



MEMORIAL

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Latest News

The Urban Mission item of the month for August is Peanut Butter. Please place your donation in the box by the church information table.

School supplies donation for Jackson Elementary School
August 6th– 13th.

Indoor Garage Sale August 20th.

Sunday School fall kickoff is August 21st. Join us at 9:30 for potluck breakfast, fellowship, and to learn more about classes.

Community News

The Norman Chapter of Parents Helping Parents will meet on Thursday, August 11 at 7:00 PM at the Education Center at Norman Regional Hospital, located at 901 North Porter in Norman.

Guest speakers will be AJ Basquine, LPC and Katherine Leidy, ABC, APR from Red River Youth Academy. They will provide an overview of Red River's services and will discuss strategies for addressing behavioral issues in teens.

Parents Helping Parents is a network of parents/grandparents/caregivers concerned about substance use disorders in their children (both adolescents and adults). The group offers hope through shared experi-

ence, resources, and education. They promote prevention and intervention, collaborative efforts and increased access to information/services, and provide support.

For more information, call 278-1221 or go to the website: www.ParentsHelpingParents.info.

Norman Public Schools is in dire need of bus drivers. Full & Part-time positions available. Info at www.norman.k12.ok.us

or NPS Transportation Dept. at 405-366-5965.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

Last week, spurred on by the impending visit of a friend, I started cleaning out my guest room closet. It is the default place I use to store things that don't really have a place in my home. Apparently I have a LOT of things that "don't have a place!"

I began looking through a box of pictures, which were actually in the wrong place (I have a place for them!). I started categorizing them by periods of my life: time at seminary, work at my first church, that time I lived in California, etc. As I flipped through the pictures, I quickly passed by the photos of beautiful vistas, interesting buildings or lovely foliage. It was the pictures of people I knew that I sat with as I remembered the stories the photos told.

I couldn't help but share a few memories that came to mind. Thanks to cell phones and texting, I quickly took a pictures of a picture and sent it to various friends with a "Remember this?" or a "What was happening here?" Over the miles we shared our comments and reflections on our time together.

It's really quite simple. What is important to us are the relationships. At least that is what I am finding for myself. How about you? I treasure the interesting places I visit, but if I can't share those experiences, even in the retelling of them, what is the point?

That is what a faith community is about, too. We come together to share our stories. To remind each other of the faith journey we have travelled in the past and are now travelling together.

I have grown to love the portion of our worship where we share joys and concerns. I love that this congregation is a place where people feel safe and encouraged enough to open their hearts to let others know what is going on in their lives. All the things that are mentioned are important to someone, and so they become important to us all.

There is risk in opening ourselves up, but that is what is required in relationship. Whether it is in sharing a joy or concern, making a new friend, or rekindling a relationship from the past, we take a risk when we allow others to know and hold what is dear to us.

Our relationship with God is like this, too. We make ourselves vulnerable when we allow God into our lives fully. We are vulnerable because we can be changed. We are not in charge any longer.

These are risks we can take with God, and risks that we can take with one another. I encourage you to become vulnerable in your encounters with God as you become vulnerable in your encounters with God's children.

Grace and peace,

Tracy

Clerk's Corner

Session met on Tuesday, July 12 for their regular meeting. The following actions were taken:

- (1) Approved Mission & Evangelism fall project
- (2) Approved the recommendation from Stewardship to establish a theological education fund to help Samuel McCann.

Also, there were two visitors from the Committee on Ministry from Presbytery, Dan Junkin and Bob Rogers. Members of COM try to visit every church within our Presbytery at least once every three years. It had been over 5 years since anyone from COM had visited with our session.

The next meeting of session will be on August 16 at 7PM
Joan Cole, Clerk of Session

Stewardship Update			
July 1 to July 31, 2016			
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2016 Budget
Pledges	\$86,089.60	\$88,627.00	\$151,932.00
Other Income	\$6,395.48	\$15,166.62	\$26,000.00
Total Income	\$92,485.08	\$103,793.62	\$177,932.00
Total Expenses	\$107,216.15	\$110,436.27	\$189,321.00



At a special meeting of session, the Ruling Elders overwhelmingly approved bringing Samuel McCann under care of this congregation as he begins the discernment process toward Ministry of Word and Sacrament. He began his work at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in July with Hebrew I (he received a 99 on his final exam!). He is now taking Hebrew II before his regular Fall semester.

The session appointed Melissa Gill as his liaison. Samuel will need to travel to Oklahoma to meet with the presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, among other requirements. Our congregation is responsible for a portion of his expenses. The session has set up a dedicated account for this. You are invited to contribute at any time.

Samuel welcomes your prayers and support. If you would like to send a card or note, his address is: P.T.S Box #181, 616 N. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA, 15206 (note: this is not a P.O. Box).

August Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Tim Thiessen

August 7

Ushers: Larry and Lisa Upton

Communion Servers: John Beck, Loreen Upton, Holly Van Auken, Donna Vint

Coffee: Georjana & Holly

Sound Booth: Larry Upton

Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard

Nursery Assistant: Joan Cole

Lock-up: Charlotte Lovett

August 14

Ushers: John and Susan Beck

Coffee: Trudy & Ann

Sound Booth: Dave Iske

Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner

Nursery Assistant: Susan Beck

Lock-up: Doug Forsyth

August 21

Ushers: Kirk and Jessica Forthman

Coffee: Jim & Lisa

Sound Booth: Will Farris

Acolyte Assistant: Jona Thiessen

Nursery Assistant: Trudy Beard/Karen Girdner

Lock-up: Mike Girdner

August 28

Ushers: Jessica and Will Farris

Coffee: Linda & Donna

Sound Booth: Mike Cole

Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton

Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint

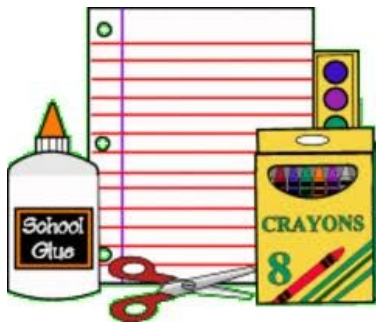
Lock-up: John Beck

MISSION OPPORTUNITY FOR AUGUST - SCHOOL SUPPLIES!!!

We are pleased to invite everyone to help our neighborhood kids at Jackson Elementary School get ready for school this fall. School Counselor David Wilson, has advised us that the most critical need is basic supplies such as: pencils, wire-bound notebooks, folders with brads, pencil cap erasers, wide-ruled filler paper, composition notebooks, scissors, water-based school markers, water paint sets, black dry erase markers, simple hand-held pencil sharpeners, glue sticks, bottled school glue, packages of colored construction paper.

He says they have plenty of backpacks and rulers.

We will collect these items over the next two Sundays - August 6th and 13th. School starts Augusts 18th.



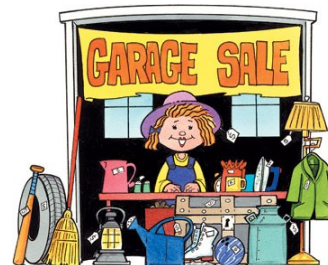
Thanks,
Mission & Evangelism Committee



Indoor Garage Sale

Do you have some "trash" that may be someone else's "treasure"? Our Indoor Garage Sale will be August 20th. We want your stuff! Proceeds go to our camp & conference fund.

Sign up in the church hallway to help set up the week before or the day of the sale. Drop-in helpers are always welcome, too.



Sunday School Kick Off

Sunday School fall kick off is August 21st. Join us at 9:30 for potluck breakfast, fellowship, and to learn more about classes.



Treasures in Heaven

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Luke 12:34 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 12:32-34 (NIV).



V L S P U R S E S H Q L R A G
 E K E P H A R K Z B E Q V G I
 S C L D O L I T T L E A G F V
 R O L P W O W J T U B C R T E
 P G K L F L R I Z H W X H T M
 H O E E G K F A T H E R S O M
 T E S A O X C A H S A L D B U
 H X P S R U N H Y E R G U M E
 I H D E E M D O R N N M P K T
 E A T D W S R U E I Y A O J E
 F U M I V T S V K D K F A T H
 O S P A S A A I P C Y R O Y H
 Q T P E E E R Z O R E A Y C R
 K E D R H T I L I N V I W J H
 X D T X M S F V Y K S D A U L

PURSES	DESTROYS	FATHER	POSSESSIONS	HEAVEN
PLEASED	WEAR	KINGDOM	LUKE	FLOCK
EXHAUSTED	MOTH	HEART	AFRAID	SELL
POOR	TREASURE	THIEF	LITTLE	GIVE

Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

Gene Bergstresser
 Lola Carroll
 Sandy Clarke
 Paula Coffman
 Janice Crump
 Dave Iske
 Vince Leseney
 Jayelle Martin
 Devyn Upton
 Jim & Linda Eckel
 Rhonda Beard (Daughter-in-law of Mike
 & Trudy Beard)
 Debby Vinson (a friend of John Beck)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Family of Ruby Marsh

Joys

Joy for Esau and Nicholine Jangha who
 are new U.S. citizens
 Birth of Jetson Lee Martin July 31 to Kenny
 Martin and Isabella Alexander

Seminary Student

Samuel McCann

In an effort to stay apprised of our on-
 going prayer concerns, prayer requests of
 those outside the MPC family will stay on
 the concerns list for one month. Please let
 the office know if there is a need to be
 listed longer.

To receive prayer requests by email,
 please contact Jona Thiessen at:
jthiessen2@att.net

August Birthdays

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Matthew Stensrud |
| 3 | Ben Rodriguez |
| 5 | Esebe Masango |
| 6 | Diana Johnson
Baldwin Annoh
Alex Pennington |
| 11 | Sandy Johnston |
| 13 | Michael Pennington |
| 18 | Lizzet Annoh |
| 19 | Larry Fisher |
| 21 | Joan Thrailkill |
| 22 | Tamara Iske
Karen Upton |
| 23 | Kerri Bales |
| 24 | Tanner Bunce |
| 25 | John Beck |
| 26 | Scott Wilson |
| 29 | Angie Martin |
| 31 | Kirk Forthman |

August Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 6 | Clint & Kerri Autry |
| 11 | Jimmy & Molly Rambur |
| 14 | Gary & Joan Thrailkill |
| 29 | Charles & Jan Johnson |
| 31 | Bill & Betty Silman |

August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	4	5	6
7	8 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	9 6:00 pm Mission & Evangelism Committee 7:00 pm Christian Ed Meeting	10 6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	11	12	13
14	15 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	16 7:00 pm Session Meeting	17 6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir 5:00P.M. Garage Sale set up	18 5:00P.M. Garage Sale set up	19 5:00P.M. Garage Sale set up	20 8:00 A.M. Indoor Garage Sale
21 9:30A.M. Sunday School Kick off 4:30 P.M. Deacon Meeting 5:30 P.M. Stewardship	22 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	23	24 6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	25	26	27
28	29 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	30	31 6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir			