

## Maranatha Class notes:

<b>Today: 1 February 2015</b>	
<b><u>Birthdays:</u></b>	
Paul Giessen (2)	Bob Jones (7)
Davd Been (5)	Sherry Stinson (7)
Art Campbell (7)	
<b><u>Anniversaries:</u></b>	
<b><u>Prayer today:</u></b>	
Paula Scott	
<b><u>Speaker this week:</u></b>	
Rev David Wiggs	
<b><u>Snacks this week:</u></b>	
Bethany Willyard & Michael Caballero	
Pam & John Sherman	

<b>Next Week: 8 February 2015</b>	
<b><u>Birthdays:</u></b>	
Karey Low (8)	
Jerry LeDoux (11)	
Keith Madden (14)	
<b><u>Anniversaries:</u></b>	
Sarah & Cisco Maldonado (10)	
Brenda & David Worthington (12)	
<b><u>Prayer next week:</u></b>	
Mary Bundren	
<b><u>**Speaker next week:</u></b>	
Rev David Wiggs	
<b><u>Snacks next week:</u></b>	
Claudia Altshular	
Debbie & Scott Morgan	

## MINUTES:

Opened class with prayer at: 9:45

Class recorder was turned On at: 9:59 Off at: 10:40

Thank you for the snacks and refreshments.

**\*\*Michelle Place is our VP of curriculum. If you or someone you know that would be interested in giving a class/lesson, please let her know with contact information. This is a very demanding and time sensitive job, so we all need to help her on this task throughout the year.**

## GUEST:

Debby & Dave Romig

Mark Schup

SuSu Hood

Audrey Wollmershauser (Andrea Davis daughter)

**January 2015 class average: 77**

**Come, O Lord**, by **Pedro Rubalcava** (song), Refrain: **Come, O Lord, to set us free. Give us life and liberty. Return our sight that we might see. Come, O Lord, to set us free.**

## FINANCE:

Get your finance request into the Finance committee this February. First distribution is scheduled for **March 2015**.

**From Susie Butterworth:** *"Pam Low and I spent time on the phone this week and she was able to solve my problem. So now I need to re-input some information which I'll start doing this weekend.*

*I will also work on the donations report you requested for the website. I need to update some prior year information into the new format we used in December."*

## MISSIONS:

**13 February:** **Day Center for the Homeless.** Signup sheet coming around in a few weeks. Signup sheet going around, get on it!

**23 February:** **Chili Supper**, only a few spots left to sign up for! Nancy and Joey have the details.

## SOCIALS:

**Sunday, March 8, Noon** **Road Trip to the Coleman Theatre in Miami, OK** – Back by popular demand, this time without ice on the roads, please! We will see the 2:30 viewing of the 1915 silent film *The Italian* while Resident Organist Dennis James plays the Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ. We will be back in Tulsa around 6:00 p.m. (K, J) **Clip board is going around for signing up on this, starting today.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Thanks to Mary Bundren** for her work that she started in 2014. **NOW** in 2015 our projector is now projecting correctly onto the screen; our sound mic on the podium is working as it is suppose to and finally our wireless is working great.

***Several announcements with attachments, see below.***

**From Jim Embrey:** Thanks to everyone for your support and understanding this first month of my tenure. I absolutely understand and appreciate that I could not do this alone. With your help, guidance, sage advice I hope to do this job justice. Please feel free to discuss with me in person, email, phone or by any other means your concerns and input, both positive and negative. Overall I have received nothing but positive feedback and I appreciate it...the other goods? I only have 11 months left and the next person will take it from there and make it all better! Thanks again!

**Come, O Lord,** by **Pedro Rubalcava** (song), Refrain: ***Come, O Lord, to set us free. Give us life and liberty.***

***Return our sight that we might see. Come, O Lord, to set us free.***

**Angelyn Dale** announced that she will be teaching the **TAGS Class**: "What Talents, Abilities, Gifts and Skills Did God Give To YOU?" Come discern and discover your own talents, abilities, gifts and skills in this fun, active and participatory workshop. God has given each of us our own special aptitudes to serve His Kingdom, but we aren't always sure where we fit. This is a four hour class in which you explore how your unique capabilities could both fulfill you and bless BAUMC in ways no one else can! Angie will be offering the class at the church on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:15 to 12:30 and a separate session on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:15 to 4:30, so choose the time that fits with your schedule. If you are interested, please contact Angie for more details. Her email is [adale@hallestill.com](mailto:adale@hallestill.com) and her cell phone is (918)638-2353.

**Gabrielle** is asking if anyone would be interested in forming a book/study group on the side to continue their Christian walk in faith. Please let her know. **Addendum: Gabrielle wants everyone to consider changing the format to be 1) pick a book, 2) read the book, 3) meet and discuss the book. She feels that meeting every week is too hectic and demanding with our busy lives. Please let her know.**

**Carol and Dave Grim** will be conducting a class titled, "Invitation to the New Testament", day and time to be announced. This is projected to be an eight week course. See attachment for this week for more info.

#### 1. Mark your calendars:

A. **Rev. David Wiggs** will be our speaker for all of February, be there for exciting month. Besides being a great minister, he is a great speaker too. Very funny, serious and informative.

B. **Dr. Mouzon Biggs** will be our speaker for the whole month of March.

## CARANATHA:

Lynn Jesse-Russell ask that if anyone has any information about class members to please let any Caranatha member know so that they can check with the family to see if they need anything.

## Joys & Concerns:

None mentioned today.

In your daily prayers, remember the unspoken those without a voice.

➤ Please email me ([maranathaclass@gmail.com](mailto:maranathaclass@gmail.com)) any and all Joys & Concerns and I will incorporate them next week.

**Come, O Lord**, by **Pedro Rubalcava** (song), Refrain: **Come, O Lord, to set us free. Give us life and liberty. Return our sight that we might see. Come, O Lord, to set us free.**

## **Technical Notes:**

- Check out the website...Barbara has really been busy getting it up to date and current. Thanks Barbara for being the person behind the scenes, making it happen!
- Our projector is now on the full screen and the podium microphone works great!
- Normally our recordings are available on our website no later than Wednesday following our class. Most of the times, it is ready the following Monday afternoon...all because of Barbara's due diligence.

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***Return our sight that we might see. Come, O Lord, to set us free.***

## **Barton-Clinton-Gordey Series**

**When:** Feb 22 – 24, 2015

**Where:** Boston Avenue United Methodist Church, South Boston Avenue, Tulsa, OK, United States

**Description:** Usually held during the first weekend of Lent, the Barton-Clinton-Gordey Series features a distinguished religious speaker or scholar delivering four of his or her very best sermons. Over the years, the Series has featured a variety of outstanding speakers, including bishops, professors, Christian pastors, and Jewish rabbis. The Series was originally established in 1963 to honor Dr. L. S. Barton, Boston Avenue's Senior Minister from 1914-1922. In 1987, the Series was also named for Dr. Fred S. Clinton, a pioneer physician who moved to Indian Territory in 1897 and helped to establish Tulsa's first chartered hospital. Then, I. V. and Bona Gordey were named to the Series in 2001. Joining Boston Avenue in 1928, Bona was a beloved Sunday School teacher, and I. V. was a member and goodwill ambassador of the Chancel Choir for over 50 years.

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## Maranatha Sunday School Class



Seeking recruits for Boston Avenue Church's  
Cookson Hills Center mission work project, June 21-  
27, 2015, in Cookson, Okla., just south of  
Tahlequah.

The week-long construction/maintenance/repair  
work is designed to help Cookson Hills with its  
continuing mission efforts in the Cherokee Nation.  
Workers will stay at the mission site for the week.  
Cost is \$270 per person.

Cookson officials say they are eagerly looking  
forward to help from Boston Avenue.

Applications for the mission are available in Bishop's  
Hall on the Sundays of Jan. 25, Feb. 1, and Feb. 8.

**Questions? Call Jim Stilwell, 918-884-5189**

email: [jimstilwell@me.com](mailto:jimstilwell@me.com)

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and liberty. Return our sight that we might see. Come, O Lord, to set us free.*

# Maranatha Sunday School Class



January 29, 2015

Dear Boston Avenue family,

You may have been wondering when we will have a new minister to work with our Senior High youth and their families. Or you may be wondering if we will have someone that will be interested in our college students. Or maybe you have even thought that perhaps I have forgotten that we need a staff person to lead in those areas! (Lol!!) But do not fear, good news abounds!

We have found a fantastic young woman to come and serve as an associate minister to focus on our senior high and college ministries. Her name is Sarah Thornhill and she is truly a delight! She comes with outstanding references. She has already graduated from seminary and will be moving during February and will be here ready to start on Sunday, March 1. She is married to Chase and they have no children currently. (They do have a dog.) They have resided in the Evanston, Illinois area for the last few years while they were attending seminary. She grew up at FUMC in Bartlesville, Oklahoma and is very excited to join us here at Boston Avenue.

I want to also add a special thanks to Debbie Aycock for her extra efforts to help us bridge this transition time since August! She has done a wonderful job. But Debbie is also going to be changing roles at Boston Avenue soon. She is going to be moving to our Membership Secretary position, on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Replacing Debbie Aycock will be Mary Wiggs. She comes with a wealth of experience in working with youth and children. She served for several years in our Boston Avenue Weekday Preschool, as well as, a youth sponsor for several years. She also served in the role of Director of Children and Family Ministries at FUMC Enid for a number of years. She has a love for youth and is excited to be coming on as the Administrative Assistant to our new minister.

Finally, save the date: March 1, 4 – 6 pm. Mary and I will be hosting a welcome party for Sarah and Chase for all of our senior high youth and their families at our house at 10528 S. Koa in Jenks (right off of the intersection of 106<sup>th</sup> and Elgin). More details to follow.

If you have further questions you can call me or Debbie (or Mary after February 2). I invite you to add Sarah and Chase to your prayers as they are making this transition back to Oklahoma. It is going to be a great new experience for us all! I believe God has provided us with a person that is very talented and quite personable. She will continue and enhance our ministry efforts!

Blessings,

  
David Wiggs

PS: I have met with Dale Mills (Chairman of Senior High Youth Council) and he is available to answer your questions. Also, he will be coordinating our senior high youth activities over this next month. We anticipate all programming to continue as scheduled.

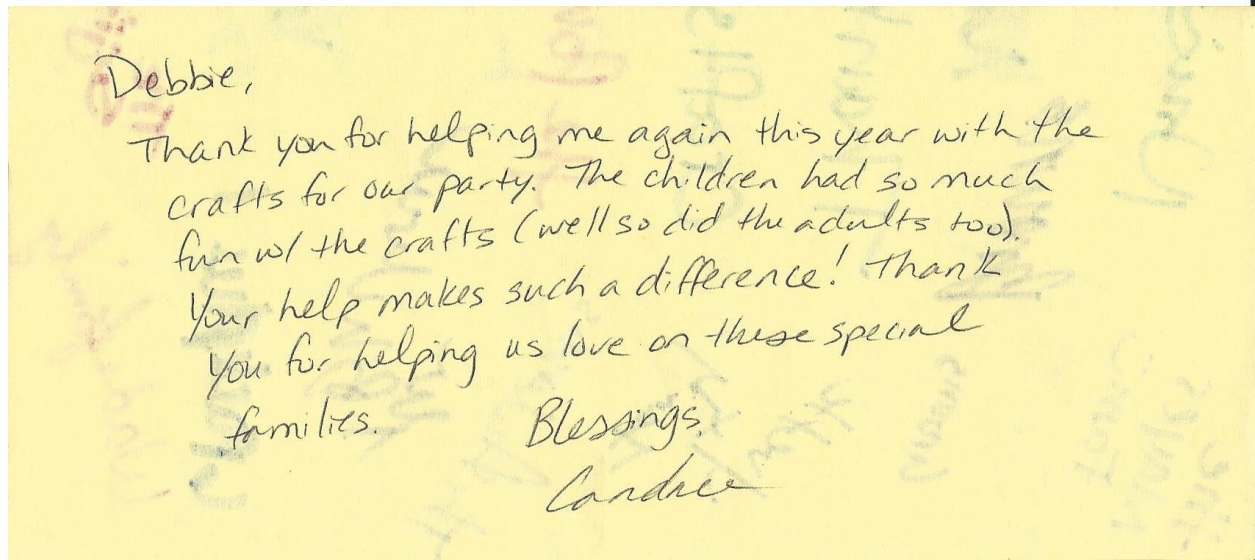
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MARANATHA

# Maranatha Sunday School Class

COME  
OUR  
LORD



**Come, O Lord**, by **Pedro Rubalcava** (song), Refrain: **Come, O Lord, to set us free. Give us life and liberty. Return our sight that we might see. Come, O Lord, to set us free.**

# Maranatha Sunday School Class

To:

Maranatha Class Members

I received this note  
from Candace Morton, Circle  
of Care.

Thanks to your class,  
I could purchase the crafts  
for the Christmas party.

The foster care families have  
signed the note.

Again. thank you  
class!!

Debbie P.

P.S. Candace would love to come  
lead your Sunday School  
class

"Rejoice in the Lord always." Philippians 4:4



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# Maranatha Sunday School Class



## State priorities: Why mental health deserves more

BY DR. RICHARD WANSLEY

As a longtime medical educator, I teach my students to not simply treat symptoms but to look for the root causes. Treating symptoms may offer temporary relief but often doesn't address an underlying disease which might become in-



Wansley

creasingly worse without some form of direct intervention. When it comes to the Oklahoma Legislature in its upcoming session, the choice facing our elected officials will be to either seek only to provide temporary relief of symptoms or make the smarter decision for our future by addressing root causes.

Oklahoma is behind only West Virginia for the percentage of residents impacted by a serious mental illness. Yet our state government spends less than \$54 per capita to



**Editor's note:** This column is part of the week-long Slicing the Budget Pie series, which looks at the state's top 10 budget spending priorities. With 4.8 percent of Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations, mental health is the No. 6 state budget priority.

To read the entire series, go to: [tulsaworld.com/slicingthepie](http://tulsaworld.com/slicingthepie).

provide mental health services to its citizens when the national average for states is more than \$120 per person. The "symptoms" of inadequate funding for prevention, early intervention, and treatment of mental illness and substance abuse disorders are seen in the rapid growth of incarceration in state prisons and local jails, esca-

lating demands on our foster care system, higher rates of uncompensated medical care in emergency rooms, a rising number of people experiencing homelessness, and far too many suicides.

In 2014, the Tulsa World published a series regarding the challenges faced by our community and state associated with the long-standing inattention to meeting adequately the needs of those who suffer from this disease of the brain. We need not look further than our own community to see the cost of untreated mental illness by recognizing the millions of tax dollars to be spent on expanding jail facilities to house offenders who are mentally ill. As a professor at OSU's medical school, I hear the frustrations of our emergency room physicians who provide care to those impacted by mental illness and homelessness who are without enough other options for more appropriate medical care.

A chronically underfunded state mental health system is an enormous and growing financial

burden on each of us every year when our policymakers fail to look beyond the symptoms alone caused by inadequate attention to mental illness and substance abuse in Oklahoma. In its newest budget proposal, state mental health officials seek a substantial funding increase for programs such as the Smart on Crime Initiative, suicide prevention, more and better treatment for military veterans, and additional beds for residential substance treatment and mental health crisis. Making this investment will certainly pay dividends to Oklahoma taxpayers in the future.

The Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services' fiscal 2016 budget request, however, is premised on the assumption that the state must meet this financial challenge alone when, in fact, other dollars are available from federal sources to help provide relief. Oklahoma is one of only about 20 states that have, to date, refused federal funding to expand Medicaid coverage. Accepting back our federal tax

dollars would provide coverage for 126,000 currently uninsured Oklahomans and close the gap on providing mental health services to our family members and neighbors who are in need.

Mental Health Association Oklahoma endorses our state mental health agency's proposal to more comprehensively and directly address the mental health issues plaguing Oklahoma, and we encourage state leadership to accept federal tax dollars to expand Medicaid coverage.

Partisan politics have proved to be too strong of a force in decision-making when it comes to taking care of people's health. It's time for our elected officials to step up and represent the Oklahomans who elected them even during these brutal financial times and make the best choices for all of our needs.

Dr. Richard Wansley is a professor at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and serves as chairman for the Public Policy Committee of Mental Health Association Oklahoma.

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# Maranatha Sunday School Class

As United Methodists, our call is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. At Boston Avenue, our mission is to challenge each other to think deeply, grow spiritually, and love generously so that we actively share God's blessing. We come into this church to receive blessing, then exit to reflect God's blessing to others.



Rev. David Wiggs

Whenever you enter our building, you walk through doorways whose tops are "angled arches." They peak in the middle, making a gentle inverted "V."

Our building designer, Adah Robinson, created these arches to symbolize "the blessing of God on all who pass beneath." As we enter or exit, those arches remind us that God is a God of grace and blessing. God has blessed us by sending Christ to us, and he blesses us through this particular part of the body of Christ known as the Boston Avenue Church.

Just as important, we realize we are blessed in order to be a blessing to others. We know that Jesus sends us out into the world in the power of God's Holy Spirit to embody the grace and love of God that we have come to know through Christ.

We hope you will join us in this experience of God's blessing!

*David Wiggs*

## Join us for worship

Sundays at 8:30 or 11:00 a.m.  
[11:00 service televised  
live on Channel 8, KTUL-TV]

Sunday School  
classes begin at 9:40 a.m.

- or -

during the week for  
Bible studies, small groups,  
mission projects,  
and other activities

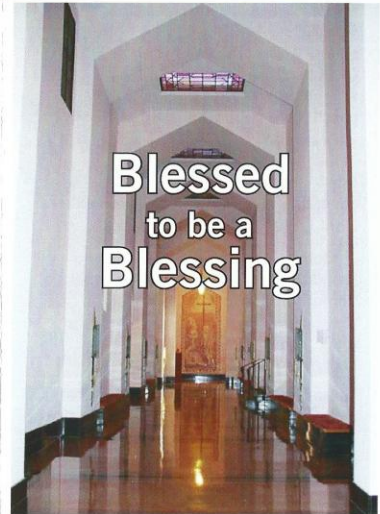


**BOSTON AVENUE**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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## WELCOME



**BOSTON AVENUE**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Think deeply, Grow spiritually, Love generously*

**Come, O Lord**, by **Pedro Rubalcava** (song), Refrain: **Come, O Lord, to set us free. Give us life and liberty. Return our sight that we might see. Come, O Lord, to set us free.**

# Maranatha Sunday School Class



## Think deeply ...

John Wesley, founder of Methodism, was an Oxford professor as well as a pastor. He advised us to "think and let think" as we combine knowledge and vital Christian practice.



**Both faith and learning are foundational** for a vital Christian life. Some Christians reject scientific research, but we encourage people to think deeply about their faith, engaging reason and reflection.

God created all things. He designed our minds to question, study and explore. Bible study and insight from other disciplines are both important.

**Our faith is informed by 4 sources we call the Wesleyan quadrilateral:**  
scripture  
tradition  
experience  
reason

We offer daytime and evening Bible and book studies throughout the year, including Sunday School classes for all ages every Sunday at 9:40 a.m.

## Grow spiritually ...

Nearly 20% of people in America have no religious affiliation. The fastest growing religious preference in the U.S. is "none." However ...

- \* **Being with others** who are trying to grow spiritually aids our own growth.
- \* **Exploring scripture**, informed by solid scholarship, develops richness.
- \* **Reading books about faith** spurs spiritual growth.

John Wesley found companionship with other believers to be a blessing. "There is no such thing as solitary religion - only social religion," he said.

### **We help people grow spiritually by:**

- 1) **connecting** them with people they enjoy for group Bible study, a good way to encounter God
- 2) offering **stimulating worship** on Sundays & Thursdays
- 3) creating **small groups** that meet regularly to help each other grow.
- 4) offering **trips and retreats** for more intense study

We are Tulsa leaders in reaching out to other faiths to nurture interfaith dialogue and gain better understanding. Our own faith is strengthened as we share our beliefs and learn about theirs.

## Love generously ...

God is most alive in our congregation today through **mission involvement**. We actively show God's love through our generosity.

John Wesley spent his life serving others. He worked to relieve suffering and taught that we cannot truly love God if we fail to love our neighbor.

### **Jesus commands us to**

- feed the hungry,
- clothe the naked,
- visit the sick and imprisoned,
- welcome the stranger.

He considered them all to be members of his family.

**We witness to our faith** by loving generously so that our service helps others experience God's great love.



Our mission is to partner with others to relieve suffering and help people develop their God-given potential. **International, national and local mission opportunities abound!**

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# Maranatha Sunday School Class



***Every Day is special...embrace everyday and make the best of it, we only get once shot at it; make it count.***

Peace,

Jim Embrey

Class President

Maranatha, 2015

Cell: 918-625-3373

Email: [jjsembrey@cox.net](mailto:jjsembrey@cox.net)

Visit us!

**Boston Avenue UMC:** <http://www.bostonavenue.org/>

**Maranatha Class:** <http://maranathaclass.org/>

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