

Spirit *connection*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | DEWEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | SEPTEMBER 2018

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH FUNDRAISER

Covered Dish Lunch and Pie/Silent Auction
Sunday, Sept. 30 • Following Worship

Sunday, September 30, immediately following church service, we will have our 5th Sunday Covered Dish Fellowship Lunch in Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite covered dish to share with everyone!

Immediately following lunch, the annual Christmas Outreach Pie and Silent Auction will begin. This auction is the primary fundraiser for the Christmas Outreach Mission event. (DUMC has been doing the ministry for 22 years!)

The primary goal of this ministry is to provide personalized Christmas assistance for deserving children in the Dewey area who might not otherwise have much joy at Christmas. We ask all the great bakers in the congregation to bring delicious pies or special baked goods for the auction.

During this time, we also conduct a Silent Auction of theme baskets or individual items which have been donated by Sunday School classes, other small groups/individuals from the Church. Both auctions are a very competitive events and are lots of fun.

Based on years past, the baked items and silent auction may bring anywhere from low



to medium to higher dollars—so don't forget to bring extra cash or your check book!

If you are not able to attend the auction and want to donate funds, you may place your contribution in the offering plate or mail it to the Church and mark it Christmas Outreach.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and commitment to this annual community outreach mission event.

Questions? Call Jane Hodges at 397-0214.

Church Events

- Sept. 9** 10 am SubVERSEive: Mustard Seed
- Sept. 12 - 26** 6 pm Dinner Church Training
- Sept. 16** 10 am UMW Sunday Bake Sale
- Sept. 18** 6 pm United Methodist Men
- Sept. 23** Old Fashioned Sunday
4 pm SPRC Meeting
- Sept. 30** Covered Dish Dinner & Pie Auction
- Oct. 2** 5:30 pm Christmas Outreach Mtg
6:30 pm Food Pantry Mtg
- Oct. 7** DMA Potluck in the Park
- Oct. 7-13** Family Promise
- Oct. 18** 7 pm Dewey Prayer Meeting
- WEEKLY EVENTS**
- Sundays** 9 am Sunday School
10 am Worship
6 pm Chick-Lits (beginning 8/12)
- Wednesdays** 5 pm One:10 Youth
6 pm Choir Practice

The Compass and the Horizon

A Message from Bishop Jimmy Nunn

As my plane flew into the clouds and we lost sight of the ground below or the sky above, I thought about a World War II pilot.

After fulfilling his service to the country, Bill became a pilot trainer. He loved to talk, especially about flying airplanes.

On more than one occasion, Bill would say that he could completely disorient me if I would allow him to blindfold me, seat me in a chair, and spin the chair around three times.

I never let him try that. I took his word that anyone who undergoes that experience will become disoriented and lose all sense of direction.

Bill said that flying into a cloud bank was like being blindfolded and sitting in that spinning chair. As we entered the cloud bank, I hoped we would soon rise above it. I also hoped the pilot was not blindfolded and that his chair was securely fixed in position. I did not relish the thought of a blindfolded, spinning pilot.

We quickly soared above the clouds and enjoyed a carefree flight.

But I remembered why Bill

loved to talk about that story. He said that every pilot had to rely on two instruments and those instruments were not eyes and ears. He said a pilot had to rely on a compass and horizon to safely fly, especially in a cloud bank.

The compass is an instrument I understand. It always points to the north. Once I know where true north is located, I can easily determine the direction I am facing and the way I need to go.

As a young person, I prided myself with a good sense of direction. But I grew up in wide-open spaces. The position of the sun or the moon served as my compass. When it is cloudy, when I am in the mountains, or when I am among the skyscrapers of the city, I am lost without a compass.

The horizon is an instrument I am less familiar with. The horizon shows the relative position to the ground. It is another instrument that I have taken for granted, since I grew up in an area where I could see to the very edge of the horizon. The force of gravity is the only horizon most of us will ever need.

But as my friend Bill said, “without a horizon, you might be flying upside down and not even know it.”

We face storms and challenges in life. Do we prefer the instruments we call our eyes and ears to navigate life? The compass and horizon are simply metaphors for the spiritual resources that mark our direction and define our life relative to the realities around us.

When the disciples were about to sink during a storm, they used their eyes and ears to survive. They saw Jesus sleeping during the crisis and woke him asking, “Do you not care if we die?”

Jesus is the compass and horizon.

What instruments are you using to navigate life?

Psalm 56:3

“Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You”

Through the storm, through the medical tests, through the financial hardship, through the soft brakes, through the child walking to school for the first time, through the difficult homework assignment, through the dark night, through the doubt and fear and worry—trust in God who will remain faithfully by your side.

UMW SUNDAY

Featuring Rev. Dr. Ellen Blue, PhD



Ellen Blue, PhD, professor of The History of Christianity and United Methodist Studies, and author of *In Case of Katrina* among other books, will present the message at 10 am Sunday, Sept. 16.

Following worship, the United Methodist Women will hold a bake sale. The

UMW have prepared a feast of sweet sustenance both spiritually and physically.



Sermon Series October 7-28

What are your biggest fears?

What are your favorite scary movies?

Answer one or both questions at the back of the sanctuary or on our Facebook page. We'll discuss the culture of fear, why it's so strong, and what faith can do to overcome it.

News Blotter

A bit of news about what's going on in the life of the church

- We'll be hosting Family Promise Oct. 7-13. We can always use evening and overnight hosts and families to help prepare the evening meal. If you'd like to be a part of this amazing ministry, please contact Marilyn McAfee or Jane Hodges.

- Christmas Outreach is one of Dewey United Methodist Church's biggest and most exciting ministries! Some important dates to remember:

Sept. 16-Dec. 2	Food Drive
Sept. 30	Pie Auction
Nov. 11-Dec. 1	Shopping
Dec. 3	Sort/Pack Donated Food
Dec. 5	Gift/Food Distribution

- Charge Conference this year includes a workshop presented by Jim Ozier, whose book, "Clip In: Risking Hospitality in Your Church," has offered training to thousands of churches across the country. If you'd like to attend, mark your calendar for Saturday, Oct. 13.

- Our Apportionment Drive has raised over \$10,000—which brings us halfway to our goal! If you plan to include a contribution toward the apportionments along with your usual offering, please note that on your check or envelope. If the apportionments are up-to-date by Nov. 30, Jinx will shave his beard! Jena was overheard saying, "You should see that face underneath the beard! So good looking!"

- Tour de B'ville Family Promise Bike Ride Fundraiser Saturday, Oct. 20 A family bike ride around downtown Bartlesville with various stops along the way. Collect stops and be entered into a prize drawing! Entries are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. All participants receive a t-shirt. For more information, see the flyer on the bulleting board or check out the website at familypromisewc-ok.org.

- Trivia Night raised nearly \$400 for the Lighthouse ministry. The winning team, the Thunder Dragons, won the group contest, and Max Hamilton took home the title of World's Smartest Methodist.

- The nursery's makeover had its grand opening reception Aug. 19. Many people enjoyed the new space, and kids of all ages played with the new toy centers. Several adults volunteered to work in the new nursery, and we trained many new nursery volunteers. Please contact the office if you'd like to participate in nursery training.



Building God's Kingdom

A Note From Pastor Jinx

If you were to ask me how I interpret the Kingdom of God, resurrection, and eternal life, I would have to say that there are two ways I interpret the kingdom, the resurrection, and eternal life. The Kingdom of God can refer to heaven and it can also refer to the kingdom we create here on earth by being the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We can see resurrection as the resurrection that is represented in Baptism but we can also see it as the bodily resurrection that is talked about in scripture when Jesus returns.

Likewise, we can see Eternal Life as the afterlife in heaven but we can also see it as the legacy that we leave after we die. This legacy is not just what money we leave, or what position we attained in life, but it directly relates to the good we do in this life as it relates to building the kingdom of God here on earth. I like to say that the kingdom of God isn't just at hand; it is in your hands.

Being created in the image of God does not mean that we can truly reflect the (c)hese of God, our nature, the condition of our hearts and possibly even our own humanness keep us from truly exhibiting this. I believe that John Wesley was on to something when he wrote and spoke about Christian Perfection as a moment, however fleeting, when someone operates purely from the motive of love and is an accurate reflection of God's (c)hese in the world, to the world around them. It is this fleeting moment that the mirror is wiped clean of separation, humanness and/or sin and the repaired image of God is glimpsed.

If I were to point to one story in the Bible that best described what this repaired image would look like, it would be a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. I am not talking about the last supper, but a banquet of a different sort. It was a time that many came seeking to hear the word of God. They came to the middle of nowhere, their families in tow.

They stayed so long in fact, the hour grew late and their tummies rumbled. It was too late for many of them to travel back to find food or shelter. Some in charge said send them away; we can't afford this. But the living word of God spoke, took five loaves and two fish. Blessed them, broke them, and there was more than enough for everyone.

When the Church works to address the brokenness of the world as it is called to do by the Holy Spirit, the repaired image of God is not only revealed on a greater scale, it is magnified or intensified in a way that moves and inspires others to come together to be representatives of the teachings, to live as the word in the world and to join carrying the responsibility to respond to the world in a way that may one day wipe the mirror clean completely and usher in the 'Kingdom of God' where God's will is done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Here at Dewey United Methodist Church, I believe we are building God's Kingdom through all that we do in mission to our community, but also in how we treat others, even when we aren't serving them.

Rev. Jinx M. Barber, M. Div, GDBL
Pastor

CARDS & LETTERS

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Send a card or note to let them know you're thinking of them. If you need a card, we have extras in the church office.

NOTES OF THANKS

Dear DUMC:

Thank you so much for all the cards, hugs, phone calls, prayers and thoughts during the recent passing of my Dad, Pete Dyer. We also want to thank Pastor Jinx for his visits and his assistance with his service. There are no words that can express how thankful we all are for each of you!

Love and HUGS, Jane Hodges and Family

Dear UMC Congregation,

It is amazing how a package of pencils, dry-erase markers, paper, etc., will brighten a teacher's day! Everyone at Dewey Elementary is thankful for your generosity in donating school supplies. You've made a difference in the lives at our school! It may seem like a small thing to you, but it's a BIG deal to the students and staff here!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

*God Bless You!
Jerrri Moore & The Dewey Elementary Staff*

To my DUMC family,

The compassion that you have shown myself and my family over the last month with my surgeries and hospitalizations has served as an inspiration for us all.

I could not have made it through the last several weeks without all of you, whether it was through helping my family with a meal, making sure Abby gets to church, coming to visit me, sending a card or simply saying a prayer.

Now all that's left is to heal. I ask for your continued prayers during this very long process. I'm at home receiving in home PT twice a week but I'm not allowed to go anywhere yet unless it's to the doctor's office. I'm in a back brace for the next 3 months (that I lovingly call my storm trooper costume but at least I know what I'm going to be for Halloween). On a positive note, I have not sat in a wheelchair since I left the hospital on August 16th! I am using a walker and praying that it will only get better. God Bless each and everyone of you! God could not have led us to a better church family and I can't wait to get back to worship with my church family.

Lovingly, Shannon Williams

DINNER CHURCH TRAINING

Wednesdays 6 pm
Sept. 12-26

Gather for a meal with your church family and learn about the concept of radical hospitality that is Dinner Church. We'll share a meal and then participate in a video and live training of how to take church hospitality to new heights.

No need to have any prior experience! If you'd like to attend, please sign up at the back of the sanctuary or contact the church office.

If you'd like to help provide all or part of the meal for one of the upcoming weeks, sign up or contact the church office.

We're so excited to bring this concept to the most hospitable church in Oklahoma!

