

# Memorial Messenger

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

# June/July 2015



## Latest News

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for June is **corn**. Please place your donation in the box by the church information table.

The next **Men's Breakfast** is scheduled for Saturday, June 13. The speaker is yet to be determined. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for good food and fellowship.

**Vacation Bible School** is scheduled for June 22-25. The theme for VBS is "Animal Crackers" using a curriculum from Heifer International. We will meet each evening from 6:00-8:00 P.M. with a closing All-Church Celebration on Friday, June 26 at 6:00 P.M. hosted by the Fellowship & Hospitality committee. Everyone is invited to meet in the fellowship hall for an old-fashioned Sloppy Joe dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet for those wishing to contribute to the meal. It's going to be a fabulous time to join for a meal, visit, and hear about how great VBS was from our Memorial Kids. Mark this date on your calendar and join us for an evening of fellowship, food and fun.

We will have a **movie night** in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 26 at 6:00 P.M. We will show *The Good Lie*, and hot dogs and popcorn will be available.

The annual **Cole Invitational** is tentatively scheduled for August 8-9, 2015. Mike & Joan Cole cordially invite you to their place at Lake Eufaula. The big caveat with this is: WEATHER PERMITTING. So right now, put this on your calendar. The Coles will be assessing the feasibility as the water recedes.

Do you have extraneous stuff taking up space in your closets or garage? Well, let us take it off your hands! Fellowship and Hospitality will be hosting a church **Yard Sale** on Saturday, August 15. We will be taking donations on Sunday, August 9 after church as well as Wed.-Fri., August 12-14, from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall. Please have your donated items pre-marked. Watch for the "volunteer" sign-up sheet for this event. If you have any questions about the church yard sale, contact any F&H member or Lisa Upton.

## Clerk's Corner

The Session of Memorial Presbyterian Church met on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. Session approved a facility use request for the use of the fellowship hall. The following information was provided by the Christian Education Committee: no Sunday School for children & youth in the summer; Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 22-25. Mission & Evangelism announced a new project starting in July: we will be collecting backpacks for children K-5, to be given to a grade school at the beginning of the school year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Cole  
Clerk of Session

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Friends,

The 50th Anniversary Celebration is now in the books. What a wonderful day of celebration we had as we gathered in worship, reconnected with friends old and new, and shared stories of MPC memories. We honored those who laid the foundation for this congregation to continue its witness to the grace of God for this half century.

Be sure and check out the pictures from the day, as well as the slide show and video we viewed during the delicious lunch.

So many hands and hearts went into this event. A word of thanks to each of you for your time, talent and energy. We really came together for a great day.

It seems to me that an anniversary provides us a time to reflect on where we have been, and where we will be headed in the future. We may not know what the journey has in store for us, but we know and trust that we have the God of love and grace who will be our guide, our encourager, and our partner.

As we baptized Louisa Baker in worship that day, I thought about the many who have been baptized by this congregation, who have had their faith nurtured by others, who have known the comfort of this family of faith. It is a privilege to serve with you. I look forward to journeying with you as we begin the next 50 years!

Grace and peace to you,  
Tracy

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Our near future plans for our youth and children—as we begin the next 50 years—include Vacation Bible School and Summer Camp!

VBS will be June 22-26, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. If you can help in any way, from leading or assisting a class, providing a snack or just showing up, WE CAN USE YOU! Contact Jessica Farris or Tracy. Friday evening will be an All Church Supper, with entertainment from the VBS kids.

Our youth will be going to summer camp at Dwight Mission the week of July 19. Our “Envelope Fundraiser” was a huge success. With over \$4,000 in the Camps & Conferences Fund, we are so very grateful that our youth can devote a full week to experiencing outdoor fun, learning and worship in a wonderfully supportive Christian environment. This is an investment that will reap benefits galore. We will also have reserve funds that will give us a start on next year, when we anticipate sending high school students to Triennium.

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

50TH ANNIVERSARY



## Children of God, Welcome Home

THANKS to all who made Memorial's 50th Anniversary Celebration a tremendous success! It was a remarkable day in the life of our church as we welcomed home friends and celebrated as a congregation. Special thanks to the following people for their exceptional work!

Michael Yeager for composing the anthem *God Welcomes Us Home*. What a treasure for future generations to preserve this special occasion!

Lucy Lanning, Vince Leseney and Pastor Tracy Evans for creating a meaningful and incredibly special worship service that day. Special thanks to Lucy for our theme, "Children of God, Welcome Home!"

Norma Taylor, Trudy Beard and Eileen Burke for their hard work and research in gathering and organizing a list of past and present members for the purpose of sending out invitations.

Breanna Upton and Loreen Upton for their inspired design and creation of table linens and decorations. Each piece was lovingly sewn by hand and will be cherished and used for many future celebrations.

Donna Vint and Harry Wright for publicity, awards, and the wonderful article in the newspaper.

Jim ("nothing slows me down") Rodriguez for creating the outstanding video and slide show.

Paul Phelps, who worked with Jim, but also as editor, advisor, photographer, and friend.

Georjana Mauldin and Tracy Evans for their brilliant artistic skills in conceiving and creating the 50th Anniversary banner (special thanks to Georjana for the surprise stoles).

Terry Cast for his extraordinary skills in making our beautiful invitations, doing our accounting and guest count, all while being so very patient and kind to me every step of the way.

Joan Thrailkill who created, budgeted, shopped for, cooked, and served one of the finest, most delicious and elegant meals we have ever served. From the cups, plates and all the food.... It was ALL Joan! Special thanks to her son Tyler for cooking with her that day.

This celebration day was a collaborative effort. Thanks to the Deacons for calling their flocks, and to Cassie, Devyn, and Kierstyn Upton, Chelsea Thiessen, Paige Girdner, and all of our spouses who graciously served, washed dishes, cleaned, and helped put it all back together.

The 50th Anniversary Committee started 8 months ago with a mission to honor a historic event in our church. Along the way we created treasures for future generations, many happy memories, and I believe lifelong friendships.

Looking forward to the next 50!

Thanks again, and Peace be with You All.  
Jona Thiessen

P.S. A number of photos from the occasion are included in this newsletter, courtesy of Paul Phelps, photographer. The slideshow can be seen online at MPC's website or Facebook page.

The Fiftieth Anniversary Committee:

Jona Thiessen, Chair  
Trudy Beard  
Susan Beck  
Eileen Burke  
Tracy Evans  
Lucy Lanning  
Georjana Mauldin  
Paul Phelps  
Jim Rodriguez  
Norma Taylor  
Joan Thrailkill  
Breanna Upton  
Loreen Upton  
Donna Vint





Early arrivals begin to fill the sanctuary before worship. 115 people attended the service.



Lunch was served to an estimated 120 people by the kitchen crew, which included Joan Thrailkill, Tyler Thrailkill, Jona Thiessen, Bre Upton, Cassie Upton, Devyn Upton, Kierstyn Upton, Loreen Upton, Chelsea Thiessen, & Paige Girdner.



## June Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Carl Forthman

### June 7

Ushers: Trudy Beard and Linda Eckel  
Communion Servers: John and Susan Beck, Lucy Lanning, and Michael Yeager  
Coffee: Jim Rodriguez and Lisa Upton  
Sound Booth: Mike Girdner  
Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole  
Nursery Assistant: Karen Upton  
Lock-up: Charlotte Lovett

### June 14

Ushers: Carolyn Montgomery and Harold Conner  
Coffee: John Beck and Donna Vint  
Sound booth: Mike Cole  
Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard  
Nursery Assistant: Joan Cole  
Lock-up: Doug Forsyth

### June 21

Ushers: Mike and Karen Girdner  
Coffee: Esau Jangha and Linda Eckel  
Sound booth: Larry Upton  
Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner  
Nursery Assistant: Susan Beck  
Lock-up: Joe Garlett

### June 28

Ushers: Charles and Jan Johnson  
Coffee: Joan Thrailkill and Jona Thiessen  
Sound booth: Tim Thiessen  
Acolyte Assistant: Jona Thiessen  
Nursery Assistant: Trudy Beard or Karen Girdner  
Lock-up: Mike Girdner

## July Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Joe Garlett

The ushers and communion servers will be listed in the June mid-month newsletter.

July 5

Coffee: Jim Rodriguez and Lisa Upton  
Sound Booth: Dave Iske  
Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton  
Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint  
Lock-up: Mike Cole

July 12

Coffee: John Beck and Donna Vint  
Sound booth: Will Farris  
Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole  
Nursery Assistant: Linda Eckel  
Lock-up: Harry Wright

July 19

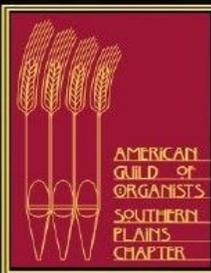
Coffee: Esau Jangha and Linda Eckel  
Sound booth: Mike Cole  
Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard  
Nursery Assistant: Karen Upton  
Lock-up: Trudy Beard

July 26

Coffee: Joan Thrailkill and Jona Thiessen  
Sound booth: Mike Girdner  
Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner  
Nursery Assistant: Joan Cole  
Lock-up: Joan Cole

<b>Stewardship Update</b>			
January 1 to May 31, 2015			
	<b>Actual YTD</b>	<b>Budget YTD</b>	<b>2015 Budget</b>
<b>Pledges</b>	\$57,477.30	\$62,496.65	\$149,992.00
<b>Other Income</b>	\$9,251.12	\$13,997.45	\$33,594.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$66,728.42	\$76,494.10	\$183,586.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$73,074.64	\$61,984.00	\$185,954.00

# THE SOUTHERN PLAINS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS PRESENTS **PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS**



## **HYMN FESTIVAL: "HYMNS OF THE CHURCH YEAR"**

**Sunday, June 14 ~ University Lutheran Church ~ 7:30 PM**

Presented by members of the Southern Plains Chapter of the American Guild of Organists in conjunction with community musicians, this program features beloved hymns that explore the seasons of the church.

## **SILENT FILM: "THE GENERAL"**

**Monday, June 15 ~ Catlett Music Center, Sharp Hall ~ 7:30 PM**

See Buster Keaton in this timeless comedy.

OU Professor of Music Dr. John Schwandt presents live accompaniment on the 1931 Möller organ, just as it would have been experienced at its debut!



## **FEATURE ARTIST CONCERT: STEPHEN THARP**

**Tuesday, June 16 ~ Catlett Music Center, Gothic Hall ~ 7:30 PM**

World renowned concert artist Stephen Tharp returns to OU to present a varied program on the spectacular C.B. Fisk organ in Grayce B. Kerr Gothic Hall. An event not to be missed!



Thomas Murray  
Yale University

Catherine Rodland  
St. Olaf College

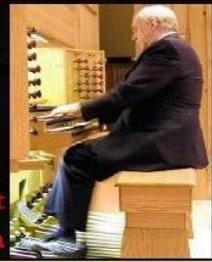
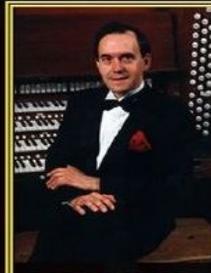
## **FACULTY RECITAL**

**Thursday, June 18 ~ Catlett Music Center ~ 7:30 PM**

Four faculty members teaching in the Pipe Organ Encounter and representing the finest pedagogues and performers in the nation present a program on OU's two performance instruments.

Isabelle Demers  
Baylor University

Delbert Disselhorst  
Emeritus, University of Iowa



**ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

University Lutheran Church is located at 914 Elm Avenue, Norman, OK 73072.  
Catlett Music Center is located at 500 W. Boyd Street, Norman, OK 73019.  
For more information, call (405) 325-7829.

## Known Joys and Concerns

### Those who seek healing

Gene Bergstresser  
Lola Carroll  
Sandy Clarke  
Janice Crump  
Dave Iske  
Vince Leseney  
Jim Rodriguez  
Gail Bender (Jessica Forthman's mother)  
Carol Broderson (Karen Upton's cousin)  
Britany Clark (Daughter of Paul Upton's co-worker)  
Karen Doviak (Jona Thiessen's friend)  
Carol Gadd (Ann Forsyth's cousin)  
Emily Hale (Jessica Farris's friend's sister-in-law)  
Lee Harlan (Jona Thiessen's uncle)  
Deanna Heath (Jessica Farris's co-worker)  
Michael Hernandez (Jayelle Martin's second cousin, once removed)  
Dan Loomis (friend of Bill & Betty Silman)  
Tod Luttrell (friend of Doris Hinson)  
Savannah Moseley (daughter of Ann Forsyth's cousin)  
Conner Otis (Paige Girdner's friend)  
Jane Thomas (friend of Charlotte Lovett)  
Kathy Ellison Vanderburg (former classmate of Jona Thiessen)  
Keith Vermillion (PE teacher at Jessica Farris' school)  
Jim Webb (Doris Hinson's friend)

### Those who grieve

Family of Michael Johnson (son of Charles & Jan Johnson)  
Family of Charles Forthman (Carl Forthman's brother)  
Family of Kenny Comer (Karen Girdner's niece's husband)  
Family of Jack Girdner (Mike Girdner's father)  
Cornelius Annoh, whose father passed away in Cameroon, and family  
Family of Baby Emma (Jayelle Martin's great, great niece)  
Family of Shannon Booth (Tamara Iske's friend)

### Those who serve in mission fields

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

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

- 2 Doris Hinson
- 9 Briana Bliss  
Todd Forsyth
- 11 Paul Phelps
- 12 Cassie Upton
- 14 Lyne-Maris Sama
- 16 Zyan Autry
- 18 Paul Upton
- 22 Carolyn Montgomery  
Kierstyn Upton
- 25 Judd Lanning
- 27 Rod Pennington
- 28 Linda Rodriguez
- 29 Corey Fisher  
Gary Thrailkill

## July Birthdays

- 6 Linda Eckel
- 7 James Lovett
- 9 Blessing Sama
- 11 Michael Yeager  
Linda Terrell
- 12 Diane Todd (Jayelle Martin's  
granddaughter)
- 15 Tyler Thrailkill
- 16 Andrew Lanning
- 17 Laura Eckel
- 18 Cornelius Annoh
- 19 Billy Jones (Jayelle Martin's  
grandson)
- 20 Bella Eckel
- 21 Ewane Masango
- 22 Lisa Upton
- 24 Wade Forthman
- 30 Ross Robinson



## June Anniversaries

- 5 Larry & Loreen Upton
- 5 Rachel & Michael Klenda
- 8 Dave & Tamara Iske
- 15 Wade & Amanda Forthman
- 18 Doug & Ann Forsyth
- 22 Bill & Margaret Storm

## July Anniversaries

- 3 Paul & Erica Phelps
- 9 Bill & Norma Taylor (1950)
- 13 Harry Wright & Donna Vint (2002)
- 31 Linda Terrell & David Wilson

THE ACTIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF DWIGHT MISSION  
(Number 9 of 12 short articles)

The Rev. Frederick Schaub was still director of Dwight Mission school when Oklahoma became a state on Nov 16, 1907. From the changing conditions attending the building of the new State came public schools (only for those speaking English). But for the Cherokee-speaking families, bewildered by all the changes, the Mission school was their only hope. The comfort the students found on the Dwight campus was a daily blessing of the Holy Spirit.

By 1905 there no longer was a Cherokee Nation. They no longer had their own government which had operated since 1820. Therefore they lost their voting rights until WWI when they were needed in the military. Some of the tribal land was bought by the U.S. Government. The rest of the land which had belonged to the entire tribe, as was their custom, was apportioned out to individual families. Many white settlers had moved into the area and law enforcement was unreliable. One of Dwight's schoolboys told his teacher, "Up our way, there ain't no kind of company but bad company, and a fellow does what he pleases."

Not so for the children at Dwight! Most of them had six hours of basic academic instruction leading toward graduation from the eighth grade. In addition, the older girls and boys practiced household and farming skills for three hours to prepare them for future employment. Dwight Mission was called "the glory of the Cherokees."

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

Mary Helen Hite, Historian,  
Indian Nations Presbyterian Women

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

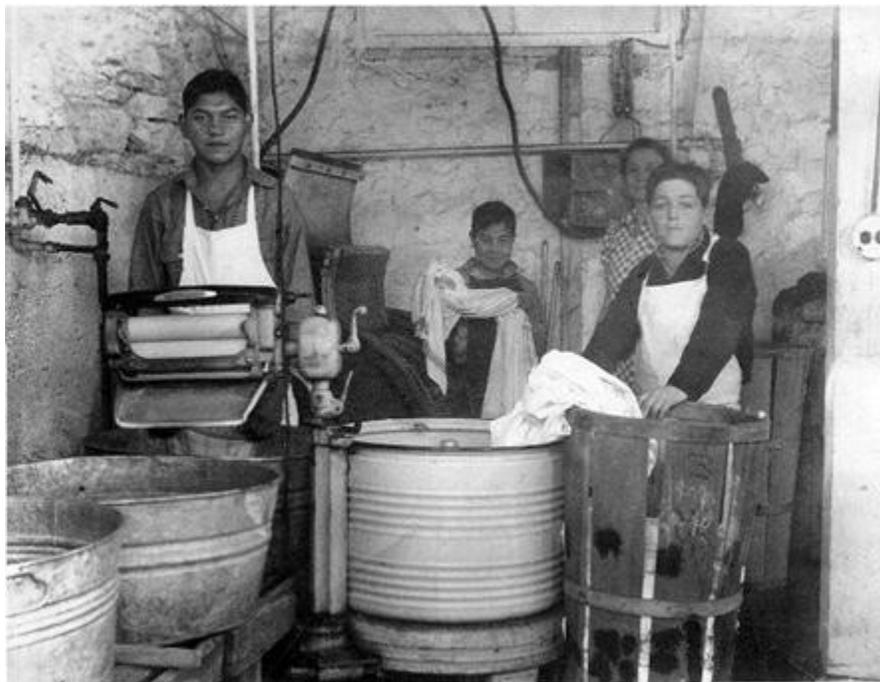
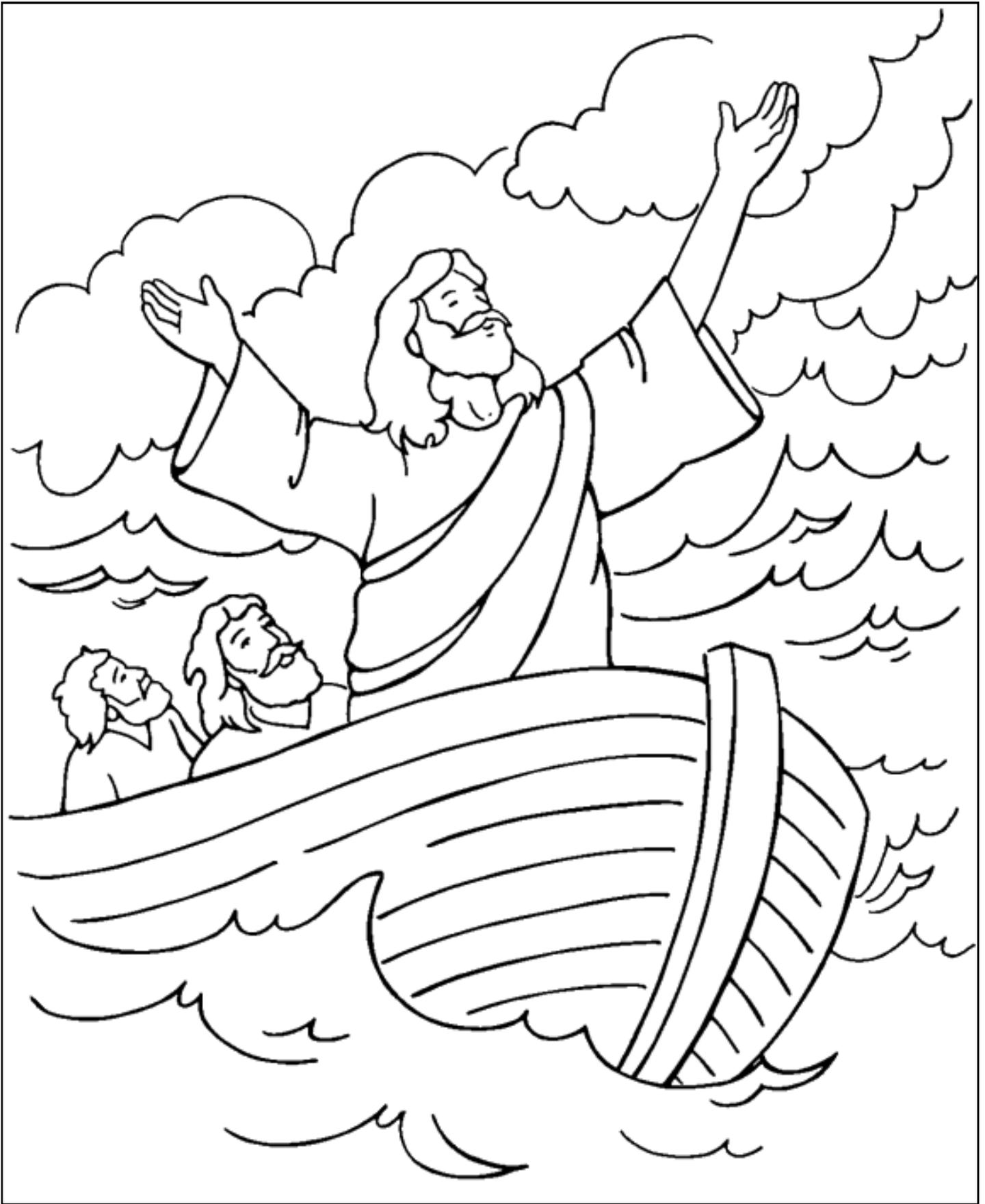


Photo: Children learning laundry skills.



*He (Jesus) got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!"  
Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. Mark 4:39 (NIV)*



*Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)*

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## June 2015

<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Tue.</b>	<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Thu.</b>	<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Sat.</b>
	<b>1</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>4</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	Tri-Presbytery (Tulsa)	
<b>7</b> 10:55 A.M. Celebration of the Lord's Supper 12:00 P.M. Worship & Music Meeting	<b>8</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  5:30 P.M. Nominating Committee Meeting  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>11</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  12:00 P.M. Christian Education Meeting	<b>15</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>18</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  5:30 P.M. Stewardship Meeting	Vacation Bible School, 6:00—8:00 P.M.		<b>24</b>  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	<b>25</b>  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	<b>26</b>  6:00 P.M. All Church Supper and VBS Celebration	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	<b>30</b>				

### SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

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

### MIDWEEK REGULAR SCHEDULE

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

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## July 2015

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	2 10:00 A.M. Serve at Food for Friends  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	3  Office Closed in Observance of Independence Day	4  Independence Day  
5 10:55 A.M. Celebration of the Lord's Supper	6  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	7	8  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	9  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	10	11
12	13  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	14  6:00 P.M. Mission & Evangelism Meeting 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Meeting	15  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	16 10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library  7:00 P.M. Building & Grounds Meeting	17	18
19  5:30 P.M. Stewardship Meeting	20  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	21	22  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	23  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	24	25
26  6:00 P.M. Movie Night— <i>The Good Lie</i>	27  7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	28  7:00 P.M. Session Meeting	29  6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir	30  10:30 A.M. Bible Study in Library	31	

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