

# Memorial Messenger

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

# September 2014



## Latest News

**Men's breakfast:** On September 6, 8:30-10:00 A.M., there will be a potluck breakfast for the men of the church, and their guests. Participants are urged to bring their favorite breakfast dish, and are requested to indicate their food choice on the sign-in sheet which is located in the hallway leading to the sanctuary. The guest speaker will be Peter Davis, an OU journalism student who served two tours of duty with the U.S. Army in Kosovo/Bosnia and Iraq. While serving his country on the front lines, he developed Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. He will be telling his story, and how he has dealt with the consequences of being in battle.



The deacons invite you to attend a **wedding shower** for Caitlin Marie Stensrud and Alexander Garner Smith on Saturday, September 6, from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. They are registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond; Crate & Barrel; and [www.etsy.com](http://www.etsy.com). Caitlin and Alexander will be married in October.

**Opening Sunday School Program:** On Sunday, September 7, at 9:30 A.M., Memorial Presbyterian Church will hold its introduction to the 2014-15 Sunday School program. The program will begin with a pot-luck breakfast, and those attending are being asked to sign up ahead of time to indicate what food items they are intending to share with those participating. All are welcome, but especially those who will be a part of the various church school activities, which will include children, young people, adults, and teachers. Leaders from each class will talk about their respective activities, including the adult classes. We are looking forward to an exciting year in our Christian education program.



(Continued)

**Kids' Club**, for kids in elementary or middle school, begins September 10 from 3:30 to 6:15 P.M. on Wednesdays. Participants enjoy playtime, arts & crafts, Bible lessons, choir, and dinner. Transportation from school to the church is available. If you know a child who would benefit from this program, or if you would like to help out in any way, contact Rev. Tracy Evans (626-7530) or Rev. Melinda Clements (310-3444).

**Pet Blessing**—Mark your calendar and schedule that dog shampoo! We will hold a Blessing of the Pets at 4:00 P.M. on Sunday, October 5. ALL pets—on a leash or in a cage—are welcome!



### Clerk's Corner

The regular meeting of Session was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2014. Sadly Session accepted the resignation of Rev Melinda Clements as Kids' Club director. The Christian Education Committee decided to continue the Kids' Club program utilizing volunteers. Rev. Clements will volunteer as her health allows. The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee has several activities planned in the near future. Information about those can be found elsewhere in the newsletter. After much discussion, Session has recommended that Building and Grounds Committee develop a policy for facility use by outside groups and non-church functions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Cole, Clerk of Session

Stewardship Update			
January 1 to August 29, 2014			
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2014 Budget
<b>Pledges</b>	\$87,945.20	\$95,990.64	\$143,986.00
<b>Other Income</b>	\$14,626.01	\$35,254.64	\$52,882.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$102,571.21	\$131,245.28	\$196,868.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$119,926.66	\$131,243.84	\$196,868.00

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Friends,

Three moments from this week I want to share:

First, I was contacted by a man whose father had died. He was asking to have his father's memorial service at our church because, though he didn't have a church home, his grandmother had been a member at Memorial and he remembered worshiping with her in the Fellowship Hall. When I met with him, we walked into the Fellowship Hall and he remembered being there for a candlelight vigil for the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979 (FYI, his grandmother was Maybelle Rambo).

Also this week, I was sitting with my sister-in-law in the dining room of the Skilled Nursing Facility where she is currently staying. I visited with her and her two tablemates for a bit and then saw the first and last name of the woman sitting next to me. It was familiar, so I asked her if she was a member of my home church. Through a couple of questions, we realized that she knew my father, and she asked about his daughter who was the "nice minister who used to visit her in the hospital." It was me (surprise!); she remembered me from a brief stint I had on church staff.

This week we say goodbye to Kay and Laurie Anderson. We bid them God's blessing as they make their move to Tulsa. Laurie and Kay quickly made themselves at home at Memorial. They volunteered their time and talents, including Kay working with Kids' Club and Laurie volunteering in the office. They were with us just a short time, but they certainly made an impact with their grace, joy and willingness to serve.

So often we forget that all our actions can impact other people. I was fortunate this week to get to see some of the benefits of my ministry, to be a witness to the work of generations that worshiped before us at MPC, and reminded that though time may be fleeting, we can always bear witness to the love of God.

While we probably don't do good and faithful things to get something in return, it is certainly nice to occasionally get feedback. I hope you will get to experience the warmth of knowing that your actions matter.

Peace,

Tracy

## Christian Education Report

### Adult Education Programs

**BIBLE STUDY:** Are you interested in becoming more proficient in your understanding of The Bible? If so, plan on attending the Bible study that takes place each Thursday morning in our Library at 10:30 A.M. Rev. Evans uses the Lectionary as the basis for the discussion, and engages participants in the discernment experience. So if you enjoy “thinking out loud” about biblical issues – this is the place for you.

**PARLOR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** The adult class, that meets in the Parlor every Sunday morning at 9:30, will continue in September its focus on the video lecture series, *Early Christianity: The Experience of the Divine*. In this series, Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson presents a view that considers the most familiar aspects of Christianity—its myths, institutions, ideas and morality—and sees these aspects as the outer “husks” of our faith. In his presentations, he takes people on a journey to find the “kernel” of Christianity’s appeal: religious experience. He connects the origins, and how these elements can today influence new believers. Dr. Johnson is R. W. Woodruff Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Emory University in its School of Theology. The class considers such topics as What Is Religion?; The Role of Religious Experience; and Sourcing Christianity.

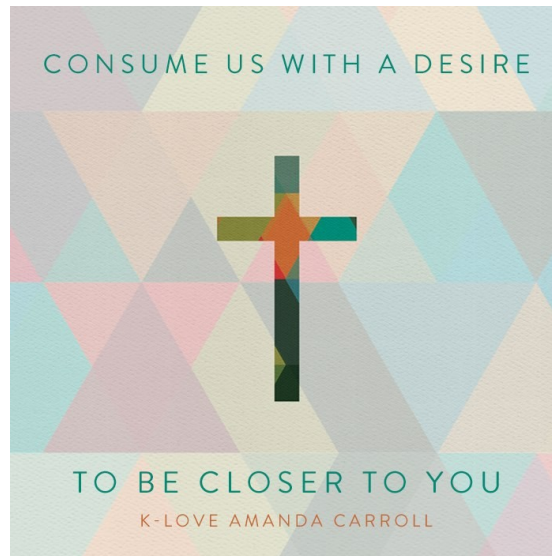
**LIBRARY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** Every two (2) years the General Assembly of the PC(USA) meets to make decisions about constitutional issues, as well as how we as a denomination connect with various social issues as a witness of our faith in the world today. The Library Sunday Class has already discussed the amending of our denomination’s constitution, as to how marriage is defined. From this point on the group will be discussing the following: The Confession of Belhar (this addresses justice, reconciliation, and unity in the context of South Africa); Divestment as a statement of witness; Can there be a “just war”?; Social Justice issues such as gun violence; Death Penalty issues; and Drug use policies. The group attempts to consider all sides of the issues, and encourages thoughtful discussion in a safe atmosphere.

In all of the above groups new members are welcome. Memorial Presbyterian’s belief is that an educated membership is essential to being an effective witness of Jesus Christ in a very complex world.

Harry Wright  
Chair of Christian Education Committee

# MEMORIAL YOUTH GROUP NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2014



## ATTENTION ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 6-12

M.Y. Group will have it's first meeting on Sunday, September 28. We will meet from 5-6:30PM. Dinner will be provided. You are welcome to bring friends along. We will have a short devotion and then – LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

Can't wait to see you and hear about your summer.

If you have any questions call or text me: (405) 830-8389).

Joan Cole

## September Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Larry Upton

### September 7

Ushers: Kirk Forthman and Samuel McCann  
Communion Servers: Harry Wright, Donna Vint, Carl and Julie Forthman  
Coffee: Linda Eckel and Trudy Beard  
Sound booth: Tim Thiessen  
Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard  
Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint  
Lock-up: Doug Forsyth

### September 14

Ushers: Karen and Paul Upton  
Coffee: Loreen Upton and John Beck  
Sound booth: Dave Iske  
Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner  
Nursery Assistant: Linda Eckel  
Lock-up: Joe Garlett

### September 21

Ushers: John and Susan Beck  
Coffee: Charlotte Lovett and Lisa Upton  
Sound booth: Trey Neal  
Acolyte Assistant: Jona Thiessen  
Nursery Assistant: Karen Upton  
Lock-up: Mike Girdner

### September 28

Ushers: Bre Upton and Trey Neal  
Coffee: Ann Forsyth and Jona Thiessen  
Sound booth: Will Farris  
Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton  
Nursery Assistant: Susan Beck  
Lock-up: Mike Cole

## Known Joys and Concerns

### Those who seek healing

Trudy Beard  
Gene Bergstresser  
Lola Carroll  
Sandy Clarke  
Melinda Clements  
Janice Crump  
Dave Iske  
Vince Leseney  
Barbara Robinson  
Susan Babione (Charlotte Lovett's sister-in-law)  
Pauline Barker (mother of Doris Hinson's friend)  
Carol Broderson (Karen Upton's cousin)  
Britany Clark (Daughter of Paul Upton's co-worker)  
Kenny Comer (Karen Girdner's niece's husband)  
Bob Crump (Janice Crump's brother-in-law)  
Lori Evans (Tracy Evans' sister-in-law)  
Mary Fields  
Carol Gadd (Ann Forsyth's cousin)  
Don Harmon (friend of Loreen Upton)  
Judy Haworth (Jayelle Martin's sister)  
Dan Loomis (friend of Bill & Betty Silman)  
Tod Luttrell (friend of Doris Hinson)  
Michelle McCully (Bill & Betty Silman's great niece)  
Lindsay Pickle (Charlotte Lovett's niece)  
George Sites (Georjana Mauldin's father)  
Patrick Upton (nephew of Larry and Loreen Upton)  
Kathy Ellison Vanderburg (former classmate of Jona Thiessen)  
Janann Yeager (Michael Yeager's wife)

### Those who grieve

Family of Dan Rambo, a son of former member  
Maybelle Rambo


### Those who serve in mission fields

Ted & Tina Crump, who serve as a missionary team in the area of Swaziland (Ted is Janice Crump's grandson)

Please inform the church office of any changes or additions to this list.

## September Birthdays

- 
- |    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 1  | Larry Upton, Sr.     |
| 4  | Trisha Bunce         |
| 6  | Sumi Abunaw          |
|    | Odette Eckel         |
| 8  | Jona Thiessen        |
| 10 | Donna (Vint) Wright  |
| 11 | Terry Cast           |
| 14 | Mike Cole            |
| 15 | Rebecca Cole         |
| 18 | Alexandra Pennington |
| 20 | Mariolise Sama       |
| 28 | Lucy Lanning         |
| 29 | Cynthia Robb         |
| 30 | Susan Beck           |



**Congratulations** to Kirk  
Forthman, who is recently  
engaged to be married to  
Jessica Bender.

Best wishes and God's blessings  
to the happy couple.

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

## The Actions of the Holy Spirit in the Life of Dwight Mission

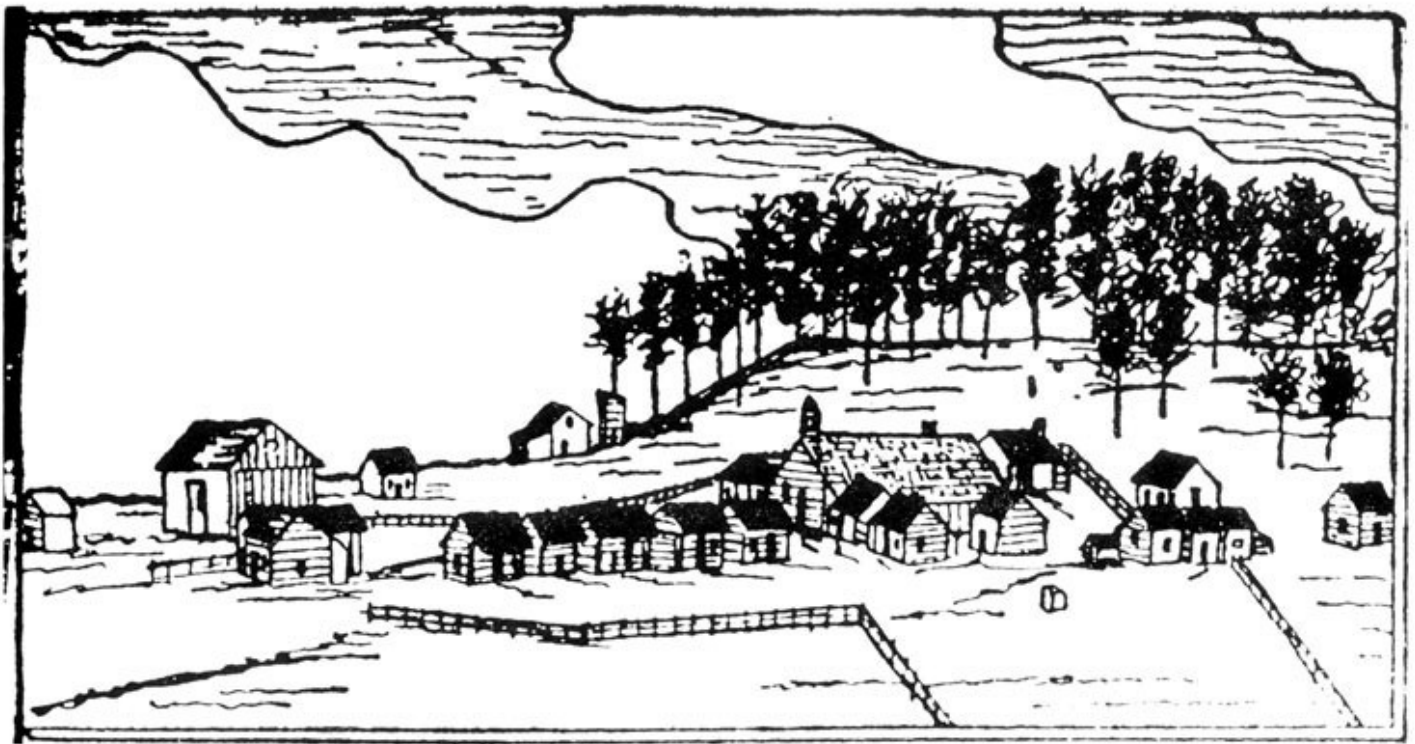
Number 1 of twelve short articles  
submitted by Mary Helen Hite, Historian  
Indian Nations Presbyterian Women

Dwight Mission was formed in 1820 for the Cherokees by the Presbyterian American Board of Missions and (barely) financed by the U.S. Government. With the blessings of the Western Chief, Tahlonteeskee, Dwight was placed in Arkansas Territory where Lake Dardenelle is now located. These three groups of people—the Cherokees, the American Board of Missions, and the Federal Government—with only the desire for education in common managed to begin the long ministry of Dwight. The organizing minister, the Rev. Cephas Washburn, served twenty-two years with his wife, Abigail.

This educational ministry has moved, rebuilt facilities, stopped and re-started, changed ownership, and yet survives today near Vian, Oklahoma. How could this ministry continue against all odds? Only with the gift of patience from the Holy Spirit can what seems impossible be accomplished.

Please support Dwight Mission in any way you can and remember Dwight in your prayers. Presbyterian Women from Oklahoma and Arkansas will be gathering at Dwight for a Retreat of Bible study, worship, and fellowship on September 27-28, 2014.

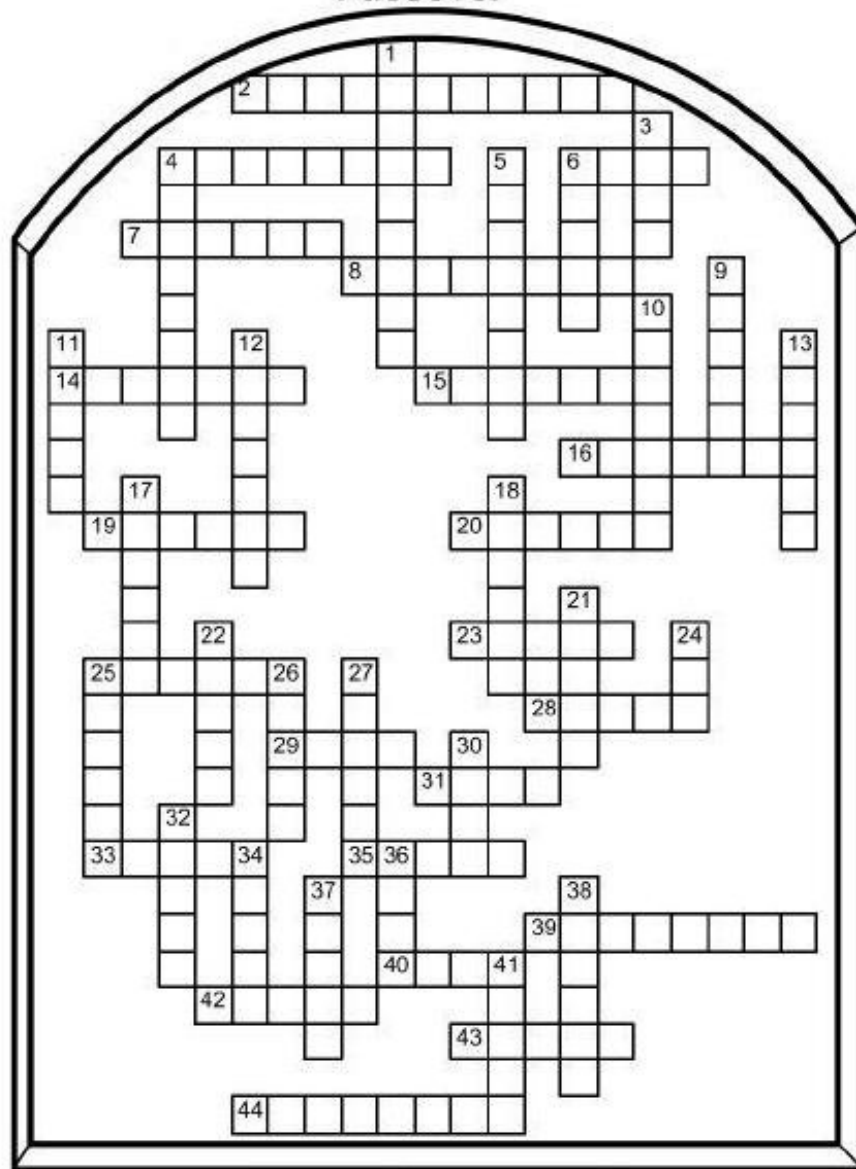
Primary Resource: Mission to the Cherokees by O.B. Campbell, 1969



The sketch is of the buildings located at Dwight's Arkansas Territory campus.



# Passover

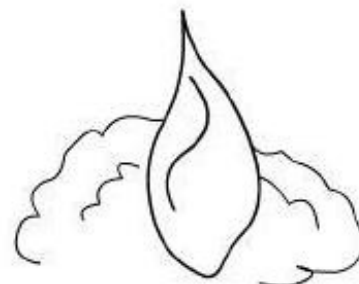


Across

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 2. How God first appeared to Moses                             | 29. Water came from it when struck   |
| 4. Without light: 9th plague                                   | 31. River in Egypt   |
| 6. God led the Israelites as a pillar of this by night         | 33. Moses' father  |
| 7. The land of Egypt where the Hebrews lived                   | 35. Number of days that darkness covered Egypt: Number of days in the Wilderness of Shur without water |
| 8. Moses' mother   | 39. Moses' wife  |
| 14. Moses' son   | 40. Sacrificial animal   |
| 15. Aaron's son  | 42. Bitter waters - but they were turned sweet   |
| 16. An Egyptian king   | 43. Puled from the water; Chosen by God to lead the Israelites out of bondage                          |
| 19. Another word for an Israelite                              | 44. God had this push the waters of the sea apart  |
| 20. Where Moses fled after killing the Egyptian                |  |
| 23. Moses' brother: First high priest                          |  |
| 25. Moses took his bones out of Egypt                          |  |
| 28. God led the Israelites by a pillar of this during the day. |  |

Down

1. Death of these was the last plague
3. What Moses threw in to make bitter waters sweet
4. Where sacrificial blood was put to have Angel of Death pass over
5. No time to rise: Quick bread eaten in haste
6. Couldn't swat them away: 4th attack
9. Parted by the Lord to let the Israelites cross
10. Plague of cattle
11. Where the Hebrews were slaves
12. How sacrifice is to be cooked
13. Moses' age when he spoke to Pharaoh
17. Moses' father-in-law
18. Moses and Aaron's sister
21. From the ashes came these sores: 6th plague
22. Bitter ones are eaten to remember bondage
24. "Turned into a snake: turned the Nile into blood: when lifted over sea, it parted: brought water when struck upon the rock"
25. Led victory over Amalek
26. "The mountain of God"
27. Couldn't see the earth for these insects: 8th plague
30. Not only in hair but also animals; 3rd plague
32. Amphibians of the 2nd plague
34. God sent this bread to feed the Israelites
36. This fell with fire: 7th plague
37. Mountain where God gave Moses His law
38. Sacrificial blood put on this
41. The River turned to this



# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>  Office Closed for Labor Day	<b>2</b>  6:30 P.M. Fellowship & Hospitality Meeting 7:30 P.M. Christian Education Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00 A.M. Serve at Food for Friends  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8:30-10:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast  1:00-3:00 P.M. Wedding Shower for Caitlin Stensrud
<b>7</b> 9:30 A.M. Sunday School Kick-off 10:55 A.M. Celebration of the Lord's Supper  5:30 P.M. Stewardship Meeting	<b>8</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>9</b>  6:00 P.M. Mission & Evangelism Meeting	<b>10</b> 11:00 A.M. League of Women Voters  3:30-6:15 P.M. Kids' Club  7:00 P.M. Building & Grounds Meeting	<b>11</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>16</b>  7:00 P.M. Session Meeting	<b>17</b>  3:30-6:15 P.M. Kids' Club	<b>18</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  12:00 P.M. Worship & Music Meeting	<b>22</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>23</b>  Articles due for October Messenger	<b>24</b>  3:30-6:15 P.M. Kids' Club	<b>25</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  4:30 P.M. Deacons Meeting	<b>29</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>30</b>				

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

### MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

**Wednesday (starting 9-10):**  
Kids' Club 3:30-6:15 P.M.  
**Thursday:**  
Chancel Choir 6:30 P.M.