

The Beacon



5819 NW 41st St. Oklahoma City, OK 73122 405-491-1304

www.pcumchurch.org



“Serving as a beacon of light in the name of Jesus Christ”

WORSHIP SCHEDULE for Holy WEEK

March 25—Palm Sunday 10:45AM

March 29—Maundy Thursday 6:00 PM

March 30—Good Friday Prayer Vigil
9:00AM to 2:00PM

April 1—Easter Sunday 10:45AM



Easter Egg Hunt

March 24 at 10:00 a.m.

We will have candy filled egg hunting for toddlers through 5th grade, prizes with Easter bunny money, a bounce house, and a special visit from the Easter bunny! Invite friends, family, grandchildren, and neighbors! Let's make this the best hunt ever! For more information, please call or text Karen Styers at 642-0749.

Everyone is welcome!

Invite your friends and neighbors!

Changes for Newsletter

Effective this issue, we will be changing the way the newsletters are delivered. Due to increasing costs to print and mail the newsletter, the decision was made that after the February issue, we will no longer be sending the newsletter out as bulk mail. There is a sign up sheet on the Welcome Center desk so that you can designate whether you want to continue to receive the newsletter by mail, through email or to pick it up in the Welcome Center (the newsletter will continue to be available on the church's web page and Facebook pages where you can review and print it in color). For those that do not attend church regularly, who live out of town or do not have a computer, we are asking that you contact the office, either by phone (405-491-1304) or by mail to the address listed above and let us know which method of delivery you would prefer or if you no longer wish to receive it. We will continue to publish a monthly newsletter and appreciate any feedback that you can give.



Dear Friends,

We find many stories that are meaningful in our Christian journeys. And some of them even become a part of who we are and how we live our lives. But what happens when those stories are questioned or someone lifts up a possible trouble with the story? How are we to respond?

Let me give you an illustration of a story that many of us have heard in many different settings. It is a story that once we have heard it, it sticks with us and does make us think about who we are and how we live our lives as Christians. It is the "Christ has no hands but our hands" story. There are three or four versions of the story, this is just one:

In a little European village, there was a church that had a statue of Christ with outstretched arms to the world. During some battle of the WWII, the statue was damaged. Both the hands were broken off. The church was in the midst of discussions about repairing or replacing the statue when one morning the priest and a few others from the church arrived to find a sign at the feet of the statue. It read, "Christ has no hands but our hands." The statue remains the same today, unrepaired and unmoved, sign and all.

On the surface, it is a wonderful message for you and I as Christians. The sign implies that if we do not do the work of Christ with our hands, the work of Christ will not get done. In other words, Christ has no way to impact the world other than through us and our efforts.

Then I read the following:

"Whether or not there is an actual statue of Christ somewhere in Europe with no hands, the story is heretical in the light of Easter. The hands of Christ have not been blown off. The forces of evil tried to end the life and work of Christ. On the cross, they thought they had done just that. But, Easter vindicated Jesus. He is raised. God will not be defeated by the work of our hands or the lack of our work. God is not utterly dependent upon us for righteousness to be done."

And I think the writer, and I don't know who it is, points out something very important as we walk through the Easter season. Either Christ was raised from the dead and is still in control and working in the midst of us, or he was not raised from the dead and what are we doing here?

Don't think I am offering this as an excuse not to be involved in the ministry of the church. Where I stand, in the midst of this story, is that to be the most effective, as a community of faith, our hands must join with the hands of the risen Christ, but our hands must never replace the hands of Christ. There is true power in joining with Christ to do the work of Christ. And the church does its best work when it joins with Christ in doing the work of Christ.

We seem to need to keep reminding ourselves that there is an Easter, that we are not alone, that it is not all left up to us, and that God has reached out to us, in resurrection, before we even thought to reach out to God. The Easter story is about God coming to us in the risen Christ, before we even thought about coming to God. And God continues to come to us, in the resurrected Christ, even before we give serious thought about coming to God. That is the "Good News" of the gospels. We do not have to go it alone, we can and do, join hands with Christ to get Christ's work done.

And that is the Easter story and the Easter promise, as well. We are not alone, Christ is with us. What a promise and what a joy.

—Larry

THE LINK STUDENT MINISTRIES
 DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES and PCUMC Youth Director
 Jody Caruthers

Just a reminder that we have the sign up sheets to bring a meal on Wednesday evening for the youth in the Welcome Center

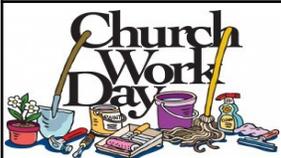


UMM Monthly Breakfast

Sat. April 14, 2018
 8:00AM FH

Speaker—TBA

Please call the office at 491-1304 if you plan to attend, so we can get a count for breakfast.



**Sat, March 31
 9:00AM to ??**

Our Spring Cleaning Day will be Sat., March 31. We will be getting the church ready for Easter Sunday. The more volunteers we have, the quicker we can get it done!

Baby Shower

John and Rizza Lacson are having another little boy (Myles Benjamin) and we're having a "Diaper Shower" for them on Sunday, April 8th after church in the parlor.



They are in need of diapers, wipes, lotions, powder, and other "consumables". For questions or additional information, give Shelley White a call at 537-9869.



Children's Church Update.

We will continue to have fun while we learn about studying the Bible. We will play games, sing songs and hear messages and more. Then watch out for April 8th, April 22, and May 27th, when we will explore how to live victoriously. We must allow the truth to influence the choices we make. We will train hard, like a warrior or an athlete to allow God to teach us through scripture. All children are welcome to join us in HolyWord Studio for children's church. If you have any questions or would like to serve, call or text Karen Styers at 642-0749

**FEEL ALIVE.
 GIVE BLOOD**



PCUMC Spring Blood Drive,
 April 8th 10am to 1pm FH

Sign-up sheet available in the Welcome Center or by calling the office at 491-1304.

Remember: Every pint of blood you donate, helps save three (3) lives

**Servant
 Appreciation Luncheon**



Wed, April 11 12:00PM FH

Everyone who has volunteered their time and/or talents for our church during the last year is invited to attend. A sign-up sheet will be in the Welcome Center on March 25 or by calling the church office at 491-1304. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, April 8th.



**UMW Annual
 Garage Sale**

April 12-14, in the gym.

The UMW will be manning the sale Thursday and Friday from 9am to 5pm. The LINK Youth Group will be manning the sale on Saturday the 14th from 9am to 3pm. Proceeds collected on that day will go to help fund their summer mission trip. When you do your Spring cleaning, donate your unwanted, gently used items to the sale! For information, to volunteer or to make donations, contact Ruth Ferguson at (405) 789-3298.

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 Putnam City United Methodist Church
 5819 NW 41st St.
 Oklahoma City, OK 73122
 Postmaster: Send address change to the above address



Member Shut-Ins (Nursing Homes, Illnesses, etc.)

Adler, Alberta
 Appling, Wayne
 Beesley, Beverly
 Blevins, Helen
 Boren, Pat
 Cates, JoAnne
 DeLong, Betty
 Demaree, Carolyn
 Galaway, Cliff
 Galpin, Jana
 Garrison, Ramona
 Glenn, Berdena
 Kanary, Bob & Lynne
 Johnson, Betty
 Lackey, Karen
 Lackey, Mary Lee & Homer
 Marlowe, John
 McDonald, George
 McLemore, Roosevelt & Tona
 McGuinn, Nola
 Nutt, Woodna
 Osburn, Teri

Rollins, Robert
 Russell, Wilda
 Shelton, Bill
 Simmons, Ann
 Steward, Ruth
 Stone, Jody
 Swink, Jerry
 Templin, Glyn & Freda
 Thompson, Betty

If you'd like to send a card, please call the office for the address.

Members in Service of our Country

Katie Gritzmaker
 Derek Ligon
 Angela Nieman
 Daniel Pierce
 Tyler Duncan



The young girls ministry troop would like to thank everyone who helped with their Tupperware fundraiser. It was very successful. The girls have been working on badge requirements and recently visited the zoo to learn about native species. During our last few meetings we have planted seeds, made cards for mobile meals, and completed a woodworking project. The girls will not meet for two weeks due to Spring Break and Holy Week, but will resume after Easter.
 Shelley White



Prayers for:

Beverly Beesley
 Carl Conley
 Carolyn Demaree
 Mary Lee Lackey
 George McDonald
 Woodna Nutt
 Pat Aldredge
 Bill Shelton
 Betty Thompson
 Jana Galpin
 Phyllis Thomas
 John Marlowe
 Wayne Appling
 Betty Johnson
 JoAnne Cates
 Hazel Caveness
 Jane Conway

Lucy Shields
 Dr Bob & Lynne Kanary
 Fred & Glyn Templin
 Nila Gibbs,
 Bill Davis' son Mark
 Andy Vrooman
 Kellye Bates
 Karen Lackey
 Jerry Swink
 Berdena Glenn
 The Neigs family
 Bill Shelton
 Richard Swink
 Donna Gray
 Ruth Steward
 Kinlee Boughten
 Pat Boren
 Kyle Upchurch

It's not too early to put Vacation Bible School on your summer calendar!

We need a director, crew leaders, music leaders, worship leaders, games leaders, Bible discovery leaders, Kid Vid leaders, and Craft leaders. Of course, we will also need a decorating crew, dinner crews, and registration crews. Be the first to sign up for your area of interest! If you would like to sign up for any of these ministries, call or text Karen Styers at 642-0749.

Come sail away...

The best week of the summer!

- New friends
- Breathing experiments
- Creative games
- Theological treats
- Surprising adventures
- Incredible music

Location: Putnam City United Methodist Church
 (5819 NW 41st St.)
 VBS will last from: July 9 - 13, 2018
 (8:30 a.m.)
 Each day's fun begins at: 5:30 p.m.
 (5:30 a.m.)
 The VBS day ends at: 8:30 p.m.
 (8:30 a.m.)
 For more information, call: 491-1304
 (5819 NW 41st St.)