



BRIDGEVIEW  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

Building Bridges for  
Christ in ALL We Do!

### upcoming events >>>

- **Acolyte Workshop:**  
Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28 7pm
- **Liturgist Training:**  
Sept. 7, 13, 22, 25  
6:15pm
- **Youth Council Meeting:** Sept. 11,  
11:30am
- **Trustees Meeting:**  
Sept. 11, 11:30am
- **Building Committee Meeting:** Sept. 13,  
7pm

### monthly events >>>

- **Church Life:**  
1st Sunday, 11:30 am
- **Church Council:**  
1st Thursday, 7pm
- **Missions Meeting:**  
2nd Tuesday, 7 pm
- **Women's Connection:**  
3rd Tuesday, 12 pm
- **Finance Meeting:**  
3rd Thursday, 7 pm
- **Newsletter Article Deadline:** 25th each  
Month

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# Connections



September 2011

## Connecting with the Pastor...

I love the story told by Pastor Jim about Martha. Martha had lived a long life of faith, love and hope. One day, she asked Jim to stop by her house. She shared with him that she had news that meant she might have only a short time to live. Jim started to tell her how sorry he was, but she stopped him. She said, "The Lord has been good. I have lived a long life. I'm ready to go, but I do want to talk with you about my funeral." She told him that she had been thinking about things that she wanted. They spent some time discussing the service, and sharing many memories of their time together during church. They had just about covered everything, when she looked up at her pastor with a twinkle in her eye. "One more thing, Pastor," she said. "When they bury me, I want a Bible in one hand and a fork in the other." "A fork?" Jim was caught by surprise. "Why a fork?" "At all of the church dinners that I attended through the years, one thing sticks in my mind... When the meal was almost finished, a waiter would come by to pick up the dirty dishes. Someone would lean over and whisper, 'You can keep your fork.' Do you know what that meant? Dessert was coming! When they told me I could keep my fork, I knew the best was yet to come! That's when I want you to tell them, that I kept my fork because the best is yet to come."

I think about our church community life together like "saving our forks." We have so much to look forward to, as we build church, as we seek out our vision and mission together for the future. As we go forward into new days, we walk with God, with Jesus as our guide. Save your forks....we are headed toward dessert!

Blessings,

## On the Lighter Side



## Worship Connections

### September Sundays Scripture

#### Readings:

Sept. 4- Romans 13:8-14/Matthew 18:15-20  
(Celebration of Holy Communion)

Sept. 11-Matthew 18:21-35/Romans 14:1-12

Sept. 18-Matthew 20:1-16

### New Worship Service at BridgeView

On Sunday afternoons, our Youth Minister, Josh Attaway, and our youth are leading a worship service here at BridgeView. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. The worship time is 4:30-5:30 PM on Sunday. We hope you will support our youth as they plan and participate in worship, and know that you will be blessed

### BridgeView Welcomes New Members

We welcome new members, Stephen Lashley and Linda Cumpton, into our church community. Stephen Lashley has transferred his membership from the Elk City United Methodist Church. Stephen is the son of Rev. Sheri Lashley, and is a Junior at Norman North High School. Linda Cumpton has transferred her membership from the May Ave. United Methodist Church in Oklahoma City. Linda has been attending for awhile, but she has now made it official! She is the mother and grandmother of members Phong and Angela Do, and Nathan and Brandon. Welcome to BridgeView Stephen and Linda!

#### Liturgist Training

Sept. 7, Wed, 6:15 PM  
Sept 13, Tues, 6:15 PM  
Sept 22, Thurs, 6:15 PM  
Sept 25, Sun, 6:15 PM

#### Acolyte Workshop

Wednesdays @ 7 P.M.  
Sept. 7  
Sept. 14  
Sept. 21  
Sept. 28

### Music Notes

#### From Glen

A singing happy guy is approached by an everyday person. The person says, "Are you singing because you're happy?" The singing happy guy replies



"No. I'm happy because I sing!"

OK! Here it is! If you want to get happy, just come and sing with the choir. Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights at 7 PM until about 8:15 PM.

Two of the pieces we will sing in September are "At His Name" and "God's Mercy Is Wide." This Christmas Season the choir will be performing a Christmas Cantata. We will need extra voices. Yours will do just fine. We start working on the Cantata music by September 15<sup>th</sup>. The performance will be the Sunday before Christmas, December 18<sup>th</sup>. See You Wednesday!!! :-)

Get Cantata! Get music! Get to choir rehearsal and GET HAPPY!



### Can We ask a Favor?

When we counted heads on the Sunday that we got our new attendance of registration forms, we came up with 95 attending! When we counted the names on the registration forms, we counted only 53. We know it seems like a small unimportant thing to sign in, but it really helps us if you sign. We updated the forms, and made it much easier. Thank you so much!



## Sunday School is a hit!

August 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday School Fall kickoff was a hit! We had people in every classroom, and teachers for every age group! We want to thank Leslie Long for helping us get ready for this day and all the educational leadership she has provided. Our teachers and the children's committee deserve a great big pat on the back,



(or a hug) for all the work they did, cleaning and decorating. We also give them a big thank you for giving of their time each and every week! Invite a friend to join you in Sunday School!

## Safety First!!!

What is this thing called "Safe Sanctuary?"

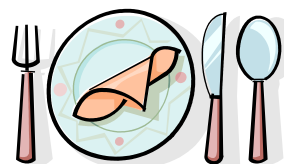
Because we are a community of faith, a safe haven and

sanctuary, we are committed to be a space where all....children, youth, adults....where all can be confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal. We as United Methodists follow a program called Safe Sanctuaries, that helps us make our church (wherever we are church) safe for all people, especially for our children and youth, those who are most vulnerable. We require background checks....we are particular about who we hire, and allow as volunteers. We only let parents pick up children from Sunday School....and we have two teachers in every Sunday School room. Please help us make this space a "Safe Sanctuary" for all. If you have questions, please call the office!



## If We FEED Them, They Will Come!

We are offering a FREE Lunch and Sunday School opportunity for college students at BridgeView. Rev. Lashley will be leading the class, and is asking for some help. If you could provide a meal, or would like to attend to welcome our young adults to BridgeView, please contact the office.



## Youth vs. Adults

It's a competition!

Which age group can remember to bring their Bibles with them to Church each week?

Age 0—High School Senior = Youth  
All older = Adults

Competition begins August 21<sup>st</sup>  
and ends Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>.

Sunday School classes will be keeping count, and there will be a surprise for all who participate.

## Building Connections

Our Building Committee met to get rolling on again on the new building plans. Cathleen Jones has been our fearless leader since the beginning, and she asked to step down as the chairperson. We give thanks for her leadership to the building projects thus far! We have a new building committee chairperson. Hal Jeffery has given consent to be our new leader of the building committee. We give thanks for Hal, and his commitment to lead us forward. We also give thanks to those who are giving their time to serve on committee to plan for our new church home! Thank you, thank you, thank you.

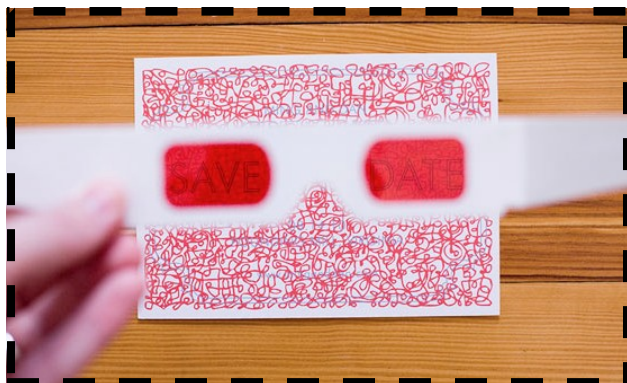
## New to our staff....

Christina Della Femina is now on staff here at BridgeView UMC. Christina is a student at OU, and is now working on Sundays in our nursery. Stop by to meet her and welcome her to our church family. Welcome Christina!

## Youth Connections

### Youth Council Meeting

There will be a Youth Council Meeting on Sunday, September 11th at 12:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided! Please RSVP if you are planning on attending so we will know how much food to provide.



### SAVE THE DATE!!!

Youth Fall Retreat  
November 18-20, 2011  
More details coming soon!

Youth Spring Break Trip  
March 18-24, 2012  
More details coming soon!

Jr & Sr High Sunday School

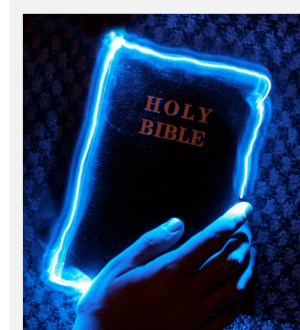
9:30 a.m.  
Youth Room

Youth Bible Study  
Wednesdays 7-8 p.m.

Youth Fellowship & Worship & Dinner  
Sundays 4-6 p.m.

### Youth Bible Study Begins

Wednesday night Youth Bible Study begins meeting on September 7th. We will see you in the youth room from 7-8 p.m. each Wednesday as we study the books of Mark & Matthew this Fall.



### Youth Worship Service

Sunday evenings from 4-6 p.m. we have a worship service geared toward our youth that is more contemporary. Josh Attaway will be delivering the message each week, and we are working toward the youth leading the worship service. But as we are still in the beginning of this adventure with our youth, we are still reaching out for help from our church family as well as the OU Wesley. This service is open to all and we are in need of volunteers to help as greeters, worship leaders, and providing dinner for our youth. Look for sign-up sheets in the Welcome Center to see how we can all help each other.





It's **QUESTION TIME!!**

### What do you do???

Several people have asked if there is a list of what we all do for a living. It

was a thought that if we all knew what each other does for a living, we might be able to go to a church family member if we needed a particular service or product. If you would care to share what you do, there will be an info sheet in the welcome center. Thanks!

### We are praying for you!

The BridgeView Prayer Chain is now working in full force. If you have a prayer concern, please call Rev. Sheri, and she will start the prayer chain. If you are interested in being a part of the chain, please let Rev. Sheri know by calling or emailing the church office.



### United Methodist Women Women, Ladies, Girls!!!

If you would be interested in becoming a charter member of a BridgeView UMC United Methodist Women Group, please call Sheri at the office. We have been offered “help” from a “coach” and starter member from another church in Norman. This is a wonderful opportunity for a community small group. The Purpose of UMW: United Methodist Women is a community of women who nurture and encourage one another in their spiritual growth, personal leadership and transformation.



### Seeking Articles for Newsletter

We are always looking for new and interesting articles for our newsletter. If you have something you would like to share or maybe you would like to write a monthly column, please contact the church office. **Submissions are due by the 25th each month**—electronic or hard copies are acceptable.



I came to OU as a freshman not knowing anyone and feeling completely alone. It had been my dream to become a Sooner since I was a little boy, and when the time finally came to head off to school, I realized just how small I was compared to such a large university. I was raised in a Christian household and church had always been important. I spent my childhood attending church camps and working on mission trips, which was something I grew to miss rather quickly. I spent the first semester of college seeking to find that religious experience and tried multiple campus ministries until I finally found my home at the Wesley. I started by regularly attending worship services on Tuesday nights, drawn in by music that I enjoyed and sermons that seemed to speak directly to me, but this was the extent of my involvement throughout the first semester. It was not until I got invited to help with music at a Wesley retreat that I truly embraced God’s call for me to become more involved in the ministry.

After my freshman year, I changed my major in order to pursue music and youth ministry, and the Wesley has been an important piece of that journey. Over the next two years at the Wesley I became part of the leadership team, helped to teach a men’s Bible study, played in the praise band, and regularly attended worship and retreats. God was using the Wesley as a place for me to grow spiritually while giving me the experience I need for the future ministry ahead of me. This was never clearer than when I was given the opportunity to lead the Wesley praise band and I became overwhelmed with excitement. Music is my passion, and being able to lead the same praise band that had done so much for me spiritually over the last few years was an honor.

I am now in my senior year, and have fully devoted myself to furthering the Wesley ministry. The Wesley has done so much for me, serving as a home away from home, and I want nothing more than to give that same experience back to everyone who walks in the doors. God has used the Wesley to shape me into a better person, a more complete man, and most importantly, a devoted Christian. I thank God everyday for the opportunities he has given me, and am thankful to all those who support the ministry that has done so much for me and countless other students.

Jonathon Garrett, Worship Intern

## Clergy and Laity "Day with the Bishop"

On Monday, Sept. 19, Bishop Hayes will host "The Day With the Bishop," for both clergy and interested laypersons, at The Reed Center in Midwest City. The conference seeks to provide continuing education, spiritual formation, and leadership empowerment. The event will begin with sign-in at 9:30 a.m. at The Reed Center, a hotel/convention center at 5800 Will Rogers, easily accessed from

Interstate 40. At 10 a.m., Bishop Hayes will welcome the group and introduce the morning's presenter. "Building a Business Through Storytelling" will be led by a facilitator from the Disney Institute. This session will teach participants the components of a story and the use of stories to communicate an organization's culture and business practices. Using Disney's legendary experience in the art of storytelling as a benchmark, participants will practice creating effective stories for the Church. After a plated lunch, the afternoon keynote will be "Hospitality and Customer Service," by Mike Carrier, president of the Oklahoma City Convention & Visitors Bureau. The session will include practical ideas on how to affect the culture of a church by creating a welcoming environment for members and guests.

Day With the Bishop Registration cost is \$55. The fee includes lunch, snacks, and a CEU certificate. Register at <http://bishops.register110.com>

## September Birthdays

Sept. 1 – Steven Maltby  
 Sept. 1 – Glen Woods  
 Sept. 9 – Bill Lynch  
 Sept. 20 – Rosalie Maltby



If we have missed your special day, we are deeply sorry, but you have not told us when your special days are. To keep us from excluding you in the future, please inform us of your special days and we will update our database.

The Meals on Wheels of Norman, Inc. is fundraising by selling poinsettias for Christmas. Enclosed is an order form for you to purchase them. If you would like to bring your form and payment to the church, we can turn in one mass order. **If we order more than 10 plants, they will deliver to the church, and you won't have to go pick them up.** Poinsettias will be delivered Dec. 1, 2011. Visit the Meals on Wheels website [mealsonwheelsnorman.com](http://mealsonwheelsnorman.com) or contact our office for more information.

## Christmas Poinsettias!


We know, it seems early, but these things do take time!

NAME or ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please deliver my plants to: **BRIDGEVIEW UMC**  
 (Delivery on Dec. 1 from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. is limited to homebound individuals or orders of 10 or more poinsettias)

_____ Red 6" Plants @ \$11 each	= \$ _____
_____ White 6" Plants @ \$11 each	= \$ _____
_____ Pink 6" Plants @ \$11 each	= \$ _____
_____ Red 8" Plants @ \$21 each	= \$ _____
_____ White 8" Plants @ \$21 each	= \$ _____
_____ Pink 8" Plants @ \$21 each	= \$ _____
Grand Total	= \$ _____

**Payment Method**  
 Check \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_  
 Card #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Tax Deductible portion of each 6" plant is \$6.00.  
 \*Tax Deductible portion of each 8" plant is \$11.45.



**Poinsettias will be available for pick up at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds (615 E. Robinson) on Thursday, Dec. 1st 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

I would like to donate my RED 6" poinsettias to a Meals on Wheels client that may be alone during the holidays.

\_\_\_\_\_ (# plants you would like to donate)

# Bridgeview United Methodist Church

Building Bridges for Christ in ALL We Do!

## September 2011

OCTOBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>SEPTEMBER 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> OU vs. Tulsa OSU vs. Louisiana-Lafayette
<b>4</b> Choir & Band 9-9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30am College SS 11:30am Church Life 11:30 UMYF 4-6pm	<b>5</b> Band 7:30 pm	<b>6</b> Women's Bible Study 1pm	<b>7</b> Staff 5 pm Liturgist Training 6:15pm Choir 7 pm Acolyte Training 7pm Youth Bible Study 7pm	<b>8</b> Church Council 7pm OSU vs. Arizona	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> OU BYE
<b>Patriot Day 11</b> Choir & Band 9am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30am College SS 11:30am Trustees 11:30am Youth Council 12pm UMYF 4-6pm	<b>12</b> Band 7:30 pm	<b>13</b> Women's Bible Study 1pm Liturgist Training 6:15pm Building Committee 7pm Missions 7pm	<b>14</b> Staff 5 pm Choir 7 pm Acolyte Training 7pm Youth Bible Study 7pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> OU @ FSU OSU @ Tulsa
<b>18</b> Choir & Band 9-9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30am College SS 11:30am UMYF 4-6pm	<b>19</b> Band 7:30 pm	<b>20</b> Women's Connection 12pm	<b>21</b> Staff 5 pm Choir 7 pm Acolyte Training 7pm Youth Bible Study 7pm	<b>22</b> Liturgist Training 6:15pm Finance 7pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> OU vs. Missouri OSU @ Texas A&M <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
<b>25</b> Choir & Band 9-9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30am College SS 11:30am UMYF 4-6pm Lit Training 6:15pm	<b>26</b> Band 7:30 pm	<b>27</b> Women's Bible Study 1pm	<b>28</b> Staff 5 pm Choir 7 pm Acolyte Training 7pm Youth Bible Study 7pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>OCTOBER 1</b> OU vs. Ball State OSU BYE
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**Address Service Requested**

[www.bridgeviewumc.org](http://www.bridgeviewumc.org)

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**BRIDGEVIEW UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

### **BridgeView Staff**

Rev. Sheri Lashley—Senior Pastor

Josh Attaway—Youth Minister

Glen Woods—Music Director

Jennifer Tripi—Accompanist

Becca Lupton—Children's Church

Christina Della Femina —Nursery

Luciana Simmons—Bookkeeper

Leslie Currell—Admin. Asst.

Get  
Connected!

[www.BridgeViewUMC.org](http://www.BridgeViewUMC.org)



***Mailing List >>>***

If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, please contact our office via email, snail mail, or phone with your contact information. We hope to see your bright shining face amongst our congregation soon.



**BridgeView**  
United Methodist Church

*Building bridges for Christ in all we do!*