

# November, 2015 Newsletter

## BRIDGEVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

**WE WALK WITH CHRIST, WORSHIP GOD IN ALL WE DO AND SAY, AND WELCOME OTHERS INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST, AS WE MAKE DISCIPLES FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD.**

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Helen Gibson read this in worship Oct. 18, and it is worth sharing again.

THE FUTURE...

Is it the next minute or the next hour?

Is it tomorrow or the next day?

Could it be next year or the next century?

Can I see it?

I think... it is our faith.

Our faith that God has a plan, and we are a part of that plan.

I moved back to Oklahoma in 2010. In looking to find a home church, I visited Bridgeview. At least the first time I got to the parking lot...really a church in a strip mall. Sometime later, I visited again...inside this time. I felt some moving going on there. Things seemed to be happening. I felt life, and growth and a sense of newness in a strange place for a church. I felt that the people there were looking to their future. Before long.... I felt led to transfer my membership.

In one of my favorite Indiana Jones movies, .... *The Last Crusade*, Indy is searching for something and collecting clues as he goes along. Here he is racing through a rocky cave-like tunnel inside of a mountain. The tunnel opens up to daylight, and Indy is standing on a rock ledge with the sight of a rocky wall across from him and a deep cavernous drop between him and the other side. He's got nowhere to go. But he knows he has to get to the other side.

He looks right and he looks left, he looks up and he looks down.

The future!...most of the time I can't foresee it... But I know **IT** is there because.... it is a promise that was made to me...I know it is there because... so many times in my past that promise has been fulfilled.....My faith ....allows me to believe in the future. Can we envision the future of Bridgeview? Can we see a time when the pews are full and the rafters are vibrating with the sound of voices being raised in praise to a Lord who has filled every inch

of this building with people seeking to follow Him in faith? Do ***we*** once again have the faith to step boldly into the future?

Back to Indy :

There seems not to be a place to put his foot for his next step without him falling to certain death. He then remembers a clue that was given to him earlier in the movie. Putting his foot forward, he steps out in the faith of that clue and then, by that step adjusting his angle of sight--it is shown to him--a rock footbridge across the cavernous divide, a path that was visually obscure **until he made the commitment** to take that step.

THE FUTURE... Is it the next minute or the next hour?

Is it tomorrow or the next day?

Could it be next year or the next century?

Can you see it?

Can we take that step—just like Indiana Jones did?

Can we let our faith lead us to the future that **God** has promised to us?

Can you believe Bridgeview's future is having faith--faith that God has a plan, and the FUTURE of Bridgeview is a part of that plan.

Do you want to be a part of the future of Bridgeview UMC, are you ready to step boldly into the plan that God has for us?

I am. Because with God, all things are possible.

Oh...once Indy got across the invisible footpath, he took a handful of pebbles and threw them out onto the path so others could follow.

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We welcome the Rev. Diana Northcutt to the Bridgeview pulpit on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Northcutt serves at The Well Outreach Ministry in Oklahoma City. Rev. Northcutt also serves the Oklahoma Conference as Director of Discipleship Ministries and is the Conference Youth Coordinator.

## MISSIONS

### JESUS DOLLARS



Here's a neat idea passed along to Bridgeview by Joyce Coleson Holmes: if you examine a one dollar bill, you will see, left of George Washington's portrait, a letter of the alphabet in an engraved circle. The Missions Committee asks that you consider any dollar bill with a letter J in the circle to be a Jesus dollar. Bring it to the big glass jar next to the pulpit, and it will go toward a special Missions project.

### SKYLINE URBAN MINISTRY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Bridgeview will serve lunch in the Saturday Morning Bread program at Skyline, 500 SE 15th St in Okla. City. Skyline is a United Methodist ministry serving the needy. Their Saturday schedule is as follows:

- 9am – 11am Food Resource Center & Clothing Closet Open
- 11-11:30 am FREE LUNCH
- 11:45 am Prayer and Healing Service of Worship

We will need a large group to bring and serve food. If you cannot go, you may certainly help by preparing food to be taken there. We will also take to Skyline warmth-giving items including hats, gloves, socks, and coats. You may bring those items all through November and leave them by the Missions poster in the Bridgeview hallway. No time to shop? No problem! Cash donations designated for this ministry will be gratefully accepted. Please let Jennifer McDanel know how you will be able to help.

### UNITED METHODIST MOTORCYCLE ASS'N BLESSING OF THE WHEELS & CHRISTMAS TOY RUN

Saturday, Nov. 28

- 11:00 am: Blessing of the Wheels at McFarlin UMC

This means any wheeled vehicle: bicycle, motorcycle, stroller, whatever you desire to have blessed.

- 12:30 pm: Depart for Redemption Church, 1320 N. Pennsylvania Ave., OKC

1:00-2:30 pm: Delivery of toys & gifts for

Redemption Church's Christmas Ministry

If you plan to attend, please bring a toy for donation to Redemption Church's ministry for children of incarcerated parents. For more information, call (405) 615-7322.

### SERVING LUNCH AT FOOD AND SHELTER = NEED A FOOD HANDLER'S PERMIT

Many people at Bridgeview have said they will help serve lunches once or twice a month at Food and Shelter. They require that anyone serving food obtain a food handler's permit. Here is how you get one:

Where: Cleveland County Health Department, 250 12th Ave N.E, Norman, OK

When: Tuesdays 9:00 am and Thursdays 3:30 pm

Cost: \$5.00, cash only

You need to bring your photo ID and arrive 20-30 minutes early. Class lasts approximately one hour. Once you have obtained your permit, please let Jennifer McDanel know so she can get Bridgeview on the schedule at Food and Shelter. Let Jen know when you would like to train: we could plan a time and all go together. Email Jen or text to 405-474-8093.

### ANGEL TREE

**W**e will collect angel tree Christmas gifts again this year. Details will be announced later in November.

### 2015 CROP WALK

The Cleveland County CROP walk raised \$15,076 dollars (as of October 18, the day of the walk). 25% of that money goes to Food and Shelter, and 75% to Church World Service, a cooperative ministry of a number of denominations in the U.S., including the United Methodist Church. Thanks to the Bridgeview community for supporting the walk and our walking team: Jerry Martin, Jim and Jane Osborn, Chuck and Terri Simonds, and Cindy Carr. "Church World Service ... is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and communions ... in the United States, providing sustainable self-help, development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance around the world."

## **United Methodist Women**

Tuesday, November 17th

6:30 P.M

The group will plan to meet at the church unless someone would like to host the meeting in her home. All women of the church, young and less young, are invited to attend. You do not need to bring anything, but if you would like to bring a food item to share, we promise to eat it! We will share a devotion and plan ways in which we will serve God through Bridgeview.

At the October 20th meeting, Belinda Rogers gave a creative devotion which allowed us to ponder the beauties of God's world as we created keepsake turkeys. Twelve women attended.

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### **PRAYER CIRCLE**

Every Sunday Night

6:00 P.M.

Yes, we are all praying individually for our church, but there is great power in praying together. Please join us in an informal group in which we go to the Lord together asking for his blessings, care, and guidance for Bridgeview, and that we may know God's will for our congregation.

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### **COMMON THREADS**

If you know of anyone who needs a tangible reminder of God's sustaining presence, you are invited to present a prayer shawl from the Bridgeview needlework community. These shawls are created prayerfully and blessed before the congregation.

Prayer shawls are given for times of celebration as well as illness or sorrow. The

shawls ready to be given are on hangers in the armoire in the front lobby. All you need to do is match the number on the shawl's tag to that line on the clipboard. Fill in your name, the date, and the name of the recipient. If you are able to present the shawl in person, you may wish to add a prayer of your own as you wrap the shawl around the one who will wear it.

Besides shawls or lap blankets, the Common Threads group makes scarves and hats to donate to Food and Shelter and others who may need some extra warmth. Earlier this year, they made water bottle cozies for teachers at Dimensions and stuffed animal toys for children at Positive Tomorrows school.

Anyone in the Bridgeview UMC community may donate an item to be blessed. Yarn is available at the church (Common Threads leader Carol Reames has just donated some beautiful James C. Brett "Marble" yarn in glorious colors), or you may supply your own. All are invited to the Common Threads weekly work sessions held Wednesdays from 4:00 to 7:00 P.M. Free knitting and crochet lessons are available on request.

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Not new, but really cool:

The Ozment family formed their own robot-building team, the OzBots (Aiden, Colleen, Katerina, Luke, & Wyatt). Using Lego pieces and the Lego Mindstorm system, the OzBots designed, built, and programmed a robot to be used in a game to teach food handling safety. They won the First Lego League Oklahoma championship, then competed in the Food Factor Challenge at the First Lego League World Festival in St. Louis. The World Festival brought thousands of entrants from around the world. Congratulations!

## Best Reasons to Join the Choir:

### *Another View*

Last month, we featured 15 reasons to join the choir. There are a few more (less serious) ideas floating around the Internet, as seen at <http://choralnet.org>

12. Offering plate is never passed to the choir.
11. Singing in the choir is not only "heart healthy," it's "soul healthy" as well. There are no monthly membership fees, and it's a lot easier on the knees than jogging!
10. Singing in a choir is one of the few activities for men that does not require complex electronic equipment or expensive power tools.
09. Being at rehearsal every Wednesday evening definitely beats watching the new reality show on channel 974.
08. It's exactly like singing in the shower, except you're wearing a robe and people are actually listening.
07. Sitting with a group in the chancel every Sunday is excellent practice in case you're ever called for jury duty.
06. You say you can sing the melody loudly but can't read music? Two words--soprano section!
05. No matter how packed church is on Easter or Christmas, you'll be assured of having a great seat in the sanctuary.
04. Choir is always the first to receive communion, so you can

take your pick

of the larger pieces of bread.

03. You can see who's sleeping through the sermon
02. Because there's a clock in the back of the sanctuary, you'll be the first to know when it's noon each Sunday
01. You don't have to dress up--the robe hides a lot.

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### Halloween Carnival

A big thank-you to all who gave their time to make this year's Halloween carnival a great evening of fun and fellowship. The food brought to the potluck was delicious, the children had lots of fun, and the creativity on display was amazing.

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If you know of information that needs to be included in the newsletter, please contact the church office as shown below or Cindy Carr ([bandccarr@att.net](mailto:bandccarr@att.net) or (405) 579-2506).

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If you know of anyone who needs to be added to the church's mailing lists, postal or email, please contact the church at the email address below.

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Need help signing in for the church's online directory? Contact Lay Leader Chuck Simonds.

### Bridgeview contact information:

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