

THE TRUMPETER



First United Methodist Church of Shattuck, Oklahoma

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

MAY 2016

Journey of Hope BY LYNNE DIETRICH

This month in my column I've chosen to hear the story of a young mother whose life was changed by the Circle of Care ministry that is supported our apportionment dollars.

In February, one of the clients from Pearl's Hope had the opportunity to share her testimony before the trustees of the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation. The program began in large part through the leadership of the foundation and the remarkable generosity of "Pearl" Opel Thorpe. Please read below a slightly abridged version of her story.

"Hello, my name is Jennifer. I feel very blessed to be here speaking to you all.

Most of my life, I carried with me a slot of resentment and sadness from growing up in abusive home. Even though I knew deep down inside, I could overcome this, I spent many years dependent on drugs and alcohol to numb my pain.

When I was 32, my daughter Sydney, was born. The moment I first laid eyes on her and held her in my arms, I knew I would never be the same.

I struggled with finding a way to cope with life and battled depression and substance abuse until I was accepted into a program called "Women In Recovery" in 2009. In this program, I learned a lot about trauma and how to manage all the feelings that came from experiencing it. I began taking medication and began healing from my past hurts. I had to learn how to forgive others and myself. I did not complete this program and had to go to prison for 8 months. While I was incarcerated, I started reading my bible and praying more and more. God did a supernatural miracle in my life and showed me how to truly forgive and love others.

When I got out of prison, my daughter and I had no home. We were staying with a friend and things were not going well. My case manager at "Family & Children's Services" gave me the number to a program called "Pearl's Hope". I called the same day and Sydney and I went to be interviewed by staff members. God shined his light in our lives and we moved in a week later.

The "Pearl's Hope" program has helped change our lives in a lot of ways. The mothers in the program now have a staff to be accountable to. We have a weekly schedule we follow and we go to weekly community meetings. There is a "Boundaries" class we are in and it has helped open my eyes to how my relationships should be today, different than in the past. We also have to complete and follow a monthly budget. We have a "Financial Foundations" class. We have a program called "Celebrate Recovery" that we attend every Friday night. Here we learn to trust God to get us through the process of learning new ways to deal with our hurts, habits and hang-ups.

I am most grateful for the support and direction the staff has given me towards obtaining my driver's license. I haven't had my license since 2002, and next week will be my last week of classes I have to take in order to get my driver's license.

I have been able to pay over one-thousand-dollars in fines I owed to the city through the Work-For-Fines program at "Pearl's Hope". I do volunteer hours on the campus and receive funds to pay off my fines I owe.

(continued)

Journey of Hope

BY LYNNE DIE-TRICH

My daughter and I are looking forward to having our own home soon. I am certain she will now be able to begin high school with a much better mind-set, hopefulness, and trust in others, than she has ever had.

It has always been on my heart to help abused children. I feel my calling is to go back to school and become a drug and alcohol counselor. I believe I can help these hurting children by helping their hurting parents.

I want to sincerely thank all of you. Without your help, the program would cease and the other broken families that need support through "Pearl's Hope" would not have it. Your contributions have helped my family to work towards self-sufficiency, hope for our future, and an amazing trust in God and his church.

There is a scripture from the bible that has helped me move forward over the past few years. I'd like to share it with you;

Not that I have already attained or am already perfected; but I press on that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. I do not count myself as to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forward to those things which are ahead. I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of god in Jesus Christ.

(Philippians 3:12-14)

Serving Christ and You,

Pastor Rick

Office of the Bishop

The United Methodist Church
Oklahoma Area
P.O. Box 60467
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April 15, 2016

To the people called United Methodists in Oklahoma:

Bishop Robert and Dee Hayes will be retiring on August 31, 2016, as many of you already know. After 12 years of faithful service to the Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conferences, Bishop Hayes has reached the mandatory retirement age for an episcopal leader in The United Methodist Church.

What has made the Oklahoma Conference such a special place for the Hayeses? One of the key factors is the people's commitment to and participation in missions over many years. When asked what is among their fondest memories of their time with us, both of them spoke of Oklahomans' engagement in ministry all around the world. Reflecting on that, we have identified one mission they especially love: Africa University.

Bishop Hayes has said that this United Methodist university is making a difference in ways few others have across the entire continent of Africa and around the world. He and Dee personally have hosted the AU choir twice at our Annual Conference, and they have visited the AU campus in Zimbabwe.

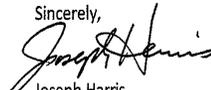
After praying earnestly over where the 2016 Annual Conference Offering should go, church leaders have decided those funds will establish an endowed scholarship at Africa University in the names of Robert and Dee Hayes, to honor them for their service to our conference as well as their dedication to God's mission field.

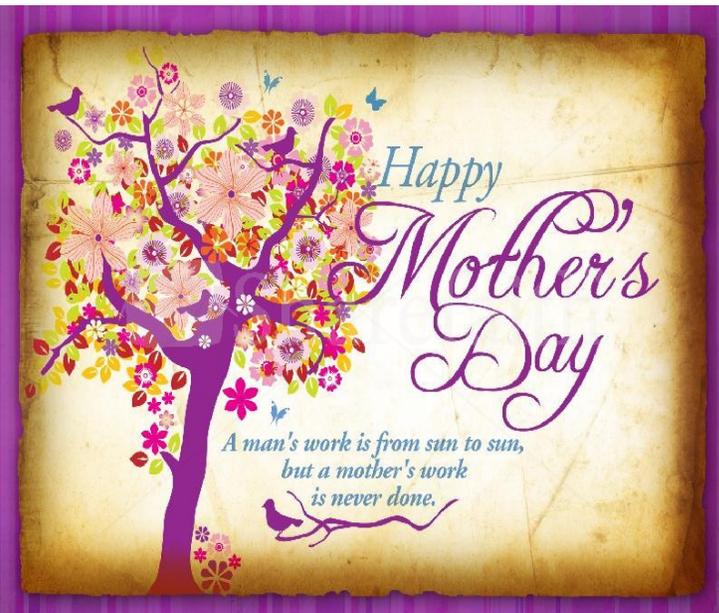
We are asking your church to receive a special offering designated for this purpose. Send that gift with your church delegate to Annual Conference on May 30, or mail a check to the Conference Treasurer, so that it will be included in the total offering received from all the week's worship services, at which Bishop Hayes will preach. Checks can be made out to "Oklahoma Annual Conference," and write in the memo line: "Special offering for Robert and Dee Hayes endowed scholarship at Africa University."

Be sure your church is counted among those helping make this scholarship a reality for the deserving students of AU and to recognize our beloved episcopal family. Africa University officials reported to us that \$130,000 will establish an endowed scholarship. We hope through the generosity of Oklahoma's churches that this goal will be met.

Please display the enclosed poster in your church. Thank you so very much for your cooperation and participation in this special gift, conveying our great affection for Bishop Robert and Dee Hayes and advancing God's kingdom on earth in a place cherished by them.

Sincerely,


Joseph Harris
Assistant to the Bishop



MAY Announcements

- **Sunday Evenings** : Youth at 6:00p
- **Wednesday Mornings**: 6:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast at Ed's
- **Wednesday Evenings** : 6:00p 6th-8th grade Bible Study; 7:00p HS Youth Bible Study
- **Sunday 5/1**: 3:30 Clue Camp Rally at Elk City, OK.
- **Monday 5/2**: 1:00p UMW Monthly Meeting at Gusto's (Last meeting until August)
- **Friday 5/6 & 5/20**: 9:30a Coffee & Conversation
- **Sunday 5/8** Mothers Day; Meals On Wheels special offering; No Youth
- **Monday-Friday 5/9-13**: Meals On Wheels Delivery (Mon. Bob & Lana Burgtorf; Tue. Neysa Anderson; Wed. Nancy Bonine; Thurs./Fri
- **Sunday 5/15** 8:00a Council Board Meeting; Recognition of Seniors; No Youth; 7:00p Baccalaureate SHS.
- **Saturday 5/21** 7:00p SHS Graduation
- **Sunday 5/22** Special Offering Bishop Hayes Endowed Scholarship African Univ.
- **Sunday 5/29** No 5th Sunday Brunch

MAY servants for God...

Liturgist: 5/1 Troy Bullard, 5/8 Katelyn Trobaugh; 5/15 Greg Huenergardt; 5/22 Kevin Schultz; 5/29 Katelyn Trobaugh

Counters: 5/1 Charmagne Reeves/Cathy Beeson; 5/8 Angela Moore/Dennie Jenkins; 5/15 Gina Huenergardt/Rusty Royal; 5/22 Ann Peetoom/ Drenda Schultz ; 5/29 Gina Huenergardt and Rusty Royal

Greeters: (11:00am) 5/1 Huenergardts; 5/8 Troy Bullard; 5/15 Ryan/Jess Royal;

Children's Sunday School: 5/1 Neysa Anderson; 5/8 Alison Royal; 5/15 Jess Royal

A Mother is...

patient loving giving
sweet : nurturing
comforting selfless
priceless protective
compassionate strong
thoughtful gentle
understanding wise
hard-working Kind
supportive

Contact Us

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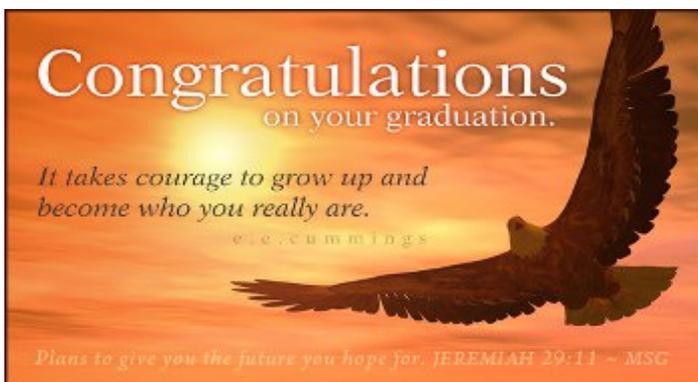
Join Us

9:00a The Connection
Casual, Contemporary, Worship

9:45a Caffeine Connection
Coffee, cookies, conversation

10:00a Sunday School Groups
Classes for all ages

11:00a Traditional Worship
Great worship for our Great God



www.fumcshattuck.org



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1st United Methodist Church of Shattuck, OK