



# THE SPIRE

News of New Haven United Methodist Church

*“Making Disciples for Jesus Christ in the world,  
by being God’s Love in Action”*

5603 S. New Haven Avenue, Tulsa, OK. 74135 918-743-6491

VOLUME XXVI Number 5

February 5, 2016



How often do we take time to pray—I mean—really pray?

I, too, am sometimes guilty of rushing out into my day full of energy and a never ending list of things to do—and simply do not take time to pray.

Here’s a intriguing way to think about it. Think about this from an artist’s point of view. "It's not the end product that makes me paint. It's the process. When I paint I forget to eat and sleep; I forget appointments; I forget myself." The act of painting can be prayer.

Musicians agree. When they're really playing, they do not notice the room, or the notes, or their instrument, or themselves. All they feel is the sensation of the music in their souls.

## Cindy's Chalkboard

Athletes in peak performance enter "the zone" where there is no thought, only action, skill, and a focused mind. Winning or losing doesn't matter in the "zone"; only being and doing.

ence. You are completely involved and consumed in the activity for its own sake. This, says Mihaly is true happiness.

Isn't this a similar feeling we

### **Prayer is About the Process, Not the End Product**

Maybe we exercise for health, or maybe we paint or play music for our careers, but beneath all of that, there are times when the experience itself is rewarding. The reward is a feeling, and a positive state of mind.

have when we get caught up in deep prayer, when we get caught up by God?

*Prayer is about the process, not the end product.* In focused prayer, ego falls away; self goes unnoticed; time seems non-existent; and worries leave us. All that matters is God. The saints call this place heaven!

Dr. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi calls this "the flow"; the time when ego falls away and time flies. Every action, every movement, and every thought creatively flows inevitably from the previous one. Your whole being gets caught up in the experi-

How about we do this together? Let prayer immerse us in Heaven! Amen!  
Praying with you, Pastor Cindy

### **“All In” Team Meeting, Tuesday, February 9th 6:00 PM**

You're Invited to be....



If you are interested in helping discern and adopt a vision for New Haven Church that enables us to carry on the timeless story of Jesus to a *changing* world, come join us! We're looking for ideas, hopes, and dreams for the future of New Haven UMC, AND those with a

passion and love for Christ and Christ's church!

Are you "All In"? Join us on **Tuesday, February 9th at 6:00 pm in the Parlor**, as together we look toward the future and make plans for all that God has in store for us!

**PLEASE PRAY FOR. . .**

**Members:** Vincent Duiveman; Kay Garwood; Doyle Boyd; Karen Gibbs; Kerry Beebe; Laurel Duncan; Mitzi Blanchard; Teresa Roberts; Paula Fox in the loss of her brother, Allen Brazeal.

**Friends & Family of New Haven UMC**

Mark Nicholson; Linda Gregory's daughter-in-law, Lea; Peppa Smith; Ruth Ann Field; Syble Perry; Easter Moore; Pastor Suzanne's brother, Powers; Karen Gibbs brother-in-law, Dick Hart; Jim Vaughn; Kacie Kendrick; Tammye Johnson's parents; Alon J. Soderfelt's friend, Karen Ridderman; the homeless; our world, city, country, public servants & leaders.

**Covenant Care (prayers & visits appreciated)**

Marjorie Stewart, Rosemary Tarr, Dot and Kelly Haynes; Bob Schwartz; Laurie & Mahcoe VanDyke; Dorothy Koons

**Sweetheart Dance on February 13th!**

Sponsored by New Haven Men's Fellowship

**February 13<sup>th</sup> - 7:00pm to 9:00 pm**

New Haven UMC Gym – Couples & Single (age 14 and up)

**Tickets \$5 per couple if paid by 02/07**

Sign up and pay at New Haven office

**\$10 per couple at the door –**

**\$10 bills only please!**

All money collected will go to Restore Hope Ministry

**DANCE MUSIC PROVIDED BY  
THE STEVE MERRICK QUARTET**

Light refreshments will be provided.



**SOME THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY. . . . .**

~ Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?

~ Why do banks charge you a "non-sufficient funds fee" on money they already know you don't have?

~ Why do STAND-up comedians star in SITcoms?

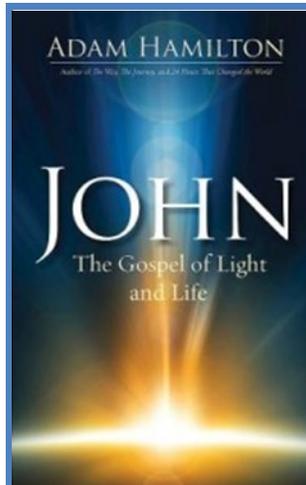
~ Why do they report power outages on TV?

**BASIC LAY SERVANT CLASS OPPORTUNITY**

The Council Oak District will offer a new Lay Servant class on March 4th & 5th, at St. Mark's UMC, Tulsa.

What is a Lay Servant? Well, they are volunteers who serve the church and community in a wide variety of ministries. Lay Servants offer their gifts in the areas of Caring, Leading, and Communicating through worship leadership, visitation, teaching, volunteering, in prison, nursing homes or home ministry, clothing and food banks. There are virtually no limits to the possibilities in ministry available to Lay Servants.

The Friday class is from 6-9 pm and Saturday's class is from 9am-5pm. The \$10. cost includes lunch, snacks, and miscellaneous items. You may contact Pastor Cindy or Danny Hall for more information.



**John:  
The Gospel  
of Light  
and Life**

**Adam Hamilton's  
Newest Study!**

**Led by  
Rev. Cindy Havlik**

**Materials: \$18.00**

**Length: 5 weeks, Wednesday nights**

**Dates: 6:00 pm Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>- March 16th**

**Meeting place: The Parlor**

During the season of Lent, join us as we participate in the newest Bible Study offered by Rev. Adam Hamilton. Come and experience a season of spiritual growth and renewal while exploring the major themes of the Gospel of John. Please let us know by **February 8<sup>th</sup>** if you would like to attend so that we may have enough materials on hand.

## Paula's Perspectives . . .

*Jesus put a child in the middle of the room. Then, cradling the little one in his arms, he said, "Whoever embraces one of these children as I do embraces me, and far more than me, God, who sent me" Mark 9:36.*

During the month of January the children are discovering many ways to pray. Miss Kelly has taken the lead this month and is sharing how many different ways we can be in conversation with God. In addition, the children have an opportunity each week to write and/or draw in their own Prayer Journals. Our children enjoy sharing their joys and concerns with one another and we pray with and for each other.

We will continue our lessons on prayer as we enter February. Our hearts are warmed knowing the children are eager to pray and listen for God's responses to our prayers.

Our Children's Ministry Team feel we have an awesome responsibility to help parents guide children on their spiritual journeys. We strive to know, respect, and accept each child just as they are! It is our prayer each child will feel and know they are a member of God's community during our fellowship and discussions about the Bible. Our children have an extremely deep understanding of the importance of making everyone feel welcome and an important member of our family.

My goal is for children to feel New Haven United Methodist Church is an extension of their home. With parents and teachers working together we can guide children in their spiritual growth and development. How exciting is that?!?

While interviewing for the position I expressed the need to reestablish a **Children's Council**. Children's Council is open to **anyone** willing to invest their time and energy in making Children's Ministry a top priority. We want this council to be intergenerational. So even if ***"you've been there and done that"*** we want you back!!! Your passion for teaching and guiding our children are needed to revitalize our Children's Ministry.

A "meet & greet" and planning session is needed to get the ball rolling! Sign up forms for teaching Sunday school, Children's Church, Vacation Bible School, Children's Choir, Sunday afternoon ***W.E.B. – "We're Exploring the Bible"*** and Summer Fun Days are just a few areas you are needed. Please consider joining Children's Council as a manner to show our children we are interested in them, we love them, and we want to share our love for God with them. I promise, you will be just as blessed by them as they will be blessed knowing you care for their Christian development.

I would like to hold an organizational meeting for the new **Children's Council** on **Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Parlor**. Lunch will be served! All you need to bring is a sharing spirit and some ideas about the direction you want to see our church move forward with our precious children.

Sharing the joy,

Miss Paula

## From Patrick's Desk. . . . .

Hello Church –

We hope that you have been well, and your new year has begun full of God's immense blessings. Our hope also is that you recognize and feel his presence in your life at this time. It was a busy weekend for us as we went to Camp Egan and had the annual district Winter Retreat. This year was especially exciting as it was the first year of the new Council Oak District joining together for this retreat. It was a great experience, and saw the joining of over 100 young people from around our district coming together for worship, fellowship, and small group time. This was my 2<sup>nd</sup> winter retreat, and I was incredibly moved to see God work. It will NEVER grow old witnessing that many youth and even more with adult leaders coming together and praising God through worship. I was also excited to take three brand new campers this year from our church, and what a great time they had!

This year's theme for the retreat was #livingexample, and the reminder message throughout was that WE are to mirror our lives and be the living example of Christ who came before us. A challenging message, but one that today's young people whole heartedly embrace. I found myself reminded that when we adults need some perspective on the world we should just spend a little time amongst young people within the church. While they often will be called naïve, and in truth they haven't lived enough life to know it all – what is too often covered up is in that naivety they also aren't tainted by the world around them, and they have a far easier time understanding the simplicity and matter of fact nature of God that adults tend to overthink and overanalyze. I know for myself that because of the many life experiences I've had, I tend to try and fit God to my life, schedule, and circumstances whereas I'm called to fit those things to God and his plan for me and my life.

My prayer and challenge for all of my church family is that we put US aside, and let HIM take control.

Blessings,

Patrick

# Mission Corner



## HAPPY CHILDREN'S HOME OF CHINA SETS CELEBRATION FOR APRIL 23!

Save the date for a really spectacular celebration of ten years of operation of the Happy Children's Home of China, a mission of the Council Oak District UMC! The home in Fujian Province is thriving with eighteen children currently finding a nurturing home there. In ten years, over sixty children have lived at The Happy Children's Home in a Christian environment, thanks primarily to support from Methodists in our Conference.

On April 23rd, Nicole Grafton and her flute students will welcome us to an evening with dinner, entertainment and fine arts. World-class fiddle player, Jana Jae, will be one of the featured musicians! Amy Cuttingham, well-known local musician and organizer of the monthly Musicale house concerts will perform. The children's choir of Chinese Christian Church will sing. Our own Regina LaGrone is designing invitations now, and will teach New Haven UMC members how to turn the children's soda straw roses into a special gift for all who come to the event at the Elks Lodge a few blocks away from church. So watch for announcements of the craft time, and come help! Watch, too, for further articles about this gala!

*"It's All about the Children!"*

**Come and Experience It!**

### **WELCOME "MISS PAULA" (AKA PAULA FOX)— OUR NEW CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR!!!**



I have 29 years of experience in the Early Childhood field, having previously worked as the Nursery Director for New Haven United Methodist Church, a teacher and Executive Director at New Haven UMC Day School, and a teacher at Betty Rowland Nursery School. I earned a B.S. in Early Childhood Education from Northeastern State University, Tahlequah.

My husband, Ken and I married in 1981 right here at New Haven. We raised our 4 children here and now 4 of our 10 grandchildren attend church and Sunday school here. Ken and I have been very active at New Haven and have served on numerous committees. However, I've always been lead to serve in the area of Children's Ministry.

In my free time I enjoy reading, walking, herb gardening, and hanging out with our 10 grandchildren. Volunteering is an important part of my life. I volunteer for Domestic Violence Intervention Services, Family Safety Center, Carnegie Elementary School and Saint Francis Hospital. One of my favorite places to volunteer is right here at New Haven with the Bus Stop Ministry, Bible Experience, Vacation Bible School and Sunday School. Ken and I love traveling and cruising.

Currently, I have the pleasure of working for our church and our Day School - teaching Music & Creative Movement. Please stop by the office anytime to say hello, brainstorm ideas, or discuss how you want to help out! My office hours are Noon-4:30 p.m. on Monday through Wednesday.

## Opportunities of the Week February 7 ~ 14

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship & Children's Church  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Traditional Worship & Children's Church  
 12:00 pm Children's Council Meeting and Lunch/Parlor  
 12:15 pm Confirmation Meeting/Chapel  
 3:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 67/Upstairs kitchen  
 4:00 pm Liturgical Dance/Gym  
 5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner  
 7:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 10:00 am Grief Recovery Group/Parlor  
 6:00 pm Writers Group/185  
 6:00 pm Disciple 1 (Fast Trak)/Parsonage

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- 6:00 pm "ALL-IN" Leadership Meeting/Parlor  
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts/Gym  
 7:30 pm AA/ 185,205,209,210

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- 6:00 pm Youth Group  
 6:00 pm Jubilation Bells/Sanctuary  
 7:00 pm **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE/ Sanctuary**  
 7:00 pm ACOA/206

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 10:00 am Susanna Circle/Parlor  
 6:00 pm Praise Band/Sanctuary  
 7:15 pm Yoga

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 7:30 pm AA/Gym

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 3:00 pm Respite Care/Gym  
 7:00 pm Sweetheart Dance/Gym

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship & Children's Church  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Traditional Worship & Children's Church  
 4:00 pm Liturgical Dance/Sanctuary  
 5:00 pm Disciple IV/Parlor  
 5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner  
 7:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study

### New Haven Staff Members

Rev. Cindy Havlik	Senior Pastor
Rev. Suzanne Davis	Associate Pastor
Jennifer Payton	Business Manager
Stephen Merrick	Music Director
Patrick Grafton	Youth Director
Paula Fox	Children's Director
Pat Bates	Adm. Assistant
Ann Martin	Financial Secretary
Mary Ann Cunningham	Nursery Director
Teresa Roberts	Organist
Rev. Jeanette Boyd	Retired Deacon
Kacie Kendrick	Day School Dir.
Joan West	After School Care
Oscar Sturgeon	Custodian

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2. Will Scruggs
3. J.J. Sartain
6. Regina LaGrone
9. Linda Jaeger  
Caitlin Riggan
10. Shirley Nelson
15. Marianne Duiveman
16. Jocelyn Schifferdecker  
Donita Gray
17. Kegan Schifferdecker
23. Dot Haynes  
Ginny Lamkin  
Stella Schwartz  
Mary Anne Tyler
24. Jean Smith
26. Michael Sherwin
27. Mary Ann Cunningham



### ATTENDANCE

#### January 31st

8:45—77

11:00—108

Total:185

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL:

69

### Adult Sunday School Come join us at 9:45 am!

**Room 185: Discovery Class**  
Galatians

**Room 209: Fellowship Class**  
Gospel of John

**Room 210: New Friendship Class**  
Biblical Archaeology of Jerusalem and Northern Kingdom

**Parlor: Christian Living Class**  
Adult Bible Study Curriculum

**Room 161 Interlude Class**  
"The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle, Paul".

**Room 205: Journeys Class**  
"The Will of God"

You may email articles for the Spire (no later than Sunday evenings, please.) Sending your article on a "Word" document as an attachment works best. Please email your article to [pat.bates@newhavenumc.org](mailto:pat.bates@newhavenumc.org). Please note "Spire Newsletter" on the subject line. While we make every effort to include your request, we reserve the right to edit or delete articles due to space availability.

The SPIRE (USPS 006-409) is published weekly except the last week of May, June, July, and December by New Haven United Methodist Church, 5603 South New Haven Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74135-4100. Periodical postage is paid at Tulsa, Oklahoma. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the SPIRE, 5603 South New Haven Avenue Tulsa OK 74135-4100.

