

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
Phone: 918-743-6491 ~ FAX: 918-743-9306

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"A Community of Heart and Soul"

In Matthew 5:13-16 Jesus says, "You are the **salt** of the earth. But if the **salt** loses its **saltiness**, how can it be made **salty** again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out **and** trampled underfoot. "You are the **light** of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people **light** a lamp **and** put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, **and** it gives **light** to everyone in the house. ..." This scripture shares with us the challenge of what we need to hear, understand, and put into practice in our world.

Our world needs hope. It needs compassion, and it needs living examples of what it means to be a community of heart and soul. As members of New Haven UMC, we have an opportunity to do just that. During this pandemic, we have all needed positive examples to look up to, and I want to say how proud I am that we are continuing to be involved in mission. We are about to kick off our Mountain of Food campaign for Restore Hope, and I hope you'll support them with donations to help them meeting their funding challenges. In the past week, I have had the pleasure of acting on YOUR behalf to help a family avoid having their electric disconnected, and also helping another family avoid eviction by providing rental assistance. These are just a few of the situations where we have been a beacon of light to our community and salt to a world in need of hope. If you are looking for ways for **YOU** to be light and salt in the world, I would encourage you to make a list of 5 people you can call and be a source of hope and inspiration to in the week to come! Call them and let you know you care. Pray for them and our world!

Grace and peace,



Pastor James

JOIN OUR
LIVE
CLASSES



Sunday Mornings 10:00 - 10:40am



Wrestling with God

From a recent sermon by Danny Hall on Sunday, August 30. Danny's sermon was about searching and struggling. The text from Genesis 32 tells about Jacob wrestling with God. Who was the "man" Jacob struggled with? Was Jacob wrestling with God or was he wrestling with himself, his past.

Scholars tell us that the vagueness of this story in Genesis 32 is most likely one of the ways that the narrator protects the mystery of God's involvement with us as human beings. The Christian life is about trusting God and staying connected with God---holding onto God and asking God for a blessing. I think we often feel like Jacob. We are not sure who or what we are running from. Who or what we are wrestling? **Join on Danny Sunday Mornings at 10:00 am on Zoom and let's continue to wrestle with God!**

Here is an excerpt from the poem "Jacob" by Pastor Nicky Blackford, shared by his widow, Linda Blackford.

"Why are you running, Jacob? Running after life, running after God. Who are you Jacob? Are you really a deceiver or is that what you have allowed yourself to become? You have a new name Jacob. Your name is Isra-el: One who struggles with God. Give it up Jacob. Be who you have always been. A child of God, loved

by Him. Arise from all your dreams, Celebrate your new name, Israel. And never doubt again."

Contact Danny at 918-640-3891 to get information on connecting with Zoom.

Tuesday Evenings 7:00 - 7:45 pm



If you are looking for a place to connect with a small group during these crazy times, the **Roundtable Connection Class** may be the

answer. We are meeting via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from **7:00 pm - 7:45 pm.**

Class is led by Jone Friesen.

We'll have fun looking at various stories in Genesis through the eyes of ancient Jewish Rabbis. In the process we are encountering some unexpected twists and turns in these familiar stories.

Text or call Jone at 918-445-1576 or email at jone.w.friesen@gmail.com for more information or to get the link to our next Zoom meeting.

*Thank
you*



Many thanks to everyone who helped with the last dinner for the Day Center for the 10 cooks who made the dinner, 4 volunteers who loaded the bus and 2 volunteers who delivered the meal. New Haven volunteers supplied a meal for about 80 homeless. A special Thank you to Phil Roberts who has coordinated the meals for many years. If you would like to co-chair with Phil just let him know.

happy fall Y' ALL



Due to COVID-19, we are unable to safely provide our usual annual Fall Festival. **This year we are excited to announce, instead of the festival, a family movie night!** Families will be encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy a movie on the lawn as we present "The Great Pumpkin" on a big screen! We hope that this will provide a chance to come together as a community while remaining socially distanced and safe. **This event will take place on 10/24/2020 at 6:30pm or as soon as the sun goes down.** We hope to see you there!



UMPTENAGERS!

UMPTENAGER UPDATE

All Umptenager trips have been canceled for the rest of the year due to Covid-19. Trips will continue once a safe and effective vaccination is available. At that time we may have a brief meeting to see if we want to continue with the trips scheduled for this year or make changes to the existing schedule. There will be a notice in the Spire if/when a meeting is planned. Call me (Alon) at 918-622-7006 or email me at alon.soderfelt@cox.net if you have any questions or concerns. Stay Tuned.



KIDS CORNER

Our Children's Ministry



Children's Church and children's moment resumed on 9/20/20 and Nursery will resume on 10/4/20! We're excited to have some of our friends back in person with us and are still enjoying connecting with everyone virtually via our **Children's Church at Home Facebook group!** If you haven't yet joined, **please find the link at [newhavenumc.org](https://www.newhavenumc.org)** and invite all of your friends! For more information contact Brittany Fox, at brit8519@yahoo.com.

Grab your blankets and lawn chairs and join us for a family movie night on the lawn!

NEW HAVEN UMC PRESENTS "THE GREAT PUMPKIN"

Saturday, Oct 24th at 6:30
5603 S. New Haven Ave
Tulsa, OK. 74105





RESTORE HOPE MINISTRIES



New Haven has been doing the Mountain of Food every fall for nearly 2 decades. This food drive has helped the hungry through the United Methodist sponsored urban ministry, Restore Hope. Our Mountain has been copied by a number of other congregations in the metro area. As we began the planning we asked the basic question: "What do you need?"

Of course, this year is unusual in many respects. As the Oklahoma Conference changes the way we support our various ministries, Restore Hope is receiving less funding for operating costs; forcing them to rely on their own fundraising.

With the pandemic, the community is faced with unprecedented demand for housing assistance. Early in the pandemic the demand for food assistance actually decreased from previous years as the federal support for expanded SNAP (food stamps) and unemployment benefits filled the gap.

Entering the final quarter of the year, Restore Hope is seeing a number of changes. Large grants have come in for housing - to help those facing evictions - as the federal funds for increased SNAP and unemployment benefits expire. Demand for food is once again rising, and Restore Hope faces the challenge of funding the staff necessary to distribute not only the housing grants, but also to acquire and distribute food.

The Mountain of Food has always been a way to support the biggest need of Restore Hope. This year we have to recognize that their need is changing. They need unrestricted dollars to support their staff as well as funds to purchase food, (There are no matching funds this year, as the big grants came in for the housing assistance to prevent homelessness.)

Here are some relevant facts:

1 in 3 children in Tulsa County will go to bed hungry due to the pandemic. (Food Bank)
1 in 10 seniors in Tulsa County is food insecure. (Food Bank)
Unemployment is rising locally with recent announcements. (Tulsa World)
Families facing eviction from their housing are also facing a food shortage; the two go hand in hand. (Restore Hope)

This year let's support Restore Hope as enthusiastically as always. Our Restore Hope - Mountain of Food drive is officially underway. **Please write your checks, or mark your contributions in a special envelope.** You can put Mountain of Food on the memo line to buy canned goods, cereal, pasta or peanut butter as always. **If you put Restore Hope on the memo line your support will go to Restore Hope as unrestricted giving and they can use it to meet their greatest need.** If you give electronically, you can go to the website and on the right side of the home page you will see "on-line giving" click on that and follow the instructions to give to Restore Hope.

Our goal is to exceed last year's giving and reach \$8,500. This is ambitious given the pandemic. But New Haven has always risen the challenge and Restore Hope programs are dear to all of us. Please watch for email updates and social media for the latest news. **Our drive will conclude on November 1.**

October Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Archer Duncan | 10 Mark Morgan |
| 2 Carol Morgan | 13 Courtney Merrick |
| 4 Mary Lou Abdo | 25 Sue Hunnicutt |
| 6 Bill Ford | 26 Greg Gotcher |
| George Stevenson | Teresa Roberts |
| 7 Paula Fox | 27 Sue Duncan |
| 10 Jim Leach | |



PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| George Stephenson | Dodie Wood |
| Kelly Sartain | Guy & Jan Duffield |
| Jan Boyd | Carla Hefley & family |
| Marion Wilkerson | Our Military & First Responders |
| Betty Fine | COVID-19 HEROES |
| Karyn Maio | |
| Joe Sanders | |
| Tom Black | |
| Scott Nicholson | |
| Jessica Nicholson-Kaufman | |
| Don Gregory | |



*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*

Visit our website:
www.newhavenumc.org

Find us on Facebook or
Worship with us on
www.livestream.com/newhaventulsa



New Haven Staff How to Reach Us . . .

Phone: 918-743-6491

FAX: 918-743-9306

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Rev. James Graham, Sr. Pastor | james.graham@newhavenumc.org |
| Cynthia Edelman, Business Manager | cynthia.edelman@newhavenumc.org |
| Stephen Merrick, Music Director | elephantmanmusic@gmail.com |
| Teresa Roberts, Organist | teresadiane26@yahoo.com |
| Patrick Grafton, Youth Director | patrick.grafton@newhavenumc.org |
| Brittany Fox, Children's Director | brit8519@yahoo.com |
| Oscar Sturgeon, Custodian | 918-595-5460 (cell) |
| Volunteer Desk | office@newhavenumc.org |
| Cindy Taylor, Day School Director | cindy.taylor@newhavendayschool.org |