

The United Methodist News

VOLUME 21 NO. 5

MAY, 2013

SERVING GOD 120 YEARS

Sunday School
 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship
 10:30 A.M.



SENIOR BRUNCH
May 12, CFLC
 (during the
Sunday School hour)

Please join us during the Sunday School hour in the CFLC to congratulate our graduating seniors. They are Bailey Baker, Justin Barnes, Ronna Bell (Panama), Paitton Callery, Kyle Matos, Katie Portillo and Hayley Redhage.

What's Inside

Church Calendar..... 2
 Finance Report 2
 Welcome New Member..... 2
 Youth (CHAOS) 3
 United Methodist Women 3
 SPRC Report..... 3
 Preschool Report..... 3
 Birthdays, Anniversaries 4
 Missions Report..... 4
 Sympathy Note 4

PASTOR TO PEOPLE

In Partnership with God

“Holiness” or more specifically holy living was one of the corner stones of John Wesley’s understanding of what it meant to be a follower of Jesus Christ. One could not move on toward perfection apart from a holy way of life. In this context holiness simply means “living in harmony with God.” Holy living is in effect being in partnership with God.

As I write this article, United Methodist clergy and lay delegates from around the state are preparing for the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to be held in Oklahoma City later this month. All delegates have agreed to work, as partners of sorts, to faithfully conduct the business of the church. This 3-day event that occurs every year, begins with a service of Holy Communion and culminates with a service of sending forth. In between, budgets are set, members to various bodies and councils are elected, reports of various ministries and committees are shared, policies and resolutions are considered and voted upon, stories of changed lives are told, retirements and ordinations are celebrated.

As you might imagine, there can be and frequently are some “lively” discussions between delegates regarding particular issues being considered. While to the eye of the novice conference attendee there may not appear to be very much holiness taking place between folks engaged in this Holy Conference, (holiness is at times difficult to see by even the most experienced of conference goers), I believe that ultimately what occurs at Annual Conference is, by God’s grace, born out of a Spirit of Holiness. Everyone there is striving towards a partnership with the Divine even if they occasionally lose sight of that.

Recently as I was reflecting upon past Annual Conference proceedings and experiences, remembering that the delegates were doing the best they knew how to do, I recalled something James Moore wrote about in a book entitled, *Yes Lord, I have Sinned but I have Several Excellent Excuses*. Moore writes about a time he served on a panel for a Career Day held at a college campus in his community. He was asked to discuss the topic, “How Faith Influences Your Choice of a Career.” At the start of the session the panelists were asked to introduce themselves and mention their particular vocations. A woman gave her name and stated that she was “an attorney.” A man gave his name and said, “I am a businessman.” Moore gave his name and said, “I’m a minister.”

But one man, who was a doctor, when his turn to introduce himself came changed this mundane setting into a sacred moment. After giving his name he said, “We are here today to talk about vocation. The word vocation means ‘calling.’ Well, my calling is to be a Christian...and one of the ways I do that is through the practice of medicine.”

Isn’t that a beautiful statement? What a great philosophy – a wonderful statement of faith! The doctor was not being pompous or arrogant. Moore writes that he was in fact a humble man who had a strong sense of partnership with God.

A sense of partnership with God is so important. From delegates to Annual

(Continued on page 2)

REV. KYLE CLARK



Conference, to members of local church congregations to individuals going about their mundane, routine daily tasks, we are called to recognize and respond to this sense of partnership. If we all could approach every day and every situation with the mind-set that, "I am a co-worker with God," it would change everything we do and say. It would change our temperaments, our attitudes, our perspectives, and our relationships. It would change our lives!

The old hymn writer put it like this:
 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
 Fill me with life anew,
 That I may love what thou dost love,
 And do what thou wouldst do.
 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
 Until my heart is pure,
 Until with thee I will one will,
 To do and to endure.
 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
 Till I am wholly thine,
 Till all this earthly part of me
 Glows with thy fire divine.

(Edwin Hatch, 1878)

Your Partner with God in Christ,

Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for March 2013
 Average Attendance Figures for March: 160
 2013 Budget Requirements: \$400,000.00
 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$7,692.31
 Needed through March: \$100,000.03
 March Receipts: \$29,514.82
 March Expenditures: \$22,743.78
New Building Fund Figures:
 Deposits: \$1,445,702.68
 Expenditures: \$2,567,494.52

THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS
 Published by the Communications Committee
Carol Baker, Communications Coordinator/Editor
 FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 109 S. Harper, Poteau, OK 74953
 Telephone 918-647-2217
 e-mail: rogers2006@windstream.net
 website: www.poteaufumc.com
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Weekly Communion 9:10 a.m. except first Sunday

Bishop	Robert E. Hayes
District Superintendent	Darrell Cates
Pastor	Rev. Kyle Clark
Youth Director	Kimberly Hardaway
Music Director	Steve Clark
Logos Director	Tami Matos
Church Secretary	Brenda Ferguson
Lead Nursery Attendant	Jayla Craig
Organist	Wendy Kelly
Custodian and Door Opener	Jason Dering

District web page: www.gb-gm-umc.org/mc-dist/

MAY CHURCH CALENDAR

Worship Bulletin Deadline: 10 a.m. Thursday
Newsletter Deadline: Third Friday of month

- **SUNDAY •**
UMYF (CHAOS), 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- **MONDAY •**
Boy Scouts, 7 p.m., CFLC
Christian Preschool Monday – Thursday
8:30 - 11:30 a.m., Education Building
- **TUESDAY •**
Cub Scouts, 6 p.m., CFLC
- **WEDNESDAY •**
Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
- **THURSDAY •**
Senior Café, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., CFLC
Girl Scouts, 4:00 p.m.
- 2 National Day of Prayer – UMW service in the sanctuary at 10 a.m.
- 4 Cavanal Chorale Concert, 7 p.m., in the sanctuary
- 5 Cavanal Chorale Concert, 2 p.m., in the sanctuary
- 8 Membership Care Committee Meeting, 1 p.m., Conference Room
- 9 Long Range Planning Committee Meeting, 5:15 p.m., CFLC
- 11 United Methodist Men’s breakfast meeting, 8 a.m., CFLC
- 12 Senior Brunch, 9:30 a.m., CFLC
- 18 Free Neighborhood Breakfast, 8 to 10 a.m., CFLC
- 27 Church Offices closed for Memorial Day
- 27-29 Oklahoma Annual Conference

MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 5 Susan Mixon and Terri Martin
- 12 Robert and Tami Holt
- 19 Ken and Susan Hammond
- 26 Hank and Barbara Harris



ACOLYTES

- 5 Kyle Holt and Daniel Ambriz
- 12 Maci White and Katie Redhage
- 19 Wyatt Holt and Nathan Clark
- 26 Tabi Zabala and Baleigh Quarry



Welcome New Member!

Our newest member is Billy Goines. He joined on March 31 by profession of faith. Be sure and let Billy know how happy we are to have him as a member of our church family.

News of Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway, Youth Director

UMYF (CHAOS) meets Sunday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. and is for all youth 6th through 12th grade.

The schedule is as follows:

MAY

- 5 Outdoor Laserquest in Fayetteville. Meet at 12:45 p.m. and return at 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$20 per person.
- 12 Senior Sunday Brunch
(No youth meeting in evening)
- 19 Youth Council Meeting following church
Regular youth 5 to 7 p.m. Meal: Mike and Linda Lee
- 26 No youth meeting

JUNE

- 2 District Camp meeting for staff - no youth
- 3-7 District Camp

• • •
CAMP

Dates for District Camp for the 7th-12th is June 3-7; Youth Force for 7th-12th is June 23-28 in Perkins, OK; Growing in Grace for the 3rd-5th is July 17-19; Sonshine Camp for 1st-2nd is July 6 & 7.

Please turn in form and payment for District Camp and Youth Force by May 19.

• • •
SENIOR BRUNCH

This year's Senior Brunch is May 12. Please join us during the Sunday School hour in the CFLC to congratulate our graduating seniors. They are Bailey Baker, Justin Barnes, Ronna Bell (Panama), Paitton Callery, Kyle Matos, Katie Portillo and Hayley Redhage.

Others graduating are Alicia Castillo, Assoc. from CASC; Kim Hardaway, MS from OU.

United Methodist Women of Faith

We are observing the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2 at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary with a devotional and music.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Every woman of the church is always welcome to attend our regular activities as well. Watch the church calendar for dates.

Dorothy G. James,
President



Staff Parish Relations Committee Report

By Janet DeSpain
SPRC Chair

We are pleased to announce the coming of our soon-to-be Associate Pastor. Her name is Tracy Hoskins. Tracy is just beginning the process towards being ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church and we have the wonderful opportunity to assist her in this journey.

Tracy and her husband Scott will be here June 17th. We know you will welcome them into our church family.

United Methodist Church
PRE-SCHOOL



By
Tracey Gilliam,
Preschool Director

This school year at Preschool has been great! May is going to be a lot of fun for Preschool students.

The themes for May will be 1) Ocean Life; 2) Summer Fun; and 3) the end of the year celebration.

Preschool students will visit the Poteau Pet Shop and Ms. Tracey's farm.

The students will learn about the Fruits of the Spirit: Self-Control, Peace, Faith, Love, Kindness, Gentleness, Joy, Goodness and Patience.

Graduation celebrations are planned for Wednesday, May 15th and Thursday, May 16th at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Membership Care Committee

The Membership Care Committee will meet the second Wednesday in May (8th).

They reach out to those who are homebound or are dealing with health issues or bereavement.

If you know someone in need of our care, call Virginia Stanley (647-2618) or Kay Thomas (647-3491).

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Anyone who knows of someone who would like a prayer shawl should call Kay Thomas at 647-3491 or the church office at 647-2217.

Missions Report

By Terri Martin,
Missions Committee Chair

Thank you for the Vienna Sausages donations in March. We collected 110 cans.

April's collection for underwear will be given to Women's Crisis Center. If you were not able to donate, it's not too late. Sizes needed are: Boys and Girls sizes: 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 18-20; Women's - all sizes (bikini or brief)

Thanks to all that were able to join our church in the City-Wide Trash Off on Saturday, April 20.

May collections will be focusing on items needed for UMCOR school and layette kits. For the last 8 years the Oklahoma Annual Conference has collected kits for UMCOR. These supplies need to be collected and delivered to Annual Conference by Tuesday, May 28th. With this deadline date for delivery, I would like to have all donations collected by Sunday, May 26th. You may also make cash donations. Make checks payable to "OKVIM" mark memo line with "UMCOR kit supplies" and leave with Brenda in church office. Following is a list of some of the items needed and there will be a more detailed supply list attached to the purple bins in the narthex where you may place your donations:

ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW:

blunt rounded tip scissors - no plastic scissors

8 1/2 x 11 spiral notebooks

150 sheets loose leaf paper

30 centimeter ruler (no advertisements)

unsharpened pencils - plain no design or advertisements

2 1/2" eraser - no design or advertisements

24 count box crayons - 24 count only

cloth diapers - no disposable

undershirts or onesies

infant size wash cloths

gowns or sleepers

diaper pins - must have protective plastic closures - no regular safety pins

30x30x30x32" only receiving blankets

Come enjoy the monthly breakfast May 18.

"The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."
Proverbs 11:25 (NLT)



Our Sympathy

Our love and sympathy is extended to the family of Mary Bruce.

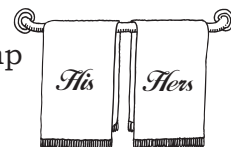
May Birthdays

- 2 Kendrick Hardaway
- 3 Jessica Bridgman and Morgan Ward
- 4 Sarah Mixon
- 5 Steve Clark and Shirley Blackshare
- 6 Rayn Neurohr, Kevin Ramirez and Makali Kemp
- 7 Jeff Mixon and Jerry Kemp
- 8 Mandy Wilson, Kennedy Whitefield and Jackelynn Guterrez
- 11 Robert Reed and Libby Bridgman
- 13 Tori White
- 14 Nicholas Roberts and Marie Hinton
- 15 Tucker Garrett and Austin James
- 18 Aiden Alexander and Stevee McMillin
- 19 Jenci Quarry
- 20 Haley Redhage
- 21 Emily Norgeot and Chris Brookfield
- 22 Rhett Garner
- 24 Eva Daigle
- 25 Cash Balentine, Burke Perry, Brady Perry and Joni Griffith
- 26 Kade McMillin and Katie Rust
- 27 Freda Ogle and Kawika Santos
- 28 Joey Hall
- 20 Charley Clark, Daz DeCamp, Cora Rolens and Warrick Quarry



May Anniversaries

- 4 Will and Kela Miller
- 14 Jim and Ruth Ann DeCamp
- 15 Jerry and Mary Ford
- 19 David and Lisa Barnes
- 20 Chad and Jennifer Cravens
Mike and Cindy Darneal
- 24 Scott and Jennifer Miller
- 25 David and Terry Hall
- 28 Jerry and Jan Thompson
- 29 Bob and Deanna Reed



You know you are a Methodist when . . . someone says, "May the Force be with you," and you respond, "And also with you." - Garrison Keillor