



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

Latest News

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The Food & Shelter item of the month for February is **Peanut Butter**. Please place your donation in the box by the church information table.

Reminder the **Annual Congregational meeting** is Sunday February 4 after worship. There will also be a **chili tasting**. You are invited to bring a pot of chili or a side, or just bring yourself!



Memorial Presbyterian Church accepts **online donations** through a partnership with the Presbyterian Foundation, via the Presbyterian Mission Exchange. Look for the



"Give Now" button on our website, www.memorialpres.org, or scan the QR code here. Recurring or one-time donations may be made by credit/debit card or by direct transfer from your bank account (EFT). We will continue to accept cash and checks as well.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

Lent is nearly here, that time in the church season that we prepare ourselves for the joyous celebration of Easter and the risen Lord Jesus.

The worship committee has planned some beautiful services, beginning with our **Ash Wednesday** service, which will be February 14 at 7:00 pm. This meaningful time of worship together gives us focus on the dark days of Lent, the reminder of our own mortality, and the depths to which Jesus will go to save us. Worshipers are given the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes on the forehead, a reminder that "from dust we came, and to dust we shall return."

The **Sunday worship services** will include an emphasis on baptism, with the theme of "Create in me a clean heart, O God" from Psalm 51. I hope you will notice all the ways in which the theme will be carried out.

I will be teaching a **Bible Study** on Mondays during Lent, Feb. 19-Mar 26 at 7:00 pm. We will gather in the library to look at the Gospel of Mark. Mark is the primary gospel for this year in the 3-year lectionary cycle. This look at the earliest of the gospels will be accessible to beginners as well as insightful for those who have more experience with the New Testament. This study will be based on the book **Mark's Gospel from Scratch**, by Donald Griggs and Charles Myers, Jr. These well-known professors open our eyes to what we think we know and will challenge us to think beyond ourselves, too. Sign up outside my office so I can get a book for you.

The Norman Ministerial Fellowship will once again be hosting their Lenten Services each Wednesday at noon. There is a 30-minute worship service, with a community pastor preaching, followed by a lunch at 12:30, hosted by the church (a \$5 donation for the meal is suggested). *Memorial will be hosting the lunch on March 7* and we will be needing help! If you can help on the day, or with the preparation that leads up to it, please let me know! This is a great chance to open our doors to our community and let folks know about us.

I look forward to being with you in this season, as together we draw near to the cross.

Grace and peace,

Tracy

CLERK'S CORNER

January's meeting focused on the new year with committee assignments, devotions schedule, worship scripture reader and filling required committee appointments.

Session minutes are available upon request.




Stewardship Update			
January 1 to January 31, 2018			
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2018 Budget
Pledges	\$4,445.00	\$13,125.00	\$157,000.00
Other Income	\$349.75	\$499.99	\$6,000.00
Total Income	\$4,794.75	\$13,624.99	\$163,500.00
Total Expenses	\$12,213.86	\$15,489.95	\$185,881.00

BEHIND THE SCENES

If you want to know more of what Memorial is all about, just walk down the east/west hallway. There you will find bulletin boards with committee reports and assignments. There is a board with a picture of your deacon and that deacon's "flock." There is one with "members in the news." Another has Presbytery info. For our Fellowship and Hospitality events, you'll find sign-up sheets and clever reminders.

Turn the corner and you'll find even more. There is a colorful Valentine's Day board. There are boards close to the fellowship hall with art work done by our children and youth. Lisa Upton and Trudy Beard have been decorating some of these boards, and lately Ann Forsyth has been seen working at all hours to bring life to the many bulletin boards of Memorial. (Sometimes she recruits Doug to assist her.) We appreciate all the faithful working behind the scenes at Memorial. Thanks be to God!



As suggested by the Mission & Evangelism Committee, and approved by Session, we will now collect food for Food & Shelter in Norman, rather than for the Urban Mission in Oklahoma City. This is because we believe that our mission in feeding the hungry should start in our own community.

Our February food collection item will be: Peanut Butter

Food & Shelter is a non-profit organization that started in Norman in 1983 as a weekly lunch program. It is now a fully operational food and shelter program. Their food program, funded in large part by United Way of Norman, serves breakfast and lunch 7 days a week. The CROP WALK, which MPC has participated in for many years, is a major fund-raiser for Food & Shelter.

Food & Shelter also provides a multi-faceted shelter program. Their new campus opened in the summer of 2017, and includes 32 beautiful new small homes, a new kitchen and dining room, and office space. They provide a transitional housing program where families with children can live for up to 2 years, with the care and support of a case manager, to enable them to build stronger, healthier families. They also provide housing for medically vulnerable, chronically homeless single individuals with the support of a case manager. Emergency housing is provided through motel stays. Their new prevention program, a unique strategy in tackling homelessness, is intended to save resources and reduce the trauma moms, dads and children experience with homelessness.

We are happy to support Food & Shelter and the work they do in our community.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

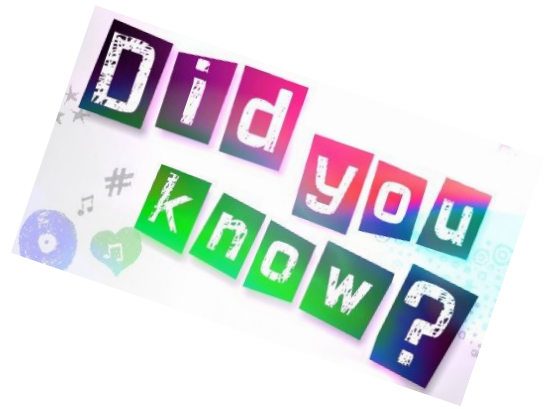
February is a milestone of sorts for Vince Leseney, Memorial's Director of Music. It was ten years ago this month that he accepted our offer of a job here. Tempus fugit!

Home for Vince is Des Moines, Iowa, where his parents still live. Vince lives here with his beautiful and talented wife Mandy Jiran and their boys Jack and Nate Adams. Son Alex is at OU.

Maestro Leseney holds a BS in Vocal Performance from William Jewell College (Liberty, MO) and an MMA in Opera Performance from Oklahoma City University. In addition to his work at Memorial, he is a working actor and Professor of Musical Theater Voice at OU. He also sings lead for the band Monument. (His favorite musical genre is Heavy Metal.)

What's number one on his bucket list? to see son Alex's presidential inauguration in January, 2037.

When asked what he would share with the Memorial community, Vince said, "I am related to both Glenn Miller and Boris Karloff."



**Ash Wednesday Service
February 14 at 7:00pm.**



February Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: John Beck

February 4

Ushers: Larry and Lisa Upton

Communion Servers: Ross Robinson, John Beck, Eileen Burke and Doris Hinson

Coffee: Ann Forsyth and Eileen Burke

Sound Booth: Tim Thiessen

Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton

Nursery Assistant: Joan Cole

Lock-up: Larry Upton

February 11

Ushers: Will and Jessica Farris

Coffee: Grace Tamukong and Holly Van Auken

Sound Booth: Karen Upton

Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole

Nursery Assistant: Susan Beck

Lock-up: Jim Rodriguez

February 18

Ushers: Karen and Paul Upton

Coffee: Loreen and Breanna Upton

Sound Booth: Will Farris

Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard

Nursery Assistant: Trudy Beard and Karen Girdner

Lock-up: Loreen Upton

February 25

Ushers: Loreen Upton and Diana Johnson

Coffee: Mike Cole and Trudy Beard

Sound Booth: Mike Cole

Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner

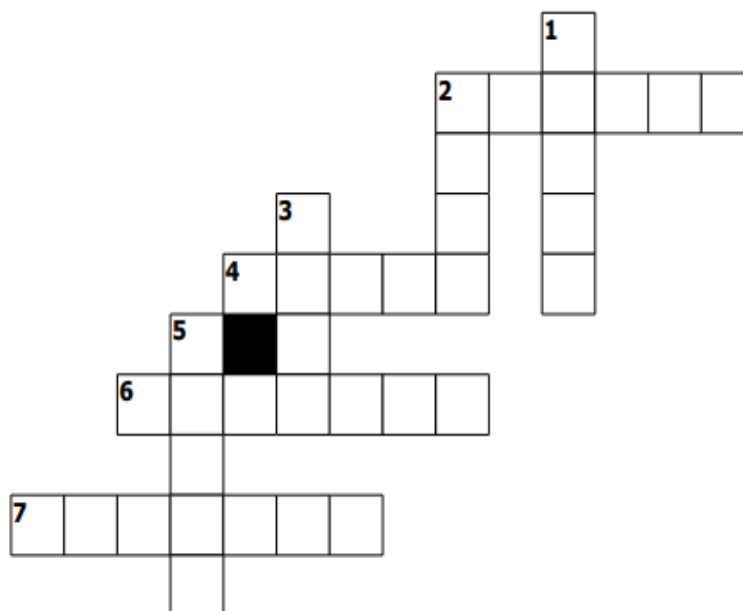
Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint

Lock-up: Trudy Beard

Looking for Jesus

Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" Mark 1:36-37 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Mark 1:35-39



ACROSS

2. To deliver a sermon
4. The opposite of late
6. Searching for something
7. The time from sunrise until noon

DOWN

1. The son of God
2. To talk to God
3. To be without light
5. Located something or someone

LOOKING
DARK

PREACH
EARLY

FOUND
JESUS

MORNING
PRAY

Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

Gene Bergstresser
 Lola Carroll
 Sandy Clarke
 Janice Crump
 Jim Eckel
 Doug Forsyth
 Tamara Iske
 Diana Johnson
 Alice Lanning
 Blair Lanning
 Jayelle Martin
 Harry Wright
 Gerry Harner (Joan Cole's mother)
 Denise Jones (Jayelle Martin's daughter)
 Jan Ferguson (friend of Georjana Mauldin)
 Hudson Von Holt

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Joan and Mike Cole. Joan's mother Gerry died on January 12
 Caitlyn Stensrud-Smith and her husband, Alexander. Alex's mother, Nina Smith, died December 23
 Family and Friends of Anita Harkey who died on December 13
 Andrea Eyabi, whose brother Francis Arrey died November 27.

Seminary Student

Samuel McCann, Pittsburgh Theo. Seminary

We lift up in prayer the country of Cameroon and pray for the unrest our brothers and sisters are experiencing there.

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.

February Birthdays

3 John D. Montgomery, Jr.
 4 Tim Mauldin
 5 Cody Yeager
 6 Laurianne Fisher
 9 Gysheilla Jangha
 11 Susan Annoh
 13 Terry Williams
 16 Mary Clark
 17 Ryan Johnson
 20 Jim Eckel
 24 Georjana Mauldin
 25 Kyra Nahbum
 26 Larry Upton, Jr.
 Will Farris
 27 Jim Rodriguez
 29 Jody Yeager

February Anniversaries

11 Mike & Joan Cole
 14 Jim & Judy Burns
 19 Nathan & Cassie DeClaire

February 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

12:00 P.M.
Congregational
Meeting and
Chili Tasting

5

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

6

7

3:00 p.m. Kids'
Club
4:00 p.m.
Children's Choir
6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir

8

9

10

11

12

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

13

14 3:00 p.m.
Kids' Club

15

16

17

4:00 p.m.
Children's Choir
7:00 p.m. Ash
Wednesday
Service
8:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir

18

12:00 P.M.
Deacons
Meeting
5:30 P.M.
Stewardship
Meeting

19

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

20

7:00 P.M Session
Meeting

21

3:00 p.m. Kids'
Club
4:00 p.m.
Children's Choir
6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

3:00 p.m. Kids'
Club
4:00 p.m.
Children's Choir
6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir