

APRIL, 2016 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.

Bridgeview's Future Is Bright

During the months of April and May Jim Dunlap, Certified Lay Servant and member of Bridgeview, will preach each Sunday and provide for visitation and pastoral care. Jim's sermons this month have touched many hearts, and we are grateful to Jim for the service he gives to Bridgeview. It is reassuring to know that we will have continuity in our pulpit for the next two months. Bishop Hayes and District Superintendent Tener are working to finding a way to provide a called pastor for Bridgeview. Keep praying!

Although the worship leadership portion of the partnership between Bridgeview and Moore 1st UMC has come to a close, the other portions of our partnership will continue. Shared activities include HomeGroups, the AGAPE Youth group, book club, Bible studies, and other events. Those members of Bridgeview who were taking part in the SHIFTS Network church revitalization project will continue to do so. (See below for more about SHIFTS.)

It has been a tremendous blessing to work with Moore 1st, and the congregation of Bridgeview thanks the good people of Moore 1st and their dedicated staff for walking with us as we all seek to serve Christ. Bridgeview is expected to continue to operate as a

stand-alone congregation, meaning that the church will not be a satellite or branch of another church. Although Moore 1st will not be "adopting" Bridgeview, we will move forward as informal sister congregations serving God together.

Our leadership team has recently been reassured that Bridgeview does have a 30-year mortgage. It is a business loan, so the bank has the option of reviewing the mortgage periodically, and possibly changing the interest rate. We simply need to keep current on our mortgage payments, and we are doing that.

Your prayers, presence, service and offerings are still vital as Bridgeview strives to become a stable, vital part of the Body of Christ.



What a grand Holy Week we observed! Maundy Thursday at Moore 1st Pastor Rob Harris in the character of the Apostle Peter read from scripture and celebrated communion. The solemn Good Friday service of darkness at Bridgeview was led by Pastor Adam Shahan, and the

choir led by Glen Woods provided special music. The sunrise service at Bridgeview was held inside because of rain, but the shades were raised so that we could see a glimmer of dawn in the east. There was a wonderful spirit as we celebrated Jesus' resurrection in the 10:00 A.M. worship service.

Ministry Cards

Working together helps us to know each other better. Where do you find yourself called to serve at Bridgeview this year? Kindly fill out a green card (or clip this form) and turn it in.

<p>I am being called into the ministry of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lay leadership - Lawn mowing crew - Book club - Prayer shawl ministry - Hospitality team (sending cards, filling mugs, visiting guests, emailing new guests, greeting on Sunday, helping with postcard reminders) - Children's message - Audio/visual team - Cook and provide meals on Sunday (funerals, youth, etc.) - Nursery help - Crafting group (banners, altar cloths, worship décor, etc.) - Saturday readiness crew (make coffee, put cards in seat backs, bathroom/narthex tidying) <p>Name _____</p> <p>Phone _____ E-mail _____</p> <p>Please place in the offering tray, or leave in the church office. If you have volunteered for these ministries before, please check again, so that we know you are still available. Thanks</p>
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SHIFTS

Bridgeview UMC and Moore 1st UMC are part of a group of twenty congregations in the OKC metro area who are engaged in a program called Shifts. Bridgeview members involved are Helen Gibson, Chuck Simonds, and Linda Cumpton. Churches are learning how *shifting* a particular point of view can lead to revitalization and growth. First, we need to shift our mentality from fellowship

to hospitality. We can learn to be intentional in interacting with people at church whom we do not know.

As Andy James of the Choctaw UMC explained, "In the end, this shift is not about creating new programs; it is about shaping the culture of our congregation. It is about doing things differently intentionally so that our faith is more fruitful. It is about developing systems which advance our missional mandate of inviting people to know, love, and live a life in Christ."

Team members attend some meetings at OCU; other content is delivered online. The program is based on material authored by Phil Maynard. Over the course of thirteen months, the teams seek to define and implement changes in four areas. They seek to move:

- from fellowship to hospitality;
- from worship as an event to worship as a lifestyle;
- from membership to discipleship; and
- from serving self to engaging with all.

Committee Chairs

Since our annual Charge Conference, there have been changes in chairpersons of some of our standing committees. Congratulations and many thanks to Angela Knisley (Church Life) and Megan Briscoe (Missions) for taking on these leadership roles.

An informal group of committee members met after worship on April 10 to consider how best to organize ourselves to do the ongoing work of the church. A big question was "who does what?" So, committee chairs are going to put

their heads together to see how the work is best distributed. This led to another question, “what needs to be done?” The areas being considered are Missions, Church Fellowship (formerly Church Life), and Evangelism/Hospitality. The role of UMW is also being included. Possibly the relationship of the Congregational Care Committee could be included in the discussion.

Your input is needed here: if you have suggestions for specific tasks that need to be done at Bridgeview, please send them to the church email, info@bridgeviewumc.org

Youth News

Courtesy of Megan Briscoe

April 6- Elevation (5:15-7:45), \$20

April 15- Young at Heart Prom (6:30-8:30), fun night for the adults of Moore First and Bridgeview, youth fundraiser [Features live music, dancing, snacks. The youth will chaperone the prom. Childcare will be provided for those who need it. Tickets \$15.00. More info: Aly.Shahan@Moorechurch.com]

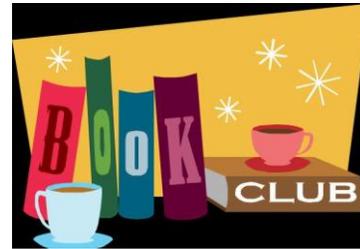
April 17- District Game Night at New Hope UMC (4:15-7:30), \$5, karaoke, 9square, dodgeball, pizza

Youth on Sundays 5:30-7:30pm

Wednesdays 4:00- 7:30 (chill, dinner, and devo)

Adopt-a-Road project: In mid-March, the combined youth group walked Indian Hills Road picking up trash. Thanks so much each of you!

The Movie Group meets each second Friday of the month at the Moore Warren Theater. Time depends on when the feature is shown, but is usually close to 6:00-6:30 P.M. All are invited. Contact Kathy Woods for information.



The Book Club will meet at Moore 1st on **Monday, April 25** to discuss *A Land More Kind Than Home*, by Wiley Cash. The meeting begins at 6:30 P.M. and includes snacks and fellowship. There may still be some copies of the book available from the library's book club kit—contact Jane Osborn to request a copy. The group will meet on the last Monday of each month, alternating between Bridgeview and Moore 1st.

Of this month's selection, *Library Journal* said: “As lyrical, beautiful, and uncomplicated as the classic ballads of Appalachia, Cash's first novel is a tragic story of misplaced faith and love gone wrong . . . Cash captures the reader's imagination.” (starred review)

United Methodist Women's Fundraiser Butter Braids = Sweet Treats



In order to fund a small graduation gift for each graduating senior at Dimensions Academy, the UMW is selling Butter Braids. These are delicious pastries which come

frozen and are baked at home. They are available in flavors including double chocolate, apple, cherry, cinnamon, or strawberry/cream cheese. **Orders will be taken through Sunday, April 17.** You may order at church or contact Rhonda Smith at 405-219-7720 (email rks1252@yahoo.com)

United Methodist Women meet at the church at **6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 19th.** Come and enjoy snacks and fellowship and help plan our service for the coming months.

Project Transformation

For the last few years, Bridgeview has filled one week taking meals for interns to the OCU campus and bringing listeners for young readers at Moore 1st. Richelle Liebold at Moore 1st put the following appeal in their April newsletter:

Project Transformation is our outreach reading program for children who are struggling with reading in school. We request that 85% of these children are eligible for free or reduced lunch but that said, no child who is struggling with reading has ever been turned away! Project Transformation is already in the process of selecting the Americorp interns who will serve at our site. Amy and I are searching for someone to serve alongside us and when we are out doing other ministries this summer. We are also seeking volunteers to come now and prepare our reading shelves (sorting books by interest). We will need a team of 3 or 4 to serve breakfast each morning, a team of 2 to serve snack each afternoon. We will need drivers for field trips and on rainy days. We will need readers to listen to children read. We will need people with gifts to share in the afternoon. We will need people to help with our school supply drive and organize it. If you believe in the education of our community children, if you believe that you want to serve as Christ's

hands and feet, if you have a day, a week, a month or summer to make a difference in the lives of children and their families, contact Richelle at 794-6671.

If you would like to **help mow** at Bridgeview, please contact Rock Briscoe. If you notice a maintenance need around the church, please contact any trustee. They are: Helen Gibson, Chair, Rich Smith, Jerry Martin, Jane Osborn, Rock Briscoe, and Jim Dunlap, plus Chuck Simonds as Lay Leader and our pastor when we get one.

The **Common Threads** prayer shawl ministry is working on a small treat to give teachers at Dimensions Academy during Teacher Appreciation Week, which is May 2-6 this year. Crafters are making coasters to go with a gift of a teabag and a note of appreciation. Bridgeview UMC serves as Dimensions' parent/teacher support group.

Contact information:

Bridgeview United Methodist Church
4300 W. Indian Hills Road
Norman, OK 73072
(405) 307-9611
info@bridgeviewumc.org

To see more scheduled events, check the "calendar" tab on the church website, www.bridgeviewumc.org

Kindly send announcements for the Sunday bulletin to Jane Osborn (janeosborn@cox.net or 659-8493)

When you take photos at church events, would you please send them to Cindy Carr at bandccarr@att.net for inclusion in the newsletter? Any information for stories should go to the same address, or call 579-2506.

