



THE SOUNDS OF SUNNY LANE

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Link to our new YouTube Channel for the Worship Service:
<https://sunnyslaneumc.com/youtube>



VOLUME 28 ISSUE 5

May 1, 2024

SUNNY LANE GRADUATES HONORED ON MAY 19TH



This year Sunny Lane has two members graduating from an area high school. Our Seniors will be recognized in worship service on Sunday, May 19th, in the 10:50 a.m. worship service.



Sunday, May 12th

Our graduations are as follows:

Felix Jones II

Felix and Camille Jones
4221 White Drive
Tinker AFB, OK 73145

Grandparents:

Jo Ann McWoodson
Sam Coleman
Janice Pitre
Robert Burnett

Dalyce Roper

Jack E. and Sherry Roper
5301 S. E. 46th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73135

Grandparents:

Myrt Brakhage
Jack M. Roper

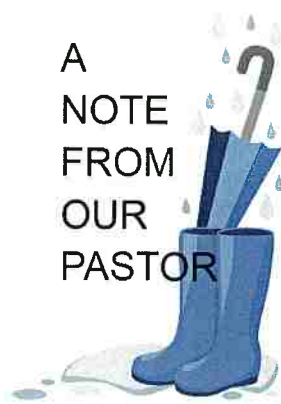


We welcome you on this day to honor not only God but our mothers and all the women who influenced our lives. God has blessed us in so many ways, and we will worship together that day. Let's give thanks and worship the God who has given us the gift of family.



MONDAY, MAY 27TH

Dear Sunny Lane Family,



What an exciting Spring season we have had so far! Our Children's Ministry Fun-Raiser was a huge success with a final total raised of \$20,320. We will begin interviewing candidates soon. We have had so much fun in our baseball sermon series, "Practice Makes Progress." We've got 6 seats left if you want to

attend the Church Baseball Outing on May 24th to Bricktown Ballpark to watch the OKC 89ers take on the Reno Aces! Cost is \$25 for your seat and an all-you-can-eat buffet.

The first week of June we will welcome a youth mission team from First United Methodist Church, The Colony, TX. They will help us put on a "Praise Camp" for church and neighborhood kids in the mornings here at the church June 3-6. In the afternoons, they'll go volunteer at a few vital ministries in our area like Skyline and Lazarus Community. This Praise Camp will give elementary kids the opportunity to learn music, choreography, and do some art projects as well. The camp kids will perform on Thursday, June 6 and we'll have a community potluck meal that evening. So be sure to mark your calendar for that great event! If you would like to help the VIM team provide dinner for the youth mission team that week, please contact Kay Brader.

I'm looking forward to a packed May calendar. We have a church Town Hall on May 5 following worship. Mother's Day on May 12 will be special. Senior Sunday on May 19th is Pentecost Sunday as we celebrate the ongoing work of the church through our graduates. So much to look forward to! See you around!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Adam

**NATIONAL DAY
OF PRAYER
MAY 2ND**



We have been asked to host and help a Mission team who is coming to our church the week of June 2 - 8, 2024. The team is

composed of 5 adults and 20 youth. They will be working in our community, educating children in it, and doing other projects. We have talked with other groups at church who have also agreed to help with our guests by making and serving an evening meal.

Here is the schedule we have developed for that week:

- June 2 - Team will arrive in the evening. VIM will provide drinks and snacks.
- June 3 - UMM and UWIF will provide an evening meal cooperatively.
- June 4 - VIM will provide an evening meal.
- June 5 - Team will be going out to eat.
- June 6 - The children will be presenting a program. Their families will be invited to attend. Sunny Lane will be providing a potluck for the Team, the children and families and the congregation. VIM will provide the meat for the meal, and we are asking all the congregation to bring large sides and desserts for the potluck meal.
- June 7 - The team will go out to eat.
- June 8 - VIM will provide snacks and drinks for the ride home.

VIM will be having All-American Sunday on June 23, 2024. It will honor Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Independence Day, as well as the military and veterans

As stated in a previous letter, the Sunny Lane family are all generous, caring Volunteers In Mission. We love and appreciate you and feel His blessings!

Your VIM Team



Dear Sunny Lane Family,

We have finished the first quarter of 2024 and are firmly in the second as we settle into the new Leadership Board Model. Just as a quick review, it is a different model than we have ever used, but it is one that I am familiar with, having served my twenty plus years on the Mid-Del school board. Our nine person board met for the first time on January 28 to begin our work, building on the Mission, Vision and Plan (MVP) that the Visioning Team developed in 2023. Our first meeting was organizational. I was elected as chair, Virginia Park volunteered to be our minute's taker and Alice Hutchinson agreed to be the Guiding Principles Guru, tracking our Guiding Principles as we create them. We were pleased to have Rev Thomas Hoffman, interim pastor at Church of the Servant and Single Accountable Structure Coach for Sunny Lane, lead us in our discussion of what the Leadership Board is and isn't. We were given homework, reading "The Coming Revolution in Church Economics," by Mark DeYmaz which we will continue to read and discuss as a group.

At our March and April meetings, we approved a breakeven budget for 2024, but continued to be frustrated by our transition to the new financial system taking an excessive amount of time to finalize. Our internal financial team of Donna Alexander and Barbara Zapf have been extremely diligent in completing their work. We continue to work toward having current financial statements available.

We are currently reviewing all policies and procedures for Sunny Lane and to put in place a consistent process to review and update all policies.

The Building and Grounds Committee has been very busy in getting bids for upgrading our restrooms to be more handicapped accessible.

We have seen over the past 4 months, a great deal of enthusiasm for completing a shared goal of funding a Children's Director. We did have several fundraisers from various groups and activities. I am thrilled that we have seen groups and individuals who have not played a leadership role before step forward to make this goal happen!

The Leadership Board meets on the first Sunday of each month and is open to the entire congregation with the exception of when we go into executive session on personnel matters. We will also have Town Hall meetings periodically at which we will update the congregation and will have a time to specifically answer questions from Sunny Lane members. I look forward to seeing many of you at our first Town Hall Meeting on May 5 after 2nd service.

I am proud to serve as Leadership Chair as we continue to live our MVP here at Sunny Lane United Methodist Church.

Jimmie Nolen, Leadership Chair



Town Hall Meeting

Dear Sunny Lane Family,

Our church's new Leadership Board would like to invite everyone to attend a church town hall meeting on Sunday, May 5 immediately following the second service. Lunch will be provided. We will demonstrate what our meetings look like now, hear a report on General Conference, and have a time for questions, comments, and ideas from church members. Our intent is to host these town halls a couple of times per year to increase feedback and communication between the Board and the church. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Adam and Jimmie Nolen, Board Chair



SKYLINE

Sunny Lane has been able to send a check to Skyline for \$575.00 from your generous donations.

Also 15 pounds of clothing was given by the congregation. Our Neighbors Closet was able to send 84 pounds of items to Skyline.

Thanks for all you do Skyline!

Bill Martin



It's time for a Dana update: Recovering more every day from chemo poisoning. Last Scan Showed "no evident of disease." She has a safe medical monitoring plan going forward. No more chemo! PTL and all you prayer warriors. We are so grateful.

Dana Jones Family
Dedra Strecker Family
Annette Anthony



We had an incredible time yesterday at our youth event assisting 'God's Love in Action' homeless ministry! Our amazing young volunteers sorted clothing,

toiletries, and prepared delivery bags with care and compassion. Together, we made a difference in the lives of those in need in our community. Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to this wonderful cause!

Taylor Roland





JAZZ IN JUNE FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH

6:00 PM

"Jazz In June"
music program
fundraiser concert
Friday June 14TH at
6pm here in our
Sunny Lane
Worship Center. I
and players from
around the area
will be performing



a night of jazz standards and arrangements to
raise funds for our music program. Our
ensembles are not involved in this exactly, but
you are welcome to be involved in it. If you are
interested in playing a role in this concert let me
know and I'll look for ways to get anyone who
wants to get plugged in, plugged in. Otherwise
please come and show your support with your
presence and energy!!!!

Taylor Roland

Greetings!

April was a great month for Our Neighbor's Closet. Our sales totaled \$1,453.50. We had a half price sale on clothing, shoes, and purses.

So far this year we have given 60% to the church totaling \$1,332.88. We have given 20% to the Samaritan Fund totaling \$444.29.

If anyone would be interested in working in the Closet, please let us know. Help is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for all the good donations. Thank you to our customers. If you have not been down, come check us out. We have many great spring and summer items.

God's Blessings to all!

Ina Lane



There is a great deal that has to be done after pictures are taken. Finally we are near the end of the process.

The final proof of the new directory is expected to be received early next week. After a final review it will be returned for printing.

Our copies are expected toward the end of May.

Thank you for your patience.

Making sure God understands

After former New York City Mayor Ed Koch had a stroke, he told God that he'd lived a full life and wouldn't mind dying. But he wanted to be taken immediately and not be cut off a bit at a time, like a roll of salami.

When Koch (who is Jewish) was in the hospital, a visiting rabbi prayed in both English and Hebrew. The words were: "Heal me and I shall be healed; save me and I shall be saved."

Later, New York City's Roman Catholic cardinal entered the mayor's room and offered to pray in Hebrew. But the ailing mayor, who never lost his sense of humor, said, "Your Eminence, I already took care of the Hebrew and English. Could you just do the Latin?"



United Women in Faith

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

Hello everyone. I hope everyone is prepared and weather aware as we enter our annual storm season. The Methodist Men held their April meeting on the 15th. We had another great dinner of onion burgers, prepared by our expert in that area, Jim Coonfield. The meeting was spent working out the details for the Spring Sausage grind.

We had a great sausage grind. The help we received was outstanding. I can't thank all those who participated enough. We were able to process 2,160 lbs of meat without any problems. It was such a smooth and timely experience. It couldn't have been done without each of you who helped. I also want to thank all those who ordered sausage and those who attended the breakfast on Saturday. From our perspective it was an excellent turnout and another successful weekend. Thank you all again.

The Sausage Grinds and the Pancake and Sausage breakfasts are our only fundraising events that we have. The money we raise helps support several charitable organizations that service our area. Some of these organizations are NSO, Skyline, Circle of Care, People Helping People, and Cavett Kids. We also sponsor our local Boy Scouts and help with expenses related to some of their activities.

Our next business meeting will be Monday May 20th at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will be finalizing the preparations for the April grind. Remember all men of the church are invited and will be very much welcomed. Hope to see you there.

Also, we are accepting input for speaker suggestions for future meetings. Is there a subject, a ministry, a program, or anything you believe we may be interested in hearing about, please feel free to provide some input.

Until then

Peace and Blessings

Dean Sparkman

President

*The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is: **To know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ.** To develop a creative supportive fellowship. To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.*

Happy May to all!

We ended April with our Bake Sale on Saturday, the 27th. Thank you to the Methodist Men who allow us to do this at the same time as their Pancake and Sausage Breakfast.

Thank you to all the wonderful ladies who provided the baked goods. Thank you to our customers! The proceeds from our Bake Sale will go to support our many missions.

On May 19th we are honoring our graduating high school seniors with breakfast for them and their families. Then they will be recognized in our late service.

Our next General Meeting is May 7th at 12:00 noon with a covered dish luncheon. Martha Group is the hostess and has the program. Our pantry item for May is canned fruit.

Please join us and bring a friend. Everyone is welcome!

Blessings,
Ina Lane, President



**REMEMBER THE
SUNNY LANE
BASEBALL GAME IS
MAY 24TH IF YOU
SIGNED UP!!**

Oklahoma Annual Conference 2024

**The World
FOREVER
Our Parish**



Oklahoma Conference
of The United Methodist Church

April 1, 2024

To The Congregations of the Oklahoma Conference of the UMC

One of the wonderful traditions of the Oklahoma Conference is to receive an offering to further the missional outreach of our churches through the Annual Conference. This year, our annual conference offering will be taken in honor of the ministry of Bishop Jimmy Nunn, who will be retiring as our episcopal leader on September 1, 2024 after serving in ministry for 43 years. The last eight of those years have been as our leader during unprecedented times in our world and in the life of the United Methodist Church.

The offering will be used to fund a makerspace at Lydia Patterson Institute ("LPI"). A makerspace is a place in which people with shared interests, especially in computing or technology, can gather to work on projects while sharing ideas, equipment, and knowledge. At LPI, they are going to create a dynamic environment where the students can unleash their creativity, collaborate on projects, and solve real-world problems. It will include state-of-the-art amenities – 3D printers whirring to life, computer stations humming with research and design, workshop tables buzzing with activity, and TV screens illuminating presentations and demonstrations.

LPI's vision for this makerspace goes beyond mere renovation; it's about aligning with their educational mission. By repurposing this space, they will be able to create an environment that not only supports curriculum standards but also fosters hands-on learning through building. The makerspace will serve as a catalyst for collaboration and growth. As students work together, they will not only enhance their academic skills but also practice English conversational skills, bridging language barriers and fostering inclusion. When you give to this offering, you are investing in tools and equipment; you are investing in the future of LPI's wonderful students.

Bishop Nunn has a particular fondness for LPI having served on the board there for many years. This will be a great way to honor him. You can give two ways:

- 1) Taking up a special offering at your church and bringing a check to the conference session in May;
- 2) Giving online anytime (<https://www.okumc.org/specialoffering>).

Included in this mailing is a poster for you to display in your church as you collect donations for this year's conference offering.

Every blessing,

Rev. Dr. Joe Harris, Assistant to the Bishop

Rev. Connie Gibson, Dean of the Cabinet

Rev. Derrek Belase, Connectional Ministries

Joe Holt, Conference Treasurer

Oklahoma United Methodist Conference 2024

Special Offering in honor of Bishop Nunn New Makerspace at Lydia Patterson Institute

Taking an under-utilized library space and transforming it into a dynamic environment for creativity and collaboration. With 3D printers, computer stations, workshop tables and more. Supporting the robotics team and promoting computer science and other tech skills essential for the modern digital world. This offering also invests in the future of LPI's wonderful students.



Bring offerings to Annual Conference or
Submit offerings on the conference website through
<https://www.okumc.org/specialoffering> or mail it to our
conference office at 1501 NW 24th Street, OKC, 73106.



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United Methodist Men

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

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David Keen

United Methodist Women

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

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