

The Calling

Rev. Jessica Moffatt Seay, Senior Pastor

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First United Methodist Church

501 West Main, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401

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In my hands was a framed aerial photo of the Colvert home on 12th street as it looked when Colvert sisters Eva Harris and Martha Evans lived there as they were growing up. It was a black and white photo that had been taken down from their wall to illustrate for me stories they were telling about how the city of Ardmore had grown. In the photo, their large home sat in the center of a piece of land that reached from what is now Commerce Street all the way to Interstate 35. The original piece of land had a couple of other homes on it to house staff and foremen, but mainly the photo showed acres and acres of undeveloped land. No mall. No neighborhoods. No medical buildings. No Carmike theater. No Santa Fe Steakhouse. Certainly, no Starbucks.

The Colvert home is now over 100 years old. She is a *grande dame*, elegant and historic. I got the full tour, hearing stories of the sisters skating in the basement, of children and later grandchildren running on the property, of family dinners in a dining room with the largest mirror I have ever seen. I heard about their mother who gathered her children together each morning to impart love and life-changing words of Scripture.

From the upstairs windows, I could see the developments that had come through the decades. The city of Ardmore had "sprawled" to meet them as they provided the land for the mall and businesses now around them. They remarked about the trees. Of all the things they had parted with in the name of advancement, letting go of the trees was among the most heart-wrenching.

From several of the upstairs windows we could see a new item that is now thrilling the hearts of sisters Eva and Martha. Upon the new wing of Mercy Hospital had recently been hoisted the very large white cross. "Won't it be wonderful at night when it is lit?" exclaimed the sister whose bedroom faced the hospital. "I can't wait! It will be beautiful!"

I mused over the amount of change that these sisters had observed. Changes in Ardmore. Changes in our church. Changes in their lives, letting go, not only of land, but of dear ones. Watching new generations emerge.

Among the reasons for my visit, I wanted to describe for them what it was like to be in the Colvert Ministry Center the previous weekend for the Women's Retreat and how every corner of it had been used for the cause of Christ. I described how we had converted the rooms that usually stored tables and chairs into prayer rooms. I talked about how the building was overflowing with music and ministry. "I think your brother would be pleased," I said.

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But you know how it is when you thank the sisters for the generosity of their brother Raymond Colvert who gave the money to build the Colvert Ministry Center. They gently shake their heads and say, "We didn't do it. It was Raymond."

It may have been Raymond who actually gave the gift for our new building, but the joy and generosity of the Colvert family can be found throughout our town and especially in the land that now houses our city's expansion. I hope that each night as the sisters see the white cross illuminating the sky, they feel the love of God, the affection of our church and the appreciation of the Ardmore community.

Jessica

Welcome, New Member!



We welcome Peggy Heller to our fellowship. Peggy transferred from another church in the area on Sunday, February 28 in EPIC. She works in petroleum land management with Heller Oil. Her sponsors are her children, Scott & Cheryl Heller.

Welcome, Peggy!

Thank You!



The FUMC Preschool Parent Staff Organizers (P.S.O.) sincerely thanks you for your support at the El Chico Fundraiser on Tuesday, February

23rd. Our goal was 100 participants and we had over 200 and made \$373!! We are truly blessed by you! Thanks for a great evening!

8:30 AM
McClure Chapel

10:50 AM
Sanctuary

11:05
Colvert Ministry Center

Sunday's Music

This Sunday is the **Third Sunday in Lent**.

In both 8:30 worship in McClure Chapel and 10:50 worship in the Sanctuary John Emery, organist will play "**Near the Cross**" using the hymntune of the same name, NEAR THE CROSS by William H. Doane, 1869, in an organ setting by Todd Kendall.

In the 8:30 worship service I will sing "**The Cross Was His Own**" by Marjorie Jones. I found this simple and austere solo early in my ministry, just after its publication in 1968. It's timeliness for Lent even today is a tribute to the composer and her insight.

In the 10:50 worship service the Sanctuary Choir, in a new and exciting place in the sanctuary (for this Sunday), will sing "**Gratitude Changes Everything**" a delightful original composition by Mark Hayes. The anthem has a quite lilting piano accompaniment which you should find as delightful and as refreshing as the text! The anthem is copyright © 2008 by Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.

Please read these texts from Sunday's Music.

The Cross Was His Own

They borrowed a bed to lay His head
when Christ the Lord came down.

They borrowed the ass in the mountain pass for Him to ride to town.
But the crown that He wore and the cross that he bore were His own.

He borrowed the bread when the crowd He fed
on the grassy mountain side.

He borrowed the dish of broken fish with which He satisfied.
But the crown that He wore and the cross that he bore were His own.

He borrowed a room on His way to the tomb,
the Passover lamb to eat;
they borrowed a cave, for Him a grave;
they borrowed a winding sheet.

But the crown that He wore and the cross that he bore were His own.

Gratitude Changes Everything

Gratitude changes everything; a grateful heart makes all things new.
I give thanks in all things, knowing my good comes from You.

I am grateful for each new day of life. I am grateful that I can sing.
I am grateful for friends and family, for every living thing.

I am grateful for the kiss of the wind on my cheek,
for the sunlight on my face.

I am grateful to know how it feels to be loved
and God's amazing grace.

I give thanks. I am changed!

Shalom, *Bab*

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, Mar 7 **Blood Drive**
8:30 am Blood Drive Begins
8:30 am Worship / McClure Chapel
9:45 am Sunday School
10:50 am Worship / Sanctuary
11:05 am EPIC / CMC
4:30 pm Music & Drama
5:00 pm Jr. High Youth
6:00 pm Sr. High Youth
6:00 pm Hearts on Fire Prayer Time
7:00 pm CR - Step Studies

Monday, Mar 8
7:30 am Preschool
9:00 am Children's Day Out
9:30 am Body Recall
1:00 pm Clothes Closet Opens
1:00 pm Casper Cards
5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:00 pm Breaking Free Bible Study
6:30 pm Disciple 1 Bible Study

Tuesday, Mar 9
7:30 am Preschool
12:00pm Noon Prayer
4:30 pm Trustees
7:00 pm Worship Ministries

Wednesday, Mar 10
7:30 am Preschool
9:00 am Children's Day Out
9:00 am Clothes Closet Opens
9:30 am Body Recall
10:30 am Moms Praying
5:00 pm Stephen Ministry
5:30 pm Prayer Ambassadors
6:15 pm Worship / CMC
6:15 pm Ignite / CMC
7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery
7:00 pm Mid-Week Youth
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Mar 11
7:30 am Preschool
9:00 am Precept Bible Study
12:30 pm Covenant Bible Study
1:00 pm XYZ Bridge Club
6:30 pm Financial Peace
6:30 pm CR-Men's Step Study
6:30 pm DivorceCare
7:00 pm Alpha
7:00 pm 24 Hours that Changed the World

Friday, Mar 12
7:30 am Preschool
9:30 am Body Recall

Saturday, Mar 13
Spring Break at the Canyon / Wilderness Camp

The Season of Lent

Here are some highlights of our planned Celebrations throughout Lent:

- **Table for Five Thousand:** March 24 - children's choir musical about the miracle of the loaves & fishes, in the Sanctuary... *"small things done with great love can change the world"*
- **Palm Sunday:** March 28 - our annual children's palm procession for all the children in worship that morning
- **Holy Week:** March 29 though April 2 - daily noon worship services in the Colvert Ministry Center, 12:00pm -12:30pm. Clergy and Lay Speakers and musicians from throughout the community will share their Lenten messages, with lunch following at 12:30
- **Maundy Thursday:** April 1 - "The Living Lord's Table" in the Sanctuary, including Holy Communion
- **Easter Morning:** April 4 - glorious and beautiful celebrations of the resurrection:

8:30 Traditional worship in the Sanctuary
9:45 EPIC worship in the CMC
10:50 Traditional worship in the Sanctuary
11:05 EPIC worship in the CMC

Clothes Closet Volunteers Needed

Contact Marilyn Edwards
223-5469

Dinner and a Movie

The Hope Sunday School Class is sponsoring *Dinner and a Movie* in the main room at the Colvert Ministry Center.

Movie Title: Amazing Grace

Date: Friday March 5th, 2010

6 PM Pot Luck Dinner

6:45 Movie

Bring a lawn chair if you want a comfy seat during the movie.

Popcorn will be provided by The Hope Class.

If childcare is needed please let the Children's Department know by Wednesday, March 3rd:

223-5390 x325 or children@fumcardmore.com

A nominal fee for childcare will be charged based on the number of children.

FOCUS ON FOLKS

Sunday School Greeters for March:

Main Building - FELLOWSHIP

Colvert Ministry Center - FOUNDATIONS

Loaves & Fishes for March:

Canned Meat - 12oz cans

Sympathy:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Keith Frank and Lenny and Lisa Frank and their family with the passing of Keith's wife and Lenny's mother, Lelia Frank, on Thursday, February 25th. Services will be held on Friday, March 5th.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Tim and Ann Perkins and their family with the passing of Tim's father, Dick Perkins, on Monday, February 22nd. Services were held on Thursday, February 25th in Idabel.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Carolyn Lemmon and with Fred and Nancy Schmidt with the passing of Carolyn's husband and Nancy's father Don Lemmon on Friday, February 26th. His memorial service was held on Monday, March 1st in the Sanctuary.

CDO Enrollment

Enrollment for Summer and Fall Children's Day Out is now taking place. Come by the CDO office Monday or Wednesday morning or call Julie Maher at 223-5390 x318.

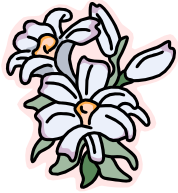
Thank you to all the Sunday School Classes and individuals whose contributions made Get Away With God a tremendous success. Your participation was a blessing to everyone.

Dates to Remember:

Mar 14	Daylight Savings Time Begins
Mar 15-20	Youth Mission to New Orleans
March 24	"Table for Five Thousand" (<i>children's musical</i>)
Mar 28	Palm Sunday
Mar 29-April 2	Holy Week
April 4	Easter
April 5	Church Closed
April 15-18	Men's Emmaus Walk
April 22-25	Women's Emmaus Walk
April 30-May 2	Mission Festival

Need a Stephen Minister?

Call Dan Patman 223-5390 x308
or Louise Daniels 226-5524



Easter Lilies

Now Taking Orders

\$15 each

!!Order deadline is March 15th!!

Orders, with payment, may be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office. You may pick-up your Lily after the last service on Easter Sunday.

Please make check payable to FUMC with Lily in the memo line.

FUMC Blood Drive

DON'T FORGET!

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 7th 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. SIGN UP SHEETS ARE IN EACH SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM AND IN THE CHURCH OFFICE - OR CALL SALLY RESER AT 465-5844. BE A BLESSING BY GIVING BLOOD!!!!

Children's Ministry Announcements

- Please remember that there will NOT be **POWER UP** (children's church) this Sunday March 7th but we will see you there next Sunday!
- With a new month brings a new virtue!! This month we are going to be focusing on **HONESTY**. Honesty is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do. This week we will learn that when you are not truthful, you hurt the people you should care about the most. We hope to see you there as we dig into the story of Joseph and find out what happened to him when his brothers were less than Honest.
- We are also going to have some fun in **IGNITE** learning about **HONESTY**. We will act out some bible stories, play some games, and have some great family fellowship. If you would like to see what the fun is all about, come on Wednesday at 6:15 in the CMC, room 115. If you want to join us for pizza come at 5:45, feed the whole family for just \$5.
- If you would like to volunteer in Sunday school, children's church, or just to bring us donuts to start our morning, we would love it. Please let Amy or Kori know. You can reach us at 223-5390 x325 or children@fumcardmore.com.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Ardmore, Oklahoma
Permit No. 183



Loaves &
Fishes

March

Canned Meat
12 ounce can

Or you may donate money
to the emergency fund

Address Service Requested