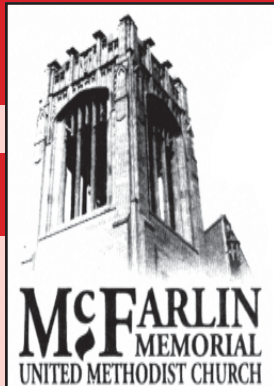


McFarlin Alive



VOLUME 156 ISSUE 3

February 12, 2009

Chapel Choir Dinner Theater Love, Let's Sing About It!

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

The Chapel Choir chose "Love" as the theme for this year's Dinner Theater on Saturday, February 20 at 5 PM in Fenn Hall. We will highlight the theme through various Broadway shows from Camelot to High School Musical. So many Broadway themes are based on love. In fact, most of the songs you will remember from movies and shows are the famous ballads and tunes that talk about love. In the month that we celebrate Valentine's Day, the Chapel Choir would like to invite you to join them to sing about love.

The Dinner Theater is always a fun and entertaining experience that the youth look forward to presenting. It is one of the ways in which we raise money to take the youth on the summer choir tour. This year we will be going to Florida and the South. What a great way to support our mission of developing the youth of Oklahoma and to have an entertaining evening at the same time. This year we are having the event on Saturday evening, February 20 so that as many people as possible will be able to attend.

The Chapel Choir will perform "Tonight" from Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story as well as "Season's of Love" from Rent. The solos and duets will include: "All I Ask of You" from Phantom of the Opera, "On My Own" from Les Miserables, "If Ever I Would Leave You" from Camelot, "My Funny Valentine", "Everyday" from High School Musical and many more!

Be sure to bring your appetite, we will be serving both meat and veggie lasagna, salad and desserts all provided by the Chapel Choir parents and friends. There will also be a silent auction.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased from any Chapel Choir member (\$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 10). Choir members will also be selling tickets Sunday mornings in the Atrium before and after the Sunday school hour and immediately following the 10:55 worship services.

Come join us on February 20 to celebrate Valentine's Day a little late as we sing about love!



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

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner is Tuesday, February 16 from 6-7 PM in Fenn Hall. Join us for fun and games, all you can eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage and bacon.



Volume 156,
Issue 3

Ministry Updates

From My House to Your House



This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. The word "Lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word meaning "lengthen" and refers to the fact that the days are getting longer. Lent is the 40-day period (not counting Sundays which are considered "feast days") from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It is a time for penitence, self-examination, prayer and fasting.

Lent has great potential. One writer has written, "Lent is meant to be a time of intensive training in Christianity. Lent should be an atmosphere that surrounds us, an experience that gets into our flesh and nerves and bones, a way of life, not just a time when we give up a luxury or two." In short, it is a time to get serious about our faith.

Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23). During Lent, we should ask ourselves what it means to be Christian. We should ask ourselves what it means to take up the cross and follow Jesus. It's one thing to view Jesus carrying the cross; it's another to take a cross ourselves.

These questions are in order for Lent: What are we going to do differently as a result of going through Lent? How will life change? What new commitments will we make? Will there be any new commitments, or will Jesus carry the cross alone? These are things to think about as we go through the season.

For a significant Lent,

Dick House

Dear Members of the McFarlin Family,

Do you love to sing? Why not become a part of the new OU CHORAL UNION? Join OU students, faculty, staff, and members of the local community to learn and perform Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. OU choirs, symphony, and soloists will combine forces with the new OU Choral Union to present ELIJAH in Sharp Concert Hall at 3 PM for the President's Concert on April 25, 2010. Important rehearsals will take place on the following dates:

- Tuesday, March 23, 7-10 PM, Choral Union
- ❖ Thursday, March 25, 7-10 PM, Choral Union and OU Choirs
- Tuesday, April 6, 7-10 PM, Choral Union
- ❖ Monday, April 19, 7-10 PM, Choral Union and OU Choirs
- ❖ Friday, April 23, 7-10 PM, Choral Union and OU Choirs
- ❖ Saturday, April 24, 6-10 PM, Choral Union and OU Choirs
- ❖ Sunday, April 25, 2 PM Call, 3 PM Concert
- (❖ Choral Union and OU Choirs tutti rehearsals)

Why not be a part of the OU Choral Union, and participate in this exciting event? Interested singers please contact Sarah Flanagan, OU Choral Secretary, at 325-3993 or SING@ou.edu.



McFarlin Day at Boomerang!

Eat at Boomerang on Sunday, February 21, tell them you are with McFarlin Church and 10% of what you spend helps the Student Ministries. Thank you!

Ministry Updates

Youth Works...

There are a ton of reasons not to give to our Buy A Square Foot fundraiser for our 17th spring break mission to the border town of La Posta, Mexico. Here are just a few: there are a ton of needs right here in Norman and in Oklahoma, the economy just isn't that good and there is a lot of uncertainty or you gave last year. There are many others that come to mind but I would hate to plant any seeds in your mind.

But there are well over 500 reasons to give to Buy A Square Foot. Here are some: since 1994 we have built over 150 casitas in Mexico (that means hundreds of lives changed for the better), we have worked on 4 churches (3 in Reynosa and one in Rio Bravo), we have added on to an elementary school and we have built an 8-room elementary school (both in Nuevo Progreso) and (drum roll please) over 450 different people have traveled with us (many of them multiple times) during spring break to work on the aforementioned projects.

Look, we live in a tough world. The needs are many; some would say they are overwhelming. But we in the Student Ministries at McFarlin have been called to and decided to respond to the needs along the US / Mexico border. Why does God call us there and not somewhere else, I am not entirely sure. But I do know this without any uncertainty - we are called to be there!

And, we could never have done what we have done and continue to do if people like you didn't dig down deep and give to Buy A Square Foot.

Here is the other thing: I need you to pray for us! Writing a check is awesome, but as you do so, will you pray for us? Pray that we come back changed, pray that we make it there and back, pray that we change the lives for families and for children, and pray that in the end, we don't get any of the credit. That goes to God!

Thanks for the previous 16 years. Thanks in advance for praying for and giving to year number 17!

Scott Meier

Lenten Studies Use Bishop's Book

Several Lenten Studies are scheduled to begin the first full week of Lent, starting February 21. The five week gatherings will be completed prior to Holy Week. Each group 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. Groups are planned for Sunday morning, probably Sunday afternoon, Tuesday night in a home, and Wednesday night at the church. It is possible Monday and Thursday options will be added if hosts and leaders are secured. Others are studying the book on their own or as a Sunday school class.

You can sign up on Sunday outside worship. Advance registration is encouraged so that we can have enough books for everyone. For more information, please contact George Shepherd at 321-3484, ext. 109 or gshepherd@mcfarlinumc.org.

Director of College Students and Young Adults

We are excited to announce that McFarlin has hired David Hawley as our new Director of College Students and Young Adults. David, a student at OU, grew up at McFarlin and has been very active in many aspects of the church and even served as an intern in our youth ministry. David and his wife Amy are an awesome couple and will do amazing things for McFarlin. Please pray for him as he begins his ministry leadership at McFarlin.

Greg Mortenson to Speak at OU

Many of our members and some Sunday school classes have read some of Mortenson's books. He will give a lecture Thursday morning, April 22 at OU. Please take the time to register your interest in attending the Greg Mortenson public lecture. This will help in determining public interest and the appropriate venue for his lecture. Visit: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/448141403>.

**SINGLE MOMS
SINGLE DADS**

**A SPECIAL
DINNER JUST
FOR YOU!**

**VALENTINE'S DAY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

**MCFARLIN UMC
419 S. UNIVERSITY BLVD
KIDS COME AT 5 PM
TO COOK
ALL EAT AT 6 PM**

RSVP TO

**HARRIETTE AT 245-9874
OR
HKEMP@MCFARLINUMC.ORG**



Ministry Updates

Senior Adult

Good February to Everyone!

We have several new opportunities for all of our wonderful Bonus Years members.

Pam Moser is leading us in having a good ole' movie once a month.

The program is called "Classic Movies for Classic People." The first movie will be "It Happened One Night" with Clark Gable & Claudette Colbert. This movie was the 1st romantic comedy to win an Oscar. The location will be the youth lounge (room 320) on the 3rd floor on the 3rd Wednesday each month beginning February 17 from 2:45-5 PM. Bring your favorite drink, soda, tea, coffee, water or juice with the popcorn being furnished. First come gets the most comfortable seats!

Everyone is invited to attend and stay for the Mid-Week Connection meal in Fenn Hall from 5:15-7 PM.

Tuesday, February 9 we began a line dancing class from 1-2 PM in Fenn Hall. Get your laughs and exercise at the same time with a touch of culture. Surely we don't jest that line dancing has culture in there someplace. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes and bring a bottle of water with you. We will have stretches and chair exercises, plus the line dancing. This is open to men and women of all ages.

On Saturday, March 13 we will be driving private cars to OCU for their fantastic dance review. We will tour OCU, eat lunch and attend the performance. Cost is \$15 plus lunch.

Call someone today and just tell them "hi" and that you are thinking about them. A kind thought goes much further than the length of the phone waves!

Carol Dean Schreiner
Senior Adult Coordinator

Care Ministries



When you've reached the end of your rope . . . a Stephen Minister can help you tie a knot and hang on. A Stephen Minister is a caring, compassionate friend, a good listener, a firm believer in God and someone who can keep confidences.

I know people find it hard to admit they need help, but there is great benefit in talking to an objective person when it isn't possible or practical to share with a family member or close friend. A Stephen Minister is ready to be that person.

Stephen Ministers are not trained counselors and don't pretend to be. Their only purpose is to give people who are experiencing one of life's challenges a friend who will not give advice, will not judge, but will be a sounding board when they just need to talk.

And just so you know, anyone can call for a Stephen Minister or refer a friend or a relative. They do not need to be a member of our church.

Everyone goes through difficult times. It's more than helpful to have someone to care, to listen, and to share God's love with you to get through the confusion, stress or loneliness you can experience through those times. Sometimes it's a life-saver!

Serving with you,
Jane Cook, Congregational
Care Coordinator

CHILDREN'S CHURCH-HOUSE

Hope and Healing for Children's and Teens

Do you wonder how you can nurture or minister to children in time of crisis, whether it be the earthquake, divorce, death, broken relationships or something else? What resources are available to us to teach children to rely on God in time of crisis? What skills can we give them to help them cope with the changing world today?

Come hear Rev. Leanne Hadley, an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and specialist in children's spirituality, speak to parents and caregivers on her holy listening ministry. On February 19, 2010 Rev. Hadley will be conducting a workshop called "Hope and Healing for Children's and Teens" at McFarlin UMC. This three-day training event is designed to introduce you to resources, develop listening skills and provide spiritual disciplines for helping children and teens deal with these varied life issues.

The training begins Friday, February 19 at 6:30 PM and concludes Sunday afternoon at 4 PM. The cost of the weekend is \$10 per person to cover lunch Saturday and supplies for the weekend. Brochures are available at the church. Registration deadline is February 15. If you want to know more about Rev. Hadley's ministry of holy listening, call Kristy or Beth at 321-3484.



Ministry Updates

1 Perspective

Lent is fast approaching and with it our Lenten Studies using the book by Bishop Hayes (see article on page 3). These can be some special times for our members as people come together with others and compare notes on their spiritual journeys, grow together in faith, and get acquainted with others in the congregation. I hope you will join in.

The response has really been great for the health kits for Haiti. We took 141 after the first week, another 72 last week and it looks like maybe another 50 or so came in last Sunday. There are many good accounts of all the outreach that is happening through the United Methodist Church to Haiti. You can find much on that at www.umc.org.

There is an interesting McFarlin connection with the Haiti relief. Bishop Charles Crutchfield, who serves the Arkansas Conference, did much of his growing up around the McFarlin parsonage when his dad served McFarlin from 1950-60. The Bishop's daughter, Melissa Crutchfield, is now one of the executives overseeing the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in Haiti. Another personal perspective came through a McFarlin member from family who are part of the staging area for aid coming in through the Bahamas and Bahamas Methodist Habitat. That e-mail is posted on the missions bulletin board (in the office area) for you to read.

Please remember that this is Skyline Month at McFarlin as we collect needed items for that urban ministry.

As we move into the Lenten season, I pray that this may be a blessed time for you.

In Christ,
George Shepherd

It's Skyline Month!

Skyline Urban Ministry is our United Methodist Ministry to the residents of the urban areas of central Oklahoma. Each church in the area has a month assigned when we focus on sharing about the ministries of Skyline with the congregation and collect in-kind donations for the ministries.

During February we will gather food items like canned meats, canned soup and dry milk, which are especially needed by the Community Cupboard. That ministry, in contrast to most area pantries, serves those from every zip code in the metro. They also need peanut butter (small sizes), corn, spaghetti sauce and plastic grocery sacks. Skyline's other ministries use donations of hygiene items, coffee, creamer, sugar, paper products (cups, plates, napkins) and good, clean used clothing. The collection point is near the office area at McFarlin each Sunday during February. Look for the poster featuring photos of some of the significant ministries of Skyline and the big plastic collection tubs. For more information about Skyline, see their website: www.skylineurbanministry.org.

New Mexico Adult Mission

The Land of Enchantment! On June 6, 2010, Tim Kesinger hopes to have a van full of Volunteers in Mission (VIM) heading to Albuquerque to spend a week doing mission work. They'll be doing lots of interesting projects, mostly working with people who are basically homeless. The price for the trip should be very reasonable. There will be an introductory meeting on Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 PM in room 222. Anyone who might be interested is urged to attend and learn more about an exciting and rewarding opportunity. Feel free to call Tim Kesinger at 321-1348 if you have questions.

Alaska Mission

Details are gradually coming together for our adult mission to Soldotna, Alaska June 3-13. The plan is to do some cultural emersion in the Anchorage area the first day and on the way to Soldotna on Saturday. The town is near the west end of the Kenai Peninsula, an area known for its parks and wildlife. The church parsonage needs a new roof so that's what our crew will be working on. Most likely we will begin with tearing off the old shingles and a group after us may do some of the finishing work. A former Oklahoma United Methodist minister, Rev. Richard Whetsell, is the pastor of the church. A \$100 deposit is needed by the end of February to hold your place on the mission. George Shepherd will be the team leader. Sign up outside worship to indicate your interest or contact George at 321-3484, ext. 109 or gshpherd@mcfarlinumc.org. You can expect a meaningful, fun and spiritual growth experience if you participate. Team meetings begin in March.

McFarlin News

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 10:30 AM 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. They will conclude 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.



Since 1917, the Oklahoma United Methodist Circle of Care has been helping "at-promise" Oklahomans through its ministries of the Boy's Ranch in Gore, the Children's Home in Tahlequah, Independent Living Programs, Pearl's Hope Transitional Housing at Frances E. Willard Ministry Center in Tulsa, Holsinger Home for Children in Enid, and Child SHARE Foster Care. With the support of United Methodist Congregations and individuals, we are making a lasting, Christian difference in people's lives.

In 2009, Circle of Care served over 700 children and youth through our residential, independent living, transitional housing for women with children and foster care programs. The outstanding youth and children you help had a combined 3.0 GPA last school year for the third consecutive year. The children and youth of Circle of Care also served over 1,400 hours of community service in 2009.

When you give to Circle of Care you can have a feeling of pride and ownership: an ownership that you know you helped a child in need – a pride that passes on to a child. They continue passing it on throughout their lives by your Circle of Care Sunday gift.

Please remember these outstanding, "at-promise" children and youth this year through your prayers and gifts! Thank you for making a difference in the lives of many!

Silent Auction Donations Needed

Silent Auction Before the Chapel Choir Dinner Theater on February 20. We are asking for donations to make theme baskets. We are accepting single items or you can make up a basket of your own choosing. Contact Andrea Ruedy at home 360-1520, cell 550-9531, or by e-mail samruedy@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions, or if you need items picked 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.



McFarlin Family

Welcome McFarlin New Members: Vanda Varva.

Entered the Church Triumphant: Mother-in-law of Nancy Burton; Esther Buchanan, mother of Dale Neaves; Mark Amspacher, son of Gene Amspacher and brother of Susan Rutherford; Barbara Mathis, wife of Russell Mathis.

Welcome McFarlin Home Nursery: Amelia Joann Robinson, daughter of Jessica and Jason Robinson.

Meetings & Activities

February 14th - 20th

Sunday, February 14

All Day	Youth Ski Trip	Offsite
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 after Worship	Martin Chapel
1:15PM	Youth Praise Band Practice	Fenn Hall
2:00PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Room 401
5:40PM	Social Skills Group	Room 224
6:00PM	Singles Valentine Celebration	Atrium

Monday, February 15

All Day	Youth Ski Trip	Offsite
2:00PM	Afternoon Shawl Circle	Room 320
6:30PM	Care Team Meeting	Room 227
6:30PM	Norman Area Quilters Guild	Fenn Hall
6:30PM	Church and Society Ministry Team	Room 222
7:00PM	Boy Scout Patrol Meeting	Rooms 329, 403
7:00PM	Boy Scouts	Meyer Hall
7:30PM	Evening Shawl Circle	Room 401

Tuesday, February 16

12:00AM	Youth Ski Trip	Offsite
9:00AM	Quilt Guild Workshop	Room 226
10:30AM	UMW Unit Meeting	Meyer Hall
11:30AM	Prayers for Our Church	Church Offices
12:00PM	UMW #7	Room 222
1:00PM	Senior Adult Line Dancing	Fenn Hall
6:00PM	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	Fenn Hall
6:30PM	Celebrate Recovery	Meyer Hall
7:00PM	Disciple Bible Study III	Room 226

Wednesday, February 17

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
11:45AM	Alzheimers Support Group	Room 209
12:15PM	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary
2:45PM	Classic Movies for Classic People	Room 320
3:00PM	Children's Choir	Various
4:30PM	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary
5:30PM	FISH to Food Bank	Offsite
6:00PM	Wednesday Quilters	Room 226
6:15PM	Canticle Singers*	Choir Room
6:30PM	Emmaus Reunion*	Room 227
7:00PM	Ash Wednesday Service*	Sanctuary
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	Room 323
8:00PM	Al-Anon	Room 227

Thursday, February 18

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
6:00PM	Chapel Choir DT Rehearsal	Choir Room
7:00PM	Sooner Toastmasters	Room 401

Friday, February 19

7:15AM	S.I.C.	Panera Bread
7:30AM	H.S. Freshman Bible & Breakfast	Ozzies
9:00AM	Children's Day Out	Rooms 102, 104
5:00PM	Confirmation Retreat	Egan Camp
6:00PM	Parents' Night Out	Day Care
6:00PM	Holy Listening Training	Meyer Hall
6:00PM	Dinner Theater Dress Rehearsal	Fenn Hall

Saturday, February 20

All Day	Confirmation Retreat	Egan Camp
9:00AM	Holy Listening Training	Meyer Hall
10:00AM	Bonus Years Trip to Frederick	Offsite
11:00AM	Holy Listening Lunch	Atrium
5:00PM	Chapel Choir Dinner Theater	Fenn Hall

*Child care Available

College Student Sunday School Class

The college student Sunday school class has started up again! Join them in room 324 at 9:50 AM on Sunday mornings. If you are interested or have any questions please call Katelyn at 225-290-2703.

OU Wesley Golf Tournament

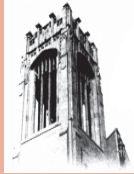
OU Wesley Golf Tournament is coming up on Monday, June 14 at the Moore Athletic & Golf Course.

For more information or to register, please call Janey Wilson at 321-6266. Thanks for your support of the OU Wesley Foundation!



McFarlin News

McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church



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MID WEEK CONNECTION

McFarlin's Mid-Week Connection Meal Continues! It 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!

8:30 & 10:55
AM

Sanctuary
Traditional
Worship

10:55 AM
LifeLine
Contemporary
Worship



Kids' Connection meets every Wednesday from 6-6:30 PM in the early childhood area. We're adding another way for children to learn about God while parents participate in other church activities. After sharing a meal with your family, bring your children (ages one through fifth grade) to the early childhood area for science and other hands-on activities that expand on our Sunday School lessons.