



# 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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Rev. James Graham

*Merry Christmas &*

*Happy New Year!*

This is the last Spire of the 2018 year, and as I look forward to the year to come, I want to pause and say

how very blessed I am to be able to minister to this congregation. The past year has been an amazing time together. We have impacted so many people for Christ and served in many amazing way. I thank God daily for the commitment and faithful way you witness to God’s grace in the world. Whether it is loving the children through respite care, New Haven Day School, partners in education with Carnegie Elementary, Circle of Care, or with the Angel Tree, you are an inspiration to me! Your compassion that you show in feeding the hungry through the Day Center for the Homeless and Restore Hope Ministries is a credit to the Gospel and what it means to be a Christian.

As we prepare to begin the new year in 2019, we don’t know what will come before us, but I am confident that together we will do great things through Him who is within us. Indeed, I believe all things are possible through Christ who has redeemed us for His work. I am excited for the possibilities that the future holds, and I look forward to baptizing new members into the faith, celebrating Christmas and Easter with you, and providing expressions of God’s love to each of you as we journey through our lives together. I pray a special blessing on every one of you for the year to come.

In His Service,

Pastor James



# Joyeux Noël

A special opportunity for you to enjoy a performance by New Haven's very own "Footprints" dancers, Deena Smith, Joycelyn Schifferdecker, and Hannah Henson, at **2:00 pm Sunday, December 16 at the Broken Arrow Community Playhouse production "A Winter Rose Christmas."**

And you also have two opportunities to hear our extremely talented Director of Music, **Stephen Merrick** present the live premier of his beautiful Christmas composition, "All Because of Jesus" at **7:30 pm Saturday December 15 and 2:00 pm Sunday December 16.**

For information on these special holiday events, please call BACP Box Office 918-258-0077.

My heartfelt "Thank you!" to each of these fine performers.

Karyn Lee Maio, President, Board of Directors, BACP

## UMPTTEENAGERS

### Save the Date



Okay, all you "young at heart" – our plans are to go to a movie on **Tuesday, December 18.** We don't know: (1) which movie; (2) which theater; or (3) where we will have lunch BUT we do know that we will have a fun time together. Normally, movie theaters don't post their movie schedules until a week before so we must be patient! **Come to the church at 10 a.m. on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup>** – our first choice will be a movie at the Circle Cinema and to eat at the restaurant (Mexican) next to the theater before the show. I'll get an announcement in the bulletin on Sunday, December 16 to give you the final plans. Call Carolyn Toalson at 918-906-8552 with any questions.



## *Welcome Lynn!*



After attending New Haven for over a year and a half Lynn Roach made it official and joined the New Haven church family on Sunday, December 2 at our special Hanging of the Greens service. Lynn's daughter and son-in-law, Kim and Bryce Percival, have been members of New Haven since January of this year. If you have not met Lynn be sure to welcome her and introduce yourself.

Lynn, we are delighted to welcome you as a member of New Haven UMC!



# New Haven Family Pot Luck



Another fabulous Pot Luck celebrating Christmas with our New Haven Family was held yesterday! We shared wonderful dishes brimming with Holiday cheer, our tables were decorated with Christmas trees and ornaments, and we even had some wonderful entertainment! Pastor Suzanne started us off with a prayer of thanks for all the gifts of food and fellowship. Jocelyn serenaded, Karyn read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" as all the children gathered 'round, Michael strummed, David tickled the keyboard, Courtney and Kayci sang a duet accompanied by their dad, Stephen and Stephen led us in a few rousing Christmas songs after a special request for "Amazing Grace."

SPECIAL THANKS to Susan Harris for coordinating this event, and Paula Fox for decorating the tables and everyone who brought platters and bowls of delicious food and yummy desserts!

There are many, many more pictures on the lobby TV. Be sure to check them out!

If you missed this event make sure you join us next year!!



# CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE 2018

NEW HAVEN KIDS will present a CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE for the afterschool program at New Haven Day School on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00 pm! Events will include: Christmas games, artwork, science, music, story-time, and some yummy snacks!

All are invited to join us as we celebrate the upcoming birth of Jesus Christ!



## Children's Christmas Musical 2018 "How the Grinch Found Jesus!"

December 23rd there will be only one service at 11:00 am.

New Haven KIDS will present a Christmas Musical on entitled:

"How the Grinch Found Jesus!"

Join us for worship as we help the Grinch discover the true meaning of Christmas!!



# Getting Ready for the Birth of Jesus!



# Decorating the Memorial Tree





# RESPIRE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Respite Care children celebrated Christmas Saturday, Dec. 9 with their siblings, parents, New Haven UMC adult and youth friends, and even with Santa! They gathered first in the gym for crafts, making ornament snowmen, reindeer and gum ball designs, then an active ball game. The party continued in the Parlor with singing, playing instruments, laughing, the reading of a Christmas story by Rev. Jan Boyd, a surprise visit by Santa himself, opening of gift stockings, and of course a table full of delicious snacks and peppermint punch! Everyone caught the Christmas spirit!





# You're Invited!

## Join Us New Year's Eve Serving Others!

New Year's Eve a group from New Haven will go to the Day Center for the Homeless in downtown Tulsa to deliver and serve the residents a fabulous meatloaf dinner. We need Cooks and Bakers as well as Servers. Sunday you will have the opportunity to sign up to:

- ◆ Cook Meatloaf (Recipe will be supplied so we can serve the same delicious meatloaf to all our guests.)
- ◆ Bake Christmas Cookies
- ◆ Serve the guests at the Day Center and help clean up when we're done.
- ◆ After we're finished we will go to Bros. Houligan's to have dinner and celebrate the last day of 2018. (\*If you don't want to go to Bros. Houligan you will need to take your own car.)



## End of Year Giving

Christmas is just a few weeks away and right after Christmas comes the end of another year and your last opportunity to make 2018 tax deductible donations. In this season of gift giving to family, friends and those less fortunate, we hope you will also consider an end-of-year gift to New Haven. It is through the generosity of every individual and family in the congregation that we are able to carry on our work. You can use our electronic giving option for both regular offerings and one-time gifts. If you need help, please contact Cynthia in the church office for assistance.

Thank you so much for your faithful and generous giving throughout the year! Please pray with us for a good finish to 2018.

**REMINDER:** IRS regulations require that any contributions that you wish to have included in your December 2018 statement be received at the church office by **noon on Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

## NEW HAVEN HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

*Christmas Eve, December 24 ~ 9:00 am ~ 12:00 pm*

*December 26, 27 & 31 ~ 9:00 am ~ 1:00 pm*

*Closed ~ Christmas Day & New Year's Day*

## Opportunities of the Week

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:45 am **Christmas Cantata**  
 9:45 am Connection Groups  
 11:00 am **Christmas Cantata**  
 12:15 pm **Administrative Council**  
 4:30 pm Disciple II/Parlor  
 5:00 pm Invitation to the Old Testament  
 5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study  
 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

6:00 pm Writer's Group (161, 185)

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Gym)  
 7:30 pm AA

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

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

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

10:00 am Grief Recovery Group (Chapel)  
 10:00 am Susanna Circle (Parlor)  
 4:30 pm Staff Meeting (Parlor)  
 6:00 pm Praise Band  
 7:15 pm Yoga (Gym)

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:30 pm AA (Gym)

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:45 am **Christmas Cantata**  
 9:45 am Connection Groups  
 11:00 am **Christmas Cantata**  
 4:15 pm **Footprints Dance Rehearsal**  
 4:30 pm Disciple II/Parlor



## December Birthdays

7 Jim Harris  
 John Sartain  
 8 Evan Stevenson  
 13 Michael Foster  
 Jennifer Lawrence  
 14 Dee Kemp  
 16 Linda Blackford  
 Susan Lamkin  
 17 Kathryn Stevenson  
 21 Cathy Amos  
 Billy Jagger  
 Kelly Sartain  
 25 JESUS  
 27 Diana Horn  
 30 Megan Lamkin



## SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

### December 2, 2018

#### Worship Attendance

11:00 am ~ 129  
 Live Stream ~ 10  
 Total ~ 139

#### Sunday School:

Adults ~ 41  
 Youth ~ 8  
 Children ~ 18

### December 9, 2018

#### Worship Attendance

8:45 am ~ 37  
 11:00 am ~ 84  
 Live Stream ~ 9  
 Total ~ 130

#### Sunday School:

Adults ~ 48  
 Youth ~ 8  
 Children ~ 18

## New Haven Staff Members

Rev. James B. Graham	Senior Pastor
Cynthia Edelman	Business Manager
Stephen Merrick	Music Director
Teresa Roberts	Organist
Patrick Grafton	Youth Director
Marti Lowery	Children Director
Carol Morgan	Office Clerical Asst.
Cindy Taylor	Day School Director
Brittany Fox	Nursery Director
Oscar Sturgeon	Custodian
Rev. Suzanne Davis	Retired Deacon
Rev. Jeanette Boyd	Retired Deacon
Rev. Robin Stevens	Retired Deacon

## VISIT US @

[www.newhavenumc.org](http://www.newhavenumc.org)  
 or visit us on FaceBook

The SPIRE Newsletter  
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 5603 South New Haven Avenue, Tulsa,  
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 Send articles to:  
[carol.morgan@newhavenumc.org](mailto:carol.morgan@newhavenumc.org)

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Janice Duffield  
 Mary Lou Black  
 Linda Joyce's sister Dana  
 Cyd Soderfelt Alon's 6 yr. old  
 grand nephew, liver cancer  
 Jerry Fisher's mother Dorothy  
 Linda Gregory's brother Roger  
 Betty Fine's brother-in-law, Dale  
 Gotcher family on the death of  
 Bill Gotcher  
 Dodie Wood  
 Susan Harris & family on the  
 death of Susan's Aunt Della



## ADULT CONNECTION GROUPS

*Come join us at 9:45 am!*

**Room 185: Discovery Class**  
 "Defiant Joy"

**Parlor: Fellowship Class**  
 Adult Bible Study Curriculum

**Room 209: New Friendship Class**  
 "Religion & Violence"

**Room 103: Interlude Class**  
 Join us for as we Journey  
 Toward Christmas with Adam  
 Hamilton's Christmas  
 Devotional!

**Room 206: New Haven 206**  
 Connection Group "Making Sense  
 of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton

**Room 161: Roundtable Group** is  
 studying "Knowing God"