

Methodist *Messenger* June 2018

When a new preacher is appointed to your church you always have questions. Here are our most frequently asked questions we thought you might want answered:

Some FAQs about the Shepherds

Where are you from?

Sandy: I grew up in Sand Springs, OK.

Mark: Fayetteville Arkansas, but I grew up in Oklahoma City.

Do your Parents still live there?

Sandy: Yes, so do most of my siblings.

Mark: When my parents retired they moved to Waynesville North Carolina, in the mountains.

Where did you go to school?

Sandy: I graduated from Charles Page High School in Sand Springs (in 2000). Then went to college at Oklahoma City University and have a B.A. in religion (graduated in 2004). I went to seminary at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore Kentucky and I hold a Masters of Divinity (graduated with my M.div. in 2008).

Mark: I graduated high school in 1998 from Classes School of Advanced Studies in Oklahoma City. I graduated in fall of 2006 from Oklahoma City University with my degree in Christian Education.

How long have you been married?

8 years. Our anniversary is January 9.

How did you two meet?

Sandy: We met at a party.

Mark: Our friends Elizabeth and Eric introduced us. Elizabeth is Sandy's friend from college and was the associate minister at Grace United Methodist Church where I attended, Eric is one of my best friends who also attended there. They started dating and soon after Elizabeth had a birthday party which we both attended. Sandy's dog Marty was barking at all the other guys at the party but liked me. At one point we found ourselves sitting next to each other on the couch and Marty fell asleep with his head on my knee.

Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Sandy: Yes! I have four brothers and four sisters. In order of birth we are: Lee, Paul, Mary Lynn, Bill, Becky, Rusty, Katherine, Christine, and Sandy. Yes, I am the youngest of nine. Yes, we all have the same two parents. No, we were never Catholic. I also have several sister and brother in laws as well as 7 nephews and 4 nieces and 6 great-nieces and 1 great-nephew.

Mark: Yes. I have one brother named David who lives in Chicago. He is married to a Doctor named Lisa.

Do you watch sports?

Sandy: Yes! I am a college football and basketball nut! My Saturday plans are made around when my teams are playing.

Mark: When Sandy does.

OU or OSU?

Sandy: I bleed blue and cheer on the Golden Hurricane of the University of Tulsa and the Duke Blue Devils. Growing up near Tulsa we always watched TU and I have been a fan for a long time. My sister Katherine and I are diehard Duke fans. We started watching Duke in 1992 when Christian Laetner was playing and we have never stopped. I watch both OU and OSU in football and basketball, but our dog wears a Duke collar.

Mark: I lived in Norman for 10 years and I am an OU fan.

Are you musical?

Yes! Both of us sing, but neither of us majored in music at OCU.

Do you play piano?

No!

How long have you been a preacher?

Sandy: I accepted my first appointment in 2008, right out of seminary, to serve Jefferson/Renfrow in the old Enid District. I served there for 5 years. Then went to Grandfield/Randlett in 2013, I served there for 2 years. From 2015-2018 I served Duncan Stephens/Ryan.

I was ordained an Elder in the Oklahoma Annual Conference in 2013.

Are you excited to be here?

Both: Yes! This move is an exciting one for us.

Mark: I said earlier this year that I hope Sandy's next appointment had a choir. I was excited to see that the church has a music program and I will not be doing all the specials. I am also excited about the youth and children's programs.

Sandy: It is hard to leave an appointment that you love, but I really feel that God has called us here. I am excited to be a part of this church that I have heard about for so long in the conference and to be a part of its on going ministry. I am looking forward to meeting with you, getting to know you, and being a part of your lives.



Youth and Children's Ministry

Written By *Destiny Donaldson*

Pack your bags were heading to Galilee By The Sea! VBS is on June 3-8 and Melinda and I have an amazing week planned out. We will have guest appearances from disciples of Jesus, and someone who was there during the feeding of 5000! Hopefully you know how to swim because the VBS tides are coming in.

Keep your bags packed if you're heading off to camp with us because we have camps right after VBS! Children's Joy Camp is June 15-17 and Youth Camp Spark is June 25-29.

I will have pictures of VBS and camps in the next newsletter. I will also post them on the church Facebook page.

God Bless, Destiny



Ladies Day Out

Love, support, and confidentiality is what this group is all about! These Ladies meet on Wednesdays at 11 in the morning in the Sunday School classroom next to the nursery. Even though this is usually on days that have Quest the ladies will still meet even though Quest is ending. Everyone enjoys the fellowship and emotional and spiritual help that each other gives. This group is beginning to grow and would love if you joined as well. If this sounds interesting to you stop by on Wednesdays and see some familiar faces.



United Methodist Men

Information From

Jerry Opela

The UMM met Saturday May 12, Jack Vaughan was the presiding officer. The devotional topic was "When Bad Things Happen" offered by O.B. Fouquet. During the meeting, it was voted on to give \$200 for lawn care. We did not have a potato bar in May because of the potluck dinner for Rev. Sharon Capron.

The next meeting will be June 2 at 7am at Prague Fellowship Hall for breakfast, business, and the devotional. The next meeting's devotion will be given by Randy Eby. All men and boys are invited to drop by and enjoy a wonderful time.

Listening Tour Dates

June 21st— Thursday, 6:30pm., Reese and Sharon Capron's home 12 spaces available

June 27th— Wednesday, 6:30pm, Chris and Kristen Hamm's home 12 spaces available

July 11th— Wednesday, 6:30pm, Bruce and Vicki Pfeiff's home 12 spaces available

July 18th— Wednesday, 6:30pm, Jerry and Nancy Opela's home 12 spaces available

To sign up for one of the Listening Tour dates/locations, please contact Terri at the church office at 405-567-3126. There will also be sign-up sheets in the narthex on Sunday mornings. Space is limited at each place, so sign-up early to get your preference. Letters have been sent out with more information about the Listening Tour. If you have any questions please contact the church office.

Thank You

Special Announcement

On June 10 the Prague United Methodist Church will have a potluck lunch for Sandy and Mark Shepherd located in the fellowship hall after church. Please come and welcome our new pastor with open arms!



If you have something you would like added in the next Methodist Messenger please call the church office before the last week of the month and I will be sure to add it! I apologize for this newsletter being out a little later than usual this month.

God Bless! Your editor Destiny Donaldson

In Loving Memory of

Charlene Jezek

Charlene Ann Jezek was born in Prague, OK on August 4, 1931 and departed this life on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 in Prague, at the age of 86.

Charlene, the daughter of Albert and Emily (Straka) KahaneK, was a resident of Prague. On March 2, 1951, she married the love of her life, James Jezek. Charlene was a member of PEO and a faithful member of the Prague United Methodist Church. She loved the annual baking of kolaches at the church. Charlene enjoyed playing golf and attending OU sporting events. She was a people person, known for her sweet nature. Charlene was a devoted wife and mother and leaves a beautiful legacy of kindness and love.

Charlene was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Karey Reno; brother, Cye KahaneK and nephew, Mike KahaneK.

Charlene is survived by her husband of 67 years, James Jezek; daughter and son-in-law, Kay and Ed Rider of Carrollton, TX; son-in-law, Charles Reno of Lewisville, TX; two grandchildren, Emily Rose Reno and Rebecca Ann Reno; sister-in-law, Mary Pat KahaneK and sister-in-law, Carolyn Blackburn and numerous other family and friends.

Funeral services were held on Friday, May 25, 2018 at 10:00am at Prague United Methodist Church with Rev. Dr. Sonja Tobey officiating.

Juanita Coffey

Juanita Margaret Coffey, of Prague, passed away in Shawnee, Oklahoma on May 29, 2018 at the age of 95. She was born May 21, 1923 to James Esker and Clura (Martin) Harp. Juanita graduated from Prague High School in 1941. She then met and married Onis Thompson in December 1942. Onis was drafted two weeks later and she went with him to California until he was sent overseas. She returned to Shawnee and stayed with her parents until he was stationed back in California where she met him again. After the war they returned and purchased a farm east of Shawnee at Econtuchka. They were blessed with three daughters. After several years they moved to the Prague area and purchased a farm on the North Canadian River bottom between Prague and Seminole. In 1961, Onis passed away and left Juanita to raise the children. She stayed on the farm and ran it with help from the girls and some hired hands. Juanita had started writing insurance for Oklahoma Farmers Union to supplement her income.

In July of 1969 she married Vincent Coffey. Vincent had two children that were married. Juanita and Vincent farmed and did cattle ranching. Juanita then went into full time selling insurance. She operated Coffey Insurance by herself until Vincent decided to retire from farming and joined her in the insurance business. They retired from the insurance business in August 2005. Vincent preceded her in death in July 2011. Juanita was a member of the Prague Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, and was a member and served as president of the Prague Chapter of P.E.O.

Juanita is survived by her children Cheryl and Eldon Johnson of Midwest City, Cathy and Tom Hall of Brownwood, Texas, Debra and Gary Kinslow of Prague, Terrell and Carol Jean Coffey of Hinton and Connie and Robert Moore of Edmond; sister, Donna Dawkins of Midwest City and sister-in-law Kathleen Hecker of Prague; grandchildren, Jami and Chris Stevens, Marci and Mike Colvin, Lori and Matt Simmons, Matt and Kim Kinslow, Chad Johnson, Brooke and Brett Case, Keely Hall, Chris Coffey, Lance and Carrie Coffey, Jami and Tom Majors, Staci and Zack Borynack, Ashli and Chris Anderson and 24 great-grandchildren. Juanita was also blessed with special Nieces and Nephews. She was also survived by a special care giver Bernice Spoon.

Juanita was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Harold Harp, and Brother-in-law Gerald Dawkins.

The Coffey family received friends on Thursday, May 31, 2018 from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at Parks Brothers Funeral Service in Prague.

Funeral services were held at Prague United Methodist Church at 2:00 PM on Friday, June 1, 2018, with Bro. Tim Emmons and Rev. Sharon Capron officiating. Internment followed at Resthaven Cemetery, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Special Thank You

Thank you to everyone who could attend Rev. Sharon Capron's retirement potluck on May 20th and her preaching on May 27th! Below are photos from both events.



My Guardian Angel

While sleeping one night, I had a dream
It left a tale to tell
I dreamed I saw an angel
And she wasn't looking well
Her body was bruised and tattered
Her wings were ripped and torn
I saw that she could barely walk
She was tired her halo was worn
I walked over and asked her, "Angel how could this be?"
She tried to smile as she gathered her thoughts
Then she said these words to me.



"I'm your guardian angel, quite the task you see
You've lived a very wild life, with that you must agree,
You've broken laws & bones & hearts, what you see you've done to me
These bruises are from shielding you I do my best to still
But the drugs you used so dangerously, I often paid the bill
My wings you see are ripped & torn, A noble badge I bare
So many times they've shielded you from perils you were unaware
Yes each mark bares a story of pain & danger I've destroyed
You've made me wish more times than once, that I was unemployed
If only you would embrace life & choose to do so on your own
It would stop the pain & suffering that comes from being all alone
I will always be here to watch over you, until my powers fail
As for when that will be all I can say is... I'm getting old and frail!"



When I woke I thought about the dream, how much she seemed to care
Then I looked around my prison cell & my heart sank in despair
As for some kind of life within these walls, I wondered, "Why even try."
Then in the distance I thought I hear A frail old angel cry.

By A now released, Mabel Bassett Prisoner 2006

JUNE 2018

01 Friday

6pm New Beginnings

02 Saturday

BD Zac Morgan

BD Ron Carlson

7 am United Methodist Men

03 Sunday

Worship/Sunday School– Arlington

Worship/Sunday School– Prague

VBS– Galilee By The Sea

04 Monday

VBS– Galilee By The Sea

05 Tuesday

WA Stan & Nancy Redding

6pm New Beginnings

VBS– Galilee By The Sea

06 Wednesday

11 am Ladies Day Out

VBS– Galilee By The Sea

07 Thursday

VBS– Galilee By The Sea

08 Friday

BD Logan Stricklin

BD Melinda Pruet

WA Frank & Mattie Sauter

6pm New Beginnings

VBS– Galilee By The Sea

09 Saturday

BD Mattie Sauter

10 Sunday

Worship/Sunday School– Arlington

Worship/Sunday School– Prague

Potluck for Sandy & Mark Shepherd

WA Derrek & Rebekah Belase

11 Monday

12 Tuesday

6pm New Beginnings

13 Wednesday

11 am Ladies Day Out

14 Thursday

BD Sandra Warren

15 Friday

6pm New Beginnings

16 Saturday

17 Sunday

BD Kyle Bradley

Worship/Sunday School– Arlington

Worship/Sunday School– Prague

18 Monday

BD Katherine Henry

19 Tuesday

BD Mark Coleman

6pm New Beginnings

20 Wednesday

11 am Ladies Day Out

21 Thursday

BD Joseph Holman

22 Friday

6pm New Beginnings

23 Saturday

WA Rick & Deb Martin

24 Sunday

BD Margaret Way

WA Hubert & Donna Smith

Worship/Sunday School– Arlington

Worship/Sunday School– Prague

25 Monday

26 Tuesday

6pm New Beginnings

27 Wednesday

11 am Ladies Day Out

28 Thursday

29 Friday

30 Saturday

BD Hilary Spears

BD Birthday

WA Wedding Anniversary



Methodist Messenger

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