



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

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As I reflect on this past year for our church, I think it can

be summarized in one word: “blessed.” It’s not a unique word, as if there were some times where God’s blessings couldn’t be seen. I don’t believe that at all. It’s just that there are times when we stop what we are doing and look at all that God has done in our lives and there’s really nothing else we can say except “God has blessed us!”

I just attended our end-of-the-year Finance meeting and came out of the meeting full of thanksgiving. I’m so thankful for this church and the way New Haven has sought a goal, financially, and met it. You heard the request for additional special giving at the end of a very busy year in ministry, and within a few week’s time, you sent in over \$27,000 of extra giving toward God’s ministry in and through the church!

Cindy's Chalkboard

I feel like a proud parent, watching the way you respond – always with unwavering support for God’s church.

But it’s SO MUCH MORE THAN that. It’s more than responding financially. I know we all want to give our best to the church, but I also know we don’t give to a budget. We give to make a difference in other

giving us opportunities to serve and for giving us the means to help others.

I am over whelmed with your enthusiasm to serve. I am amazed by the outpouring of your support. I am thankful for the generosity of our church and the opportunity to help others.

Blessed to Be a Blessing

people’s lives. We give, because we know it pleases God to make his purposes known. And giving isn’t just about money. We give of ourselves, our hearts, our passions for something we believe will make a difference for Christ.

The Bible is full of reminders that for those to whom much is given, much is expected. We are blessed to be a blessing.

We thank God for using us, for

And what always follows is, “What else can we do?” and “Who else can we help?” God does not want our blessing of others to be limited to a few strategic events, he wants it to be a definition of our daily lives!

There is joy in serving our Lord and it is a joy in my life to be your Pastor!

- Pastor Cindy

Welcoming Others For Christ

As our Hospitality Workshop concludes this day, we give thanks for the blessing we have to participate in the important ministry of welcoming others to Christ. Many of you know this special opportunity

was made possible through the estate of our dear **Charlotte Erwin**, who generously bequeathed funds to her beloved church. Charlotte, without a doubt, was our “Queen of Hospitality!” We can only imagine

how proud she must be that part of these funds were used to support a ministry very near and dear to her heart. Thank you, Charlotte, for the blessing. Thank you, Lord, for these gifts that we use in your name.

Paula's Perspective . . .

JUST A REMINDER ABOUT OUR NEW SCHEDULE:

4:00 – 5:00 pm Celebration Singers and W.E.B. are combined. We will meet upstairs in our Sunday school room. This is open to children 4 years old – 5th grade. You may contact Lindsay Morgan for more info regarding choir lmboles@gmail.com and me, pauljeanfox@icloud.com regarding other children's activities.

5:00 – 6:00 pm Imagination Station Creative Art will meet upstairs in the Sunday school room. This is open to children 4 years old – 5th grade. Children will have many opportunities to explore with a wide array of art media to create their masterpieces!

5:00 – 6:00 pm Footprints Liturgical Dancers will meet in the Sanctuary. This is open to children and youth in 3rd – 12th grade. You may contact Deena Smith for more information, Deena@sixbyte.com

The Children's Ministry Team looks forward to working with our children as we worship God while using the gifts and talents He has given each of us.

Sharing the joy,
Ms. Paula

THE FAITH OF A MOCKINGBIRD NEW STUDY BEGINS SUNDAY, JAN. 8th AT 9:45 AM NEW HAVEN UMC PARLOR



In "The Faith of a Mockingbird," based on Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," pastor and author Matt Rawle uses Lee's beloved characters to explore our place in the world and God's story, as well as what it means to live out a hopeful faith in a broken world. Is this classic book still relevant for us in 2017? Not already connected to a small group on Sunday mornings? Join Roundtable Connection Group in the Parlor (new class location) as we have fun discussing this classic. For more information, contact Robin Steven at rltstevens@mac.com

Some Funny Things to Consider. . . .

- ~ 7/5th of all people do not understand fractions.
- ~ 75% of statisticians are 90% confident 52% of the time.
- ~ A classic is a book that is much praised, rarely read.
- ~ A job is nice but it sure interferes with my life.
- ~ A new years resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.
- ~ An optimist is someone who, when opportunity knocks, jumps for joy, not noticing it is knocking next door.
- ~ A pessimist is someone who, when opportunity knocks, complains about the noise.
- ~ Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.
- ~ Buy a dog a toy and the dog will play with it forever. Buy a cat a toy and the cat will play with the wrapper for 10 minutes.
- ~ Christmas is in my heart twelve months a year and thanks to credit cards, it's on my Visa card statement twelve months a year also.

Umpteenagers to Visit Jewish Museum

The Umpteenagers will leave the church at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, for lunch at the Delta Café before proceeding to the Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art on 71st Street for a tour through this unique facility of culture and history. Cost will be \$5.50 per person unless 10 or more of us attend, which will reduce the admission price to \$3.00 per person. We will return to the church around 2:00 p.m. Telephone Eileen Walker at (918) 286-6420 if you will attend; if that's too much effort, come on anyway.



LET'S GET CRAFTY!!!

Have some talent you're dying to share with people in our community but don't know how?

Have just a little and are still wanting to join in?
Have none at all and unsure if you can even help but want to?
We need you!!!!

The Let's Get Crafty group is morphing into a community craft project on Sunday afternoons!
Our first project, hats for a children's home and for children in need in our own community, hats that are sure to bring a smile with them!

Needed, any level of sewing experience and sergers!

Little to no sewing experience but want to learn? No problem, delighted to teach!

Never sewed a stitch and afraid of the high speed needle? No problem, we need people to cut!

Terrible with Scissors? No problem, we need people to lay out patterns and draw around them for people to cut!

Can't even trace a pattern piece? No problem, we need people to fetch and tote and keep things organized!

Got a free space Sunday the 22nd, around 4:30 PM? We need you!!!!

We've got a whole lot of fleece already from Regina's Stash for the class, but donations are always welcome if you have a stash that you need to cut down on or you see a good color in the remnant lot. Don't buy full price!!!! ;) Can also use spools of Serger thread in most colors, especially white, orange, yellow, and green!

Come join us and get your Crafty on!!!



From Patrick's Desk. . . .

Hello church!

The chaos is over! The decorations are put away (or mostly put away J), and "regular" life and routine has returned. Was this Christmas season different for you? Was it the same old same old? My prayer for our youth, our church family, and for the world is that maybe THIS would be the year that we all carry over the message of a baby born from humble beginnings that was sent here to save us all! As we learned in today's message from Pastor Cindy – there IS a plan. He started the plan by placing you in the world, and now it's up to us to write the rest of the story with God there to co-author and guide us on the path. The critical piece of the Plan though is prayer, and a willingness to listen.

I'd ask for prayers for our youth group as they embark on their spring semesters, and work through the challenges that come with school, activities, social events, sports, clubs and organizations, and of course church. I ask that you pray that each of them make time with Him a priority, and that as they co-author their stories with God in their lives that they would be receptive and listen. We working on several upcoming events including this week travelling to Camp Egan Friday evening for the Council Oak Winter Retreat. It's a great time to recharge, worship, fellowship, and grow in Christ with other members of our district youth. We also are in the early stages of planning our Spring Break trip (also to Camp Egan) where we'll be working for a few days around the campgrounds to help Josh with different projects, and spend some time having fun and worshipping together.

We're also very excited to have our Youth Worship at both services on Sunday, February 12th. We're bringing a message of Transformation with a theme of Transformers. This will bring us all a reminder that each of us has been transformed through Christ to "fight the evil decepticons" :) or something like that! Thank you all for your prayers, and continued support for our youth! Without you this ministry simply couldn't happen!

Blessings, and prayers for us to be listening,
Patrick

Thoughtful Stories from the Desk of Pastor Suzanne

Several years ago a submarine was being tested and had to remain submerged for many hours. When it returned to the harbor, the captain was asked, "How did the terrible storm last night affect you?" The officer looked at him in surprise and exclaimed, "Storm? We didn't even know there was one!" The sub had been so far beneath the surface that it had reached the area known to sailors as "the cushion of the sea." Although the ocean may be whipped into huge waves by high winds, the waters below are never stirred.

This, I believe, is a perfect picture of the peace that comes from Christ's Spirit. The waves of worry, of fear, of heartbreak, cannot touch those resting in Christ. Sheltered by His grace and encouraged by His Spirit, the believer is given the perfect tranquility that only Christ can provide.

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A young couple moved into a new neighborhood.

The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young woman sees her neighbor hanging the wash outside. "That laundry is not very clean," she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap." Her husband looked up but remained silent.

Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments. About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband, "Look, she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this." The husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."

And so it is with life. What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look.

## Opportunities of the Week

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

8:45 am Contemporary Worship  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Traditional Worship  
12:15 pm All-In Meeting/Parlor  
4:00 pm Celebration Singers & WEB  
4:30 pm Let's Get Crafty/270  
4:30 pm Disciple I  
5:00 pm Imagination Station (Children)  
5:00 pm Liturgical Dance  
5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study  
6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner  
7:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study

### MONDAY, JANUARY 23

6:00 pm Writer's Group/185  
6:15 pm Bluegrass Band Practice

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

6:00 pm Day School Council  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts/Gym  
7:30 pm AA/185, 206, 210

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

6:00 pm One Spirit Choir  
6:00 pm Youth Group  
7:00 pm Bell Choir  
7:00 pm ACOA/210

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

6:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal  
7:15 pm Yoga/Parlor

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

7:30 pm AA/Gym

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

8:45 am Contemporary Worship  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Traditional Worship  
3:45 pm Cub Scouts Pack 67/270  
4:00 pm Celebration Singers & WEB  
4:30 pm Disciple I  
5:00 pm Imagination Station (Children)  
5:00 pm Liturgical Dance  
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 | Retired Pastor      |
| Stephen Merrick    | Music Director      |
| Patrick Grafton    | Youth Director      |
| Paula Fox          | Children's Director |
| Pat Bates          | Adm. Assistant      |
| Ann Martin         | Financial Secretary |
| Lindsay Morgan     | Nursery Director    |
| Teresa Roberts     | Organist            |
| Rev. Jeanette Boyd | Retired Deacon      |
| Kacie Kendrick     | Day School Dir.     |
| Joan West          | After School Care   |
| Oscar Sturgeon     | Custodian           |

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Dale Edmond
- Bob Walker  
Tiffany Sherwin
- Kay Garwood
- Ron Unterschuetz
- Helen Russell  
Rose Unterschuetz
- David Toalson  
Rachel Pape
- Joan Beebe  
Sarah Duiveman
- Stephen Merrick
- Derek Lamkin
- Dwayne Boyd
- Jude Smith
- Mike Riffin
- Bayleigh Boles



### PLEASE PRAY FOR. . .

Sharon Sparks  
Kelly Sartain  
Greg Gotcher  
Dodie Wood  
Mary Ann Cunningham

### Friends & Family of New Haven UMC

Mark Nicholson; Peppa Smith; Linda Gregory's daughter-in-law, Lea; Mary Ann Cunningham's brother, Bob; Roland Freisen's mother; Pam Rowley; Christy; the homeless; our world, city, country, public servants & leaders.

### Covenant Care (prayers & visits appreciated)

Marjorie Stewart  
Ovella Followell  
Rosemary Tarr  
Dot and Kelly Haynes  
Dorothy Koons

## ATTENDANCE

January 15, 2017

### Worship Services

8:45 am: 60  
11:00 am: 86  
Total: 146

### Sunday School

Adults- 62  
Youth- 7  
Children- 6

Day School Chapel: N/A

## ADULT CLASSES

Come join us at 9:45 am!

Room 161: Discovery Class  
Galatians

Room 185: Fellowship Class  
Adult Bible Study Curriculum

Room 210: New Friendship Class  
"The Lives of Great Christians" by  
William Cook

Room 103 Interlude Class  
"Redemption of Scrooge"

Room 206: New Haven 206  
Connection Group "The Wired Word"

Parlor: Roundtable "The Faith of a  
Mockingbird" by Matt Rawle

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.

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