



PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers for those in nursing home or assisted living

Mary Lou Preston Charla Wedel Jamie Shaddon
Judy Jordan Thelma Chand

Prayers for healing or for comfort in difficult circumstances

Don Miller Leon Evans Charles Nimmo
Pat Kelley Mary Lou Preston Judd Walpole
Helen Jones Juan Martinez Joe Chittum
Pat Cornell Patricia Littke Judy McAtee
Eric Shephard Vicky Littke Christa Miller

First United Methodist Church Staff

Ministers The baptized members of the church
Rev. Diana Steiner: djpruitt87@gmail.com
Church Secretary Kim Snider: clintonfumc580@gmail.com
Music Director Shirley Clayton
Hand Bells Director Nancy Rodolph
Pianist Carla Cruson

OFFICE HOURS
M-TH 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (Closed Fridays)

New Website: www.clintonfumc.church
The next deadline for Sower articles is Thursday April 16, 2026

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4/9 Greyson Weedon 4/29 Flo Gathright
4/10 Quinn Weedon 4/29 Ryan Fransen
4/14 Palmer Matlock 4/31 Dianna Jeffries
4/15 Sherry Jarvis
4/18 Donna Snider
4/22 Kim Snider
4/24 Jill Atchley
4/28 Ann Marcy
4/28 Charla Wedel

Note: If your name is not on the birthday list, please contact the church office at 323-3179 birthday to our list. Thank You, Kim Snider

9:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
FACEBOOK LIVE & WEBSITE LIVE
(Clinton First United Methodist Church on Facebook)
(www.clintonfumc.church)
10:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (all ages)
Church Office: 580-323-3179
Rev. Diana Steiner's cell number: 405-596-1702
Rev. Diana Steiner's Email: djpruitt87@gmail.com

THE SOWER (The Sower PE #5089020)
April 2026, Church newsletter published month by First United Methodist Church, 1001 Frisco, Clinton, OK 73601. Periodical postage paid at Clinton, OK
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to First United Methodist Church, 1001 Frisco, Clinton, OK 73601



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1001 FRISCO CLINTON, OKLAHOMA 73601
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PERIODICALS
THE SOWER
PE 508920



THE SOWER

Wednesday

Monthly

April 1, 2026

The mission of our church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.
Loving God; Loving Others; and Living Out Our Faith

Lighthouse Congregations are local churches in the Oklahoma Annual Conference that are willing to offer ministry to anyone whose church has closed or disaffiliated and who wish to remain a United Methodist.

Praise be to God – Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! That is our cry for the coming Easter season. And yet, research tells us that the time following Easter is usually the least attended time of the church year. How can that be? How can we go from the JOY of Easter morning and then carry on like nothing ever happened?

Highs and lows are a part of the rhythm of life. The Hebrew people experienced them as they traveled through the wilderness . . . they witnessed God's mighty power at the Red Sea yet just a few steps later were complaining that God wasn't doing enough for them. Elijah experienced them – after the triumph of his showdown with Jezebel and the priests of Baal he crawled under a bush and asked to die. Peter experienced them . . . he was willing to get out of the boat but couldn't keep his eyes on Jesus instead of the storm. Jesus experienced them . . . the elation of entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday then the crowd shouting for his death just a few days later.

In all of these stories there is a constant – the love and Presence of God. God was present with the Hebrew people when they were walking across a dry lake bed or tromping through the desert. God was just as present with Elijah when he was crying under the bush as when he was in a deadly duel. Perhaps the experience of Peter gives us the clue to what the difference is . . . Peter's gaze went back to the storm surrounding him instead of keeping his eyes on Jesus.

Is that our story? Highs and lows will come to us all. Indeed it is the rhythm of the world we live in. The challenge for us is to learn to practice awareness of the Presence of God with us EVERY day. As with all things, there is a difference between knowledge about something and actually knowing. I can read a book about how to play the guitar, but until I actually play the guitar, I don't really know how to do it. And as with playing the guitar or virtually anything else in life, an awareness of the Presence of God with us always takes practice.

Brother Lawrence was a lay member of a monastery in the 1600's. He was not "educated" enough to go to seminary so he served in the kitchen and repairing sandals. Yet Brother Lawrence wrote one of the most important books on this subject, The Practice of the Presence of God. It is something we must practice in order to maintain. The book is about how even in the most mundane of chores, we can experience the Presence of God. Washing dishes? Give thanks again for the food you enjoyed and the people you may have shared it with. Ironing clothes or doing laundry? Give thanks for the provision of the clothes and pray blessings over the people who are wearing them and the activities you enjoyed – the sweet sleep at night, the ability to take a shower at will. It pretty much comes down to learning to experience all of life as gift.

Practicing our faith is what each of us is called to do no matter if we are on the mountain or in a valley. We practice recognizing His Presence not as an academic exercise but rather so that we will continue to deepen our this day so that no matter where we are we can keep our eyes on Jesus and know 1) God is always with us; 2) we are always loved; 3) 1+2 = endless reasons to be thankful.

Blessings, Diana





- ♦ **Sunday, April 5: "Easter Sunday" "Easter Cantata"**
Communion - Alms Giving (No Easter Egg Hunt)
10:00 am Worship Service
- ♦ **Sunday, April 12: Missions - Collect "Tomato products, Spaghetti Sauce, etc." for Opportunities, Inc. -**
9:30 am Worship Service
10:45 am Sunday School
4:00 pm "The Chosen" Episode 7, Season 1 - FH
- ♦ **Sunday, April 19:**
9:30 am Worship Service
10:45 am Sunday School
4:00 pm "The Chosen" Episode 8, Season 1—FH
- ♦ **Sunday, April 26: Coins for Missions**
9:30 am Worship Service

- ALL COMMITTEE MEETING'S REMINDERS**
- ♦ Weekly Bulletin Announcements
 - ♦ Facebook
 - ♦ Monthly Sower & Calendar - Mailed
 - ♦ Website - clintonfumc.church

- Practice Schedule April**
- ♦ **Wednesday Bells @ 5:30**
Choir @ 6:30
 - ♦ **Sunday Choir @ 9:00**

- Committee Meetings**
- ♦ **Methodist Men's Mtg:**
Tuesday April 14 at 7:00 am FH
 - ♦ **Methodist Women's Mtg:**
Monday April 13 at 1:00 pm Parlor
 - ♦ **Finance Committee Mtg:**
Tuesday April 21 at 5:30 pm
 - ♦ **Trustee Committee Mtg.:**
Monday April 27 at 6:00 pm

Watch our Worship Services anytime, anywhere!
You can watch our services on our [Facebook Page](#): **Clinton First United Methodist Church.**
Or, you can now watch our services on our [Website](#): clintonfumc.church.

Share Our Facebook Services: you never know who you might reach with the good news of Jesus!



FOR ONLINE DONATIONS PLEASE GO TO OUR NEW WEBSITE:
clintonfumc.church
Click on the "donate" button

"Holy Week 3/29 - 4/5"

Palm Sunday	3/29
Maundy Thurs.	4/2
Good Friday	4/3
Easter Sunday	4/5



- "HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE"**
- Maundy Thursday Service (4/2)
6:30 pm

 - Good Friday Service (4/3)
12:00 pm (Noon)

 - Easter Sunday & Easter Cantata (4/5) @ 10:00 am (No Easter Egg Hunt)

He is Risen



Brian & Shirley Clayton helped collect "Canned Vegetables" for Missions on March 8, 2026 for Opportunities, Inc
Carla Cruson then delivered these items to Opportunities, Inc.
Thank You!

April 12, 2026
Tomato products,
Spaghetti sauce, inc.



Methodist Women
Dear Ladies of the Church,
For our Clinton Methodist Women's March meeting on March 26th, we served Tacos for lunch to Fifty SWOSU Wesley Students at Weatherford. What a blessing serving others.
Our next CMW meeting will be on Monday, April 13th at 1:00 pm in the Parlor.

CMW President
Diana McClendon
817-919-4599

CMW

L-R:
Barbara Griffin,
Beverly Thomason &
Diana McClendon

L-R:
Diana McClendon,
Barbara Griffin,
Beverly Thomason,
Vicki Mannering &
Rev. Diana Steiner

Even when we are not deserving,
God still blesses.
Even when we are not lovable,
God still loves.
Even when we are not listening,
God still speaks.
Even when we are following,
God still leads.
Even when we are not obeying,
God still forgives.
Even when we are not answering,
God still calls.
Even when we are not faithful,
God still stays.
I'm so thankful that even when...
God still does.

"The Chosen"
Please join us!

"The Chosen" Season 1 Continues
Sunday 4-12-26 & 4-19-26 @ 4:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

Dear Church Family,
We continue to have choir practice Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm and Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. We will perform our Easter Cantata on Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 am. We will have extra practices for the cantata on Saturday morning, April 4, and Sunday morning April 5 at 8:00 am.
Regular choir practices will resume after Easter.

God bless all,
Shirley Clayton
Music Director
(580) 214-0457

BELL CHOIR
We will continue Bell Choir Practice on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. We'll start practicing our new song on Wednesday, April 1st @ 5:30 pm.

Blessings,
Nancy Rodolph
Bell Choir Director
(580) 445-7192

Bible Study
"Adult Bible Study"
JOIN US EVERY THURSDAY
Time: 6:30 pm
Leon Evan's Home
1604 Park Ave, Clinton, OK 73601
For Questions - Call Leon Evans (580) 309-0728

METHODIST MEN
CLINTON METHODIST MEN'S MEETING & BREAKFAST
Tuesday - April 14, 2026 - 7:00 am
Fellowship Hall

Contacts: **Joe Chittum - (580) 331-7261**
Jimmy Evans - (580) 331-8640

*** (Now meeting the 2nd Tuesday of every month.) ***

