

# Memorial Messenger

Memorial Presbyterian Church  
601 24th Ave. S.W.  
Norman, OK 73069  
(405) 329-3640  
www.memorialpres.org

# April 2013



## Latest News

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for April is canned vegetables. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Memorial is now a **polling site**. Voting will take place in the Fellowship Hall, when an election involving our assigned precinct is scheduled. The first such election comes up soon—April 2nd, 2013. If you are registered to vote in this precinct, be sure to drop by and vote!

The Fellowship and Hospitality committee is sponsoring a **chili cook-off** after worship on April 7. Please sign up if you intend to bring chili, so they know how much serving space will be needed. See page 4 for more information.

We welcome the **Central Oklahoma Polymer Clay Guild** to Memorial for the second consecutive year. They will have use of the Fellowship Hall, kitchen, and Kids Club room for their annual retreat, April 11-13.

**Spring Clean Up** is scheduled for Saturday, April 20th beginning at 8:00 A.M. There are a number of opportunities for service on this date:

- The Kids Club room needs a good, thorough cleaning
- The lawn closet needs cleaning out so it can be put to better use
- The Cedar panel outside, where we removed the air conditioner, needs work
- Some pews need to be repaired
- We need to paint new cabinet doors outside the Parlor
- We would love to have a cart for our big tables
- The Columbarium is in mid-repair. It is looking great!

A church **yard sale** will be held on April 27 from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., for the benefit of the Camps and Conferences Fund, which helps young people pay the costs of attending summer camp at Dwight Mission, Youth Quake, or other similar opportunities. Please see Lisa Upton to donate items for sale or to volunteer your time.

As the school year draws to a close, we remind students and families that the **Grace Scholarship Fund** exists to provide scholarships to members and staff of Memorial Presbyterian Church who are pursuing education past high school. It is intended to be a gift available, as the word “grace” implies, simply on request and not on the basis of merit. Applications are available from the church office.

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Friends,

Easter Blessings to you! In my preparation for Holy Week worship services, I came across this prayer. I share it with you as my prayer for this season.

### **Easter Prayer: Joy Comes in the Morning**

Weeping comes for a night,  
but joy comes in the morning, O God of  
power and might.

Death has been defeated  
and we shout Alleluia!

Let all that we do today be a prayer of praise.

For many of us,  
it is an Easter just like the others,  
with Easter bonnets and Sunday best,  
with the ringing of bells and hymns of joy,  
with the preparing of meals and gathering  
around tables and hunting for eggs...

But let this be an Easter like no other.  
Let us see and hear with resurrection  
eyes and ears.

Let us discern signs of new life in the usual  
places—a new baby, the beauty of nature;  
and in unusual places... who knows where we  
might find you if we but look?

It is daunting to be resurrection people  
even as we read and watch the news—  
news of continued violence, poverty, suffering  
and despair.

We drink in these stories with our morning  
coffee, day after day,  
and wonder where the Easter's gone.

May the peace of Christ be with you,  
Tracy

One year ago we celebrated your resurrection,  
and it seems little has changed in our world  
since then—Easter seems an idle tale in the  
wake of lives destroyed by war, children  
abused, a creation spoiled, and endless  
bickering among our leaders—  
too much hand-wringing and too little  
willingness to do the difficult things.

Close to home, we know loved ones  
who have felt the sting of death in their  
families; people who struggle to survive the  
loss of a job, people entombed by depression  
or a crippling illness.

Yes, resurrection eyes are not blind to pain.  
Resurrection ears are not deaf to cries of  
suffering.

But resurrection people see your goodness  
that outlasts and overpowers any darkness  
we can experience or concoct.

Easter is the climax of the story,  
but not the end.  
You alone can roll away the stone,  
but we are called  
to run, and tell:

“We have seen the Lord!  
Come and follow! Believe, and live!”

If we don't, who will?  
Resurrect us, O God of new life—resurrect us  
from our complacency and fear.  
You have the power to do it.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.liturgylink.net/2012/04/05/easter-prayer-joy-comes-in-the-morning/>

## Clerk's Corner

A regular meeting of Session was held, Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at 7 PM at the church. Session took the following actions:

- (1) Voted to hire Rev. Melinda Clements to lead Vacation Bible School this summer.
- (2) Approved a recommendation from Music & Worship Committee to purchase a new robe for Terry and new stoles for Vince (funds are currently available in the Choir Fund).
- (3) Voted to approve posting signs that firearms are not permitted inside our building.

The next regular meeting of Session will be Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7PM.

Joan Cole  
Clerk of Session

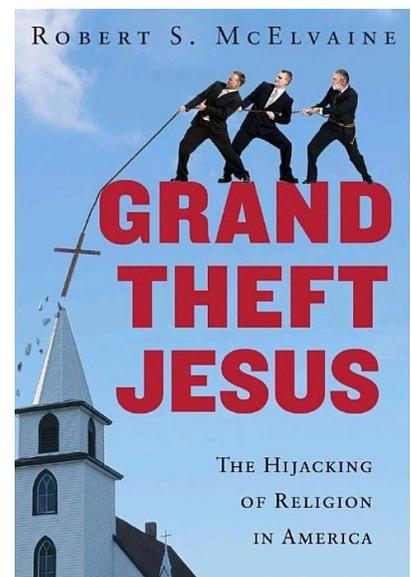
### 2013 Stewardship Update: January 1 to March 26, 2013

	<b>Actual YTD</b>	<b>Budget YTD</b>	<b>2013 Budget</b>
<b>Pledges</b>	\$30,348.49	\$36,415.98	\$145,664.00
<b>Other Income</b>	\$6,359.83	\$14,999.73	\$59,999.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$36,708.32	\$51,415.71	\$205,663.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$46,783.76	\$51,415.17	\$205,663.00

## Book of the Month

The Book of the Month for April is *Grand Theft Jesus: The Hijacking of Religion in America*, by Robert S. McElvaine. In this book, McElvaine makes the following claim: a crew of politicians, mega-church preachers, televangelists, and others, has hijacked Christianity and distorted it into something Jesus would not recognize. *Grand Theft Jesus* blends outrage and humor in a compelling argument that can help us see more clearly the message of Jesus for our society today.

— Harry Wright



*This book will be displayed in the library during the month of April, and will be available to borrow.*

## Fellowship and Hospitality Committee

The Fellowship and Hospitality committee has been planning several fun events for Spring. Make sure you put these dates & events on your calendar!

Cowboy Sunday. . .Chili cook-off Lunch . . . Yeee Haaa!  
Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Put on your jeans and boots, come on down for church and join us after the worship service for a Chuck Wagon Chili Cook-off. The Fellowship & Hospitality committee will provide sides of crackers, cornbread and Fritos. Bring a crock pot of your favorite chili to share, and wrap your lips around some of the best bowls of chili this side of the Red River! Look for the sign-up sheet so we know how many crock pots to anticipate for the lunch. If you have any questions, contact Lisa Upton or any of the Fellowship & Hospitality committee members. Bring A Friend for Church and Lunch!

Indian Nations Presbytery Family Night  
with the Oklahoma City RedHawks  
Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>

Baseball night with the RedHawks on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 P.M. at the Bricktown Ballpark. Tickets are just \$8.00 and include: Bleacher seats with other families from Indian Nations Presbytery, free limited edition RedHawks cap for each member of our group, "Play Ball!!" game program for each member of our group, "Indian Nations Presbytery" will be displayed on the video board during the game, and post-game fireworks! What a Great Time!!! Watch for the sign-up sheet for ordering game tickets (the deadline to order is April 28). If you have any questions, contact Memorial's baseball representative, Lisa Upton.

Preview of upcoming events:

Women of the Church Tea	May 11 <sup>th</sup>
Mother's Day: wear your Mother's Day Hat/Bonnet	May 12 <sup>th</sup>
Indian Nations Presbytery Family Night with RedHawks Baseball	May 31 <sup>st</sup>

# **Youth Quake**

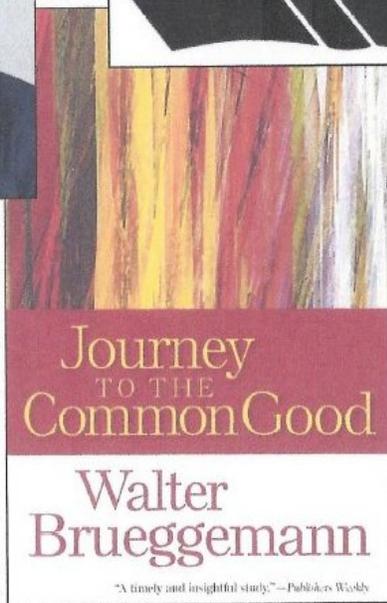
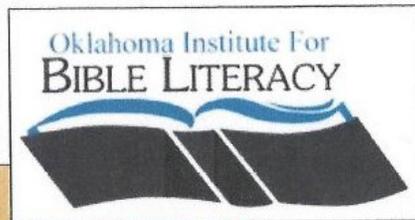
Please keep in prayer the youth of our church who will be attending YouthQuake the weekend of April 12-14. Bre Upton, Jessie Stuart, Elivira Sama, Mariolise Sama and Gysheilla Jangha will be participating in the worship, small groups, games, songs and friendships held at Canyon Camp in Hinton, OK. Lisa Upton, Harry Wright and Tracy Evans are going as sponsors. The three presbyteries of Oklahoma sponsor this annual event.

# Triennium Youth Fundraisers

The Triennium youth—A.J., Elvira & Breanna—would like to thank everyone at Memorial for making the Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction such a huge success. The youth raised \$1,649.00 that evening... WOW! We could not have done it without the support of everyone..... again, THANK YOU! [Editor’s note: So far, we have raised \$2,289.00 for Triennium and other camps and conferences.]

The last Triennium fundraiser that has been set is the **Church Yard Sale**. This will take place on **Saturday, April 27 from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.** Those who have items to contribute to the sale can bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, April 24, through Friday, April 26. Please pre-mark your items’ prices to save time on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>. We will also have a sign-up sheet for those who would like to volunteer for a shift during the yard sale — lots of fun! If you have any questions, call Lisa Upton at 470-4227.

Any money made beyond what is needed for the Triennium trip will be placed in the Camps & Conferences fund for the youth. This will assist youths to attend events such as Youth Quake and any of the Dwight Mission camps that are offered.—Lisa Upton



*A  
unique  
lecture  
opportunity  
for  
Oklahoma!*

Respected author and world-renowned theologian Walter Brueggemann turns his discerning eye to the most critical yet basic needs of a world adapting to a new era, an era defined in large part by America’s efforts to rebuild from an age of terror even as it navigates its way through economic collapse. Yet in spite of these great challenges, Brueggemann calls us to journey together to the common good through neighborliness, covenanting, and reconstruction. He is *William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament Emeritus* at Columbia Theological Seminary. Additionally, he is one of the world’s leading interpreters of the Hebrew Bible and is the author of numerous books.

*Presents:*

**Brueggemann Lectures**  
3 Lectures with Discussion

**April 19-20, 2013**

**Friday Evening: 7 p.m.**

**Saturday: 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.**

Host Church: **First Christian Church**  
**220 South Webster Street, Norman, OK**  
\$10 before April 5 \$15 after April 5

Details at [www.okibl.org](http://www.okibl.org)

Or contact Don Gibson (405) 948-8457 [dsgib33@att.net](mailto:dsgib33@att.net)

**Registration required.**

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
(1 per person)  
Brueggemann Lectures “Journey to the Common Good”

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail completed form with payment to:*

OIBL  
2720 NW 31 Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

**[www.okibl.org](http://www.okibl.org)**

Dear Memorial Members and Friends:

Please help us update our church directory and church office records by filling out this form and returning it to the church office. *Please note that additional information is requested, which has not been previously collected.* Nothing will be published without your permission. We would appreciate your help as we try to keep everything up to date. New directories will be made available by email, as well as in printed form for those without email (and by request).

**Memorial Presbyterian Church**  
**2013 Member & Friends Information for Church file and Directory**  
(please print clearly or send email to [mempres1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mempres1@sbcglobal.net))

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission to list in church directory (circle):**    email    cell phone

Do you want to receive email from Memorial?    \_\_\_\_ No    \_\_\_\_ Yes

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ (month, day, year)

Children living at home:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Information:**

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission to publish work information in the directory:**    \_\_\_\_ No    \_\_\_\_ Yes

**Emergency contacts, other than spouse (will not be published):**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



Interfaith Days  
of Prayer for  
**RAIN**

## In a Severe State Drought:

### Faith Communities Called Upon to Pray for Rain AND to Conserve Water

The Oklahoma Conference of Churches (OCC) is calling upon Memorial Presbyterian Church and other faith communities to pray for rain AND to take steps to conserve water during a time of the severest drought in over 50 years. According to weather experts, 95% of Oklahoma is experiencing extreme drought, including Norman.

OCC is calling on Oklahomans of all Faiths to come together for a series of **Interfaith Days of Prayer for Rain**. The series will be launched at the **State Capitol on Earth Day, April 22, 2013** (start time TBA). Other **Days of Prayer for Rain** are scheduled for June 26 and September 18.

Norman has instituted Mandatory Water Conservation beginning January 14, 2013. The action was taken in particular because of a shortage of water in Lake Thunderbird. Currently, Lake Thunderbird is  $7 \frac{1}{2}$  feet below normal. Some  $\frac{2}{3}$  of Norman's water supply comes from Lake Thunderbird. Because of the ongoing drought conditions, lake officials have imposed a mandatory 10% reduction in the water Norman can receive from the lake.

Most water usage is in outdoor watering, bathroom uses, clothes washing, etc. Under Norman's required Water Conservation, the following restrictions apply. Fines up to \$750 per violation can be imposed.

#### **Norman Residential Restrictions**

All outdoor watering or irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M.

Odd/Even water restrictions (house addresses that end with an even number water on even numbered calendar days; house addresses that end with an odd number water on odd number calendar days) for irrigation purposes are required for all customers with NO watering on Wednesday and Thursday of each week. The 31st day of the month is not included in the odd/even water rotation, but conservation is urged.

Hand watering gardens/plants/shrubs with a hose is allowed at any time.

Excess water run-off from any landscaped area onto streets is prohibited whether by design, maladjustment to sprinkler system, or usage during high winds.

Washing of cars, trucks, trailers or other vehicles is prohibited unless these items are taken to a commercial carwash.

Washing or hosing down of buildings, sidewalks, driveways, patios, porches, parking areas or any paved surface is prohibited.

## Some Conservation Tips from the City of Norman

### Outdoor

Install rain gauges and freeze gauges on irrigation systems to prevent watering when it is not necessary.

Watering the lawn and garden is more efficient in the early morning or at night when the sun won't cause as much evaporation. Avoid sprinklers with fine mists, they increase evaporation.

Keep the grass two to three inches long to enhance root development with minimal watering.

Wash your car with soap and a bucket. Washing your car with a running hose uses more than 100 gallons of water. Using a bucket & sponge cuts this by 90%.

Pay careful attention to sprinklers to prevent water getting on driveways, streets and sidewalks where it is wasted.

Use mulch in gardens to minimize weed growth, slow erosion and slow evaporative losses.

Check for leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets, couplings and lawn sprinkler systems and repair immediately. Even a small drip can waste hundreds of gallons of water a day.

### Indoors

Install low flow showerheads. They are easy to install and save water and energy.

Install low flush toilets or install a toilet tank displacement insert or dam to reduce the volume of water in the tank and the amount used per flush. A plastic jug filled with water and placed in the tank is an effective displacement device.

Check for leaks inside toilets. Leaks inside the toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day. Toilet leaks can be detected by adding a few drops of food coloring to water in the toilet tank. If the colored water appears in the bowl, the toilet is leaking.

Never use the toilet as a wastebasket.

Operate the dishwasher and washing machines only when completely full.

Don't let the faucet run needlessly when brushing your teeth or shaving.

For more information, consult: <http://www.ci.norman.ok.us/utilities/water-conservation-information>

## Known Joys and Concerns

### Those who seek healing

Bob Clarke

Jayelle Martin is recuperating from knee surgery.

Kenny and Danielle Comer (Mike Girdner's niece and her husband): Kenny is battling cancer for the fourth time, and has not been responding well to chemotherapy.

Cody Derryberry (son of Carl Forthman's co-worker Renee) continues to recover from injuries sustained in the line of duty in Afghanistan.

Margaret Forthman (Carl & Julie Forthman's sister-in-law) is undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer.

George Sites (Georjana Mauldin's father)

Peggy Strunk is undergoing chemotherapy for colon cancer.

### Those who grieve

Family of Marge Sewell

Family of Sean Miller (son-in-law of Bob & Martha Goodner)

Family of Betty Moore (Anita Harkey's sister)

Family of Billie Jean Sites (Georjana Mauldin's mother)

### Prayers Answered

John Beall, Jr., husband of a Thiessen-family friend, has made a full recovery after being thrown from a horse.

Kate Yost, Dave and Tamara Iske's niece, has finished with chemotherapy and is doing well.

## April Birthdays

Apr. 4 Bill Storm

Faith Jangha

Apr. 14 Ara Pennington

Charlotte Lovett

Alex Leseney

Apr. 19 Doug Forsyth

Apr. 20 Nicholine Jangha

Jeremy Bales

Apr. 25 David Lanning

Apr. 28 Becca Thrailkill

Apr. 29 Mike Beard

## April Wedding Anniversaries

April 21 Steve & Angie Martin

To receive prayer requests by email,  
please contact Janice Crump at:  
[janicec11@cox.net](mailto:janicec11@cox.net)

# The Resurrection of Jesus

Matthew 28:1-10 (NIV)



The disciples were very sad over the death of Jesus. It seemed that all of their hopes were gone. Jesus now lay in a tomb. But they were about to get some wonderful news. Read in Matthew 28:1-10 (NIV) what happened when some of his followers went to visit the tomb. Then unscramble the words below and fill in the puzzle. The letters in the circles will tell you what the angel had to say.

AKEARQUTHE	<input type="text"/>								
NGALE	<input type="text"/>								
ENHVEA	<input type="text"/>								
CABK	<input type="text"/>								
TONSE	<input type="text"/>								
ARGUDS	<input type="text"/>								
AIFRAD	<input type="text"/>								
ESE	<input type="text"/>								
LTEL	<input type="text"/>								
OWENM	<input type="text"/>								

This fulfilled Jesus' own prophecy.  
 Read Luke 9:22 (NIV) and fill in the blanks below to see what he said.

"The Son of man must suffer many things and be \_\_\_\_\_  
 by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and he must  
 be \_\_\_\_\_ and on the \_\_\_\_\_ day be  
 \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_."

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	2	3 League of Women Voters 11:15—1:30 in the Library	4 Serve at Food for Friends 10:00 A.M.	5	6
7 Celebration of the Lord's Sup- per 10:55 A.M. Chili Cook-Off after Worship	8  Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	9  Mission & Evangelism meeting 6:00 P.M.	10	11  Christian Education meeting 7:00 P.M.	12  Youth Quake	13  Youth Quake
<b>Central Oklahoma Polymer Clay Retreat</b>						
14  Youth Quake	15  Fellowship & Hospitality meeting 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	16  Session meeting 7:00 P.M.	17	18  Building & Grounds meeting 7:00 P.M.	19	20 Spring Clean-Up 8:00 A.M. 
21 Deacons meeting 4:30 P.M. Stewardship meeting 5:30 P.M.	22  Worship & Music meeting 6:00 P.M. Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	23  <b>Articles due for May Messenger</b>	24	25	26	27 Church Yard Sale fundraiser 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
28	29  Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	30				

### SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

Sunday School	9:30 A.M.
Fellowship and Refreshments	10:30 A.M.
Worship Service	10:55 A.M.

### WEDNESDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

Kids Club	3:30-6:00 P.M.
Hand-Chime Choir	5:00 P.M.
Children's Choir	5:30 P.M.
Chancel Ringers	6:00 P.M. (as scheduled)
Chancel Choir	7:00 P.M.