

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Weatherford, OK

817 N. 7th Street | P.O. Box 350
580-772-5565

local church website . . . fumcmethodistok.org
pastor's email . . . firstu@sbcglobal.net
find us on Facebook at . . . Weatherford Fumc

Our Mission . . . Making disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world,
with more people, younger people, and more diverse people.

AUGUST 2019

Rooted In God's Love—

Passionate | Relevant | Life Changing



This is the continuation of the newsletter article from my desk last month. In the last newsletter I wrote from a story that came from the a devotional book written by Bishop Robert E. Hayes entitled "Strength for the Journey". It tells the story of a group from India who when traveling to their temple they would light lamps for their journey but upon arriving at the temple they simply would

place their lamp in a large brass structure and when all had arrived then the worship could begin because the darkness was brought to light by all the single lamps. *Now to pick up where I left off...*When all the slots were filled, the temple was ablaze with light. The worshippers at the temple brought physical light in order to receive spiritual light for their souls. In so many ways, you are just like those villagers for you, too, need to bring light so that you find the true light of your life—Jesus Christ.

Even though you attend church in a setting where the quick flick likely will illuminate any room, this story from India spotlights a deeper lesson. When you bring the "light" of anticipation, eagerness, and expectation to a church service, most often you will encounter the risen Christ.

So many times people think the minister carries the responsibility for the whole service, but the congregation has just as much to do with the worship as any minister! Each time a pastor steps into the pulpit every person should be joyfully awaiting the light of God's word to shine on their dark souls.

They should be expectant, listening for what the Word has to say individually to each of them.

Instead, the shadow of a spiritual chill causes a cold shiver in the hearts of the worshipers at too many churches.

That's why it is important to bring light to find the Light! If you at your church—if people of every church –will do a few simple things as you come to worship, you will shine brighter as you light the world for God. What a tremendous difference it will make!

Let me suggest: First come prepared—When you go to church, go prepared! So many people make no preparation at all for worship. Begin on Saturday night to be in readiness for Sunday morning.

Read scripture or the Sunday school lesson. Then just before you leave home, meditate or say a prayer for the church, the pastor, or the people you will encounter.

Arrive on time! Take your Bible; turn to the suggested Scriptures for the service as soon as you get to your seat. Forget about your dinner plans for after the service –focus on being fed the spiritual food you so desperately need.

Bishop Hayes concludes with these words: Just as that temple in India glowed with the lamps of the worshippers, so is every church service illuminated by those who bring light to find light.

Furthermore, when the villagers take their lamps from the slots at the end of the temple service, the light helps guide them home in the dark. Are we any different: In my journey of life, I have discovered there is only One who can give me the light I need to make it down the dim and dark roads I must travel. His name is Jesus! Bring your light to find the Light that illuminates the world.

Your Pastor and friend,

Margo Vestal

Welcome Back Dinner



This year's welcome back dinner has been set for Wednesday night August 28th beginning with a catered meal at 5:30. The meal will be served and all will have time to eat and fellowship. At 6:30 the

Grace Street Praise Team will begin to play

and sing. There will be a love offering taken to offset their expenses. Please make plans to be with us for our Fall kickoff!



Plan to attend - Laity Sunday – September 29, 2019

**Extended Care
Facilities & Homebound**

Weatherwood

Sheila Lewis #21
James Adkins #32
Annette Dahlgren #49

Weatherford Corn

Beverly Adkins #610

Brookdale

Cherie & Gerald Payne #112
Mary Phelps #104
Ruby Gum #110
Pat Sturm #128
Ernestine Hoelker #131

Corn, Corn

Duane Rea
Mary Statser #F-3
Gene Hays #C4

Gary Webb, Sterling on Council, Bethany
Curly McAlpin, Bell Ave, Elk City
Ronnie Chadwick, Dallas, TX
JoAnn McClendon, Lubbock, TX

Those In The Service of Our Country

- Oklahoma State Legislature
- Our Nation's Leaders
- Armed Forces & Military Service and Families
- All Police, Law Enforcements & Corrections Officers
- Brent Webb, USAF
- Lt. Col. Judy Webb-Hapgood, USAF
- William Johnston, US Army serving in Iraq
- Austin Baugh USMC
- Reeve Winters, US Army, son of Linda Berrong

Kelley & Youth Force Youth & Volunteers

When I requested help for my neighbor to repair his fence you exceeded all expectations. Not only did you replace parts of the fence you cleaned out shrubs and mowed. This man walks to and from work every day. When his mother was in the nursing home he visited her every evening.
Thank You
You are a blessing to your family, your church and your community.

Local UMW Circles – Meeting Schedules

Frances Good Circle

August 15, 2019
6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to work on mission project – Worship Bags
7:00 p.m. Devotional and Program
Devotional Faye Henson
Program Mission U Study – UMW History
Hostess Shauna Rhoads

September 12, 2019
6:30 p.m. Devotional and Dinner
Devotional
Program Salad Supper
Hostess Kelley Ramey

Dorcas Circle

September 11, 2019 1:30 P.M. in the church parlor

Looking toward September – we will have a Sunday service that recognizes and emphasizes the valuable presence of the Laity in the life of the church. Our theme will be “Taking Care of Our Neighbor”. Men, Women, Youth, and Children will have portions of the worship services that they can participate in. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Ruth Boyd. She will share information about how the Step-Up program in Weatherford works to assist the young people of our area as they transition out of foster care or find themselves on-their-own as a young adult. Additional services by Circle of Care Oklahoma, and Neighborhood Services Organization (NSO) which also assist in this area will be highlighted.

I would conclude my message with a thank you to all the women and men of the church who have helped throughout the summer months with the mission programming at the church. Youth Force and Vacation Bible School brought youth and children to our church and community. Laity supported these activities in many ways. From working with the young people in our congregation, I have a better opportunity to know them one-on-one. We have lots of talented and enthusiastic people in our church family. It was blessing to serve and learn with them.

We will be working over the next few months to have our UMW Leadership in place so we can start 2020. The Nominating Committee of Barbara Baxter, Barbara Lueck, Kelley Ramey, and Shauna Rhoads would like to visit with you if you could serve as Secretary or President starting in January 2020. Let them know if there is a way you would like to be involved.

Lessons in holiness

After hearing Salvation Army founder William Booth speak in 1886, Samuel Brengle “enlisted” for training. To cope with the lowly task of shining cadets’ boots, he thought of Jesus washing the disciples’ feet. Brengle, who became the Salvation Army’s first American-born Commissioner, wrote several books about holiness, which comes not through human efforts but from Jesus himself.

Brengle practiced this principle when confronted by critics. “I think I deserved it,” he once replied. “Will you, my friend, remember me in prayer?” Another time, Brengle said a rebuke “set me to self-examination and heart-searching and prayer, which always lead me to a deeper sense of my utter dependence on Jesus for holiness of heart, and into sweeter fellowship with him.

AUGUST 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	29	30 Life Line Screening	31 11:00 AM Youth - White Water	1	2	3
4 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM 1st Sunday Potluck 12:15 PM Youth Council 5:30 PM Work Area Committees 6:30 PM Leadership Team	5 5:30 PM Trustees	6	7 6:00 PM Youth: Destination Unknown	8	9	10 12:00 PM Youth: St. Yootz Day @ OKC
11 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Fellowship Coffee: Connection Class Hosts 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	12	13 Public School Begins	14 6:00 PM Youth: Back-to-school-bash @ Rader Park 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	15 7:00 PM Frances Good Circle	16	17
18 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 4:30 PM FUMY: Game Night	19 SWOSU Classes Begins 5:30 PM Finance 7:00 PM Prayer/Shawl Ministries	20	21 6:00 PM Youth 6:30 PM Youth/HS Disciple 6:45 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Parent Meeting	22	23	24
25 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 4:30 PM FUMY: Mission Blankets	26	27	28 4:00 PM WOLC Board 5:30 PM Welcome Back Dinner 6:30 PM Youth/HS Disciple 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	29	30	31



TEEN TALK

This summer is quickly coming to a close. It has been a fantastic one! Youth have gone to camp, participated in Youth Force, went to Youth 2019 in Kansas City, helped with VBS, picked up trash, attended the church wide picnic, and have grown so much in their relationship with one another and God. It is definitely a summer to remember. We will have a few more activities in August before school starts on Tuesday, August 13. There will be a Destination Unknown on Wednesday, August

7. Youth will need to meet at the church at 6:00pm and be prepared to have fun! Youth will be able to be picked up at the church at 8:30pm. We will be going to St. Yootz Day at Frontier City on Saturday, August 10. St. Yootz Day is a great day to meet friends that we have made this summer! This event is sponsored by the Conference Council on Youth Ministry. Tickets are \$25 each. This will get you into the park and the concert featuring for King & Country. Youth will need to meet Keagan Smith at the church at noon to leave. Youth will need to eat lunch before they come and take enough money to eat dinner at the park. Youth should return back to Weatherford by midnight. Kelley Ramey will not be going to St. Yootz Day because she will be on vacation from Friday, August 9, to Sunday, August 18. Youth that would like to go to St. Yootz Day need to let Kelley know or sign up in the youth lounge by Wednesday, August 7.

There will be a Back-to-School Bash for the youth at Radar Park at 6:00pm on Wednesday, August 14. Youth should be dropped off at the park and remember to bring the food that they/their parents signed up to bring. Diana Walker and Keagan Smith will be at the park to help youth have fun. The Bash will conclude at 8:00pm. With school beginning, we will begin meeting again on Sunday evenings at 4:30pm. On August 18, we will have a game night and on August 25, we will make blankets. Youth will meet on Wednesday, August 21, at 6:00pm and conclude at 7:00pm when a parent meeting begins. All parents are encouraged to attend this meeting to find out all the plans for the new year. On Wednesday, August 28, there will be a Welcome Back Dinner for the whole church from 5:30-6:30pm. At 6:30pm, there will be a concert in the Sanctuary that the youth will attend along with the rest of their church family. Classes for youth will not officially begin until September. We look forward to building on the foundation of our faith that was built over the summer.

Registration information for OK Conference/UMW/CJAMM joint workshop – BREAKING CHAINS

Examining incarceration issues in Oklahoma through the eyes of the church.

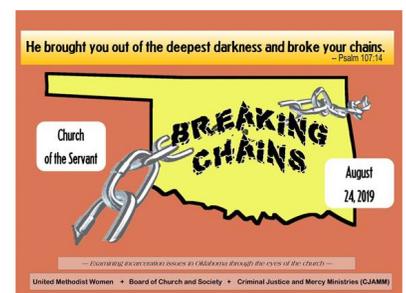
Oklahoma is currently #1 in the nation per capita for incarcerating both men and women. How are our schools contributing to our incarceration problem? Emily Jones, Social Action staff with United Methodist Women national office in New York City, will address this issue on a national level. April Sellers-White, Oklahoma Associate District Judge for Creek County and currently serving on the board of Criminal Justice And Mercy Ministries (CJAMM), will give us some insight into the judicial system in our state. Kris Steele, served as Speaker of the House of

Representatives and currently serves as the chair of the Pardon and Parole Board, will share his work in prison reform and the role of the Pardon and Parole Board for the incarcerated and the state. BREAKING CHAINS will be the event to attend for all who are interested in prison reform or wanting to know more about our incarceration issues. For further information call Harri Williams, 405-623-7968. A light breakfast and lunch with snacks will be served.

- Date: August 24, 2019
- Time: Sign in 8:30, Begins 9:00 – 3:00
- Where: Church of the Servant, 14343 N. MacArthur, Oklahoma City, OK 73142
- Cost: \$40.00
- Registration deadline: August 19, 2019

You can access on-line registration at: <https://www.okumc.org/eventdetail/12851060>

If you are not familiar with the School-to-Prison Pipeline issue, attend this meeting and find out more. There is a handout in the FUMC church office if you would like more information.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
817 North Seventh Street
P.O. Box 350
Weatherford, OK 73096
E-Mail: firstu@sbcglobal.net

NON-PROFIT ORGRANIZATION
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #43
(580) 772-5565
Web Address: <http://fumcmethodistok.org>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED