

## Sistema Tulsa's First Notes Concert - a memorable milestone!

Sistema Tulsa's recent First Notes Concert marked a special milestone for the young musicians who have been immersed in a journey leading to musical mastery. The lessons learned by making music together have enabled them to envision goals, and then to reach them.

"It was inspiring to witness the beginning of these young musicians' journeys and to see them feeling proud of themselves and their work," says Sistema Tulsa Director Jose Luis Hernandez. All of a sudden, music meant something special for them and for the community that supports them. I received a note the day after the concert that said we had experienced an honest-to-goodness Christmas miracle."

"The students are discovering teamwork, discipline, motivation, and joy in their lives through music. We are proud of them and were proud to host this concert for them.

"Sistema Tulsa is not just a program, but a vision for educational success - a vision for compassion and service



Tulsa Public Schools Superintendent Sr. Deborah Gist celebrates with Jose Luis and the Rev. David Wiggs after the concert.

to our community. For many years, Boston Avenue has been instrumental in shaping the fabric of our city by being advocates to issues that matter. In this church, music plays a major spiritual and social role. Sistema Tulsa is a perfect vehicle to continue to be in service to the community.

"We thank all



A standing-room-only crowd enjoyed listening as students demonstrated their skills.

those who have helped bring this vision of social change through music education to fruition. The teachers, volunteers, participating families, advisory committee members, partners, and funders are all a part of the orchestra. I am proud of the work we are doing together in Tulsa."

The concert was a celebration of the power of education to change lives, and of the power of music to bring people together to dream for a better future.

Plans are now underway for a "Sistema Phase 2" that will enlarge the reach of the program by forming new ensembles that involve middle school and high school level youth across the school district, as well as Boston Avenue's own musical youth. Watch for further details soon as plans are formalized.



Students wore big smiles after the concert.

### Class news

#### Cornerstone

We will have a brunch this Sunday. Please bring a dish to share.

Our New Year's Day Football Watch Party will begin at 3:00 p.m. at the Dennys' home.

#### Disciples

This Sunday we will share Christmas blessings. Hope you can join us!

#### Ephphatha

Charles Dye will be our teacher this Sunday. We are sad to report that this will be our last time together as the Ephphatha Class. God's blessings to you all.

#### Heritage

Barbara Constantine will be our teacher this Sunday. Thanks to all who helped with our Christmas party! We had a great time

#### Homebuilders

This will be Dr. Mouzon Biggs's last Sunday to be with us to discuss the Torah and the Bible. Hope you can all be present to hear him.

#### Horizons

We will have a brunch this Sunday. Please bring a dish to share.

Thanks to the Wiggsses for hosting our Christmas party last Friday, and to all who helped organize it.

#### Journey

We will have a brunch this Sunday. Please bring a dish to share.

On January 8 we will be serving dinner at the Day Center for the Homeless. Hope you can join us.

#### Living the Questions

This Sunday Susan Panciera will continue our discussion of *The First Christmas*, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crosson.

Thanks to the Emmons for hosting our class Christmas party last Saturday.

#### Maranatha

We will serve dinner at St. Luke's Redemption Church this Sunday, December 27. Come at 4:30 p.m.

We will have a brunch

this Sunday. Please bring a dish to share.

Thanks to Scott Morgan for teaching last week..

#### New Covenant

Dr. Joel Panciera will be our teacher again this Sunday.

Please remember those who need our prayers.

#### New Frontiers

Kris Hooper will be our teacher this Sunday. We hope you can join us.

#### Pilgrimage

We will have a brunch this Sunday. Please bring a dish to share.

#### Roundtable

Our teacher this Sunday is David Carpenter. His lesson is entitled, "Serenity."

#### Seek and Discover

Come Sunday to find out who our teacher will be.

#### Wesley Fellowship

This week the Rev. Dr. Bill Crowell will conclude his lesson series. We thank him for teaching us.

### Weekly Calendar

#### Sunday, December 27

8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:30 Communion Service  
9:40 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
11:00 Witnessing AME Church  
12:10 p.m. Communion and Service of Healing

#### Monday, December 28

Church closed

#### Tuesday, December 29

No events scheduled

#### Wednesday, December 30

6:00 Gambler's Anonymous  
6:00 Yoga Class

#### Thursday, December 31

12:05 p.m. New Year's Eve Service  
4:00 p.m. PCCT parenting classes

#### Friday, December 25

Church closed -

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### Sunday School at a glance

Adult classes for Sunday, December 27, 2015  
Visitors are welcome in all classes.

Pastor's Bible Class - Rev. Dr. Bill Tankersley teaching

Cornerstone - brunch

Disciples - "Christmas Blessings"

Ephphatha - Charles Dye

Heritage - Barbara Constantine

Homebuilders - Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr.

Horizons - brunch

Journey - brunch

Living the Questions - "The First Christmas"

Maranatha - brunch

New Covenant - Dr. Joel Panciera

New Frontiers - Kris Hooper

Pilgrimage - brunch

Roundtable - David Carpenter, "Serenity"

Seek and Discover - to be announced

Wesley Fellowship - Dr. Bill Crowell

Young Couples' Class - to be announced