

**FEBRUARY  
2008  
NEWSLETTER**

**WILBURTON FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

- Feb. 15th UMW Sweetheart Potato Luncheon
- Feb. 15th United Ministry Board meeting
- Feb. 18th UMMen
- Feb. 18th Jesus' Kids
- Feb. 23rd Minister's Probationary Meeting
- Mar. 2nd SPRC
- Mar. 2nd UMW
- Mar. 4th Jesus' Kids
- Mar. 11th Jesus' Kids
- Mar. 11th Administrative Council
- Mar. 15th Ecumenical Lenten Service
- Mar. 18th UMMen
- Mar. 22nd Ecumenical Lenten Service
- Mar. 29th Ecumenical Lenten Service

See Calendar for times



**“Worthwhile Investments”**

There's a great story about Peter Lynch, the former head of the Fidelity Magellan Fund—perhaps the most popular mutual fund in history. Lynch is about as successful, as affluent a man as you'll find anywhere. He was a Wall Street master, and his colleagues considered him a legend. But at the age of forty-eight he announced a surprising turn in his life. He retired.

Lynch said, “My father died young. I don't want to die behind my desk.” He was asked what he planned to do.

Many thought he'd announce he would become a consultant. Instead, he said he was going to work in his church with kids, declaring, “Kids are a great investment. They beat stocks.”

In contrast to Lynch, most of us think of investing in terms of “what do I get out of it?” Some men pursue a relentless quest for investments that will yield the greatest material gain. They end up pouring their best efforts into making a name for themselves in business. Many of us, especially men, devote more time and energy to our projects at work than our “projects” at home—our children. But if we will invest in our children's lives, we will see long-lasting yields that money can't buy. If we don't have children living at home, we can invest in the life of another young person—whether it's a fatherless child we know, a grandchild, cousin, nephew, or neighbor.

voices of the next generation cry out to us daily. Let's follow the example of Peter Lynch, whose knowledge of life, passion for good, and desire to reach kids took his investing to a whole new level. As the apostle Paul said, I will very gladly spend for you everything I have and expend myself as well” (2 Corinthians 12:15).

Let's think hard about the things in which we are investing our time and energy. If the balance is tilted toward the superficial or the material, we can decide today to make some changes. This might mean asking our loved ones some touchy questions. We might be in for some painful feedback about how they perceive our priorities. But when we make the necessary adjustments and “invest soundly,” the results will pay long-lasting dividends. (Information adapted from Randy Rowland's, “*The Sins We Love*.”

Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Barry Collins

Great financial investment opportunities will come and go. Meanwhile, the

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

From the Pastor	1
Youth News	2
Staff Parish Relations Comm.	2
Jesus' Kids Dates	2
UMMen	3
Ad Council Mini-Minutes	4
Calendars	5

# Youth News

The youth program needs you! Yes—you!

I know you are not in the 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, but you probably know youth who are...

Our mission this spring is to grow our program—Growth by sharing our faith and God's love.

We will be asking you all to help! When we join the church we commit to support it through our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service. Please start now with your prayers—

- Pray for God to open hearts.
- Pray for us to have the right thing to say.
- Pray for youth and the difficulties we face each day.
- PRAY.

Next we are going to ask for your presence and more importantly your help getting the youth in our community connected. You all know neighbors, nieces and nephews, grandkids—let's all reach out.

If you know a young person who needs a ride—let me know, or give him or her my phone number 918.465.6234.

We are asking for your service. We need someone to help with:

- reminder phone calls on Tuesday evenings;
- mailing note cards or post cards
- “legwork” in Wilburton for upcoming T-shirt fundraiser
- ...more to come...

Finally, we will be having a dinner and movie night at the United Ministry building Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm

For more information on the Youth Program or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Dana Hugle at 918-465-6234.

**The Stillwater/McAlester District Youth Camp will be Monday, June 9th through Friday, June 13th at Camp Egan. Mark your calendars now!**

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

*I Corinthians 9:24-25 (NIV)*

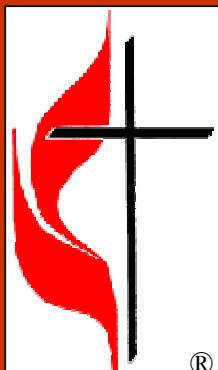
**2009 Staff Parish Relation Committee**  
 Pastor—Rev. Barry Collins  
 Chair—Leonard Hedgcoxe  
 Vice Chair—Viki Vogt  
 Secretary—Suzee Puckett  
 John Shero  
 Matt Davis  
 Galina Newsom  
 Nancy Wood  
 Jared Bills  
 Lisa Sparks

*Liaisons to:*  
 Pastor—John Shero  
 Church Secretary—Viki Vogt  
 Custodian—Matt Davis  
 Nursery—Mindia Hawthorne  
 Youth Leader—Nancy Wood

The committee will meet on the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm.

**Jesus' Kids**

**Spring**  
 Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>  
 March 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>  
 April 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>  
 May 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>



## UNITED METHODIST MEN

The next United Methodist Men's meeting will be February 18th. We will meet at 7:00am on that Wednesday 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 had fourteen men at our January meeting for a wonderful breakfast and a great fellowship. Rev.

Barry Collins presented a wonderful devotion that led to a thoughtful discussion. Join us this month and see where our discussion leads us.

I am in the process of updating our Wilburton United Methodist Men list. I need all the church men's phone numbers (home and/or cell—whichever is your preference) and email addresses. I will put a list in the sanctuary narthex so that you may provide your information—or just call or email me your information at my phone number or email address provided at the end of this article.

I found the following on the website of the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church under the link for United Methodist Men's ministries...

### The objectives of the United Methodist Men shall be:

- To seek daily Christ's way of life.
- To bear witness to this way in business dealings and in social contacts.
- To engage in some definite Christian service.
- To study and become familiar with the United Methodist Church, its organization, and its doctrines.
- To promote personal evangelism, especially among men and boys.
- To develop Christian fellowship in the church, especially among laymen, by promoting Christian understanding.
- To cooperate with the Bishop, District Superintendent, and Pastor in promoting the program of the church.
- To cooperate with the Bishop, District Superintendent, and Pastor in promoting the program of the church.
- To cooperate with other units of United Methodist Men in the promotion of District, Conference, and Church-wide projects under the leadership of the Board of Discipleship.

### The Purpose of the United Methodist Men's Fellowship is threefold.

**Renewal**—Our faith is renewed as we share together in experiences of worship and study.

**Service**—As concerned men of Christ, we seek to render service to each other, to the church and to the larger community through programs decided upon and developed by us as we respond in faith to God's love to us.

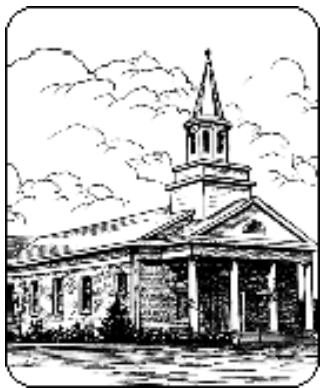
**Fellowship**—We share together in Christian fellowship in all that we do, but we also set a time aside dedicated to no effort but the enjoyment of each other's company and doing things we like to do as Christian men.

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](mailto:prmehawthorne@sbcglobal.net))*





**Wilburton  
First United Methodist Church**

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**Open Hearts.**

**Open Minds.**

**Open Doors.**

**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

February 11, 2009

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jennifer Tarrant gave the treasurer's report. Mrs. Tarrant also presented several new forms she developed for record keeping. These forms, to be used for funds transfer and reimbursement requests, are available in the church office.

**EDUCATION:** C.C. Puckett reported for Marcia Davis that she is trying to contact someone to work on the sound system. The next Jesus' Kids will be February 18<sup>th</sup> and the families are invited for an evening meal.

**S.P.R.C.:** Leonard Hedgcoxe reported the committee will be meeting the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm.

**UMW:** President Suzee Puckett reported the ladies will be moving their meeting time to the first Monday of the month at 6:00pm, and will meet next on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. The ladies will have their sweetheart potato luncheon this coming Sunday following church.

**FAMILY:** There will be no family night dinner this month (February) because of the potato luncheon.

**UMM:** President Philip Hawthorne reported fourteen men attended their last meeting. The UMMen's next meeting will be February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:00am.

**FINANCE:** Chairwoman Sue McCasland reported that Mark Dorff will be assisting the committee in establishing a stewardship program at no charge. The committee will meet February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

**Misc:** Sunny Collums reported to the council about the Latimer County Literacy Program. Mrs. Collums stated that one in four Latimer county residents cannot read.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Rev. Collins gave the following dates: February 15<sup>th</sup>, United Ministries Board meeting at 3:00pm; February 23<sup>rd</sup>, a pastor's probationary meeting at our church; February 25<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday service at 6:00pm; March 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Lenten services.

## FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>15</b> 12:00 noon Sweetheart Potato Lunch- eon	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00am UMMen 3:00pm Jesus' Kids	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Minister's Pro- bationary Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:00pm Ash Wednesday service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Notes:</b>  Unless otherwise noted, events listed on this calendar are at the Wilburton First United Methodist Church.			<b>Weekly Events</b> <b>Sunday:</b> 9:30am Fellowship time 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service <b>Monday:</b> 4:30pm Cub Scouts <b>Tuesday:</b> 3:00pm Visitations <b>Wednesday:</b> 6:00pm Youth Fellowship (@ UM Bldg.) 7:00pm Choir			

## MARCH 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 5:00pm Youth Dinner & Movie Night	<b>2</b> 6:00pm UMW 7:30pm SPRC	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 3:00pm Jesus' Kids	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 3:00pm Jesus' Kids 6:00pm Admin- istrative Council	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Ecumenical Lenten Services	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00am UMMen	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>