

# The Calling

## 2008 FUMC Mission Festival Schedule of Events

Volume 14, No. 18  
First United Methodist Church 501 West Main, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401

May 2, 2008  
580-223-5390



The Rev. Doug Burr needs no introduction to the Ardmore First United Methodist Church. He was the keynote speaker for our Mission Festival in 2003. Doug spoke to us with such urgency about what a Faith Promise is. Rev. Burr is currently the associate pastor of the Chapel Hill UMC in Oklahoma City and serves as a Faith Promise consultant with churches throughout the Oklahoma Conference. I'm so glad to have Doug as our keynote speaker this next Sunday, May 4, for our 2008 Mission Festival. He is a personal friend who is absolutely solid in his faith and

an outstanding spokesperson for the Gospel.

The tenth anniversary of our Mission Festival will include something for everyone—

Outstanding speakers! Marsha Alexander from Rio Bravo, John Eisenberg from Paraguay, George Cockrum from the Society for St. Andrew, Jody Wright and Vanesa Ramsey from the Good Shepherd Medical Clinic here in Ardmore, Fernando Rivera from Lydia Patterson Institute, and Richard Norman from the Oklahoma Conference VIM office.

A children's mission project and music activity (for 1st through 5th graders) on Saturday morning at 8:30-12:00!

A Friday night/all day Saturday mission work experience with Ardmore District youth! Adam Ricks and Nancy Harris have scheduled the youth to stay overnight Friday night at the church.

A Friday night kick-off at 6:30 with a pot luck dinner! Bring your favorite covered dish and get set for a wonderful evening of sharing with truly dedicated and Christ-committed missionaries. These folks will share the extraordinary things that God is doing in the world today through very ordinary people. They will share how God is using the Faith Promise that you and I make to make a Christian difference both here at home and around the globe. The full schedule for the weekend is included elsewhere in this issue of the **CALLING**.

Sunday school classes hosting our missionaries during Sunday school— Seekers will have Rev. Alexander. Hope will join them. Fellowship will have John Eisenberg. LOVE will have Rev. Burr. Youth will have Fernando Rivera. And, Wesley will have George Cockrum.

I want to encourage you to participate in the Saturday work day (call DeB or Marilyn Edwards at 223-5469), participate in the sessions on Friday and Saturday, and let God lead you in regard to your personal Faith Promise during the coming year. See you at the Mission Festival.

Blessings, *Dan*

**Acolytes for May 4th**  
**Schuyler Henderson and Sarah Lankford**

**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**

### **Friday, May 2nd**

6:30pm: Pot Luck Dinner

7:00pm: Worship with "The Chris Hopper Experience," Mission speakers: Richard Norman, Jody Wright / Vanesa Ramsey and Marsha Alexander.

### **Saturday, May 3rd**

7:00am: Breakfast. Mission Speakers: George Cockrum, Fernando Rivera and John Eisenberg.

8:15am: Mission Festival Work Day

8:30am - 12:00 noon: Children's Mission and Music Activity (1st - 5th graders).

12:00 noon: Lunch. Mission Speakers: Marsha Alexander, Richard Norman and Colleen Eisenberg.

5:00pm: Dinner (Catered)

5:30pm: Worship with "The Chris Hopper Experience," Mission Speakers: George Cockrum, Fernando Rivera and John Eisenberg.

### **Sunday, May 4th**

8:30am: Early Worship. Keynote speaker: Doug Burr. Mission Speakers: George Cockrum and Fernando Rivera (McClure Chapel).

9:45am: Mission Speakers will speak in individual Sunday School Classes.

10:55am: Late Worship. Keynote speaker: Doug Burr. Mission Speakers: Marsha Alexander and John Eisenberg (Sanctuary).

*Friday and Saturday events will be held in  
the Colvert Ministry Center*

### **Stephen Ministry**

**Stephen Ministers are  
called to be Caregivers.**



*"Bear one another's burdens,  
and in this way you will fulfill the  
law of Christ." Galatians 6:2*

If you would like to know more about Stephen Ministry, please call Bettie Black (223-9477), Louise Daniels (226-5524) or Rev. Dan Patman 223-5390.

### **The Lectionary Readings** **for May 4th**

Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

## Sunday's Music

This Sunday is **Seventh Sunday of Easter!** It is also the culmination of our *Mission Festival*, when we receive our Faith Promises.

In both 8:30 and 10:55 worship services John Emery will play "**Alleluia**," taken from Mozart's *Exsultate, jubilate*. The organ arrangement is by Gary Davidson. John will also play offertories in both worship services: 8:30 offertory will be "**Fantasia on LOBE DEN HERREN**" (*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*). The tune originates with the Erneueren Gesangbuch, 1665. The contemporary keyboard rendering is by J. Emery; 10:55 offertory will be "**Pie Jesu**" from *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré, in an arrangement by Marilyn Rinehart.

In the 10:55 worship service the Sanctuary Choir, under the direction of Lisa Riggle, will sing "**Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You**" by Jay Althouse. The anthem, with text based on Charles Wesley, is copyright © 1992 by Hope Publishing Company.

Please read this text found in Sunday's music:

### Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Lord, I stretch my hands to you;  
no other help I know.

If you should leave me all alone,  
where, then, shall I go?

Lord, I give my soul to you;  
I seek your care and love.

No other blessings do I need  
but those from you above.

Lord, I ask you: give me faith,  
and help me understand.

And, Lord, when I this life shall leave,  
just hold me in your hand.

Shalom, *Bob*

### Position Available

#### *Christian Education Director*

Responsible for planning, coordinating, and overseeing the Church's educational ministries for children and adults. The Director of Christian Education should have a vibrant Christian faith, a love for people, experience and training in Christian Education, the ability to organize and lead in a nurturing, loving and supportive community. Degree in Christian Education preferred but not required. Interested persons should contact the church office to submit an application.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, May 4

- 8:30 am Worship / McClure Chapel
- 9:30 am Sunday Morning Live
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:55 am Worship / Sanctuary
- 4:45 pm Jr. High Youth
- 5:00 pm Rio Bravo Reunion
- 7:00 pm Sr. High Youth
- 7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery-Women
- 7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery-Men

### Monday, May 5

- 7:45 am Preschool
- 9:00 am Children's Day Out
- 9:30 am Body Recall
- 1:00 pm Clothes Closet Opens

### Tuesday, May 6

- 7:45 am Preschool
- 10:30 am Moms Praying
- 5:30 pm SPR
- 7:00 pm Worship Ministries

### Wednesday, May 7

- 7:45 am Preschool
- 9:00 am Clothes Closet Opens
- 9:00 am Children's Day Out
- 9:30 am Body Recall
- 5:00 pm Jr. High Girls Bible Study
- 5:30 pm Prayer Ambassadors
- 6:15 pm Worship - CMC
- 7:00 pm Mid-Week Youth
- 7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery

### Thursday, May 8

- 7:45 am Preschool
- 12:30 pm Teach Me To Pray Bible Study
- 1:00 pm XYZ Bridge Club
- 6:00 pm Senior Banquet

### Friday, May 9

- 7:45 am Preschool
- 9:30 am Body Recall

### Dates to Remember:

- May 11 Mother's Day
- May 11 Senior Sunday
- May 15 Confirmation Banquet & Rehearsal
- May 18 Confirmation Sunday
- May 26 Memorial Day / Church Closed
- June 15 Father's Day
- June 23-27 Vacation Bible School
- June 27-29 Joy Camp
- June 28-29 Sonshine Camp
- June 30-July 4 Ardmore District Camp

## 2008 Bible Study Opportunities

**PRECEPT STUDY FOR SUMMER:** We will be studying Covenant this summer and what a wonderful study it is. Security in God's love, confidence in God's promises, and dependence upon God's power alone come through understanding and appropriating the covenant which God has established with each of His children. This series will unfold for you the historical tradition as well as the biblical and cultural background of covenant. Understanding God's covenants is like finding the missing piece of the puzzle which ties it all together. Finally, one begins to understand what it means to live in the realm of the grace of God, free from the Law but not lawless! Rest, joy and victory belong to the believers who truly know their God as a covenant-keeping God. Thursdays, May 15th - August 7th, 9:00am to 11:00am, room #116 in the Colvert Ministry Center. Led by Janie Courtney, video's by Wayne Barber. What a blessing it is to study God's Word with other Christians and enjoy the fellowship and fun each week.

**INTERCESSORY PRAYER:** "How God Can Use Your Prayers to Move Heaven and Earth" by Dutch Sheets: John Wesley said: "God does nothing on the earth save in answer to believing prayer." If he was correct, we need to learn to pray! Even more, we to start praying! Believed by many as the best book written on intercessory prayer, pastor and teacher Dutch Sheets explains the nuts and bolts of prayer with wisdom, gentleness and humor. This book will inspire you, give you the courage to pray for the "impossible" and help you find the persistence to see your prayers to completion. If you've ever felt that your prayers don't count, Intercessory Prayer will show you just how vital your prayers are. This 8 week study includes videos by Dutch Sheets. Monday nights, June 2- July 21, 6:30-8:00, Colvert Ministry Center. Led by Karen Chaffin. Books and study guides will be available for purchase first night of class. Child care is available.

**WALKING BY FAITH:** **Lessons Learned in the Dark** by Jennifer Rothschild: This seven week study examines the practical differences between walking by sight and walking by faith. Come join us for spiritual lessons on taking risks, giving God control, trusting in His will, persevering through hardship, and being guided by the Truth. Jennifer Rothschild, who has written the study and appears in the DVD's, was diagnosed at the age of 15 with a rare degenerative eye disease that eventually stole her sight. She is known for her substance, down-to-earth style and ability to find unique "gifts" in unusual packaging. Thursdays, 12:30pm - 2:30pm, June 26th - August 7th, room #116 in the Colvert Ministry Center. Study guide is \$12. Leader: Merla Mourer. Childcare may be available, please contact the church office.

## FOCUS ON FOLKS

### **In the Hospital or Recently Dismissed:**

Dolly Bradley  
Ralph Kampschmidt  
Barbara Parker

### **Sunday School Greeters for May:**

Main Building - **Chester Dennis & Cora Carlock** classes  
Colvert Ministry Center - **Hope** class

**Loaves & Fishes for May:** Canned Green Beans

### **Memorials:**

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

## Welcome!

The Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to announce the employment of two new staff members:

Patricia Merritt is now serving as our Evening & Sunday Nursery Coordinator. Trish has worked in our evening nursery for over 2 years. She is employed outside of the church during the day. If you have any questions about evening or Sunday nursery you can contact her at 223-5390 ext. 317.

Patti Jackson has recently accepted the position of Wedding Coordinator. She is a certified Professional Bridal Consultant. Patti and her husband Fred are new members in our church and moved to Ardmore to be closer to Patti's parents, Woody and Quannah Davis. If you have any wedding related questions you can contact her at 226-2601.

### Position Available

*Children's Day Out /  
Daytime Nursery Coordinator*

Responsibilities: Coordinate and recruit workers for the Children's Day Out Program; coordinate Children's Summer-time Ministry; communicate with Evening Nursery Coordinator; coordinate childcare workers for daytime church events requesting a nursery (Worship, Bible Studies, Meetings, etc). Must be flexible. Interested persons should contact the church office to submit an application.

## May 7, 2008 Prayer Ambassadors

### 1. Our Jerusalem—Ardmore

- Pray God prepare us and send to us the right people to serve in worship, media arts, Christian Education and Children's Day Out/Daytime Nursery
- **Clothes Closet Ministry**—pray for the volunteers who staff it and for those who are benefited by it.
- **Youth Ministry**—pray for our Youth minister and all the sponsors as they gear up for summer youth programming. Pray for Nancy Harris as she prepares for her wedding May 31.

### 2. Our Judea—Oklahoma

- **Durant Wesley Foundation Building Project**
- **OK VIM office staff**—as they coordinate mission teams all over OK, the US and the World

### 3. Our Samaria—North America

- **Lydia Patterson Institute**—pray for this school. Our youth and later our adults will be headed to this school on VIM Trips this June
- **2008 elections**—pray for our country—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**—missionaries serving in Paraguay
- **ILI (International Leadership Institute)** At the Ten Year Celebration, we celebrated 10,426 leaders trained in a single year. Every day last year, 28 people graduated from at least a three-day training event. In Pakistan, thirty key Pakistani leaders were equipped to more effectively spread the Gospel.

### 5. Persecuted Church

- Christians in Sudan are regularly terrorized for their faith
- Again, we ask you to continue to pray that God will give us favor in preparing a WATS music team to come to the USA. Emmanuel and Meekness Ayafor, Chidi Ozodo and Samuel Abdulahi need our prayers that they will be able to sail through with visa applications.

## What Is Welcoming?



Welcoming is how we show kindness, acceptance, and hospitality to everyone - guests and members alike. People catch glimpses of Christ through their encounters with us. In a nation that's becoming more unchurched all the time, we need to ensure that seekers encounter in us

a Christ that they want to know better. Welcoming plays a vital role in living the promise of "Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors." with the seekers coming to our church.

The promise of "Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors." is not limited to any one issue, but analogous of the whole United Methodist denomination. Research has shown that the people of The United Methodist Church present an affirming community to seekers by:

- demonstrating a caring heart for those in need;
- embracing an open-mindedness that requires no attachment to a mandatory creed; and
- opening doors to people with diverse opinions, cultural traditions, and ethnic backgrounds and beliefs.

On May 17th Ardmore First United Methodist Church will be presenting a one day training session from Igniting Ministries called "Living Our Promise". The training will be presented by Rev. Danette Howell and will focus on the ministry of the Church's Welcoming Lifestyle. There will be something presented for every ministry team and every member of the church. Please plan on attending this important ministry training opportunity. The training will involve no cost to you and lunch will be provided. In order to have enough lunch prepared, please RSVP if you are going to attend by contacting Tami in the church office, Dan Patman or Terry Myer.

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