

THE SOUNDS OF SUNNY LANE

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A PATHWAY OF HOPE

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February 1, 2022

Lent
BEGINS

LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 2nd

The purple, forty-day season of Lent always begins with Ash Wednesday. This year, Ash Wednesday falls on March 2nd. We will have our traditional Ash Wednesday Service of Penitence with the Imposition of Ashes at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary. You and your family will want to be present and participate in this very important service that helps us into an attitude of reconciliation; it is a season of preparation for Easter.

UPDATE ON DENOMINATIONAL TRANSITION IN 2022

REV. TISH MALLOY CHAIRS
NEW TRANSITIONS MINISTRY

For many Oklahoma United Methodists, the year 2022 includes heightened anxiety, concern, and some confusion about what to expect regarding anticipated legislation before the General Conference. The United Methodist General Conference is now scheduled to take place August 29th to September 6th in Minneapolis, MN.

Referencing changes in our denomination, Bishop James Nunn said that he expects the

Oklahoma Conference will be "fair, cautious, contextual, and treat one another as Christians." The Oklahoma Denominational Transitions Team (DTT) was created to provide a "fair, cautious, contextual" and Christ-like process for both congregations and clergy who would like support in discerning next steps following whatever decisions are made at General Conference.

The DTT is co-chaired by Rev. Chuck Horton and Rev. Wendi Neal. It is made up of 25 participants and convened by Rev. Tish Malloy, the director of transitional ministries. The team reports to Bishop Nunn, the full Cabinet, the Oklahoma Annual Conference Board of Trustees when addressing property issues, and the Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee when addressing issues specifically impacting clergy.



LYNN'S LYNES

LOVE

Love is *patient,*
love is *kind.*
It does not *envy,*
it does not *boast,*
it is not *proud.*
1 Corinthians 13:4

Well, here we are . . . moving ahead into our new year of 2022. We have had our first Administrative Council meeting for the first quarter with Phillip Wolf

leading us as our new chairperson. Phillip did a super job and we are all proud of him for stepping up to serve our church in this capacity. Likewise, we are equally proud of Janet Thompson agreeing to chair our Finance Committee. In short, Sunny Lane is a truly awesome church in which to worship and serve our Lord—but you guys already know that!

Our Finance Committee and Administrative Council have requested that we provide you with an abbreviated Finance Report each month in the newsletter. Therefore, you will find in this February edition a brief synopsis of our financials for the month of December 2021, as well as end-of-year totals. Because of timing issues, the report will generally be two months behind. So, this February edition will contain financial information for December, the March edition will describe January financials, etc.

I would certainly want to utilize this opportunity to THANK YOU for your continued extravagant generosity in support of Sunny Lane and her ministries. We all know these are challenging times for most everyone; churches all over our Oklahoma Conference are struggling financially. You need to know that Sunny Lane is remaining strong . . . we are not “rolling in excess,” but so far we are keeping our head above the water line . . . all apportionments were paid in full for 2021 with money left in the General Fund on December 31st.

You have done very well, Sunny Lane, and you are to be commended. Thank you so much for your faithfulness and dedication to doing the right thing and honoring your membership vows by supporting your church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and

witness. You make me proud! Let's keep up the grand work for the Lord in 2022!

WE ARE
grateful
FOR YOU!

Dear Sunny Lane Family,

My family and I are grateful for all the cards, prayers, and expressions of love and concern to us in the sudden and much too early loss of Brad. Our special thank you to those who shared their time to attend Brad's celebration of life service and also those who came to Perry's a few short months earlier. Your presence was very comforting. God bless all.

Donna Bennett



Hats off to our members

We want to extend a big THANK YOU to **ELAINE KEGANS** for stepping up and playing the organ in both services on Sunday, January 9th and 16th. Our music director, Bryson Foster, had contracted Covid and was unavailable due to quarantine. Elaine—you did a great job and blessed us with your musical talent. We are grateful for Elaine's faithful service to Sunny Lane.

The church extends deep words of appreciation and gratitude to **DEAN SPARKMAN** for his unselfish service in building a porch handrail for Robert McKenzie's home. Jean Zerbe and her Sunday School class received word when Robert returned home from rehab that he needed a handrail for safe entry into his home. Dean stepped up and took care of the project all by himself. Thank you Dean for your Christian service!

**Love, Justice and Service:
Answering the Call
2022 A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial
UMW General Meeting
Tuesday, February 1st
6:30 pm. – Fellowship Hall**

You Are Invited



United Methodist Women invites you to be part of an observance in sisterhood with women from the local unit and your community. Every year, "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" encourages women to step out in faith and bring the love of Christ into a hurting world through their prayers and selfless giving.

This Year's Theme

In 2022, we will come together around the theme "Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call." This year's offering will support the vital and vibrant ministry of deaconesses and home missionaries, consecrated laity who have dedicated the entirety of their lives to vocations of love, justice and service. These vocations include social work, education, [health](#) care, advocacy, immigration reform, anti-poverty initiatives, antiracism efforts, firefighting, legal justice and more.

Women are encouraged to give thoughtfully to support the education and training of deaconesses and home missionaries as well as retired deaconesses who continue to make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth.

We welcome you to come pray, learn and offer your gifts that will make a real change in the lives of women, children and youth around the world.

*Love the LORD your God
and hold fast to him*



DEUTERONOMY 10:20, NIV

LENTEN LITANY READERS NEEDED FOR BOTH SERVICES

During the six Sundays of Lent, we will begin our worship services with a responsorial Litany, that includes a musical response.

Pastor would like to have a lay person serve as the Lead Reader for the Litany each Sunday.

There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center where you may indicate which Sunday and service you would like to serve.

Pastor also needs three Scripture readers for the Black Friday service on April 15th, 6:00pm. You may sign-up at the Welcome Center.



SOME LIFE GEMS FROM GREG HIRSCHMAN

- *** If you want to see social distancing, just loan somebody some money.
- *** It's better to grow old with a sense of humor than to grow old with no sense at all.
- *** How to tell you're an older adult: you gain 30 lbs. overnight; you'd rather sleep than go out; everything hurts; comfort comes before style; you have a favorite spatula; everything feels like a chore; college students look like 12 year olds; you're always annoyed.
- *** We're expecting such a cold winter, the squirrels are collecting more nuts than usual. So far, three of my relatives have disappeared.
- *** This morning my son said his ear hurt. So I asked him if it hurt on the inside or the outside. He walks out the front door, and then comes back in and says, "Both." It's moments like this that make me wonder if I'm saving too much money for his college education.



Doyle and Ruth Johnson



Wayne and Susan Frazier



On January 9, 2022, Doyle and Ruth Johnson and Wayne and Susan Frazier became members of Sunny Lane UMC.

Doyle comes to Sunny Lane by Profession of Faith and Baptism. Ruth comes to us by Transfer of Membership from Camp Creek UMC in Cummings, Kansas. Wayne and Susan transferred from Southern Hills UMC.

Sunny Lane looks forward to knowing them and serving our Lord with them.

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
Romans 15:7



FINANCIAL SCOREBOARD FOR DECEMBER 2021

General Fund Beginning Balance 12/1/21	\$ 52,774.31
Total December Deposits	+ 31,021.60
Total December Disbursements	- 38,713.46
General Fund Ending Balance 12/31/21	\$ 45,082.45
Total Income for December	+ 29,231.00
Total Expenses for December	- 40,153.24
Net Loss	- 10,922.24
Total Income for Calendar Year 2021	\$391,272.53
Total Expenses for Calendar Year 2021	\$385,154.81
Net Gain for 2021	+ 6,117.72
NOW Account Balance (Designated Funds) 12/31/21	\$ 54,979.42
Permanent Endowment Fund Balance	\$111,611.30
(Invested with our United Methodist Foundation)	
Available Income for Distribution	+ 15,890.86
Good Samaritan Fund Balance 1/25/22	\$ 3,220.19



BEYOND CANDY HEARTS AND ROSES



The first half of February seems dominated by pink and red, cards and candy. But people not in a loving romantic relationship can sometimes feel left out of the festivities. Of course, all people need love — and certainly love is not limited to the romantic kind. Author Leo Buscaglia, who became known as “Dr. Love” for writing about the topic, said, “Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.”

Jesus taught that loving one another is second only in importance to loving God (Matthew 22:37-40), and that when we love one another, God lives in us (1 John 4:12). There are so many ways to do that — beyond candy hearts and roses! But Valentine’s Day is as good a reminder as any.

SKYLINE MONTH EXTENDED TO FEBRUARY 15TH

Thank you for the many contributes to Skyline by bringing items to the church or contributing by check or cash! We have extended the time to contribute until February 15 if you would still like to contribute in some way.

Thank you for your wonderful support of this vital mission in our community! If you have any questions, please call us. Tom and Donna (405-532-3852)

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY "In View of God's Mercy"



Lenten
Bible
Study

Tomb).

Pastor will be leading a Lenten Bible study during the six weeks of Lent entitled, "In View of God's Mercy" (Mercy in Ashes; Mercy in Suffering; Mercy in Relationships; Mercy in Service; Mercy in the Cross; Mercy in the Open

The study will begin on Sunday afternoon March 6th, 4:00pm and conclude on Palm/Passion Sunday April 10th. Student study booklets are \$7.00 each.

Please sign-up at the display table set up in the Narthex. Even if you desire to do the study on your own at home, please sign the registration sheet so pastor knows you've gotten a study book. There are only twenty (20) booklets available.

BIBLE QUIZ



What was the name of Moses' wife?

- A. Miriam
- B. Jochebed
- C. Zipporah
- D. Leah

Answer: C (See Exodus 2:21.)

"We cannot learn from one another until we stop shouting at one another, until we speak quietly enough so that our words can be heard as well as our voices."

—Richard Nixon

A PRAYER FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY FEBRUARY 21st



Lord of heaven and earth, we offer you our deepest appreciation for this blessed land. Stir up a sense of stewardship in every citizen so we all may care for our nation and each inhabitant of it.

We pray especially for our leaders. Prompt everyone in a position of authority, from local to national leaders, to strive for righteousness, justice and the welfare of all citizens.

Finally, we pray that we may be ever mindful of the psalmist's teaching that "Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord ..." (Psalm 33:12, NRSV). May that promise become real "from sea to shining sea." Amen.

LOVE AND LAUGHTER GO HAND IN HAND



Share these jokes with your beloved on February 14 — or whenever some humor can brighten a day!

Q: What valentine did the French chef give his wife?

A: A hug and a quiche

Q: What did the paper clip say to the magnet?

A: "I find you very attractive"

Q: What did the pencil say to the paper?

A: "I dot my i's on you!"

Q: How did the phone propose to his girlfriend?

A: He gave her a ring.

Q: What do you call a very small valentine?

A: A valentiny



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<p>P.J.'s Flowers and Gifts (405) 672-1641</p> <p>Aromatique Plants Weddings Boyd's Bears Candles Fruit and Gift Baskets</p> <p>www.pjsflowersandgiftshop.com</p>	<p>THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE</p>
<p>United Methodist Women Jacci Freno – President Call 677-3347 for information All the women of the church are invited.</p>	<p>DJ Roofing & Construction, LLC Residential & Commercial Jim McFarland 405-219-5014 John McFarland 405-819-0231 Fax 405-259-9088 Email jmcfarland21@cox.net</p>
<p>Warfel Body Shop, Inc Gardit Spray-on Bedliners Paintless Dent Repairs Mike Warfel</p> <p>7000 S. Sooner Rd. Oklahoma City, OK (405) 737-7733 73135</p>	<p>SKYLINE URBAN MINISTRIES 500 SE 15th St Oklahoma City, OK 73129 405-632-2644 Providing a food pantry, eye clinic, and clothing resources</p>
<p>NIEGHBORHOOD SERVICES ORGANIZATION 431 SW 11th Oklahoma City, OK 73109 405-236-0452 Providing nutrition services, dental clinic,</p>	<p> Our Neighbor's Closet A repurpose shop for our neighborhood Hours Thursday, 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p>