



The Centenary Spirit

Our Connection to God and One Another

March
2015



Keith O. McArtor

March is the third month of the year in both the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It is one of seven months that are 31 days long. The name of March comes from Latin *Martius*, the first month of the earliest Roman calendar. It was named for *Mars*, the Roman god of war who was also regarded as a guardian of agriculture and an ancestor of the Roman people through his sons Romulus and Remus. It is significant, then, that March is determined, both in the USA and at Centenary UMC, as **Women's History Month**. The reason for this is that women have had to fight for and demand their recognition, their worth, and their equality as did the black people whom we honored in February. It is appropriate,



therefore, that we honor women during the month of *Martius*, the ancient symbol of warfare. In society, as well as in the church, women have had to wage a mighty conflict for equal rights. These rights were not given; they were fought for, demanded and taken, often against great odds! And, as in other things, while we have come a long way, we have a long way to go!

I take this opportunity to acknowledge only some of the very many women who powerfully affected my life and faith. From my mother, Linda Lou Lockhart, who loved (and still loves) me more than life itself and who always expected the best of me, to my grandmother and numerous aunts, all of whom contributed to the church in music or education, to my early classroom teachers whose care for me and for learning made me love school! There were those women who taught me in Sunday School and Vacation Bible School as I can still hear the tunes of "tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear...". There is Janie Swan Jacks who was (and is) one of the finest Bible teachers I've ever known and who opened her family, heart, and faith to me as a young man. She helped to change my life and to turn me toward the Lord. There are Patti Wooley and Martha Creel Darwin who, as women of faith, influenced me to begin to learn how better to relate to women in Christlike ways and who challenged many of my unconscious prejudices. Their influence, particularly Martha's, without exaggeration, saved my life. My first marriage ended in divorce, but how can I fail to honor and thank my first wife, Lisa Marie Todd, for bearing the three children, Victoria, Jonathan, and Abigail, whose lives made me feel a love I had never known and who made me grow up! My two daughters are beautiful, inside and out, and are caring and responsible young women who I trust will serve their generation by God's will. Their strength, independence, self-respect and drive for self-reliance are due in large part to the influence of my loving wife, Melani Leigh Hamilton, who instilled in them these, and other important virtues. Melani is a person who uniquely combines the clear head and the warm heart, and lots of great humor, too! She became mother to my children; now they are our children, because she made them hers out of love. This is the love of God.

I am a *humanist* because I am a Christian. Christianity asserts that the fullest revelation of God known anywhere is in a human being, Jesus of Nazareth. In

him, "the Word became flesh." This means that God is like Jesus. And this means I can never again speak or act inhumanely toward any person.



- From the Pastor ... 1
- Notes from the
Choir Director ... 2
- News Flashes ... 2
- UMM Sweetheart
Banquet ... 3
- Remember Your
Church ... 3
- Hymn Sing ... 3
- Outreach ... 4
- Calendar ... 5
- Means of Grace ... 6



Faithfully, *Pastor Keith*



Philip Comer

Music Notes

March is Women's History Month. During this month we will be singing some of the hymns written by women. One in particular is someone most of us know--Fanny Crosby. Others are Linda Wilberger Egan, Doris Akers, Elizabeth C. Clephane and Jeanette Threlfall. In addition to choir anthems, solos and duets are scheduled.



- March 1** Sharon King Davis, a businesswoman in Tulsa, will sing, "The Judgment." Ms. Davis will also preach.
- March 8** Jeff Chambers will sing "O Divine Redeemer."
- March 15** Ray Meldrum and I will sing "He Loved Me"
- March 29** Palm Sunday – A singing processional and extra music, including Abby McArtor, and her cousin, Shawn, singing "Strangely Dim."

Also on March 29 remember the 5th Sunday Hymn Sing, at 6:00 pm hosted at our church (more information can be found in separate article in this newsletter)

- April 9** Carmen Boyd and Ray Meldrum open the service with "I've Just Seen Jesus," and the choir will present the Easter Cantata

Easter Cantata

An Easter Celebration

A Service of Joy and Reflection

Easter Sunday, April 5

presented at the 11:00 am worship service

by the Chancel Choir

Since the very first Easter celebration at the empty tomb, believers have used a variety of ways to remember the resurrection. The miraculous story of Easter will never change, yet the



retelling of the events, though this cantata is fresh and appealing.

An Easter Celebration incorporates a little bit of the old with some of the new. This work contains favorite hymns in new settings and original songs that will resonate with worshippers on Easter Sunday.

Songs include: *Alleluia, Alleluia; Lead Me to Calvary; Beneath the Cross of Jesus; Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed; and Take my Life and Let It Be.*

Philip

Upcoming Events:

Farmer Brown Bean Dinner

March 13th 5:00-7:00 p.m.



Town Hall Meeting & Pot-Luck Lunch
March 22th



Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing
Mar 29th, 6 pm



Maundy Thursday
Service April 2nd, 6:30 p.m.



Egg Dye and

Shut-In Baskets
April 4th 10:00 a.m.



Easter
Pot-Luck Breakfast and Egg Hunt
Sunday April 5th
9:00 a.m.

News Flashes...

REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH***When Planning Your Estate***

One of our most important acts of stewardship is the final distribution of our life's accumulation. How we share our estate speaks volumes about our values and our concerns for our loved ones.

As Christians we need to be good stewards of that which God has provided us, and this means completing a written estate plan.

Thanks!

On behalf of my brother Joe Glenn and his family, I would like to express our thanks to Centenary and Rev. Dick Bland for all the love and support in the passing of Joe's wife, Janice Marie Glenn on January 28, 2015.

I would also like to express a special thank you to Centenary for all the times you have been there for me and my family. It is a blessing to be a member of this church.

Julie Dooty

UMM Sweetheart Banquet

This year's activities were a resounding success by what ever marker you choose to use! Great Food, Great Music, and Great Fellowship resounded throughout Young Hall. A feast prepared by our own Master Chef, Don Conner begin the evening, continued with wonderful music from Eternity, and concluded with raucous laughter during our own version of the Newlywed Game.

**FIFTH SUNDAY HYMN SING**

On Sunday, March 29 at 6:00 p.m. Centenary will host the Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing. Members from all the westside Methodist churches gather on each fifth Sunday of the year to sing and praise God. Set aside this Sunday evening and come help celebrate as Centenary hosts this event for the first time. Enjoy congregational singing along with performances from groups/individuals.

Coffee and snacks will be provided at the conclusion.

REACH UP REACH IN REACH OUT



Outreach at Centenary...

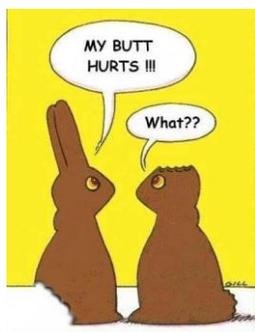
What *IS* community outreach? - And what does it mean to YOU? That is precisely what the new class, led by Jon Polcha, has been trying to figure out.

Meeting on the stage in Young Hall, (Sunday mornings at 10), the group has thus far practiced how to better listen to each other and new people, energetically discussed community concepts, values, strengths and weaknesses, explored key ideas in the Letter of James from the original Greek, *and played with tinker toys!*

Plans are underway for many more opportunities to interact and creatively express a diversity of perspectives and ideas on the group's theme. Additionally, the group will read and discuss Ellen Blue's book, *St. Marks and the Social Gospel: Methodist Women and Civil Rights in New Orleans*, which can be purchased on Amazon. This intergenerational group is also open to children and anyone who wants to actively participate. For more information contact Elissa K. Harvill at ekharvill@gmail.com.

Don't Miss the Annual Farmer Brown Bean Dinner!

Friday, March 13, from 5-7 p.m. come renew friendships, enjoy all the beans and cornbread you care to eat, and help us continue the tradition that was started so long ago. REMEMBER, all the monies raised will go to Missions.



Egg Dye and Shut-In Baskets

Please plan on joining the UMW as they dye eggs and prepare (& deliver) Easter baskets to our shut-ins. Donations for the baskets and the Easter Egg Hunt for the children are appreciated.

Saturday, Apr 4th 10:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday
Service**
April 2nd 6:30 p.m.

TOWN HALL MEETING

and Pot-Luck Luncheon

Mark your calendars for our annual Town Hall Meeting. Don't miss your chance to voice your opinions (good or bad) about the happenings at Centenary. What should we be doing more of? Less of? Your ideas and comments are needed to keep moving our church forward.

SUNDAY MARCH 22TH

March 2015 Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Outreach 10 a.m. Lenten Study 5:00 p.m.	2 Eat Healthy nutrition class 6:00 p.m.	3 Good Timers 10:00 a.m. Craft Group 1:30 p.m. Laura Heerwagen	4 Yoga Class 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m.	5 .	6	7 Set Clocks Before Bed 
8 Outreach 10 a.m. Daylight Saving Time Begins	9 Eat Healthy nutrition class 6:00 p.m.	10 Trustees 6 p.m.	11 Yoga Class 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m.	12	13 Farmer Brown Bean Dinner 5:00 – 7:00 pm Mike Keller	14
15 Outreach 10 a.m. Abbey McArtor	16 Eat Healthy nutrition class 6:00 p.m.	17 Finance 6 p.m.	18 Yoga Class 10:30 a.m.	19 UMW 10 a.m.	20	21 Newsletter Deadline Richard McDaniel
22 Outreach 10 a.m. Pot Luck Lunch & Town Hall Meeting	23 Eat Healthy nutrition class 6:00 p.m. Joyce Slater	24 Victoria McArtor	25 Yoga Class 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. David Phillips	26	27	28
29 Outreach 10 a.m. Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing 6 pm	30	31 Catherine Curington	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Coming Up</div> Maundy Thursday Service April 2 nd 6:30 p.m.			

Coming Up

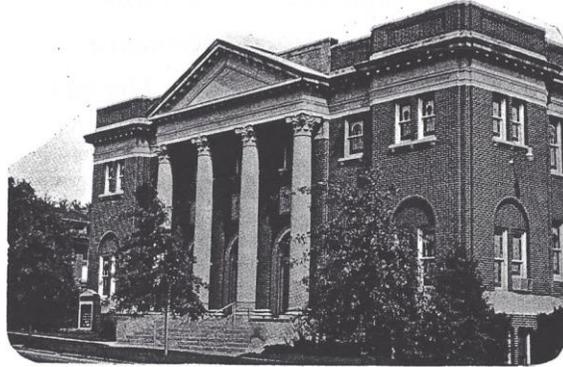
Dye Easter Eggs
And Fill Shut-In Baskets
Saturday April 4th
10:00 a.m.

Easter Pot-Luck Breakfast & Egg Hunt
Sunday April 5th
9:00 a.m.

Coming Up

Means of Grace

In an effort to get the Newsletter printed and to the congregation prior to the 1st of each month, the Means of Grace will now be printed on a separate sheet of paper and available in the Narthex as soon as possible after the end of each month. Email subscribers will be sent a copy at the same time.



631 N Denver Ave
Tulsa OK 74106

Phone:
918-583-6988

E-Mail:
centenarymethodist@att.net

We're on the Web!

See us at:

centenaryumctulsa.org

and like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/CentenaryTulsa

Centenary United
Methodist Church, Inc.
631 N Denver Ave
Tulsa OK 74106