

**MAY  
2008  
NEWSLETTER**

**WILBURTON FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

- **May 20th UMMen**
- **May 24th-28th Annual Conference 2009 for the Oklahoma Conference of the United Methodist Church (Oklahoma City)**
- **May 27th Rev. Collins ordination (St. Luke's UMC, Oklahoma City)**
- **May 31st Fifth Sunday Testimony Sunday**
- **Jun 7th Covered Dish Dinner following Worship**
- **Jun 15th-19th Stillwater/McAlester District Church Camp (Egan)**
- **Jun 17th UMMen**
- **Jun 20th-21st SonShine Camp (Egan)**

See Calendar for times



“What is Character?”

Aristotle defined character as the decisions a person makes when the choice is not obvious. I learned in my early years that, “Character is the way we act when nobody’s looking.”

For example, it’s no test of character to stop your car at a police roadblock. The test comes, rather, when you’re driving at 4 AM along a desolate road in Hartshorne. You’re heading toward a red light at a deserted intersection and you can see for miles around that there’s nobody else on the roads. Do you

obey the law, even though there’s no cross traffic, or zoom on through at full speed? This is a test of character, a choice made on the basis of respect for law, on the discipline of adhering to the principles of safe driving. You decide to stop on the strength of character instead of responding to convenience or whim.

Of course, to the person who is well disciplined in respect for law, as well as other ethical and moral principles, such a simple illustration of choice is automatically invalid. For such a person, the only course of action is already established because *you stop at red lights*; that’s

all there is to it, whatever the time or traffic conditions. You do what is right, not what you know to be wrong.

Philippians 2:12-15 reminds us that, “*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. Do everything without complaining or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe.*”

Peace,  
Rev. Barry Collins

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**Congratulations to our  
2009 graduates.**

**Wilburton High  
School:**

- Jared Bills**
- Kyle Conley**
- Jovanny Garcia**
- Laura Myers**
- Robert Watters**
- Marty Workman**

**Eastern Oklahoma  
State College:**

- Jenna Bills**
- Karly Bitters**
- Darcy Casteel**
- Rachel Filius**
- Sarah Hayslip**
- Kendra White**

# Youth News

Thank you for all of the interest and support for the "Destination Unknown." I will be contacting some of you in the next few weeks for some help...I can't tell you any more than that without giving something away...☺

I can tell you that over the past few weeks we have visited:

Crossroads: to help us determine where we are along the journey of discipleship.

Shade Tree: to help us understand God's mercy through Jonah's experience under a shade tree.

Fishing Hole: to link a fishing experience with Jesus' calling his disciples.

Creating with Clay: to illustrate God's loving creation of each person as individuals.

We will meet at 6 pm at the United Ministry on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning to attend, I will either need a permission form or need to talk with your parents for the type of destination.

On Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, we will meet for the Family Night Dinner and Tarrant's home.

As we continue to try to grow our group and reach out to more youth, we have decided to try a new time to meet. On Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> we will meet at 6 pm at the United Ministry. We plan to continue meeting on

Sunday evenings throughout the month of June.

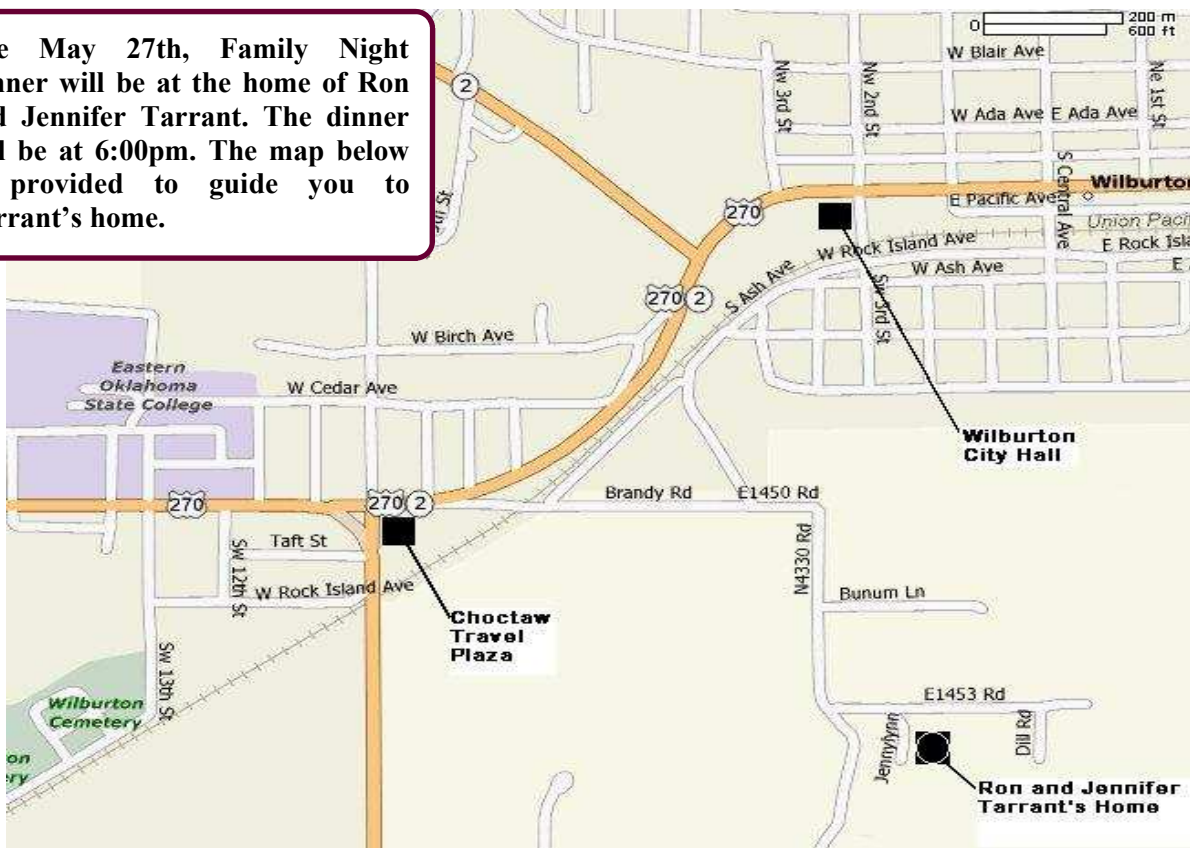
If you are interested in attending SMAC (Stillwater/McAlester District Camp), please contact Dana or Philip ASAP. All registrations need to be to Philip by May 25<sup>th</sup>. Camp dates are June 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. If you are involved in Jesus Kids or Youth Group the church will pay part of the registration fee. If you are interested in attending camp, but are worried about the registration fee, please contact Dana.

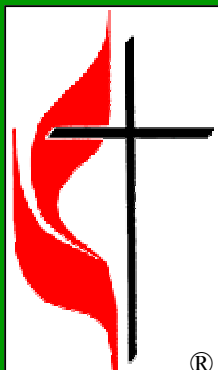
Dana Huggle  
918-465-6234  
Djdavis\_76@yahoo.com

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

The May 27th, Family Night Dinner will be at the home of Ron and Jennifer Tarrant. The dinner will be at 6:00pm. The map below is provided to guide you to Tarrant's home.





**United Methodist Women**

May 2009

May 4th was our final meeting until September, 2009. Another fall, winter, and spring has come to an end for the UMW. This past year has been very eventful and fulfilling for everyone.

I am really anticipating an outstanding new session in the fall. We have so much to plan—beginning with a new reading program. At the UMW Spring District Meeting in Poteau, a book by Cathy Gohlke, titled “William Henry is a fine name,” was purchased and we received a 2009 prayer calendar featuring international missionaries our group will be supporting. Plus we are expanding our duties to becoming advocates for children of incarcerated parents. This promises to give us spiritual growth while expanding our Christian responsibilities.

Have a wonderful summer break.

Your sister in Christ  
Suze Puckett,

## Education Notes

We had our final Jesus Kids this past Wednesday! We have had a wonderful year and a great bunch of children! Thank you so much to everyone who has helped us to make this possible: C.C. and Suze Puckett, Jean Bell, Lois and Len Jasko, Sue McCasland, Sunny Collums, and Kathy Davis.

Our Vacation Bible School this year is called “Camp Trek”. It begins Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> and continues through Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Loma Messex will be our director again this year. Thanks Loma! If you are interested in helping with VBS, whether it be teaching or helping in other ways, please contact Marcia Davis at 465-5675. If you have any neighbors, relatives or friends you know of that might like to come, please contact me and I will send them an invitation.

We did not get to have our Annual Picnic and Kite Flying on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope to reschedule, but have not set a date as of yet. I will announce that in church once we set the date.

We will be having a Mystery Trip this summer for the children which will be toward the end of July. I will be contacting the children when we set a date.

Have a great summer and God Bless!

Your friend in Christ,  
Marcia Davis



Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 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 projects for the summer, including our Annual Ice Cream Social to be held in late July.

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.  
**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!



## District Superintendency

Dear Pastors & Church Leaders,

It is hard to get everyone together for a send off for Sandy and Susan. We would like for you to ask your church members to send a card or other greeting to let them know how much they have been appreciated these last seven years. I am trying to contact someone in each church in the district to pass this information along. Will you please supply your members with the address or gather cards and send them all together. Sandy's address is PO Box 986, McAlester, OK 74502.

Also, gatherings are being planned to welcome Darrell and Bonnie Cates. Your church has either been asked to host one of these gatherings, or you will receive an invitation to attend one in late June or during July. I hope you will encourage your members to attend. The host church will be an easy drive from where you are.

Thanks for all of your help,  
Flo and the District Superintendency Committee



The irony of the letters 'C' and 'V' being next to each other on the keyboard resulted in a typo of magnanimous proportions for Grave.. I mean Grace Community Church.

# MAY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
17	18	19	20 7:00am UMMen	21	22	23
24 Annual Conference (OKC)	25 Annual Conference (OKC)	26 Annual Conference (OKC)	27 Annual Conference (OKC) 6:00pm Family Night Dinner (Tarrant's home)	28 Annual Conference (OKC)	29	30
31 Fifth-Sunday Testimony Sunday	<b>Weekly Events</b> <b>Sunday:</b> 9:30am Fellowship time 9:45am Sunday School 10:45am Worship Service 6:00pm Youth Fellowship (@ UM Bldg.) <i>beginning June 7</i> <b>Wednesday:</b> 6:00pm Youth Fellowship (@ UM Bldg.) <i>through May</i>				<b>Notes:</b> Unless otherwise noted, events listed on this calendar are at the Wilburton First United Methodist Church.	

# JUNE 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Covered Dish Dinner fol- lowing Morn- ing Worship	8	9	10 6:00pm Admin- istrative Council	11	12	13
14	15 Stillwater/ McAlester District Church Camp (Egan)	16 Stillwater/ McAlester District Church Camp (Egan)	17 7:00am UMMen Stillwater/ McAlester District Church Camp (Egan)	18 Stillwater/ McAlester District Church Camp (Egan)	19 Stillwater/ McAlester District Church Camp (Egan)	20 SonShine Camp <i>1st-2nd grade</i> (Egan)