



February

The Advocate

First United Methodist Church

February – March 2011

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Jo Mahaffey
Dottie Griffin
- 4 – Lori Shoulders
- 9 – Joyce Patrick
- 10 – Brett Bain
- 12 – Janie Palmer
- 15 – Will Boerstler
- 16 – Melinda Moudy
- 22 – Suzi Kelch
Bruce Mahaffey
Jewell Simmons
- 23 – Evon Morris
- 27 – Marvin Shoulders
- 28 – Norman Bunyard

ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 – Lyle & Lisa Stogner
- 13 – Jack & Leah Hamm
- 14 – Jack & Jewell
Simmons
Gary & Jennifer
Clason
- 15 – Greg & Tara Williams
- 22 – John & Pam Voyles

—It's Lent Not Lint —

In a high school journalism class, a little more than 50 years ago, I learned about the five “w’s” with which every lead article in a newspaper story was to begin. We students were taught that any good story should initially answer who, what, where, why, and when – all within the first paragraph (if not sentence). The only saving grace to this mandate was that the questions did not have to be rigidly answered in that order. Thus, to do such justice to the Christian church’s season of Lent in a newspaper style, I should have started this paragraph by saying something like “in their homes, churches, and lives at large, Christians around the world celebrate forty days of penance and preparation just prior to Easter by reflecting on what that great Lutheran theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, would call *The Cost of Discipleship*.” But, this is a church newsletter, and so I hope you will allow me some latitude in formatting my monthly articles.



FROM THE PASTOR

At Henryetta 1st UMC, we will begin the period of Lent this year with the imposition of ashes during our regular evening worship service on Wednesday, March 9th. While the period of Lent has its history in the ancient Christian church, its celebration, and therefore its meaning, had been lost in The Methodist Church for many years. In fact, growing up in a Methodist congregation, Lent was something my French-Canadian, Roman Catholic, grandmother celebrated (although I was never really sure what she did differently). For me, personally, as a teenager and young adult – Lent generally meant “to whom, and for how long?”

For the past several years, however, The United Methodist Church has been working to reclaim its heritage, and Lent is one of those areas that we United Methodists have sought to celebrate within the church’s calendar. As we prepare for the joy of Easter, Christendom uses Lent as a time of reflection on the lives of the individual Christians, as well as the price we pay to follow Jesus.

Many Christians (individuals and families) participate in extra daily devotionals, some practice fasting, meditation, or other spiritual disciplines. However, the “what” you do for Lent is not nearly as important as the fact that you recognize that this is a special time of the year, a time when we consider the implications on our Christian walk. May you have a blessed Lent this year.

Oh yes, about the title of this article – “lint” is a byproduct of using an automatic clothes dryer, And, in the interest of safety and efficiency, it (the lint) should be cleaned out regularly.

A "Heads Up"

February Host Classes are indicated on your calendar. But I thought you might like to know about March as well. I don't know about you, but sometimes I like to be able to plan in advance – and March *WILL be here* before we know it!

The **Fellowship Potluck on March 20** will be hosted by the **Men's Bible Class**. If you have never before attended a dinner hosted by the Men's Class, you will be in for a treat.

The Greeters for March will come from the **Discovery Class**; and they will also furnish the adult refreshments. The **Lost & Found/Wesley Class** will be providing the children's snacks for March.


Do you know who Tony Campolo is?

Dr. Anthony Campolo is a pastor, an author, a speaker, a social activist, and Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Eastern University in St David's, PA. Among his 35 published books are Stories That Feed Your Soul, Red Letter Christians, and It's Friday, but Sunday's Comin'.

Well, all of this to say — Dr Campolo will be a Featured Speaker at the "Social Holiness: on Earth as it is in Heaven", a Retreat on Social Justice. This retreat is co-sponsored by PEACE WITH JUSTICE (a task force under the of the Oklahoma Annual Conference Board of Church and Society) and THE BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY.

Micah 6:8 (NRSV) says "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" This retreat will help answer the question and equip us to work for justice.

The retreat is being held March 11-12, 2011 at the United Methodist Canyon Camp . Bishop Robert E Hayes, Jr will be leading the worship. If you are interested in attending, please call the church office and we will have more information for you.



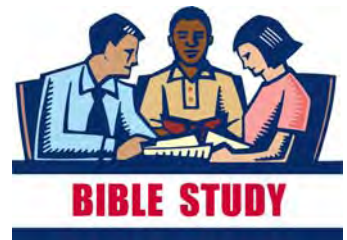
Pray Day

Monday, February 21

The church will be open from 8 am to 8 pm. Come alone or come with a friend. God hears the prayers of his people and loves to respond. *"if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."*

James 5:16

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)



Sunday Evenings @ 6:30

All are Welcome

There are two (2) Financial Peace classes for adults being held now. They will continue for the next couple of months. James and Connie McCullough are facilitating the one on Tuesday evenings and Jason and Amy Cagle are leading the one on Sunday afternoon.



Lou Ann Moudy is leading Generation Change — the Dave Ramsey program for youth — on Sunday evenings during UMYF.

If you are interested in attending a class in the future, please contact the office .

You may not think that taking a name from the Christmas Angel tree and sending a card, or note, or some little thing, is not important. But it really is. The person who took Dorothy Biddle's name told me a little story and how this person was thankful for Dorothy's example. I wanted to share with you, , the Christmas card the church received in return.

"Mother asked me to let you know how thrilled she was to receive the lovely tribute of flowers. May I add my thanks that you would keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Life isn't much fun for her anymore so communication from you is so special.

Thanks,

Dorothy

and

Norma Jean and Burton."



February 20, 2011
 Monthly Fellowship Dinner

Come join the Youth as they host our monthly 3rd Sunday fellowship dinner. Bring your favorite food—meat, veggie, &/or dessert- and join in the good times. And if you forget to bring something, doesn't matter— there's always plenty! Everyone is always welcome. See you there!



Since 1917, the Oklahoma United Methodist Circle of Care has been helping “at-promise” Oklahomans through its ministries of the Boy’s Ranch in Gore, the Children’s Home in Tahlequah, Independent Living Programs, Pearl’s Hope Transitional Housing @ Frances E. Willard Ministry Center in Tulsa, Holsinger Home for Children in Enid, and Child SHARE Foster Care. With the support of United Methodist Congregations and individuals, we are making a lasting, Christian difference in peoples’ lives.

Tonight, in care, Circle of Care is serving more than 300 children through residential and foster care. The outstanding youth and children you help had a combined 3.0 GPA last school year for the third consecutive year. The children and youth of Circle of Care also served over 2,183 hours of community service last year.

Circle of Care Sunday
 February 13

When you give to Circle of Care you can have a feeling of pride and ownership. An ownership that you know you helped a child in need — a pride that passes on to that child, and they continue passing it on through their lives — by your Circle of Care Sunday gift.

Please remember these outstanding, “at-promise” children and youth this year through your prayers and gifts! Thank you for making a difference in the lives of many!

—Local Church Leaders Worship—

Saturday, February 12
 McAlester First UMC < Grand Ave Campus

All church officers and members, who are seeking to enrich their leadership skills and grow in the faith journey, are encouraged to attend LCLW. This event provides a forum to share your ideas with other individuals from churches in your district, and also to gain new insights from well-prepared and skilled workshop leaders.

Bishop Robert E Hayes will be preaching in the opening worship and then will partner with DS Darrell Cates to bring SPRC information. Later he will meet with the laity — for anyone who was ever tempted to say, “I’m just a Lay person...” and has a question you would like Bishop Hayes to respond to.

There are a variety of classes in each of the three sessions. Some classes are more pointed to specific committee responsibilities, while others are more spiritual, instructive, general in nature. From Trustees, to VBS, to Evangelism, to Web Marketing 101 — Everyone should be able to find a class that is of interest to them.

Although early registration was due by Feb 1, registration can be done at the door that day. Cost is \$15. It is expected that the workshop will be over by 3:30 pm.

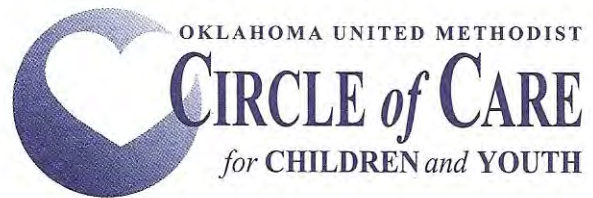


Are you missing dishes, pie pans, pots?

Are there empty places on your shelves?

Did you bring a food item to a potluck, a funeral dinner, or ‘just because’?

Well, maybe that missing item is here at the church! Please check the growing collection of dishes in the fellowship hall.



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

First United Methodist Church



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Website: <http://www.henryettafumc.org>

Worship Celebration:
10:15am—Sunday
Sunday School Classes:
9:00am—Sunday
Midweek Service:
6:30-7:15pm—Wednesday
Pastor: Dale Durnell



Lenten Sermon Series and Bible Study

Why is the sky blue? Why do dogs have four legs? Why can't I see God? Somewhere along the way, we stop asking so many questions. We settle for the answers given to us long ago rather than rocking the boat. Maybe we're fearful about what we'll learn. Maybe we just don't want to risk change.

Questioning takes courage. It's the way that we learn and the way we grow. When we keep the questions coming, we keep the conversation going with God ... and one another.

During Lent this year, I will be preaching a sermon series entitled "*The Courage to Question*." We will begin the series at our Ash Wednesday service, on March 9th and will conclude the series on Palm Sunday, April 17th,

Why not invite your friends and neighbors to join us as we seek to answer some of the age old questions of faith that bring us into a closer relationship with our Lord and Savior.

The Ladies of the Lost & Found Class meet in the Parlor. They get together for lunch the 1st Tuesday of each month! If you would like to join them just contact one of the members for the time and location!!

2nd Annual Pastor's Pancake Breakfast

Last year, Henryetta 1st UMC celebrated its 1st Annual Pastor's Pancake Breakfast on Shrove Tuesday. And, it was such a success that we just couldn't let the tradition die after only one year. Therefore, we are proudly continuing the tradition and will offer a **Pancake Breakfast**, in the fellowship hall of the church, at **7:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning, March 8th**.

Dating back to the 15th century, the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday has been called "Shrove Tuesday." In church parlance, it was so named because it is a day for shricing, confession, and absolution. Of course, we need to recognize that in various cultures, this day has been translated to everything from Mardi Gras (literally "Fat Tuesday" in French) to simply "Carnival" which the German's celebrate starting from the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of the year (by comparison, New Orleans comes up wanting).

I'd like to think that James Williams is so enlightened that he already knew that according to the Concise Oxford English Dictionary – there is actually a traditional "Pancake Day" and it just happens to fall on Shrove Tuesday. But call it what you will: Pancake Day, Shrove Tuesday, or the 2nd Annual Pastor's Pancake Breakfast, we hope you will all come out and join us for a great time of food and fellowship as we mark the day before the Lenten season.



March 20



March 13



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Barbara Hricasko
Kay Boerstler
- 5 – Christopher Kelch
Sue Tourret
- 6 – Jeanie Polston
Randy Lee
- 8 – Christin Gaines
- 15 – Teresa Hamilton
- 16 – Claire Massey
Haley Hamilton
- 17 – Kellyn Lollis
- 20 – Rusty Snyder
- 21 – Arlene Benton
Lora Green
Shannon Vance
- 23 – Jimmy Farrow
- 27 – Tiffany Stogner
- 20 – Gabie Jorgensen

ANNIVERSARIES

see reverse side

Women's Retreat

The first district Women's retreat was a huge success! If you missed it or would like to come again and bring a friend, the **First United Methodist Church of Eufaula will be hosting the 2nd district Women's Day Retreat: Awakening Our Hearts, on Saturday April 2nd.**

All women of the district and their friends are invited to attend. **Cost is \$15** which includes materials and lunch.

Registration begins at 8:30 am, with worship starting at 9:00 am. The retreat will conclude by 6:00pm.

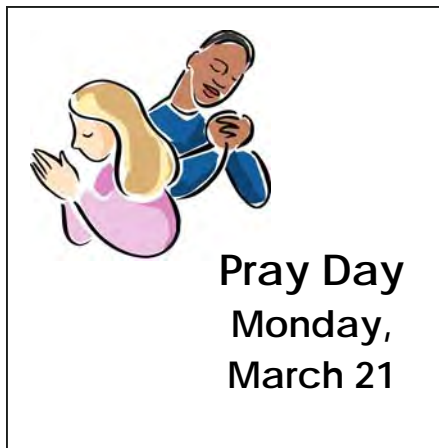
Please contact Jessica at 918 689-2109 or churchmethodist@sbcglobal.net.

Pre-registration by March 30th is encouraged so we know how much food to prepare



January
Chris Whitlow,
Brittany Pounds,
Sabrina Pounds,
Brenda Ritchey,
Lou Ann Moudy,
Janna Duggan, Dale
Durnell, Bruce Lollis, Sammy Kelch, Bob
Moudy, Martha Armstrong, Chelsea
Williams, Rylee Dickson, Jennifer
Clason, Colt Williams, Tara Williams

Bruce & Robin Lollis,
David & Cathy Warden



ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 – Ken & Janna Duggan
- 8 – Marvin & Lori Shoulders
- 15 – Randy & Brenda Ritchey
- 16 – Jon & Kathy Tomlinson
- 17 – Billy & Joyce Patrick
- 27– James & Kay Boerstler
- 29– Galen & Arlene Benton



It's not too early to start thinking and planning for camps this summer!

The McAlester District Jr / Sr High Camp will be July 25—29 at Camp Egan. Cost will be \$225. Though technically not a 'camp', our Youth are also looking to go on a Youth Force project this year — Cleveland County June 12 –17. Cost for this is \$180.

The children's camps are conference camps rather than district, so there are several dates and locations to choose from. Please see the office for further information on these.

The mission of Life Line Screening is to make people aware of an undetected health problem and encourage them to seek follow up care with their physician.



To that end, a Life Line Screening will be held here in the church on Wednesday, March 30. This event will be published and promoted to the public in the local area. However, we at the church have been given an earlier notice and an opportunity to make appointments before they are all gone. Additionally, those in the church will be given a \$10 discount on the package price **-IF you register through the church office.** Pre-registration is required of all who are interested as there are only so many appointments available.

