



THE SPIRE

News of New Haven United Methodist Church

“Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors”

www.newhavenumc.org

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We're already moving into week three of our sermon series, “24 Hours That Changed the World.” I don't know about you, but walking slowly through those final hours in Jesus' life has allowed me to take in many details I have overlooked before.

Reading God's Word is like that; every time we read it, we hear it in a different way. That's why we call it the inspired Word of God!

Sunday we stopped long enough to talk about Jesus being in “distress” and “agitated” in the Garden of Gethsemane. The Gospels tell us Jesus threw himself down and prayed, and that his prayer was so full of anguish that he perspired with drops of blood. That's hard us to imagine. How can our Lord be afraid? Adam Hamilton wrote a response for us to think about:

“The Gospel writers were not afraid to tell us that Jesus was feeling distressed about this impending arrest, torture, and crucifixion. His distress did not diminish him in their eyes. Jesus was feeling what a human being should have felt when facing what he faced. This is part of the power of the Incarnation. In Jesus Christ, God experienced anguish, sorrow and suffering as human beings do.”

In those times that I am agitated, sorrowful, overwhelmed and afraid, I am assured that Jesus walked... and still walks... in my shoes. I am just as sure, however, that I will never know what it feels like to walk in His. For that, I can only imagine. To the One who came, walked in the garden and said, “Not my will, but yours, Lord” and then gave his life for ours, we give thanks and praise.

I'll see you this next Sunday as we go with Jesus to his trial in front of the Sanhedrin and the High Priest.

Together in the Lenten journey,
Pastor Cindy

MILITARY SUPPORT UPDATE

Thanks to all of you for coming to the program on support for our military on February 21st. We especially thank Kelly Sartain for arranging for her brother to come speak to us. The UMW will place a box in the closet across from the Parlor for any donations you would like to contribute and will be responsible for mailing the boxes. There will be lists available for suggested items to donate, but our troops especially need white or gray socks, jerky, high energy and granola bars, baby wipes, toilet paper, and correspondence. If you would like to write a note to them, please put it in the donation box, too. One box has already been received by LCpl Brian Holland, grandson of Bill and Clarethia Gotcher and nephew of Greg and Lana. There is an article about Brian's Company's recent actions on pg. A-8 of the March 1st Tulsa World. If you have a family member who is serving in the military, please let the church office know their names and addresses, so care packages can be mailed to them, as well. (See next page for a letter from Brian Holland).

MUSIC MUSINGS

In the 18th century in London, George Frideric Handel was not allowed to produce operas during Lent. Well we are going to violate that rule! Next Sunday.

The Concert Choir from Tulsa Community College will present a vocal program of music from opera and music theatre.

The program will include familiar music from Traviata, Carmen, Dido and Aenias and others, The choir will sing music from Fiddler on the Roof, Guys and Dolls, Carousel, and Music Man. I am the director of the choir which has 45 members. The choir rehearses twice a week and usually performs twice each semester.

The program is a prelude to the New Haven UMC Day School charity benefit so we will be finished by 4:00 to allow everyone to attend this important fundraiser.

Come and support the TCC fine arts students and the little students from our Day Care.

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Paul Mabrey

Crosses of Love



Crosses of Love are a Dutch tradition adopted by New Haven in 1985. Over 5,000 crosses have been shared in the Tulsa community and surrounding areas.

For those who are not familiar with this tradition, the crosses are made of wood and decorated with ribbons, silk flowers, candy, raisins, a book mark, and the history of the crosses. The crosses have been given to police stations, nursing homes, Circle of Care, and the Children's Home. We always include our members who are ill or not able to worship with us. You will be able to take part in this community outreach ministry through your Sunday School class and/or individually. The Outreach Committee will provide the crosses, ribbon, flowers and book marks. You may pick up your supplies on Sunday, March 14th and 21st at the Outreach table. Thanks, New Haven, for keeping this tradition as part of your outreach commitment!

SUSANNA CIRCLE TO HEAR ABOUT YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO

Mark Mann, New Haven's Youth Director, will present a slide show of his past mission trips to Mexico and will tell about our youth's Mission Trip to there this summer, when he speaks at the Susanna Circle meeting of the UMW on Thursday, March 11, at 10 AM in the Parlor. Bobbi Neal will host the meeting, serving authentic Mexican food and pastries.

Stew Dinner for Our Sisters & Brothers Who Are Homeless

We'd like to invite you to help prepare a stew dinner, bake a pie and/or serve the meal. The dinner will be served on **Wednesday, March 31st**. If you'd like to participate, you may sign up on March 14th or 21st at the Outreach table. Please bring your food items to the Fellowship Hall kitchen by 4:15 pm on March 31st. If you are helping serve the meal, please be in the kitchen by 4:45 pm. Thank you!

HOPE CIRCLE TO MEET MARCH 8TH

Danny Hall will present the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program when the Hope Circle of the UMW meets on Monday night, March 8th, at 6 P.M. in the Parlor. Special guest speaker will be Susan Harris to give us an update on the situation in Haiti. Her daughter, Elizabeth, is a consular officer in the U.S. Embassy there. Elizabeth was just here for a short visit. Members are also asked to bring any of their donations for Dress for Success. Linda Joyce will host this meeting.

LETTER FROM LCPL BRIAN HOLLAND (dated Feb. 6)

Hey--

I received your care package yesterday. Thank you very much for everything. The socks are wonderful, the cookies were amazing, always love a bag of beef jerky, glad to get a new toothbrush, and the best was the toilet paper. We are now out in the field so all I have is my main pack and don't have much room to pack stuff, so I took what I could and shared the rest with a couple of buddies. It is all greatly appreciated. Thank you for the card as well.

Sincerely,
Brian Holland

UMPTENAGERS WILL MEET MARCH 16TH FOR GOOD FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND CONVERSATION.

Carson Russell will entertain and inspire us and we'll have a great time getting to know one another better. Please join us for all this plus all the wonderful food that will be brought by all those attending.

This is Potluck, and I'm looking forward to new and interesting dishes.
COST: \$1.00 for incidentals!

