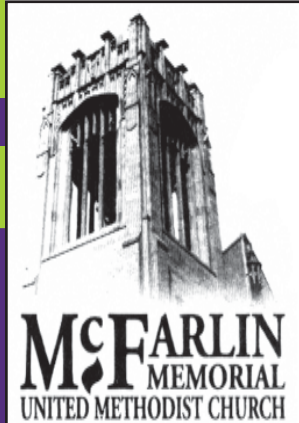


McFarlin Alive



VOLUME 156 ISSUE 2

January 29, 2010

MID WEEK CONNECTION

Mid-Week Connection is not only a great place to get a great meal, it is an awesome chance to hang out with friends and family around the dinner table. Dinner is served in Fenn Hall each Wednesday from 5:15 PM - 7 PM. There are a variety of ministry opportunities for all ages to choose from on Wednesday nights. A donation of \$5 (\$20 max per family) is asked to cover food costs. Whether you are part of an activity at the church or just want to be among friends, we hope to see you!

*Responding
to God's call,
we seek to
live lives
shaped by
Christ,
to reach
people for
Christ,
and to
develop
deeply
committed
Christians.*



HOPE & HEALING for CHILDREN & TEENS

February 19-21, 2010

McFarlin Memorial UMC

Presented by Dr. Leanne Hadley

Today's children and teens are growing up in uncertain times. They are coping with fears and pain from life experiences such as the death of a loved one or close friend, conflict and broken relationships at home and school, the effects of a natural disaster, divorce, and the challenges of growing up and searching for who they are. **HOPE & HEALING for CHILDREN & TEENS** is a 3-day training event designed to introduce resources for helping children and teens deal with these and other life issues.

Dr. Leanne Hadley is the President and Founder of First Steps Spirituality Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, a nationally and internationally recognized leader in the area of spirituality of children and teens. For anyone who has a heart for working with today's children and teens, this workshop is a great opportunity to hear from Dr. Hadley and learn about the holy listening model of ministry.

The training begins Friday evening at 6:30 PM and concludes Sunday afternoon at 4 PM. The cost of the weekend is \$10.00 per person to cover lunch on Saturday and supplies for the weekend. Brochures are available at the church or contact Rev, Mary C. Irby at 405-620-3645 or mcirby13@cox.net for more information.

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Volume 156,
Issue 2

Ministry Updates

From My House to Your House



About a year and a half ago we had an All-Church Conversation. At this gathering, members of our congregation were asked if they would like the church budget to operate on the calendar year rather than the fiscal year. By an overwhelming majority people expressed their preference for operating on the calendar year.

The Faith and Finance Committee has taken note of this and has determined that the church should return to the calendar year for budgeting purposes. This will allow for a much easier reading of quarterly financial statements that people receive in the mail, and it means our annual finance drive will occur in the fall rather than the spring.

It also means that we will have a six-month period (July through December) when the budget is not supported by pledges because the current pledge period ends June 30. Even so, we trust that everyone will continue to support the church at their present giving level, or increase their financial support if possible through the second half of the year. This will help us meet our budget and any necessary budget increases.

It appears the majority of our congregation clearly prefers changing to the calendar year, and the Faith and Finance Committee has responded accordingly. I am grateful for the work of the Faith and Finance Committee, and I am grateful for your continuing support of the church and its ministries.

For Christ's church,

MCFARLIN MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH REVENUE REPORT December 31, 2009

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
Pledge Offerings	\$ 913,541	\$ 980,236
Unpledged Offerings	192,500	157,502
Other	81,806	79,130
Total	1,187,847	1,216,868

United Methodist Women February Unit Meeting Annual Call to Prayer and Self Denial "Property Makes Mission Possible"

McFarlin UMW will observe the 2010 Call to Prayer and Self-Denial on Tuesday, February 16 at 10:00 in Meyer Hall. Spiritual growth coordinators Gloria Jean Fenn and Pat Leveridge will lead this quiet-day service with a focus on the crucial importance of the acquisition and maintenance of property in making mission possible, concluding with an opportunity to contribute to the fund for capital expenditures at UMW international and U.S. mission institutions serving women, children and youth.

A light lunch of vegetable and fruit trays with cheese and crackers will be prepared by Circles 1 and 12 for a minimal charge of \$3 per person. Complimentary child care can be made available by advance registration. Please make reservations for both lunch and child care through your Circle or by calling the church office at 321-3484.



Ministry Updates

Youth Works...

This is another time when I am so proud to be a United Methodist! Watching the way our denomination, through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), has stepped up to help those in need in Haiti has been tremendous. There is a reason UMCOR has such a great reputation around the world when it comes to disaster response. Tragedy has touched close to the hearts of United Methodists as two UMCOR executives perished while at a meeting in the Hotel Montana. We rejoice in knowing that 3 others who were at the same meeting were rescued, and give thanks for the sacrifices made to help those in need around the world!

We have the chance, as a church, to continue to step up and help the people in Haiti and around the world who face disasters. We are presently collecting items for health kits that UMCOR rushes to the scene whenever and wherever disaster strikes. We are making a special emphasis to collect items for health kits through Sunday, February 7. For a list of items needed, please e-mail smeier@mcfarlinumc.org or gshepherd@mcfarlinumc.org. There are bins outside Fenn Hall and the Sanctuary to place items or completed health kits. There are also sheets with needed items listed.

This Sunday is our early-bird sign up deadline for our Mexico 17 mission during spring break. Brochures and registration packets can be found on the Student Ministries table in the Atrium. We are looking for youth, college students, and adults to travel with us to another place that is in great need!

This spring break we hope to build 10 casitas (small, cement-block houses) in Mexico. Each casita costs us \$2300, or about \$7 per square foot. Our *Buy A Square Foot* fundraiser is how we fund these casitas. If you are willing to help, mark your offering "*Buy A Square Foot*".

Scott Meier

Music Notes

We recently took our annual handbell retreat to Quartz Mountain with our Wesley I Ringers through high school groups. This year was a bit different than years past. We invited a guest clinician, Bette Lehenbauer to work with the groups. In addition to Bette, Olivia Buthod (our church music intern/organist) worked with the Wesley I, Wesley II and Chapel Choir groups during the event. It was a blessing to watch the youth work so diligently and make the progress they were able to make in such a short time. The event was productive, meaningful and fun.

Our profound thanks to Tino Herrera, Scott Meier, Heather Oelke and all the parents that made the event a success.

On Saturday evening, February 20 the Chapel Choir will be presenting a dinner theater around the theme "Love" with many of your favorite Broadway tunes. I hope you will join us as we work to raise funds for our choir tour this June. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under.

Back by popular demand, we are having a silent auction before the dinner theater with the theme being "Love", we are asking for donations to make theme baskets. Some examples are movie lovers, chocolate lovers, animal lovers, spa packages, OU lovers (apparel, sports event tickets, etc.), overnight stays at local hotels, bed and breakfasts, etc. We are accepting single items or you can make up a basket of your own choosing. Be creative (crazy) and put your imagination to work! Contact Andrea Ruedy (home 360-1520, cell 550-9531, or e-mail samruedy@sbcglobal.net) if you have any questions, or if you need items picked up.

For music at McFarlin,
Boyd Hamilton

Single Snippets

Start living in 2010 without fear, anxiety or worry! Can you imagine your life without fear? Each sunrise seems to bring fresh reasons for fear. They're talking layoffs at work, slow-downs in the economy, flare-ups in the Middle East and upswings in global warming. But what if faith, not fear, was your default reaction to threats? If you could hover a fear magnet over your heart and extract every last shaving of dread, insecurity, and doubt, what would remain? Envision a day, just one day, when you could trust more and fear less. Can you imagine your life without fear?

A new Wednesday night multi-generational study group will tackle this issue by means of Max Lucado's new book FEARLESS. Each week there is a 5-10 minute lesson by Max on DVD and small group discussions with thought-provoking questions. Join us on Wednesday, January 27 at 7:30 PM in room 210 for a fresh new look at living the life Jesus meant for us to live – a life of walking faithfully and without fear. Contact Harriette Leigh Kemp for more information or to sign up at 245-9874 or hrleigh@cox.net. Join us for dinner in Fenn Hall for the Mid-Week Connection meal for only \$5 before class.

Upcoming Events

Super Bowl Party

Sunday, February 7 (location TBA)

Mardi Gras Party

Saturday, February 13 with a beignet breakfast at 10 AM then make the Okra Queens float for the Mardi Gras Parade, eat jambalaya and gumbo at 4 PM, ride on the float and then back to the house for more gumbo and dessert!

Valentine's Day Party

Sunday, February 14 in the church Atrium at 6 PM. Help single parents celebrate with their kids, and then chow down on chocolate!

Ministry Updates

Senior Adult

Good Day to Everyone!

We have so much going on this winter that I'm not sure where to start.

First we have a group of singers and dancers in their 70's and 80's for our entertainers for the February 3 Bonus Years Meeting. The Oklahoma Senior's Cabernet will delight us with song and dance before a delicious Italian dinner with Tiramisu for dessert for only \$7. Please call me at the church at 321-3484, ext. 108 to reserve your spot by Thursday, January 28.

We have several trips coming up. The one in February is to Frederick's Oyster Fest on Saturday, February 20. Cost is \$50 per person which includes a luxury charter bus, light sack lunch, entries to all museums and all the ocean oysters you can eat. The bus will leave at 10 AM and should be back in Norman by 7 PM.

On March 13 we are going to attend OCU's spring dance performance. This Saturday matinee will start at 2 PM. Our thoughts are to go early enough to tour OCU, eat lunch and then attend the performance. All the church vans and buses will be gone with the youth on a mission trip that week so we will probably have to take private cars or rent vans. Please give me your input on this.

We had previously planned on going on a day trip to OKC the last of March. Would you rather make that trip later or have the two trips in one month?

Count your blessings and keep smiling!
Carol Dean Schreiner

Care Ministries

McFarlin's Prayer Shawl Ministry is all about praying and creating shawls for individuals who are experiencing illness or grief, going through one of life's troubling times, and for times of joy and celebration. Our shawl ministry began in 2006 with a workshop held to acquaint individuals with this ministry. And every year since we have held similar workshops to help prospective participants. Our workshop this year will be held on Saturday, February 13. You do not have to be a "pro" at knitting or crochet to be a part of this ministry. In fact, even if you do not know how to do either, we will have instructors willing and able to help you get started on the 13th. You are asked to bring your own knitting needles (size 11 or 13) or crochet hook (size M, N, or P). You may bring your own yarn, but some will be provided as well (Lion Brand Homespun yarn is suggested and knitted shawls require 555 yards of yarn, crocheted shawls require 740 yards). Refreshments will be provided. We'll meet in room 401 from 10 AM to noon. If you have any questions or would like to let us know you will be there, please contact Susan Carruth at 364-0761 or Jane Cook, Congregational Care Coordinator at the church office (321-3484, ext. 115).

Although some of us meet in circles to get together to knit and crochet, McFarlin's Prayer Shawl Ministry is a "come and go" type of ministry and the shawls can be created in your own time, in your own home. We have found that creating these shawls and scarves is as meaningful for the creator as well as it is to receive one of these items. If you are interested in this ministry, we would love to see you on the 13th.

Serving with you,
Jane Cook



CHILDREN'S CHURCH-HOUSE

When we look back on our most meaningful experiences at church, I think most of us will think of a time when we felt connected, connected to God, connected to others in learning, praising and searching of God, and connected to others in serving God. I believe that this connectivity helps us stay close to God. I would like to encourage all of you to be involved in a small group at McFarlin. It is through those small groups that we experience fellowship and connectivity. There are many Bible studies, Sunday school classes, Disciple classes, choir, quilting, etc. The United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Men groups are strong and alive as well, doing many service projects in our area and beyond. Check the bulletin on Sunday morning or the McFarlin website to view these awesome opportunities. Our Mid-Week Connection meal has been a hit and is a great opportunity to come connect with others. The children have had a great time enjoying each other and connecting as well. We hope McFarlin small groups are a part of your spiritual journey!

God Bless,
Kristy and Beth

Vacation Bible School Leaders Meeting is February 10 at 7:30 PM. Please contact us if you have an interest in leading an area in VBS 2010. The dates are July 11-14 from 6-8:30 PM.

The Children's Choir is in need of shepherds on Wednesdays from 2:45-5 PM. We need volunteers now until the evening of April 28. We are also looking for drivers to pick up children at schools on a regular or fill in basis. Volunteers can drive their own vehicle or one of the church vans. Please contact Teresa Williams at twilliams@mcfarlinumc.org or 321-3484, ext. 112 for more information.

Ministry Updates

1 Perspective

Do you get upset when things that are out of your control don't seem to happen very quickly? Pray for me to be patient about getting more details about our June VIM trip to Alaska. Of course the reason I am really pushing for decisions is that people need to know the dates if they are going to be part of the mission.

I can tell you that another church in the area is hurriedly setting up a mission to Bolivia around Easter and has invited McFarlin folks to go along. Let me know if you are interested.

We also are collecting food in conjunction with Extreme Makeover's upcoming activity in our area.

McFarlin's response to the Haiti disaster is very impressive, both in health kits and cash. McFarlin always seems to come through. I appreciate everyone's efforts in this regard. I have known so many over the years who have been involved there and this event has been a very emotional time.

The McFarlin staff has been calling the membership and I have found it an enjoyable activity. It has been good to talk to so many with names ending in H and B. I'm sorry there was no choice but to leave messages for many. The process has reminded me of how wide our influence is across the community and how much this church means to hundreds of people.

For keeping in touch,
George Shepherd

Ways to Help Haiti

For the latest United Methodist news related to Haiti, go to www.umc.org. **PRAY.** Pray for all those suffering, for relief efforts and for families who have lost loved ones.

GIVE. The easiest way is through McFarlin, make the check to McFarlin and mark it Haiti on the memo line. It will be sent for use by UMCOR, the relief arm of our denomination. 100% of your gift will go to the disaster as overhead costs are covered through other funds. McFarlin has already collected well over \$5,000.

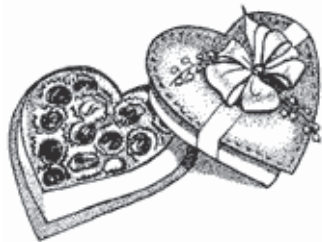
DONATE HEALTH KITS. Donations can be brought to McFarlin and placed in the collection bins that are outside worship. Instructions can be found on the yellow handouts near the collection bins. Please follow those instructions diligently. McFarlin has already packed up and sent 129 kits which came in by last Sunday. We will continue to collect Health Kits in the following weeks including the Student and Children's Ministries' Souper Bowl Sunday, February 7.

Day at the Legislature Deadline

Day at the Legislature, sponsored by the Oklahoma Conference of Churches, is Wednesday, February 10 but the deadline to register to insure a lunch is February 3! The theme is "Building and Re-building Our Communities." Focus issues will be criminal justice, mental health, substance abuse and domestic violence. Tom Boyd is the keynote speaker.

Printed information and registration forms are available outside worship and information is available from George Shepherd at McFarlin (321-3484, ext. 109 or gshpherd@mcfarlinumc.org). Individuals should send in their own registration with \$30 fee. George is coordinating the transportation by church vehicle, so call him if you want to ride with our group.

Chocolate for Valentines!



Treat your valentine to something special! Valentine's chocolate and hot cocoa mix is being featured during February along with coffee and tea by the missions fundraiser. Sales of the fair trade Equal Exchange products will be set up in the Atrium before or after Sunday school each Sunday in February. Three choices of chocolate bars are offered: milk chocolate, dark chocolate with almonds and very dark (71% cocoa). All are organic.

Equal Exchange was started in 1986 based on one idea: What if food could be traded in a way that is honest and fair, a way that empowers both farmers and consumers? What if trade supported small farmer co-operatives that use sustainable methods, rather than industrialized agribusiness that rely on exploited labor and harmful chemicals? Read more about Equal Exchange in the brochures at the sales display or on their website: www.equalexchange.coop.

So stop by to try a sample, purchase items or place a six-month subscription order for coffee or tea. Proceeds help support McFarlin's missionaries, provide partial scholarships for Volunteers in Mission and fund local projects.

McFarlin News

Letters From Dad

McFarlin United Methodist Men will celebrate the conclusion of the Letters From Dad writing session with a celebration dinner on Monday, February 1. The family dinner will be from 7 - 9 PM in Fenn Hall. Men are encouraged to bring a friend who will hear testimonials from participants and family members and might be interested in our next LFD session.

Lenten Studies Coming

Lent starts with Ash Wednesday, February 17. Several Lenten Studies will take place the first full week of Lent, starting February 21. These will last five weeks so that they are completed prior to Holy Week. They will use Bishop Hayes' book of devotions, *Strength for the Journey*. The books are \$15 (with proceeds in excess of production costs going to seminary scholarships). The bishop will be preaching at McFarlin February 28 so the studies coincide with his visit.

The plan is to have groups several evenings during the week and maybe a daytime group. We have a few volunteers to host studies in their homes and to lead the studies but more are needed. If you might be able to help, please contact George Shepherd, 321-3484, x 109 or gshepherd@mcfarlinumc.org. Once the days and times are determined, they will be publicized and you can begin signing up.

Newsletter Mailing List

If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail or wish to be removed from the mailing list, please send an e-mail to thamilton@mcfarlinumc.org and include your home address so that it may be removed from the list.

Health Kits for Haiti

McFarlin children are assembling health kits for Haiti during Wednesday choir and Sunday Elements of Worship. We have many items, but need enough of the following to complete our 45 kits on Sunday. If you are able to bring the following items separate from any kits you're making, please leave them in the tub outside of Beth Carter's office, room 211. We need fingernail clippers or nail files (no emery boards or toenail clippers), hand towels (no kitchen towels), and full-sized combs. If your child can bring \$1 for toothpaste on Sunday, we will put those into the kits.

Thank You to McFarlin's Hospital Lay Visitors!

Harry Deaver and Sue Mercer
Pat and Rex Privett
Kelli Howery
Carol Warner
Shirley Godwin
Sally Smith
Eve Hawley
Janet Crain
Bill Chissoe
Christy Britton



Women's Bible Study begins Wednesday, January 27



Start the new year right. Join a welcoming and warm group of women meeting Wednesday evenings at 7:10 PM in room 222 (off the atrium) to study one chapter a week from the Bible. We will begin the Gospel of Mark on Wednesday, January 27. Contact Eve Hawley at 321-3488 or hawleyhouse@cox.net, for more

information or to make child care arrangements.

McFarlin Family

Welcome McFarlin New Members: Larry and Deanna Grissom.

Meetings & Activities

January 31st - February 6th

Sunday, January 31

8:00AM	Men 2 Pray 4 Pastors	Room 200
8:30AM	Early Sanctuary Worship*	Sanctuary
9:35AM	Communion*	Martin Chapel
9:40AM	Sunday School*	Various
10:55AM	Sanctuary Worship*	Sanctuary
10:55AM	LifeLine Worship*	Fenn Hall
12:00PM	College Lunch	Atrium
12:05PM	Communion	Martin Chapel
1:15PM	Youth Praise Band Practice	Fenn Hall
4:00PM	Wesley II Bell Choir	Meyer Hall
4:00PM	Wesley III Bell Choir	Bell Room
4:30PM	Chapel Choir	Choir Room
5:00PM	Wesley Choir Rehearsal	Meyer Hall
5:30PM	Singles Bible Study/Dinner	615 E. Boyd
6:00PM	Financial Peace University	Room 209
6:00PM	Agape Handbell Choir	Bell Room
6:00PM	Youth Fellowship Dinner	Fenn Hall
6:30PM	The Gathering	Fenn Hall

Monday, February 1

9:00AM	Children's Day Out	Rooms 102, 104
2:00PM	Afternoon Shawl Circle	Room 320
4:00PM	Wesley I Bell Choir	Bell Room
6:00PM	UMM Leadership Meeting	Room 222
6:30PM	Care Team Meeting	Room 227
7:00PM	Boy Scout Patrol Meeting	Rooms 329, 403
7:00PM	Education Ministry Team	Room 209
7:00PM	Letters From Dad Celebration Dinner	Fenn Hall
7:00PM	Boy Scouts	Meyer Hall
7:30PM	Evening Shawl Circle	Room 401

Tuesday, February 2

9:30AM	UMW Executive Committee	Room 209
11:30AM	Prayers for Our Church	Church Offices
12:00PM	UMW #7	Room 222
6:30PM	Celebrate Recovery	Meyer Hall
7:00PM	Disciple Bible Study III	Room 226

Wednesday, February 3

6:00AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast	Fenn Hall
9:00AM	Children's Day Out	Rooms 102, 104
9:00AM	UMW #1*	Room 228
9:30AM	UMW Circle # 5	Room 320
10:30AM	Bonus Years Meeting	Fenn Hall
3:00PM	Children's Choir/Discovery Time	Various
5:15PM	Mid-Week Connection	Fenn Hall
5:15PM	Festival Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
6:00PM	Wednesday Quilters	Room 226
6:15PM	Canticle Singers*	Choir Room
6:15PM	Sanctuary Bell Choir	Bell Room
6:30PM	Invitation to the New Testament	Room 224
6:30PM	Emmaus Reunion*	Room 227
7:10PM	Women's Bible Study	Room 222

7:30PM	Wednesday Bible Study*	Room 401
7:30PM	Fearless Book Study	Room 223
7:30PM	Chancel Choir*	Choir Room
7:30PM	UMW #2*	Room 304
7:30PM	B.A.S.I.C.	Room 321
7:30PM	FISH Opening Worship	Sanctuary
8:00PM	Al-Anon	Room 227

Thursday, February 4

7:00AM	Middle School Boys' Bible Breakfast	Ozzies
8:30AM	Utilities Assistance	Room 209
9:00AM	Disciple Bible Study III	Room 222
12:00PM	Chancel Handbell Choir	Bell Room
5:30PM	Carillon Handbell Choir	Bell Room
7:00PM	Pack 241 Meeting	Room 227
7:00PM	Pack 241 Committee Meeting	Room 326
7:00PM	Strategic Plan Task Force	Room 222
7:00PM	Sooner Toastmasters	Room 401
8:00PM	Youth Praise Band Practice	Fenn Hall

Friday, February 5

7:15AM	S.I.C.	Panera Bread
7:30AM	H.S. Freshman Bible & Breakfast	Ozzies
9:00AM	Children's Day Out	Rooms 102, 104

Saturday, February 6

8:00AM	Methodist Men's Breakfast	Fenn Hall
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**Child care Available*

Young Career Fellowship Sunday School Class

Young Career Fellowship invites singles and couples in their twenties to our Sunday School class in room 100. We are starting a new study next week, so this is the perfect time to join us! Please contact Lauren Gray at laurengrey3@gmail.com for more information.

Elements of Worship

Our Elements of Worship Program is in great need of shepherds during 10:55 AM worship services. Whether or not your child attends Elements, we would love to have you as a volunteer. No preparation is necessary; you simply join the children and help them stay engaged. Please contact Beth Carter at bcarter@mcfarlinumc.org or 321-3484, ext. 179 for more information.

McFarlin News

McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church



P.O. Box 6390
Norman, OK 73070
405.321.3484
www.mcfarlinumc.org

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"Let's Do Lunch" Gathering for Women

Join other women from McFarlin for food and fellowship February 1 around noon at Cheddar's, located at 1300 24th Avenue NW (south of Target). Contact Heather Oelke for more information at heather.hydeoelke@ihs.com.



LOVE

The Chapel Choir will be presenting their annual Dinner Theater February 20 at 7 PM in Fenn Hall. This year's theme is "Love". Please mark your calendar!

Boy Scout Troop 241

Needs your donations for the Scout Garage Sale to be held February 6 at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Items may be dropped off at the fairgrounds on Friday, February 5 from 5 - 6:30 PM at Troop 241's Booth.



8:30 & 10:55
AM
Sanctuary
Traditional
Worship

10:55 AM
LifeLine
Contemporary
Worship