

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Greetings in the name of the Risen Christ!

A little statement popped up on my Facebook feed a week or so ago that got my attention:

A person's most useful asset  
is not a head full of knowledge,  
but a heart full of love,  
an ear ready to listen,  
and a hand willing  
to help others.

I love the imagery that sort of reflects Paul's teachings in the 12th Chapter of his first letter to the church in Corinth:

**Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many...**

**But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.**

**But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (NIV)**

Paul says we are formed as “one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free...” I love that image

of *unity in our diversity*, that every part of the body has its place and that “its parts should have equal concern for each other,” I think this is a good model for the church, for any church, for OUR church, that everyone, and anyone, is part of the body and has his or her place in the body of Christ. No one is more important, no one is more, or less, valuable or meaningful in the body of Christ. All are welcome, and all means all!

What a beautiful example of unity in our diversity. But no matter what part you are or play, always be ready to play the part of the heart of love, the ear of compassion, and the hand of assistance and aid.

Be blessed!

*Pastor Mark*

Pastor Mark

## CAPE

CAPE has made a great transition into the school year. We currently have 34 students enrolled with a couple spots still open. We started back our before-school program this year and we've had a great response from that, as well. We are busy making changes and provisions to not only meet DHS standards, but also to excel and provide the best care for our Verdigris families. We still have a number of changes on the horizon and we are busy planning for the future, so keep an eye out for big things from us. We have an amazing group of kids this year and I am very proud of my staff for making the transition from summer to school year so effortless.

CAPE participated in a fundraiser for *Circle of Care* at the end of the summer program. They battled girls-vs-boys style and the girls came out on top. Our kids raised a total of \$106.00 and the winning team won the privilege of getting to pie myself and Mrs. Amy Luikey in the face to end the summer.

### **Testament Tours Sunday School/Bible Seekers Children's Church**

Our Sunday school kids are working through our new curriculum. We are currently studying the story of Abraham and Sarah and will move into something new next week. I encourage you to bring your children to Sunday school! One-on-one studying of these classic stories that they all know really brings out truths that they may not have realized before. This curriculum is divided by age groups, so there is something for everyone.

Bible Seekers Children's Church is hard at work going through their curriculum, as well. They are currently going through stories about Jesus. This class starts immediately after the children's moment with Pastor Mark and is for kids age four through Kindergarten.

### **Embrace**

Our women's ministry has made great strides this year. We recently started our Bible study and it has been such a pleasure to learn alongside these amazing women. Embrace is for all women, from all walks of life, and of any age. The goal is to *embrace* our differences and learn from each other as we grow closer to God and each other.

We are currently studying from Sara Young's Jesus Calling Bible Study Series: *Experiencing God's Presence*. We meet every other Wednesday night at 6:30pm, in the Fellowship Hall - until the Wednesday night dinners start, then we will meet in the CAPE building. Our next meeting is Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> and childcare is always provided. Our September dates will be the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup>. Many of you have requested more books and they finally came in. I will have them at our meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> and will also have them at church on Sunday. Please come see me if you didn't get one the first round!

We are also doing *fitness nights* on the opposite Wednesdays of our Bible study nights. Due to our fantastic new equipment in the CAPE building, these will now be held in there instead of the Fellowship Hall. We start at 7:00pm and childcare is provided. Upcoming fitness nights are: September 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

Tiffany Hilgemann

Director of Children's and Family Ministries



Hello Church,

### Verdigris UMC Schedule for September

With school back in session we ask that you keep our students and teachers in prayer for a great and Christ-filled school year!

Here is our Schedule for September Events:

**Sept. 11~** Bubble Soccer with cluster Churches 3pm-5pm: Get ready for a game of bubble Soccer with our friends in the Cluster churches close by! Cost will be \$25 and we will be playing at the Owasso Indoor Soccer Complex. Parents are also welcome to play bubble Soccer.

**Sept. 18~** Video Game Day: 4pm-6:30pm Break out the video games were gonna use our new Smart TV and play tons of fun video games. Bring your game face and your friends and get ready for a afternoon of fun!

**Sept. 25~** Set up Pumpkin Patch at Owasso FUMC: 3pm-5pm We will be helping our friends at Owasso First United Methodist Church set up their Pumpkin Patch For Missions. If anyone is interested in going and helping with us please let Sara Davis know.

**Servants needed:** Driver needed for Sept. 25th

Any questions, suggestions, or concerns please don't hesitate and contact me!

Thank you for your support.

For His Glory,

Sara Davis

### **Having a party or special occasion and need some decorations?**

We have tablecloths, overlays, and lots of party supplies upstairs. If you would like to borrow any of these items please call the church @918-266-4161 and speak with either Family and Children's Ministry Leader, Tiffany Hilgemann, Monday thru Friday from 9am-6pm, or the church secretary, Lonette Gordon, who's office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 9am-1pm. They will have a check-out form for you to fill out when you check out and return the borrowed items.

\*If you are unable to reach someone please leave a message  
and we will return your call as soon as possible.



Please join their  
 children and  
 Grandchildren for an  
 Anniversary

THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY  
 IS REQUESTED AT THE MARRIAGE OF

*Alyssa Austin*



*Max Hamilton*

ON SATURDAY, THE FIRST OF OCTOBER

## What's Cooking?



### JOHN WAYNE'S HOMINY GRITS SOUFFLE

- 6 cups water
- 1 ½ cups quick grits
- 1 ½ sticks butter
- 1 pound mild cheddar cheese (grated)
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 3 eggs beaten

In a saucepan bring the water to a boil. Add the grits and continue to boil for 10 minutes uncovered. Remove from heat and add the butter, cheese, salt and eggs. Place in an 8 x 10 baking dish and bake at 350 degrees for 1 ½ hours. Serve hot

The All American Cowboy Cookbook  
 recipe submitted by:  
 Pilar Wayne (John Wayne's wife)

I don't like grits, but I made this and it is very good. It is worth all the time it takes.

Sharon

### '2016' VUMC Directories:

**Are free and available on wall  
 in the foyer.**

\* Please let me know if you are still a visitor, however attend regularly and feel a part of our VUMC Family, and would like your information added to the directory.

You can contact me at either at

PH: #918-266-4161

or e-mail me at:

Lonette.gordon@verdigrisumc.org.