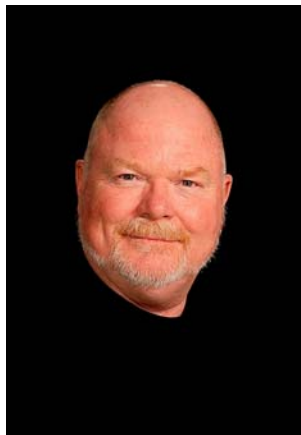


WESLEY

WINDOW

Wesley United Methodist Church
Shawnee, Oklahoma

February 23rd, 2009



Dr. Marvin Hudson

Tom Bandy

Will be us soon.

Quite literally, in the next few days, Tom Bandy will be in house with us for the interactive phase of our consultation. He brings with him a tremendous amount of experience and expertise in the areas of strategic planning, turn around strategies, visioning, and processes of mission field analysis. During his time here, he will be constantly interacting with groups, committees, and ministry personnel at Wesley.

A highlight of the time here will be the plenary sessions each evening when Tom will present church changing information to our entire congregation. From experience, I know that this is an energizing event for every person within the church. I believe that Wesley will come out of it with a level of enthusiasm for our future and clarity of direction that we may well not have seen for some time.

So what is your role?

First, tune your spirit to the coming event. Pray for our church, our consultant, and our future. Be open to what God can do in our midst. We are a good church with significant potential. That potential may best be actualized as we get on the same page together.

Second, Reserve that weekend to be a part of the event. We truly need every Wesley member to be in each of the plenary sessions Saturday evening, Sunday evening, and Monday evening. In these sessions, that we will have the best opportunity as a collective group to gain new knowledge about ideas, principles, and actions that are crucial to our future.

Third, examine the schedule for the weekend. Many of you set on groups that will be meeting with Tom at various times over the three days. Do not miss your time. Our consultant needs your feedback and insight as he formulates his findings related to our church family.

Please consider the weekend of March 6-9 as a sacred offering to the Lord on behalf of your church. As United Methodists, we covenant to serve God with our prayers, presence, gifts, and service. This is a prime opportunity to live out that covenant on behalf of Wesley.

Blessings,

Marvin

Wesley's website—
www.wesleyumcshawnee.org

Dr. Marvin Hudson,
Senior Minister

Rev. Kris Steele,
Associate Minister

Lindsay Burress
Youth Director

Joel Deichman
Music Director

Sandra Meyer
Organist/Pianist

Pamela Torrick,
Administrative Assistant

Patti Pixley, Editor,
Wesley Window

Janet Henry,
Nursery &
Parents Day Out
Director

Mike Deer, Building Manager

WESLEY WINDOW



Sympathy to.....

The family of John H. "J.H." Wardchow, who passed away on February 5th. He is survived by his wife, Etta-Jo, son and daughter-in-law, Timothy Jay and Nancy of Bethel Acres; daughter and son-in-law, Gerallyn and Charles Humphrey of Macomb. Services were Monday, February 9th.

The family of Vivian Marie Logan, who passed away on February 15th. Miss Logan was a member of Wesley, UMW, Triple-C Harvester Class, OBOE's and Super Adults. Services were on Wednesday February 18th. Memorials may be made to Wesley's UMC Circle of Care or charity of choice.

Spring WRC Scholarship Recipients

Following are the list of students who received scholarship funds from the WRC Scholarship funds.

Part Time:

Michael Whyman and Katie Landes.

Full Time: Lauren Bristow, Sarah Marchetti, Lisa Watson, Chris Whyman and Amber Baker.



On February 15th, 2009, Pastor Marvin Hudson baptized **Mackenzie Steele** as her parents, Kris and Kellie Steele, family and friends look on.



Patti Pixley Newsletter Editor

In these economic times, we find ourselves making cuts in our life styles and the church finds itself no exception. As explained in the previous newsletter we will only be mailing out one newsletter at the end of each month. The other newsletter will be done via email and available for pickup in the church narthex (with the exception of our shut-ins, who will continue to be mailed.)

The dates for the mail out are listed below.

March 23rd, April 27th, May 27th, June 22nd, July 27th, August 24th, September 28th, October 26th, November 23rd and December 28th. By selecting these dates this assures you of getting the monthly calendar in time to make plans. The dates for the other newsletter will vary according to need and somewhere in between to give as much coverage as possible.

I have also listed the costs associated with the newsletter printing which I think will give you a better overview.

Paper (4 page spread)	\$16.49
Ink .01 per page	5.00
Master's .75 per page	3.00
Labels for Mailing	.10
Postage (Current Mailing)	25.36
Permit (Based on one per month)	15.00
Total:	\$64.95

We received a newsletter from Church of the Servant in Oklahoma City and they also are making cutbacks. They will no longer have TV Media and would like to get as many as possible on email. Please notify the church office if you would like to be added to our email list.

Hopefully this will help, if you have any questions please feel free to ask.

Office Needs...

The church office shredder is no longer working. Does anyone have a shredder they would like to donate to the church?



Wesley Consultation Schedule

Saturday, March 7

- 9:00 a.m. Meet with Pastor and Associate and full staff.
10:30 Meet with Worship, Evangelism, and hospitality leaders.
11:30 Luncheon with New Members, recent members, and former members.
- 1:00 p.m. Meet with Children's Council and Sunday School Staff.
2:30 Meet with Youth Council and Youth Sponsors.
4:00 Reflection time for Tom.
5:00 Dinner with Clergy, EBA Team and selected leaders
- 7:00 Session with Wesley Congregation.**

Sunday, March 8

- 9:00 Tom observes Wesley in the education/fellowship hour and in Morning worship.
12:00 Lunch with clergy and Key Leaders who were at the previous evening's plenary session.
(Limit to about fifteen persons).
- 1:30 Meet with Music Staff, Choir and Praise Team.
2:45 Meet with Trustees and Finance/Stewardship.
4:00 Reflection time for Tom.
5:00 Dinner with Clergy and SPRC.
- 7:00 Session with Wesley congregation.**

Monday, March 9

- 9:00 Meet with Missions and Outreach.
10:00 Meet with Senior Adults
12:00 Lunch with Pastors, staff, and key leaders who attended the previous plenary training session.
- 2:00 Meet with UMW and UMM groups.
3:00 Meetings as requested by Tom.
5:00 Dinner with Clergy and EBA team.
- 7:00 Exit interview with the Wesley congregation.**



Stewardship...a way of life!

Many Americans live with two opposite feelings. On one hand, they want to experience meaning and purpose in their lives. On the other hand, they often feel that they are running on empty.

In his classic novel, *Les Miserables*, Victor Hugo tells us how to eliminate that second feeling. The bishop befriends Jean Valjean and gives him lodging. Valjean repays that kindness by stealing the bishop's valuable candlesticks. After the bishop reports the theft, the police magistrate questions Valjean in the bishop's presence. As the interrogation progresses, Valjean seems headed for jail. At that point, the bishop unexpectedly retracts his charges and offers a plausible reason for why the candlesticks are missing.

Jean Valjean is amazed. When he and the bishop are alone, he says, "Why did you do that? You know I am guilty."

The bishop replies, "Life is for giving."

Why do churches receive an offering in their worship services? Some people say, "Because the church needs the money." That is only part of the answer. Even if a wealthy benefactor fully underwrote our congregation's expenses, we would still need to provide people with the opportunity to give an offering in our worship services. Weekly giving teaches us—and reminds us because we keep forgetting—that life without unselfish giving is life without meaning and purpose.

Victor Hugo is right. Life is for giving.

Stewardship is not an annual financial campaign but a way of life!

Sunday Evening Discipleship Ministry

On March 8th there will be NO evening studies or dinner. This will allow everyone to attend the Bandy Study meetings.

Wesley United Methodist Church January 2009 General Fund

Income	
Contributions	\$ 27247.23
Other Income	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 27247.23

Expenses	
Administration	\$ 27324.15
Apportionments	\$ (0.07)
Christian Education	\$
Communication	\$ 46.00
Evangelism	\$
Facility Maintenance	\$ 2513.34
Grounds	\$
Insurance	\$
Office & Support	\$ 188.64
Outreach	\$
Parsonage	\$
Sunday Evenings	\$
Vans	\$ 49.14
Worship	\$ 66.40
Youth / Children	\$
Total	\$ 30187.60
Net Income	\$ (2940.37)

Thank You!

Just a note to say thank you to the Faith Circle for the nice Valentine's package mother received in the mail. She really enjoyed it. Please make sure they know her address in Atoka as it went to Durant and was sent here. Of course, it worked well as she had been in the hospital for 10 days, and she would not have been able to enjoy it on the 14th. She got it the day she returned back home to the Manor and was able to enjoy it.

She has been having some heart problems, but is doing better now. She will be 96 on Feb 28th, so that's not bad!

Thanks from Esther and family.

Judy Elliott
PO Box 145
Atoka OK 74525



Church Council Meeting Minutes February 19, 2009

Call to Order- Bill Haselwood

Opening Prayer- Bill Haselwood

Motion was made to add Evangelism Plus to the agenda, by Terry Dyke, seconded by Sue Dyke, and approved by those present. The agenda was approved.

Motion was made to wave reading of the minutes by Jennifer Carpenter, seconded by Chris Carpenter and approved by all.

Motion was made to approve the minutes by Jennifer Carpenter, seconded by Melissa Baker and approved by all.

Mission Statement was recited by all those present.

Pastor's Report- Dr. Marvin Hudson

Discussion focused on the contemporary element in our worship. There is a perceived need to increase the quality in this element. There has been a great deal of feedback from the consultation evaluations, new members and visitors in regards to the quality of contemporary worship over the past two years.

Currently, all available funds are channeled towards our traditional music avenues, and there would be no way to fund the growth and development of this aspect of worship, currently.

Because this is such a critical form of worship to reach the majority of our demographic, creating a significant contemporary worship of an excellent level needs to become the priority of 2009.

This needs to be a cooperative effort. We need to define what type of leader we are looking for and create a plan with benchmarks for goals. We need to create a strategy to improve our contemporary worship.

Active Ministries Reports:

Discipleship Council- report given by Sue Dyke. Minutes from January 15, 2009 meeting were reviewed

UMW- report given by Donna Tonubbee. 1.) \$3000 was distributed in 2008 and UMW has the goal to

give even more this year. 2.) As of January, there are 50 active members of UMW. 3.) Another goal of 2009 is to come together in active mission. Not only supporting missions financially, but become more involved. The circles will be involved in Hands-on food distribution projects this year. 4.) Upcoming events are:

March 28, 9:30- Unit Spring Brunch

April 26- UMW Sunday

Mid-May- Rummage Sale

UMM- presented by Gary Dowdy. The men are working with Larry Kibbie to clean his home while installing new floors. Feb 28th will be a workday at the Trammell's to help repair a roof leak. The UMM continues to help ST Paul's with Family Promise housing needs. Tuesday morning breakfast continues to allow our men to meet and talk about their concerns.

UMYF- presented by Lindsay Burrell. 1.) For lent this year, the youth will be following a book that they created called "40 Days to Become a Cross Carrying Christian." The book is filled with daily challenges to instill Christian habits and to avoid being of this world. We look forward to seeing how this project may influence the youth's walk with God. 2.) There is still a huge need for volunteers. If we continue to have an inconsistency with volunteers, we may have to cancel youth events in order to follow safe sanctuary. There is a great need for drivers and volunteers at all youth events including:

Monday Night at Carter hall 5:30- 6:30

Wednesday Night Logos- Drivers needed for pick-up 4:30-5

Logos Recreation- 6:30-7

Logos Bible study- 7-8 (there is an increased need for the middle school group)

Children's Council- Kelli Koons informed the Council that VBS dates have been set for the week of July 13th.

Ministry Support Reports:

SPRC- presented by Chris Carpenter- 1.) Lauren Edwards resigned as Children's Minister. Children's council has decided at this time that to cover our Children's Programs with our dedicated volunteers. Thus, SPRC will not be actively seeking another children's minister. 2.) 2009 Special Projects- Safe Sanctuary is back into focus, Maternity leave procedures for our Personnel Policies, Grievance procedure for staff and parish, and Music program

(Continued on next page)

WESLEY WINDOW



(Continued from previous page)

revamp, including Music minister's job description and the possible recruitment of a staff person for contemporary worship. There will be a special SPRC meeting in two weeks to discuss music needs.

Chris Carpenter made a motion for SPRC to form an ad hoc committee made up of the following members: 1 SPRC member, 1 Trustee, 1 Children's Council member, 1 Youth Council member and 1 Church Council member. This committee will be tasked with assuring that the church is back in line with safe sanctuary guidelines as outlined by the Methodist Church. Once the committee has completed its task, we would like to recommend that a member of Trustees become responsible to assure that safe sanctuary policies and procedures are followed and not allowed to lax.

Seconded by Chris Silvia. Discussions included updating the online information for Safe sanctuary and retraining staff and volunteers. Terry Dyke called the motion to question and it was approved by all present.

Finance Committee- Report by Jennifer Carpenter. Church's Budget shows that it is up \$2900 for the projected costs, but only because we have not paid \$5900 worth of apportionments. People need to understand that our different ministries do pretty well with their budgets because of designated funds. Where we fall short is in the infrastructure of the church. We are low on funds to pay for electric, water, gas and staff salaries. No one designates to these costs. These costs are covered by the general budget. Church Council may have to put a nursery policy in place as it is one area that we will be able to control the costs. SPRC has recently created a new policy that staff members may not use the nursery if there are no other children in the nursery at that time.

Trustees- report by Chris Silvia. Subcommittee heads have been chosen. Minutes from the meeting will be in the church office. The Trustees biggest project is Insurance claims and the Sanctuary Roof, and other leaks. A roof project will begin to take place in 30-60 days. Trustees are currently getting quotes for different materials to get the best for our church. They plan on spending

only from funds that are already available. They are currently entertaining the idea of the H-brew café/Welcoming center and the Parlor renovation.

Memorial Committee- Not present. No report.

Permanent Endowment Funds Committee- Report given by Terry Dyke. The PEFC standing date for meetings has changed to the third Monday of Jan., Apr., July, Oct. at 6:30 pm. The newly elected officers are:

Chair- Terry Dyke

Co-Vice Chairs- Phyllis Bolt and Mike Watters

Secretary- Nan Shadid

Treasurer- Brent Vickery

Scholarship Committee- report by Chris Silvia. Scholarship committee is in good shape. They were able to give 5 full scholarships (\$800) and 2 half scholarships (\$400).

Those that received the full scholarships are- Amber Baker, Lauren Bristow, Sarah Marchetti, Lisa Watson and Chris Whyman.

Those that received the half scholarships are- Katie Landes and Michael Whyman.

Other Business:

A motion was made by Dr. Marvin Hudson for Nominations Committee to fill 2 vacancies.

Randy Burress will be resigning from Trustees as he is leaving for the Air Force. Brad Snider will replace him. Lisa West has resigned from Children's Council and will be replaced by Co-Chairs Jessica Becker and Lisa Hood. Sue Dyke put the motion into question and Kelli Koons seconded it. It was passed by all present.

A Motion was made by Terry Dyke that Ray and June McMahan's Evangelism Plus program be funded under New Programs. This program is designed to strengthen evangelism with things such as radical hospitality, warmly welcoming new comers, and finding new comers a small group to become involved in.

Terry Dyke put the motion into question and Sue Dyke seconded it. It was passed by all.

Melissa Baker motions to adjourn and it is seconded by Brian Koons.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON April 16, 2009.

Dismissal with prayer- Dr Marvin Hudson

WESLEY WINDOW



Rev. Kris Steele
Associate Minister

Growth = Change

"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Romans 12:2

John C. Maxwell, in his devotional "Leadership: Promises for Every Day", says "just about anyone would agree that growing is a good thing, but relatively few people actually dedicate themselves to the process. Why? Because growth requires change, and change is hard for most people. But the truth is that without change, growth is impossible.

Most people fight against change, especially when it affects them personally. As novelist Leo Tolstoy said, 'Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself.' The ironic thing is that change is inevitable. Everybody has to deal with it in their lives. On the other hand, growth is optional. You can choose to grow or to fight it. But know this: people unwilling to grow will never reach their potential."

Wesley UMC, in conjunction with a consultant, is embarking on an in-depth self-study in an effort to focus, determine our core values, process how to achieve our potential and identify ways to effectively reach our community for Christ! I do not know what the study will ultimately reveal but I suspect some changes will be involved. As Maxwell points out, change is inevitable. Perhaps this endeavor will require us to reconsider our approach to evangelism, rethink our method of membership care, and/or renew our commitment to discipleship and prayer. Whatever changes occur as a result of

this unique opportunity produce, I hope you will join me, Dr. Marvin and the rest of the staff in entering an exciting season growth both individually and collectively as a church family! Blessings!



PRAYER CORNER

Be Still!

*For the revelation awaits for an appointed time.
Habakkuk 2:3*

I have always been a Type A personality. Often forging ahead under my own plan instead of being still and letting God be in control. Needless to say, this has, many times landed me in trouble. Sometimes it would be much better for me to wait and see what God had planned for me.

Ash Wednesday is this week. As we enter the Lenten season, let us remember that waiting can be, not a waste of time, but rather a redemption of time.

Jesus lived thirty years before beginning his three-year ministry. Some scholars say that Paul spent as many as fifteen years in Arabia between his conversion and his missionary trips. The Psalmist reminds us "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) These examples and others help us see that times of waiting are part of the plan, not a delay of it. Little by little, I am learning to embrace this way of thinking and my life is richer for it.

God gives us these days of preparation before Easter in part to help us learn the benefits of active waiting. We don't always have to be on the run, but should include periods of time to simply allow the Spirit to get us ready, trusting that God will show us the action He desires and let us know when it is time to do something.
Sue Thomas

Gracious God, thank you for reminding us that time does not have to be filled with activity to be worthwhile. Teach us that stillness is an essential part of the spiritual life. Amen



Lindsay Burress Youth Director

On a completely different note, the youth still need sponsors for activities such as Sunday Evening UMYF from 4:30-6:00, and Wednesday Evening Logos from 6:30-8:00. We especially need drivers for pick up and drop offs. Please call me or email me at my office if you are interested. We also need everyone to be in prayer about volunteers. Please pray that God will ask members in our congregation to serve the youth's needs, and their response will be "Here I am Lord. Send me." Thank you.

As we begin the Lenten journey, the youth will be undertaking a special project. In the past, the youth have been encouraged to "give something up," or to take on a new habit for the forty days of Lent. This year, we have a special book that will help us. The book is called "40 Days to Become a Cross Carrying Christian."

For each of the forty days, the youth will have a dare or challenge that live out their faith. Some of the Christian characteristics or habits that we chose to focus on were prayer, personal Bible study, servant-hood and hospitality, stewardship and evangelism. Each week, the youth will bring their books to church on Sunday and discuss the challenges, and discuss if the dares changed their way of thinking.

As disciples of Jesus Christ we are told, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Throughout the forty days of Lent the youth be asked to deny themselves and take up their cross. It is our hope that as we near Easter morning, our relationship with Christ will be so transformed that it will be obvious to all that we are true Disciples of Christ. Through out Lent, I ask you to encourage the youth and pray for them. Your encouragement and prayers will help them face their daily challenges.



February 25th
ASH WEDNESDAY
March 4th
BACKWARDS
March 11th
TEACHER APPRECIATION NIGHT
March 18th
SPRING BREAK! NO LOGOS
March 25th
ST PATRICK'S

DivorceCare Meeting
Monday Nights 6:30—8:30
Childcare Provided



PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

*For the prayer chain, please call The Church office at 275-1556 or
Gwen Gray at 273-3691*

NURSING, ASSISTED LIVING OR HOMEBOUND

Jack Bailey; Ernestine Gravley; Mary Roberts; Viola Montgomery; Esther Mezger; Flo Kienzel; Alpha Mills; Lucie McDonald; Mary Ann Calvert (David Haberland's Mother).

AT HOME OR IN THE HOSPITAL

**(Please note: Names will be removed after 3 weeks unless
you call and return name to the prayer list. Hopefully this will keep our list current.)**

John Chandler (Gwen's nephew); Gwen Harlin; Steve Trammell and Cora Davis (Eva Trammell's Mother); Tiffany Whittington.

OUR MILITARY NEEDS YOUR PRAYERS. PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Aaron McCowan nephew of Pat Snider; Travis Carter, son of Phyllis Bolt, brother of Jessica Carter, Army Iraq; Pfc James Bittle, Army, husband of Nanci Sackman's niece; L/CPL; Jeremy Walker, Pamela Torrick's cousin, Air Force; Greg Jenkins, Navy Seal, Nephew of Gary Sackman; Michael C. Davis, in Iraq, Betty Hale's son-in-law and husband of Jonna Hale Davis; Dean Holley, Marines, in Iraq, cousin of Hollie Johnson; John Bristow, husband of Lauren (Heer) Bristow; Jeremy Barrett, grandson of Fern Barrett, Iraq; Craig Pope, Baghdad; Dale Torrick, (Chris Torrick's brother) Kandahar, Afghanistan; Travis Carter, Ft. Riley, Kansas; and ALL MILITARY PERSONEL.

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Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors, The People of The United Methodist Church.