



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOWER CHIMES



March 3, 2010

Our Christian value for the month of March is:

Compassion

The miracle of compassion

It had been a long day. The memory of the way his hometown had rejected him must have weighed heavily on Jesus. And now, adding to the sense of rejection, and the normal stress of work and travel, Jesus has received word that John the Baptist has been executed. Jesus needed a break. He needed time alone. He sets out in a boat to find a quiet place on the other side of the lake. But crowds see him and follow him. He has no escape. But Jesus never reaches for his “do not disturb” sign. He never tells the people to go away. Instead, we read of his miraculous response, “...he had *compassion* for them, and cured their sick.” Later that same day, toward evening, his disciples arrive and assess the situation. They tell Jesus the party is over and that he should send everyone home for supper. Again, the Lord has compassion for the crowd. “You give them something to eat,” is his response to the disciples. They gather a couple of fish and five small loaves of bread. They let Jesus know that this is all there is. It is enough. Jesus blesses the two fish and five loaves of bread and soon 5,000+ are eating their fill.

This story is found in Matthew 14:13-21. This story is commonly referred to as “the miracle of the fish and loaves.” We might also refer to this as “the miraculous compassion of Jesus.” Jesus continually looks beyond his own needs to the needs of those around him. Indeed his *compassion* is nothing short of miraculous. And yet, he serves as a model and example for us. We need to learn from Jesus. So often our own sense of compassion gets overshadowed by a concern for our own agendas. So often we fail to see beyond ourselves to the needs of others. Perhaps if we can give even a little of ourselves, God will multiply our offering. Your compassion is just what someone needs today.

“The fruit of the Spirit is...compassion.” (Galatians 5:22) You won’t need to look far for opportunities to show compassion. They’ll come to you.

Striving to be Faithful,
Dr. Ray Crawford

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **All Church Lenten services every Wednesday during Lent.**
First Christian Church 12-12:30
Lunch served 12:30-1
- **'Upward' games Saturdays in the Family Life Center.**
- **Come to the River - Prayer Chapel**
Every Monday at 7:00pm
- **Children's Choir** Every Wednesday at 5:00 to 5:45pm
- **Wesley Wednesdays** 5:30 to 8
E-Woman of Faith Conference
March 5-6
- **Newcomers' Lunch,** March 7, 2010
- **District Charge Conference**
rescheduled for March 14, 2010
- **Israel trip,** March 15-24, 2010
- **A Day of Equipping in**
The Authority of the Believer,
Faith and Miracles, March 27:
8:30 – 4:00
- **Easter Sunday.** April 4



**VBS 2010 will be
June 14-18**



Youth Group Activities



Youth Notes:

Youth Force will be June 27-July 2. The cost for this mission opportunity is \$250.

A deposit of \$50 needs to be turned in to Scott by March 1st.

Sheila is taking a group of Youth to the Methodist Children's Home in Tahlequah to do some needed repair work and spend time with the children. This mission opportunity will be during Spring Break! The group will leave Thursday, March 18th at 12:00. They will spend two nights and work three days!!!! The group will return to the church at approximately 4:00 pm on Saturday. The cost of this trip is only \$30 dollars....plus bring some cash to eat at Sam and Ella's Pizza on Friday night!

We need some adults to go with us on this trip. Please call Sheila if you can go with us.....918 948-3427.

Get ready for the Heifer Project!

**This year we will be purchasing goats
for the people of Haiti.**

FUMC GARAGE SALE

Saturday April 10th in the Family Life Center
Set up will take place Friday April 9th. Due to the remodel plans for the adult classrooms we will not be able to store garage sale items in advance of the set up date Friday April 9th.



Mission Café
Support staff for 7, 2010
United Methodist Women
Support staff for March 14, 2010
Senior High Students

Thank you for your support of this outreach mission.

*Lunch this Sunday will be prepared by the FUMC United Methodist Women.
Please join us for lunch and support the women and ministries of the UMW!*

Breakfast

Eggs/ Bacon/ Biscuits / Gravy
Donuts
Coffee/milk/juice, \$5 per person

Lunch

**Chicken and Rice casserole,
Green Beans, Salad
Dump Cake**
Coffee / Tea / Soda, \$5 per person

PLEASE NOTE: We have recently installed a new preheater on the automatic dishwasher in the Kitchen. The dishwasher is running great and is cleaning efficiently. The water temperature is hotter with the new preheater which is better for sanitizing but is more dangerous for small children. We please ask that no one under the age of 18 works in the dishwasher room unsupervised without the approval of Rebekah Jochmans or Bob Nigg.
Thank you.

New Church email address. info@claremorefumc.org

New general purpose email address that is directed to the church office.

New Beth Moore Study group on Wednesday evenings!

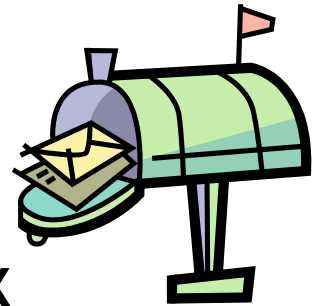
Join the **Beth Moore Study**, "Jesus the One and Only" on Wesley Wednesdays taught by Pam Bitner and Mary Ogle. This study is an in-depth study of the life of Christ based on the Book of Luke. The goal of our study is to get to know Jesus intimately-as though we had walked with Him during His days of earthly ministry.

We will gather in classroom # 4 at 6:00pm.

Please Pray for our friends and neighbors:



Sara Selvy, Kacye Swinney, Richard Taylor, Anne Secrist, Sylvia Nettles, Jerry Powell, Jean Weyler, Larry Inman, Sierra Hoffman, Lowell Tucker, Loretta Patton, Ron Francisco, Elizabeth Holt, Pat Gibson, Rachel Schellhorn, Allie Marcott, Milton Kretsch, Derek Keniston, Brian Reeds, John Graham, Jason Orf, McKenzie Mullen, Sandy Triplet, Wanda Jones, Esther Grabow, Bill Brown, Sid Gardner, Ricky Ballard, Steve Conner, Nelda Lucas, Cynthia Bickford, Monterrey Stallings, Linda Peary, Virgil McDaniel and all our U.S. military troops.



FROM OUR MAILBOX

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for including me in your prayers. was a blessing to have Pastors Ray and Janelle visit me in the hospital as well as Martha dropping in. surgeon and Physical Therapist say I am doing great. am still recovering but I'm able to move back home, drive and I'll be able to worship with you soon. Blessings, **Cynthia Bickford**

Dear FUMC Church Family, Roger and I want to thank everyone who has showed their love and concern, in so many ways, during my fall and confinement ... For the many prayers, hospital visits, phone calls, cards, letters, and meals. You are a great group of people who are following Christ's example to 'love your neighbor as yourself.' You have made a Christian difference. May God richly bless each one of you.- **Loretta & Roger Patton**

Thank you! To my wonderful Church family for your prayers, visits, cards calls and food during my recovery. **Delma Ault**

To my church family: I want to thank all of you who stopped by my retirement reception to express your appreciation and to wish me well as I enter a new phase of my life. Thank you also for the kind gifts. It was my privilege to serve our church for 5+years as Director of Operations and I am grateful for your encouragement and support during that time.

Bob Howland

Newsletter and Bulletin deadline changes.

Due to the increased activity in our Food Pantry and various church activities, we will need your assistance in submitting articles so they can be included in the newsletter and bulletin, in time for printing. Our new deadline for articles will be Thursday at 5pm. Please send all articles to Laurie in the church office. lault@claremorefumc.org



FUMC Good Samaritan Pantry

Most needed items in the pantry this week are Peanut Butter, Jelly, Bath Soap, Toilet Paper, Macaroni & Cheese, Laundry Detergent, Tuna, Hearty Soups, Syrup, Canned Fruit & Juice. **Thank you for supporting this vital community outreach mission.**

WHAT IF THERE IS MORE?

What if God has more for you? What is it? Do you want it? How do you get it?

A DAY OF EQUIPPING IN THE AUTHORITY OF THE BELIEVER, FAITH, AND MIRACLES

Saturday, March 27, 2010, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Family Life Center, First United Methodist Church Claremore. Continental breakfast and lunch provided. \$10.00. Scholarships available. Register at church (341-4580). Call Mona McCune (342-3584) for more information.

Where oh where have all the little red cups gone? Once upon a time, not that long ago, there was a family of red cups, or so the story goes...

They were a very close family. They stuck together well. They kept each other company, in the Great Room on the shelf. But then one morning, as the keeper went to see, there were a few missing ...from the Red cup family! The keeper searched and searched but simply could not find all those little red cups that were fearfully lost or left behind. So out in the square, the keeper sent word! To all those in the village that might know or might have heard, the red cup family is strong and can survive the coldest cold. But when one is gone astray, their red little hearts grow old. So through the village and into your shack, search as you walk, for the small lost stacks and if you see one ...standing forgotten all alone, be the hero... bring it home!

If you find any wandering FUMC red cups, please help them find their way back to the Mission Café.

Help Support VIM Missions in Bolivia

Concert March 7, 2010 at Owasso Methodist Church With Music by Ayni-Bolivia

Benefitting Bolivian Methodist Church And Engineers In Action.

Event begins at 6:30pm, The Concert is free Potato Bar and more for your meal.

FUMC will take a Church Bus to this concert. We will leave the church promptly at 5:30. If you are interested in riding with the group, please reserve a spot. We have 10 seats available. Please call the church office 341-4580 to reserve your seat.

Spring is just around the corner!

We will be having a garden again this year but we do need volunteers to help maintain, plant, water and harvest it. Our first Garden Meeting will be March 14th at 12:30 just after service in the family life center. Lunch will be available at the Mission Café. Anyone that would like to help with the garden please come to this short meeting. It will be both a vegetable and a flower garden. We also are looking for families that would want to grow veggie starts at home to donate to the garden. Last years crops were potatoes / tomatoes / cantaloupe/ watermelon / onions / cucumbers.



This ministry helps support Thursday night Bridge Meals, Good Sam Pantry and Mission Café.

For Info Please call Rebekah at 439-6686

Summer Camps

Camp	Dates	Grade
Sonshine	Sat. July 24 - Sun. July 25	1-2 grade in the fall of 2010
Joy	Fri. June 25 - Sun. June 27	3-5 grade in the fall of 2010
Growin In Grace	Mon. July 26 - Wed. 28	3-5 grade in the fall of 2010
Tweens Discovery	Mon. June 26 – Fri. July 30	6 grade in the fall of 2010



P.I.E. Ministry

This week our first time visitors received pies baked by Nina Campbell, Lois Schramme, Nelda Conger, Julia Helen Latham, and Sue Straw. Thank you for your sweet devotion! If you feel called to share in this wonderful outreach mission, please contact Pat Chambers 341-6713.

Thirty Days to a No-Regrets Life

A Six Week Book Study entitled, ***One Month to Live: Thirty Days to a No-Regrets Life*** on Wednesday evenings beginning March 24 from 6-8pm. If you are interested in attending the six week study, sign up by calling the office 341-4580 or email Pastor Janelle Brammer at jbrammer@claremorefumc.org.

Community Lenten Services

The Ministerial Alliance Community Lenten Services will be held at the First Christian Church this year.

When: Every Wednesday during Lent

Time : 12 to 12:30 Service, Lunch: 12:30 to 1:00

You are invited to attend this community service each week during the Lenten season. FUMC Claremore will be the host church for the March 31st service and lunch, we hope to see you there each week.

Thank You from the Women of the Word

A big thank you to everyone who covered the Mission Cafe and helped in many other ways to care for the needs of the church over the weekend while the ladies were at WOW! We appreciate all of you! Pastor Janelle

BARTLESVILLE DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST MEN SOCKS FOR VETS

I wanted to inform you of a Bartlesville District mission project that your church can participate in. The mission project is called **“Socks for Vets”**. The District is trying to collect 200 “no slip/gripper” socks and 100 Diabetic socks for the veterans at the Claremore Veterans Center. The District is asking each church in the district to donate 6 or more pairs of “no slip/gripper” socks and 3 or more pairs of Diabetic socks to the Center. We are asking each church to wrap their group of socks together with a “From” card noting the donating church’s name on the card. We have several churches as drop off locations in order to save transportation costs. We are asking the churches to have their socks to the drop off church by the 8th of March. The drop off churches will then deliver the socks to the Center between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm on March 9th.

If you have questions about this activity, contact the District Office at 333-1839 or myself at 335-2274.

Yours in Christ, Warren Neff District UMM President Bartlesville District

Phone: 918.335.2274 Email: okneff@cableone.net www.gbkm-umc.org/bartlesvilledistrictumm

UMW Sunday is March 7th

UMW ladies will be helping with all aspects of worship. A cookie table will be set up for ladies who are interested in joining our group! UMW will also be making lunch in the kitchen on that day, so please stop by and support our missions! And speaking of missions we support Cookson Hills Center in Tahlequah, OK.

The Cookson Hills Center has been a very significant part of the mission work of the United Methodist Women in Oklahoma since 1948. The presence of the United Methodist among rural, low-income people in Northeastern Oklahoma has shown an important aspect of the way we care for others as concerned Christian people. The primary target groups of the center's services are Native American people, most being of the Cherokee tribe.

Ongoing programs include such things as a thrift store, food pantry, craft co-op, home repair, counseling, emergency assistance for housing and employment, a Christmas store, children, youth, adult education programs, and a Health Information Center. The Center also provides an opportunity for families to plant gardens by providing seeds and assistance with planting. A snack back-pack program is geared toward providing children with food on the weekends when they are out of school. We have been told that these backpacks mean so much to these children who don't have much to eat at home.

On UMW Sunday we are asking church members to bring a snack for this awesome program. A table will be set up near the UMW table to place your snacks on. Some good ideas are individual packs of healthy snacks like fruit roll ups, raisins, nuts, peanut butter & crackers, cheese & crackers, vienna sausages, ramen noodles, granola bars, dried fruit, individual cups of fruit or pudding.

UMW will be taking these to Cookson some time in April. If you would like to go with us to check out this worthwhile mission stay tuned for a date and time.

GIFTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED:

Children's Center: Given in memory of Virginia McDaniel and Becky Hamilton by John and Martha Starr.

Good Samaritan Fund: Given in memory Becky Hamilton and Richard Willman by Tom and Frankye Needham,

Building Fund: Given in honor of Virginia Snelling's 90th Birthday by Bill and Betty Holman.

Stepping Stones Learning Center: Given in memory of Clara McDonald by J.R. and Glenna Smith, given in Memory of Clara McDonald by Jerry and Latricia Lingenfelter,

Celebrating our records

Sunday February 28, 2010

General	\$28,357
Next Step	5,340
Good Samaritan	707
Aquarium Fund	40
Bridge Service	19
Campus Ministry	1,250
Fight Club	15
FUMC Endowment	100
Ground Floor	62
Handbells	100
Kitchen Fund	1,000
Lay Speaker Training	400
Allie Marcotte Fund	165
Missions	2
Socks For Vets	1,155
Organ Repair	825
VIM Poland	200
Worship Flowers	20
Youth Mission Chicago	20
Youth Relay for Life	30
AttendAnce	
Weekly Worship	805
Sunday School	408



March 7

8:15 Denise & Jacqueline Chavez

10:45 Brandon Ingram & Bill Brown

March 14

8:15 Lillian Chavez & Hallie Austin

10:45 Trent Wells & Bob Nigg

March 21

8:15 Nick Wheeler & Jeff Ault

10:45 Tori Austin & Jackie Luckinbill

March 28

8:15 Madison Patton & Sharon Brown

10:45 Matt Tucker & Triston Wells

Thank You for serving as acolytes. Please come 15 minutes early to prepare. If you are unable to serve at your

scheduled time, please call

Teri Newman, acolyte coordinator

341-7177 582-3877 693-9347

That's all folks!