



The University Place Christian

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Enid, Oklahoma

May 30, 2014

Pastor's Corner



By Pastor Thelma Chambers-Young



Pure Religion

It was such a joy to share with you two Sundays consecutively. And I am reminded daily of just how blessed I am/we are. Since physical activity of late tires me quite easily, I have been trying to catch up on delinquent reading. This has caused me to reflect on whether ours is "Pure Religion."

Most recently I read an article, "From Heartship To Hope," by Marian Wright Edleman of the Children's Defense Fund, that highlighted the plight of foster children. then the very next periodical that I picked up, Sojourners, June 2014 issue, featured an article by Julienne Gage, on foster families.

I felt like God was trying to tell me something. While I am aware that foster care and the need for more fostering families, I have been quite shocked by current statistics.

For example, were you aware that there are some 400,000 children in foster care? I am somewhat aware of this issue in OKC, as my husband served on the "One Church, One Child" Board, but am interested in the statistics for our area. More alarming for me was the news that of that number some **23,000 young people "age out of" foster care every year.**

I understand, one does not remain in foster care forever. But what does an 18 year old who has never had a family do when suddenly you are on your own. There is not much guidance, or support, and no home to return to as a safety net.

It is a known fact that "...foster children experience higher rates of incarceration, and

homelessness, rarely attend college, and often have children of their own who end up in the foster system..."

What happens to the tens of thousands of children that age out of the system? Where do they turn for support or a social network? What can the church, our church do? **"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God...is this: to care for the orphans and widows in their distress." James 1:27**

SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader: Harold Hatt

Liturgist: Martha Hatt

Elders: Kay Fortson and Vera Porter

Diaconate: Valarie Zaloudek and Jackie Egelston

Scripture: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11



Health Concerns: Rev. Beth Ann French, serious hand injury; Lynne Bussell; Terry Solis (Raquel Jacobo's mother), eye optic nerve tumor; Dick Duckworth; Jack Crase (Jackie Egelston's friend), pancreatic cancer;

Thelma Chambers-Young, cancer treatments; Sue Duckworth's family, cancer; Bea Simpson, surgery recovery; Lawanah Sanders (Karen Grimes' friend), cancer & hip surgery recovery; Byron Mitchell; Sue Preuss; Lee Trung Tran, stroke recovery; Bud Puckett, Commons; Sue Duckworth; Deby Scott & Laura Keefer

Other: Central Christian Camp, Guthrie, fire cleanup; Gary Duckworth, job search; Christian Church in Oklahoma Regional Pastor Search; Holy Temple Baptist Church, Pastor Search; Yorshia Houseal, South Korea; Medford Christian Church, Medford, and Richmond Christian Church, Mutual, Northwest Area Churches Praying for Churches

JUNE 8 IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader: Vera Porter

Liturgist: Laurel Arnold

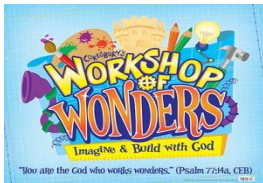
Elders: Martha Hatt and Kay Fortson

Diaconate: Dottie Harkin and Raquel Jacobo

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30;

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

THE DATES ARE SET!!
VOLUNTEER TO HELP JUNE 10-13,
AND INVITE CHILDREN NOW to UPCC
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, 6:30-8:00 P.M.
Contact Raquel Jacobo or Laurel Arnold.



Tromblee Named Fund Brings Memory

The deaths of long-time Phillips professors Max Tromblee and John Sayre have both resulted in the establishment of family legacy funds in our UPCC permanent funds invested with Christian Church Foundation. The Tromblee one is in memory of Max and in honor of Sue, and the Sayre one is in memory of John and in honor of Herwana. Both wives have expressed their deep appreciation.

Sue shared a UPCC memory she found among Max's papers. When several of us were in the Koinonia Sunday School Class we engaged in an activity of imagining and writing our obituaries (we were all young then). Max still had his, and Sue says "In it he stated that he died at age 101, had become wealthy and financed a new music building at Phillips. . .if only!"

Martha Hatt, Koinonia classmate

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Why We Celebrate Juneteenth...

Juneteenth represents the joy of freedom—the chance for a new beginning.
Unless we expose the truth about the African-American slave experience, Americans won't truly be free.
Never must we forget our ancestors' endurance of one of the worst slave experiences in human history.
Every American has benefitted from the wealth blacks created through over 200 years of free labor and Juneteenth allows us to acknowledge that debt.
To encourage every former slave-holding state to follow Texas/ and Oklahoma's example and make Juneteenth a state holiday.
Everyday in America, blacks are reminded of the legacy of slavery. Juneteenth counters that by reminding us of the promise of deliverance.
Even on the journey to discover who we are, Juneteenth allows us to reflect on where we've been, where we're at and where we're going as a people.
"Never give up hope" is the legacy our enclaved ancestors left. It was this legacy that produced black heroism in the Civil War and helped launch the modern civil rights era. It is this legacy we celebrate.
To proclaim for all the world to hear, that human rights must never again become subservient to property rights.
History books have only told a small part of the story; Juneteenth gives us a chance to set the record straight.

FREEDOM IS ALWAYS WORTH CELEBRATING!

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO 6/12: Carol Duckworth

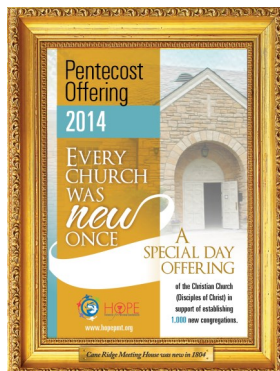
STEWARDSHIP CORNER

EVERYTHING WE HAVE
Is given to us by GOD:
TIME—HEALTH—ENVIRONMENT—
TALENTS—RELATIONSHIPS—PROPERTY—
THE GOSPEL

A Christian steward serves GOD out of love and gratitude for these gifts knowing that it's NOT how much we have but what we DO with WHAT WE HAVE that is important.

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." 1 Peter 4:10

-Stewardship and You, © 1974 Channing L. Bete Co. Inc.



PENTECOST OFFERING
JUNE 1 & JUNE 8

This year's Pentecost Offering theme is "Every church was new once." Just as our ancestors made a commitment to start new churches, we want to invite you to consider how you can support the creation of new churches in places that do not currently have a Disciples church witness. You can support this effort through your generous gifts to the Pentecost Offering. Through your support, the wider Church is able to recruit, assess, train and coach our new church

PASTOR'S PRAYER LIST

- Pastor
- Church Growth (both numerically and spiritually)
- *Praise God for a Working Prayer Ministry
- *Praise God! We have a bus.
- Increased giving
- *Musician
- Youth Minister/Director
- Active *Children's, Youth and Young Adult Ministries
- A weekly sound/Audio/video person
- *Weekly worship recording
- Praise and worship leader, Sanctuary Choir *Weekly Special Music, Diversity in type and style of music
- At least five new Sunday School Classes w/staff (Nursery, *Children, Youth, Young Adult and New Members)
- That we become a tithing church
- That we become a prayer driven church
- *HVAC Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall
- *FAX Machine
- *Projection Screen
- Repair Entry way to Church
- Repair of Bell Tower



Sundays —
9:00 Church School
10:00 Worship Service
Call for transportation
(580) 234-5221
eoupcc@suddenlinkmail.com
www.eoupcc.org