



THE WORD

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Boston Avenue United Methodist Church
1301 S. Boston, Tulsa, OK 74119
(918) 583-5181 - www.bostonavenue.org



**Pastor's Study
4A**



**Friend in
Faith 5A**



**Blessing of
Gifts 8A**



Senior High VIM Team returns home safely after **A great week in Mexico!**

Our senior high youth mission team returned safely last Friday after spending the week building two cinder block houses and leading a mission Bible school for the children of Rio Bravo. They have already created a great video and are ready to share with Sunday School classes and other groups.

"At the houses we were building, even the children wanted to help," said Allison Hardin. "They loved it when we jumped rope or played soccer with them.

"They had so little, yet their greatest joy was in having us swing them around and play with them. The little girl had only a jump rope, yet she didn't get upset when it got broken. They found great joy in little things."

Sabrina Bland remembers delicious tamales made by the woman whose house her team was building. "It took her all day to make them, and they were so good!"

Lindsley Aycock told of the day it rained. "Our mortar got runny, and we couldn't

work," she said. "Getting frustrated didn't help, so we laughed and danced with the children. The mom invited us into her tiny shack, and we experienced some real God moments that day."

Bible school as a real highlight for Maddie Bull. "I could see God in the children's faces, how much they wanted to learn and how well they got along" she remembers. "Diana Bland translated for us, and the kids just loved her. She was an amazing leader."

Kelsey Luks was impressed by the dancers at the local church's worship service. "They were praying with their bodies," she said. "They danced what we sang and prayed,

(See "Mexico VIM" on page 4A)



Team members enjoyed building and making new friends.

B.A. to host M. L. King service

Our church will host the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Service at 6:00 p.m. next Sunday, January 16.

Dr. Firpo Carr, a well-known author, scholar, Bible translator, and lecturer, will be the guest speaker. His works have been produced in 54 languages and have reached over twice as many lands. His weekly articles are translated into 34 languages.

He has appeared as an eminent scholar on such nationally televised documentaries as *Encounters with the Unexplained: Secrets of the Bible-What Do the Dead Sea Scrolls Tell Us?*, and the prime time specials *Ancient Secrets of the Bible I and II*. The evening will also include presentation of "Keeping the Dream Alive" Award, and the 2011 MLK Oratorical Contest winner will recite Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. A nursery is available.

Prior to the service, at 5:30, a candlelight peace procession will begin at 7th and Cincinnati. A shuttle service will be provided at 4:45 to the beginning of the processional. Walkers should bring a flashlight.

On Monday all are invited to walk in the M.L. King, Jr. Parade. Our youth are decorating a float, which will be added to our buses in the parade, and they invite all to meet them at the church by 9:30 a.m. for the 11:00 parade. Call Dr. Bill Crowell, 699-0127, to participate.

Enrollment continues Sunday

Open Tables offers new format

Open Tables is now enrolling for 2011 on Sunday mornings in Bishops' Hall. The program will feature a new format this year.

Instead of going to private homes, participants will enjoy three potluck dinners in Jubilee Hall. Each person or family will be asked to bring dish to share, then each table will include a diverse group of people from the Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Hindu faiths. Discussion questions will aid in starting the dialogue.

There will also be guest speakers and programs to share holidays and customs of the different faiths. Participation is just \$5 per person

"This year we've eliminated the stress of hosting," says Open Tables coordinator Vicky Langston. "All are invited to come and enjoy."



Vicky Langston and John Bradley are two of the volunteers who will be waiting to help you enroll in Open Tables Sunday.



From the Pastor's Study

Mouzon Biggs, Jr.

Our 2012 Barton Clinton Gordey presenter will be Dr. Walter Brueggemann, an esteemed scholar of the Hebrew Scriptures. In his commentary on this book of *Isaiah*, he has written the following:

"Long and sophisticated historical study produced a long-standing scholarly consensus that is still found in most informed books on Isaiah.

"According to that critical consensus, chapters 1-39 are linked to Isaiah of the eighth century B.C.E. in the context of the Assyrian Empire between 742 and 701.

"Chapters 40-55 are commonly dated to 540, just at the moment when the rising Persian Empire displaced the brutal and hated domination of Babylon.

"And chapters 56-66 are dated later, perhaps 520, when Jews who had returned from exile went about the critical and difficult task of reshaping the community of faith after its long, exilic jeopardy.

"The judgments made in this approach concerning the divisions of the book of *Isaiah*, now referred to by the shorthand references First Isaiah, Second Isaiah, and Third Isaiah, largely continue to dominate scholarship. The gain of such an approach is the insistence that the theological claims of the text are evoked by and addressed to particular, sometimes recoverable, historical situations."

The lesson appropriate for this second Sunday of the Epiphany comes from Second Isaiah, that prophet present in Babylon after being exiled there in 587 B.C.E. Will the southern tribes, Judah, be assimilated into the Babylonian culture, so that they cease to exist as a separate people (the fate that befell the northern tribes "lost" forever in the Assyrian culture 135 years earlier)?

The people are feeling forgotten by their God, abandoned by the One who first made covenant with Abraham and Sarah twelve hundred years before. The prophet's answer to those fears prompts the title of this week's sermon, "I KNOW YOUR NAME - AND WHERE YOU LIVE!"

Mexico VIM ... (continued)

and it was amazing how passionate they were about their faith. The kids found great joy in just being with family and others."

Taylor Fogle talked about a shopping trip to buy gifts for their family. "We bought an ice chest and filled it with beans, rice, fruit and other food. We also bought blankets and sweatshirts. The other group added a jump rope and soccer ball."

Katie Wonderly was one of four youth who worked in Rio Bravo in 2007. They returned to visit one of the families whose house they had built. "The family was still there, and they had added birds, sheep and chicken. It was fun to see them again."

"In 2007 we worked on a foundation for a building we thought was going to be a food pantry," she said. "We discovered that the building is now a United Methodist Church."

The team felt safe the entire time they worked in Mexico, and they have great stories to share.



The children loved to help work.

Sanctuary volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to replace envelopes and prayer cards, sharpen pencils, and straighten hymnals in our sanctuary.

Brenda Reed currently has four teams of volunteers, and each team works just once a month. Each team member covers the balcony, the center section, or two of the side sections. Work can be done at the volunteer's convenience that week. Contact Brenda, 699-0135, to volunteer or for more information.

B.A. family update

Baptisms

Jack Nathaniel Lukert, son of Cassie Keeton and Josh Lukert, was baptized December 23, 2010, with Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr., officiating. He was born April 20, 2010. Proud relatives include his sister, Piper; grandparents, Amy and Randy Keeton; and great-grandfather, Max Herrera.

Altar Flowers

In loving memory of **Marilyn Dolan**, from Paul and Rachel Dolan and family.

In loving memory of **James O. Lindsey**, whose birthday was January 13th, by Jon and Dee Dee Stuart, Melissa and D. J. Nuzum, and Susan, Adam, Landon and Hannah Peterson.

Deaths

Catherine Schell died December 16, 2010. Services were held December 21 at All Souls Unitarian Church. Survivors include sons, Mark and Gayle Schell and Joe Schell; daughter, Allison and John Green; grandchildren, Grace and Abby Schell; and brothers, Fred and Bill Mehler.

Steven H. Davis died December 19, 2010. Services were held December 22 in Arkansas. Survivors include his wife, Jackie Davis; son, Paul and Lori Davis; grandsons, Steven and Zachariah Davis; brother, Rob and Andrea Davis; and niece and nephew, Taylor and Bobby Davis.

Stanley Smiley died December 22, 2010. Services will be held in California. Survivors include his father, Bill Smiley; sisters, Paula Gradney and Brenda Smiley; and brother, Tim and Jennifer Smiley.

Mary Byrd died December 21, 2010. Services were held December 29 at Boston Avenue with Dr. Tankersley

officiating. Survivors include sons, Dennis and Lori Byrd of Illinois and Charles Byrd of Connecticut.

Scott Earl Griffin died December 23, 2010. Services were held at Boston Avenue with Dr. Bill Tankersley officiating. Survivors include father, Bob and Jean Griffin of Texas and stepfather, Earl and Joanna Tuers of Tulsa.

William Patton Fite, III, died December 27, 2010. Services were held December 31 in Broken Arrow. Survivors include his mother, Eugenia Heenan; sisters, Teresa Teter and Melissa Nelson; and brother, Christopher Fite.

Frank L. Cox, Jr., died December 28, 2010. Services were held January 4 at Boston Avenue with Dr. Tankersley officiating. Survivors include his wife Marilyn; daughters, Martha Cox and Marianne and Scott Morgan; grandchildren, Elizabeth and Matt Morgan.

Ruth Haws died December 29, 2010. Services were held January 3 at Stanley's Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Bill Tankersley officiating. Survivors include husband, John Haws; grandsons, Terry Haws and Bryan and Julie Haws; granddaughter-in-law, Kathy Haws; granddaughter, Brandi Haws; and great grandchildren, Zachary and Hayley Haws.

Hospitalized Last Week

St. John - Homer Bailey, Ann Caraway, Jo Franklin, George King, Jerry Mays

St. John - Broken Arrow - Debbie Pinkerton

St. Francis - Rosalea Barnett, Bettye McCarley, Wesley McDorman, Betty Lee Stalder, Marie Moorman

St. Francis - South - Tammy Maldonado

Hillcrest - Virginia Bingham

Meet our newest members



Derek Cowan works for the Tulsa County Clerk. He is engaged to be married to B.A. member Christina O'Neal.



Kelly Buckley is a registered nurse at St. John Medical Center.



Matthew Tye, son of Doug Tye, is a sixth grader at Jenks Schools.



Andrea Whinery and her husband Chris, who is already a B.A. member, have a young daughter, Chloe, who was baptized December 19.

Have a prayer request?

Call our prayer line at
699-0158

UMW News

By Janet McCutchen Graham

Joy Circle will share fellowship Monday, January 10, at 9:30 a.m. in the Aldersgate Room for an excellent UMW magazine article report.

Circle of Grace will meet Monday, January 10, at 6:00 p.m. in the Asbury Room.

Circle W meets Tuesday, January 11, at 6:00 p.m. for sack supper in the little dining room. Their program will be the Spiritual Growth Study, *For the Love of God: Letters of John*, presented by Sue Brothers.

PM Circle will meet Wednesday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room. Betty Alsabrook will lead the 2011 pledge service at 7:30, followed by the installation of 2011 officers.

The following circles will meet Thursday, January 13:

Circle B at 9:30 a.m. in the Oxford Room for refreshments. Ann Hill will lead the 2011 pledge service.

Circle E at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate Room, with Joyce Byrne providing refreshments as hostess; Dolores Ritter will lead the 2011 pledge service.

Circle H at 10:00a.m. in the home of Joanna Waters, 10231 S. Quebec. The program will be the 2011 pledge service. Sue Brothers will bring the study, *For the Love of God: The Letters of John*.

Jeanne Brosius-Smith needs all UMW Reading Program participants who were actively reading January-December, 2010, to send her their book lists by February 15. Due to the changed submission dates that recently came from Women's Division, books listed will include some duplications of those submitted in late July, 2010. Do not worry about the duplications. Jeanne's address is 6009 S. 75th E Ave., Tulsa 74145.

Lectionary Readings

January 9, 2011

Psalm 29
Isaiah 43:1-7
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Acts 8:14-17

Confirmands meet Friends in Faith



Our 2010 Confirmation Class members enjoyed meeting their new adult Friends in Faith last Sunday. At left, Sherry Leslie visits with Niessreen Smith over refreshments.

The Friends in Faith will serve as mentors and spend special time with their youth during this semester.

Gifts and Memorials

GENERAL ENDOWMENT
In memory of Rev. Herman Ging

By: T. M. Hershberger

In honor of Virginia Gray

By: T. M. Hershberger

In honor of Mike and Diane Asher

By: T. M. Hershberger

In memory of Margaret Carpenter

By: New Covenant Class

In memory of Larry Walker, son-in-law of Patsy Byrd

By: Frank and Jackie Hammerschmidt

In memory of Friday Leonard

By: Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Thomas

By: Mike and Cheryl Hunter and family

In memory of Ann Kilman

By: Don and Virginia Buoen

In memory of Steven Davis, brother of Rob Davis

By: Gary and Patti Smith

YOUTH MINISTRY FUND

In memory of Sammie Rhodes

By: Dr. and Mrs. Al Brownlee

GENE TUCKER

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Gene Tucker

By: Frank and Jackie Hammerschmidt

ROLLIE AND SAMMIE

RHODES CHILDREN'S

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Sammie Rhodes

By: Frank and Jackie Hammerschmidt

MUSIC FUND

In memory of Fran

Wozencraft

By: Frank C. Robson

By: Fortner and Company

In honor of Shari and Lynn Goodwin

By: Martha Jo Bradley

In memory of Margaret Carpenter

By: Jeri Strange

By: Pebble Creek

Homeowners Association

By: Iris Chandler

By: Gerry Kemper

By: Gary and Patti Smith

In memory of Bob Purinton

By: Sue and Beth Brothers

In memory of Duane Brothers

By: Sue and Beth Brothers

In memory of Taylor Brown

By: Sue and Beth Brothers

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

In memory of Douglas

Tipton, grandson of Gerry

and Stoner Arnold

By: Sue Brothers

MESSIAH FUND

In memory of Natalie Over-

all Warren

By: Mr. and Mrs. G. T.

Blankenship

By: Mr. and Mrs. Matthew

Blankenship, Sr.

By: Mr. and Mrs. Ted Mundt

By: Ms. E. Anne

Blankenship

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES

In memory of Harold and

Katherine Harrison

By: Gretchen and Aaron

Clark

EPHPHATHA SUNDAY

SCHOOL CLASS

In memory of Fay T. and

Nola E. Anderson

By: Sue Grofman, Carolyn

Stenberg, and Thomas Anderson

Youth News!! . . .

Senior High news

I am excited to report that our Rio Bravo Mission was a SUCCESS!! In five days we laid over three tons of concrete blocks (one day we worked in the rain all day!), shared Bible stories with 40 children, ate at least 100 pounds of rice and beans and lived in solidarity with the people of Rio Bravo.

All of our lives were touched by the people we met and we now see our world through a wider lens. Invite us to come and tell our stories to your Sunday School classes!

It's 2011!!! DTBA resumes this week! It's time to start planning for Youth Vespers, and a whole array of new Sunday School classes will be available to choose from this Sunday!

It's MLK time!!! This year we will have a REAL float!!! Join us Sunday, January 16th after church to decorate the float! It's a marathon day!! Lunch after church, decorate the float, eat dinner together (we will have all three meals together that day- We're FAMILY!!), walk in the candlelight vigil, attend the service together...WAHOO! Then, up early Monday to MARCH the parade. We will be finished by noon on Monday.

Put God FIRST this year!! See you on Sunday!

Muchas Gracias! - Audra

6th, 7th and 8th Grade

Start your year off with our Happy Birthday Everyone Skating Party this Sunday evening for all 6th-8th graders. Meet at Skate Land from 5:30 to 7:30; \$5.00 per person is payable at the door. Friends are welcome! We will enjoy a birthday cake for each month of the year. Don't miss this -it's fun!

This Sunday Judy Rowell will share her story from the recent mission trip to Nicaragua with our confirmands and all 7th and 8th graders. Come hear about the monkey.

We had 21 youth register to be on our basketball team! You rock mid-high, so we now have two teams and their first games are Saturday the 8th. Check our website for the team schedules.

GLEE rehearsal begins this Sunday, the 9th, at noon! More details will come your way on the internet.

Lovin' the New Year already! - Debbie

Sunday Worship

January 9, 2011

The First Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Communion Service

9:40 a.m. Sunday School

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

Sermon: "I KNOW YOUR NAME - AND WHERE YOU LIVE!"

Isaiah 43:1-7

Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr.

Music:

Prelude: Partita on How Firm a Foundation.....Alice Jordan
Dr. Susan Panciera, Organist

Anthem: Panis Angelicus César Franck

Dr. Joel Panciera, handbells; Luke Panciera, trumpet

Offertory: Andante (Finale, Sonata VI)Felix Mendelssohn

Anthem: Set Me as a Seal René Clausen

The Chapel Choir (8:30)

He, Watching Over Israel, from *Elijah*...Felix Mendelssohn

The Chancel Choir (11:00)

Postlude: In Thee is Gladness arr. Robert Hobby

Hymns: 529 How Firm a Foundation

480 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

140 Great is Thy Faithfulness

12:10 p.m. Holy Communion & Service of Healing

Class News . . .

College and Career

Hope everyone had a good break and is ready to get started on a new year! Be sure to join the College/Career Facebook group, if you're not already a fan.

Cornerstone

Look for more information coming soon on our upcoming Super Bowl party at the McLaughlin's home.

Linda Alegria will continue her lessons Sunday. She is teaching from the book, *Simpler Living, Compassionate Life: A Christian Perspective*.

Heritage

Rev. Ken Tobler will be our teacher this Sunday. We thank Judy Rowell for teaching last week from the book, *Neglected Voices*, by John Indermark.

If you would like to host a Super Bowl party, please contact Elizabeth Harrington.

Happy birthday to Barbara Berklacy and Linda Jones.

Welcome to the Willis's' granddaughter, Laura, who visited us Sunday.

Homebuilders

Dr. Ruth Weston will teach our class for the month of January, using Christianity's Family Tree, by Adam Hamilton. We look forward to learning more about our history.

We welcomed visitors Carl and Donna Cartwright Sunday.

Margie and Charles Herndon, Ken Weston, and Don Woolsey gave to mission for their birthdays.

Pat Hardin and Norval Smith led our music. Don and Wanda Rubottom provided the coffee and Wanda Franks brought the treats.

Horizons

Congratulations to the Aycocks, Wonderlys and Paul Dennison for their good work in Mexico.

Thanks to Alan Bingham for a thought-provoking lesson on current perceptions of religion, Christianity, and spirituality.

Happy birthday to Chris Gradney, Katie Dennison, Hope Thompson, Margaret Aktas, and Thomas Rex. Happy anniversary to the Bingham's.

The Robinetts will bring our

treats Sunday.

Maranatha

We are serving dinner at the Day Center for the Homeless on January 14. Meet there at 5:30 or contact Sharon Earley for more information.

Dr. Joel Panciera will be our teacher Sunday. Thanks to William Meyer for teaching us last week.

Welcome to Valerie Carpenter, Rebecca Allen, and Sara Martin, home from college.

Happy birthday to Amy Snodgrass, Joel Panciera, and Jim Griffin. Happy anniversary to the Justices.

The Mause and Giessens will bring treats this Sunday. Thanks to the Donleys, Goodwins and all who brought food last week.

New Covenant

Our new governing board is now in charge. Gerry Arnold is our chair, and the members include Les Brown, Joy York, Vivian Wood and Joe Gilliland.

Dr. Don Forsman will be our teacher this month.

Thanks to Les Brown for our refreshments, Bob McCarley for our prayer, and Joyce Byrne and Dorothy Nix for our music.

Keep Stoner Arnold, Marilyn Cox, Betty McCarley and Wilma Gilliland in your prayers.

We received notes of thanks from Meals on Wheels, Restore Hope and Margaret Carpenter's family.

New Frontiers

Bryan Harrington will be our teacher again this Sunday. Last week he talked about the Magi and what it all meant.

Please remember Ashliann's sister-in-law and her baby in your prayers.

Happy anniversary to the Lesters and Rideners.

Pilgrimage

Mark your calendar for January 26th at 7:30 for our outing to Lynette's performance of *Will Roger's Romance*. Ticket information will be given in class.

Thanks to Brenda Reed for teaching us from Luke's

Gospel. We look forward to her lesson this Sunday.

Mark and Betty Alspaugh visited from Hot Springs.

Keep Sally Carter in your prayers as she recovers. Diedra is looking forward to surgery in mid January.

Seek and Discover

Rev. Art McGrew will be our teacher again this Sunday. He gave us a lot to think about last week. Thanks, Art.

Thank you to our class president, Mark, and all of our other officers this past year. Best of luck to our 2011 class president, Dick Martin.

Please keep Mark, Terri, Laura, Jennifer, Oneida, and Beverly and family and friends in your prayers.

Thank you, Tom, for your devotional, and thanks to all who brought treats.

Wesley Fellowship

We began the New Year with new officers. Rollie and Phillele led us in two hymns.

Mary Helen Stanley greeted the class as the new president and asked for announcements. Lynette Bennett Danskin distributed flyers about her musical on Will Rogers.

Trudy Plowman gave the devotional and prayer. Mary Ward reported that Beth VonDrehle's son needs our prayers, as does Harold Reynolds. Each of them injured a leg as the result of a fall.

Sally Jeffrey is doing reasonably well at Ambassador Manor Nursing Home and welcomes visitors.

Ed Monnet introduced Dr. Bill Tankersley, who gave our lesson on the early formation of the church. We will look forward to his return at the end of the month.

Martha Jo Bradley celebrated a birthday.

May the New Year bring joyous blessings.

Contact Brenda Reed, 699-0135, to learn more about automatic withdrawals and other easy options for giving.

Children enjoy blessing of gifts



Third grader Hannah Campbell shows off the new doll she received for Christmas. She brought her to Faith Academy on December 26 for the blessing of gifts.

Our children thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to show off their new gifts and give thanks to God for all the blessings they received at Christmas. Faith Academy meets every Sunday at 9:40.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday - January 9, 2011

8:30 a.m. Worship service
9:30 Communion service
9:40 Faith Academy and Sunday School
10:40 Children's worship
11:00 Worship service
12:00 noon *Revue* rehearsal
12:10 Communion and Service of Healing
2:00 Christian Believer
2:00 Mid high boys' basketball

Monday - January 10

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
9:30 UMW Joy Circle
6:00 p.m. UMW Circle of Grace
6:00 Men's basketball
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 20
6:30 Jesus in the Gospels

Tuesday - January 11

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
9:00 Overview of the Bible
5:30 Preschool Messy Art Night
6:00 UMW Circle W

Wednesday - January 12

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
5:00 p.m. Snack Supper

5:00 Jubilation Ringers
5:00 Capriccio Ringers
5:30 New Frontiers Class study
5:50 Festival Ringers
6:00 Chapel Choir
6:00 LIFE Group for children
6:30 Yoga class
7:00 DTBA
7:00 Carillon Ringers
7:00 Chorister Ringers
7:00 UMW PM Circle
7:30 Chancel Choir

Thursday - January 13

UMW Groups - See "UMW News" on page 5A
9:00 a.m. Weekday School
10:00 Program Staff
5:30 p.m. Celebration Ringers
5:30 Senior High basketball
6:00 PCCT Parenting Classes
6:30 Preschool staff meeting
6:30 M.L. King Awards Dinner

Friday - January 14

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
5:30 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous
6:00 Roundtable Class auction
6:30 Respite Care

Sunday School at a glance...

Adult Classes for Sunday, January 9, 2011

Visitors are welcome in all classes.

Dr. Biggs' Class - Greatest Bible Stories and Passages
College & Career - to be announced
Cornerstone - Linda Alegria, "Slow Down - Connect to God"
Disciples - to be announced
Ephphatha - to be announced
Heritage - Rev. Ken Tobler
Homebuilders - Dr. Ruth Weston, "Catholicism & Lutheranism"
Horizons - to be announced
Maranatha - Dr. Joel Panciera
New Covenant - Dr. Don Forsman
New Frontiers - Missy Barron
Pilgrimage - Brenda Reed
Roundtable - Dr. Bill Tankersley
Seek & Discover - Rev. Art McGrew, "Jesus Then & Now"
Wesley Fellowship - to be announced