



# THE SPIRE

News of New Haven United Methodist Church

*"Making Disciples for Jesus Christ in the world,  
by being God's Love in Action."*

VOLUME XXV Number 9

March 6, 2015

## *Pastor Cindy's Chalkboard*

Many of you have seen it. All over the internet, it's the mystery of the color of the dress. They call it the "Dress That Ate The Internet". It's been the hot topic of heated discussion this past week.

It all started last Thursday. Someone posted a picture of a two-toned dress on the internet and asked, "Is this dress white and gold, or blue and black?" Within hours, the image of the dress went viral.

Each side took a valiant stand. Some see the colors one way (white and gold) and others see it another (blue and black)... and they can't believe anyone else would see anything different! In fact, each person is certain that his or her perception is correct.

Why the differences? Well, there are a lot of theories. Some say it has something to do with our visual anatomy; i.e. the rods and cones in the retina of our eyes. Others say it has something to do with cognitive processing, where our thoughts and experiences play a part in our perception of the dress.

Whatever the reason, the disagreement in colors goes to show that our experiences and expectations matter.

### ***The Dress: White and Gold or Blue and Black?***

That's true in life, isn't it? Every one brings a different set of experiences and expectations to the table.

And that goes for our worshipping life, as well. We come with expectations of meeting God in worship every Sunday. The Holy Spirit speaks to us in ways that we know, that we know, that we KNOW we have experienced God in our midst. We may talk about it differently, but it all comes from the same source—God!!

Isn't it wonderful to know we all perceive and live out our faith in different ways? In worship, you could have been touched by the verse of a hymn, or with the message from a particular song. Or, maybe it was the Ministry Moment or the preached Word that made a difference in your spirit. God could have used the lighting of the prayer candle to touch your heart, or

just speaking to that one person in the morning that made a difference in your entire day!

Just so you know, God arrives in His house long before any of us get out of bed in the morning. Expect God to meet you there in different ways. I'll look forward to it!  
-  
Pastor Cindy

P.S. It didn't take long for someone to hunt down the actual dress. It is, in real life, from a British store called Roman Originals; and it is, in real life, blue and black.

(For the record, I see white and gold. But it's a very blue white.)



## PLEASE PRAY FOR . .



### OUR MEMBERS:

Bob Schwartz; Bobbie Scott; Audrey Quinalty; John Stutsman; Carolyn Toalson; Lana Gotcher

### Friends & Family of New Haven UMC

Mark Nicholson; Linda Gregory's daughter-in-law, Lea; Ruth Ann Field; Syble Perry; Kay Garwood's cousin, Ilene Lloyd; Donita Gray's mother; Carla Hefley's dad, Gerald Blissit; Kelly Sartain's father, John; Sarah Morice Brubaker's friend, Chris Barrett; Bobbie Scott; the homeless; our world, our country, city, public servants & leaders.

### Covenant Care (prayers & visits appreciated)

Fran Palm, Marjorie Stewart, Rosemary Tarr, Vetus Vanderwiele; Dot and Kelly Haynes; Bob Schwartz; Dorothy Thacker; Laurie & Mahcoe VanDyke; Dorothy Koons

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

### HOPE CIRCLE TO MEET ON MARCH 9TH

Join the Hope Circle at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 9th for a snack supper and an interesting program presented by Paula Fox. She will speak on how to start the conversation about sexual assault and domestic violence. Then a film will be shown, "Telling Amy's Story". All ladies are invited to join us in the parlor.

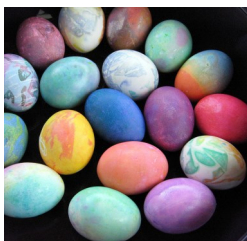
### SUSANNA CIRCLE MEETS ON MARCH 12TH

All women are invited to join us in the Parlor at 10:00 am on Thursday, March 12th. Pat Thomas will host and bring the program.

### ALLYSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held March 29<sup>th</sup> during the Sunday School hour. This year, we will have a "Backwards Easter Egg Hunt". The kids will find an empty egg and take it to the person that matches that color; there the child will hear part of the Easter story. If you can help with purchasing Easter eggs (or if you have some you won't be using!), then please bring them to the church and place them in the "Easter Egg" box found in the Guest Services area. Dollar Tree has them right now! Thanks!



You are cordially invited  
to the wedding of  
**STEPHEN MERRICK**  
and  
**DEBORAH LOVELAND**  
Saturday, March 14th at 3:13 pm  
Sanctuary  
New Haven United Methodist Church  
  
Come and share in the joy of the  
celebration of their marriage!

### *Baby Shower for Baby Caroline*

*Proud Parents to be:*

*Tiffany and Michael Sherwin*

*Sunday, March 22nd at Noon*

*In the Church Parlor*

*Everyone is Invited to Attend.*

*Registered at Target*



### **A New Day Center for the Homeless Mission Opportunity**

Would you like to be able to serve the homeless community of Tulsa, but are unable to participate in organizing or serving meals at the Day Center? Our friends at the Day Center for the Homeless have proposed a new way for us at New Haven UMC to help.

When the homeless come to the Day Center looking for help, they are assigned a caseworker to help them, including helping them find a permanent place to live. When the person does transition to permanent housing, the Day Center presents them with a Housewarming Box to help them get started. This box is filled with donated items, such as dish towels, pot holders, twin sheet sets, blankets, an alarm clock, kitchen utensils and cleaning supplies, sauce pans, and skillet.

The Day Center is asking churches and other organizations to donate items that can be included in the Housewarming Boxes. We can even fill the boxes ourselves and let the recipient know that it is coming from New Haven UMC. If you would be interested in organizing this effort or participating in filling or sponsoring a Housewarming Box, please contact David and Carolyn Toalson at 918-251-2911 or send an e-mail to [dcktoalson@cox.net](mailto:dcktoalson@cox.net).



**Come and Experience It!**

## Corner



**Dear Missy,**

I enjoy cooking and baking! The kitchen is my favorite room in my house. How can I best use my culinary talents here at New Haven?

Signed,  
Betty Crocker

**Dear Betty,**

There are a couple of mission projects that come to mind. Let me tell you about one of them – Ronald McDonald House of Tulsa. This house has been in operations since October of 1991. The goal of each Ronald McDonald House is to provide a homelike atmosphere to families facing the stress of medical treatment for their child.

Families of dependent children through age 21 who are being treated for serious medical illness or injury at Tulsa area hospitals and live outside a 25-mile radius of Tulsa are eligible to stay. The Tulsa facility has 24 private bedrooms, a double kitchen, dining room, meeting areas, laundry, etc. A staff member is on-site 24 hours a day. It is adjacent to Saint Francis Hospital on 61<sup>st</sup> Street between Yale and Sheridan. The House is an independent, non-profit corporation, locally owned and operated by Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tulsa, Inc. and is entirely dependent upon donations.

Now here is where your “cooking and baking” skills can help. There is a Guest Chef program in which a small group can serve a home-cooked meal to the families staying at the House. Normal plans are to cook for 30 – 35 people. However, you can always call the House closer to the date to get a better estimate of how many people are staying. The kitchen has two cooking stations so approximately 4 to 6 participants are optimal. The meal is prepared and cooked right there. The kitchens are equipped with pots, bake ware, and cooking utensils.

Please be aware that not all families show up at once to eat. Although you may be putting away leftovers when you clean up, families usually finish them off by the next day.

If you, Sunday school class, or small group would like to prepare and serve a meal for the families at the Tulsa Ronald McDonald House, please contact Phil Roberts at 918-671-2055 or [Phil.Roberts@cox.net](mailto:Phil.Roberts@cox.net).

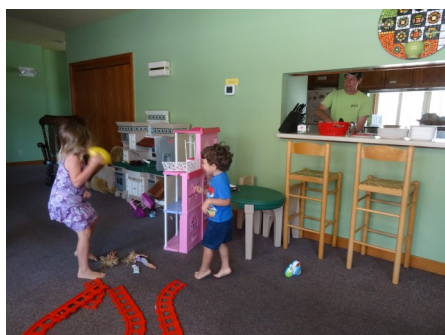
Blessings,  
Missy

### Reminders:

- Bus Stop Ministry – every day that TPS is open, 6:45 a.m. – 8:00 a.m., gym
- Mission Meeting – Tuesday, March 3; 6:30 p.m., parlor
- Daylight Saving Time – March 8 (turn those clocks forward)
- Respite Care – Saturday, March 14, 3:00 p.m. – 7 p.m., gym
- Day Center for the Homeless – sign up to fill a Housewarming Box

**Come and**

**Experience It!**



**RONALD  
McDONALD  
HOUSE**







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BERT E. HAYES, JR.  
BISHOP

February 2015

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE  
OKLAHOMA INDIAN MISSIONARY CONFER

**AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL CONGREGATIONS  
OF THE OKLAHOMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
RECEIVING THE BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Greetings, grace and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I am overwhelmed and humbled by the number of churches in the Oklahoma Annual Conference that demonstrate their discipleship and commitment to our "connectional" church with the sharing of gifts through Apportionment giving. The contributions secure the critical link that sustains important ministries in our own Conference and around the world.

With the full sharing of your 2014 apportionments, your church has enhanced our participation in so many areas of service. What your church has accomplished is nothing less than remarkable! So, on behalf of the Treasurer, the Council on Finance and Administration, and all the people whose lives are touched through your gifts to the United Methodist Church and the Oklahoma Annual Conference, we all say thank you! Lives have been changed and disciples have been made because you stepped out in faith, sharing and giving your full measure.

Enclosed with this letter is my "Bishop's Certificate of Appreciation," a token of our gratitude for your generosity. Our conference is extremely blessed to have congregations such as yours that enable us to fulfill our mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ!"

Again, thank you so much for all you do.

Your servant in Christ,

  
Robert E. Hayes, Jr.

Bishop, Oklahoma Area

The United Methodist Church

## REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE

**First, we need a written estate plan, either a will or a revocable living trust.** Some estimates say 50% of Americans die without a plan. What does this mean? Without an estate plan, we have no control of how our estate will be distributed. Also, not having an estate plan may cost our estate between 15-40% of its value.

**What does having an estate plan reveal about us?** First, it says we care about our loved ones. Second, it means we have sought to conserve our estate. Third, it provides

insight into what is really important in our lives.

### **Bequests to family members express our love and concern for their welfare.**

Bequests to our church affirm our belief in the mission and the ministry of our church.

**AS CHRISTIANS, WE NEED TO BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THAT WHICH GOD HAS PROVIDED TO US, AND THIS MEANS COMPLETING A WRITTEN ESTATE PLAN.**

### **A bequest to our church accomplishes several things.**

It expresses confidence in the future of our church. It creates a lasting legacy. It encourages present and future leadership. And, most importantly, it makes a difference!

**A bequest to your church can be made through your will or trust.** This is the simplest method. You may give a certain dollar amount, property or a percentage of your estate. Many people tithe their estate.

THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE THAT PROVIDE A CURRENT INCOME TAX DEDUCTION, FIXED OR VARIABLE ANNUITY FOR LIFE WITH THE REMAINDER GOING TO YOUR CHURCH.

### THE NEXT STEP

Contact the OKLAHOMA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION at **800-259-6863** or [okumfgift.org](http://okumfgift.org) to hear more about bequests and other giving options for your cherished causes and ministries of the church.



**REMEMBER  
YOUR CHURCH**  
WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE

### TODAY'S "FUNNY"!

God called down to Moses and said, "I've got good news and bad news. Which do you want first?"

Moses replied, "Most merciful God, if I have brought you any favor, please give me the good news first."

"Moses, the good news is that I've chosen you to deliver my people from bondage," God answered. "I will force Pharaoh to release my children by causing years of pestilence in Egypt. There will be plagues of locusts and frogs and incredible devastation upon the land. Pharaoh's armies will chase you as you try to leave, but do not fear because I will part the waters of the Red Sea to aid in your escape."

"And the bad news?" Moses inquired.

"You have to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement," God replied.



## Opportunities of the Week February March 8 ~ 15

### SUNDAY, MARCH 8 (DST Begins!)

- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship and Children's Church
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Wedding Shower/Gym (for Stephen and Deborah)
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship and Children's Church
- 12:15 pm Safe Sanctuary Training/Parlor
- 3:30 pm Liturgical Dance/Sanctuary
- 4:30 pm Bible Experience for Children
- 5:00 pm Disciple II
- 5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner
- 7:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study

### MONDAY, MARCH 9

- 6:00 pm Writer's Group/185
- 6:00 pm Hope Circle/Parlor
- 6:30 pm Girl Scouts/Upstairs Kitchen

### TUESDAY, MARCH 10

- 10:00 am "The Will of God" Class/Parlor
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts/Gym
- 7:30 pm AA/ 185,205,209,210

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

- 6:00 pm Youth Group
- 6:00 pm Bell Choir/Sanctuary
- 7:00 pm ACOA/206
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

### THURSDAY, MARCH 12

- 10:00 am Susanna Circle/Parlor
- 6:00 pm "Meeting God in Hymns"/Chapel
- 6:00 pm Praise Band
- 7:15 pm Yoga/210

### FRIDAY, MARCH 13

- 7:30 pm AA/Gym

### SATURDAY, MARCH 14

- 3:00 pm Respite Care/Gym

### SUNDAY, MARCH 15

- 5:00 am Big Creek Mission Team Leaves!
- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship and Children's Church
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship and Children's Church
- 3:30 pm Liturgical Dance/Sanctuary
- 4:30 pm Bible Experience for Children
- 5:00 pm Disciple II
- 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
Stephen Merrick	Music Director
Allyson Cauthon	Children's Director
Patrick Grafton	Youth 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



## SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Max LaGrone	3
Claretha Gotcher	4
Todd Morgan	4
Yuka Daughters	6
Marleigh Blanchard	10
Karen Gibbs	11
Will Roberts	12
Steve Amos	16
Pat Smith	17
Karen Jones	21
Kyler Smith	22
Craig Hannon	23
Janice Hannon	24
Steve Smith	25
Peter Havlik	26

**Please check the table in the hallway to see if your complimentary 8x10 photo taken by Life Touch Studio is there. They are laid out alphabetically. We are receiving some of these every few days, so keep checking for yours!**

**ATTENDANCE:**  
**Due to snow and ice on the roads, the services were cancelled on March 1st.**

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

**Room 185: Discovery Class**  
Galatians

**Room 209: Fellowship Class**  
Adult Bible Study Curriculum

**Room 210: New Friendship Class**  
"Ancient & Medieval Religions"

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

**Room 161 Interlude Class**  
"Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton

**Room 205: Journeys Class**  
"Faith Under Fire: Tough Faith Questions"

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

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.