

# First United Methodist Church

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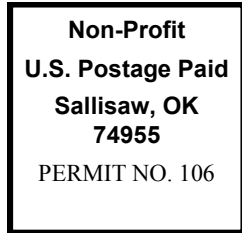
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## Our Mission

*Making disciples  
of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation  
of the world.*

**Pastor**  
Rev. Al Potts

**Director of Music**  
Don Burris  
**Youth Director**  
Natalie Johnson



## Construction Begins!

During the first week in September you'll see all kinds of construction equipment and activity as work begins on our new sanctuary. That means some changes in our building access. The west entrance will be closed and used only as an emergency exit. There will be limited use of the yard space during construction. We will have safety officers present during all church activities to help monitor the construction area and answer any questions people might have.

After the foundation is in and the steel arrives, we will have a beam signing where our children and youth can write their names or place their handprint on one of the steel beams that will be used in the construction. It will be exciting.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# The Connection



SEPTEMBER 2017  
NEWSLETTER



## Our Hearts: The Real Construction Zone

In just a few short days you'll see a new sanctuary rising out of the ground. It's going to be exciting watching the progress from week to week. It started with a dream this church shared together and that developed into plans which developed into funding, which developed into actual construction.

We will all see the activity and take joy in the progress of the new building but that is not the real construction zone. The real construction zone is located in our hearts. For building construction we need a solid foundation but for spiritual construction we need to build on a Rock, the person of Jesus Christ. All other foundations are quicksand.

It starts with making Jesus Lord of our lives. We put him in control of all we are and all we have. We put it all on the Rock. Then comes the process of building. We start following the blueprints. The Bible is the blueprint and in it we find God's way of building our lives.

I was on a construction job years ago in Brunswick, GA at a large paper mill. A huge addition was being added. One of the contractors on the job failed to correctly read and follow the blueprint. Hundreds of thousands of dollars of steel and concrete wound up in the wrong place and had to be torn down and almost put the contractor out of business. Likewise, our failure to read and build by God's Blueprint can be costly.

Our commitment to Christ will always lead us to a commitment to the Body of Christ, the church. Jesus said, "I will build my church." (Matthew 16:18) The church is not separate from God's plan of salvation, it is a vital part of it. Being present and active in church is part of our personal building process. This is where we learn to work together with others to fulfill the ministry and mission of Christ in the world.

I hope when we see the new building rising out of the ground it will be a constant and visible reminder that the real construction zone lies in our hearts.

Rev. Al Potts

## United Methodist Men's Ministry



### Men in Mission!

Our United Methodist Men have three mission projects that we are working on. The first is supporting our new children's ministry by cooking a meal. The first will be on Wednesday, September 6th.

Another mission project is our support of Jason Blalock as he goes to Guatemala in October to bring power to a remote village and to train locals in how to continue the project after he is gone. He needs to take pole climbing gear that he can give to one of the locals. The cost is about \$2,000. The UMM have designated \$1,000 to support him in the purchase of the equipment. If you would like to help, just make your check to First UMC and designate to Jason's mission project.

Our third mission project is our support and encouragement of first responders in our area like fire, police, troopers, rescue, etc. We provide a meal, some words of thanks and encouragement, and a devotional especially written for first responders. Our next project will be the Central Volunteer Fire Department in October.

All men in the church are invited to join us as men in mission, making a difference in our world.

Fred Mos, President



### Special Offering to Be Received for Hurricane Harvey Victims

Sunday –September 10th

During our worship service we will be receiving a special offering to assist victims of Hurricane Harvey. We will give through UMCOR where 100% of what we give goes directly to meet the needs.



### S.M.I.L.E. News Senior Ministry Is Life Enhancing

Our S.M.I.L.E. group for senior citizens will be taking a trip to Muskogee on September 14 at 10:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Janie Hensley or the church office. We will be taking private cars. Please come and SMILE with us!

*Janie Hensley*

### Free Community Breakfast

Come and help with our Free Community Breakfast on Saturday, September 30. Cooks arrive at 8:00 a.m. The Breakfast is served from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

## Prayer List

### New & Short Term Requests\*

- Shelly Wagner
- Louise Woodard
- Robert Lattimore
- The Scott Family
- Ray England
- Alice Wagner
- Shelley Casselman
- Susie Gragg
- Joy Vann

### On-Going Needs

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Jo Cristel      | Gary Griffin   |
| Bea Anderson    | Leon Long      |
| E. B. Sanders   | Erleen Long    |
| Jaime Wright    | Don Bickel     |
| Dr. Bert Corley | Max Nimmo      |
| Yvonne Green    | Faye Norlander |
| Ruthann Gacey   | Rev. Al Potts  |
| Joyce Brant     |                |

### Our Service People

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Jeremy Rogers, MD         | Caleb Ganster, OK                  |
| Nathan Ganster, TX        | Richard Lopez, FL                  |
| Earl Plumlee, Philippines | Greg Luttrell, NC                  |
| Jonathan Ganster, AZ      | Canaan Harrison,<br>Germany        |
| Tim Hintz, MO             | Jessica McMillian, MD              |
| Pearce Linker, AK         | Jennifer Rogers-Cooper,<br>Germany |
| Brett Sandum, Italy       | Tanner Ely, Italy                  |
| Matt Walkingstick, WA     | Conner Bryan, TX                   |
| Hobbs Stroud, GA          | Dalan Legg, GA                     |

\*Names on this list will remain for three weeks. Call Anne Bottorff, (918) 775-2072, to start the Prayer Chain. If you want to add a name to this list, please call the church office at 918-775-2538.

## Ministry Calendar

### Sundays

Connect Band Rehearsal at 9:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.  
 Worship at 10:00 a.m.

### Mondays

Covenant Group at 1:30 p.m.  
 Alcoholics Anonymous at 7:00 p.m.  
 Wesleyan Way Share Group at 10:00 p.m.

### Tuesdays

Wesleyan Way Share Group in the Parlor  
 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

### Wednesdays

Snack Supper from 5:00—5:30 p.m.  
 Kids' Construction Zone from 5:30—6:30 p.m.  
 Youth meet from 5:30—6:30 p.m.  
 Wesleyan Way Share Group from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
 Choir Rehearsal from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### Thursdays

Alcoholics Anonymous at 7:00 p.m.

### Saturdays

Alcoholics Anonymous at 6:00 p.m.

### Thursday, September 14

SMILE trip to Muskogee at 10:00 a.m.

### Friday, September 22

UM Women's meeting at 1 p.m.

### Sunday, September 24

UM Men's Breakfast at 7:45 a.m.

### Saturday, September 30

Free Community Breakfast from 9—10:30 a.m.

## September Birthdays

3 Jeffrey Brant  
 4 Linda Bickel  
 6 Emma Martin  
 8 Joshua Long  
 10 Al Potts  
 Anne Bottorff  
 13 Craig Heflebower  
 16 Kalyn Martinez  
 24 Bennett Lessley  
 25 Steven Winton  
 26 Yvonne Green

## September Anniversaries

8 Ron & Carol Wyrick  
 14 A. O. & Carla Campbell  
 29 Ray & Lynn Dickinson

Visit our website to get more information about upcoming events:  
[www.sallisawfumc.org](http://www.sallisawfumc.org)



Begins Wednesday—Sept 6th

For Kids 5 yrs—5th grade

Snack Supper: 5:00pm—5:30pm \$2.00

(Adults invited too: \$3.00)

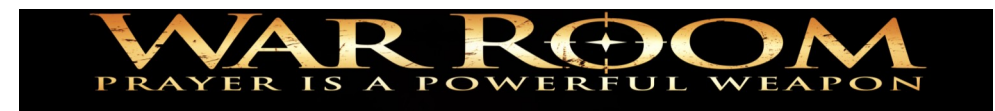
**Construction Time: 5:30pm to 6:30 pm**

Stories

Music Crafts

Games

Drama



Movie Night

Sunday September 10 7:00 pm

Free Movie, Refreshments and Nursery



## The Wesleyan Way Group Meetings

Sundays @ 9 am    Mondays @ 10 pm  
 Tuesdays @ 2 pm    Wednesdays @ 6pm

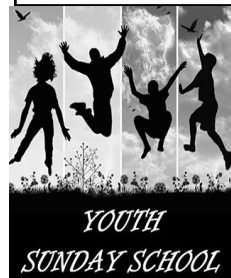
In our groups we'll share together what we've been learning from our weekly readings and praying for each other and our church. Pick a group that works for your time schedule. Child care is available on Wednesdays and Sunday School classes for children and youth on Sundays.



Happy September!! Great things are happening!!!! We have been meeting after school on Wednesdays. Snacks have been provided by the awesome Ms. Pat!!! Wednesday, August 23rd, Todd and Tami Martin hosted our youth at their pool for our Back to School Bash. 11 youth attended, 4 of which are new to our youth group. It was so exciting to see new faces join us!!

Beginning September 6th, our youth group will follow the same schedule as The Construction Zone. The youth will eat and help serve the meal from 5:00-5:30, then we will meet from 5:30-6:30. I'm looking forward to another great month full of new and exciting things!!! Blessings!

Natalie Johnson, Youth Director  
 918 774-7100



9:00 am in the  
 Youth Room  
 Jr and Sr Highs



Wednesdays at  
 5:00 pm



## Music Ministry Don Burris, Music Director

Hello Church.

Choir is back in session. If you enjoy singing and fellowship with others who like to sing, come to a choir rehearsal on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM and give it a try. No strings attached. I'd love to see some young adults and even teenagers stop in. We have a great time preparing for Sunday, sharing with each other and praying for the needs of our group and the church. We're trusting God for growth in our group and you could be the answer to our prayer.

We also have two immediate needs for musicians:

A bass guitar player.

A pianist capable of playing choral arrangements, hymns and contemporary music.

If you know of a prospect, please email me at [donburris.kerrlake@gmail.com](mailto:donburris.kerrlake@gmail.com).

"Then I will continually sing of Your name, fulfilling my vows day by day."

Psalms 61:8 HCSB

## Things to Remember During Construction SAFETY HELP NEEDED

The Trustees are in need of help from a few folks to act as Safety Officers on Wednesday evening and Sunday mornings. You would frequently check the construction area to prevent youth and children from playing on stored building materials and the actual construction area. You can do this out a window or from outside patrols. This is a long term safety need beginning immediately and going until the construction site is free from danger. Please see Craig or Chuck if you are able to help.

## CLOSING OF WEST DOOR

Notice: Construction of new sanctuary has begun. Beshears Construction has installed a construction fence and safety signs in the front and west sides of the church. They have blocked the west entrance and plan on using west land for storage of building materials and staging of construction. For safety purposes we will not be able to use this area for entrance or recreation while construction is in progress. Your understanding will be appreciated and your safety is our main concern. Thanks.