

**APRIL
2009
NEWSLETTER**

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

- Apr. 12th Easter Services and Easter Egg Hunt
- Apr. 15th UMMen
- Apr. 18th UMW District Meeting in Poteau
- Apr. 22nd Family Night Dinner—“Taxpayer’s Bawl”
- Apr. 29th Jesus’ Kids
- May 3rd Church Picnic and Kite Flying
- May 4th UMW
- May 4th SPRC
- May 6th Jesus’ Kids
- May 13th Jesus’ Kids

See Calendar for times

**WILBURTON FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**



**Helpful or Heartless
Toward Others?**

“It is Christ...who also makes intercession for us...the Spirit...makes intercession for the saints...” (Romans 8: 34, 27).

Do we need more arguments than these to become intercessors—that Christ “always lives to make intercession” (Hebrews 7: 25), and that the Holy Spirit “makes intercession for the saints”? Are we living in such a relationship with others that we do the work of intercession as a result with others that we do the work of intercession as a result of being the children of

God who are taught by the Holy Spirit? We should take a look at our current circumstances. Do crises which affect us or others in our home, business, country, or elsewhere, seem to be crushing in on us? Are we being pushed out of the presence of God and left with no time for worship? If so, we must put a stop to such distractions and get into such a living relationship with God that our relationship with others is maintained through the work of intercession, where God works His miracles.

Beware of getting ahead of God by your very desire to do His will. We run ahead of Him in a thousand and one activities, becoming so bur-

dened with people and problems that we don't worship God, and we fail to intercede. If a burden and its resulting pressure come upon us while we are not in an attitude of worship, it will only produce a hardness toward God and despair in our own souls. God continually introduces us to people in whom we have no interest, and unless we are worshiping God the natural tendency is to be heartless toward them. We give them a quick verse of Scripture, like jabbing them with a spear, or leave them with a hurried, uncaring word of counsel before we go. A heartless Christian must be a terrible grief to our Lord.

(continued on page 3)

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

From the Pastor	1
UMW	1
Youth News	2
Summer Church Camps	2
Altar Set	3
Trustee's Notes	4
UMMen	5
Ad Council Mini-Minutes	6
Calendars	7



United Methodist Women

April 2009

Another big thank you for the large effort everyone gave in providing snacks for the March 20th Lenten service reception. We were amazed at the large number of attendees and were very grateful there was plenty of refreshments for everyone. It was a gracious and generous response that made the occasion very memorable. Thank you again.

Also, the April “Take your pastor to lunch” sign up sheet is on the foyer table. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and Rev. Collins to become better acquainted.

(continued on page 3)

Youth News

Since Spring is a season of change and growth, the Youth group is going to embrace some new opportunities. We are working this spring to reach out of our comfort zone to grow both our group and our individual faith.

So...Youth get ready for "Destination Unknown." Each week our lessons will take us to a new destination. These lessons will link locations from around our community with Scripture and faith issues. The mystery of each destination will allow us to build some excitement and encourage new youth to join us!

We will continue to meet at the church for Family Night Dinner activities.

In addition to the Destination Unknown activities, we will continue to have some additional activities. On **April 26th** we will have a **Mixed Up Game Night at the United Ministry**. We have invited the Krebs Methodist Youth Group to join us for this activity. Games will start at **5:30 pm**. We will have a snack supper.

Also look for more information coming soon on the new Youth T-shirts. We should have the new design soon.

In May we are planning a Water and Wacky Olympics that will probably be at Robbers Cave State Park.

If you are interested in attending Jr. High/Sr. High Camp as either a Camper or Counselor please contact either Dana Hugle, Barry Collins or Philip Hawthorne.

Anyone interested in helping with the Youth Program or if you know of a youth that needs transportation, please contact Dana Hugle at 918-465-6234 or djdavis_76@yahoo.com.

He is not here; He has risen, just as He said.

Matthew 28:6a

Church Camps:

It is again that time of the year when our young people make their plans to attend church camps. As you can see from the dates listed to the right, all of our church camps are in the month of June this year. It is important that we submit the registrations for the grade school camps several weeks early, to be sure space is reserved for our church children. We need to have all registrations for children going to 1st grade through 6th grade camps by the 3rd of May in order to send them on to the conference camp and retreat ministries office. There are camp booklets available through the church office, or contact Philip or Mindia Hawthorne or Rev. Collins for more information. Traditionally, the church pays half of the registration fee for campers who actively participate in the Sunday School or Church. We also have scholarships available for campers who otherwise cannot afford to attend camp. As always, we ask for your contributions to help pay registrations and transportation for our children and youth to attend church camp this year.

Summer Church Camp Dates:

**SonShine (entering grades 1-2)
June 20-21**

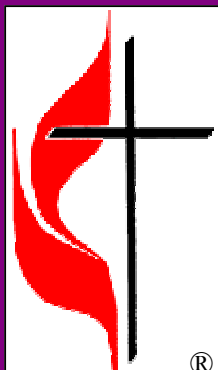
**Growin' in Grace (entering grades 3-5)
June 8-10* or June 10-12***

** We will choose one set of dates depending upon the schedule of children wishing to attend*

**T'weens Discover (entering grade 6)
June 8-12**

**Stillwater/McAlester District Youth Camp
(entering grade 7-graduated seniors)
June 9-13**

**C.Y.M.E
(requires pastoral recommendation)
June 21-26**



From the Pastor

(Cont. from page 1)

Are our lives in the proper place so that we may participate in the intercession of our Lord and Holy Spirit?

(My Utmost for His Highest, Oswald Chambers)

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Barry Collins

UMW

(Cont. from page 1)

This month UMW will be discussing several projects to be taken up for this year. We will be stuffing Easter Eggs April 6th for the Church Easter Egg Hunt following Easter Sunday Worship.

The United Methodist Women 2009 District Meeting will be held Saturday, April 18th at the Poteau First United Methodist Church.

Wednesday, April 29th, the UMW prepares and serves the EOSC Campus Ministry student lunch. Menu will be decided at the Monday, April 6th.

'Till May, have a wonderful Easter celebration.

Suzee Puckett,
 UMW President

Altar Set— Cross, Candlesticks and Offering Plates

Have you noticed our altar cross, candlesticks, and offering plates have tarnished? They look dull and neglected.

To clean and polish the set, the polyurethane protective coating would need to be stripped. However... once the protective coating is stripped, we would continually need to polish the brass to keep the cross, candlesticks and offering plates looking clean and bright.

We have been discussing replacement of the current altar set with an attractive 24" silver-plate cross (24"h x 12"w x 1"d), two new silver-plate candlesticks, and two new silver-plate collection plates. All would have a rich satin finish, with a protective coating, to keep the new set appearing new, clean, and polished for years to come.

Pricing for the new set would be:

- \$ 1,151 – Cross
- \$ 831 – Candlesticks (pair) **or**
- \$ 1,150 – Electric Candlesticks (pair)
- \$ 372 – Offering Plates (pair)

Would you like to purchase, as a memorial to a loved one, one or more pieces of the new altar set? What a wonderful way to honor a memory! Please feel free to discuss with Barry Collins, Nancy Wood, or Brenda Lumpkins.

Several of the choir members have discussed "An Evening of Favorite Hymns and Songs" to assist with the purchases, if needed. What a remarkable evening it would be for praise and worship, to help in attaining the glory of the new altar set!

Trustee's Notes

I would like to thank all of you that signed up to help take care of the Church and the United Ministry lawns. If you think that you have missed your chance to get on the list, let me assure you that there is still plenty of open slots on the mowing volunteer list. We have one individual that has volunteered to take care of the weed eating at the United Ministry building for our mowing season. Your help is much appreciated!

It may look like we have slowed down on all the construction projects, but we've just been waiting for the right time and the weather to cooperate and some additional bodies to assist. If you would like to be part of the crew, just give Barry or myself your name and phone number so we can call you when we're ready to get started. The down stairs still leaks a little, but we feel that when

we finish the outside project this will take care of that problem.

The bus has been sold. So, with the proceeds from the sale of the bus, we are in the process of trying to enclose the bus carport with walls and a garage door. Then we will be able to keep the church van at the church, making it more accessible to use.

With the help of the United Methodist Men, we hope to add a deck onto the back of the parsonage in the near future. The plans are for a wooden deck out the back door of the parsonage that will include additional storage space under the deck.

A big thank you goes to Jennifer and Ron Tarrant for remodeling the church office. As of this writing, Ron is waiting for the windows to come in so that he can get the project finished. Ron

and Jennifer have put a lot of time and energy into this job, so please let them know how much you like and appreciate all the work they have done to help improve our church! I must say they are doing it right. They have added insulation to the outside walls and to the ceiling (which neither had very much of), which should result in a reduction in our heating and cooling bills.

There are still several small jobs around the church that we need to get done, so if you have a little time and could assist, please give me a call. All help is appreciated!

Neal Wood,
Trustee chairman

*For God
so loved
the
world
that he
gave his
only
begotten
Son, that
whoever
believes
in him
shall not
perish
but have
eternal
life.*

*John
3:16*

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



GOLGOTHA - The hill of redemption where Christ shed his blood for our sins. Mt 27:33

Jesus' Kids

Spring
April 29th
May 6th and 13th



The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



The Message of the Cross is the very Power of God
1 Cor 1:18



Thank You!

*The United Methodist Men wish to express a heartfelt **Thank-You** to everyone to helped with our annual Fish Fry. The men who helped prepare food; the church family who brought desert items; those who helped clean up; and everyone who contributed in oh so many ways—your wonderful support made this year's Fish Fry a great success. The Eastern softball ladies were warmly welcomed and seemed to enjoy the hospitality of our church family—truly a successful evening.*

Thank you again to everyone.

We had 13 men at our March meeting and we are hoping for another good turnout this month. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 15th at 7:00am. We will meet for a breakfast prepared by John Shero with the assistance of any men who are willing to join in the cooking. Join us for good food and good fellowship. We will be discussing the results of our fish fry and planning projects for the summer.

I hope to see you at our upcoming UMMen gatherings!

Philip H

(For more information about Wilburton UMMen, contact Philip Hawthorne by phone at 465-6231 or by email at prmehawthorne@sbcglobal.net)



**Wilburton
First United Methodist Church**

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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®



Wilburton First United Methodist Church is located five miles south of beautiful Robbers Cave State Park, in Wilburton, Oklahoma. If you are visiting the park, come and worship with us. If you live in the area, please make your church home with us. The church was organized in 1895 and is housed in a nicely air-conditioned building one block north of the U.S. Post Office in Wilburton. We are a warm and friendly church and we would love to have you join us Sunday morning for Sunday School and Worship!

Administrative Council Mini Minutes...

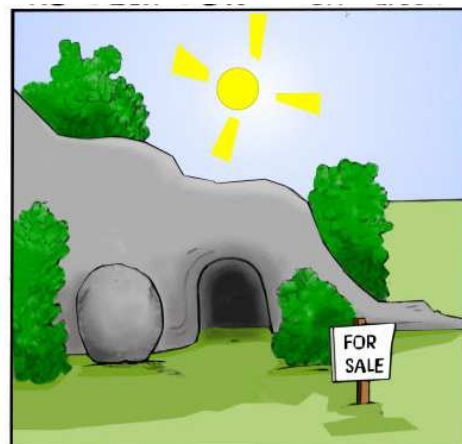
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WILBURTON, OKLAHOMA
April 8, 2009**

EDUCATION: Marcia Davis reported there are three more Jesus' Kids meetings and one dinner this school year. The kite flying picnic will be May 3rd. VBS will be June 28th through July 2nd.

S.P.R.C.: Leonard Hedgcoxe reported the committee met April 6th. The committee recommends a Pot Luck dinner following the worship service the first Sunday in June in appreciation of our pastor. The committee will recommend to the finance committee that the custodian's hours be extended to six hours a week instead of the current four hours. The committee feels the church property needs an updated security system. The committee is still looking to hire a nursery worker.

TRUSTEES: Neal Wood reported the church bus has been sold for the asking price of \$5500.00. Mr. Wood stated some of the money will be used to enclose the current car port. Neal commended Ron and Jennifer Tarrant for their remodeling work in the church office. Neal also informed the council the lawn care for the summer has been planned out.

NEW BUSINESS: Brenda Lumpkins made a presentation to the council regarding the purchase of a new cross and candle sticks for the sanctuary altar. C. C. Puckett informed the council about a plan to have an advertising insert put in the local newspaper. The men's group supports the idea. Mr. Puckett stated this came out of suggestions regarding strategic planning.



FOR SALE - Single owner tomb. Only used three days, and still has that new tomb smell. Reason for sale.. resident was resurrected.

APRIL 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12 Easter Sunday 12:00noon Easter Egg Hunt	13	14	15 7:00am UMMen	16	17	18 UMW District Meeting at Poteau FUMC
19	20	21	22 6:00pm Family Night Dinner- "Taxpayer's Bawl"	23	24	25
23	27	28	29 3:00pm Jesus' Kids	30	Notes: Unless otherwise noted, events listed on this calendar are at the Wilburton First United Methodist Church.	

MAY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Weekly Events Sunday: 9:30am Fellowship time 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service Monday: 4:30pm Cub Scouts Tuesday: 3:00pm Visitations Wednesday: 6:00pm Youth Fellowship (@ UM Bldg.) 7:00pm Choir					1	2
3 12:00noon Church Picnic and Kite Fly- ing at Recrea- tion Park	4 6:30pm UMW 7:30pm SPRC	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 3:00pm Jesus' Kids	7	8 EOSC Com- mencement	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13 3:00pm Jesus' Kids 6:00pm Admin- istrative Council	14	15	16 WHS Com- mencement