

# The Calling

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

Crossroads represent choices, opportunities and call for a decision. Crossroads represent the opportunity for good or evil, blessings or curses because all choices have consequences. During our journey through Lent to Easter we will look at the life and ministry of Jesus and crossroad experiences in his life that effect our lives and have eternal consequences.

The problem as Paul describes it in Romans 5:12-19, is that sin and its devastating consequences (death) came into the world through the action of one person and spread as the worst global pandemic ever effecting everyone. Paul came to understand Jesus' work as God's work with all of humankind reversing the effect of Adam's actions.

Some find it hard to believe that one person's actions could influence so many. Yet our actions generally impact the lives others. Which is why it is always a lie to say, "What does it matter, my actions aren't effecting anyone except myself."

Our actions have the potential to impact others for ill or for good.

Ultimately, one man's actions overturned the epidemic that came about through the first Adam's sin and rebellion. The difference was obedience. The choice of the second Adam (Christ) to trust God and act out of obedience turned what was a one way dead end for humankind into a crossroad where we have a choice between life or death. Life in Christ or death in our rebellious humanity.

Each Sunday between now and Easter we will be looking at experiences in Christ's life. Events where the issue comes down to a crossroad decision of trusting obedience or independent assertive separation from God's plan, will and direction.

I hope you will join us each Sunday in Lent for Crossroads in the Cross Roads of Christ

Blessings,  
Darrell

Televised at 10:55am  
Cable One, Channel 7

**8:30 AM**  
**McClure Chapel**

**10:55 AM**  
**Sanctuary**

Broadcast at 11:00am  
KVSO AM 1240

**11:00 AM**  
**Colvert Ministry Center**

## CR Step Studies Begin

The Celebrate Recovery step studies are beginning for both men and women. These weekly small group sessions for Christian accountability will enable participants to deal with the hurts, habit, hang-ups and issues that pervade their lives and negate their spirituality. Past CR participants have been able to gain victory over issues like anger, fear, worry, lust, greed, road rage, and depression. It's done in a quiet, confidential, and fun setting.

The men's and women's CR step studies will begin on Sunday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. The men will meet in the Chester Dennis Classroom and the women will meet in the Church Parlor.

The step studies are about one year long. You can join a CR step study at any time until the group arrives at the Fourth Step. Consequently, step studies will be taking on new folks for 2 or three months before the groups will be closed. So, we invite you to get on board now. A nursery is available upon request.

For more information, men can contact Chris Shadle at 580-504-2402 or [mopar64@brightok.net](mailto:mopar64@brightok.net) and women can contact Kelly Shannon at 580-465-5242 or [kellysue.shannon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kellysue.shannon@sbcglobal.net).

*Thank you guys so much for all your help and use of your showers following the tornado a few weeks ago. It's wonderful to see how our community pulls together in times of need.*

*Carmel Jones  
Shelter Manager  
American Red Cross  
South Central OK Chapter*

## The Lectionary Readings for March 8th

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38

## Sunday's Music

This Sunday is **The Second Sunday in Lent**. As we celebrated with our **Festival of Faith** last Sunday, our celebration of **Holy Communion** was moved to this Sunday in all worship services. It is also **Girl Scout Sunday** and we will have many girl scouts present and they will be an obvious part of the leadership of our 10:55 worship service in the Sanctuary.

In both 8:30 and 10:55 worship services John Emery, organist, will play "**Postlude on HANOVER**" arranged by Joyce Jones. HANOVER is the hymntune name for the hymn *O Worship the King*, a quite familiar hymn for many of us.

In the 8:30 worship service I will sing "**Come to the Table**" by Allen Pote." This is a solo arrangement of an original choral anthem, copyright © 1992 by Coronet Press.

In the 10:55 worship service this Sunday, the Sanctuary Choir will sing an exciting choir favorite "**Higher Ground**" by Mark Hayes. Adapting the text from a Gospel Hymn of the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Mr. Hayes has infused the emotion of a marvelously exciting and delightful piano accompaniment in this anthem, a choir favorite. The anthem is copyright © 2006 by The Lorenz Corporation, Kelley Segler will accompany at the piano.

Please read this text from Sunday's music.

### Higher Ground

I'm pressing on the upward way,  
new heights I'm gaining every day.  
Still praying as I'm onward bound,  
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

My heart has no desire to stay  
where doubts arise and fears dismay;  
though some may dwell where these abound,  
my prayer, my aim, is higher ground.

When life's song of joy has ceased,  
and from despair I seek release;  
I'll tune my ear to the Spirit's sound,  
and always choose the higher ground.

I want to scale the utmost height  
and catch a glimpse of glory bright;  
but still I'll pray till heaven I've found,  
"Lord, lead me on to higher ground."

Lord, lift me up and let me stand,  
by faith, on heaven's table land,  
a higher plane than I have found;  
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground!

Shalom, *Bob*

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, March 8 **!!DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!!**

8:30 am Worship / McClure Chapel  
9:30 am Sunday Morning Live  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:55 am Worship / Sanctuary  
11:00 am EPIC / CMC  
12:00 pm Center Point  
4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery

### Monday, March 9

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 Invitation Bible Study

### Tuesday, March 10

7:45 am Preschool  
10:30 am Moms Praying  
4:30 pm Trustees

### Wednesday, March 11

7:45 am Intercessory Prayer  
7:45 am Preschool  
9:00 am Children's Day Out  
9:00 am Clothes Closet Opens  
9:30 am Body Recall  
5:00 pm Stephen Ministry  
5:00 pm Faithweavers  
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, March 12

7:45 am Preschool  
9:00 am Precept Bible Study  
1:00 pm XYZ Bridge Club  
6:30 pm DivorceCare  
7:00 pm Alpha

### Friday, March 13

7:45 am Preschool  
9:30 am Body Recall  
10:00 am XYZ Ministry

### Dates to Remember:

March 16-20 Youth Spring Break Ski Trip  
April 6-10 Holy Week  
April 11 Easter Egg Hunt  
April 12 Easter  
April 13 Church Closed  
April 16-19 Men's Emmaus Walk  
April 23-26 Women's Emmaus Walk  
May 1-3 Mission Festival  
May 7 Senior Banquet  
May 10 Mother's Day / Senior Sunday  
May 14 Confirmation Banquet

# Friendly Neighbors

an X Y Z Ministry

*Fun & Fellowship*

*All Seniors Welcome*

10:30am / March 20th

Colvert Ministry Center

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



## Girl's Night Out

Sunday, March 15th, 6:00pm

If you know where GNO will be

please call the church office. Thanks!



## UMM

Sunday, March 15th, 6:00pm

Colvert Ministry Center

## Stephen Ministry

CONFIDENTIAL!

That's what Stephen Ministry is. Everything a person tells his or her Stephen Minister is kept in strict confidence. People are often afraid that if they tell someone what is troubling them, word will get around and others will look down on them. A Stephen Minister keeps everything a care receiver shares confidential, and through the sharing God works miracles of healing and peace. Contact Louise Daniels (226-5524) or Rev. Dan Patman (223-5390, ext.308) for more information about Stephen Ministry.



## Walk For Life

Saturday, April 4th

Mt. View Mall

Registration begins at 8:30am

*Pregnancy Resource Center needs walkers and people to sponsor the walkers. Please mark this date on your calendar and join us!*

*For more information please call 223-7218.*

## FOCUS ON FOLKS

**In the Hospital, or recently dismissed:** Jay Cook, Bill McMurry, Carol Thompson, Margi Thompson, Allene Tidwell

**Sunday School Greeters for March:**

Main Building - WESLEY class

Colvert Ministry Center - FOUNDATIONS class

**New Arrivals:** Britt & Meredith Morris announce the birth of their daughter **Ava Ryann Morris** on Tuesday, February 10th. She weighed 7lbs-11oz and was 20½ inches long. Ava's grandparents are Waylan and Sandra Morris and her great-grandmother is Mary Lou Fisher.

**Sympathy: Our thoughts & prayers go out to the following:**

Maureen Billingsley and her family with the passing of her husband Travis on Saturday, February 21st. Services were held Wednesday, February 25th in the Sanctuary.

Betty Burris and her family with the passing of her husband Doug on Tuesday, February 24th. Services were held Thursday, February 26th in Ardmore.

Harry and Donna Spring and their family with the passing of Donna's step-father Calvin Keller on Friday, February 6th. Services were held Tuesday, February 10th in Thomas, OK.

Mark and Aylisa Marion and their family with the passing of their son Brent on Sunday, February 22nd. Services were held Thursday, February 26th in the Sanctuary.

The family of Kathryn McCoy. Kathryn passed away on Thursday, February 26th. Services were held Friday, March 6th in McClure Chapel.

Wayne and Kay Laske and their family with the passing of their grand-nephew on Wednesday, February 25th in Wisconsin.

**Memorials:**

In memory of **Travis Billingsley** contributions to the Choir Fund, Memorial Fund, Ministry Center Trust Fund and the Stephen Ministry Fund have been received from: Louise Daniels (Stephen), Bernice Parkerson (Choir), Clem Smalley (Memorial), Harry Spring (CMC)

In memory of **Lena Dupy** a contribution to the Memorial Fund has been received from: Helen Thompson

In memory of **Brent Marion** a contribution to the Ministry Center Trust Fund has been received from: Harry Spring

In memory of **Kathryn McCoy** a contribution to the Faith Promise Fund has been received from: Cora Carlock Class

In memory of **Sue Newman** a contribution to the Memorial Fund has been received from: Ron & Addie Downing

In memory of **Keith Williams** a contribution to the Memorial Fund has been received from: Blake & Christy Williams

## March 11, 2009 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

- All Worship services –Pray we focus on making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world
- Singing Ministry to Nursing Homes
- Bereavement Ministry—funeral dinners and grief booklets

### 2. Our Judea—Oklahoma

- Oklahoma Volunteer in Missions (VIM) director Jeremy Bassett and staff

### 3. Our Samaria—North America

- VIM team to Rio Bravo
- Pray for our country, our President, leaders and that we will humble ourselves before God and learn and practice righteousness in all our ways.

### 4. To the Ends of the Earth

- John and Colleen Eisenberg—Paraguay
- Carla Gonzalez (VIM Coordinator, Guatemala) with Global Mission Partner Program

### 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*

- Kuwait—pray for the 6 tribes in Kuwait—for breakthroughs, fruitful contacts with local believers and tentmakers and open hearts for the gospel being broadcast by radio and television.

## **ATTENTION MEMBERS.....**

The Ardmore Adult Day Services is trying to build a volunteer program. They would like to have two volunteers per day for two hours each. They will have 10 two-hour slots each week. The slots are 10:00 am – 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Their goal is to have two volunteers per day. (I have had a loved one who utilized this service and they do a wonderful work! Janice Weaver) You will be greatly blessed working with these participants. If this is something you would like to do, please call: Stan Kittrell, Executive Director, 580-223-6226.

Healing  
the  
Effects  
of  
Abortion  
Related  
Trauma

### **PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER OF SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA**

We are offering a seven  
-week biblically  
based workshop  
for women/men

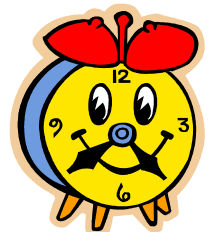
who have unresolved feelings about their  
abortion experience. The workshop will  
begin Thursday, March 12. Enrollment is  
limited with applications in by March 5.  
For additional information call 223-7218.



*It Starts with the Heart*

Easter-Time  
Children's Church Coming Soon  
Sunday, March 22nd  
Watch for details!!

Daylight  
Savings Time  
Begins  
Sunday, March 8th  
Spring Forward!



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



Loaves &  
Fishes

March

Pork & Beans

14-16 oz. cans

Or you may donate money  
to the emergency fund

*Address Service Requested*