Find your niche in a Sunday School class

The beginning of a new year is a wonderful time to take inventory of your spiritual life and begin regularly attending a Sunday School class. In addition to Christian education, Sunday School classes offer fellowship, community and the chance to live the faith, week by week, with a group of caring people who want to support, pray for and help each other.

No matter where you are on your faith journey, there is a place for you at the table. All classes meet at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Please look into the offerings below to learn more about our Sunday School classes and feel free to call Gretchen Bashforth at 918-301-1009 with any questions.

**Bible Walk, Room E 101: The focus of this class for adults is on the Bible, its content,**

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Session adopts strategic plan for 2014

**DR. JAMES D. MILLER**

*First Church is poised, as never before, to serve the common good for the purposes of Jesus Christ. That’s the way one First Church leader described our entrance into 2014. And he was not overstating the case.*

There is tangible, palpable excitement about this. First Church’s “gospel footprint,” as one friend called it, the ways in which this congregation will serve the common good in the city of Tulsa, is going to enlarge.

Geographically positioned in the heart of the city, blessed with stunning facilities and resources, gifted with a congregation of seriously dedicated people whose lives intersect this city in every conceivable way, we are poised, indeed.

On our bulletin each Sunday, we’re reminded of what we believe to be the Lord’s calling: You’ll remember it, I’m sure: *Called to make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ
Inwardly strong, outwardly focused.*

Short and to the point, it’s easy to memorize. But it also raises vital questions that invite prayerful consideration and discussion.

Last November, the Session took a giant step in clarifying a strategic element in our First Church mission statement. It focused on the question: *“How does one become a fully devoted follower of Jesus?”*

Other related questions tumble out from this one, like: *What role does the Church have in this? How are disciples formed, and in what ways does the Church equip, encourage, and awaken this formation?*

In response to such questions, the 2013 Session decided to frame our 2014 strategic plan by focusing on four fundamental priorities, or spiritual practices, that we believe serve to form “fully-devoted followers of Jesus.” Such devotion launches new initiatives and ministries that serve the needs of our city.

I love the way the Session’s strategic plan invites us to ponder and prayerfully consider

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2
why and how this matters: Here it is:

To live as fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, we will become a people who:
1. Worship Faithfully
2. Know God’s Word and Live Into Christ’s Way
3. Cultivate a Community like that of the Twelve
4. Are Sent Out As Laborers To Advance His Work

Each of these four practices (worship, biblical study, genuine community and intentional service) are hard-wired into the Christian DNA. To lose any one of them is to diminish the clarity and power of our response to God’s grace in Christ.

In this issue of the Tidings, you’ll see examples of what happens when people become fully-devoted followers of Jesus.

So check out the articles on the weekly AWANA ministry (over 100 children on Wednesday nights and climbing!), and the opportunities for challenging adult educational opportunities throughout the week. These speak to number 2 in this Strategic plan: “knowing God’s Word.”

“The Community of the Twelve” took seriously the gift of hospitality and giving care to those in need. Read Laurie Winslow’s” story on the Foster Parents’ Night Out, and you’ll see what that looks like in action. This ministry was born by FPC member Megan Nsien, who has been a champion in bringing the team together who serve in this way.

First Church’s tender ministry to Emerson School students and faculty is highlighted in the article on Celebrating Christmas Together. You could not have been at Emerson for the FPC Christmas part, without being moved and realizing that this is the kind of effort that “advances the work” to which Jesus calls us.

You’ll see a brief article on the Avanti Building, purchased by First Church about a year ago thanks to a remarkable gift. Take a look and learn how this facility will facilitate urban missions in our city.

So enjoy this edition of the Tidings: as always, it brings “good news of a great joy—to all the people!” In a nutshell, it demonstrates that First Church is poised, as never before, to serve the common good for the purposes of Jesus Christ.

How do we implement the Strategic Plan?

The Session has given us “faith commitments” that the church has adopted to truly live out each of these four practices of the Christian life.

To live as fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, we will become a people who:

1. Worship Faithfully
   Faith Commitment 1: We commit to worship faithfully and to keep the Sabbath holy.
   Faith Commitment 2: We will reach out and invite friends, neighbors and strangers to worship with us. We will be a welcoming community.

2. Know God’s Word and Live Into Christ’s Way
   Faith Commitment 1: We will study the Bible and seek to understand the doctrine of the reformed tradition.
   Faith Commitment 2: We will teach our children to know and love God’s Word; and teach their children, and grandchildren...
   Faith Commitment 3: We will take time to invite the Holy Spirit to renew our minds and hearts, thus transforming us to be like Christ.

3. Cultivate a Community Like That of the Twelve
   Faith Commitment 1: We will seek to become disciples who make disciples.
   Faith Commitment 2: We will seek to be the tangible presence of Jesus Christ within and beyond our walls and borders.
   Faith Commitment 3: We will equip and encourage each member to discover and employ their gifts in service of God’s mission.

4. Are Sent Out As Laborers To Advance His Work
   Faith Commitment 1: We will see to it that God’s petition is answered.
   Faith Commitment 2: We will continue to write the history of our church, as ordered by God, and employ our gifts in service of God’s mission.

Christmas train quietly impacts a generation of First Church families

Every Christmas for the past seventeen years, Dr. Miller has received a brand-new, unopened, absolutely beautiful Lionel Train set in the mail. He loves trains but the Lionel set is not for him.

It’s one of the tender unsung ministries that had its origins here at First Church. Years ago a young boy lost his father unexpectedly to a heart attack. His mother was a member of the FPC Choir, and a choir member, Mr. Noel Wightman, saw the grief first-hand. He asked the boy’s mother if he could give a Lionel Train set to her son, as a way encouraging a young grieving son.

Years later, Dr. Miller received a phone call from this boy—now fully grown. His name is Terry Ebert and the Lionel train set each year since then is his gift, prompted by a deep gratitude for the kindness shown to him by Mr. Wightman.

When the story behind this train set became known, another First Church family decided to give a Christmas train every year—so Dr. Miller actually receives two beautiful Lionel sets.

The trains are wrapped and delivered to two Tulsa families after the late Christmas Eve
service by Dr. Miller and Doug Smith. Ask either of these men, and they will tell you they are the ones blessed as they take this annual journey together.

This is the letter drafted by Dr. Miller that he leaves with the train on each stop every Christmas eve:

“Please accept this gift as a quiet witness to God’s providential and persistent love.

“Many years ago, a 12 year-old boy named Terry lost his father suddenly to a heart attack. That Christmas, amid all the sadness, a big gift showed up at his house anonymously. It had his name on it. He opened it and found, to his delight, a Lionel train set.

“Terry did not learn until much later that a man in the First Church choir, named Noel, was the giver of that train. It was a gift that touched that young boy and set him off on an adventure.

“Almost twenty years ago, Terry, who now lives in Texas, called me and told me the story of the Christmas train. He said it brought joy into his life at a difficult time, and it served as a reminder that the Lord had not forgotten him—even though the questions were hard and the circumstances difficult. He told me that he wanted to do something similar for a family every year.

“He hoped that I could be the ‘conveyor’ of the train, offering it to a family who had been caught up in some difficult circumstance—and who might appreciate that this train comes as a symbol of God’s love and providential care.

“So may this train echo Jesus’ promise: My grace will be sufficient for you. My power will be made perfect in your weakness.

“I’m confident that the Lord will give you the strength, courage and wisdom that you will need in the year ahead.

“Merry Christmas!”

New First Church website to launch

LUCAS FORSYTHE

This spring, First Presbyterian Church will be rolling out a brand new website, redesigned to engage with God’s people in today’s digital age. Ultimately, the website is intended to accomplish two important missions: to provide good information and a warm digital welcome to new visitors and to equip existing members with the resources they need to connect with each other and the many opportunities offered in the First Church community.

How do you make a new church website?
The whole process began long before anyone started writing any code. A new website has been needed for some time, and in 2013, the church began an extensive process to investigate what a church website could do, and how it would work.

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New Members - December 2013

Questions? Check out the Inquirers’ Class!

Are you interested in learning more about membership and the life and history of our church and the Presbyterian tradition? See class times on page 8 and please contact Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028 or phall@firstchurchtulsa.org.
Awana: It’s not too late to join in the new year!

First Presbyterian Church Children’s Ministry started the Awana program this past fall, but you can join us in this new year. You will definitely want your child to be a part of this dynamic program focused on scripture memorization.

What is Awana? Awana stands for “Approved workmen are not ashamed” (2 Timothy 2:15).

Awana was founded in 1950 as an international, nondenominational Bible-centered children’s and youth ministry. The program is committed to evangelism and the discipleship of children and youth. Age 3 to fifth grade is a critical window for faith development. Most kids establish a lifelong moral and spiritual belief system during these years. Churches and parents need to intentionally build children’s lives on a solid biblical base that supports them throughout life.

Awana Clubs are structured and include a Bible lesson, worship time, handbook and Bible recitation time and game time.

When will Awana be held? How much will it cost? How do we get involved? Awana is the children’s component for First Church’s Wednesday Night Downtown. Awana begins at 6:30 p.m. sharp and concludes at 8:00 p.m. The cost is $40 per child and includes their handbook, uniform, supplies and awards! Register online at www.first-churchtulsa.org or call Jan at 918-301-1006.

From some of the Awana participants and parents:

“To me, Awana is a great opportunity to spend time with friends and family. It is a great place to get kids to learn about the Bible in a fun way. I see many happy kids laughing and having a great time together. The Children’s Ministry had an awesome idea when they decided to do the Awana program!” – Noah Brandenburg, age 10.

“One simple pleasure is watching the children when the door is opened for parents to pick them up. They literally flow out of there like bubbles out of a fountain; floating, shining and rising up into the church. The chatter, laughter, and love that comes from the room is exactly what a joyful noise for God sounds like. Remarkable things are happening for children who are attending Awana; learning scripture, friendships, connections with adults they might not have otherwise made. All of this gives them a firm sense of belonging. I love that our son Noah sees Wayne Ward on Sundays and just wants to say “Hi” and that going to WNDT is one of the biggest highlights of his week. Thank you Awana Team, you are all a gift.” – Kelly Brandenburg

“I have spent the last several months on an adventure learning about the Bible. As a third grader, I am in the “truth in training” part of Awana. I get to spend Wednesday evenings each week getting together with new and old friends where we share what we have studied about this amazing book called the Bible. We talk about Bible verses that we have memorized and share the Bible stories with our leader. We also get to play games at the beginning. We get points for bringing our Bible and bringing a friend. The points go toward popcorn parties, ice cream parties, and all sorts of fun things. Awana is also a way we can learn about how to share the word of God with others.” – Katherine Kendrick

“I tried to get something out of Colton regarding Awana but all I got was ‘good.’ So, for Colt, Awana sums up to ‘good.’ For his parents, Awana is a time of family. It is a time to learn of God and his goodness together in preparation for each week. It is a time of immediate and extended family and fellowship during dinner prior to Awana and it is a time of fun for the kids. So, I guess you could say that Colt really hit the nail on the head both in describing what Awana means for him and for what it means for his parents. For the Savages, Awana is ‘good.”’ – Deidre Savage

PHOTOS BY LUCAS FORSYTHE
First Church responds to the needs of local foster families

Laurie Winslow

If you want to make a difference in the life of children and their caregivers, consider volunteering this year for a special evening that gives foster parents a respite from child care.

For the second year in a row, First Church recently sponsored a Foster Parents’ Night Out, which served about 60 foster children. Because of the success of the evening the past two years, the church this year plans to expand the program and offer it four times—once every quarter.

Megan Nsien, who spearheaded the event, fell in love with the whole foster system while working at the children’s shelter and helping with parenting classes through the Bair Foundation. She wanted to find a way to better support foster families and the children, and that desire gave birth to this special ministry.

More than 10,000 children are in foster care in Oklahoma. “I think it’s something that we all need to be more cognizant of. These children weren’t put into these situations by choice. I think if anyone can give them attention and love, it goes a long way with these kids,” Megan said.

The two-hour evening, which is open to foster children from birth to age 12, provides dinner and age-appropriate crafts. While children have fun and play, their foster parents receive a much-needed break that lets them run errands, relax or do whatever they want.

“It’s important to say thank you to those who open their homes to kids going through difficult transitions for whatever reason. It’s not an easy job, but it’s very important...I see the respite night as an opportunity to engage the community that is caring for foster kids in our community and with listening ears,” said the Rev. James Estes, associate pastor of mission and outreach. “My prayer is that we could discover ways that we can love and serve them in Jesus’ name as we come to know each other better.”

Megan would like to see the program grow and identify other ways to serve foster families, perhaps by offering them access to a clothing closet or counseling.

“Ultimately this effort grows out of a sensitivity to the love of our Father God. It’s a desire to participate in what St Paul calls ‘the spirit of adoption’ by which we are drawn together into the life of Jesus Christ by the work of that Spirit in and through the Church,” James said.

Those interested in volunteering for future Foster Parents’ Night Out events may contact Megan at megannsien@aol.com or Dionna Schooley at dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Avanti Building to serve urban missions

Dr. James D. Miller

Let it be said with emphasis: First Church is not interested in brick and mortar campaigns except as the facilities can facilitate the purposes of Jesus.

This has been the North Star of every conversation about buildings and renovations—including the remarkable gift to the Church of the six-story Avanti Building, which sits just across 8th Street to the south.

After serious investigation, an enormous amount of work (inter-mingled with much prayer), and the investment of countless highly-competent people, the Session acted in November to pursue a new initiative, entirely focused on generating money for mission.

Sometime this year, the Avanti Building will be gutted and renovated into an office building that will generate significant income—all of which is to be directed to funding urban ministry in Jesus’ name in the greater Tulsa region. This is a spectacular undertaking and offers enormous potential for First Church’s serious engagement in urban mission within the city we love.

Conversations, inviting congregational input, will continue in February following the Leadership Retreat. The 2014 Session is charged, through its Strategic Planning Committee (along with the input of the Mission team), with critically discerning how FPC might extend most effectively the caring presence of Jesus in the city of Tulsa, wrapping His arms around the needs of the people—through the resources that will be entrusted to us.

Each member is encouraged to participate in the dialogue and share ideas as to how we, as Christ-followers, might “enlarge the Gospel footprint” and serve the common good in Jesus’ name.
A team of consisting of members of the Communications Committee and church communications staff began to look through other existing church websites and examine capabilities, flow and look and feel. An initial site map was constructed, and the church sent out a Request for Proposal to several respected web design companies in the Tulsa community.

After many positive responses, the church began a partnership with the firm Station 8 Branding. After meeting to clarify the goals and vision for the new website, Station 8 began designing visual mockups, and later began turning the images into an actual website.

As of February 2014, the project is moving from this “development phase” to “beta testing” where all content and functionality is thoroughly tested to ensure a smooth user experience without any bugs!

What will be different?
While designing the new website, the church and design contractors focused on several key features. For one, the website is intended to be clean, but personable. Most pages feature rich photographs of real people here at the church, and new visitors will be able to get a taste of what really makes this community unique, the people in it! Furthermore, great care was taken to organize the content and create an intuitive flow of information. A good website shouldn’t require too much searching and struggling, it should just work!

Several other tools and features aren’t entirely new in concept, but have taken the spotlight with new functionality and redesigned interfaces. For instance, digital media is now featured front and center on the home page and takes users straight to the media page where they can watch or listen to past sermons and lectures, view photos of events and more. Sermons will also be available as an iTunes podcast or RSS feed. This means that by “subscribing” to the church, audio and video recordings can be delivered straight to your computer or mobile device as they are released each week!

First Church is a lively community, and there are many classes, mission trips and small groups to get involved in. There is so much to do in fact, that new and current members will likely find the class listings to be the most useful feature on the new site. There will no longer be separate websites for youth and children, and users will be able to see all offerings for adults, students and children all in the same place. The website even features an all-new “ministry match” function where users can search all church offerings based on customizable filters.

Of course, events are a key element of church life, and the new website includes an all-new calendar page where relevant events will be displayed in a clean and organized fashion. Click on any event to get a description and contact information and register or pay right then and there without navigating away from the page.

How will I use the new website? The new website is designed to be much more user friendly than the current site with minimal to no learning curve. However, if you feel that your group could benefit from a brief run-through of the website and its features, contact communications@firstchurchtulsa.org. Several opportunities will be provided in the upcoming months to help people get started.

In the end, the new website is not designed to advertise the church or promote any one event, it is designed to be but another medium to glorify God! Regardless of how nice it might look, a website is also only brought to life by the people using it. So look for more information about the release coming up soon. We hope you’ll look around, make some connections and perhaps find some useful tools in supporting the global church’s ultimate mission to further the Kingdom of God!

DID YOU KNOW?
The website design team is currently seeking “beta testers,” individuals who are interested in experimenting with the new website in order to provide feedback and discover any potential problems. Beta testers don’t need to have any particular expertise, they just need to look around and try out any new features. If you are interested in beta testing the new website, please contact communications@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Mary and Martha Bible Study members present the Goodland Jar donation to Goodland Academy Board supporter, Peggy Stephenson, during a December meeting of the Wednesday morning group. Although not a service committee, this fifteen-year-old Bible Study group chose to adopt the young men residents for prayer and to make a Christmas donation to each resident. Peggy delivers the financial gift to the Hugo, Oklahoma home, along with personal notes and cards.

First Church Historian and Archivist David Crowell received a Proclamation from Mayor Dewey Bartlett, Jr. and a letter from the FPC Session in appreciation of his work in maintaining the historical records of our church. The documents were presented during the H&A volunteer dinner, celebrating the 15th anniversary of the committee.
Discipleship

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

its interpretation, and especially its application to our lives and faith. It is open to EVERYONE, regardless of age or stage of faith! Contact: Barbara Sanders, 918-633-4970.

Cornerstone, Room E 102: We are interested in studying the foundations of the Christian faith: Bible studies, the Trinity, confessions/creeds, church history and why we believe what we believe. Cornerstone schedules great teachers to guide us in our study and discussions. Whether you visit for a month or attend every week, you are welcome to stop by anytime. Contact: Kim Jones, 918-254-9642.

Covenanters, Room E 201: We are a class of couples with children. Our class is informal and interactive, focusing on Bible study and Bible-based discussions of marriage and faith relationships. We are a fun group and have many social events throughout the year (e.g., dinner groups and class brunches). Contact: Dustin Fravel 918-850-2400.

Faith & Family, West Parlor: We are parents who want to raise our children to be fully-devoted followers of Jesus Christ. We think families should spend time together learning what this means, praying for one another, having fun, bearing each other’s burdens; you know, that friendship thing. Our group is a company of parents of all ages who have discovered that Jesus is faithful to us despite the huge learning curve of parenting. He has put us together because we really do get by with a little help from our friends, and a lot of daily grace from God. We’d like you to join us, because you can never really have too much of either. Contacts: Danny & Stephanie Kern, 918-286-2685.

Forum, Room E 200: The Forum Class is composed of singles and couples of various ages. We enjoy lively and in-depth discussions relating to the Bible as well as to Christian living. We support mission projects within the church and also volunteer our time. We believe that the teachings of Jesus Christ and His love for us should be at the center of what we do as individuals and as a class. Contacts: Cynthia Wiles, 918-747-9416 and Sherye Halliburton, 918-749-8258.

Harbingers, Room E 202: We are a class of singles and couples of various ages with children, most now grown. Many of us have deep roots in the church, and the class has just the right mix of worship, study, service and fun. We have several social gatherings throughout the year, including small group dinners. We also participate in mission projects together. Contact: Cynthia Davis, 918-742-4719.

Mariners, Room E 104: Our mature senior class is made up of members from the greatest generation and we are deeply anchored in love of God and country. In addition to Sunday morning class, we are active in church ministries such as Helping Hand and Meals-On Wheels. We deepen our faith in Christ by securing excellent teachers. We are guided by the following principles; Christ is our pilot, the Bible, our compass, and the Church, our anchor. You are invited to make this class your class. Contact: Shirley Schelpner, 918-388-3175.

The Niche, Room E 205: We are the Young Adult Community of First Presbyterian Church, made up of singles, married couples and college-age individuals. We are committed to helping young adults discover their place in Christ and the local church through sound Bible teaching, faithful worship, connectional social activities, as well as local and international mission. Contact: Katie McQueen, 918-805-0875.

Reflections, Room E 103: We are couples and singles of various ages and stages who seek to nurture our Christian faith and to grow together spiritually through in-depth study, fellowship, and mission outreach. We value spending time to reflect and discuss various aspects of our lessons, supporting and praying for each other, and joining together to help others. Contact: Jerry Ashlock, 918-698-0933.

Seekers, Room E 100: We are a blended class of individuals from the TIF and FPC worship communities. Our Sunday morning class will focus on “The Community of God” and our enduring relationship with Him. As a global community, we will follow Jesus Christ with one mind and heart, and we will discuss the theology for the Community of God. Contact: Wambugu Gachungi, 918-301-1027.

Shepherds, Room E 203: A class for all seasons of life and faith. We have members in their 30’s, 40’s, 50’s and 60’s and would love to have you join us as we deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ and our friendships with fellow class members. Lively discussion is the cornerstone of our class. We enjoy studying the Bible, fellowship, class parties and gatherings, and hands-on mission work. We welcome you wherever you are on your faith journey. Contact: John Powers, 918-510-1932.

Sojourners, Room E 204: We are couples and singles (mainly 40 and older), parents and grandparents. We enjoy studying the Bible together and discussing relevant issues facing the contemporary Christian. The class focuses on self-directed studies, rather than following a commercial, preplanned course of study. Many of our classes are led by class members in addition to scheduled guest speakers. We enjoy fellowship together through planned social events and serve our Lord through missions and ministry. Contact: Margaret Holdridge, 918-813-3781.

Westminster L.C.S. (Larger Circle Society), Tower Room: We are young and old, fast and slow, tall and short, married and single. What do we have in common? Love for the Lord and a desire to study the Bible in order to deepen our Christian faith. We enjoy challenging class discussions, and we also enjoy time together socially and service in the church and community. Contact: Janet Bond, 918-742-4180.

The Problem of Pain, Stephenson Hall: Join Dr. Miller this spring as the Pastor’s Study series continues with C.S. Lewis’ The Problem of Pain. The class will be offered Sundays at 9:30 am in Stephenson Hall and 5:30 pm in E103, and again on Wednesdays at 11:30 in E104. An optional lunch may be reserved no later than Monday each week. The Problem of Pain is available for purchase at the Book Corner. Contact: Gretchen Bashforth, 918-301-1019.
Celebrating Christmas Together brings joy to students, teachers and volunteers

CINDY JOHNSON

“Dear First Presbyterian Church Members,” writes a student at Emerson Elementary School. “I cannot put into words how much I’m thankful for your generosity. You did a selfless act that put a big, warm smile on a lot of children that go to Emerson. The socks that I received are very comfortable, and I still have my gloves from last year…”

We received similar letters from each of the Emerson students, thanking First Presbyterian members for Celebrating Christmas Together.

Church members adopted more than 300 Emerson children by purchasing gifts especially for them. Each child received a gift-wrapped toy, book and socks. The deacons also added a Bible, gloves, and a warm Emerson hoodie for each child.

On December 20, nearly 100 First Presbyterian Church members hosted this year’s Celebrating Christmas Together at the school. The volunteers unloaded the U-Haul and other vehicles full of tote bags with gifts, refreshments, and party supplies and then hosted 16 classroom parties – all held at the same time. During the parties, the children played games, enjoyed refreshments, made ornaments with their portraits and sang along to familiar Christmas songs with the carolers who strolled throughout the school. The children were thrilled to spend time with several middle school and high school volunteers who assisted at the parties. Also, through the generous donations of so many at FPC, the teachers each received a $50 gift card to buy much-needed school supplies.

Crocheted and knitted scarves were made again this year for the fifth and sixth graders and for new staff members. The scarves and teachers are grateful for the scarves made with their school colors. One student wrote, “I mostly appreciate the lovely handmade scarf. I bet it took a long time to make, but I thank you for taking the time out of your busy day and making them.”

The volunteers, as well as children and staff at Emerson, eagerly anticipate next year’s Celebrating Christmas Together. Everyone involved receives the spirit of the holidays.

A teacher, Mrs. Flewellen, shared, “It warmed my heart and brought me to tears to see the joy you brought to our children. They don’t have much in their lives and rarely see acts of kindness such as you displayed. You provided hope and laughter, and that is a memory I will cherish.”

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 26: INQUIRERS’ CLASS BEGINS This is an invitation to our next Inquirers’ Class. It will help you learn more about our particular family of faith, allow time for you to ask questions and enjoy a time of fellowship with others. The next Class will be offered: Sundays January 26, February 2, 9 & 16 in room #206 (across from the Miller Library in the Kerr Bldg.) 9:15-10:30 a.m. OR Saturday/Sunday Class, February 15 Saturday: 9:00-1:00 p.m. in E100 which is the first room on the left in the new East Building on the first floor. Sunday, February 16, 9:15-10:30 a.m. in the New Member Room #206 (Kerr Bldg.). Childcare is available for the Saturday class by reservation only by Tuesday, February 11. Questions? Please contact Patricia Hall, Director of New Member Outreach, at 918 301-1028 or phall@firstchurchtulsa.org

FEBRUARY 7-8: FIRST CHURCH LEADERSHIP RETREAT

MARCH 5: ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

MARCH 6-9: CURSILLO CHRISTIAN RETREAT AT DWIGHT MISSION Cursillo has been referred to as a short course in Christianity and is a wonderful way to renew your faith and invigorate your relationship with Christ. The cost is $150 and applications are requested by Saturday, February 15. Applications may be found in the church literature racks. For more information please contact Steve McCormack, Co Edwards or Bill Wiles; also see the December/January Tidings. Find a link to register online at www.firstchurchtulsa.org

MARCH 7: EVENINGS AT THE BERNSEN: TULSA YOUTH SYMPHONY Tickets are $10 adults, $5 students, and children under 12 - free. For ticket information contact: Tom Marsh, 918.388.4720. Doors open at 7:00 p.m., program begins at 7:30 p.m. in Great Hall of Bernsen Center.

MARCH 12: LENTEN WEDNESDAY NIGHT OFFERINGS BEGIN

APRIL 19: SPRING FESTIVAL

APRIL 20: EASTER SUNDAY