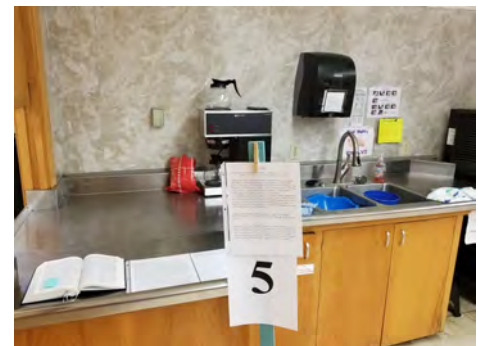
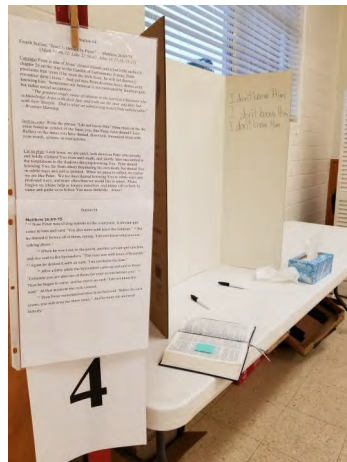
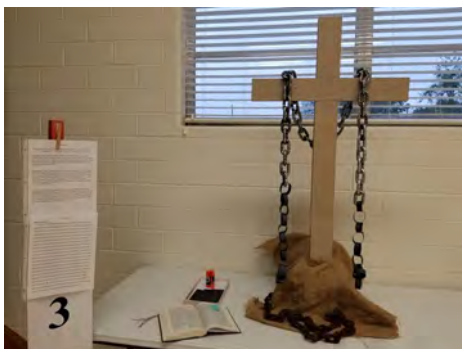
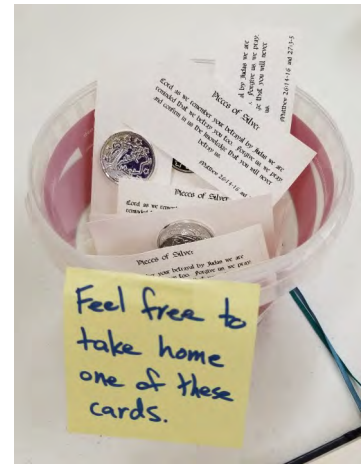
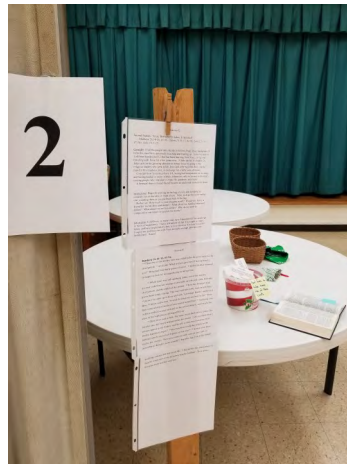
God of power and mercy,
in love You sent Your Son
that we might be cleansed of sin
and live with You forever.
Bless us as we gather to reflect
on His suffering and death
that we may learn from His example
the way we should go.
We ask this through that same Christ, our Lord.
Amen!

*Take your time, no need to rush.

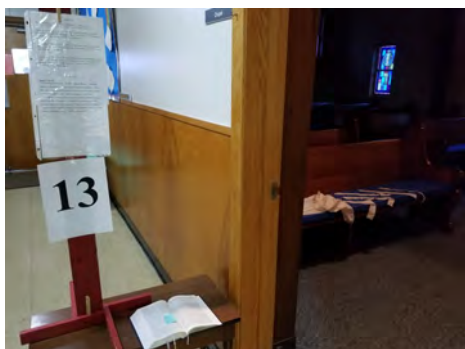
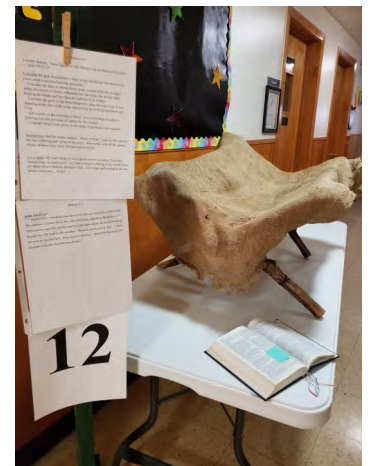
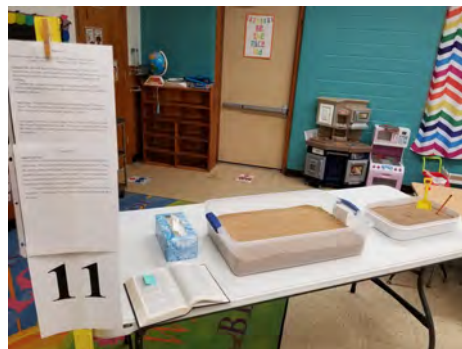
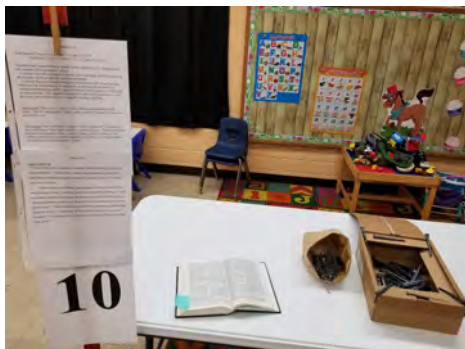
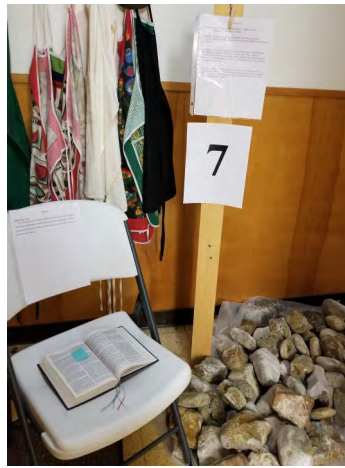
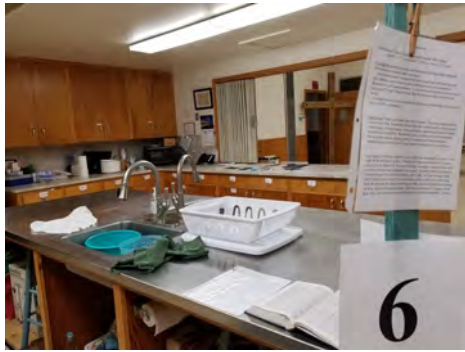
*Go at your own pace.

*Do not worry if someone moves on ahead of you, or you move on ahead of them.

*Pray, Reflect, Experience, Journey with Christ.



Stations of the Cross....continued.....



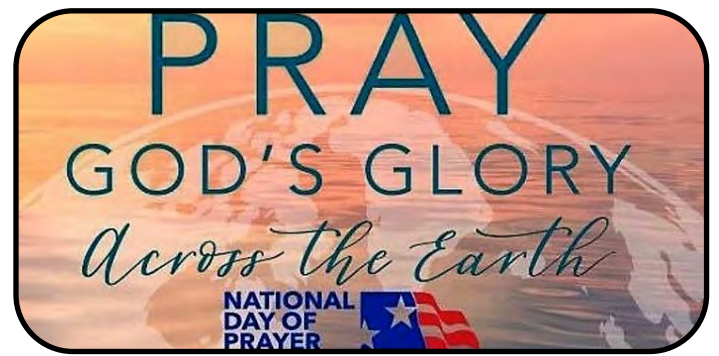
Graduating Seniors Celebration was on Sunday, April 30, 2023, noon in the Fellowship Hall!
 Congratulations to our 2023 graduates: Kaleb Rodas, Corbin Teague, and Karson Van Pelt!



Congratulations to Karson Van Pelt as our 2023 recipient of the Mary Drake Hill scholarship and the Gladys & Bruce Wright scholarship!



Our community will be gathering for National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 4th at noon at the Courthouse Gazebo and lawn, led by the Jackson County Ministerial Alliance. Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ in prayer for our community and beyond.



Children & Youth Sunday School will take a break for Summer after May 14th and will resume in August.

Thank you to our teachers: Brandy Stansbury, Jennifer Storz, Colleen Fellers, Leighton Smith, and Lindsey Floyd!!

Edna Baccalaureate service is Wednesday, May 17th 6pm at Edna High School Auditorium.

Industrial Baccalaureate service is Sunday, May 21st 7pm at the Industrial High School Auditorium.

These services are organized by the Jackson County Ministerial Alliance.

Mother's Day May 8th: We will celebrate mothers and women who bless the lives of others.
Father's Day June 19th: We will celebrate fathers and men who bless the lives of others.



*Crossroads District Conference is May 21st at 3pm.
*Special called session of Annual Conference is May 6th in San Antonio, TX.
*Annual Conference 2023 is June 8th – 10th in Corpus Christi, TX.

2023 Vacation Bible School
June 12th - 15th, 5 pm - 7:30 pm
Registration info coming soon.
Contact Jennifer Storz, Brandy Stansbury or Church Office for more details

2023 Missions Trip

Friday, June 23rd - Sunday, July 2nd

Donna, TX

Personnel Needed for: Construction work, errand/supply running, kitchen crew, home furnishings crew

Other Needs: financial contributions (\$8,000 still needed), and prayer warriors

Please prayerfully consider how many days you can be involved in this year's trip!

For more information please contact Sandy Fellers



SAVE THE DATE

Youth Summer Camp: July 16th-20th
more info and registration available on our website!

THANK YOU!!

THANK YOU!!!!

A Big Thank You goes out to Becky Hany, Maudie Thomas, Ann Boxwell and Victor Cruz for helping us set up the Stations of the Cross! To Brittany Powell and Brandy Stansbury for folding up the tables and chairs, and to David & Dorothy Johnson and Glenn & Barbara Martin for helping to take down the Stations of the Cross and put the tables and chairs back up!

Your help is greatly appreciated!!!

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donation of \$116.06 to Lighthouse #2911. You are helping to make this another great year for the youth and families that we serve. The kids are learning improved life skills and your donation helps us to continue to offer services and to help the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

Rev. Paul Beard, Executive Director

Thank you and thanks be to God for your tithes and offerings!

In addition to giving by way of the offering plate, especially if you are out of town on Sunday or watching the service:

- ♥ you can bring your financial gifts to the office (216 W. Main St., Edna), *there is a secured mail slot in the door for after hours drop off.*
- ♥ snail mail your check (PO Box 790, Edna, TX 77957).
- ♥ or add First UMC Edna to your bank's Bill Pay or similar feature (include your name in the notes/ reference section).
- ♥ Online Giving is available through Tithe.ly. Please see church website: <https://fumcedna.org/> for more information.

First UMC Edna is currently looking for: musical accompanist substitutes for our weekly Sunday morning 11am Traditional worship service, while we search for our next part-time Music Director/ accompanist. If you are qualified and interested in either position, please contact Rev. Kelli Williamson pastorkelliw@gmail.com 361-782-3561. Please share this article to help us fill these positions. Thank you!

First UMC Edna seeks Nursery & substitutes to work part-time primarily on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings providing nurture and care for the children. All staff are required to pass a background check and Safe Gatherings training. Full job description are available in the office.

If interested, please contact the church office at FUMCEDNA@gmail.com or at 361.782.3561

If your small group is looking for additional study resources, please let the church office know. If you are interesting in joining a small group, please contact the church office so we can help you form new small groups.

We are still livestreaming the 9am & 11am worship services on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/fumcedna .

You do not need a Facebook account to access this from a computer. Without an account a box may appear asking you to log in, you can click "Not Now" (located at the bottom of the box) and the box will shrink.

Want More Information?

Do we have your current contact information from you?

Please take time to update your email, phone, mobile phone, address (physical & mailing), and date of birth for yourself and your family and your anniversary date.

If you've had any changes in the past year, please verify that the church office received these updates.

You may call or email the church office at: 361-782-3561 or fumcedna@gmail.com
Or you may submit your update online at <https://fumcedna.org/>

Interested in assisting us in worship at either service on a rotating basis: (greeter, usher, acolyte, Scripture reader, Holy Communion server, sound system tech, worship slides, set up the livestream on the iPad, preparation before or after worship, etc.) training is available. Please let Pastor Kelli or the church office know! 361-782-3561.



For all who volunteer or work with children or youth (Sunday School teachers & assistants, Youth Ministry leaders & assistants, Youth Mid-Winter Retreat, Vacation Bible School, Youth Summer Camp, Nursery, etc.): Training certification lasts two years, and all 3 steps can be done online now.

Please register at www.riotexas.org/safesteps . Two months before your certification expires you will receive an email reminder. If you have questions, please ask Pastor Kelli. Thank you for loving our children, youth, and God!

Pre-K through 5th Grade Sunday School Classes are collecting items for the FUMC Edna Blessing Box

*The box is located on Allen Street outside the Fellowship Hall Building
Mark your Calendars - Bring your items to your teacher, the 4th Sunday of Every Month! The Children will help their teacher load the Blessings Box.

**“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord,
and he will reward them for what they have done” Proverbs 19:17**

Item suggestions: Pull-tab microwaveable mac-n-cheese, Vienna Sausages or ravioli, pull-tab fruits, tear-open Tuna packages, small jars of peanut butter & jelly, gum, packaged nuts & cheese & crackers, toothbrushes & toothpaste, etc.

Prayer Request

Grey & Adelaide
Carol Anderson
Bentley Bacak
Brianna Bergstrom
Peggie Bezoni
Kellie Brewer
Lydia & Richard Chapman
Dorothy Davis
Paul Davis
Corinne Garza
Sarah Boxwell James
Michelle Loch
Karen Lott
Alroy Malina
Barbara Morton
L.A. Parks, Jr.

Kaden Peebles
Courtney Rozner
Nadine Schmeltekopf
James Simons
Harrison Stafford
Drake Tarver
Marlene Tedder
Tyler Tesch
Larry Vitek
Frances Webster
Charles Wells
Lylamae Hutcheson-
Williams
Our Congregation
Following God's Prompting
Our World

FUMC Columbus
Those Fighting Cancer
Turkey & Syria
Ukraine
Uvalde

Prayer request will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless notified otherwise. You may submit your prayer request to the church office Names in *italics* are on-going prayer requests.

If you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share in our newsletters, you may submit them to the church office!

COWBOY CAVIAR

INGREDIENTS

6 Roma tomatoes, diced	1 bell pepper, seeded & diced
1 medium onion, finely diced	2 jalapeno peppers, seeded & finely diced
1 large avocado, diced	15 oz can corn, drained
15 oz can black beans, rinsed & drained	1/2 bunch of cilantro (about 1/2 cup chopped)
3-4 Tbsp lime juice	1/2 cup Italian Dressing
4 medium garlic cloves, pressed	1 tsp salt or season to taste

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. In a large mixing bowl, combine diced tomatoes, chopped onion and bell pepper, seeded and diced jalapeno, sliced avocado, drained corn, rinsed and drained black beans and chopped cilantro.
2. Stir in 3-4 Tbsp of lime juice, 1/2 cup of Italian dressing, 4 pressed garlic cloves and 1 tsp of salt or season to taste.
3. Mix everything together and serve with tortilla chips.

*<https://natashaskitchen.com/cowboy-caviar-recipe/>

Pastor

Rev. Kelli Williamson

Secretary

Rachel Fuller

Music Director

Open Position

Praise Band Leader

JP Strickland

Custodian

Victor Cruz

Nursery Director

Sara Gonzales

Wesley Nurse

Lindsey Floyd, RN

Little Church School

Director

Brittany Powell

Check out our updated website at <https://fumcedna.org/> and
our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/fumcedna>



First United Methodist
Church

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website: www.fumcedna.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/fumcedna