

Worship Celebration:  
10:15 a.m. -- Sunday  
Sunday School Classes:  
9:00 a.m. -- Sunday  
Midweek Service:  
6:30-7:15 p.m. -- Wednesday  
Pastor: Dale Durnell

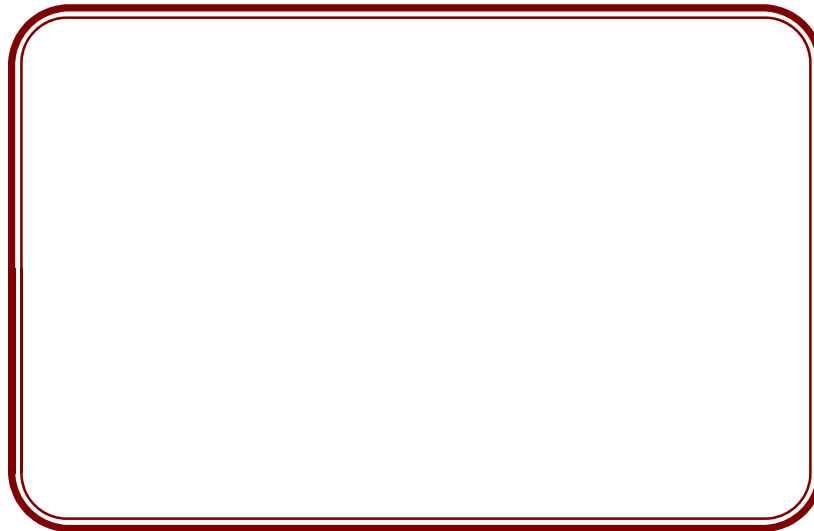
# First United Methodist Church



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO 103  
HENRYETTA 74437

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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## – Happy New Year –

We just finished a wonderful year, and have continued to be blessed by an awesome God. Now, here we are, already starting a new decade in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and we're coming out of the starting blocks at a pretty quick pace. But before we get too far ahead of ourselves, let me take a minute (one more time) to both thank, and express my appreciation to, our choir for the wonderful Christmas Eve Cantata.

I have been looking at our church calendar for January and realize how quickly the days have filled with event after event. I thought December was a busy month, with all of the activities for Advent and Christmas, and a wedding in the midst of it all. But, January! January has already begun with a bang.

We not only have our usual array of weekday (and weekly) activities, but there are district events on two weekends in a row this month, a conference event in the city that I need to attend, and on top of all that we're starting two new offerings of *Financial Peace University* this month for adults while we begin a short term Bible study on finances for our youth.

And of course, this is just the start of a very busy year. While we've just finished Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, it won't be long before we celebrate Lent, and Easter. Summer is packed with camps, and Vacation Bible School, as well as family vacations. Even our annual Bean Dinner and thrift sale will be here before we know it.

So, as we begin the new year, we need to be especially mindful of the fact that in the midst of our busyness it's very easy to overload our schedules. If we're not careful, we can miss out on attending to God's Word and spending time in prayer.

Thus, my prayer, right now, is that we all find a little time where we can strengthen our relationship with our creator God who breathed into us that *Ruach ho Kadesh* – that breath of God which makes us so much more special than all the other animals God created. And, in doing so, may you and yours be especially blessed this New Year.

## – Local Church Leaders Workshop–

Each year, the various districts around our conference hold workshops for church officers and other members of the local church who are seeking to enrich their leadership skills and grow in their faith journey. The concept of the LCLW is to provide a forum to share ideas with individuals from other churches and gain new insights from well-prepared and skilled workshop leaders.

At this year's LCLW being held on Saturday, Feb 12 at McAlester 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, we will have the opportunity to attend three sessions throughout the day. Registration begins at 9:30 with our opening worship from 10 to 11 am. Session 1 will run from 11:15 to 12:15, with a lunch break from 12:15 to 1, followed by Session 2 from 1:00 to 2:00, and Session 3 from 2:15 to 3:15. Our D.S. tells me our plans are to be wrapped up by 3:30. More sessions means more opportunities for learning and this year's fare promises to be an excellent workshop.

This year, Bishop Hayes will join our District Superintendent in leading a session on the Staff Parish Relations Committee to help those attending gain a better understanding of the workings and responsibilities of the SPRC.

Gary Holdeman (the Enid District D.S.) will host a class that will provide us with solid Biblical and historical grounds in support of women in ministry from the early church to the present.

In addition to those and other classes, there will be training on *Effective Evangelism for Small and Medium Size Churches*; *Property and Liability Risk Management*; *Web Marketing 101*; *Safe Sanctuaries Training*; a *Youth Workers Roundtable*; a *Vacation Bible School Preview*, a session on *Mixing Faith and Politics*; and, classes on *Welcoming Congregations*.

If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office as soon as possible. Registration is \$10 a person if we get registered before February 1<sup>st</sup>. And, oh by the way, day care is available.



February 12, 2011

McAlester First UMC  
225 E. Carl Albert Pkwy  
McAlester, Oklahoma



## – McAlester District Lay Speakers –

Lay Speaker Training will be held on January 21 to 22 at the Grand Avenue Campus of McAlester 1<sup>st</sup> UMC. Both Basic and Advanced Classes will be offered. Our District Superintendent, Rev Darrell Cates will be teaching the Basic Course.

Mr Maurice Hawthorne from Wilburton 1<sup>st</sup> UMC will be leading the Advanced Course which will be using the book "Restoring Methodism" by Drs. James B. And Molly Davis Scott. If you are interested in this Advanced Course, Pastor Dale has a copy of the book and a video study guide for you to preview.

The Friday session begins in the evening after work and then continues the next morning. Everything wraps up by about 4 or 4:30 on Saturday. We expect more information in the very near future.

If you are interested in attending either of these classes, or want more information about the classes or Lay Speaking in general, our point of contact at Henryetta 1<sup>st</sup> is James Williams.



**– Greetings from the Rockies! –**

I just wanted you all to know what a blessing my years at the church were! It was a very tough decision to leave you, my extended family. But, it was time to move to the next chapter.

My time in Henryetta will always be cherished and remembered fondly. Words are not enough to express the love I felt from you all. The youth and children were like my own, and I thank you for the opportunity you extended to me to minister to, work with, love and teach.

I believe I got most of the blessing there, but **WHAT A RIDE!**

Our prayers will be with you as a church for continued growth in Christ. We love and miss you.

*Scott & Lora*

**– Thanks from Dale and Donna –**

In 15 years of ministry, we have found our congregation of United Methodists, here at Henryetta 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, to be the most caring congregation we have ever served. This is true, especially when it comes to taking care of your clergy family.

Your love continually shows through and Donna and I have been blessed to be in ministry with you for the past year and a half, plus. We're so very excited to be able to continue our ministry together.

For my part, I always want to make sure that we take care of our employees – and so it was with a glad heart that I learned that our Finance Committee and Church Council were providing a Christmas Bonus to our church staff, but I wasn't concerned about us – as long as the others were cared for.

Donna and I were blessed by the gifts we received – they came at a very timely moment and we want to thank you again, for your continued love and support.

*Dale and Donna*

**– Camps; Lots of Camping –**

With our very busy schedules, it is not too early to begin thinking about camps for our children and youth this summer.

Our junior high and high school youth have several camping opportunities each year, and yet it seems as if there is always a conflict between church camp and other camp opportunities from which our youth need to pick and choose.

For the past three summers, our district and the Stillwater Districts combined to form "SMAC" the Stillwater/McAlester District Camp. However, this year the two districts will host their own camps, and so for the first time in four years McAlester is designing and planning its own youth camp for high school and junior high youth. Our dates at Camp Egan are July 25 to 29. So, now is the time to mark this on your calendar. The registration form is on our own church website.

CYME – the conference leadership camp for high school youth will be held at Cross Point Camp again this year, from July 4 to 8. I know we have at least one camper who will be attending this year.

Youth Force is again offering several opportunities – all in June this summer. We've been to Youth Force for the past two years running and need to continue to offer this mission opportunity to our youth. However, the camps fill early and we need to decide soon which of the camps we'll attend and get our deposit and initial registration in early. There will be Youth Force camps in Oklahoma City, Cleveland County, Mustang, Guymon, Perkins, Tulsa, and Claremore. We need to pick one!

There will be two camps for children entering Grades 1 and 2 at Camp Egan this summer – June 25-26 and again July 23-24. Camps for children entering Grades 3 through 5 will be at Camp Egan June 13-15 and July 11-13. A second camp for children entering Grades 3 through 5 will also be offered at Camp Egan July 22-24. If we have any children entering Grade 6, they have a camping opportunity at Camp Egan June 13-17 and July 11-15.



Additional information from the Conference Office will be mailed to churches and campers soon.

Those who went to camp last year should be getting something in the mail, and we'll also have info in the office. However, some information is already available online at:

<http://www.okumc.org/camps>



## – A New Year, New Church Leaders –

In case you missed our church conference, or you have misplaced the report of the Nominating Committee that was voted on and approved at our last church conference, here is a list of our elected church leaders for calendar year 2011.

Our Finance Committee meets every month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday. A week later, our Church Council meets every month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday. The United Methodist Church has a representative form of polity from our General Conference, down through our Annual Conference, and even into the local church. Each of the individuals (below) who fill leadership roles in our local congregation are representative by age, gender, and ethnicity, of the greater body of Christ known as Henryetta 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church. We pray God's richest blessings upon them in their individual roles, and pray that God would guide them in their leadership of our flock.

### Church Council (Voting Members of the Charge Conference)

**Chair:** Lou Ann Moudy

**Recording Secretary:** Joyce Patrick

**Lay Member of Annual Conference:** Joi Jorgensen

**Children's Council Chairperson:** Amy Cagle

**Finance Chairperson:** Pam Voyles

**Children's Director:** Melinda Moudy

**Worship Committee Chair:** Cheryl Pounds

**Missions Chairperson:** Diana Cunningham

**Church Treasurer:** Donna Durnell

**Pastor:** Rev Dale Durnell

**Lay Leader:** James Williams

**Financial Secretary:** Yvonne McLaughlin

**Staff/Parish Relations Chair:** Diana Agee

**Board of Trustee Chair or Rep:** James McCullough

**Youth Representative:** Chloe Jorgensen

**Prayer Ministry:** Ina Lou Moudy

**Sunday School Secretary:** Sharon Shoulders

### Class of 2011

Carolyn Belcher

Suzie Gill

Lyle Stogner

### **Members at Large**

#### Class of 2012

Mike Polston

Lee Cothran

Randy Ritchey

#### Class of 2013

Phil Agee

Donnie Smith

Billy Patrick

Kari Chancey

### Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee

#### Class of 2011

Lisa Stogner

Diana Agee (Chair Person)

#### Class of 2012

Trygve Jorgensen

Brenda Lewis

#### Class of 2013

Claire Massey

Jeannie Polston

### Trustees (Property Care Ministries)

#### Class of 2011

James McCullough (Chair Person)

James Williams

Yvonne McLaughlin

#### Class of 2012

Joi Jorgensen

Randy Ritchey

Lyle Stogner

#### Class of 2013

Danny Tourret

Lee Cook

Sharon Shoulders

### Finance Committee

Pam Voyles (Chair person)

**Lay Member of Annual Conference:** Joi Jorgensen

**Financial Secretary:** Yvonne McLaughlin

**Trustee Chair or Representative:** James McCullough

**Pastor:** Rev Dale Durnell

**Church Treasurer:** Donna Durnell

**Church Council Chair:** Lou Ann Moudy

**Lay Leader:** James Williams

**S/PPRC Chair:** Diana Agee

Kari Chancey

Donnie Smith

### **Members At Large:**

Becky Webster

Billy Patrick

David Warden

### Nominating Committee

*(by the Book of Discipline, our Pastor is the Chair person)*

#### Class of 2011

Janna Duggan

Diana Agee

#### Class of 2012

Carol Williams

Joi Jorgensen

#### Class of 2013

Jeannie Polston

Randy Ritchey

– Four Great Tips for the New Year –



**Stay out of Trouble**



**Exercise to Maintain Good Health**



**Remember, Nothing Is Impossible**



**Stay Focused on the Job**

– Dishes, Dishes, and More Dishes –

Are you missing your favorite casserole dish?

Have you misplaced your best platter?

When was the last time you saw your loaf pan or serving set you cherish so much?

We have several cooking and kitchen implements, and containers that have been brought to the church for funeral dinners, monthly fellowship lunches, and some may have come at Thanksgiving or other times through the year. And, we'd really like for your lovely cookware to find its way home to you.

Many of us have brought items to the church and then either in the rush, or just because we forgot to pick them up, we've gone home and not taken our items with us.

Please stop by the kitchen and take a peek. Or ask Yvonne McLaughlin or Brenda Lewis about what you're missing and see if perchance we're hanging on to those long lost items from your kitchen.

