



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**



**Backpack
blessing 4A**



**Sunday School
8A**

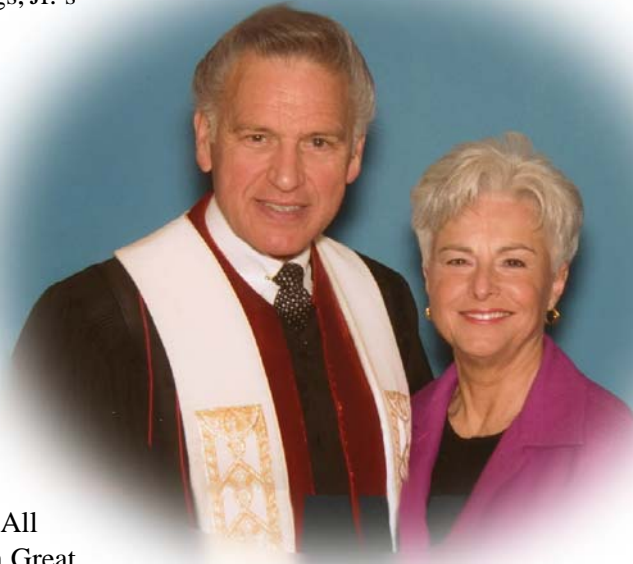
Join us to honor Dr. Biggs on August 22nd, Great Day at B.A.!

Next Sunday, August 22 - Great Day at B.A. - will mark Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr.'s 30th anniversary as our senior minister.

He has asked that we not host a special celebration, but your church staff would like to invite everyone to be in worship that Sunday to honor and thank him for 30 years of outstanding ministry with our congregation.

All Sunday School class members will be invited to write a note to him and Gayle this Sunday on large pads of paper that will be provided in each classroom. All of those sheets will be displayed in Great Hall on Great Day at B.A., and paper will be available for notes that day as well.

In keeping with our theme this year, the sheets will ask everyone to write a verb that describes Dr. Biggs's ministry at B.A.



Dr. Mouzon and Gayle Biggs

Downtown for Good: our church is a verb!

Next Sunday, August 22nd, is Great Day at B.A.! This year's theme is ***Downtown for Good: Our Church is a VERB!***

In addition to honoring Dr. Biggs on his 30th anniversary at our church, B.A. members will again be asked to reach out to the Tulsa community, especially during this year's Downtown for Good local mission event on October 30.

Great Day also marks the kickoff of the annual Sunday School attendance campaign for all ages. There will be special activities for all children and youth.

Preschool children will be promoted to their new classes for the coming year, and elementary school-age children will enjoy special activities in their rotation classes.

Sixth graders and any other confirmands and their parents will officially begin the confirmation year with a covenant ceremony led by the

Rev. Guy Langston in Rose Chapel at 9:40 a.m.

Seventh and eighth graders will meet together on the third floor at 9:40, then all middle school students are invited to Cosmic Bounce U from 2-4:00 p.m.

Senior High will enjoy a celebration and brunch at 9:40 on the fourth floor, then they are all invited to live out church as a verb at Multiply and Give It Away Day from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Adult visitors are especially welcome in all Sunday School classes, and registration tables will be set up in Bishops' Hall for all Bible study classes. Volunteers will be on hand to answer questions.

Watch *The Word* for more information next week, and be sure to attend your Sunday School class on Great Day at B.A., August 22nd. Your presence will help make it a Great Day for Dr. Biggs, his family, and for our entire church!

Enrollment begins Sunday

Bible study classes set

Enrollment begins Sunday morning in Bishops' Hall for the following Bible study classes. Classes begin the week of September 13

Full Disciple Bible Study courses (30-32 weeks):

Disciple I - Mondays, 6:15 p.m. - taught by DeAnn McArtor

Jesus in the Gospels - taught by Sue Venable on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. beginning September 20th

Christian Believer - Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. - taught by Carol Grim and Judy Rowell

Overview of the Bible (James Efird Series) - taught by John Crowell on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

Short courses (8-10 weeks)

Timothy & Titus - Dr. Don Forsman, Wednesdays, 2:00 p.m.

Invitation to Romans, by Dr. David Robbins, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Invitation to New Testament, led by Marian Sexton on Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:30, beginning October 19th

Invitation to Genesis - Rob Morgan - Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Invitation to John - led by Sheila Van Hersh on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. - *begins Feb 28th, 2011*

Music at Boston Avenue: too important to be left just to "experts"!

By Dr. Joel Panciera

I wish I had a dime for every time a Boston Avenuer has told me, "Oh, sorry . . . we (and/or my child) are not musical. Choir is for the 'musical' people."

In fact, the evidence points to quite the contrary. I believe that **each of us** is created and internally wired to be a musical creature. Since prehistoric times, humans have always expressed their deepest thoughts and prayers to the divine in song. When plain words fall short, music pulls us toward the divine. When we neglect to develop this precious gift, we close a path to God.

Many scientific studies have compared the health of adults who sing regularly (two or more times a week) with those who do not. Researchers have found that adults who sing regularly:

- 1) have more efficient respiratory systems (better oxygenation of cells) and stronger immune systems,
- 2) report fewer incidences of depression, fewer trips to the doctor, and fewer prescribed medications,
- 3) report a markedly higher ability to cope with stress or pain.

Hebrew and Christian scriptures are filled with admonitions to "sing to the Lord." Not once do we read, "Sing to the Lord, ye people with musical talent!" When Christians gather and sing our faith, we experience true community, we experience the Holy Spirit, and we develop the gifts that God wired into us to grow in faith.

(See "Music" on page 5A)



From the Pastor's Study

Mouzon Biggs, Jr.

The three synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) describe the Passover meal on Thursday night of Jesus' last week as instituting the Lord's Supper. They each describe what happened and what was said.

John focuses on that last night as the time Jesus washed the feet of the disciples, modeling for them *agape* love, the willingness to put oneself out for the well-being of another.

Early in his gospel, John uses the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 to discuss the Lord's Supper. He records Jesus as saying, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you."

In the small east Texas Methodist church where I grew up we had an older couple everyone called, "Ms. Eunice and Mr. Emmitt." When I was in elementary school, I and others saw them as a third set of grandparents. They were warm and caring and fun, so I noticed the fact that when we had communion, Mr. Emmitt never participated.

One Sunday I geared up my courage and quietly asked him, "Mr. Emmitt, why don't you take communion with us?"

He said, "It takes a better man than I am to go to the Lord's table."

I knew that wasn't right. The sermon I am writing this week will be, "PLEASE, MR. EMMITT, COME TO THE TABLE!"

B.A. family update

Baptisms



Sarah Danielle Looper Hudson, daughter of Ivy Looper and Ed Hudson, was baptized Sunday with Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr. officiating. She was born on April 6, 2009.

Altar Flowers

In honor of our granddaughter, **Caroline Briggs**, on her 6th birthday on August 19th by Mary Lou and Sam Daniel.

In memory of our sister, **Mary Penny**, and our parents, **Mr. and Mrs. Carl Leonard Sr.**, and **Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Fryer**, by Carl and Friday Leonard.

Deaths

Bert Tyler died August 4, 2010. Services were held August 9 at Boston Avenue with Dr. Bill Tankersley officiating. Survivors include his wife, Sybil; daughters, Laurie and William Wilson of Collierville, Tennessee, and Christie and Ian Forbes of Kissimmee, Florida; and two grandchildren.

Births

Miller William Dick was born August 7, 2010 at St. Francis Hospital to Meg and Colby Dick.

Hospitalized Last Week

St. John - Ron Gray, Ruth Miller

St. Francis - Frank Cox, Paul Fitzgerald, Jack Wynn

St. Francis Children's Hospital - Meg Dick, Miller Dick

University of Virginia Medical Center - Paul Dennison

Worshippers show generosity in July

Boston Avenue worshippers were generous givers to the missions highlighted during July Mission Emphasis Month. Donations to each mission were as follows:

Child SHARE and Stork's Nest - thirteen bags of donations and \$155 total in cash donations.

Cookson Hills - 21 bags of items, plus \$1345.50 in cash.

Domestic Violence Intervention Service (DVIS) - 14 bags of donated items and \$312.50.

Community Food Bank - 25 bags of donated food and \$312.50 in cash

In addition, several bags of school supplies and \$312.50 were donated for Restore Hope Ministries, Cookson Hills Mission, and B.A. families in need.

Thanks, B.A.!

A big "thanks" from your brother Paul

We have such an amazing faith community here at Boston Avenue! I always knew that about our church, but recently I have received such a profound outpouring of kindness and support that words can never adequately describe the love and gratitude I have for you, my church family.

As many of you know, I was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma B on June 30th. This came as such a surprise that I am still processing the reality of the situation. I know some of you can relate all to well.

Fortunately, this type of cancer is very treatable and the prognosis is good, but I do have some chemotherapy work ahead.

The staff was immediately there for my family and me. I can't tell you what an amazing staff we have. As soon as the news spread, I began receiving a tsunami of cards, calls, and visits that so warmed my heart. I cannot thank you enough.

I have truly felt your prayers so lovingly lifted up on my behalf. You are extensions of God's grace through your intense kindness. God bless you.

Adult Sunday School classes

Cornerstone (Room J120)

Primarily couples in their 20's and 30's with or without children. A great opportunity to get to know other young people in the church. Insightful lecture and discussion classes explore faith issues.

New Frontiers Room (J230)

Married couples and singles, late 20's through late 30's, with and without young children. Class emphasis on Methodism and personal faith development. Excellent social activities and mission projects.

Horizons Room (J220)

Couples and singles, age 30's and 40's with and without children. Class studies of Methodism, personal relationships, spiritual enrichment. Socials and mission activities are a great way to make friends.

Disciples Room (J228)

A small class for single and married, age 40's and 50's, involved with their families and professions. Class focus is on meaningful fellowship and group discussions — thought-provoking topics.

Maranatha Room (J221)

Couples and singles primarily age 40's and 50's involved in their professions and families. Study, discussion, missions and social activities in a setting of good, caring fellowship.

Pilgrimage (Little Dining Room)

Primarily couples ages 55 to 75, with children, but all are welcome. Friendly meetings (coffee and donuts weekly!) designed to question, challenge, and better understand our faith in the world.

Heritage (Room J229)

Couples and singles, late 50's to mid 70's with positive outlook on life. Our lesson topics include Bible study and social concerns. We enjoy monthly socials and welcome anyone seeking a caring group.

Seek & Discover Room (J128)

Single and married adults age 30's through 60's, seeking spiritual growth. A discussion format is used to study topics related to the Bible. Class socials are scheduled many times throughout the year.

Roundtable (J227)

Couples and singles who are "forever 50." Wide range of topics. A caring class with socials, service projects and outreach activities. Visitors are always welcome for fun, food, friendship and fellowship.

Homebuilders Room (J222)

Couples and singles, upper 50's and above. Lectures and discussions on many different study topics as well as the Adult Bible Study series. We enjoy regular socials and outreach activities.

New Covenant (Asbury Room)

Couples and singles, 60's and above. All ages welcome. Teachers include retired and active ministers and lay leaders; curriculum based on living in our world. Frequent service projects and social gatherings.

Wesley Fellowship (Community Hall)

Couples and singles in their late 60's and up. Study topics are chiefly biblical. Lecture and discussion. Frequent social events.

Ephphatha (Oxford Room)

A class composed of hearing-impaired persons with the Bible taught through sign language and opportunities for fellowship. The Rev. Mary Ann Emmons is the Staff Representative.

Dr. Biggs' Bible Class (Sanctuary)

A class for adults of all ages taught by Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr. A verse-by-verse study of favorite Bible passages and stories.

UMW News

By Janet McCutchen Graham

The **2010 UMW Mission Tea** will be Thursday, September 16, from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the home of Mary Wheeler and Spencer Brown, 1327 East 26th Street.

Joy Circle met August 9. Circle of Grace member Meg Dick had a son, Miller William Dick, on Saturday, August 7. Mother and son are doing well.

Gifts and Memorials

MISSION ENDOWMENT In memory of Esther Morrow

By: June Barber
BABA FUND In memory of Darrell Grissom, father of Darlene Tegeler

By: Heritage Class

COC barbecue to celebrate children

By Janet McCutchen Graham

A barbecue and dessert cookoff are part of Circle of Care's friendraiser event, "Celebrating God's Children," on Saturday, September 18, 4-8:00 p.m. at Faith UMC. The event will share information about COC's Children's Home, Boy's Ranch, Child SHARE for foster care and Pearl's Hope for homeless families.

District Superintendent Rev. Mike Chaffin will be master of ceremonies. There will also be a silent auction and a drawing for a quilt. Contact Jan Graham, 583-8615 to help in any way with the festival.

Have a prayer request?

Call our prayer line at 699-0158

Lectionary Readings

August 15, 2010

Psalm 22:23-31
 Genesis 9:8-17
 Mark 8:31-38
 Romans 4:13-25

Youth News!! . . .

Senior High news

GREAT DAY AT BA UPDATE: Our Church is a VERB Do you mean it? REALLY mean it? *Willing to make it a priority?* Even if it means a little more work? If so, I challenge you, senior high, to put your money and your time where your mouth is... We will have played this month at swim parties, going out to eat and games. - Now let's take our excitement for the new year and PUT IT INTO ACTION!!

On Sunday, August 22nd- Bring \$5 (or more if you can afford it) and a willing heart. We will be attempting to quadruple our JESUS POWER! If we have 50 people- then it is our goal to help 200 people during our afternoon together. *Our verbs for the day are MULTIPLY and GIVE it away!!*

PUT THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR:

AUGUST 22nd 3:30-5:30

MULTIPLY and GIVE it away day! No excuses. Get your homework done and ask off from work - it's GOD's time!

Other Upcoming Youth Builders:

Sunday, August 15th - Sunday School 9:40 in 420 BAY TROUPE tryouts (Full information on our church website!)

Wednesday, August 18 - 7:00-8:30 Dinner at El Guapo (bring your own money for dinner and we'll meet by the blue couches at 7:00)

Sunday, October 22- GREAT DAY AT B.A.! Sunday Morning brunch and celebration 9:40 in 420 MULTIPLY and GIVE It Away Day - 3:30-5:30. (Meet by the blue couches at 3:30)

Looking for other verbs to describe who we are! Audra

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade

The last days of summer are quickly approaching, but that does not mean the end of all the good times. We have lots of fun planned for you this year at Boston Avenue! I am hoping you will come and be part of all we have to offer. My head is filled with calendars as I write in all of the service projects, worship, and fellowship dates for mid-high.

Check these out.....

August 15....Sunday morning *Ben Pascoe* will be your Sunday School leader. I think you will find the topic interesting and thought-provoking. Last chance to spend the morning with Ben before he leaves for college! Join him in 320 (registration forms are due for Bounce-U)

August 22...Great Day at B.A. Sunday morning! Special service for Confirmands and parents at 10:00 and 7th and 8th grade will meet together in 320. Everyone is invited to *Cosmic Bounce-U* from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

August 29...Acolyte Training for Confirmands and *Parent Orientation* at noon, then a "Back to School" swim party from 2:00 to 4:00 for all mid high youth.

September 1....Wednesday programing begins..whoohoo! We get to meet as a youth group and I am really looking forward to our time together..I have missed YOU!

Enjoy the rest of your summer and I will see you at church! Faithfully yours, Debbie

Cotton Patch Gospel set August 20-22

Tulsa Repertory Musicals (TRM) will present the bluegrass musical *Cotton Patch Gospel*, a modern retelling of the familiar stories from the *Gospel of Matthew*, at Tulsa Little Theatre, 1511 S. Delaware. Performances begin August 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee at 2:00 p.m. on August 22. Tickets are \$15, with a discounted rate of \$10 for seniors, youth, or groups.

Call 744-7340 or visit TulsaMusicals.com for more information. Proceeds help fund arts performances in Tulsa Public Schools.



Blessings of Backpacks is Sunday

All elementary school children are invited to bring their backpacks and lunch boxes to church this Sunday for a special blessing service as school begins. The service is part of the Awesome August lineup for children.

After the brief service the children will have an opportunity to make name tags for their backpacks. All are welcome!

Music ... (continued)

Music's ability to express our deepest thoughts and feelings is undeniable. Anyone who knows someone struggling with Alzheimer's can attest to music's power to mold and shape the mind and heart. When even the names of close family fade from view, Alzheimer's patients can still remember the words to songs sung decades ago. What songs would you like for your children to embed in their hearts? The choice is yours.

I urge you to enroll yourself and your children in one or more of B.A.'s music ministry groups (visit www.bostonavenue.org's music page). We are blessed with excellent leaders and vibrant communities that will nurture your faith as you "sing praise to God" and experience the benefits of serving in music ministry.

Sunday Worship

August 15, 2010
 The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Communion Service

9:40 a.m. Sunday School

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

Sermon: "PLEASE, MR. EMMITT, COME TO THE TABLE!"

John 6:52-59

Dr. Mouzon Biggs, Jr.

Music:

Prelude: AndanteSamuel Sebastian Wesley
 Dr. Susan Panciera, Organist

Offertory: O Bread of Life from HeavenRaymond Haan

Anthem: Lord of Life and King of GloryM. Grancini
 The Chapel Choir (8:30)

Dearest Jesus, Draw Thou Near MeL. Stanley Glarum
 The Chancel Choir (11:00)

Communion Music: Psalm 23H. W. Zimmermann
 Linda and Marc Frazier, soloists (8:30 & 11:00)

Postlude: VoluntaryHenry Smart

Hymns: 98 To God Be the Glory
 634 Now Let Us from This Table Rise

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

Class News . . .

Cornerstone

We're all looking forward to our cookout at the Barrow's home. Hope you can come.

Colby and Meg welcomed little Miller William on August 7. Congratulations.

Disciples

Last week we discussed the Nooma video "Rain." Thanks to Helen Harris for leading. This week we continue the series.

Thanks to the Chastangs for bringing treats. The Daniels will bring them Sunday.

Heritage

Missionaries Sam Presley and Mike Owens recounted their experiences in Columbia. They emphasized blessings that comes with serving on a mission team.

Dr. Joel Panciera will be with us next week. Keep Barbara Berkclacy and J. C. Cahill in your prayers. Happy birthday to Richard Bingham and happy anniversary to the Grahams.

Welcome to our visitors, Curtis and Ann Culver.

The Grahams furnished treats. Dick Harrison will bring them this Sunday.

Remember our next gathering on August 20th at the German-American Society.

Homebuilders

Remember we serve at the Day Center for the Homeless on September 22.

This week Dr. Tankersley will teach on the persecution of Christians by the Romans. He taught on the Roman Empire games last week.

Richard Gibbs gave to missions

Keep Norval Smith, Paul Fitzgerald, Bob Bowker, and Marilyn and Steven Been in your prayers, as well as Norean Hardin on the death of her brother.

Margie Herndon and Joanna Tuers led our music, Liz Smith provided treats, and Lynn Bartlett made the coffee. We had 29 present.

Horizons

We will have a class meeting this Sunday and we need your help. Please consider how you can serve our

class. The Fernandezes will bring our treats.

Happy birthday to Sarah Kelly and William Elliott.

Happy anniversary to the McPhersons.

Thanks to Joel Panciera for sharing his lesson on music last week.

We look forward to seeing many of you. Let's catch up.

Maranatha

Our 30th anniversary dinner is August 20 at 6:00 in Community Hall. Send photos to Pam Low.

This Friday, August 13, we will serve at the Day Center for the Homeless. August 22 is Great Day and Dr. Biggs 30th anniversary at B.A.

Welcome to former member Melanie Evans.

Happy birthday to Gene Martin and Don Forsman. Jim McCann and Angie Dale, Kevin and Barbara Meehan, Rob and Frieda Reck, Paul and Ruth Giessen, and Rob and Suzy Morgan are celebrating anniversaries.

Keep Jim Seymour in your prayers on the death of his mom. Also remember Richard Payton's mom and aunt, Kirk Place's mom, and Michelle's grandmother.

Thanks to Ed Payton for the prayer, and the Goodwins and Pascoes for our goodies.

New Covenant

Our class will provide money for two meals at the Day Center for the Homeless this fall.

We welcomed former members Jerry and Joanne Emmons and her mother as guests.

Celebrating birthdays in August are Bob McCarley, Joan DeVilbiss, Ray Masters, Don Forsman, Gerry Arnold, and Ron Gray.

Dr. Crowell was our teacher. The hymn "Blessed Assurance" was led by Bob Lees and Sue Brothers. Vivian and Dale Wood brought the treats.

Several class members need our prayers, including Marge Pence, Betty McCarley, Jake Lowen, and Don Forsman.

Pilgrimage

Are you looking for a way to deepen your understanding of our faith? There will be nine different Bible study classes offered here at Boston Avenue this fall. Check them out.

It was great to have Deidra back in class. Keep her in your prayers.

Thanks to Jacques for his lesson on the repentance-forgiveness cycle. He will be our speaker again this Sunday.

Roundtable

Great Day at BA is August 22. Our class's Golden Anniversary is November 12-14.

This week Bill Gaddis will teach on the First Amendment. Joanne and John Colbert will bring our refreshments.

Cecil Martin, Gail Woodley, and Heidi Leon are celebrating birthdays.

Dr. David Robbins taught last week on the parable of the sower.

Burt Tyler will be missed. Our prayers are with Sybil and her family.

Seek and Discover

Let's rally everyone to be here for the Great Day at B.A. and the attendance campaign. Let's keep our winning record, and grow spiritually too.

Sandra's knees are much improved.

Jeanne Boone shared a devotional about our simple gifts being among the Wonders of the World.

Wesley Fellowship

Harold and Phillelle led us in song. Laura and John Peterson shared a fine devotional, and Brenda Reed had a fine lesson. What a busy lady, with so many talents. Thank you, Brenda.

Remember Burroughs school supplies. Our ice cream social has been reset for September. Watch for the date.

Jack Wynn is doing well. Hold him and others in prayer.

We had 63 worshipping and sharing stories and fellowship. Join us this week. Shalom.

Young Adults

This week we will join Cornerstone to hear about their teacher's personal faith journey and how she sees God at work in her day-to-day life.



A great place to "dig deeper"

Dr. Don Forsman, above, is just one of many excellent teachers who regularly lead adult Sunday School classes at B.A. All of our associate ministers and several retired ministers teach classes regularly, in addition to knowledgeable lay teachers. Dr. Biggs teaches every week in the sanctuary. Visitors are always welcome in all of the classes!

Weekly Calendar

Sunday - August 15, 2010

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:30 Communion Service
9:40 Awesome August for kids
9:40 Confirmation Class
9:40 Sunday School
10:40 Children's Worship
11:00 Worship Service
12:00 noon Oklahoma Methodist
Manor luncheon
12:10 p.m. Communion and
Service of Healing
12:30 BAY Troupe auditions
Monday - August 16
9:00 a.m. Weekday School
6:00 p.m. Men's basketball
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 20
6:45 Child S.H.A.R.E.
Support Group

Tuesday - August 17

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
12:00 noon Weight loss group
7:00 p.m. Postpartum Support

Wednesday - August 18

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
1:30 p.m. UMW Tea Committee
6:00 Chapel Choir
6:30 Yoga class
7:30 Chancel Choir

Thursday - August 19

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
10:00 Program Staff
6:00 p.m. PCCT Parenting
Classes

Friday - August 20

9:00 a.m. Weekday School
5:30 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous

Sunday School at a glance...

*Adult Classes for Sunday, August 15, 2010
Visitors are welcome in all classes.*

Dr. Biggs' Class - Greatest Bible Stories and Passages
Cornerstone - Faith story
Disciples - Nooma series
Ephphatha - to be announced
Heritage - Dr. Joel Panciera
Homebuilders - Dr. Bill Tankersley, "The Kingdom of God"
Horizons - class meeting
Maranatha - Keith Madden, "The Crusades"
New Covenant - Dr. Bill Crowell, "History of Christianity"
New Frontiers - Angela Hooper
Pilgrimage - Jacques Cunningham, "Forgiveness"
Roundtable - Bill Gaddis, "First Amendment"
Seek & Discover - Dr. Howard Plowman, "Growing Holy"
Wesley Fellowship - Brenda Reed
Young Adults - Faith stories with Cornerstone