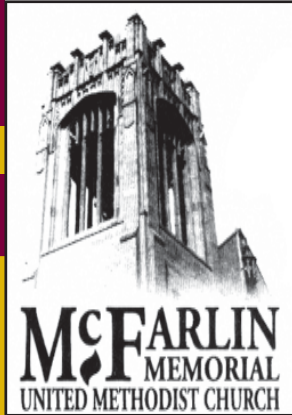


McFarlin Alive



VOLUME 156 ISSUE 15

July 31, 2009

New Sermon Series

David: After God's Own Heart

- 7/26 – David & Saul:
“The Man Who Would Not Be King”
- 8/02 – David & Absalom:
“Suspended Between Heaven and Earth”
- 8/09 – David & Jonathan: “BFF”
- 8/16 – David & God: “Undignified”



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

New Business Administrator at McFarlin

We are pleased to announce that David Vandewalker has accepted the position of Business Administrator here at McFarlin. John Henson, our present business administrator, will be retiring after serving more than eight years in this position. While John is officially retiring as of July 31, he has agreed to help David get on board by working with him until August 15. We are very appreciative that John is willing to do this.

David's first day at McFarlin will be August 10. For the last 5½ years David has served as Finance Manager and Business Administrator at Epworth United Methodist Church in Chickasha. He has over twenty years of financial management experience with not only Epworth, but also First United Methodist Church in Seminole, and Asbury United Methodist Church in Ada. At the Ada and Seminole churches he served as a volunteer.

David has had significant experience in finance and operations, building and facility management, personnel management, and elementary and day school administration. He has strong accounting skills, is technologically fluent, and is proficient in word processing, database, spreadsheet, web design, and music writing software.

Prior to being a business administrator, David taught in the public schools. He served for many years as both a band director and math instructor. He holds a Bachelor of Science from East Central University, where he majored in mathematics and minored in instrumental music. He also holds a Master of Education from East Central with a concentration in instrumental music.

He is married to Glenda. They have two daughters, and five grandchildren. Some of you may know Leslie and Peter Liesenfeld, members of our church. Leslie is David and Glenda's daughter. The Vandewalkers are long time United Methodists.

Over 60 people submitted resumes' for the position of business administrator at McFarlin. Five out of the 60 were selected to be interviewed. After much conversation, it was decided that the position would be offered to David. He came with very strong recommendations and we are pleased that David has accepted the offer to be our business administrator. We welcome David

to our staff and invite you to get to know him and his wife.

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Volume 156,
Issue 15

Ministry Updates

Tino Herrera Named Middle School Director of McFarlin's Student Ministries

Tino Herrera has served with Melissa Burke as Co-Director of Middle School Student Ministries for the last two years. Melissa will be graduating from OU in December 2009. She believed it best for her to resign before school starts as she moves forward with her work life. She will continue to volunteer around the church. We appreciate her ministry among us the past two years. Her resignation was effective July 15. Tino moved up from half time to three quarter time as the Director of Middle School Student Ministries July 16. We are fortunate to have him available to move forward with the ministry.

Back To School Block Party Sunday, August 23 5-8 PM

Hosted by Family, Youth, Children's and
Evangelism Ministries

Fenn Hall and the North Lawn

Free Family Event - All Ages Welcome!

Live Music by the McFarlin LifeLine Band

Giant Inflatables and Games

Crafts, Face Painting, Tattoos

Snow Cones, Hot Dogs, Chips and Drinks!

THANK YOU!

Thank you
to the Omega
Delta Phi Fra-
ternity for the
work they did
on Saturday,
July 11 cleaning



out the flower beds and other miscel-
laneous projects around McFarlin. Non-
members of the fraternity that also
helped were: Guillermo Morales, Lateef
Ipaye, Mario Velazquez, Andres Guerrero
and Oscar Reyes.

Life _____ _____ Line



I think sometimes we underestimate how important we are (granted, we can sometimes overestimate how important we are also - but that's for another article). What got me thinking about this is the summer attendance doldrums that always afflict us here at McFarlin. Between the college students being gone for the summer, our high school and middle school students heading off on mission trips and choir tour, family vacations, and whatever else pulls us away from our regular attendance patterns, it can be a bit discouraging around the church in the summer. This got me to thinking about how important our attendance is to others. We tend to think that no one will miss us, that we're not that important to the whole of the church. But that's simply not true. Every person who attends blesses everyone else by their presence and conversely every person who withholds their attendance removes a piece of life and energy that would have gone to making the gathering more vibrant and joyful. Our presence matters to others and when one of us is not here it affects everyone else.

My purpose in writing this is not to create a feeling of guilt for those who may not have been participating often this summer. My purpose is to remind everyone that we are a body of believers and as such everyone matters, everyone is needed, everyone is important. If you haven't been here in a while (no guilt) I want you to know you've been missed.

Ministry Updates

Youth Works...

How do you write in a limited space the massive impact a mission had in the lives of 54 high schoolers, college students, and adults? No matter what I say, justice won't be done to the life-changing events that took place in Toronto during our high school mission. The lives committed to Jesus Christ, the lives committed to answering the call to ministry, the lives committed to striving more to live each day as Christ has called us to live, and the lives impacted by serving in some of the poorest and roughest neighborhoods in all of Toronto are not justified in a few short paragraphs.

I have been a part of over 50 mission trips during my almost 16 years at McFarlin. There are some that stand out in my mind as being life-changing and transforming in the life of our youth ministry as well as in many of the lives of those who participated; the mission to Toronto will be one of them.

Matt Younkens has posted pictures of Toronto on the youth website at www.McFarlinYouth.com. I hope you will take the time to check it out.

I want to thank all who have given to our *Buy A Mile* fundraiser for our summer missions. I am not sure at this writing the total amount given, but I know it has been significant. If you did not have a chance to give, you still can and your donation will be a blessing.

Our summer of mission has been a huge success! St. Louis had 27 travel to serve in its inner city, 17 traveled to Albuquerque to work with a hispanic church, 8 were a part of *Juners* (the group that lived in Mexico for two-and-a-half weeks), and 54 were part of Toronto. In addition, we had over 75 different adults and students work in local missions, including the OKC Food Bank, Project Transformation, Food & Shelter for Friends, yard clean up around the church, and McFarlin's VBS. Thanks for praying for us and thanks for supporting us!

Scott Meier

Music Notes

Mornings at McFarlin have been quiet lately, but joyful noise is on the way! Summer Worship Arts Camp, for children entering grades K-5, will be held at the church August 3 - 7 from 9 AM - 2 PM. The children will sing, dance, ring bells, beat drums, create arts and crafts and cartoons, act, knit, cook, play games - all which are carried out as expressions of worship. Our theme for the week is "Let All God's Children Sing". God has given us a wonderful variety of talents and interests. We will see how we can contribute to the worship of God in many different ways and we will learn to appreciate the skills and talents of others. Special presentations during the week include global stories with cello, Irish set dancing, African dance, drumming, and Celtic music.

Sunday, August 9 will be celebrated as "Children's Sabbath" in the Sanctuary services. The children from Summer Worship Arts Camp will sing, read scriptures, lead responses and contribute in various meaningful ways to this service. There is no greater joy for a Christian congregation than that of being led in worship by our children. We hope to see all of you there to celebrate the presence of these young Christians among us.

We need volunteers! We are especially in need of "shepherds" to accompany groups of children from activity to activity. Please contact Venita or Teresa at 321-3484 or e-mail venita@mcfarlinumc.org to volunteer.

We register children until the last minute, walk-ins are welcome, but some electives have limited enrollment and are filling fast. Registration forms are available in the choir room, at displays outside of the Sanctuary and Fenn Hall, and on the church website (look under "Children's Music Ministries"). The registration fee of \$30 covers all expenses, including snacks, a t-shirt and admission to StarSkate for a party on Wednesday. Call Venita or Teresa at 321-3484 or e-mail Venita at venita@mcfarlinumc.org with any questions.

Sing for Joy!
Venita



Photos from the Toronto Mission Trip.

Ministry Updates

Senior Adult

Good Hot Summer Days to You!

One of the first things I do each day upon arising is to put my cordless and/or my cell phone (sometimes both) in the pocket of whatever I'm wearing. I usually take my coffee outside to enjoy my garden, the birds and the beauty of God's world. I take my phones not because I might get a call but because I might possibly need to make a call. Several of my friends have fallen indoors and out, without any means to contact anyone. One friend fell, broke her leg in her back yard and had to pull herself on her arms around to the front yard before anyone could hear or find her. This extremely painful ordeal took her hours to accomplish. Her recovery took months and months. We never know when an emergency might arise so keep those phones with you. If you don't have pockets find a different way to carry your phone. Most cell phones come with an attachment for your belt or waistband. Some of us walk to our mailboxes, walk our dogs or walk out to pick up the newspaper. Just walking in our homes we could trip, fall, faint, or fall for many different reasons. So be prepared, I hope you won't ever need them. Be a "glad I did!" instead of a "wish I had."

Live well, laugh often, and love much!
Carol Dean Schreiner

CHILDREN'S CHURCH-HOUSE

VBS...Camp EDGE 2009 was a huge success! We had a great number of children and over 175 volunteers, adults and youth, with the goal of sharing God's love and planting seeds within these children. Thank you for all of your prayers, support, time, love, and donations. Our mission project was a great success as well. We were able to support the youth mission trip by sending them off with prayers and blessings and with over 150 complete Toronto Totes (Bibles, bubbles, snacks, crayons, books, and more) for the children in the inner city of Toronto. McFarlin loves children and it shows!

August is going to be very busy. Training for all those interested in teaching or shepherding for Rotation (elementary) Sunday school will be Wednesday, August 12 at 7 PM. We encourage you to attend the Parents' Peek and then stay for the training. Please contact Beth Carter with any questions at 321-3484, ext. 179 or bcarter@mcfarlinumc.org.

Children entering first grade and parents please join us Friday, August 14 at 6 PM on the third floor for a Sneak Peek at Rotation Sunday school. We'll play games, make art, use computers, eat a snack, and more while we learn about God. Please contact Beth Carter with any questions. Children entering first grade will also visit the Sunday school rooms during the Sunday school hour on Sunday, August 9.

Promotion Sunday is August 16. All children 2 years through 11th grade will promote to the next age/grade level in Sunday school that day.

Blessing of the Backpacks: all children are invited to bring their backpacks and teachers and coaches to bring their rolls to worship services on Sunday, August 16. We will bless the children, teachers, coaches, rolls, and backpacks during these services.

Back to School Block Party is Sunday, August 23 from 5-8 PM. Food, water fun, inflatables, music, snow cones, and more for all ages. Come celebrate back to school with your friends and family at McFarlin!



2009 Vacation Bible School Photos

Ministry Updates

1 Perspective

The title of this column indicates that I realize my perspective is not the same as everyone's. I also intend it to imply some humility. I know I am not always correct in the way I view things. Looks like I was really wrong in the column I wrote a month ago about the new normal. Obviously McFarlin's financial position must not be as rosy as I thought.

Not only is my position being cut back to $\frac{3}{4}$ time, Harriette Leigh Kemp is going back to $\frac{1}{2}$. There will also be fewer staff hours for middle school youth. My observation is that, for the health of the congregation, churches should cut anything else in the budget before they cut staff. When I came to McFarlin 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ years ago I had a half-time administrative assistant. Come September 1, the church will have cut the personnel resources for the ministries I work with by half in those years. Yes, new positions have been added and they have absorbed some duties. But cutting the food service position and the paid librarian position (even though very part-time) has probably added as much to my work as any reduction from items new staff have picked up.

For the past few years we have added several ministries and kept most of what was already going on. Many more church members have stepped up in the time they give for service through McFarlin in those years, but it still takes some level of staffing to coordinate, equip and deploy those volunteers. It is not clear how I will be able to cut back on 25% of what I do, but somehow that will have to happen. While I do have some concerns for Sondra and myself financially, my concern is mainly for the congregation. Churches need to constantly invest in the level and quality of the ministry they are able to generate and this is disinvestment. Obviously, there are other opinions on that. I'm sure McFarlin will go forward in a positive way. I've always been told I am a team player and I accept that evaluation. I plan to do everything I can for the future of McFarlin's ministries, but I'll have to do it 25% less of the time.

In service to God along with you,
George Shepherd

Habitat for Humanity News

Playhouse

Cleveland County Habitat for Humanity and Sooner Mall are holding the 2009 Playhouse raffle through August 8. Built by volunteers from several churches including McFarlin, the playhouse is displayed at the mall east of the fountain. Tickets are \$5 and are available Monday - Friday 8:30-5 at the Sooner Mall office. Saturdays 11-5 and Sundays 1-5 tickets are at the playhouse. Additional volunteers from the Apostle's Build churches are needed to sell the tickets. Call George Shepherd at 596-2632 if you can help this coming weekend, or sign up outside worship Sunday for the final weekend. The drawing will be held Saturday, August 8 at 5 PM. All proceeds benefit Cleveland County Habitat for Humanity and will help with additional costs for the Apostle's build project not covered by church donations. The winner will be notified via telephone. You need not be present to win. The winner must present a valid ID to claim the playhouse. Driveway delivery will be made within 14 days within a 50 mile radius.

Apostle's Build Project

Volunteers from McFarlin and other churches worked July 18 to tear down a storage shed and clear tree branches for the house that the churches will be building at 618 E. Apache. The groundbreaking is expected to be in mid-August and should be announced soon. Meanwhile, this past Saturday Habitat dedicated the Greek Build house recently constructed by OU students. More about habitat is on their website: www.ccokhfh.org.

The Giving Tree in the Atrium

New "leaves" are on the Giving Tree in the Atrium. Each leaf lists an item needed by one of the many community agencies supported through McFarlin's "Outside the Walls" ministry under the leadership of the Church and Society Ministry Team. Brochures on the giving tree and additional information about "Outside the Walls" can be found under the tree.

Women's Fall Bible Study



Women's Bible Study will begin its fall study of 1 Timothy, Titus, and 2 Timothy on Wednesday, August 26, 7:10 PM in room 222. Women of all ages are welcome! A simple three-step approach to Bible study is used consisting of content, lessons, and applications. For more information or for child care, contact Eve Hawley at 321-3488 or by e-mail at hawleyhouse@cox.net.

McFarlin News

McFarlin Whites Women's Softball Team **2009 Women's Church League Champs**

The McFarlin Whites have three-peated as the Norman RPSA women's church league champions while establishing the following win/loss records: 34-4 for the past 2 years, 51-5 for the past three years, 69-8 for the past four years, 762 games played with only 255 losses over the past 27 years.

Pictured front row (left-right): Donna Warrior, Kimber Minyen, Darcy Pippins, Valerie Mitchell, Diana Fitzpatrick and Caddie Proctor. Back row (left-right): Ashley McMahan, Megan Curry, Lynnetta Eyachabbe, Karen Thurston, Rebekah Wade, Jamie Rogers, Erica Gaddis, Kristin Meier and Bob White. Not pictured: Amber Warren, Nicki Hickmon, Natasha Hillis, Carmen Mattingley and Paige Bannecker.



Financial Peace University

Would you like to learn more about your finances, money, credit, real estate and insurance and what the Bible says about it all? Do you worry about having enough money to retire? If so, you need financial peace. The next Financial Peace University class will start the Thursday after Labor Day, on September 10. We will meet every Thursday for 13 weeks from 7 - 9 PM through December 10. Child care will be provided. Please contact Heather Oelke with questions or to sign-up at 590-3819 or heather.oelke@ihs.com.

New Sunday School Class

Young Couples with Children: Come check out a new Sunday school class created with you in mind. This group will study the Bible seeking fresh and contemporary ways of applying scripture to life situations. The class meets in room 326 from 9:40-10:40 AM. Your children are welcome in the nursery or rotation Sunday school. Contact Jennifer Sims for information, 321-3484, ext. 128 or jsims@mcfarlinumc.org.

Your Help is Needed!

Since we are in a "tight" situation in regard to custodial staff, it would be very helpful if Sunday school class members could make sure all trash gets to your trash can. If you have leftover papers after class they can go to the recycle bins in the hallways. You might even straighten chairs a little if needed. If we all pitch in we can make our church surroundings more inviting for everyone. Thanks for your help!

Women of the Way Lunch

Did you know that McFarlin has a small group of women that meets the first Monday of each month for lunch and fellowship at different restaurants in the Norman area? We would love for you to join us. The August meeting will at McFarlin in room 222 on Monday, August 3 around noon. Bring your own lunch this time and help us plan which restaurants we will meet at during the months to come. Water, lemonade and tea will be provided.

Curious About Handbells?



Here is your opportunity to give them a try. A Rookie Ringers Workshop, for youth and adults with little or no ringing experience will be held in the bell room on Saturday, August 29 from 9:30 AM - noon. To register, contact Venita at 321-3484, extension 119 or venita@mcfarlinumc.org.

McFarlin Family

Meetings & Activities

August 2nd - 8th

Sunday, August 2

8:00AM	Men 2 Pray 4 Pastors	Room 200
8:30AM	Early Worship/Communion*	Sanctuary
9:40AM	Sunday School*	Various
10:55AM	Sanctuary Worship/Communion*	Sanctuary
10:55AM	LifeLine Worship/Communion*	Fenn Hall
5:30PM	Singles Bible Study/Dinner	615 E. Boyd

Monday, August 3

9:00AM	Summer Worship Arts Camp	Various
12:00PM	Women of the Way Lunch	Room 222
2:00PM	Afternoon Shawl Circle	Room 320
6:30PM	Care Team Meeting	Room 227
7:00PM	Boy Scout Patrol Meeting	Room 329, 403
7:00PM	Financial Peace University	Room 223
7:00PM	Boy Scouts	Meyer Hall
7:30PM	Evening Shawl Circle	Room 401

Tuesday, August 4

9:00AM	Summer Worship Arts Camp	Various
11:30AM	Prayers for Our Church	Church Offices
6:30PM	Celebrate Recovery	Meyer Hall
7:00PM	SPRC Meeting	Room 222
7:00PM	Financial Peace University	Room 223
8:00PM	Men's Basketball	Fenn Hall

Wednesday, August 5

6:00AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast	Fenn Hall
9:00AM	Summer Worship Arts Camp	Various
9:30AM	UMW Circle # 5	Room 320
10:15AM	Bonus Years Tour Carl Albert Exhibit	OU Campus
2:00PM	Don & Barbara Waters 60 th Annv. Reception	Rm 209
6:15PM	Canticle Singers*	Choir Room
6:30PM	Children's Ministry Team*	Room 222
6:30PM	Emmaus Reunion*	Room 227
7:15PM	Wednesday Quilters	Room 226
7:30PM	Wednesday Bible Study*	Room 401
8:00PM	Al-Anon	Room 227

Thursday, August 6

8:30AM	Utilities Assistance	Room 209
9:00AM	Summer Worship Arts Camp	Various
12:00PM	Japanese Ladies' Luncheon*	Room 209
7:00PM	Financial Peace University	Room 223
7:00PM	Chancel Choir*	Choir Room
7:00PM	Sooner Toastmasters	Room 401

Friday, August 7

9:00AM	Summer Worship Arts Camp	Various
7:00PM	Financial Peace University	Room 223

Saturday, August 8

8:30AM	Seniors Breakfast	Prairie Kitchen
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*Child care Available

The Gathering

The new high school and middle school Sunday night ministry begins August 23. Contact Scott Meier, smeier@mcfarlinumc.org or Tino Herrera, therrera@mcfarlinumc.org for more information.

Blessing of the Backpacks!



Join us Sunday, August 16 in all worship services for blessing of the backpacks and rosters. All students are invited to bring their backpacks and teachers and coaches are invited to bring their rosters.

Generation Change

Generation Change is coming to McFarlin! Generation Change is a study for teens on what God says about money. There will be discussion and interactive activities based on four chapters: The Value of You, Materialism Mayhem, Money Minds and the Gift of Giving. The study begins the Sunday after Labor Day on September 13 and will meet during Sunday school. Cost for the study book is \$20. Plan now and sign up during August to be a part of Generation Change!

Wednesday Bible Study



Come and join Rev. Randy Wade for Bible study as we study the book of Romans on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM in room 401. Come as much as you can or come every week!

McFarlin News

McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church



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8:30 & 10:55
AM
Sanctuary
Traditional
Worship

10:55 AM
LifeLine
Contemporary
Worship



Green Team Idea

Lifestyle choices are important for how we care for the earth. One idea is to start your own personal picnic campaign: take your litter home with you. Trash bins in public places get overfull and cause real litter. (From *How Many Lightbulbs Does It Take to Change a Christian?*)

Park & Ride is Back!

At McFarlin we are blessed to have many people choose to worship with us on Sunday mornings. Unfortunately, many people new to McFarlin can't find a parking spot when they come to visit.



We need your help! As part of our church family, one way you can help welcome visitors is by providing your parking space through the McFarlin **Park & Ride** program.

Park in the Boyd House lot, be shuttled to the front doors, and then be shuttled back again. It's easy and fun!

Join others who will **Park & Ride** on Sundays beginning August 16: 9:30-9:55, 10:40-11:05, or 12:00-12:20. Contact the Captain of **Park & Ride**, Mike Hawley, at 321-3488 or mike@mikehawley.com. Your parking space makes a difference! You can too!