

MAY 2024

THE CALLING



**FIRST
METHODIST
ARDMORE**

A LETTER FROM YOUR SENIOR PASTOR

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
-Ephesians 2:8-10 NIV

This coming Sunday, May 12th, we celebrate Mother’s Day and confirmation. It will be a high day in the life of our congregation. I want to say thank you to Clayton and Bebe Lodes, Amy Hopper, Harrison Boggs, Pastor John Hollon, and Pastor Kira Calhoun-Wilson. I’m grateful for all the prayer, work and support these individuals showed our confirmation class these last 12 weeks. Confirmation is the process by which we work with our 8th graders and their families to assist them in making a decision to give their lives to Christ Jesus. Some of our confirmands have already been baptized and some will be baptized in the month of June.

One of the things I want you to know is that each confirmand will become a full member of this church. In other words, they will be asked to be present, pray, give their tithe, serve, and be a witness for Jesus Christ and His kingdom. I can tell you that your pastors have met with each of our confirmands and we are excited to see what the Lord will do in each of their lives. We will be celebrating their confirmation in both services. The present and the future is bright with these young women and men leading our church.

We will also be celebrating “Mother’s Day”. My mother is Ann Daniel. The truth is that I’ve been blessed to have many mothers. My sister, Tracy, would consider herself to be one of the women who has raised me and taught me the ways of the Lord. I can think of countless women in the church in Healdton that played a role in who I have become as a man and a follower of Christ Jesus. My mother passed from this life on January 12th, 2004. Yet, her influence and love for me and my family continues to be very present and evident in my daily walk with Jesus. I can tell you as well, how grateful I am for Ginger’s mother, Mrs. Marsha Bright, and her love and care for my family.

Revelation 14:13 “Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.” My parents were people that were redeemed by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. The way they lived their lives and followed Jesus of Nazareth continues to have an impact on how I live my life today. If your mother has moved into God’s eternal kingdom, take a moment and thank God for her. If you mother is still here with you, please make a point to call her or text her and tell her that you love her. God bless you.

Jesus is Lord,

Rev. Dr. David Lloyd Daniel

staff spotlight

Holly Joy

Business Administrator



- Joined FMC in 2010
- Started working at FMC in 2014
- Holly and her husband, Tracy, have 3 children and 2 grandchildren

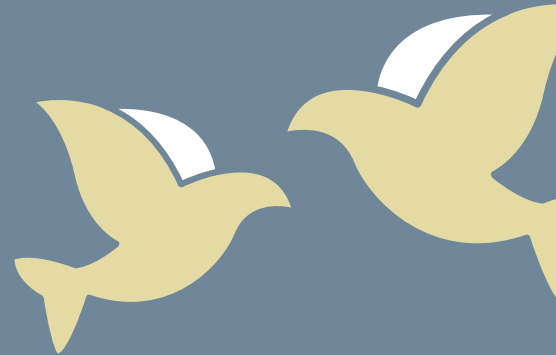


“Working here has brought me so many unexpected blessings and opportunities. I never dreamed I would have the opportunity to travel in this position and spread the Word of God to the far reaches of the earth!”

HAPPY SPRING



Diana Matheny, Connie Strangeland, Shelly Aljoe, and Jane Kucko planted the CMC flowerbed with annuals and transplanted several perennials in the west parking lot flowerbeds. Also, Easter Lilies from years past are just coming up in the west flowerbeds, so be on the lookout for their blooms in the next few weeks.



Upcoming Events

Women's Book Club

Join us for a Women's Book Club with Ginger Daniel on Thursdays at noon starting on May 9th in the CMC Room 116. We will read "Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts and Our Minds." Please bring your lunch and join us on Thursdays at noon! Sign up on our website at: <https://www.ardmorefirst.org/womens-book-club/>

May Madness

The youth group will start May Madness for all entering 6th graders through graduated seniors on Wednesday May 1st with Camp night in the youth room, May 8th Flag Football on the Plainview Football Field, May 15th Challenge Night in the CMC and May 22nd Dodgeball in the CMC.

Senior Sunday

All 2024 graduating seniors are invited to celebrate with us on Sunday, May 19th for Senior Sunday. To sign up your senior visit: <https://www.ardmorefirst.org/senior-sunday/>

Youth Camp


Get those summer dates marked on your calendar because we want to see YOU! Sign up for any and all youth camps this summer at: <https://www.ardmorefirst.org/youth-camps-retreats/>

Vacation Bible School

VBS 2024 is set for Monday, June 3rd, through Thursday, June 6th, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. VBS is for kids 4 years old by 9/1/24 through entering 5th grade. Sign-up is now open at: <https://www.ardmorefirst.org/summer/>

PLEASE BE IN
PRAYER FOR OUR
CONFIRMATION
STUDENTS
AND THEIR
FAMILIES

Keilan Atencio
Brynley Burson
Dominique Coursey
Lila Cumming
Luke Cumming
Jett Frankum
Jera Good
Marlie Good
Hadley Kamas
Jay Lodes
Rory McMillan
Boston Neher
Charleigh Scott
Weston Wittliff



**Recently moved?
Don't forget to update
your address, phone
and email with us!**

MAY

May 1	May Madness - Camp Night - Youth Room
May 5	Communion Sunday
May 8	May Madness - Flag Football - Plainview Football Field
May 9	Women's Book Club - CMC Room 116 - noon
May 12	Confirmation Sunday
May 15	May Madness - Challenge Night - CMC
May 16	Women's Book Club - CMC Room 116 - noon
May 17	Friendly Neighbors - CMC Room 115 - 10:30am
May 19	Senior Sunday
May 22	May Madness - Dodgeball Tourney - CMC
May 23	Women's Book Club - CMC Room 116 - noon
May 30	Women's Book Club - CMC Room 116 - noon

Our next Heartland Prayer Zoom Meeting will be next Tuesday, May 14 at 7pm CT! Below is the Zoom link. We have lots of updates for you and much to pray about.

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85334132112?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85334132112?pwd=MXBRSnVxaDZGUE1sVXBKVVW8zMFNSdz09)
pwd=MXBRSnVxaDZGUE1sVXBKVVW8zMFNSdz09**

Senior Sunday | Senior Sunday

SENIOR SUNDAY

MAY 19




SCAN ME



MAY 1 - CAMP NIGHT

MAY 8 - FLAG FOOTBALL



MAY MADNESS

MAY 22 - DODGEBALL

MAY 15 - CHALLENGE NIGHT

SUMMER YOUTH 2024

2024

2024

2024

2024

CAMP DATES

DAYSRING
MAY 28 - JUNE 1
DEADLINE MAY 12TH
ENTERING 9TH GRADE-GRAD

YOUTH FORCE
JUNE 16-JUNE 21
DEADLINE JUNE 2ND
ENTERING 7TH GRADE-GRAD

DISCIPLE
JULY 10 - JULY 13
DEADLINE JUNE 23RD
ENTERING 6TH GRADE-8TH



SCAN ME

Jesus, thank you for the gift of your Spirit!

READ ACTS 1:1-8

As you read, notice everything Jesus says to the disciples. The Spirit is promised to all who accept themselves to Jesus. Scripture instructs us to walk by the Spirit (Galatians 5:22), to keep in the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18), and when we have the various gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1-11) and when we have the various gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1-11).

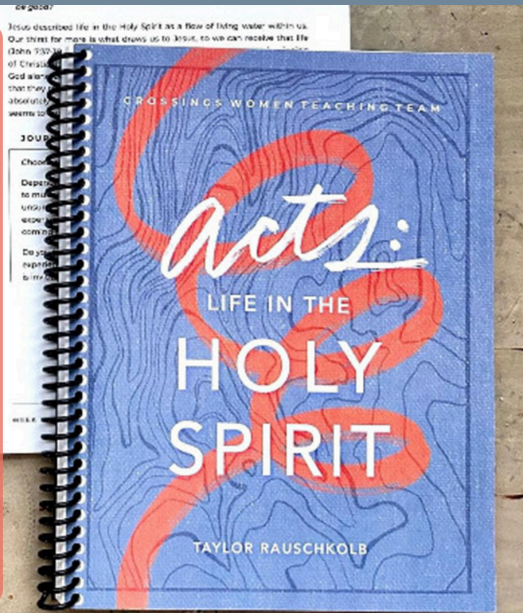
God's presence and power today tends to vary... a lot. As the journey of faith continues, we are often reminded why... and how... we could try to weaken that connection. But what if that gap is a gift? What if it beckons us to a deeper relationship with God? What if it is a sign of a new beginning?


NEW STUDY

BEGINNING JUNE 24

MONDAY NIGHTS
6:30-8:00 - CMC
6 SESSIONS
BOOKS \$5

CHILD CARE PROVIDED






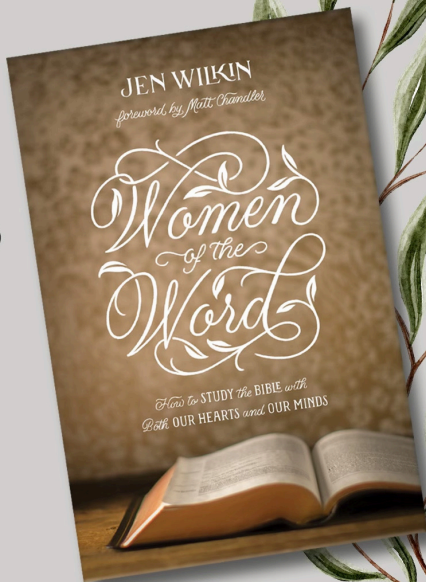
WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

WOMEN OF THE WORD

THURSDAYS AT NOON STARTING MAY 9TH
 CMC ROOM 116 - BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH



SCAN ME



Young Adult Summer Calendar

SUNDAY GATHERING
 CMC 10AM
 COFFEE/GRAB-N-GO BREAKFAST/LESSON

July Summer Night Break Outs
Hays House
July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 6:00 PM
Snack/Lesson/Swimming

So Long Summer Fun Trip
TBD

"SUMMERTIME IS ALWAYS THE BEST OF WHAT MIGHT BE."
 - Charles Bowden

Questions? kira@ardmorefirst.org





MISSIONS OUTREACH UPDATE



Thank you to all who are giving your Faith Promise pledges! In the month of April we had \$14,412 given towards missions for our church. We spent \$18,707 as we paid our 2nd quarterly payments to our mission partners. We were able to bless Sharol Shutts, one of our mission partners, with a Faith Promise scholarship for her to travel to Brazil on a short-term mission.

The Young Adult Mission to Guatemala planning is going great. There are 16 persons going to work at Escuela Integrada in Antigua, Guatemala. The school is currently serving 170 students and has 25 teachers and employees. Students' ages range from kindergarten through 9th grade. Please keep this team in your prayers as they continue preparing this month for their trip. Prayers for God to work in their lives and the lives God puts into their paths. Prayers for safety and protection in their travels and on the ground. The trip is June 8 - 14.

One of our new mission partners are Rob and Shini Abraham. They are involved with SonScape Retreats. These retreats are for Pastors, Missionaries or anyone in ministry especially in places around the world where there are few resources available. The Abrahams lead these retreats to provide desperately needed soul care and pastoral care to the ones who are in need. The ministry was started in 2014 and there have been 45+ retreats with more than 30 nationalities. They say many in ministry feel lonely, overly burdened, overworked and face burn out. The retreats give encouragement, time for refreshment and rest, and provide a safe place to process. Many who attend say they feel better equipped to serve again in their communities. Keep the Abrahams and SonScape Retreats in your prayers as God meets these persons where it is most needed in their lives.



Rebecca Reed
Missions Outreach Coordinator

ROB AND SHINI ABRAHAM



Disaster ASSISTANCE

The church took donations for those affected by the devastating tornados. The confirmation class spent the afternoon on their day out of school sorting the donations and getting them ready for delivery. Thank you to these students as well as those who donated items and made monetary contributions.

Be watching for other ways you can serve in the near future.





EPIC BAND MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



SHANE PORTER
Electric Guitarist & Drummer

Background: Shane was raised in and resides in Lone Grove. His musical journey began when his father, a drummer, started teaching him to play drums at age two. When he was 17 he began learning to play the guitar.

Joining the Band: In 2008, Shane joined the EPIC Band as the electric guitarist, bringing his exceptional skill and boundless creativity to the group. Shane's versatility as a musician allowed the band to explore different dynamics as he is able to switch between guitar and drums allowing for fuller and pulled back styles of worship.

Influence and Inspiration: Shane's musical influences are as diverse as his playing style, ranging from rock icons like Jimi Hendrix to bands like the Red Hot Chili Peppers and 90's Grunge bands. His love for music is poured into every note he plays.

Impact on the Band: As the electric guitarist of the EPIC Band, Shane has played a pivotal role in shaping the band's identity and defining our sound. He is an indispensable asset to the group. Shane says "Worship, to me, is a time to praise Jesus, connect with God, and use the musical gifts God has given me." His favorite worship song is God Is Able.

DAVID DANIEL, SENIOR PASTOR
JOHN HOLLON, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
KIRA CALHOUN-WILSON,
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

SUNDAY SERVICES

9 AM TRADITIONAL
10 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:05 AM EPIC

PRAYER CHAIN

LISA & LENNY FRANK
(580) 465-7515
FRANK.LENNYLISA@YAHOO.COM

WADELL & SHEILA ALTOM
(580) 223-7272

501 W. MAIN
ARDMORE, OK 73401
(580) 223-5390
ARDMOREFIRST.ORG

TELEVISED AT 11 AM ON
SPARKLIGHT CHANNEL 56

BROADCAST AT 9 AM ON KVSQ
1240 AM AND 107.5 FM
LIVE STREAM ONLINE AND ROKU

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Current Prayers Needed: Ongoing Prayers Needed:

Peggy Harvey
Maytha Mead
Sonja Tibbits
Don Yeager

Don & Karen Chaffin
Debby Custer
Janet Culley
Greg & Robin Lohden
Susan Mertes
Dana Murrah
Pat Padberg
Kim Thompson
Nation of Israel
Those affected by tornados

Follow us on Facebook to keep
up with events and
announcements:

First Methodist Church Ardmore



Follow our Kids and Youth on

Instagram

_fmckids
fmcarmoreyouth



WEBSITES TO CHECK OUT

- First Methodist Church Ardmore - ardmorefirst.org
or find us on Facebook at First Methodist Ardmore.
- Global Methodist Church Heartland Conference
heartlandgmc.org
- seedbed.com
- Wake-Up Call Daily Devotional -
seedbed.com/wakeupcall/
- firebrandmag.com
- <https://www.111project.org/>