



The Tahlequah Testament

August Newsletter for TUMC



UMW SERVING FOR HELP IN CRISIS

OUR FIRST POTLUCK OF 2021



Meet Lacie Croman as our new Little Sprouts Director. We begin school on Aug. 16th be in prayer for this ministry. We will have opportunities to serve listed soon.



We blasted off for our 2021 Summer Vacation Bible School. Thank you to all who helped make this VBS a successful event. Thank you Melanie Moden for being our director this year.



Scan the QR code with your smartphone to connect with TUMC digital content



MISSIONS

Volunteer!

AUGUST 02-06, 2021
AUGUST 09-13, 2021
AUGUST 16-20, 2021
AUGUST 23-27, 2021

8:30 A.M. - 3 P.M.

NO TOOLS OR
EXPERIENCE REQUIRED.
COME WHEN YOU CAN.

SIGN UP @ TAHLEQUAHHABITAT.ORG

Save the Date: Missions Roundtable

When? Sunday, August 22, with Free Lunch after Worship

What? A Jump-Start for our Church's Mission

Why? We've had an 18-month quarantine and need to be with each other!

Who? Anyone who cares about the missions of the church.

Question: What's a mission? (Local or Overseas? Two hours or two weeks? Physically demanding or super relaxed? No-Cost or Expensive? Adults-only or Families?)

Answer: All of the above! Let's talk about it!

What now? Call the church office with your reservation. (The meal is free, but we need to know how much food to prepare.)

"At Home" By George Warren

A few weeks ago, I went with Reba Luton, our Habitat Coordinator, and her husband Marshall to "Habitation," a worship service to kick off the Regional gathering and training session for leaders all over Southcentral United States. (As you may know, Habitat for Humanity is an international organization that seeks to help homeless people provide housing for themselves. This is done through their own "seat equity" of 250 hours of labor with the help of others' volunteer labor.) The worship service was a wonderful myriad of widely divergent styles of music, prayers that were in print and prayers that were spontaneous, drama that brought laughter and insight. It was all so diverse, and we all came from such different religious traditions, but all were deeply committed to a mission of a home for God's homeless children.

The guest speaker reminded us of Habitat's eighteen years of service and its growth to the point that now one home a day is being completed worldwide. He quipped that the world always needs "one more good carpenter," remembering that Jesus was the son of Joseph, a carpenter. But he said one thing that moved me deeply, "Remember, we all were homeless once." As I turned this over in my mind, I realized how right he was! We all have felt "out in the cold" at one time or another. We all have been at the point where we looked into a group—weather it was a family, a club, a classroom, a work group, or a church – and felt like an outsider, not at all "at home." But this is also true in our relationship with God. In I Peter 2:10 we read, "Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." To Paraphrase St. Augustine, "We are restless and cannot rest until we find our home in God."

I think the task of the church can be expressed this way: "To provide a home to the homeless." This may mean helping to build adequate housing and shelter for people who literally have inadequate housing. On a deeper level the task of the church can be understood as providing a warm, caring environment here in our worshipping community so that more and more people will say, as one new member recently told me, "I feel so 'at home' here!" On an even deeper level, the task of the church can be guiding its members and the world in their "journey home," their walk with Christ toward the eternal home, "A house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Isn't it interesting that the one who is our "home" is the very one who said, "Foxes have holes and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." Jesus, the homeless one, is our home, our habitat.

Grace and Peace,



SHOWING GOD'S LOVE THROUGH SERVING OTHERS NSU WESLEY NEWS

That is the mission statement at NSU Wesley Foundation. We have most definitely done that this summer. We have made 140 sandwiches every Thursday morning for the Day Center. They are so very grateful. They tell us that some of their organizations have backed off during the summer months and they are so very grateful that we have stepped up and volunteered to serve.

We have been very busy getting our Student Food Pantry up and ready for serving in September. We will be providing a bag of groceries that will provide meals enough for a week to students who are in need. We have several events coming up in the next month. During Freshmen Welcome Week we will be serving a meal and free sno-cones. During the first week of class, we will be offering free lemonade and cookies, and chips to all students on campus. We will have a table set up outside under the breezeway on campus. We will also start back up on August 25th with our Wesley Wednesday lunch to all students and faculty. We do have some needs to get these events kicked off. We need lots of cookies and individual bags of assorted chips to give away on campus and at our facility. We need cans of powdered lemonade and LOTS of bottled water. If you can help with any of these items, please drop them off at my office at the church or at the Wesley Foundation. We thank you in advance for all your help with these needs. We also are so very grateful for all the love and support you give to our campus ministry. We are able to do what we do because of you.

God Loves You and So Do We!
Pastor Shana and the NSU Wesley Leadership Team

CHANCEL CHOIR WILL RESUME REHERALS AUG. 18TH AT



BELL CHOIR WILL RESUME TBA

Memorials Given Since July 4th

In memory of BARBIE BARNARD
Mark and Rebel Nelson

In memory of GRACE SWEENEY
Gene and Jo Thompson

In memory of LOUENE SCARSDALE
Tom and Teensie Eckert
Jo Ellen Rogers

**The Building
Mortgage as
of 7.27.21
\$176,690.85**

**2021 Church Apportionments
Conference Apportionments
\$6,334/\$31,685**

**Mission and Ministry
\$0/\$7,239**

**District Apportionments
\$3,686/\$3,686**

Ways to give during the COVID-19 Pandemic



You can drop your offering
Check in the mail slot in the
office door. While you are
out running errands.



You can send us checks, or work out
arrangements with your Bank or
Financial Institution to mail it to
300 W. Delaware Tahlequah, Ok 74464



REFLECTIONS FROM LEAD PASTOR MATT FRANKS

email:matt.franks@tahlequahumc.org

Romans 12:2 CEB reads, “Don’t be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God’s will is—what is good and pleasing and mature.”

Transformation means a complete change. Part of TUMC's mission is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of ourselves and the world. For us to transform so we can transform the world for God we must take Paul’s words in his letter to the Church in Rome. We must renew our minds and center ourselves in God, for good.

David Field in his book *Our Purpose Is Love* lays a foundation for a Wesleyan Understanding of the elements of transformation. (Pg.52)

- Transformation is interactive. It starts with God’s presence and action. We must respond to what God is doing; our positive response leads to an intensification of God’s transforming presence.
- Transformation involves a dynamic balance of inner and outer experience. Inner change leads to change in our behaviors and practices; changes in our behaviors and practices reshape our character.
- Transformation is pervasive. God’s transforming action is the fundamental redirection of our lives that permeates all dimensions of our existence.

How is God calling you to be transformed?

Peace be with you,
Pastor Matt Franks

'DON'T BE CONFORMED TO THE PATTERNS OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MINDS SO THAT YOU CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT GOD'S WILL IS—WHAT IS GOOD AND PLEASING AND MATURE.'
ROMANS 12:2 CEB



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