



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

Latest News

Inside this Issue:

From the Pastor's Desk	2
Clerk's Corner	3
Stewardship Update	3
March Announcements	4
March Worship Duties	9
Kids Activity	10
Known Joys and Concerns	11
Birthdays and Anniversaries	11
Calendar	12

The Food & Shelter item of the month for March is **peanut butter and jelly**. Please place your donation in the box by the church information table.



Community News

Parents Helping Parents Meeting:
Thursday, March 14, 2019
Topic: Newer Drugs of Abuse & Trends
Speaker: Scott Schaeffer, RPh, DABAT, Managing Director
Oklahoma Center for Poison and Drug Information

Parents Helping Parents Meeting:
Thursday, March 28, 2019
Topic: Parent Participation When a Child Struggles: What's My Part?
Speaker: Mike Boss, Executive Director (emeritus) Oklahoma Outreach, Oklahoma City, OK

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,

Do you ever read something and it is just right? I was looking around for a poem to share with you, specifically looking for something related to Lent. I ran across this poem and absolutely reveled in it. It speaks so beautifully of what I believe God wants us to know: we are loved, fully, purely, without hesitation, and without exception.

Called to Become
by Edwina Gateley

You are called to become
A perfect creation.
No one is called to become
Who you are called to be.
It does not matter
How short or tall
Or thick-set or slow
You may be.
It does not matter
Whether you sparkle with life
Or are as silent as a still pool.
Whether you sing your song aloud
Or weep alone in darkness.
It does not matter
Whether you feel loved and admired
Or unloved and alone
For you are called to become
A perfect creation.
No one's shadow
Should cloud your becoming.

No one's light
Should dispel your spark.
For the Lord delights in you.
Jealously looks upon you
And encourages with gentle joy
Every movement of the Spirit
Within you.
Unique and loved you stand.
Beautiful or stunted in your growth
But never without hope and life.
For you are called to become
A perfect creation.
This becoming may be
Gentle or harsh.
Subtle or violent.
But it never ceases.
Never pauses or hesitates.
Only is—
Creative force—
Calling you
Calling you to become
A perfect creation

At first I wasn't sure why it was in a listing of Lent writings. But as I began to reflect on it, I realized that while it is emphasizing God's love for us, it does not say we are to stay just as we are. The first line tells us that we are called to *become* a perfect creation. And the season of Lent helps us do just that.

Lent is that time when we focus on more intentionally "disciplining" ourselves, learning more about ourselves and the love that God has for us. As we move through Lent into Easter, we focus on the gift of the one who gave his very life for us.

There are a number of opportunities for us to grow in our faith this season. Take a look through this issue of the Messenger.

Grace and peace,
Tracy

Clerk's Corner

The session of Memorial Presbyterian Church met on Tuesday, February 26 at 7PM at the church. The following actions were taken:

1. Approved minor changes to the lease agreement between Memorial Presbyterian Church and the First Congregational Church of Norman.
2. Elected Nick Lindley as the alternate commissioner to Presbytery for the Tri-Presbytery meeting to be held May 31-Jun 1, 2019
3. Approved participation in the four Presbyterian offerings in 2019 (One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace and Global Witness and Christmas Joy).
4. Session approved the purchase of two 8ft and two 6ft commercial grade plastic conference tables for a cost not to exceed \$550.
5. Session approved repairing the roof for \$7500 and having roof maintenance performed every 6 months (at a cost of \$750 per visit) until plans can be put into place to pay for the entire roof repair.

The next meeting of Session will be March 19, 2019 at 7PM

Respectfully,

Joan Cole

Clerk of Session

Stewardship Update			
February 1 to February 31, 2019			
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2019 Budget
Pledges	\$8,013.00	\$19,462	\$151,000.00
Other Income	\$6,944.12	\$7,816	\$12,000.00
Total Income	\$14,957.12	\$27,278	\$163,000.00
Total Expenses	\$12,631.52	\$26,233	\$197,400.00

Worship and Music

Please join us for our Ash Wednesday Service on March 6, at 7:00 pm. We ask that you come in quiet contemplation as we begin our Lenten Spiritual Journey. The journey will continue each Sunday of Lent, leading to Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Glory of the Resurrection.

Building & Grounds

Spring Cleanup

Saturday, April 6 2019 - 8am to Noon - Breakfast provided

All are invited to our annual Spring Cleanup event! Come help us clean, organize and do some basic maintenance on the facility we all share. We will also be going through storage areas looking for ways to better organize what we have and identifying things to be donated and/or discarded.

If you have questions, ideas, suggestions, or random relevant thoughts feel free to contact Larry Upton.

Thanks and peace - Building and Grounds Committee

Ash Wednesday service will be Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend this brief yet meaningful service marking the beginning of the Lent season.



Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

We are having a Fundraiser Spaghetti luncheon on Sunday, March 31st immediately following worship service. Our purpose is to raise funds for our Youth Camps and Conferences coming up this Spring and Summer. We have Youth going to YouthQuake in March, Dwight Mission camps and the Presbytery Triennium this summer. There is a poster in the hallway with a list of donation items needed for the luncheon. Please join us for lunch and help us send our Memorial youth to represent us in the world.

70TH ANNIVERSARY

Seven Decades of Caring through One Great Hour of Sharing

2018
Since 2000, Presbyterians have given more than \$150 million to One Great Hour of Sharing (2000–2018).

2010
In the weeks following the earthquake in Haiti, more than 10,000 families received tools and indigenous seeds purchased in the northern agricultural region of the country using funds given by Presbyterians.

2005
In the ruin after Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans residents were assisted by the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Self-Development of People.

1990s
The faithfulness of Presbyterians through One Great Hour of Sharing and partnerships around the world enables the church to respond quickly to devastating disasters and to undergird people's own development efforts—through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

1980s
Presbyterians give over \$93 million through One Great Hour of Sharing for disaster recovery, refugee resettlement, response to hunger, and development.

1949
First radio broadcast of "One Great Hour," appealing for an offering for war relief in Europe and Asia.

1950s
"One Great Hour of Sharing" is received in Presbyterian churches at Lent/Easter for overseas relief, response to disasters, interchurch aid, and refugee resettlement.

1960s
Waves of Cuban immigrants coming to Florida and the nation's focus on poverty signal inclusion of domestic concerns in One Great Hour of Sharing.

1969
The Presbyterian Church in the U.S. becomes the first denomination in the United States to declare hunger to be a top priority and establishes a Task Force on World hunger.

1970
The crisis in the cities and pressure for civil rights leads the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. to establish the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People.

1970s
The Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People are included in One Great Hour of Sharing.

Please join Tracy for a **Lent Bible study** on Mondays, March 11-April 15, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Study will be **Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week**, by author, professor and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine. Books are available for \$12. Sign up outside Tracy's office.



Memorial has agreed to host one of the Norman community Lenten Worship and Lunch on Wednesday, April 10. This year, we will be co-hosting with First Congregational Church who share our sanctuary. If you would like to help (and we will need it), please let Donna Vint or Loreen Upton know.

The weekly services begin March 13, see full schedule on page 8 in this Messenger.

INDIAN NATIONS PRESBYTERY

Presbytery convened Feb. 22 at First Presbyterian Church in Oklahoma City, led by Moderator Bobbie Heimbach of Central, OKC, and Stated Clerk Rev. Tracy Evans of Memorial, Norman. For two days commissioners and ministers (ruling elders and teaching elders) came together to worship and do the business of the presbytery. We prayed together, dined together, and celebrated communion together. We discussed creating a new mission for the presbytery and were shown a potential reconfiguration of the structure and leadership of Indian Nations Presbytery.

Our presbytery includes churches large and small, churches with full time pastors and associate pastors, churches with no pastor and dependent upon stated supply pastors, churches that are growing and churches that are graying. Please be in prayer for our presbytery, its leaders, the task force that is supporting a time of transition—all brothers and sisters in Christ—working for the glory of God!

Anyone interested in seeing the presbytery packet or finding out more about the issues, feel free to speak to Elder Commissioner Charlotte Lovett or Stated Clerk Rev. Tracy Evans.

M.Y GROUP NEWS
MARCH 2019



ATTENTION ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 6-12, here is our meeting schedule for the month of March

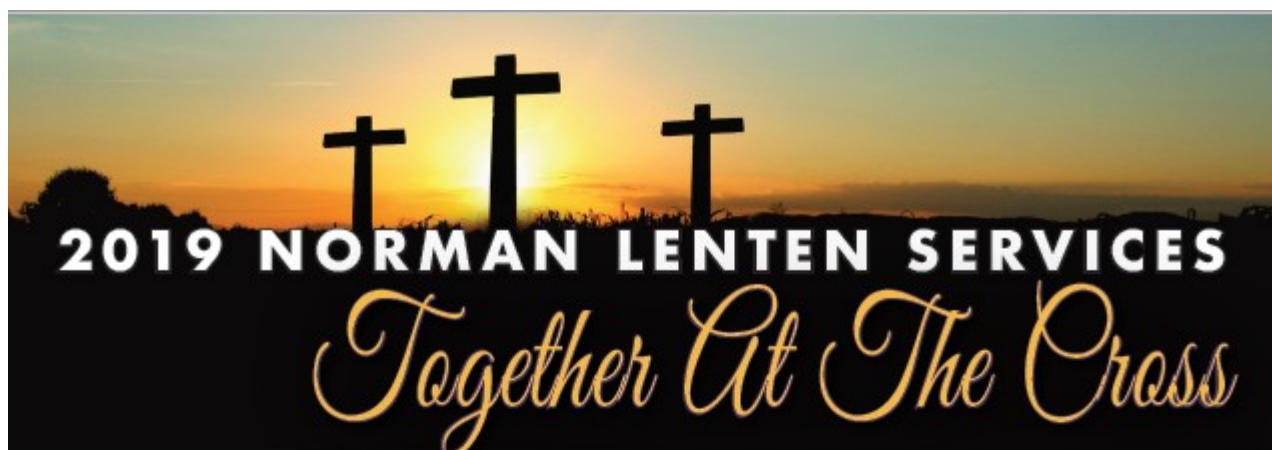
MARCH 24 – Mystery Month

Meal being provided by Alice Lanning

Please contact Joan Cole, 830-8389, if you have any questions or you would like to volunteer to bring a meal.



Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday, March 10. Don't forget to set your clocks an hour ahead!



ALL SERVICES BEGIN AT NOON

A \$5 lunch is served at 12:35 p.m.



MARCH 13

**FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH**

211 W. Comanche St.

Guest Pastor: Jakob Topper
NorthHaven Church



APRIL 3

**GRACE
FELLOWSHIP**

102 W. Eufaula St.

Guest Pastor: Daniel Kitchel
The Cross Church of Norman



MARCH 20

**FIRST CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**

220 S. Webster Ave.

Guest Pastor: Peggy Farris
Retired Minister



APRIL 10

**MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN/
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

601 24th Ave. SW

Guest Pastor: Jeannie Himes
St. Stephens Methodist Church



MARCH 27

**MCFARLIN MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

419 S. University Blvd.

Guest Pastor: Wade Smith
First Baptist Church



APRIL 17

**ALAMEDA CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

801 Alameda St.

Guest Pastor: Mike Butler
CrossPointe Church

**AT THE CONCLUSION OF EACH WORSHIP SERVICE, AN OFFERING
WILL BE TAKEN FOR NORMAN REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM FOUNDATION
PASTORAL CARE SERVICES**

March Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Mike Cole

March 3

Ushers: Jim Rodriguez and Tim Thiessen
Communion Servers: Nick Lindley, Grace Tamukong, Ann Fayles, Linda Eckel
Coffee: Lisa Upton and Ann Fayles
Sound Booth: Mike Cole
Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole
Nursery Assistant: Trudy Beard and Karen Girdner
Lock-up: Loreen Upton

March 10

Ushers: Trudy Beard and Ann Fayles
Coffee: Gladys Jangha and Linda Eckel
Sound Booth: Will Farris
Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard
Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint
Lock-up: Trudy Beard

March 17

Ushers: Melissa Gill and Linda Eckel
Coffee: Ann Forsyth and Eileen Burke
Sound Booth: Mike Girdner
Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner
Nursery Assistant: Linda Eckel
Lock-up: Mike & Joan Cole

March 24

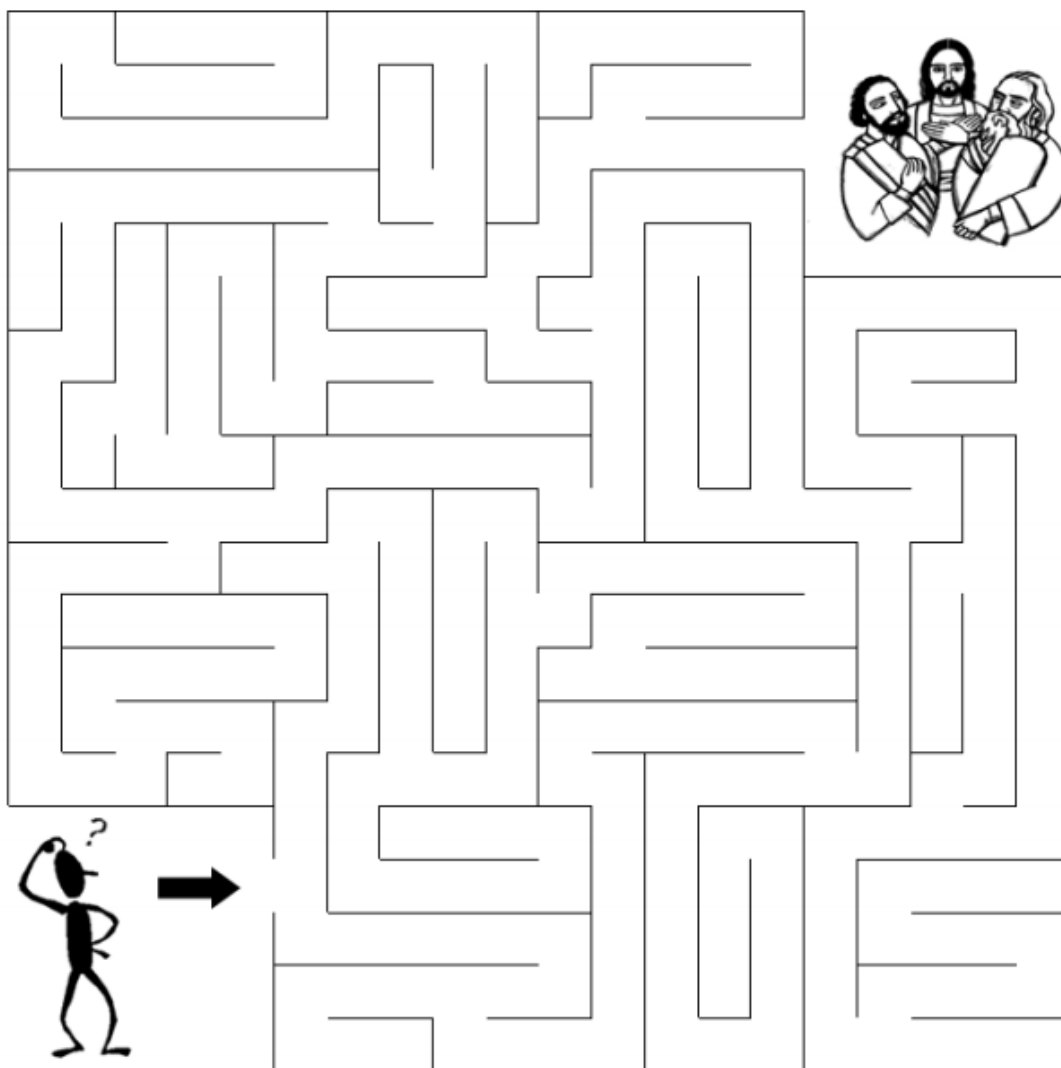
Ushers: Will and Jessica Farris
Coffee: Grace Tamakong and Donna Vint
Sound Booth: Larry Upton
Acolyte Assistant: Melissa Gill
Nursery Assistant: Karen Upton
Lock-up: Charlotte Lovett

March 31

Ushers: Karen and Paul Upton
Coffee: Carl Forthman and Breanna Upton
Sound Booth: Tim Thiessen
Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton
Nursery Assistant: Joan Cole
Lock-up: Doug Forsyth

Transfiguration Maze

Can you find the way to Jesus, Moses, and Elijah on the mountain?



Jesus took Peter, James and John up onto a mountain to pray.
There he was transfigured before them.

Matthew 17, Mark 9, Luke 9

Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

Lola Carroll
 Sandy Clarke
 Jim Eckel
 Laura Eckel
 Doug Forsyth
 Ann Forsyth
 Alice Lanning
 Jayelle Martin
 Jona Thiessen
 Karen Upton
 Harry Wright
 Darrell Hinson (Karen Upton's father)
 Tracy Garland (Harry Wrights daughter)
 Carole Jo Evans (Tracy Evans' mother)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Donna Vint, whose brother Gordon died February 2.
 Family and friends of Doris Hinson who died on December 23.
 Family and friends of Pam Snider, Karen Upton's cousin.

Joys

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.

March Birthdays

3	Michael Klenda
4	Angela Jones
5	David Stensrud
6	Bill Silman
	Harold Conner
7	Elvira Sama
9	Brian Kelley
14	Riley Benson
17	Ann Fayles
22	Marcus Williams
	Mandy Jiran
23	Clay Girdner
27	Loreen Upton
29	Eileen Burke
	Heather Yeager
30	Joan Cole

March Anniversaries

17	Bruce & Trisha Bunce
27	Cornelius & Susan Annoh

March 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service

4

7:00 p.m. Boy
Scouts

5

6

3:00 p.m. Kids
Club

5:00 p.m.
Children's Choir

7:00 p.m. Ash
Wednesday

8:00 p.m. Chancel
Choir

8

High School
Youthquake

9

10

4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service

11

7:00 p.m. Lenten
Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Boy
Scouts

12

7:00 p.m. Chancel
Choir

8:00 p.m. Worship
Committee
Meeting

13

3:00 p.m. Kids'
Club

5:00 p.m.
Children's Choir

14

15

16



17

12:00 p.m.
Deacons

5:30 p.m.
Stewardship

4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service

18

7:00 p.m. Lenten
Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Boy
Scouts

19

7:00 p.m. Session
Meeting

20

21

22

23

24 4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service

12:00 p.m. MY
Group

31 4:00 p.m. UCC
Worship Service

25

7:00 p.m. Lenten
Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Boy
Scouts

26

7:00 p.m.
Fellowship and
Hospitality
Meeting

7:00 p.m. Chancel
Choir

27

3:00 p.m. Kids'
Club

5:00 p.m.
Children's Choir

28

29

30