

# Memorial Messenger

Memorial Presbyterian Church  
601 24th Ave. S.W.  
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[www.memorialpres.org](http://www.memorialpres.org)

# January 2015



## Latest News

**Our thanks** to Charles & Jan Johnson, Doris Hinson, Eileen Burke, Charlotte Lovett, Joan Cole, Ann Forsyth & her Norman North High School special students group, Bill Taylor, Betty Silman, Bart Ward, Paul Phelps, Holly & Doug Forsyth, Loreen & Breanna Upton, Linda & Bella Eckel, and Holly Van Auken for ringing the Salvation Army Red Kettle bells in December at Hobby Lobby. Your efforts helped raise \$749.30 at that location on December 3rd.

**New ruling elders and deacons** will be ordained and/or installed on Sunday, January 11. Jessica Farris, Kirk Forthman and Mike Girdner will serve on Session, class of 2017. The new deacons, class of 2017, will be Doris Hinson, Esau Jangha, and Joan Thrailkill; Donna Vint, currently serving in the class of 2014, will join the class of 2016. Congratulations to our incoming officers and our thanks to those who have served in the class of 2014: Ann Fayles, Doug Forsyth, and Karen Girdner (Session); Will Farris, Loreen Upton, and Donna Vint (Deacons).

*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)*

The deacons will host a luncheon to honor and celebrate our members over the **age of 80** on Sunday, January 18. Everyone is invited, especially those over the age of 80. See page five.

**Cabin Fever Social**—January 24, 2015, 5:00-8:00 P.M. Mark your calendars—Fellowship & Hospitality will be hosting a "Cabin Fever" social in the fellowship hall along with a Sloppy Joe dinner. The dinner will be served at 5:30. Please bring either some chips or cookies/brownies to share at the dinner. Everyone of all ages is welcome to come! There will be board & card games, crafts, a movie with popcorn for the kids and/or adults and the best of all ... lots of socializing.

The **annual congregational meeting** will be held Sunday, February 1, following worship, along with a potluck lunch. Reminder to committee chairs and other report writers: submissions for the Annual Report are due Thursday, January 15.

*"Look at the nations and watch— and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told." Habakkuk 1:5 (NIV)*

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Another Christmas Day has come and gone.

We may have bought presents, received cards, baked cookies, and added to our waistlines.

But what now? What do we take away from this December 25th? Do we return to the normal, the regular, and the everyday?

"The Work of Christmas," a poem by civil rights leader and theologian Dr. Howard Thurman, reminds us why we stand on the side of love throughout the year:

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:*

*To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.*

As we look to 2015, I hope we will remember the spirit of Christmas and carry it into the world each and every day.

May you see God's richest blessings in the days and months to come.

Grace and peace,

Tracy

## Clerk's Corner

Session met on December 16, 2014. The new officers were examined and found to be more than prepared to take on their duties as elders or deacons. A special thanks to Karen Girdner, Ann Fayles and Doug Forsyth for their service as session members.

The 2015 budget was approved and the date for the annual congregational meeting was set for Sunday, February 1, 2015 following worship. The next session meeting will be Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

Joan Cole  
Clerk of Session

<b>Stewardship Update</b>			
January 1 to December 31, 2014*			
	<b>Actual YTD</b>	<b>Budget YTD</b>	<b>2014 Budget</b>
<b>Pledges</b>	\$149,174.99	\$143,986.00	\$143,986.00
<b>Other Income</b>	\$32,703.10	\$52,882.00	\$52,882.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$181,878.09	\$196,868.00	\$196,868.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$183,911.15	\$196,868.00	\$196,868.00

\*The final figures for 2014 will be published in the Annual Report.

*"The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year.  
It is that we should have a new soul  
and a new nose;  
new feet,  
a new backbone,  
new ears,  
and new eyes.*

*Unless a particular man made New Year resolutions,  
he would make no resolutions.*

*Unless a man starts afresh about things,  
he will certainly do nothing effective."*

*— G.K. Chesterton*

## January Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Mike Cole

### January 4

Communion Servers: Harry Wright, Donna Vint, Charlotte Lovett and Lucy Lanning

Ushers: Bre Upton and Trey Neal

Coffee: John Beck & Donna Vint

Sound booth: Mike Girdner

Acolyte Assistant: Jona Thiessen

Nursery Assistant: Trudy Beard or Karen Girdner

Lock-up: Joe Garlett

### January 11

Ushers: John and Susan Beck

Coffee: Esau Jangha & Linda Eckel

Sound booth: Tim Thiessen

Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton

Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint

Lock-up: Mike Girdner

### January 18

Ushers: Karen and Paul Upton

Coffee: Joan Thrailkill & Jona Thiessen

Sound booth: Dave Iske

Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole

Nursery Assistant: Linda Eckel

Lock-up: Mike Cole

### January 25

Ushers: Kirk and Jessica Forthman

Coffee: Georgiana Mauldin & Doris Hinson

Sound booth: Larry Upton

Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard

Nursery Assistant: Karen Upton

Lock-up: Harry Wright





The Board of Deacons invite you to join us immediately following worship on

**Sunday, January 18, 2015**

as we gather in the Fellowship Hall to honor the members  
of our congregation who have reached 80 years young and above.

It would be helpful to have an approximate idea of how many will attend that day, so if you will be joining us, please call Terry in the church office at 329-3640 before Thursday, January 15, or designate **YES** you will attend when you record your attendance on Sunday morning!

The food and birthday cake will be fabulous and the fellowship of our congregation will be blessed by your presence!

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

## M.Y GROUP NEWS JANUARY 2015



ATTENTION ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 6-12, here is our January meeting schedule.

JAN 18                      Presbytery Wide Youth Event                      4-6PM  
(At First Presbyterian Church in Norman)

We will gather at 3:30PM before heading over to First Pres for this wonderful presbytery-wide youth event. This will be our only meeting in January.

ADULTS: If you would be willing to help me transport our youth to this event, please let me know. My car can only carry 4 youth and we usually have a few more than that.

If you would like to provide a meal for our youth, there are still plenty of opportunities coming up in February through May. Please contact Joan Cole, 830-8389, if you have any questions.



Photos from our Christmas party. Thank you, Rev. Evans, for narrating our unique Christmas sock exchange. And thank you Lisa Upton for preparing a wonderful Christmas dinner!





### Christmas Pageant

We held our annual children's Christmas pageant on Sunday, December 7, together with a church-wide potluck dinner. Our thanks to the Rev. Melinda Clements for her leadership in organizing the pageant. We also thank Holly Van Auken, Linda Eckel and Samuel McCann for volunteering their time and energy this semester in Kids' Club. Terry Cast served as accompanist for the pageant. The Fellowship & Hospitality committee, co-chaired by Harry Wright & Lisa Upton, sponsored the potluck. A good time was had by all.





## Known Joys and Concerns

### Those who seek healing

Gene Bergstresser  
 Lola Carroll  
 Sandy Clarke  
 Janice Crump  
 Jim Eckel  
 Dave Iske  
 Vince Leseney  
 Barbara Robinson  
 Kay Anderson  
 Carol Broderson (Karen Upton's cousin)  
 Britany Clark (daughter of Paul Upton's co-worker)  
 Kenny Comer (Karen Girdner's niece's husband)  
 Carol Gadd (Ann Forsyth's cousin)  
 Emily Hale (Jessica Farris' friend's sister-in-law)  
 Don Harmon (friend of Larry & Loreen Upton)  
 Judy Haworth (Jayelle Martin's sister)  
 Norma Hayes (Janice Crump's sister-in-law)  
 Dan Loomis (friend of Bill & Betty Silman)  
 Tod Luttrell (friend of Doris Hinson)  
 Savannah Moseley (daughter of Ann Forsyth's cousin)  
 Patrick Upton (nephew of Larry and Loreen Upton)  
 Kathy Ellison Vanderburg (former classmate of Jona Thiessen)  
 Keith Vermillion (PE teacher at Jessica Farris' school)

### Those who grieve

Family of Michelle McCully (Bill & Betty Silman's great niece)  
 Family of Robert Cunningham (Jona Thiessen's father)  
 Family of George Sites (Georjana Mauldin's father)  
 Family of Bob Rose (son of Judy Talley-Dale)

### Those who serve in mission fields

Ted & Tina Crump (Ted is Janice Crump's grandson)

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

**"For I know the plans I have for you,"  
 declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you  
 and not to harm you, plans to give you  
 hope and a future."  
 Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)**

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## January Birthdays

1	Kerri Autry
4	Cassie Eckel
6	Audrey Stensrud
9	Karen Girdner
10	Judy Burns
14	Warren Beck Devyn Upton
19	Charles Johnson
24	Kelsey Hudson Melinda Clements
26	Nancy Silman
27	Rachel Klenda Ross Forsyth
28	Jim Annoh
29	Julie Forthman Jessica Farris
30	Jeff Roesel
31	Ashu Abunaw

## January Anniversaries

1	John & Susan Beck (1996) Joe & Jan Garlett Rob & Traci Cunningham (1989)
2	Will & Jessica Farris (2010)
22	Jim & Linda Eckel



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

Number 5 of 12 short articles

Dwight Mission School had many ups and downs, many openings and closings. Sometimes it was a school only for boys, sometimes only for girls, and sometimes it was a boarding school. At one time it included a high school.

In 1860 Dwight Mission was in big trouble! At the beginning of the Civil War the Presbyterian American Board of Mission closed all Cherokee missions except Dwight. In August 1861 the Cherokee Nation entered into an alliance with the Confederacy. The Cherokees were among many in the area who owned black slaves although the missionaries and staff were advised not to take sides.

By the summer of 1863 the Rev. Worchester Willey remained at Dwight with only his own five children and a teacher, Miss Esther Smith. There were few civilians left in the Cherokee Nation and all communication with the North was cut off. Union and Confederate troops, in desperation, raided Dwight of food, livestock, and all its belongings in spite of the Rev. Willey's attempts to stop the pillage. At one point the family had only one biscuit to eat each day. In November of 1864 Willey had to chase Union soldiers six miles to recover his stolen oxen before he and his brave family could leave the desolate Dwight campus to seek refuge at Fort Gibson. Where was the Holy Spirit during this agonizing and threatening time? Right there, at Dwight Mission, lovingly caring for and giving courage to His servants.

Please support Dwight Mission in any way you can and remember Dwight staff in your prayers.

Submitted by Mary Helen Hite, Historian, Indian Nations Presbyterian Women

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



Photo is of Dwight's small museum which is on the National Registry of Historic Places. Some of the logs are from a cabin which survived the Civil War.

***"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes.***

***Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before...***

***So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life.***

***Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it.***

***Make your mistakes, next year and forever."***

***— Neil Gaiman***

Another fresh new year is here ...  
Another year to live!  
To banish worry, doubt, and fear,  
To love and laugh and give!

This bright new year is given me  
To live each day with zest ...  
To daily grow and try to be  
My highest and my best!

I have the opportunity  
Once more to right some wrongs,  
To pray for peace, to plant a tree,  
And sing more joyful songs!

— William Arthur Ward

If this is to be a Happy New Year,  
a year of usefulness,  
a year in which we shall live  
to make this earth better,  
it is because God will direct our  
pathway.

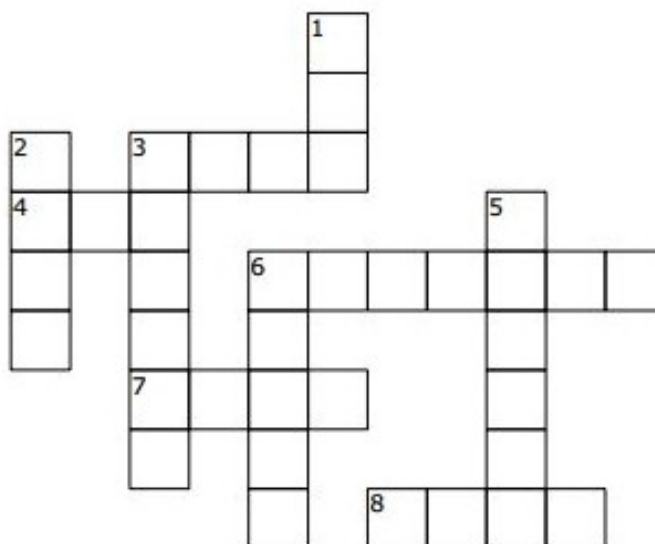
How important then, to feel our  
dependence upon Him!

— Matthew Simpson

# The Call of Samuel

And the Lord came and called as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel replied, "Speak, your servant is listening." 1 Samuel 3:10 (NLT)

Based on 1 Samuel 3:1-10



## ACROSS

3. Another name for God
4. A priest in the temple at Shilo (1 Samuel 3:1)
6. A person who is employed to do work for another person
7. The pair of organs of seeing in the faces of humans and animals
8. To ask someone to come to you

## DOWN

1. A piece of furniture with a flat surface that a person can lie on to sleep
2. Not strong
3. To give attention to a person who is speaking
5. A boy who ministered with Eli
6. To say words; to use the voice

SAMUEL	SPEAK	CALL	ELI	WEAK
BED	EYES	LORD	SERVANT	LISTEN



# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Office Closed for New Year's Day  10:00 A.M. Serve at Food for Friends	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 10:55 A.M. Celebration of the Lord's Supper 12:00 P.M. Worship & Music Meeting 4:30 P.M. Deacons Meeting	<b>5</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>6</b>  7:00 P.M. Fellowship & Hospitality Meeting	<b>7</b>  No Kid's Club	<b>8</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 10:55 A.M. Ordination & Installation of new officers	<b>12</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>13</b>  6:00 P.M. Mission & Evangelism Meeting  7:00 P.M. Christian Education Meeting	<b>14</b>  3:15 P.M. Kid's Club  7:00 P.M. Building & Grounds Meeting	<b>15</b> Submissions for Annual Report Due  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 12:00 P.M. Over 80 Celebration  5:30 P.M. Stewardship Meeting	<b>19</b> Office closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>20</b>  7:00 P.M. Session Meeting	<b>21</b>  3:15 P.M. Kid's Club	<b>22</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>23</b>  Articles for February Messenger Due	<b>24</b>  5:00-8:00 P.M. "Cabin Fever" Social in FH
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  3:15 P.M. Kid's Club	<b>29</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

### SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

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

### MIDWEEK REGULAR SCHEDULE

Wednesday: Kids' Club 3:15 P.M.  
Children's Choir 5:00 P.M.

Thursday: Bible Study 10:30 A.M.  
Chancel Choir 6:30 P.M.