



# THE Calling



## Tahlequah Mission

Grace & Peace to you all!

My name is Karlie Harper, and many of you I have met, but some of you I have not yet had the pleasure. I am excited to jump feet first into the mission life of First United Methodist Church. I had the great pleasure to serve as a co-leader on the recent mission trip to Tahlequah and as always was blown away by the way God takes everyday people and achieves the miraculous. I also will be the Jerusalem quadrant leader for our Global Outreach Team. If you do not know what this is, find me, because I would love to tell you about it!

Mission is such a huge part of what we are called to do as Christians. We must lay down our lives and take up our cross and follow Christ; He never told us it would be **easy, but we do know that it will be worth it.** This “laying down” can mean many things to different people. To me, it means laying down my wants, desires, lifestyle, and ideas to do the will of Christ in my everyday life. It means doing things that are hard, uncomfortable, and self-sacrificing without looking for anything in return. But, even when we serve and ask nothing in return there is a great reward. It may not look the way this world tells us that a reward should look but my sisters and brothers I promise you this – there is nothing worth more than knowing we do the will of our Father and we will get our reward in Heaven. Glorifying God with not just our voices, but with our actions and labors of love is a joy we can all experience. We count it as joy when afforded the opportunity to lay down our comfort, schedules, finances, and needs to be the hands and feet of Christ in a world that needs it so dearly. When we do this it is joy in the truest sense of the word. Joy not from meeting our own needs but of being the instrument used by Christ to meet the needs of another. It is holy and sacred work in which we are all invited to participate in. I think it very moving that we serve a God who knows what suffering feels like. Suffering, sadness, despair, and pain are not unknown to our God. In this world **there is much, and I think it breaks God’s heart when his children suffer. But we** serve a God who also is rich in mercy, love, and grace. And by his mercy, love, and grace we get to relieve some of that suffering. In our own little corner of Earth in Ardmore, Oklahoma we get to offer up our lives as a living sacrifice and experience the full joy of service to God.

**Continued to Page 2**

## Church Events

July 9

**Holy Land Trip Meeting**

6:00pm

Colvert Ministry Center

July 10

**Trustees**

4:30pm

Carlock Chapel

&

**GO Team**

6:00pm

Room 205

July 12

**Live Night of Worship**

6:30pm

Colvert Ministry Center

July 15

**United Methodist Men**

6:00pm

Colvert Ministry Center

July 17

**Finance Committee**

12:00pm

Room 205

&

**Admin Church Council**

6:00pm

Fellowship Hall



## Update From Pastor Brad

Hello, FUMC Ardmore! Stephanie and I sure miss seeing you all, and we cannot wait to join you at the 9:00 am service on July 22nd! We also are excited to invite you to a night of worship in the Colvert Ministry Center on Thursday, July 12th. Since last November we have been laboring to begin a weekly worship gathering that is unlike anything else in town. Although we have endured great difficulties and delays along the way, finally the time has come to begin!

Home Church Worship is a 90-minute gathering on Thursday nights in the CMC. Although in July we will only meet on the 12th, beginning in August we will meet every Thursday night. Worship starts at 6:30 pm and the nursery for children 6-weeks-old through Pre-K opens at 6:15 pm. Each week, including the 12th, we will begin with a brief teaching time (5-7 minutes) about worship. We will then spend 60 minutes worshipping God together, seeking His manifest Presence. We are believing for God to show up in significant ways on these nights and cannot wait to see what He does. Following worship, we will have a short testimony video, along with a brief time of teaching to send us home. The goal of these meetings is to be as sensitive to the Holy Spirit as possible, just resting in His presence and following His lead.

I will typically be teaching the opening and closing portions of our gathering, but if anyone on our Leadership Team receives a word from the Lord, they will be welcome to share it. My beautiful wife, Stephanie, will be leading worship, along with another anointed worship leader you may know – Maribeth (Melton) Buck. Our team has been working tremendously hard for months on end and we hope you will join us on July 12th, and as often as possible when we resume in August. Questions? Feel free to call me directly on my cell at 580-647-8400. Please be in prayer for this exciting adventure!

*Brad*

### Continuation from Page 1

The trip to Tahlequah was such a sweet time for my family. The other team members embraced us even though we are new to the congregation. Growing in faith with a group of people is so important, so on a mission trip it is like icing on the cake. We are already looking forward to next year.

Yours in Christ,  
Karlie Harper



## Church-wide Ministry Fair

A church wide Ministry Fair is coming our way Sunday, August 5, at 10:00 AM in the Colvert Ministry Center. We will not have Sunday School, as this will be a time for the whole church to engage in our Ministry Fair. We will provide some drinks and light breakfast snacks. This event will conclude at 11:00 AM.

All of our Sunday School classes and Ministries will be represented. We want you to be connected and plugged in to our church, in a new and fresh way. The Connection Team is very excited about this opportunity. We hope you will plan to join us and find new opportunities to grow with our community!

Seventeen candidates attended local pastor licensing school, held June 15-23. Among attendees, was our own Rev. John Hollon.



## THANKFUL FOR YOU

I personally want to say a HUGE thank you to all who helped with Youth Force. Much work happens before an event - thank you! And during the event - thank you! And for certain after the event - thank you!! Looking forward to 2019!!

Nurse Gena, Duncan FUMC



Christian Joy - Air Force (Fairchild AFB)  
 Jerry Bright - Navy (Little Creek, VA)  
 David Seals - Army  
 Seth Haynes - Air Force (Eglin Base, FL)  
 Paxton Killblane - Army (Fort Bragg, NC)  
 Wesley Patzkowsky - Army (Pilot, Deployed)  
 Tyler Black - Army (Iraq)

*If you have a loved one serving in the Armed Forces, please contact the church office. We want to acknowledge and be in prayer for each of our service men and women.*

## focus on folks

### SYMPATHY

Our thoughts and prayers are with Clayton & Ashley Paul with the passing of Clayton's grandfather, Carroll Brown Hendershott, on June 25. His services were June 29 at First Baptist Church.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Walton & Kelli McMurry and Family with the passing of Walton's grandmother, Martha Sue McMurry, on June 27. Her services were June 30 in the Centennial Chapel of Harvey-Douglas Funeral Home.



First United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for being a part of our amazing team here at the Food and Resource Center of South Central Oklahoma! Your tireless efforts and gracious hearts are invaluable and essential to keeping this program going.

Your volunteer efforts currently help feed over 1300 families per month. Almost every month of 2017 saw record breaking numbers of hungry families visiting the food bank. As the need in the community has increased, our need for volunteers has increased as well. To run smoothly, each shift ideally needs 10 to 15 volunteers. I do understand it's difficult to get that many people to commit, so we'll shoot for the stars and happily take however many folks we can get!

The coordinator for your church has a complete list of volunteer dates for 2018. First United Methodist Church is scheduled approximately every 8 weeks for the Late Shift:

Monday 3:30 pm-6:30 pm/ Wednesday 11:30 am-2:30 pm/ Thursday 11:30 am-2:30 pm/ Friday 11:30 am-2:30 pm

If you have any questions or need to make changes, please contact me at the phone numbers or email listed below. It is a blessing working side by side with you and your congregation.

God Bless,

Cristal Paty, Volunteer Coordinator  
 580-798-2293, cell 580-504-0098  
[volunteer@feedingsouthcentralok.org](mailto:volunteer@feedingsouthcentralok.org)

801 Hailey Street SW - Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401 • 580.798.2293 • [www.feedingsouthcentralok.org](http://www.feedingsouthcentralok.org)  
*"Providing Food Security. Promoting Self-Sufficiency."*



**August 5** - Ministry Fair @ 10am - Colvert Ministry Center  
**August 15** - FUMC Preschool begins  
**August 31-September 3** - Labor Day at The Lake - Cross Point

**September 3** - Labor Day - Church Closed  
**September 15** - District Women's Retreat - Faithbridge, Heavener  
**September 20-23** - Global Impact Celebration  
**September 22** - UMW District Annual Meeting

**October 11-14** - True North Base Camp for Men - Cross Point Camp

**November 9-11** - Tool Tyme Mission  
**November 22-23** - Thanksgiving Holiday - Church Closed

**December 24** - Christmas Eve Services @ 4pm, 6pm, 8pm  
**December 25-26** - Christmas Holiday - Church CLOSED  
**December 27, 28 & 31** - Church Open 8-12pm

**January 1, 2019** - Church CLOSED



First United Methodist Church  
501 W Main  
Ardmore, OK 73401

Sunday Services  
9:00 am Traditional  
10:00 am Sunday School  
11:05 am EPIC

Prayer Chain  
Lenny Frank 580-465-7515 frank.lennylisa@yahoo.com  
Wadell & Sheila Altom 580-223-7272

David Daniel, *Senior Pastor*  
Brad Dery, *Pastor*  
John Hollon, *Pastor*

Call or email us: (580) 223-5390 | info@fumcardmore.com  
*Televised at 11:00am on CableOne, Channel 56, Broadcast at 9:00am on KVSO AM*

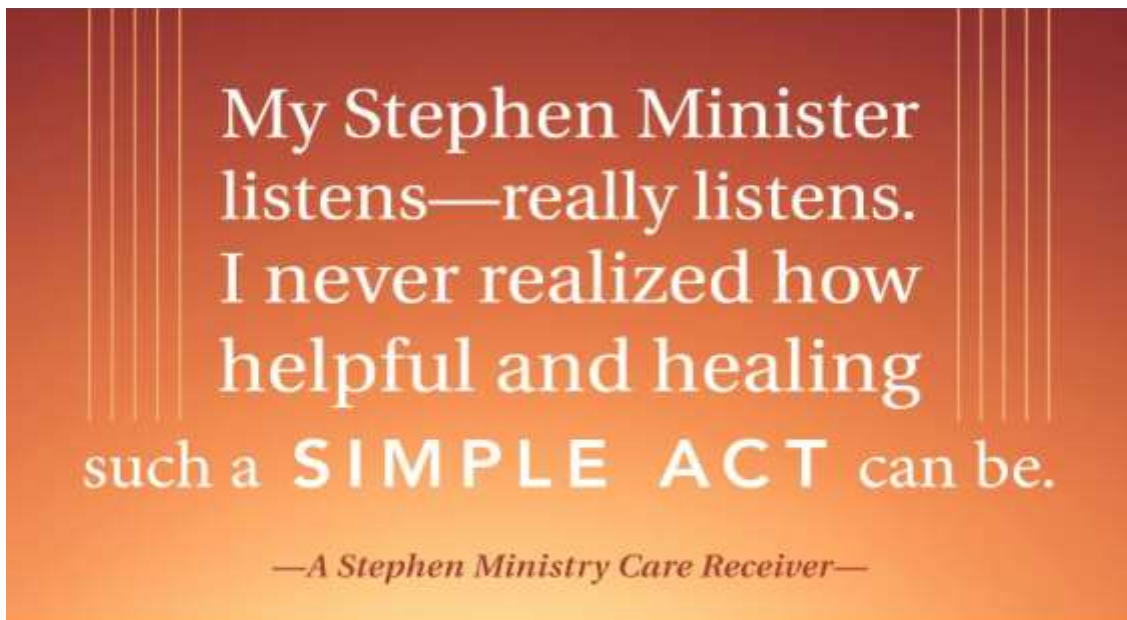
[www.fumcardmore.com](http://www.fumcardmore.com)

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Ardmore, OK  
Permit No. 183

## Need help?

We're here for you ...

Celebrate Recovery  
DivorceCare  
Stephen Ministry  
Prayer Groups  
Small Groups  
Bible Studies  
Home Church



Stephen Ministers have been trained to care for those who are suffering.  
Please call Louise Daniels at 580-465-5958 or the church office at 580-223-5390.