

The Calling

Rev. Jessica Moffatt Seay, Senior Pastor

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First United Methodist Church

501 West Main, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401

580-223-5390

I have been learning a great deal about you! When I first thought of sending you the "Tell Me About You" family information pages, I wondered if you would fill them out and send them back in. You have! So far, I have received 212 delightful, interesting pages! (With more to come, I hope.) They are rich, revealing, funny and inspiring. Some of you wrote extensively, others wrote only a few sentences.

Here is part of what I am learning:

You do love the Lord. One of you wrote, "I am in love with God!" Another said, "I love Jesus and depend on him every day." In page after page you express your gratitude to God for all He has done. You wrote, "I am a recipient of GREAT GRACE and love growing in Christ and telling others how amazing He is!" One of you even included a seven-page typed testimony of the work of God in your life. I relished every word.

You certainly do love our church. I wish you could read the many pages written by those whose lives have been deeply impacted by being a part of our church. One has been a member 59 years, another just a few months. You have felt loved and connected. You have felt a sense of mission and purpose. You are grateful for the ministries of our church. For one of you, having a Stephen Minister has been your lifeline. For another, your brothers and sisters in Christ helped you make it through the cancer that threatened to take your life. Your Sunday School classes mean the world to you. One of you wrote, "I love this old church and all the people who've gone before us who helped establish her."

And you are a busy people. You are involved extensively throughout our church. You are teaching classes and serving on committees and going on mission trips. You love singing in the choir. But you are also living out your faith in the community of Ardmore and where you work. For one of you, the greatest joy of your workday is making someone else feel loved because you "work with lots of unhappy folks".

You have made me laugh out loud. You have told funny stories. One wrote, "I hide from the call from Dan. Just kidding." Another mom wrote, "My daughter wants you to know she loves your hair." One of you blamed your poor handwriting on computer use, "Sorry, Word Perfect has ruined me!" I also got a laugh when I saw that married couples don't draw maps to their home the same way. They don't even get home from the church by the same route. I especially loved the maps by the perfectionists among us. True works of art.

One of you said how much you love the Apostle's Creed. Another of you said that there is a particular hymn that always makes you cry if we sing it in worship because it was sung by Bob Pfau at your husband's funeral. A mom was grateful for our confirmation class and sang the praises of Dan Patman.

Thank you for writing. Thank you for being a part of our church. God is alive and living among us.

Jessica

Televised from the Sanctuary at
10:50am on Cable One, Channel 7

Broadcast from the Sanctuary at
11:00am on KVSQ AM 1240

8:30 AM
McClure Chapel

10:50 AM
Sanctuary

11:05 AM
Colvert Ministry Center

Welcome, New Member!



We welcome Nelda Grant to our fellowship. Nelda transferred from another church in our area at the EPIC worship service on Sunday, July 5. And, she has two children, Ashley & Simone.

Welcome, Nelda!

Children's Ministry

We had our first *Children's ministry Dream Night* on June 30, 2009. This meeting was full of volunteers and parents who have BIG DREAMS for our children. From this meeting we discussed a lot of information about our children's safety while at Sunday Morning Live (the new name). As a result of this meeting we are designing a new safety policy. Each child must be signed into their Sunday School class by a parent. At 10:30 all the children (K-5) will be taken to worship held in the Fourth and Fifth grade Sunday School room C-11. At 10:45 each child must be signed out by a parent in the worship room (C-11). Parents will be receiving an informational letter this week explaining our new safety policy. If you have any questions or concerns please call Amy Byrd at 223-5390 ext 325 or email me at amy@fumcardmore.com.

Girl's Night Out

Will not meet
in July



Sunday's Music

This Sunday is the **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**.

In both 8:30 and 10:50 worship services John Emery, organist, will play "**Pastorale on ST. ALPHEGE**" by Oliver Janes. ST. ALPHEGE is the hymntune name for "*The Voice that Breathed O'er Eden*," composed by Henry J. Gauntlett, 1852.

In the 8:30 worship service I will sing "**At The River**" adapted by Aaron Copeland. The familiar *Shall We Gather at the River* is the source and Mr. Copeland's love for early American melodies in their original form has produced this beautiful adaptation. The collection is copyright © 1954 by Boosey and Hawkes, Inc.

In the 10:50 worship service the Sanctuary Choir will sing "**Worthy to Be Praised!**" by Byron J. Smith. This choir favorite is written in the style of a Spiritual. Kelley Segler will accompany at the piano. This anthem, also a choir favorite, is copyright ©1993 by Lawson-Gould Music Publishers, Inc.

Please read these texts from Sunday's music.

At the River

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angels feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.

Yes we'll gather by the river, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease,
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.

Worthy to Be Praised

Holy, holy, holy. Praise our God almighty,
Worthy and holy. Lord eternally.

Praise the Lord in the highest. Praise His Holy name.
Let all things that haveth a breath just praise the Lord.
I believe in the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.
I will sing, I will shout He's worthy to be praised!

We have come into the house of the Lord,
to praise His Holy name.

To give glory, honor and adore, His Son whose life He gave.
Let the trumpet sound, let the rocks resound,
our sinful souls he saved.

Raise your voices high and sing to the Lord,
He's worthy to be praised.

Shout hosanna high to God for His everlasting grace.
Let the trumpet sound, let the rocks resound,
our grateful voices raise!

I will sing, I will shout He's worthy to be praised!

Shalom, *Bob*

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, July 12

8:30 am	Worship / McClure Chapel
9:30 am	Sunday Morning Live
9:45 am	Sunday School
10:50 am	Worship / Sanctuary
11:05 am	EPIC / CMC
6:00 pm	Jr. & Sr. High Youth
7:00 pm	Celebrate Recovery

Monday, July 13

1:00 pm	Clothes Closet Opens
6:30 pm	David Bible Study

Tuesday, July 14

12:00pm	Noon Prayer
4:30 pm	Trustees

Wednesday, July 15

9:00 am	Clothes Closet Opens
5:30 pm	Prayer Ambassadors
6:15 pm	Worship / CMC
7:00 pm	Celebrate Recovery
7:00 pm	Mid-Week Youth

Thursday, July 16

9:00 am	Precept Bible Study
9:00 am	Children's Day Out
1:00 pm	XYZ Mah Jongg

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS FOR DISCOVERY 2009

Discovery Weekend 2009 - "Celebrate Life," will be held August 14-16 at our Church. This is a 42 hour spiritual formation retreat for **6th, 7th & 8th** graders. We need to fill the following volunteer positions: Jr. High small group leaders, host homes for Sr. High helpers, meal preparation, prayer team, set-up and clean-up, volunteers to spend the night at the church with the Jr. High students, and just general help throughout the weekend. Please contact Laura (223-5390 x315) or Adam (x314) to volunteer. Let's make this year's weekend be a wonderful spiritual experience for the Jr. High students.

Dates to Remember:

July 12-17	Jr. High Mission Trip
July 27-31	Dayspring
August 3-6	Growin' in Grace Camp
August 3-6	Tweens Camp
August 14-16	Discovery
Sept 7	Labor Day / Church Closed
Sept 13	Round-Up Rally
Sept 24-27	Men's Emmaus Walk
Oct 1-4	Women's Emmaus Walk

Missionary News

We recently received the June newsletter from John & Colleen Eisenberg in Asuncion, Paraguay—



What could be more exciting than an evangelism/discipleship program led by lay people in the church! John has just finished teaching the first Alpha Course and Leaders Training program in the barrio of Santa Rosa in Asuncion. The program in Jose Falcon will be finished in a month. Both of these churches are praying about when to begin their own programs.

Colleen is helping with a women's Bible study at our church called 'Growing in the Family of God.' The co-leader is Emi Monges, a dear sister in the Lord. The program is mainly for new believers, with a strong Bible base. John will begin an Alpha Course at Emi's house once the weather warms back up (it is winter here now).

Two of our missionary pastors/teachers have left for other assignments, so John has resumed teaching on John Wesley and Methodism at the Bible Institute. John is also preaching at two churches each month. There is a need for more missionaries in Paraguay, both to teach and for the medical clinic!

*Partners in Christ,
The Eisenbergs*

We have been supporting the Eisenbergs since we began our faith promise in 1999.

Hello 6th grade Parents!

We are doing a summer 6th grade study called "Surviving Middle School," and I am very excited about getting started! It will begin Wednesday July 22nd in the youth room on the third floor, and meet every Wednesday through August 12th. Middle School is a time when a lot of changing takes place, you move to a bigger school, and you're making new friends, and trying to figure out who you are. My hope for this study is to make an impact on your 6th graders and help them into a smoother transition to middle school. We are going to play games, watch videos, read a little, and talk A LOT! I look forward to it, and know we are going to have a blast!

Love Allyson
223-5390 x315

FOCUS ON FOLKS

In the Hospital, or recently dismissed:

Sunday School Greeters for July:

Main Building - LOVE

Colvert Ministry Center - HOPE

Sympathy:

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob Shirey, Doug Cude and Betty Sue Clarke and their families with the passing of Bob's wife, Mary Lou, on Tuesday, June 30th. Services were held on Wednesday, July 8th in Ardmore.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Judy Venters. Judy passed away on Sunday, July 5th. Services were held on Wednesday, July 8th in Ardmore.

Memorials:

In memory of Ora Rist a contribution to the Memorial Fund has been received from:

Wesley Sunday School Class

ATTENTION YOUTH

(incoming 6th through graduated seniors)



We have some exciting trips and camps coming up this summer:

- Sr. High Dayspring Camp at Cross Point Camp 7/27-7/31

- Tweens Camp for

incoming 6th graders at Cross Point Camp (8/3-8/6)

- Discovery '09 (8/14-8/16)

Contact Laura or Adam for details

or get forms on our website

funcardmore.com/youth/forms



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 Louise Daniels 226-5524 or Rev. Dan Patman 223-5390 x308.



July 15, 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
- Please continue prayers for the Children's Summer Ministry—July 13-15
- Junior High Mission group on their mission—pray much good comes from this.
- Pray for Divorce Care
- Pray for our Stephen Ministry program—a sharing ministry for anyone in crisis

2. Our Judea—Oklahoma

- Pray for continuing support for: United Methodist Manor, CJAMM ministry, Africa University and the many camps and conferences of the FUMC

3. Our Samaria—North America

- Upper Room Prayer Center need prayer to keep the 24-hour prayer ministry
- 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

- Prayers needed for the African Mosquito Nets Project—Nothing But NETS saves lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of African children
- Pray for the Bethlehem Bible College
- Continue praying for the Hope Secondary school in Bet Jala

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

- Pray for the North Korean government and the possible transfer of power—that it will be done peacefully and without bloodshed

First UMC 2009 Men's Softball Schedule

June 1st	9:30p field 1 vs. Lone Grove Assembly of God	Ⓜ
June 8th	6:30p field 2 vs. Emmanuel Baptist	Ⓛ
June 15th	9:30p field 3 vs. Milo Baptist	Ⓜ
June 29th	9:30p field 2 vs. Maranatha	Ⓛ
July 6th	6:30p field 3 vs. Lone Grove Assembly of God 8:30p field 2 vs. Faith Center	
July 13th	7:30p field 2 vs. Emmanuel Baptist	
July 20th	6:30p field 4 vs. Milo Baptist	
July 27th	9:30p field 3 vs. Faith Center	
Aug 3rd	6:30p field 2 vs. Maranatha	

It was a Great Game!!

You should have been there! Maybe you were and I just didn't see you in all the excitement. It started as just another 9:30 game: waiting for the 8:30 teams to finish so you could get the *feel* of the field; being sure enough players were on time to go into the batting order for the official scorer; warming up arms & legs and young & old joints; finding a seat in the stands (the fans' weekly job) and waiting for the coin toss to determine home team (which we won) and then "Play Ball!" and we were under way. By the time we got into the dugout for the bottom of the first, we were well aware that we had an opponent who had come to do battle, their bats had literally *screamed* into action and we were somewhat behind. Our half of the inning only helped a little toward bridging the gap between their runs scored and ours. They played hard and we played hard...they played harder and we played harder. It was a very busy game and in the end we fell two runs short and our opponent was the victor. The fans (without you) cheered vigorously and at least one of them was there for the very first time! Our next time together will be a double-header (two great games for the price of one!) with time to cool off between. Monday Night Church League Softball is the place to be! We'll save a seat for you! Really!

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Loaves &
Fishes

July
Rice
1-lb bag

Or you may donate money
to the emergency fund

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