

The Calling

Rev. Jessica Moffatt Seay, Senior Pastor

Volume 15, No. 37

www.fumcardmore.com

September 11, 2009

First United Methodist Church 501 West Main, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401 580-223-5390

You have heard it said, "Nothing is as constant as change."

Our God never changes, certainly, but many things around us do. They morph. They die. They are reborn. They change gradually. They change quickly. They change slightly. They change dramatically.

This, certainly, can be said of our church. We have seen staff changes in these summer months and this week, I want to make sure you are updated on each one of them.

Earlier this summer, we brought Rev. Roger Wood on staff part time to lead us into the next stage of our Adult Education ministry. Roger and his wife Susan have been a part of our church since his retirement from a lifetime of ministry as an elder in the United Methodist Church. Since joining the staff, Roger has immersed himself in excellent ideas to present to the Adult Education Leadership Team at the end of September. By January, our adult classes should have fresh resources. We already see Roger's influence in our evening and day studies.

Upon losing our previous Children's Director in June, we've brought to our staff the dynamic duo of Amy Byrd and Kori Casey to serve as Co-Directors of our Children's Ministry. We are quickly rising to our great potential under their leadership. As you heard last week from the pulpit, we have launched a broad range of children's education initiatives called "252". They are based on Luke 2:52 which says that "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and others." Creative, well-prepared, easily-taught curriculum has brought in many new teachers. Daily family devotionals, memory verses and refrigerator theme pages have also been included in the plan. A family night Wednesday worship service will start in two weeks, as well. Our policies and procedures have been polished and are being executed. This week, we even installed 18 hand sanitizing gel pumps at the doors of our children's rooms to emphasize our multi-leveled concern for the well-being of our treasured ones. I would love to be a child in our church right now.

The news of the week is the departure of Laura Carpenter from our staff. To our joy, the Carpenter family will stay active as members of our church. Even upon our first meeting, Laura was explaining to me that she was ready for a job transition. Her organized style and committed heart has been the structural pillar for our youth ministry, especially focusing on the Jr. High area. Laura also cared for many of the details of our lay volunteer ministry since the staff departure of Debbi Rison.

There are two folks taking up Laura's responsibilities. Chris Hopper's background prior to joining our staff as Worship and Media Arts Director was in youth ministry. Without it being officially in his job description, we have already watched Chris using his talents and skills with our youth. When our Staff Parish Committee met last Tuesday, it seemed right to ask Chris to also be our new Jr. High Youth Director. Chris was offered the position and has accepted. He will assume many of the duties for which Laura was responsible. To round out our current team, Shawna Carnahan has joined us as a "professional volunteer" to fill the role of Director of Lay Ministries.

Whew! We thank, bless and pray for the ones who have served us. We also pray for these new ones who have joined us. We will watch expectantly as God works in and through each one.

Jessica

Televised from the Sanctuary at
10:50am on Cable One, Channel 7

8:30 AM
McClure Chapel

Broadcast from the Sanctuary at
11:00am on KVSQ AM 1240

11:00 AM
Sanctuary

AHEC Senior University Devil's Den & Sipokni West -a trip back in time-

Come join us for a fun filled trip to Devil's Den: A place we remember for family fun!!

Our host, John Bruno, present owner, will treat us to a tour of this delightful spot of yes-teryear. We will leave Ardmore and travel by bus to Devil's Den stopping at Sipokni West for lunch. This old west movie set is tucked away near the town of Reagan. Leaving there around 1:00 pm we will proceed to Devil's Den!! Since it has been closed for several years this is an opportunity we don't want to miss. We will return to Ardmore by 4:00 pm. Reservation deadline is October 16th.

Date: October 22nd, 2009

Time: 9:30 am- 4:00 pm

First Methodist Church West Parking

**Reservations are required- call Helen
@220-2852 or Bruce @ 222-4037**

Round Up Rally Sunday, September 13th Worship and Luncheon

Mark your calendars! Don't miss Round Up Rally this year! Invite all your neighbors, friends, co-workers, etc! We are going to meet in the Sanctuary for a combined service! A little of EPIC and a little of traditional! (Or a little of Bob and a little of Chris!) You will have the opportunity to hear about all the wonderful programs you can be a part of here at First Church! Following the service, join us in the CMC for a free catered lunch with entertainment provided by our own children's department! Plan to join us as we celebrate together in the name of the Lord!

DON'T FORGET!

FUMC ARDMORE

BLOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

8:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

SIGN UP SHEETS ARE IN EACH

SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM, AT THE

WELCOME DESK IN THE CMC, AND IN

THE CHURCH OFFICE –

OR CALL SALLY RESER AT 465-5844

OR E-MAIL

reser@cableone.net

BE A BLESSING

BY GIVING BLOOD!!!!

Sunday's Music

This Sunday is the **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**. It is also **Round-Up Sunday** and we will be having only 2 worship services: 8:30 in McClure Chapel and 11:00 in the Sanctuary. It will be a wonderful time of celebration as both Chris and I will be leading singing for both worship services. The Band from EPIC will be playing at 11:00 as well as John Emery at the organ. The Sanctuary Choir will be singing both in the McClure Chapel and the Sanctuary.

The hymns and songs we will be singing together are somewhat old and somewhat new. The style of our singing will be somewhat old and somewhat new. Those of us who will be singing and playing are somewhat old and somewhat new. Have I piqued your interest yet? You really need to be in one of these worship services. It's going to be just plain fun and very information friendly.

Chris and I and the Band and Choir will be leading in the singing and styling of "Come, Thou Fount;" "How Great Thou Art;" "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations;" "Seek Ye First;" "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me;" "Thy Word Is a Lamp;" "Blest Be the Tie that Binds;" "Here I Am, Lord;" and "We're Marching to Zion!"

The Sanctuary Choir will be singing "Nothin' Gonna Stumble My Feet" by Greg Gilpin. It's an exciting a cappella anthem that is rhythmic and very dynamic. The very original text is by John Parker (ASCAP). The choir began learning this anthem in May and only now feels confident about offering it as praise in our worship. The anthem is copyright © 2008 by Shawnee Press, Inc.

Please read this text from Sunday's music.

"Nothin' Gonna Stumble My Feet"

I been a-walkin' with the Lord for many a day.
Tryin' to abide in the straight and narrow way.
Nothin' gonna stumble my feet!

But when my time on earth is done and I hear my name,
these weary feet are gonna run.

Not gonna stammer, not gonna trip,
not gonna stumble, no, I'm not gonna slip;
when I go to walk that golden street.

Now the devil is a liar and a cheater, too.
And if he gets his way, he'll make a slider out of you.

But if you listen for the Spirit's voice
in the moment of truth,
He'll help you make the right choice.

Not gonna waiver, falter, sway or fall;
not gonna stumble or slide.

When I go to walk that golden street;
nothin' gonna stumble my feet!

Shalom, *Bab*

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, Sept 13
8:30 am Worship / McClure Chapel
9:30 am Sunday Morning Live
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship / Sanctuary
12:00 pm Round-Up Rally Luncheon
6:00 pm Jr. & Sr. High Youth
6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery-Men
7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery-Women

Monday, Sept 14
7:45 am Preschool
9:00 am Children's Day Out
1:00 pm Clothes Closet Opens
5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 pm Heaven Bible Study
6:30 pm Disciple 1 Bible Study

Tuesday, Sept 15
7:45 am Preschool
10:30 am Elmbrook Service
12:00 pm Noon Prayer
6:00 pm Mission Ministry
6:30 pm Parenting w/ Love & Logic

Wednesday, Sept 16
7:45 am Preschool
9:00 am Children's Day Out
9:00 am Clothes Closet Opens
10:30 am Mom's Praying
5:30 pm Prayer Ambassadors
6:15 pm Worship / Colvert Ministry Center
7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery
7:00 pm Mid-Week Youth
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Sept 17
7:30 am Preschool
9:00 am Precept Bible Study
12:30 pm Sweeter than Chocolate Bible Study
1:00 pm XYZ Mah Jongg
7:00 pm Alpha

Friday, Sept 18
10:30 am Friendly Neighbors

Dates to Remember:

Sept 20 Children's Ministry Parent/Volunteer Meeting
Sept 24-27 Men's Emmaus Walk
Oct 1-4 Women's Emmaus Walk
Oct 30 Fall Fest
Nov 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov 26 Thanksgiving
Nov 26-27 Church Closed
Dec 13 Jr. High Progressive Dinner
Dec 20 Sr. High Progressive Dinner
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Worship
Dec 25 Christmas
Dec 25-26 Church Closed

"I have learned to live within the confines of the grace given to me for one day... I call destructive worry "future tripping" - taking a trip to a fearful future that does not and may not ever exist. When I learned to live within the grace given to me for the day, joy became my my constant companion."

*Paul Young
Author of "The Shack"*

Music and Drama on Sundays

Sunday, September 20th will begin a new adventure (or a returning adventure if you examine the components)

The time: 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

The place: Rooms 205 (L.O.V.E.) and 207 (CHOIR)

The happening: Music and Drama on Sundays is for kids Kindergarten through 5th grade. In two 45 minute segments we will learn good and fun singing techniques and songs as well as God's Word through Drama. On these Sundays we will also be preparing a Christmas Drama/Musical: *Word on the Street* which focuses on the couple Mary and Joseph and asks the question, "Are we really up for this baby thing?" *Word on the Street* will premier on December 7, 8 and 9.

The hook: We need your help and your children's participation. It will really be a fun adventure time each Sunday evening. Bob, Kelley and many adventurers will be leading the way. Wanna help? Call 277-9351 or 490-1773.

Prayer Chain

To place a prayer request with the FUMC Prayer Chain ministry please call:

Lenny Frank at 465-7515

Wadell & Sheila Altom at 223-7272

**Joann Keithley at 223-0062 or
joannkeithley@sbcglobal.net**

**Mary Lou Fisher at
223-6898 (H)
223-9367 (W)**

Girl's Night Out

Sunday

September 20th

6:00pm

Applebee's



FOCUS ON FOLKS

In the Hospital, or recently dismissed:

Billie Tipps

Sunday School Greeters for September:

Main Building - Chester Dennis / Cora Carlock

Colvert Ministry Center - Foundations

Sympathy:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Harry and Carol Brown and their family with the passing of Harry's brother Alan Brown on Saturday, August 29th. Services were held on Thursday, September 3rd in Ardmore.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with John and James Thompson and Ann White and their families with the passing of John and James' father and Ann's brother Jack Thompson.

Memorials:

In memory of **Jim Dial** a contribution to the Memorial Fund has been received from:
David and Cynthia Culbertson

In memory of **Judy Venters** a contribution to the Memorial Fund has been received from:
Bruz and Gloria Westheimer

Friendly Neighbors

an X Y Z Ministry

Fun & Fellowship

All Seniors Welcome



10:30am / September 18th
Colvert Ministry Center

Speaker: Jane Fore and Sharon Shipe
Department of Rehabilitation Services

Bring a Side Dish or Dessert

Meat is furnished

10:30am Fun, Games & Fellowship

12:00pm Invocation and Lunch

12:30pm Program

1:00pm Adjournment



Bible Studies / Christian Growth Opportunities

Alpha Course: This program of learning in basic Christianity answers such questions as "Who is Jesus?", "Why did Jesus die?", "How does God guide us?", "How can I be sure of my faith?", "Does God heal today?", and many more. Rev Dan Patman will facilitate the course which begins Thu, Sept 17, at 7:00-8:30 p.m. and continues through Nov 19. The class will be held in the Fellowship Hall and there is no cost.

Disciple I Bible Study: This first edition of the Disciple Bible Study series encompasses the entire Bible in 35 weeks. Rev. Roger Wood will enable this study which begins on Mon, Sept 14 with an orientation and will continue each Monday through the Spring with breaks for Christmas & Easter. The discussion-formatted study, held in the CMC (Rm 115B) includes a workbook of daily readings, a reflection, & a video.

Financial Peace University: This 13-week program is based on video presentations by nationally-syndicated radio personality and author Dave Ramsey. Ramsey teaches families to communicate about money and equips them to beat debt and build wealth God's way. Barbara Hisey is the facilitator for the class which begins on Mon, Sept 14 at 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the CMC (Rm 116). There is a \$90/couple cost.

The Walk to Emmaus: This is a 72 hour spiritual renewal event held at Cross Point Camp in the spring and fall spanning Thu night through Sun night. The schedule for 2010 is: Men's Walk #77, April 15-18; Women's Walk #78, April 22-25; Men's Walk #79, Sept 30-Oct 3; Women's Walk #80, Oct 7-10.

Heavenly Minded for Earthly Good/The Inheritance: Written and taught by Karen Chaffin, the course is an 8-week tour of Heaven that will answer your questions about heaven, energize your faith, relieve your fears, and enliven the way you live and love. Teamed with Beth Moore's "The Inheritance" (a study based on Psalm 16:5-6), this course will begin on Mon, Sept 14 in the CMC (Worship Center).

Sweeter Than Chocolate!: This is an inductive study of Psalm 119 written by Pam Gillaspie. In 6 brief lessons you will journey through the Bible's greatest Psalm devoted to the theme of the Word of God. Discover insights, practical wisdom, and deep truths that will strengthen your walk and relationship with Jesus Christ. Barbara Shields will lead the class in the Colvert Ministry Center (Rm 116) on Thu at 12:30 p.m. beginning Sept 17 through Nov 12 with one break on Thu, Oct 15. Join "Sweeter Than Chocolate!" for sweet words and real solutions!

Precept Bible Study of John—Part 2: No prerequisite for this study is needed, so don't worry if you didn't take Part 1. This 14-week study is designed to draw you into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and expose you to the abundant life each of us cares. The DVD's will be by Wayne Barber and the class will be led by Janie Courtney on Thu mornings at 9:00-11:00 beginning Sept 10 in the CMC (Rm 116).

Child care for all classes must be reserved with the Children's Department (223-5390 x325) at least 24 hours before the event.

Children's Ministry Announcements

- Children's choir starts Sunday, September 20th! All Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children are invited. Sundays from 4:30pm - 6:00pm, rooms #205 and the Choir Room. Question call Bob Pfau at 223-5390 x312.
- There will be one more Volunteer / Parent Meeting for the Children's Ministry. If you are a parent or you want to volunteer for the Children's Ministry your attendance is needed to prepare for the new school year.
Sunday, September 20th, 12:00pm in room #116 in the CMC and lunch will be provided.
If you have questions please contact Amy or Kori at 223-5390 x325.

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