

The Calling

Volume 14, No. 4
First United Methodist Church 501 West Main, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401 580-223-5390

Kevin Conrad uses the following illustration in a message. In the classic Broadway production *Raisin in the Sun*, an African-American mother struggles to keep two adult children on track. In one memorable scene, the mother is confronted by her daughter's angry skepticism.

The daughter states in defiance, "Mama, you don't understand. It's all a matter of ideas, and God is one idea I just don't accept. There is simply no blasted God."

With dignity and strength, the mother says, "I want you to repeat this after me, in my mother's house there is still God."

After a long pause, the daughter honors her mother's affirmation of faith. Slowly, quietly, she says, "In my mother's house there is still God."

The passing on of cherished devotion to God begins in each household.

Sunday we will continue our series of messages, CSI: Christianity and Science Investigation. People of science and faith tell us there are two great books, the book of God's Word and the book of God's Works and it is important to study them both. And in truth, these books often come together in the special relationships that make up our lives. Those people who help us see, "In _____ house there is still God."

Invite someone to come with you to Sunday school and Church.

Darrell

Acolytes for January 27th
Mikalyn Gerken and Ellie Pettit

8:30 AM
McClure Chapel

10:55 AM
Sanctuary

www.fumcardmore.com
Televised at 10:55 AM on Cable One, Channel 7
Broadcast at 11:00 AM, KVSO AM 1240

Sanctuary Guild

The Sanctuary Guild invites you to help provide fresh flowers for worship each Sunday. Flowers may be donated in honor of a loved one or in celebration of a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary. Each arrangement costs \$50. For more information or to schedule flowers for a specific Sunday, call Pat Castellow at 223-5390, x 303.



Stephen Ministry

All Alone? Don't Be!

God doesn't want us to be all alone. He wants us to turn to others when things are bothering us. Stephen Ministers will walk with you through your troubles and be there for you when you need them. Contact Bettie Black (223-9477), Louise Daniels (226-5524) or Rev. Dan Patman (223-5390 ext. 308) for more information about Stephen Ministry.

Prayer Chain

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

Sharen Hale at 222-1412
or email her:

sharenhale@cablone.net

or

Joann Keithley at 223-0062
or email her:

joannkeithley@sbcglobal.net

The Lectionary Readings for January 27th

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
I Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Sunday's Music

This Sunday is the **Third Sunday after the Epiphany**. In both 8:30 and 10:55 worship services John Emery, organist will play **"Who Is On the Lord's Side?"** based on the hymntune ARMAGEDDON, by hymn composer John Goss, 1800-1880, (to the text of Francis R. Havergal). The organ arrangement is by Harold DeCou.

In the 8:30 worship service I will sing **"Covenant Prayer,"** an original composition by Allen Pote, with text from Wesley's *covenant service*. This solo version is found in Mr. Pote's collection *A Song of Joy*, copyright © 2003 by Hope Publishing Company.

In the 10:55 worship service, the Sanctuary Choir, with Kelley Segler at the piano, will sing **"Prayer for Creation"** by Joseph M. Martin. The majority of the text is by the Rev. Paul F. Rack, from the Christ Presbyterian Church in Martinsville, New Jersey, in whose honor the anthem was commissioned. The anthem is copyright © 2007 by Harold Flammer and Malcolm Music, both divisions of Shawnee Press, Inc. The Vesper Chimes Handbell Choir will ring **"Contemplation on Ubi Caritas"** (*Where Love and Charity are found*) by Catherine McMichael. This handbell anthem incorporates handchimes in its musical statements, and is copyright © 2006 by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc.

Please read these texts, from Sunday's music:

Covenant Prayer

Lord, make me what you will. I put myself into your hands.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering,
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you.

Lord, make me what you will. I will no longer be my own.
Let me be full, let me be empty,
let me have all things, let me have nothing.

Lord, I freely and with a willing heart, give it all to you,
to your pleasure and disposal, Lord.
Make me what you will.

Prayer for Creation

Lord, we pray for all creation
scattered across the eons of space.
On behalf of this good earth, spinning jewel of blue;
on behalf of all of life, blooming in sacred green;
on behalf of all people, red and yellow, black and white.
Hear our prayer, O Living God.

We pray for the outcast, for all the oppressed,
exploited and grieving.

We lift up our prayers for the travelers, the homeless,
the sick and the poor,
for mothers and fathers, for children and families,
for the leaders of the human community, for peace and justice.
Hear our prayer, O living God!

Lord, we pray for every nation, joining hearts and hands as one,
bonded by the Spirit's tether, unified by holy Love.
With believers everywhere we rejoice in life.
Praise to God, the fount of goodness,
source of never ending light.
Hear our prayer, O living God. Amen.

Shalom, *Bob*

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 27

8:30 am	Worship / Chapel
9:30 am	Sunday Morning Live
9:45 am	Sunday School
10:55 am	Worship / Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Adult Servant Team & Youth Council Meeting
3:00 pm	Rio Bravo Mission Meeting
4:45 pm	Jr. High Youth
5:30 pm	Celebrate Recovery - Men
7:00 pm	Sr. High Youth
7:00 pm	Celebrate Recovery - Women

Monday, January 28

7:45 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Children's Day Out
9:30 am	Body Recall
1:00 pm	Clothes Closet Opens
5:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
6:00 pm	Stephen Ministry Training
6:30 pm	Beth Moore Bible Study
6:30 pm	Sharing Your Faith Course
6:30 pm	Biblical Equipping Bible Study
7:00 pm	Sr. High Girls Bible Study

Tuesday, January 29

7:45 am	Preschool
10:30 am	Moms Praying
6:00 pm	Mission Ministry

Wednesday, January 30

7:45 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Clothes Closet Opens
9:00 am	Children's Day Out
9:30 am	Body Recall
5:15 pm	2 nd -5 th Grade Bible Study & Pizza
5:30 pm	Prayer Ambassadors
6:15 pm	Worship / Colvert Ministry Center
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm	Celebrate Recovery
7:15 pm	Mid-Week Youth

Thursday, January 31

7:45 am	Preschool
9:00 am	Precept Bible Study
12:30 pm	Beth Moore Bible Study
6:30 pm	DivorceCare

Friday, February 1

9:30 am	Body Recall
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Missionary News



We received a note from Wes & Joy Griffin, directors of the International Leadership Institute in Carrollton, Georgia—

*“Dear Friends, The last line of Oswald Chambers’ great devotional book **My Utmost for His Highest** says, ‘Leave the Irreparable past in His hands, and step out into the Irresistible Future with Him.’*

As we begin a new year, we turn with eagerness to all that God has for the future. At the same time, we celebrate God’s faithfulness and blessings over the past year.

Through the dedicated efforts of everyone who is part of the ILI Team we expect to announce soon that 10,000 leaders were trained in 2007. Other highlights include:

** ILI National conferences grew from 15-36 equipping over 1,000 new National level alumni.*

** For the first time, ILI International conferences were held in Spanish and Portuguese.*

** History Makers, ILI’s emerging leader’s ministry, grew dramatically and now includes more than 400 young leaders in 23 nations.*

Please join us in taking a few minutes to praise God for the many blessings of 2007. From corporate boardrooms to rural villages, ILI alumni are accelerating the spread of the Gospel around the world. Next, join us in committing 2008 into God’s hands as together we step out into God’s ‘irresistible future.’

Until All Worship, Wes & Joy”

We have supported Wes & Joy Griffin since the middle 1990’s through our Faith Promise. We also hosted an ILI national conference outside of Nairobi, Kenya in January, 2007 with Dan Patman, Bonnie Cates, Letha Khaladj, and Janice Spruill. We were an integral part of the history-making effort by ILI to train 10,000 leaders internationally. Thanks for your commitment to Jesus Christ as you have given faithfully to the Faith Promise.

FOCUS ON FOLKS

In the Hospital or Recently Dismissed:

Sympathy:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sophia Harris and her family with the passing of her father, Rafael Herrera, on Saturday, January 12th. Services were held on Sunday, January 13th in San Salvador, El Salvador.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Noel Mann who passed away on Wednesday, January 16th. Services were held on Monday, January 21st in the Sanctuary.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob and Sherry Singleton with the passing of Sherry’s aunt, Alberta Haynes, on Wednesday, January 16th. Services were held Friday, January 18th in Lexington, OK.

Memorials:

In memory of **Margaret Dodd** contributions to the Memorial Fund and Music Ministry have been received from:

Wadell and Sheila Altom (Memorial)

Mike & Pat Castellow (Memorial)

John Emery (Music)

Joyce Ward (Memorial)

In memory of **Janice Downing** contributions to the Memorial Fund and Handbell Choir have been received from:

Robert Allen and Katherine Carr (Memorial)

Don & Gayle Cummings (Memorial)

Robert & Penny Downing (Memorial)

Charles & Shirley Hawkins (Memorial)

Hank & Becky Kittrell (Handbells)

Don & Carolyn Lemmon (Memorial)

Helen Shell (Memorial)

Richard & Carol Simms (Memorial)

In memory of **Vivian Hohnstein** a contribution to the Ministry Center Trust Fund has been received from:

Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Nelson, Jr.

In memory of **Harry Nicodemus** a contribution to the Memorial Fund has been received from:

Harold & Kathryn Morrison

In memory of **Esther Runyan** contributions to the Memorial Fund, Clothes Closet and Communion Fund have been received from:

Betty Calhoon (Memorial)

Carl & Pauline Dodson (Clothes Closet)

Mark & Sidney Douglass (Memorial)

Hank & Becky Kittrell (Communion)

Monty & Ora Rist (Memorial)

Prayer Ambassadors

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you. Then you will be my witnesses to testify about me in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

1. Our Jerusalem—Ardmore Cross Timbers Hospice

2. Our Judea—Oklahoma CJAMM—Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministry Redemption Church is a fellowship of prisoners, ex-prisoners, their families, and friends of faith. We seek to mold prison formed faith into the walk of discipleship. The mission of Redemption Church is to cultivate and empower peer leaders who can reach out and help others with similar life experiences. Warren Memorial UMC in Ardmore hosts a Redemption Church. Pray for Rev. Everisto Chikanga and volunteers.

**3. Our Samaria—North America
Campus Crusade for Christ Rapid Deployment Kits** – sent to military and their families—provides Bibles, devotionals and other literature.

**4. To the Ends of the Earth
John and Colleen Eisenberg** in Paraquay

5. Persecuted Church
“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” Eph. 6:18

- **Ethiopia**—Muslims warned Christians to stop evangelizing in Yayu Town, Oromia State and burned a church in August. Pray for safety of believers.

Church Staff Directory

You can reach the following church staff members by dialing the following extension numbers anytime during the recorded telephone greeting:

Tami Fasgold	301
Darrell Cates	302
Pat Castellow	303
Lori Eddington	305
Dan Patman	308
Bob Pfau	312
Adam Ricks	314
Nancy Harris	315
Michelle Barnard	318
Allison Dierlam	318
Randle Riggle	319
Barbara Shields	320
Preschool Office	322
Janice Spruill	325

Dates to Remember:

Feb 8	Youth 30 Hour Famine
March 1-7	Rio Bravo Construction Mission
March 9-11	Festival of Faith
March 16	Palm Sunday
March 17-21	Holy Week
March 17-21	Youth Nashville Mission
March 17-21	Spring Break
March 22	Easter Egg Hunt
March 23	Easter
March 24	Church Closed

Non-Profit Organization
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Ardmore, Oklahoma
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Loaves &
Fishes

January

Peanut Butter

18oz

Or you may donate money
to the emergency fund

Address Service Requested