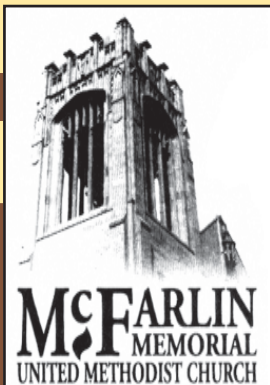


McFarlin Active



VOLUME 156 ISSUE 2

January 30, 2009

Come To An All-Church Conversation Sunday, February 8 at 7 PM in Fenn Hall

Hear from Senior Minister Dick House and other church leaders as they share what's going on at McFarlin! A panel of church leaders will be there to take questions from the congregation. The first "All-Church Conversation" was held last September. At the request of those who attended, this is the second opportunity for our whole church to come together for an open and uplifting All-Church Conversation! If you will need childcare, please stop by the reception desk at the church to sign up or call 321-3484 for reservations. Reservations must be turned in by 10 AM that morning, February 8.

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



CHILDREN'S CHURCH-HOUSE

"What is that faceless mannequin doing outside the Children's Ministries offices?" We've heard that question from more than one person passing in the hallway over the past few weeks. Well, she may look a little unconventional, but we'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to **Grace**. Grace is our "mascot," of sorts. Throughout the year, you will see Grace wearing various shirts that represent our children's program and current activities. Be watching for a ministry called, "The Face of Grace," in which the children will nominate peers who they believe show God's grace by the way they live. We will use these ideas to showcase our children witnessing Christ in the world. So keep looking: Grace just might have a face before we know it!

Souper Bowl Sunday. Join us Sunday, February 1 for an all-church soup lunch at noon. Along with the lunch, everyone is asked to bring a can of soup or other non-perishable food item for the McFarlin pantry. Help us claim victory over hunger in Norman!



P.O. Box 6390, 73070
419 S. University at Apache
Norman, Okla. 73069
PH 405-321-3484
www.mcfarlinumc.org

You Are Invited To Attend one of five Advance Commitment gatherings to discuss the *We are the Church* stewardship campaign goals. Presentations will be made by Dick House and the program leaders. There will also be a chili and soup dinner at each event. Please call Carol Warner at 573-0468 for reservations for a specific date and childcare requirements. The dates and



times are: February 16 at 6:30 PM; February 17 at 12:00 PM; February 17 at 6:30 PM; February 18 at 7 PM and February 19 at 7 PM. All will be located in Fenn Hall.

Volume 156,
Issue 2

Ministry Updates

Senior Adult Doings

Last summer I visited Portland, OR, for the first time. I had never seen the Columbia River. It is expansive. I drove to Astoria, OR, at the mouth of the Columbia and crossed over the river into the state of Washington. The bridge is 4.2 miles long. I believe it is the longest bridge I have ever traveled. Bridges are to safely get us from one solid point to another in the least amount of time.

We are on the "bridge" between Polly Sandlin's leadership and the hiring of a new Senior Adult Ministry Director. I have no doubt we will get there safely. Here is what the "bridge" looks like:

1. We have volunteer coordinators for the Bonus Years meetings and the pastoral care part of the ministry who are leading the ministry in the interim: Barbara Brooke for the meetings and Judy Hyden for pastoral care, including the Alzheimer's support group.

2. We are still in need of someone to be the volunteer coordinator for Bonus Years trips. If interested, please, call me at the church office, 321-3484, ext. 165.

3. We are interviewing candidates now. We expect a recommendation to SPRC shortly. An announcement will be made after their decision of the person to be our new Senior Adult Ministry Director.

Keep praying for us as we cross the "bridge,"
Cal Brannon

SAVE THE DATE

March 29 & 30!

Dr. Alyce McKenzie will be preaching in the 8:30 & 10:55 AM Sanctuary services on March 29 and teaching that Sunday evening and Monday morning on "The Parables for Today." If you do not have her book, they will be going on sale soon at the "COSI Corner" in the Atrium.

UMW February Meeting

On Tuesday, February 17, at 10:30 AM in Meyer Hall, the McFarlin United Methodist Women will gather for the regular business meeting led by Ann Needham, followed by their annual special observance of Quiet Day Service/A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, a quiet day of reflection and prayer. Sonda Shepherd and Elizabeth Kern will lead the program which will begin with a skit emphasizing the need for money for technology around the world. The group will then take part in a Love Feast where all will share in the celebration of the body of Christ, alive and working in our lives today.

The program will conclude with the opportunity to give to the offering designated for creating communities through information technology. A noon meal will not be served at this meeting. Childcare can be made available by reservation. Call 321-3484 by Friday, February 13.



Deacon's Corner

As a part of my ministry as a deacon, I am charged with connecting the church to the world. At McFarlin, this happens in various ways, but one of my current responsibilities is to coordinate the pastoral care of the congregation. Cal, Dick, Randy, and I provide the clergy presence when a member or constituent is hospitalized, and I also coordinate lay hospital visits, and pray with those having surgery. One of the ministries I inherited from Jane Cook is the "Flower Ministry Fund." Each hospitalized member receives a red rose-paid for by this fund, which is a contribution from a couple in the church. It occurred to me that there might be others who would wish to contribute to this fund as a ministry to those who are hospitalized. If you would like to help this vital ministry, please send your contributions with a memo "Flower Fund."

I am also looking for 2 new hospital lay visitors-one who would visit on Fridays twice a month, and one "substitute." If you have a passion and compassion for visiting persons in the hospital, please call me at 245-9874. There is a short training that enables you to visit with confidence to share God's Love. Is God calling you to serve in this manner? Trust in God is not only an act, it is an attitude.

Ministry Updates

Youth Works...

As I write this, there are only 8 spots left on our ski/snowboard trip to Monarch, Colorado, February 13-16. To sign up, an event registration form and a \$50 deposit must be turned in. You can sign up online at www.McFarlinYouth.com by creating a profile.

This Sunday, February 1 is the deadline to sign up for *Mexico 16: Passport to Adventure* youth spring break mission trip and pay only \$350 (\$300 if there are more than one going from your family). After this Sunday, the cost increases to \$450 for everyone.

The youth are off to the OKC Thunder vs. the LA Lakers on Tuesday, February 24. Tickets are \$10 and they will go fast, so get yours now!

We hope you will consider **Buy A Square Foot**, our fundraiser to pay for the projects in Mexico. Each project costs \$2300, or about \$7 per square foot. Whatever amount you are able to give is a blessing. Mark your check "Buy A Square Foot".

Single Snippets

Valentine's Day is a secular holiday that is not much appreciated by single adults. As we all know, the best way to approach something that bothers us, or is difficult, is to look toward serving others. Keep your eye on serving God always. Here is an opportunity for "V" day to keep the blues away.

On Saturday, February 14, children of single parents will have a dinner party for their parents. The gathering begins at 6 PM with group volunteers (hint: this is the service part for those without young children) that will meet with the children in the Atrium to decorate, cook the kid-chosen meal, and to craft a present for mom or dad. The parents will meet in another room to get acquainted and for support. At the appointed time, the children will seat and serve their parents, and then give them a wonderful Valentine's present. Afterwards, the children will help clean up while their parents relax. Does this sound like an opportunity for you to

Continued on Page 4

Music News

In January every year, the youth handbell choirs, from sixth grade through twelfth, take a retreat to start up the new semester. This has been a tradition for over thirty years! For the past 15 or so years, the retreat has been at the Quartz Mountain State Park, which has wonderful rehearsal facilities. Grace Conway, a junior in high school, shares her experiences on the retreat.

Searching for the Face of God

At the beginning of the middle school and high school annual bell retreat to Quartz Mountain, our director, Venita MacGorman challenged us to look around over the weekend for the face of God. Each one of the ringers planned to share their "God-moment" at the closing worship on Sunday afternoon, so we all hurried off for the weekend, looking everywhere for God. While climbing up rugged trails, we tried to see God in the mountains. While relaxing in the indoor swimming pool, we tried to see God in the ripples of the water. While we pushed through new and difficult music, we tried to see God in the notes on the page. As the weekend pressed on, I was still looking for God in every direction.

When it came time for the closing worship, many kids shared their thoughts from the weekend. Two rivaling sisters saw God in the peaceful moments they shared. One ringer saw God in the sponsors and college chaperones. An adult saw God in the teamwork and encouragement. A group of girls saw God on an eerie, dark walk back to the cabin; they sang Veggie Tales songs to keep their spirits up. As each person shared, I wasn't able to conjure my own God-moment from the weekend. I'd seen so many beautiful sights over the weekend, but none really popped out at me; there was no Aha! moment, no epiphanies.

A group of girls shared about the few minutes we'd spent outside the previous evening. We all sat on the rocks beside the water, listening to the waves, and numbering the countless stars in the Milky Way spinning around our heads. I was speechless as I stared at the unfathomable expanse of the universe above me, but still, there was no clear picture of God in my mind.

A college student began to tell a story of his morning hike. He had gotten up early so he could watch the sunrise from the top of the mountain. He, too, had been searching for God all weekend, so he decided to make his own God-moment. He sat on a boulder, waiting and waiting for the sun to rise, and then, he claimed, he had his epiphany.

I looked around the room; each person was listening intently, captivated by his story. My friends were all clumped together on the floor, smiling back at my weary face. I began to realize that maybe it was the company that had made our evening under the stars so unique, that maybe each person in the room was the face of God in some way. Maybe God had been calling out to me, but I had been so busy searching that I hadn't noticed it. I realized that God is always there, whether we see him or not; sitting on the hardwood floor beside me in a crowded old dance studio, was God. God was in the face of every person I saw sitting around the room, but I had been too busy looking for him to notice. God really was around me the entire weekend!

The college student was finishing his story about the beautiful Oklahoma sunrise he'd been waiting for. He drew his audience in with a final word. He said, "I realized then, that I wasn't waiting on God. God was waiting on me."

Ministry Updates

Care Ministries

"The only feelings that do not heal are the ones you hide" -- Henri Nouwen.

I read recently that the Jewish Talmud relates that Adam protested to God that banishing him and Eve from the Garden of Eden was too severe a punishment. Adam questioned how they could manage in the world outside. God considered their plea and gave Adam and Eve two gifts to help them cope with difficulties in the world. The first gift was the Sabbath for rest and contemplation; the second was the tear.

Sometimes our "stiff upper lip" approach to life makes it difficult for us to heal. Perhaps the ability to cry is one of God's greatest gifts to humankind. Tears are as natural as laughter and just as healing. Tears shed privately or shared with an empathetic friend can release not only sadness, but anger, guilt, exhaustion, and loneliness as well.

It is good to share your thoughts and emotions with people who care and understand your grief, and it is one of the most healing gifts you can give yourself. Fam-

ily and friends are oftentimes experiencing their own grief, and may therefore not be the best source of support. They may find your grief so painful that they want you to "get over it" before you are healed enough to let go of your grief.

Bereavement support groups can be a lifeline for those in grief. McFarlin's Care Ministries is offering a four-week support group beginning February 8. The group will meet on Sunday evenings from 5-6:30 PM in room 223 and will be facilitated by Charlotte Coffey, MSW. Charlotte, who serves both as a Stephen Minister and member of McFarlin's Care Team, is employed at the O.U. Medical Center as a social worker manager.

If you have any questions and/or are interested in participating in this group, please give me a call at the church or send an email to jcook@mcfarlinumc.org. It is important for group cohesiveness that all who are interested be in attendance at the first session.

May faith and love sustain you now and for the days ahead.

Jane Cook, Congregational Care Coordinator

Single Snippets

Continued from Page 3

serve? This is my favorite ministry of the entire year-teaching young ones that God's Love is for everyone and not limited to a romantic partner or spouse.

There is not a better way to beat the blues than to serve others. You Think About That!

Grace and Peace, Harriette

McFarlin Memories

Access for McFarlin Church has been problematic from the beginning. The steep outside steps to the Sanctuary have always been difficult to navigate. There is a story of a retired minister who refused to agree to have his funeral at McFarlin because he had heard of pallbearers dropping a casket as they exited the church. However, the double brass rails that were installed for both sets of steps in the 1940's did help the situation, and members of a Methodist student fraternity kept the brass polished for a while.

Building an elevator in the 1950's at the lower level to just outside the east Sanctuary doors and on to the third floor was a difficult construction project, but when it was completed, it was of great help. It was later extended to the fourth floor so that all levels are now accessible. Another recent very welcome addition to the Sanctuary are the handrails constructed by veteran member Norm Tracy that assist in climbing safely to the choir loft and to the pulpit area.

At present, a ramp from the east

Sanctuary entrance helps people going from the Sanctuary to the education building who find the steps there difficult. When the addition to the church was built in 1999, there was a smooth seamless transition without steps from the older portion of the building to the new area. Another elevator and steps with secure railings on the south side of the Atrium contribute to ingress and egress for that area. The recent addition of automatic outside doors has also been very helpful.

When Meyer Hall was renovated and redecorated in the 1970's, a ramp was built there, and recently it has been rebuilt and made even more available for people coming to Sunday school and other meetings there.

At present the church building is not only completely accessible for people with handicaps in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, but also it is much more convenient for the entire congregation. The McFarlin's would be pleased that the church building has been so greatly improved in ways that were not even considered possible at the time it was built in 1924.

Ministry Updates

1 Perspective

Every January, reports are turned into the United Methodist Conference Office that are eventually compiled into the totals for the whole denomination. The trends in these reports are always an indicator of the health of a church's ministries. This year the total enrolled in Sunday school has increased as has the total for all groups for learning and spiritual growth. Unfortunately, the average attendance for Sunday school has decreased compared to last year. The attendance in on-going groups for study and growth has increased and the attendance in short-term groups has greatly increased.

So there are several areas of good news, but the decline of Sunday school attendance is discouraging. We continue to start new classes and attempt to strengthen existing ones. The Education Ministry Team brainstormed several good ideas at their January meeting. Many people work tirelessly in Discover McFarlin and other efforts to bring new people into our classes. Some classes really work at this but others seem too satisfied with the status quo. I hope you will be in prayer with me about how we can boost involvement in our classes. It's not just numbers, people need the support of Christian friends and they need opportunities to grow in their faith and understanding and application of the Scriptures.

Costa Rica mission deposits are coming in at a good clip. Next week I will be meeting with the pastor from the church where we will work in that country. Then our mission team will meet to begin orientation and planning. It's still not too late to add yourself to the team, but time is running out. Call me at 596-2632 any hour of the day to find out how you can be included.

In Christ,
George Shepherd

Day at the Legislature February 10

This year's gathering of Christians at the State Capitol happens Tuesday, February 10. Day at the Legislature is sponsored by the Oklahoma Conference of Churches, the group of 16 Christian communions with strong United Methodist leadership. McFarlin usually has a group go each year. The morning session is in the beautiful State Senate Chamber and will feature a panel addressing the theme: "When You Do it to the Least of These." Afternoon break out sessions will address different issues and the closing speakers will be Frosty Troy and Drew Edmondson.

Printed information and registration forms are available outside worship, and information is available from UMW officers and from George Shepherd at McFarlin (321-3484). Individuals should send in their own registration by the deadline, February 3. 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 are 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 and after Sunday school each Sunday in February.

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.

Skyline Month Emphasizes Urban Ministry

Each United Methodist church in the area is assigned a month to highlight the efforts of Skyline Urban Ministry which ministers to the poor in the Metro area. February is Skyline month at McFarlin. All month long we will collect paper cups, plates, napkins, coffee, creamer, diapers, non-perishable food items and good, clean used clothing. Specific food items include peanut butter, canned or powdered milk, canned soup, tuna and other canned meat, canned fruit, and macaroni & cheese. Bring your donations to the plastic bins in the office area by the Skyline sign. On Sunday, February 15, Rev. Dale Tremper, Executive Director of Skyline Urban Ministries will be at McFarlin to speak to adult classes and make short presentations in worship.

McFarlin News

McFarlin's Historic Christmas Tree is Down!

If you haven't noticed, the historic Christmas Tree on the south side of the church has been cut down. Plans are already in the making for the smaller branches to be cut into small discs for the children's ornaments and gifts given at the Advent Festival next year. There were three longer pieces out of which Bob Warner is planning to build some larger keepsakes for the church. If you missed the Tree dedication on December 7, here is a little history that was shared.

Mr. H.F. Ritter transplanted the small cedar tree when McFarlin's building was new in 1924. Mrs. Ritter headed up the Junior Department and had the children decorate the tree as McFarlin's first outdoor Christmas tree. So this tree has stood here:

- ❖ Through the Great Depression
- ❖ At the time the Wesley Foundation was established in McFarlin's building
- ❖ When members of the church and young men from Wesley Foundation went off to fight WW II
- ❖ During the upheavals of the 60's
- ❖ It survived the change of the millennium
- ❖ But it met its match in the ice storm of 2007

We are grateful to the Trustees for preserving pieces of this historic tree for all to see for many years to come.

Another maintenance issue that Trustees would like you to be aware of is the "pruning" of the overgrown holly shrubbery on either side of the main entrance and on the west entrance. They have become so large it is impossible for us to keep them trimmed. We will be pruning them in February. They may look a little "forlorn" for a while, but will come back in a much more controllable size. You also will be able to see our beautiful church building much more clearly.

We also are installing new lighting in the bell tower and flowerbeds, which has graciously been donated. The south flowerbed along Fenn Hall has some serious drainage problems which are being fixed along with some new shrubbery paid for from the "Bob Andrews Memorial Landscaping Fund". Thank you to all who may have contributed to that fund.

If your New Year's Resolution was to "exercise" more or give of your "time" to McFarlin, then call me up and help us maintain our flowerbeds in the Spring. We can always use more hands to beautify our grounds at the church.

Libby Waldenville, 329-7539
Trustees Member

Dear Parents,

Blessings to you in 2009. What a year 2008 was for the McFarlin middle school youth! Not only did we have the opportunity to serve in Mexico and in Boulder, Colorado; we also were able to build relationships in the Norman community. Many of you started 2009 by making resolutions, setting new goals or agreeing to new commitments. Each year when I set goals, I always feel as if I am missing something.

In the 46th chapter of Psalms the author tells us "to be still, and know that I am God." At first glance, this verse seems fairly simple, however it goes deeper than expected. In our everyday busy lives we work, go to school, watch TV shows, and enjoy our extracurricular activities. However, do we spend the same amount of time one on one with our God? This command - "BE STILL" - forces us to think on two things: that we are finite, and that God is infinite. As Christian people, we need to come and behold the works of our God so that we may enjoy a calm confidence in Him who gave us His Son. That being the case, we need to drop our hands, relax, and "chill out."

This year, my prayer is that we all take time to be still and know that God is God and HE is in Control. Let us "BE STILL" and allow God to work in us so we may see with the eyes of Jesus, hear with the ears of Jesus and love with the heart of Jesus. My prayers and thanks to you and your family in 2009, and I fully look forward to fellowshiping with you this year.

Under the mercy of our Lord,
Tino Herrera, Co-Director of Middle School Ministries

McFarlin Family

Welcome McFarlin New Members: Charlene Goodson; Dottie Kasey; Kathryn Coffman; Robert and Renee Coffman; Dan and Jenean Arnold; Robin Wilmes; Stephanie NeSmith; Laura Nicole Greening.

Entered the Church Triumphant: Evert Stong, brother of Clara Dumas; Dottie Seals; Agnes Yorke, grandmother of Mike Hawley.

Baptized Into the Family of Faith: Camrin Rae NeSmith and Syler Reese NeSmith, children of Stephanie NeSmith; Riley Renee Hutter, daughter of Andrew and Alissa Hutter.

Meetings & Activities

February 1st - 7th

Sunday, February 1

8:00AM	Men 2 Pray 4 Pastors	Room 200
8:30AM	Stephen Ministry Peer Support	Room 325
8:30AM	Early Worship/Communion*	Sanctuary
9:40AM	Sunday School*	Various
10:55AM	Sanctuary Worship*	Sanctuary
10:55AM	LifeLine Worship*	Fenn Hall
11:15AM	Elements of Worship	Room 306
12:00PM	Souper Bowl Sunday	Atrium
12:05PM	Communion after Worship	Martin Chapel
1:00PM	Miriam Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
4:00PM	Wesley III Bell Choir	Bell Room
4:00PM	Wesley II Bell Choir	Meyer Hall
4:30PM	Chapel Choir	Choir Room
5:00PM	Wesley Choir Rehearsal	Meyer Hall
5:30PM	Singles Bible Study/Dinner	615 E. Boyd
6:00PM	Agape Ringers	Bell Room
6:00PM	Mexico 16 Dinner	Fenn Hall

Monday, February 2

9:00AM	Children's Day Out	Room 102, 104
2:00PM	Afternoon Shawl Circle	Room 320
4:00PM	Wesley I Bell Choir	Bell Room
5:30PM	Cub Scout Pack 241	Room 329
6:30PM	Care Team Meeting	Room 227
7:00PM	Boy Scout Patrol Meeting	Room 329, 403
7:00PM	Information & Distribution Team	Room 226
7:00PM	Worship Ministry Team	Room 222
7:00PM	Education Ministry Team	Room 209
7:00PM	Boy Scouts	Meyer Hall
7:30PM	Evening Shawl Circle	Room 401

Tuesday, February 3

9:00AM	Disciple I*	Room 222
9:30AM	UMW Executive Committee	Room 209
11:00AM	Norman North 9th grade FLAVR	Offsite
11:30AM	Prayers for Our Church	Room 326
12:00PM	UMW #7	Room 226
6:30PM	Celebrate Recovery	Meyer Hall
6:30PM	Beth Moore Bible Study	Room 224
7:00PM	Disciple Bible I	Room 226
7:00PM	Disciple Bible II	Room 222
7:00PM	Stephen Ministry Peer Support	Room 227
8:00PM	Men's Basketball	Fenn Hall

Wednesday, February 4

6:00AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast	Fenn Hall
9:00AM	Children's Day Out	Room 102, 104
9:30AM	UMW Circle # 5	Room 320
10:30AM	Bonus Years Meeting	Fenn Hall
3:00PM	Children's Choir	Various
5:15PM	Festival Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
6:15PM	Canticle Singers*	Choir Room
6:15PM	Sanctuary Bell Choir	Bell Room

*Childcare Available

6:30PM	Children's Ministry Team*	Room 209
6:30PM	Emmaus Reunion*	Room 227
7:10PM	Women's Bible Study	Room 222
7:15PM	Wednesday Quilters	Room 226
7:30PM	Wednesday Bible Study*	Choir Room
7:30PM	H.S. Fish	Room 321-324
7:30PM	Carillon Handbell Rehearsal*	Bell Room
8:00PM	Al-Anon	Room 227

Thursday, February 5

8:00AM	Utility Assistance	Room 209
9:30AM	Mom's Bible Study*	Room 227
9:30AM	Disciple Bible II*	Room 222
12:00PM	Japanese Ladies' Luncheon*	Room 209
1:00PM	Chancel Handbell Rehearsal	Bell Room
6:00PM	Chancel Choir Potluck	Atrium
6:00PM	Sisters in Christ MS Bible Study	Offsite
7:00PM	Financial Peace University*	Room 209
7:00PM	Chancel Choir*	Choir Room
7:00PM	Sooner Toastmasters	Room 401

Friday, February 6

9:00AM	Children's Day Out	Room 102, 104
11:00AM	Renovare 1	Room 404
11:00AM	High School FLAVR	Offsite

Saturday, February 7

8:00AM	Methodist Men's Breakfast	Golden Corral
8:30AM	Seniors Breakfast	Prairie Kitchen
10:00AM	Bonus Years Trip	Corn, OK

*Childcare Available

Thursday's Utility Assistance Ministry

259 Families! That's how many families were helped in 2008 by the Thursday's Utility Assistance Ministry. This was made possible thanks to Church and Society, your generous donations during Communion Sundays, and to a number of private donations. McFarlin United Methodist Church is a caring Church that not only cares for its own, but realizes there is always a need in our community to reach out to other families who need our help so much. We wish you could be in the room with us when we tell a family we will pay a utility bill for them. Often they will just sit there in stunned silence for a moment and then tears of gratitude will fall. Our prayers and thanks go out to all of you who have made this program possible.

In His loving Name,
Tim Stewart, Herb Hamburger and Teresa Williams

McFarlin News

We Are the Church - Prayer Team Message



Another stewardship campaign? Has it been a year already since the last one? And a debt elimination effort on top of that? What are they thinking? Perhaps those stewardship folks don't have televisions, newspapers or the internet? Have they not heard that these are the worst economic times of this generation?

There are many things we do not know: Is the economic down slide at the bottom yet? How long will we stay there?

Please be encouraged by this: Even though many of us were taken by surprise by the financial problems of the past few months, God was not. He has provided us with a church which is good ground to sow our seed into. Isaiah 55:10 says that He even provides the seed for us to sow.

Let us all join together to **pray** for direction about what our financial commitment should be. Then **listen** for God's guidance, and **act** in faith.



Help make **Valentine's Day Dinner** for single parents & their kids. Kid-friendly menu prepared and served by kids. Volunteers are needed to help with arts & crafts. Contact Harriette Leigh Kemp at 245-9874 to participate in this opportunity to **Share God's Agape Love**.



McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church



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8:30 & 10:55
AM
Sanctuary
Traditional
Worship

10:55 AM
LifeLine
Contemporary
Worship