

# THE SOUNDS OF SUNNY LANE



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A PATHWAY OF HOPE

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 1

January 1, 2023



## SKYLINE

Skyline Month - January 2023

Skyline has a new emphasis titled **Bridging the Gaps. Lighting the Shadows.** They also updated their mission statement to **Skyline is on a mission to serve those living in the shadows of our community by bridging the gaps in their resources with kindness and respect.**

We have many families close to our church that are in need and use Skyline to help them. January continues to be a month that we can support this vital mission in our community. Their need remains about the same as in years past needing canned fruits and vegetables, rice, beans, and bathroom tissue, etc. They also accept monetary donations that they can get matching grant money for that doubles and sometime triples donation amounts. Please consider giving.

If you have any questions, please call us. Tom and Donna Duhon 405-532-3852

**GRATEFUL**  
*Thankful*  
**& BLESSED**

We appreciate your generous love offering for us. Your support of our ministries and projects is very much noticed and appreciated throughout the year

It is our honor to serve our Lord and Sunny Lane with your support. We look forward to the opportunities in 2023!

Sunny Lane Staff

### HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY

January 15, 2023

Human Relations Day Sunday celebration is January 15, 2023. This offering is collected the Sunday before the observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and supports Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Service and Youth Offender Rehabilitation programs A Special Sunday branded envelope and pew card will be provided on that Sunday to give you an opportunity to support these programs.



Church Offices will be closed on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day



## Happy New Year Sunny Lane Family!



I have long been fascinated by movements for social change. From the Israelites escaping slavery in Egypt, to Alexander the Great establishing the Greek empire that led to achievements in philosophy by Plato and Aristotle, to Jesus leading 12 disciples, to the Apostle Paul growing Christianity throughout the Roman Empire, to the development of the Nicene creed, to monastic movements led by people like Saint Francis, to the Methodist movement led by John Wesley, to the Civil Rights movement, to the Sunny Lane United Methodist Church movement...

Oh wait, you haven't heard of that last one?

Well, you're about to!

In 2023, "Movement" is going to be our mantra. Beginning this Sunday, we will start by focusing on this Jesus Movement of which we are all a part. We will talk about how our religion has always been one that moves people toward God's grace and forward into lasting community change. This Jesus movement has some unique qualities that we will explore together. Here's the rundown:

- January 8 - The Jesus Movement
- January 15 - A Movement from the Margins
- January 22 - A Movement that Makes a Difference
- January 29 - A Revolutionary Movement
- February 5 - A Movement of Peacemakers
- February 12 - A Movement of Love

I look forward to being part of a Sunny Lane "Movement" with all of you!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Adam

## WORDS FROM PASTOR FELIX



New beginnings or new years, are about moving into areas or places that might seem unfamiliar and in many cases challenges us to grow spiritually in ways we never expected. In this new year of 2023 I invite you to move on to "higher ground." Also, I invite you to live a life of "motion" this year. Making certain that we are moving into those areas God is calling us to be in order to provide ministry to a world that needs to hear more about Jesus Christ than ever.

As we start the year 2023, we move into the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is the climax of the Advent/Christmas Season and the Twelve Days of Christmas, which are usually counted from the evening of December 25th until the morning of January 6th, which is the Twelfth Day. In following this older custom of counting the days beginning at sundown, the evening of January 5th is the Twelfth Night. This is an occasion for feasting in some cultures, including the baking of a special King's Cake as part of the festivities of Epiphany (a King's Cake) is part of the observance of Mardi Gras in French Catholic culture of the Southern USA), which I look forward to eating each year.

However, Epiphany is not just about eating and feasting, it is about celebrating the Lord's appearance and His moving the world from darkness to light. The term epiphany means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal."

As a church family, let us move into the mindset of moving and journeying with those around us that they may come to know our Lord Jesus Christ and that we may be for the world to see a great light revealed in the midst of darkness!

Grace and Peace!  
Pastor Felix

## Winter Warmth Update December 31, 2022



The Winter Warmth campaign that supports Skyline was extended until the end of the December and we received a total of 143 items including blankets, a quilt, coats, pants/jeans, gloves, sweaters, sweat shirts and pants, etc. I can imagine that during the recent cold spell that everything was put to good use.

On one trip to deliver the items, we were standing outside the delivery door and a young lady who had her mother in the car was needing a coat, but when she saw two of the blankets, she kindly asked if she could have those instead. We gladly gave them to her. We met an immediate need for a family and I felt proud of our church for supporting Winter Warmth.

Thank you Sunny Lane members for supporting this campaign! You make differences in people's lives!

Led by your VIM Team in action!

## Coming soon! Souper Sunday Tailgate Party on February 12.



Come eat soup with us before the big game. It's right after second service. All donations will go to help fund Sunny Lane's Fresh Lunch program. Looking forward to the fellowship with you and helping out our outreach to our high school neighbors!

(You may wear your favorite team jersey or tee, but no unsportsmanlike conduct!).



UWF is off to a good start in 2023. Our Conference President Harri Williams was our guest at our January General meeting. Her presentation was enjoyed by all.

Our next General Meeting will be Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. This will our Prayer and Self Denial Service.

There are four circles that at various times of the day and day of the week during the third week of each month. All the women of the church are invited to join us. Contact the church office for specific times and locations.



Thanks to all for supporting "The Grinch" Christmas movie. Thanks to all the "Grinch" helpers for the popcorn, cookie and candy treats, and the hot chocolate! We may call on these elves again even if we do a movie not at Christmas! Think the kids had fun and tried to keep the Grinch kind.

## DEAR CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER WARRIORS,

My daughter, Dana was given a 14% chance of survival of Stage 4 colon/liver cancer October 29, 2021. Little over a year later, four surgeries and 12 chemo treatments she is considered NED=No Evidence of Disease! Because of your prayers and support, God's medical teams and Dana's fierce determination and faith, God gave us a miracle! Dana will get to raise her children!

The Jones-Anthony-Strecker families are SO grateful! We thank you! Annette Anthony

# THANKS FROM THE HEART

To My Church Family,

Mary and I thank you for your prayers as Mary has dealt a fractured back along with her Parkinson's disease

Prayers and the hand of God has helped her. We hope to be back to church soon!

In God's grace and love and presence,  
Vance and Mary Thomas



From the Office of the Financial Secretary:

The end of the year giving statements will be available Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at the Welcome Center.

Barbara Zapf



*Our purpose: Helping men to grow in Christ, so others can know Christ.*

UMM January Dinner Meeting  
January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
All the men of the church are welcome.  
Sign up at the Welcome Center.

## Proof of light



On January 6 Christians celebrate Epiphany, when the Magi came to worship baby Jesus. Epiphany, which means an appearance or manifestation, symbolizes the first recognition of the Savior by non-Jews. Because Epiphany also is a reminder that Jesus came as the light of the whole world, its symbols include light, candles and a star.

How did the wise men know — and how do we know — that Jesus is the light of the world? As preacher George Buttrick said, "It would little avail to ask how we know. That would be like asking how we know that Beethoven's 'Hymn to Joy' is joyous. If a man were to say, 'It is not joyous to me,' he would not condemn the music; he would tell only his morbidness. There is no logic to establish an axiom, for an axiom is the basis of all logic; and the soul of Jesus has axiomatic truth. Jesus is light, and there is no proof for light except light itself."

## LITURGIST FOR WORSHIP

If you would be willing to assist our pastors with worship, please sign up at the Welcome Center.

This opportunity will be available in both the 8:30 am and 10:50 am services.

## COMMUNION SERVERS FOR LATE WORSHIP FOR 2023

If you would like to serve communion in our late service on one of the first Sundays of the month, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Thank you for your assistance with our worship services.





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**United Methodist Men**

Dean Sparkman – President  
Dinner/Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6:30 p.m.  
All the men of the church are welcome

**KEEN'S LAWN SERVICE**

4401 SE 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Del City, OK 73115  
405-889-7670  
David Keen

**United Methodist Women**

Jacci Freno – President  
Call 677-3347 for information  
All the women of the church  
are invited.

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Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

