

May 3 will be Teacher Appreciation Day. Please take the time to thank your Sunday School teachers. We will honor them in church that day.



Appreciation and Training Luncheon

Sunday, May 3, 12:00 Noon

Ushers are often some of the first people someone interacts with when they attend church. This is true both of visitors and long-time members. Most people think of them simply as the people who hand out the bulletins and take up the offering. Those are important jobs they indeed perform, but it is usually the ushers who are first turned to if there are questions or even an emergency.

Immediately after services on Sunday, May 3, anyone who is an usher or interested in being an usher is invited to join us for a free pizza lunch and training session. We'll cover the basics of being an usher and review protocols if there is a medical or other type of emergency. We hope you'll consider attending!



April 14, 2015

Shannon Davis , Pastor Debbie Harrington , Director of Children & Christian Education Kathy Harvey , Youth and Children Assistant Karen Bell , Director of Stephen Ministry & Congregational Care Marita Reichenberger , Director of Music Ministries Chris Fanning , Nursery Coordinator Phone 256.5515 E-mail: fumcwoodward@sbcglobal.net	Jamison Rudd , Youth Pastor Lora Bayliff , Administrative Assistant Ann Laubhan , Financial Secretary Evelina Lopez , Custodian Michael Lewis , Audio-Visual Coordinator Brianna Domnick , Nursery Assistant Web page www.fumcwoodward.com facebook.com/WoodwardFUMC Fax: 256.9590
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Shannon’s Shenanigans



“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’
³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.”
– Matthew 6: 31-32

One of my favorite church bulletin bloopers is the one that says, “Don’t let worry and stress kill you. Let the church help!” While the church shouldn’t help kill anyone, the bible and even Jesus himself spoke a lot about combating stress, worry, and anxiety. Beginning April 26, I’ll be preaching for a few weeks on what the Bible has to say on these subjects.

I would love to say that, as a pastor, I’m able to live each day in a total state of tranquility, never worrying or stressing over anything. That’s certainly not true. I far too often find myself stressing over all kinds of things – things regarding my work, things over my family and personal life, things regarding struggles others are having, even things in my faith life. Then I worry that I’m worrying too much! But I can certainly also say that when I stop to pray, especially when I just decide to enjoy and revel in God’s presence for a moment, my body and mind find peace and calm no matter what else is going on.

And I find a lot of peace and hope from scriptures that help me with stress, worry, and anxiety. In the one above, Jesus reminds us that God knows what is going on in our lives, and certainly knows what we need. If I trust God, which I do, then I can trust that my present and future is secure in God’s hands. Elsewhere, Jesus calls us to cast all our burdens upon him, and goes on to say that His “yoke is easy and his burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30). Old Testament scriptures like Psalm 23’s “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want” speak to the stressed out. And promises of a day coming from passages like Revelation 21 tell of a time where death and mourning and crying and pain will be no more. There will be no reason to stress in God’s heavenly kingdom!

If you never feel stress, worry, or anxiety, then I guess the next few sermons won’t have much to offer you. Congratulations on your serendipitous state! But for the vast majority of us, we’ll find that we don’t need to let worry and stress kill us or even just keep us down. Our God is stronger than all the stress and anxiety in the world. We can find peace in Jesus Christ!



Stephen Ministry Making A Difference

Stephen Ministry is helping our congregation in a number of ways. One is by building the spiritual and emotional life of the people who *give* care. A lot of people go into Stephen Ministry to help others but then are surprised by how much it enriches their own heart and relationships. It gives them much more than they think they’re going to receive.

In addition, Stephen Ministry is such a gift to folks who are receiving care. People who are going through a job loss, divorce, grief, or other difficulties receive comfort and find hope. The relationships formed in Stephen Ministry really do become life altering.

For more information about Stephen Ministry please contact Karen Bell

Karen Bell
Director of Stephen Ministry and
Congregational Care
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580-256-5515
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Help for the Least of These

Remember how you used to feel when you held a brand new pencil in your hand? How do you think that must feel to children who have never had a new pencil – ever? You and I can provide that very first pencil to them. Until April 22nd, we are again collecting yellow #2 pencils, pink erasers and blunt school scissors to help fill School Bags that will be given to children all over the world. We are also collecting wash cloths, sturdy combs and good toothbrushes for the Health Kits. These two kits are in dangerously low supply at the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot in Louisiana. (To learn more about this ministry, Google UMCOR Sager Brown Kit Ministry.) Right now we need your help filling the barrels with pencils, erasers, scissors, wash cloths, combs and toothbrushes. **In Matthew 25:35-40 Jesus reminds us “...when you have done it for one of the least of these...you have done it for me.”** For more information, talk to Carolyn Riffel or Jo Millard.

Pregnancy Center Concert/Fundraiser
Featuring JJ Heller and Plumb
Sunday, April 26, 5:30 p.m.
Woodward High School Auditorium
Tickets Are Available in the Church Office
\$17 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$15 in groups of 10.



**Cimarron District Administrator
Full-Time Position**

With the reduction from 12 to 8 districts for Oklahoma United Methodism, a full-time position has been created in each district to help oversee much of the administrative office work for the District and acts as the main conduit between the local churches and the work of the district and conference. This position will come with a benefits package.

Anyone interested in learning more can find more information at www.okumc.org. To apply, contact the incoming district superintendent, Rev. Charlie Graves, at clindist@swbell.net. Interviews will begin in early May, so submit your resume soon!

**Women to Women Bible Study
“That’s What the Man Said”**

“Look with new eyes and listen with a fresh heart”— This is the approach Maxie Dunnam urges us to take as we consider four sayings of Jesus that form the basis for “That’s What the Man Said.” Dr. Dunnam says, “These sayings are *comforting* sayings, *bracing* sayings, *judging* sayings. These sayings can guide and strengthen us as we attempt to live with purpose and meaning as Christians.

In these sessions Dr. Dunnam deals with such topics as “Violets Cracking the Rocks”, “Destiny Is A Matter Of Choice Not Chance”, “God Has No Grandchildren”, and “For God’s Sake, Be As Christian As You Are!”.

Beginning Tuesday, April 21 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Registration helpful but not necessary: Call the church office (256-5515) or email Karen at karen.fumc@sbcglobal.net

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Final Friday Feeding Frenzy
The final *Final Friday Feeding Frenzy* for this school year will take place **on April 24**. If you are unaware, FFFF is one of our outreach programs to the High School just across the street. We provide a free meal, and brief devotional to any and all students who wish to make the trek across the street on the last Friday of each month. To make this a hit and go off smoothly, we need as much help as we can get. Some ways you can serve are by providing a dessert on that day, or by being at the church to help set up, serve, and/or clean up. All told, the event lasts from about 10--12:30.



YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

It’s that time of year again! For camp registration forms, please see Jamison. If you are signing your youth up for camp, please have your registration form, and a check for the amount (s) listed for the camp (s) your youth will be attending.

MID-HIGH CLEW CAMP JUNE 1-5 7th – 9th \$145
SR-HIGH CLEW CAMP JULY 20-24 10th – 12th \$145
YOUTH FORCE JUNE 14-19 7th – Just Graduated \$100

Dead line to register is May 3rd.

The prices listed above are the prices Families pay for each camper. Sponsorship from the church UMM & UMW have already cut the prices by half.



Baptisms and New Member!

Katie and Andrew Stewart brought forward their two precious children, Alivia and Logan, to be baptized during the 8:30 service on April 12. At the same service, Katie became the newest member of our congregation. Congrats to all!



Remember, the deadline for camp registration is June 1. Sonshine Camp for 1st and 2nd graders will be July 11-12 and Growin’ In Grace Camp for 3rd-5th graders will be July 15-17. Mark your calendars! Pick up your registration forms from Debbie at the church office



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1111 Downs Avenue
Woodward OK 73801


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MISSION STATEMENT

“TO MAKE DISCIPLES FOR JESUS CHRIST”

4/09 Elmer & Lena Mae Regan
4/10 Ted & Odalee Craighead
4/26 Keith & Linda Elwood
Dale & Vi Thomas
4/29 Rick & Rhonda Hollis



PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Recent Hospital Stays: Chace Mendell, Zona Cheap, Dave Patterson, Tate Endersby, Dean Hensley, Linda Meyer, Barbara Heckart


At Home: Tony Billings, Lola Stevens, Gene Ackers, Maureen Kitchens, Roy Best, Kathryn Upchurch, Mike Dean,

In Nursing Homes or Care Facilities:
Lahoma Grunewald, Maxine & Bennie Hammerstrom, Margaret Lewis, Barbara Carr, Merrylou Pummel, Bill Stout, Wilma Nelson, Artie Ware, Faye Riddle, Raymond & Dorothy File,

Other: Our Troops and their Families

Sympathy Extended to: Curtis Kincaid & Family (Wife-Carolyn), Ray Bell & Family (Cousin), Family of Elmer Hosier, Mark Reichenberger & Family (Mother), Barbara Cunningham & Family (Brother), Barbara Heckart & Family (Sister-in-law), Marie Herzer & Family (Great Uncle), Ray Blakley & Family (Mother)


Prayer Requests: Our Prayer Team meets every Monday in the Library at 4:00 pm. You are invited to attend, or you may call the church office with specific prayer requests. (256-5515)



Birthdays of the Month



4/02 J. Doug Williams
4/04 Terris Williams
4/05 Amanda Owen
Tyler Thomas
4/06 Heather Habekott
Maci Miller
Dorla Summars
4/07 Jim Reed
4/08 Dawson Mudd
4/09 John Herzer
4/11 Anna Lavery
Jennifer Mudd
4/12 Eli Davis
Sandy Hammerstrom
Brayson Storm
4/13 Candyce Kline
4/16 William Toellner
4/17 Mackinzi Camacho
Larry Powers
Courtney Cook
4/18 Kaleb Barnett
Clint Mendell
4/19 Helen Lynch
Kristen Mills
4/20 Kiley Barnett
4/21 Allison Arnold
4/22 Talia Fowler
Blayre vonBidenfeld
4/23 Lewis Glover
Jay Soulek
Kamryn Horner
Tommy Rhodes
4/24 Taylor Stevens
4/25 Mike Cole
Rick Menefee
Avery Raney
4/26 Natalie Lavery
Maison Moseley
4/30 Teresa Eagon
Corey Miller




VBS

Plans are firing up for Vacation Bible School! This year it is scheduled to be June 8-12 from 9:00 until noon. The theme for this year’s VBS is EVEREST Conquering Challenges with God’s Mighty Power. We still could use helpers. Please prayerfully consider helping with this worthwhile week.

Upcoming Dates for your children are.....

April 26 Kids Choir will sing in second service
May 3 Sunday School Teacher Appreciation
May 10 Mother’s Day—Kids Choir will sing in second service
June 8-12 VBS
June 21 Father’s Day—Kids Choir will sing in second service



Senior Sunday


Senior Sunday will be held on May 10th. Come out and congratulate all of our Graduates on their many accomplishments! If you are a senior, or a parent of one, be watching your mail box for a letter with some info and a brief Bio Form to fill out so we can brag on all the great things you or your youth have done!

Evening with a Missionary


Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.

At New Horizon UMC

5115 West Oklahoma Avenue



Donna Pewo, missionary to the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes, mainly in the Clinton and El Reno areas West of Oklahoma City, will be speaking about her work at a gathering at New Horizon UMC, here in Woodward, on Wednesday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m. The ministry she oversees was launched when a former lay missioner saw the call for a church to respond to the needs of area children, many of them poor, surrounded by substance abuse and having problems in school. All are welcome, and refreshments will be provided.



Pastor Shannon and FUMC Congregation, We cannot begin to express how blessed we have been to be a part of such an amazing church. We have been overwhelmed by all the love and support we have received. We were so grateful for all the prayers and certainly thankful for the continuous prayers. The power of prayer has been so evident and obvious throughout this entire journey. Many prayers have been answered and it has been an incredible thing to witness. Thank you again for all the love, support, cards, flowers, and especially the prayers. Love, Ryan and Laura Hayes.

Dear Church Family,
Dean and I appreciate the prayers, love and thoughts that we have received. Thanks for the beautiful altar flowers delivered to us last Sunday by Eldon & Janet Merklin. We are so blessed. Dean and Eileen Hensley

I would like to say thanks to the FUMC. We appreciated all the cards and embraces from everyone. Thanks to the Women’s Ministry for the meal they put together for us and our friends. Thank You, Curtis Kincaid & Family.

Dear Church Family,
Words can not express how much I appreciate the love shown to Ray & I through his illness and his passing. Your calls, cards, food, flowers and prayers meant so much to me and my family. A special thanks to Pastor Shannon for the visits. It has been a great comfort to surrounded by such love and care. Also thank you to all who came to visit Ray and I during his illness. May God bless you for keeping me in your prayers now as it helps me keep closer to God. Love you, Helen Lynch & Family

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the beautiful flowers which brightened my day. Thank you to Bill and Mae Leonard for bringing them to me. God’s Blessings, Lucille Stocking

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for all the prayers, phone calls, cards, food and visits during my illness and recovery. Your love and concern is appreciated. Judy Sampson