

NOWATA METHODIST CHURCH

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER



Making a Difference in the Lives of Children and Families

Written by Pastor Jeffrey Rickman

I apologize for having failed to put out a newsletter for a couple of months. Our church's disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church denomination was finalized in May. We have been figuring out what life looks like as an independent church for a bit as we discern which other Wesleyan bodies might be a good fit for us. I have been holding interviews with representatives from other potential denominations, which have been posted on the PlainSpoken channel for the consideration of current members of our church.

"Knowledge of the Bible never comes by intuition. It can only be obtained by diligent, regular, daily, attentive reading."

J.C. Ryle



www.narrowmindedwoman.com



Grow in your knowledge of the bible! Join us in daily bible reading. The reading plan is on page 3 of this newsletter.

While many other churches take a break for the summer, we have actually stepped up our activity. I resumed a children's program on Thursday evenings, at which the children are learning to sing songs of the faith, navigate their bibles, and recite answers to New City Catechism questions. If you have been in worship, you have heard their voices participating loudly and proudly in our assemblies. I am very proud of our children.

A group of women have also started preparing meals on Monday at our church kitchen. They call the ministry "Bountiful Tables." They not only cook three dinners for their own families, but they also make extra meals for dozens of people around the community of Nowata, most of whom pay for these pre-prepared meals, but also many who have come upon hard times and need a little extra help. When a local family lost everything they had in a fire, the Bountiful Tables ministry had meals to donate for their care. The meals are always scrumptious, healthy, and locally sourced if possible. Many local food producers have

chosen to donate to the group out of admiration for their project. They ask for \$4.50 per serving, which is half the price of the cheapest for-profit venture such as Hello Fresh. They will also be holding monthly fundraisers in order to compensate for the cost of the program.

So far, Bountiful Tables operates at a deficit. We are hoping that increased purchasing of meals and fundraiser items, plus a little extra support from the church, can make it a sustainable ministry in the coming months, as we discern its viability in the long term. As it currently performs, about a hundred people's lives are impacted for the better by this ministry every week. I am inclined to think it has much greater capacity as these women make a name for the ministry and build up its infrastructure.

I would ask you to pray for these new or resumed ministries, that they be a pleasing offering to our Lord, and that he would prosper these ministries to bless many more lives. Thank you for all of the support you have given your church in these tumultuous years. Let us continue forward in faith together with confidence in our shared spiritual heritage.

Corner of Appreciation

Mesa Holt and Abby Spurgeon, two of our nursery workers, spent a morning deep cleaning the nursery.

Charlie Drake has weed-eated at the church and also helped with a project at the parsonage.

Mike Staehle continues to care for the church lawn week after week.



Children enjoying one another's company after potluck.

Coming Up in August

- August 5
Delaware Methodist
Breakfast, 7-10am
- August 8
Administrative Board
meeting at 6:30pm
- August 9
Spencer T.'s birthday
- August 17
Nona H.'s birthday
- August 19
Robert G.'s birthday
- August 22
Rob R.'s birthday
- August 24
Cyndi T.'s birthday
Pat G.'s birthday
- August 25
Bridget S.'s birthday
- August 27
Potluck after worship

Happening Every Week

Worship: Sundays at 11am

Women's Prayer Group:
Wednesdays at 10:30am

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
from 9am-12:30pm

Contact Us

PO Box 129
109 West Shawnee Avenue
Nowata OK 74048
(918) 273-1562
nowatamethodists@gmail.com
nowatamethodists.org

The Summer 'Bible Reading Challenge' is still going. Join us as we feast on God's word daily.

Join us in this essential spiritual discipline. Read what you can, and don't be discouraged if you get behind. There are "catch up days" built in to the plan. It is a blessing to feast on God's word each day!

		DATE	DAILY READING
TUE	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Philemon, Jude
WED	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Timothy 1-6
THU	3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Catch-Up Day or Galatians 1-6
FRI	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Corinthians 1-4
SAT	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Corinthians 5-8
MON	7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Corinthians 9-12
TUE	8	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Corinthians 13-16
WED	9	<input type="checkbox"/>	James 1-5
THU	10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Catch-Up Day or 2 John, 3 John
FRI	11	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Corinthians 1-4
SAT	12	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Corinthians 5-8
MON	14	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Corinthians 9-13
TUE	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Timothy 1-4
WED	16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Catch-Up Day or 1 Peter 1-5
THU	17	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hebrews 1-5
FRI	18	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hebrews 6-9
SAT	19	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hebrews 10-13
MON	21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Catch-Up Day or 2 Peter 1-3
TUE	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation 1-4
WED	23	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation 5-8
THU	24	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation 9-12
FRI	25	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation 13-16
SAT	26	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation 17-20
MON	28	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revelation 21-22
TUE	29	<input type="checkbox"/>	Psalm 119

When reviled, we bless
When persecuted, we endure
When slandered, we entreat

1 Corinthians 4:12-13

PRAYING FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH



Voice of the Martyrs, a Christian relief organization based in Bartlesville, is asking for prayers for Christians in Libya:

Front-line workers request prayer for eight Christians in Libya, including six Libyans and two foreigners, who have been imprisoned for their faith: “Please pray for these believers who have recently been imprisoned to stand firm in their faith as they endure persecution for the name of Christ.” The front-line worker added that some of those now being held in jail “could be sentenced to death for their obedience to God’s Word and for sharing it with others in the country.” Libya has remained unstable and chaotic since the revolution and overthrow of its dictator in 2011. Three opposing governments vie for control, and the conflicts have severely damaged the country’s infrastructure and rendered gospel work in the country extremely difficult.

Bountiful Tables

continues to minister to mothers in the community of Nowata as well as others who purchase the meals that are prepared on Monday afternoons. It has been a joy to share fully cooked meals with our friends and neighbors. These folks are in various seasons of life, and the help of healthy, home cooked meals has been a big gift to them! We love preparing food for these precious people. Their financial contributions have helped us keep our costs lower.

-Cori Davis,
Bountiful Tables coordinator



Mothers displaying all the meals prepared together and their children posing in between bouts of playing.

