



THE WORD

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Boston Avenue United Methodist Church
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Cookson Center grows to serve



These are just a few of the many children who are helped by the Cookson Hills Center.

"There's never a dull moment," says the Rev. Meri Whitaker, Director of the Cookson Hills Mission. Our church supports their work through Lights On for Cookson, a program to help pay ongoing expenses. Lights On concludes this Sunday, and is running behind due to bad weather. All donations will go to support the mission.

"Many at Boston Avenue know about our embroidery, T-shirt and door mat industries, but they may not know that we've started two new cottage industries.

"The first has to do with jewelry," she explains. "The owner of Name Brand Clothing in Tulsa is a United Methodist. He has hired two of our clients to sort, untangle, and repair jewelry so that he can then resell it. Both of these people

came through drug court, so it's extremely difficult for them to find a job anywhere else.

"At the same time," she continues, "we received six new kilns from five different places in just two weeks, and we had a mission team working with us from Montana that included a licensed electrician.

"We got the message. He fixed the electrical outlets, and we've just started making communion chalices with an Indian flair."

The mission is also planning to expand their child care offerings and children's programs as summer approaches. They continue to send snacks home for the children to sustain them through the weekends, in addition to meals at

(See "Cookson" on page 4A)

Profiles from the Pew

Living happily ever after ...

As we close out February, we want to share a love story with you. Boston Avenue members E. L. and Dorothy Thomas have lived "happily every after" for seventy-four years now, and counting

In 1934, during the Great Depression, 18-year-old E.L. Thomas's family lost everything they had in Texas, so his father moved them all to Tulsa. It turned out to be a good move, as E.L. spied Dorothy, a "good looking little blonde" sitting on the front row in his classroom at Central High School.

"I thought to myself, 'Boy! She's a pure doll.'" I didn't think I had a chance with her, as I was a county boy, you know, not a big city operator like a lot of those kids."

In fact, he had impressed her as well. "He had black hair and big brown eyes, and he talked so Texan," she remembers. "I thought he was really cute."

The two fell in love that summer, then continued dating through high school and Oklahoma School of Business. They were married February 25, 1937, at ages 19 and 20.

"We were young, dumb, and broke," says E.L., "but we loved each other and we both put our shoulders to the wheel."

"That's the secret," she agrees, "loving each other."

Both went to work, and E.L. took night classes at the University of Tulsa. In time he was promoted through oil and gas companies until he founded Thomas Exploration, and oil and gas operation, 56 years ago.

"There were lots of times that I was being blessed," he says. "It seems like God was guiding me, though I didn't always know it at the time."

Dorothy became a full-time mom when daughter Nanci (Calderwood) and son Roger came along, but volunteered 17 years at Children's Medical Center. The family grew to include three grandsons and four great grandchildren.

When asked about overcoming challenges, they agree there have been some, "but you have to overlook them," says Dorothy.

"I got a sweet girl,"
(See "Anniversary,"
page 4A)



E.L. and Dorothy Thomas



From the Pastor's Study

Mouzon Biggs, Jr.

Our church has certainly been blessed by the generosity of the Barton, Clinton and Gordey families that enable us to bring great scholars and pulpites to our church year after year. Even so, if you did not come in great numbers to hear them, that generosity would be wasted.

Thank you for supporting this year's speaker so wonderfully well. Dr. Robert E. Long blessed all of us who heard him preach and had time to visit with him and Marsha. He is certainly one of Methodism's very best.

Next year we have one of America's greatest scholars on the Hebrew Scriptures. His commentaries on *Genesis*, *Exodus*, *Isaiah* and *Psalms* are some of my most cherished books for researching sermon materials.

I can hardly wait for you to hear Dr. Walter Brueggemann.

* * * * *

This week's lection for the eighth Sunday in the Epiphany takes us again to "Deutero" or "Second" Isaiah, the one writing from exile in Babylon. He feels his call to comfort the exiles and then to lift their chins to a new hope. The sermon I am writing this week will be, "SEEING A PARADE IN A REFUGEE CAMP!"



2011 Barton Clinton Gordey Series enjoyed by all

Above, Dr. Robert Long visits with Boston Avenuers after the Monday evening presentation. Dr. Long was an excellent presenter and storyteller, and the crowd seemed to grow larger each evening!

The program staff enjoyed visiting with him at lunch on Monday, and the Disciple Bible students and alumni had just as good a time with him over lunch on Tuesday.

Thanks to the Maranatha and Horizons classes, to our youth and to Sharon Cambridge, Ethel McDorman, and their crew for excellent dinners on Monday and Tuesday evenings, and to our volunteers who served at the receptions following each evening presentation. The food was all delicious!

Mark your calendars for February 26-28, 2012. Dr. Walter Brueggemann will another excellent scholar and speaker!

Anniversary

(continued)

he says. "We just loved each other, and worked our problems out together.

The couple's biggest challenge came with daughter Nanci contracted polio as a teenager.

"We had a lot of sadness then," he remembers, "but God pulled us through.

"Pretty soon we couldn't keep up with her again," Dorothy adds.

It was Nanci who started visiting Boston Avenue with friends in 1949, then brought her parents along. "We liked it, so we joined," he says. "Dr. Galloway was a good preacher, and we've had good ones ever since."

The two also enjoyed years of playing golf together, often traveling to their home on Grand Lake to play a round or two before returning to work in Tulsa.

"If you laugh a lot, you're healthy a lot," he observes. "Most of us have so many blessings, we could never pay 'em back. If we can help a fellow man - brighten someone's day - we've done the right thing."

Cookson ...

(continued)

the mission.

Cookson helped 260 families - over 1,000 people - at Christmas, and now as spring approaches, garden seeds and baby chicks will soon be passed out so that the families can grow some of their own food.

"One of our day care teachers is taking a gardening class, and as part of the deal the sponsors will put in two raised gardens for us - one for our babies and one for our older children," Rev. Whitaker says. "They will learn to plant and raise vegetables that they can then eat here or take home with them.

"We also have a green house underway."

As the ministry increases, they are planning a new, story-and-a-half "Ministry Center" building to house ongoing programs, staff offices, the thrift store and Christmas store. The upstairs will house a computer lab and game room for children and youth.

B.A. family update

Baptisms



Lucy Ann Doyle, daughter of Dr. Sean and Sarah Doyle, was baptized Sunday, February 20, with Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr. officiating. She was born October 8, 2010. Proud relatives include her older sister Maggie; grandparents, Dr. Jon and Jane Phillips; and aunts and uncles, Michelle and John Hubner and Jennifer and Andy VanHanken.

Altar Flowers

Dr. and Mrs. Bruce C. Stoesser and children in loving memory of their parents and grandparents, **David T. and Dorothy Urmston** and **Paul N. and Kathryn E. Stoesser**.

In loving memory of **Newton G. Carver**, whose 92nd birthday would have been February 26th, by Dr. Marilyn Carver.

In celebration of **Lorene Kelly's** 100th birthday on February 25th, and in loving memory of **Dr. Dorsey Kelly** from their families and Joanne and Jerry Emmons.

Deaths

Claudia Powell died February 4, 2011. Services were held February 12 in Tulsa. Survivors include her sister, Aileen and Bob Winters.

Larry Houchin died February 10, 2011. Services were held February 22 at First United Methodist, Tulsa.

Survivors include his wife, Jola.

Elizabeth Glanz died February 11, 2011. Services were held February 15 in Tulsa. Survivors include her stepson, Wesley and Kathy Glanz, Jr., of Littleton, Colorado.

Michael Gorzkiewicz died February 14, 2011. Services were held February 18 in Indiana. Survivors include his parents, Tom and Nancy Gorzkiewicz of Broken Arrow.

Pauline Jones died February 15, 2011. Services were held February 18 at Boston Avenue with Dr. Bill Tankersley officiating. Survivors include her daughters, Melissa and David Pillars of Owasso, and Cynthia and David Caffey of Bixby.

Ray Masters died February 15, 2011. Services were held February 18 at Boston Avenue with Dr. Bill Tankersley officiating. Survivors include his son, Phil Masters of Perrysburg, Ohio, and daughter, Sherry and David Ashbaugh of Claremore.

Sally Jeffrey died February 16, 2011. Services were held February 19 at Boston Avenue with Dr. Bill Tankersley officiating. Survivors include her niece, Joyce and John Peace, Sand Springs.

Weddings

Lauren Ward Villalobos and **Jody Alan Worley** were married February 12, 2011 at Boston Avenue with Dr. Bill Crowell officiating.

Hospitalized Last Week

St. John - Stella Folsom
St. Francis - Brad Blake, Carl Cartwright, Carl Drew, Steve Eaton, Louise Jennings, Bill Montgomery, John Peterson, Ken Southard, Aileen Winters, Janice Witte

Meals to benefit Project Transformation

Panera Bread at 71st and Lewis is hosting a fundraiser night to benefit PT this Monday, February 28, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

If you eat dinner there and tell them you came to support Project Transformation, they will donate 10% of the proceeds to PT.

Project Transformation is a United Methodist-sponsored summer reading camp for inner city children. While it helps the students retain reading skills over the summer, it also helps college students experience leadership in ministry, and often revitalizes the host church as well.

Contact Debbie Peterson, 699-0124, for more information.

UMW News

By Janet McCutchen Graham

UMW Sunday will be March 6, and all women are invited to visit the UMW table in Bishops' Hall that day.

Nine circles representing members whose ages range from 10 years old through adulthood meet on a variety of days and times to suit most schedules.

Mission outreach is at the center of the organization, and the 2011 UMW Pledge to Missions totals \$6,800. The Cookson Hills Mission, Neighborhood Services Organization, and the University of Tulsa Wesley Foundation (lunches) also receive special offerings of money and hands-on-mission.

The Executive Committee will meet Thursday, March 3, at 9:30 a.m. in the Oxford Room.

Attention, graduating high school seniors!

May 22nd is Senior Recognition Sunday! We want to be sure that all graduating high school seniors are honored.

If you have not already received a senior information packet, please be sure to contact Audra Fogle - 699-0130 or audrafogle@bostonavenue.org - or Debbie Aycock - 699-0131 or debbieaycock@bostonavenue.org this week.

Scholarship applications are also available and are due soon.

Have a prayer request?

Call our prayer line at 699-0158

Lectionary Readings

February 27, 2011
The Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
Isaiah 55:10-13
Luke 6:39-49
1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Youth News!! . . .

Senior High news

Everyone gets the same 24 hours in our day. Choosing to help others means setting a priority on our time to use it for others!

This Sunday evening, we will be serving the evening meal at Redemption Church. I hope you will come and share your blessings with others!

Here's the plan:

- Meet at the church at 3:30 to cook
- Travel to Redemption Church at 5:00
- Serve Meal at 5:30
- Pick up at Boston Avenue around 6:30

Also Upcoming:

Famine Retreat! March 4-5, 7:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.. Watch Facebook, fourth floor and email for details! Cost \$20. Bringing friends is encouraged.

Camp Egan Work Overnight! March 25-26. Cost \$15. We will be painting and deep cleaning in Love Circle! Sleeping in the newly renovated McSpadden Building!

Lenten daily text devotional will arrive on your phone BEFORE school each morning for the forty days of Lent. If you want to receive them, we need your name and cell phone carrier. Text, email or Facebook and we will add you to the list. Blessed to be a Blessing! - Audra

6th, 7th and 8th Grade

Due to recent weather event cancellations, we have moved our Mid High Mosaics performance from March to April 2nd in Community Hall. Our cast will continue their rehearsals on Sundays after church. It is going to be a great show, so mark your calendar now for 2:00 on the afternoon of April 2nd. Tickets go on sale in March!

Last Wednesday at youth group, our guest speaker led us in a discussion of peer pressure and how we can use the teachings from the Bible to help us make wise decisions when it comes to negative peer pressure.

This week our topic is bullying, which seems to be a big nationwide problem. Come find out ways to deal with a bully this Wednesday at 7:00 on the third floor.

This Sunday morning is Confirmation Youth and Parent Sunday. Please plan on meeting in Jubilee Hall during the Sunday School hour. Cinnamon rolls and hot chocolate will be on the menu for refreshments.

Have a good week and, as our Barton Clinton Gordey speaker reminded us on Sunday morning, learn to love those people closest to you.

Loving you, Debbie

Gifts and Memorials

GENERAL ENDOWMENT
In memory of Billie and Bill Glenn

By: Opal Carson

In memory of Betty Zo Brown

By: Jim and Jean Denton

In memory of Pauline Jones

By: Gary and Susan Marrs

By: June Cleverdon

By: Dale and Vivian Wood

In memory of Ray Masters

By: June Cleverdon

By: Dale and Vivian Wood

In memory of Agnes Janco
By: Mr. and Mrs. Roger Coffey

In memory of Sally Jeffrey
By: Jean Gomez

MISSION ENDOWMENT

In memory of Sally Jeffrey
By: Wesley Fellowship Class

In memory of Dorothy Simpson

By: Wesley Fellowship Class

MEALS ON WHEELS

In memory of Ray Masters
By: Bob and Maxine Lees



Children's books are ready and waiting!

By the Rev. EvaMarie Campbell

Our Little Disciple's Library now has even more books on new shelves! Children participating in our Wednesday night LIFE Group last Wednesday had a great time getting the books out of boxes and bags and putting them on our new shelves, made by Lynn Bartlett and painted by Cecil Smith.

We currently have over 500 titles! ... and they have been arranged in an order that makes sense.

Now we need volunteers who would be willing to enter the titles into our new library computer, which was purchased recently with funds donated by various adult Sunday School classes.

Our children's librarian, Hays Van Hersh, has set up a great, user-friendly computer program. He just needs volunteers to enter the information for each book.

If you have time and would like to volunteer in the children's area, please contact me (evamariecampbell@bostonavenue.org or 699-0120) or Hays Van Hersh and we will get you started. Our children can't wait to check out a book with the new system!

Sunday Worship

February 27, 2011
The Eighth 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: "SEEING A PARADE IN A REFUGEE CAMP!"

Isaiah 55:10-13

Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr.

Music:

Prelude: Adagio Henry Ley
Dr. Susan Panciera, Organist

Anthem: God Be In My Head Andrew Carter
The Chapel Choir (8:30)

For You Shall Go Out In Joy Kent A. Newbury
The Chancel Choir (11:00)

Offertory: Capriccio Kevin McChesney
The Festival Ringers

Postlude: Alla Marcia Henry Coleman

Hymns: 100 God, Whose Love Is Reigning O'er Us
512 Stand By Me
505 When Our Confidence Is Shaken

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

Class News . . .

Cornerstone

Brian Green-Young will teach this Sunday on catch phrases/generalizations people make out of the Bible.

We welcomed Rebecca Petty as a visitor.

Ephphatha

TSHA Souper Sunday is Sunday, February 28 at the Spirit Center, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Mike Limas will teach this week on "Coming of the Son of Man."

We thank Carol Bean for her faithfulness as our teacher. We enjoyed her lesson "Jesus Came to Serve."

Heritage

David Carpenter will continue his series this Sunday on *Revelation*. We thank him for teaching us.

Please remember the Gorzkiewicz and May families.

The Perlingieres are celebrating an anniversary, and Ron Emmons is celebrating a birthday.

"Thanks to Cre Lewis for our refreshments. This week John Bradley will bring them.

Homebuilders

Thanks to Rev. Ken Tobler for his lesson on Paul's joyful *Letter to the Philippians*. We always gain so much from Ken's lessons.

This Sunday our Boston Avenue youth will report on their mission trip to Mexico.

We received gifts to missions from Margie Herndon for her picture in *The Word*, Norval Smith for his birthday, and Lloyd and Kathryn Parker for their anniversary.

Keep Ken and Betty Southard in your prayers as Ken continues to improve.

Adaline Garlington and Richard Gibbs led the singing. Thanks to Ralph Morgan for the coffee and Adaline Garlington for the treats.

Horizons

Thanks to the Robinetts for coordinating the spaghetti dinner. Thanks to all those who were there to support and help.

John Porter will be leading us in a special lesson this week.

Austin Bingham is celebrating a birthday.

Thanks to Tom McPherson

for the treats. The Raleys are signed up for this week.

Thank you to Debbie Aycock for planning the ladies' trip this past weekend.

Maranatha

Dinner for 8 groups are formed, but it's not too late if you would like to join one. Contact Skip or Paula Scott.

Our class will be supporting "Lights on for Cookson." Contact Denny Meredith-Orr for more information.

This Sunday Rev. Ken Tobler will be our teacher.

We welcomed visitors Derek Blankenship, Jessica Baggerman, and Rachel Tallent.

Happy birthday to Ginny Walker, Ray Latham, and Julee Embrey. Art and Karen Campbell are celebrating an anniversary.

Thanks to Karen Campbell for the prayer, and the Campbells and Tallents for the refreshments. This week Gary and Patti Smith and David and Susan Rose will provide them.

New Covenant

We appreciate Rev. Art McGrew, a member of our class, being our teacher this month.

Art talked to us about "What can we do for others." Ruth Boone and Dale Wood led the music, Gerry Arnold gave the prayer, and the Boones brought our treats.

New Frontiers

We will have a social at the Barrons' this Saturday, February 26. Watch your email for details.

Angie Hooper will be teaching again this week.

Last Sunday we finished our series on "3 Simple Rules."

Pilgrimage

We will be working on our Exodus House apartment this Saturday to get it ready for our new resident, Vicki Jones.

Our speaker last week, Jacques Cunningham, started our two-part lesson on Methodist Communion.

We welcomed Chad Higgins to class and look forward to his return.

Congratulations to Diana Grigg on the birth of her new

grandson, and to the Sheehans on the marriage of their son, Lance.

Roundtable

The Roundtable Class hosted a staff luncheon last Thursday. Our German Fasching Party is March 4 at 6:00 in the Maranatha classroom. Support "Project Transformation" by eating at Panera's at 71st and Lewis on February 28, 5:00-9:00 p.m.

This Sunday Marita Morgan will continue her lesson series on "Ten Gospel Promises for Later Life."

We welcomed Preston Fraser and hope he will return.

Valerie Judkins, Jerri Abbott, and John Goodenow are celebrating birthdays.

Seek and Discover

Eat at Panera's, 71st and Lewis, on February 28, 5:00-9:00 p.m. and say "I support Project Transformation." Some of the money will go to them.

This week Jennifer Smith will continue explaining facts about the Gnostic gospels.

Jeanne Boone's devotional reminded us to react with kindness when things go wrong.

Wesley Fellowship

Sixty-six were present to sing hymns, followed by announcements.

Our potluck supper will be March 17 in Community Hall. Paul Reagan reminded us to sign up for dinners for eight for the month of March.

We had two guests, Robyn Rontal from Michigan and Jennifer Monge from New Mexico, daughters of the Reagans.

Happy birthday to Jackie Hammerschmidt, Harry Wallace, Bud Langdon and Virginia Woodard. Walter and Peggy Gary celebrated a wedding anniversary.

We were all saddened by the death of Sally Jeffrey. For many years she was the smiling face that greeted us at the secretary's desk. Prayers are needed for Dan Rogers, John Peterson, and Aileen Winters.

Evangelism was the topic of Howard Plowman's lesson. We look forward to his return Sunday. Blessings!

Christian education begins early

At right, Dr. Bill Crowell visits with children in our Weekday Preschool during Children's Chapel last week. Chapel provides a great way for them to learn more about God's world and God's love.



Weekly Calendar

Sunday - February 27, 2011

8:30 a.m. Worship service
9:30 Communion service
9:40 Sunday School & Faith Academy
10:40 Children's worship
11:00 Worship service
12:00 noon Mid-High Mosaic
12:10 p.m. Communion and Service of Healing
2:00 Christian Believer
3:00 God & Country study for children

Monday - February 28

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
10:00 Invitation to John
6:00 Men's basketball practice
6:30 Jesus in the Gospels
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 20

Tuesday - March 1

9:00 Weekday School
9:00 Overview of the Bible
5:30 p.m. Sr. High basketball

Wednesday - March 2

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
1:30 p.m. Great Decisions class
2:00 Pastoral Epistles Class
5:00 Snack Supper
5:00 Jubilation Ringers
5:00 Capriccio Ringers

5:30 New Frontiers Class study
5:30 Planning for Parents class
5:50 Festival Ringers
6:00 Chapel Choir
6:00 LIFE Group for children
6:30 Yoga class
7:00 DTBA
7:00 Mosaic Dress Rehearsal
7:00 Carillon Ringers
7:00 Chorister Ringers
7:30 Chancel Choir

Thursday - March 3

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
9:30 Program Staff
Calendar Meeting

9:30 UMW Executive Committee

5:30 p.m. Celebration Ringers
5:30 Senior High boys basketball
6:00 PCCT Parenting Classes
6:30 Weekday Staff Meeting
7:00 Mosaic Dress Rehearsal

Friday - March 4

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
5:30 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous
7:00 Mosaic Dress Rehearsal

Saturday - March 5

12:00 noon Mid Hi boys' basketball practice
2:00 Mosaic Performance

Sunday School at a glance...

Adult Classes for Sunday, February 27, 2011

Visitors are welcome in all classes.

Dr. Biggs' Class - Dr. Bob Long will teach

College & Career - to be announced

Cornerstone - Brian Green-Young

Disciples - to be announced

Heritage - David Carpenter, *Revelation*

Homebuilders - Rev. Ken Tobler, "Holy Life"

Horizons - Dr. Bob Long (with Dr. Biggs's class)

Maranatha - Rev. Ken Tobler, "Good Friday: It's Important"

New Covenant - Rev. Art McGrew

New Frontiers - Angela Hooper, "Three Simple Rules"

Pilgrimage - Jacques Cunningham, "Methodist Communion"

Roundtable - Marita Morgan, "Ten Gospel Promises"

Seek & Discover - Jennifer Smith, "Gnostic Gospels"

Wesley Fellowship - Dr. Howard Plowman, "Favorite Passages"