

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.

PAST, PRESENT, AND YET TO COME

As I write this article, we are grieving the recent deaths of Bill Fowler and Don Sherman. Through their vision, energy, and gifts, these men made vital contributions to the establishment of the Bridgeview congregation. In remembering their lives, I heard stories of when the church was worshiping in a strip mall, dreaming of a day when they would have a permanent home. It wasn't that long ago; many of those dreamers are still active members of the church, gathering every Sunday in that new home that has become a reality.

And we are still dreaming. What is our vision for our church now? How can we grow in fellowship and discipleship and in sharing the love of God with even more people?

On Sunday, October 2, Dr. Leslie Long from Oklahoma City University, a long-time Bridgeview friend, will lead us in a conversation about strengthening our ministry with children and youth. We will meet beginning after the worship service until around 2:00 p.m. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Everyone is invited to join in this important time of discernment and planning.

We are also looking at ways to enhance our presence on social media and to provide additional adult education offerings. The Missions Team is doing a great job offering a number of opportunities to be in service to those in need.

Our congregation has a rich legacy for which we are indeed grateful. We are also blessed with people who continue to share so generously of their time, talents, and resources. I can't wait to see where God is taking us next.

Blessings,
Pastor Rod Newman

To Contact the Pastor

You are welcome to contact me if I can be of service to you. The best way to reach me is by email at pastor@bridgeviewumc.org. You may also call my home phone, 405-608-4485, and leave a message.

Stewardship Sunday -- October 30

In the four months I've been the pastor at Bridgeview, I have seen countless ways this congregation serves in providing food, cleaning the church, offering their musical talents, ushering and teaching, the list goes on. You also give through your financial gifts. This month, we will be asking our members and friends to let us know an estimate of their financial giving for the coming year. This will enable the Finance Committee to submit a budget to the Administrative Council to guide the ministry of the church. Watch for more information on how you can respond. We plan to bless these gifts in the worship service on October 30.



The Church Life Committee is planning the annual **Bridgeview Fall Carnival** for Friday, October 28 at 6:30 p.m. We will have potluck and a cake walk, and games or activities in the classrooms. This is an evening for everyone in the church—don't miss the fun. Come as you are or wear your costume.

Sunday school classes and other small groups of the church are invited to sponsor a game or activity for the kids, with candy or a small prize. Please let Angela Knisley know how your class/group would like to participate.

If you have photos from last year's carnival, please share them with Emilee Lynch for possible inclusion in a story in *The Norman Transcript*.

**Visioning Session with Leslie Long
October 2, 11:00-2:00**

It's time to dream big on how we can best rebuild and enhance our ministries to children and youth. We all agree that this is of the highest priority. Pastor Rod Newman invited Leslie

Long, who recently filled our pulpit, to lead us in discerning the way forward.

Terri Simonds will provide a meal: BBQ beef sandwiches, beef sandwiches, baked potato bar and salad, plus unsweet iced tea. Dessert will also be provided. Childcare is available. This meeting is for everyone in the Bridgeview community. Please join us!

**October Sermon Series:
The Ten Commandments:**

October 2 – World Communion Sunday

Sermon text: Exodus 20:1-7

Sermon title: We Begin With God

October 9

Sermon text: Exodus 20:8-12

Sermon title: To Whom Honor is Due

October 16

Sermon texts: Exodus 20:13, Matthew 5:21-26

Sermon title: The Gift of Life

October 23

Sermon texts: Exodus 20:14, Matthew 5:27-32

Sermon title: Embodied Spirituality

October 30

Sermon text: Exodus 20:15-17

Sermon title: That All May Have Enough

Flu Shots October 2

Lyla Miller, through the Visiting Nurses Association, will provide flu shots at Bridgeview from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on October 2. (Lyla also administered shots here on September 25.) Please bring your insurance cards. Both quadrivalent (immunizes against four influenza strains) and high-dose vaccines (designed for people age 65 & older) are available. Lyla may also have pneumonia vaccine on hand. The CDC recommends that everyone six months and older get a flu vaccine every year, preferably by the end of October. We are blessed to have getting this important immunization made so convenient!

Bridgeview Missions Project: Crop Walk October 23, 1:30 P.M.

In October, Bridgeview will participate for the second year in the Cleveland County Crop Walk. Walkers will meet at Food and Shelter, 104 W. Comanche, to walk a 3-mile route through Norman.

You and your friends and family are invited to be part of Bridgeview's walking team. The team will be raising money to help fight hunger in Norman and



around the world. Everyone is invited to donate to any team member beginning October 9 (they will be walking around with big envelopes and can give you a receipt.) Contributions may come from anywhere, not just church. Once the team is registered, donors in Norman or anywhere in the U.S. may give online to a specific walker or to the Bridgeview team by going to the Cleveland County Crop Walk website, clevelandcountycropwalk.org/. You may also keep up with the local walk by visiting their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Cleveland-County-CROP-Walk-83654421005/>). The Missions Committee co-chairs are Megan Briscoe and Rhonda Smith.

There are about 1,100 Crop Hunger Walks held across the United States annually. Those who walk seek to draw attention to the plight of people who in many cases must walk long distances to get food or water. Walkers also raise money to help end hunger, both through immediate aid and through grassroots development projects around the world which will enable people to provide for their own needs. 75% of contributions go to Church World Service, a charity whose members include numerous Christian denominations including the United Methodist Church. 25% of the money raised stays in Norman, benefitting Food and Shelter.

Regional Food Bank



The August Missions project at Bridgeview was to serve a shift at the Regional Food Bank in Oklahoma City. On August 27, seven people went: Megan, Michael, Rock and Sherri Briscoe, Brittany Boone, Linda Cumpton-Hirschman, and Rhonda Smith. Some worked on the backpack program assembly line, filling bags that will feed one school child for a weekend. Others shucked corn!



More Food Bank pix on the last page

Save the date: the November Missions activity will be Luggage with Love. On November 19, Bridgeview volunteers will help prepare kits of clothing and hygiene items for children newly placed in foster care.

Parents' Night Out



Our first Parents' Night Out was held September 24. It was a happy success: 17 children and 11 adults graced the evening with their presence, and a good time was had by all. The children played, ate, did a craft, watched a movie, sang and danced, and played some more. The event was sponsored by the Evangelism Committee, with the goal of serving unchurched people who might make us their church family. Many thanks to all who helped, including Chuck and Terri Simonds who headed the project, plus a special "well-done" to Terri for putting together a slide show with music by the next morning's worship service. Others assisting were Megan Briscoe, Teresa Capps, Angela Do, Helen Gibson, Emilee Lynch, MaeLee Merritt, Keith and Carol Reames, and Cindy Carr.



UMW 6:30 P.M. Thursday, October 13

Bridgeview United Methodist Women will meet to share a potluck meal and a devotional and to finalize plans for the Butter Braids sale and for the booth at Moore 1st's Fall Festival.

UMW will take orders for Butter Braids on two Sundays: October 23 and 30. Please pay when you order. The frozen Butter Braids will be delivered before Thanksgiving. You should be able to pick up your pastries at the church on the 14th and 21st of November (or from 4:00 to 7:00 on Wednesday the 17th). Be sure to stock up so you will still have some to serve at Christmastime!

Marilyn Daniel is in charge of the Butter Braids sale. If you miss ordering at church, you may call or email her (see the church directory) to make your request.



There will be more flavors available this year: the selection includes apple, Bavarian crème, blueberry cream cheese, cherry, cinnamon, cream cheese, double chocolate, raspberry, strawberry cream cheese, and four cheese & herb with marinara dipping sauce.

Bridgeview UMW plans to have a booth at Fall Festival sponsored by the UMW of Moore First Methodist Church, to be held Saturday, October 29 from 9:00 to 3:00. We will sell our cookbooks and handmade (knit, crochet, woven) potholders, washcloths, and coasters.

If you have items to contribute, please contact Rhonda Smith.

At the September 8 UMW meeting, members and guests (men and boys) heard a guest speaker, Paul Tryggestad, the Director of Dimensions Academy in the Norman Public Schools system. He explained the school's philosophy and purpose, and the many ways in which the faculty problem-solve with students and parents and direct families to needed resources. A big goal is to get students to set goals for college and career and then to work toward achieving those goals.

There are volunteer opportunities for adults with time to give, especially at the elementary/middle school level. If you would like to serve, perhaps reading with students or helping them with math practice for an hour or so each week, contact Linda Baxter Mace at (405) 366-0545.



Bibles to Students

During the September 18 worship service, Ryan, Riley, and Gabe were presented Bibles by Children's Ministries chair Emilee Lynch and Pastor Rod Newman. Each year, Bridgeview gives a Bible to every 3rd-grader in the church, and to any older student who has not already received one.



The Bridgeview movie group gathers at the Moore Warren Theatre on the second Friday of each month. Watch for title and time to be announced shortly before October 14.

Wednesday, October 5 at 1:00 P.M. Communion Service at Brookhaven Mansions

On Wednesday, October 5, Pastor Rod Newman will serve communion to residents at Brookhaven Mansions (36th W Ave. just south of Rock Creek). If you could join him at 1:00 p.m. this month or on the first Wednesday of any month, you would be most welcome.

Book Club October 24

October's book is *The Girl You Left Behind*, by JoJo Moyes. The discussion will be led by Nan Lacy. The October meeting at Bridgeview will cover *The Irresistible Blueberry Bakeshop & Café*. Nancy Isaacs and Sharla Payne will lead that meeting. New members are always welcome!

Prayer Shawls

You are encouraged to take one of the prayer shawls in the armoire by the pastor's office any time you know someone who needs a reminder of God's love--someone celebrating or grieving, someone ill or recovering. They have been prayed over as they were made and blessed in worship services. Wrapping a prayer shawl around someone's shoulders is meant to represent a loving hug from God. Simply check the number on the shawl's tag, find it on the clipboard, and sign out the shawl.

Project Transformation Wrapup

WE did it! Last month we completed another great summer with Project Transformation! This summer Project Transformation served 412 elementary school children who read over 4,000 books, employed 46 college students providing them with professional experience and Christian mission service, and served over 34,000 meals to our campers! This spectacular effort resulted in 97% of the students maintaining or improving their reading skills- with 61% *IMPROVING!*

Your support makes Project Transformation (PT) an overwhelming success. PT improves the lives of children giving them the reading skills required to be successful in school and life. Literacy is particularly important to children in low-income communities, who are more likely to drop out of school, end up on welfare or in prison if they cannot read proficiently by 4th grade.

Because of your support for Project Transformation, the lives of its college student members are forever changed. PT members have stated that, *"Because of Project Transformation, I've learned and am still learning to work with a diverse group of people.... I also realized that working with children is more than presenting material, it's something more personal."*

These successes are YOURS, and they are just the tip of the iceberg. Next year, we will have the opportunity to expand Project Transformation, allowing us to increase not only the college students we hire, but to also serve more children in more effective ways. We hope that you will continue to partner with us so that we can serve our state's most deserving children.

Thank you again for working with Project Transformation to bring about change in the lives of children, college students and churches. Here's to making 2017 an even more magical year!

Please visit our website at www.projecttransformation.org/oklahoma and follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with Project Transformation, to find volunteer opportunities and to continue financially supporting PT. **Your gifts matter. Thank you!**

Thank You & God Bless,

Sarah M Nichols; MAT

Executive Director; Project Transformation

Director; Young Adult Mission & Service

Hearty thanks to the people who are keeping Bridgeview's facilities clean and shiny. As we do not have a paid janitor, we are all trying to do our bit to keep the church tidy. If you need to clean up a mess, there are cleaning supplies including absorbent towels in the utility area at the back of the kitchen.

Contact information:

Bridgeview United Methodist Church

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Norman, OK 73072

(405) 307-9611

info@bridgeviewumc.org

To contact Pastor Rod Newman:

pastor@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.

More Food Bank Photos

