

THE FLAME



June 2, 2025



Monday, June 2

Project Transformation
Staff Meeting 3
Weight Loss Group 3:30
Carillon Handbells 6:30
Scouts 6:30
FPC Bible Study 7

Tuesday, June 3

Project Transformation
Coryell Cupboard 8
Men's Coffee Group 8:30
Intercessory Prayer 9
Coryell Cupboard 4

Wednesday, June 4

Project Transformation
Bible Study Via Christi 10
Communion Via Christi 10
Missions 3
Project Transformation Party 5
Youth Ministry 6
Choir 7

Thursday, June 5

Project Transformation

Friday, June 6

Lay Leadership & Nominations 10

Sunday, June 8

Sunday School 9
Church Service 10
Sock Hop Pavillion 7



All members are invited to a welcome party for our Project Transformation campers and their families. Come meet and eat with them in the Pavillion Wednesday at 5 p.m.

- *Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9*

Day of Pentecost



- *Psalms 104:24-34, 35b*
- *Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21*
- *John 14:8-17, (25-27)*



Meet Andy Tubbs. He has been an FUMC member for 8 years but has attended here off and on for the last 30. Andy serves as Co-Chair of the Ushers, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and all-around repairman as needed. He likes to hunt, photograph wildlife, grow tomatoes, fish, and work on things.

Sally and he have been married for 35 years, have a daughter and son-in-law who both work for Ponca City Schools, and one grandson who is a Junior next year.

Andy worked for OG&E Energy for 40 years at Sooner Power Plant as an Electrician and Supervisor where they maintained the generating facility to insure reliability for our customers. Prior to that he served 4 years in the Navy during the Vietnam War where he was trained as a Navy Corpsman, and worked in a Naval Hospital for two years. Then was stationed with a Marine Unit in

Okinawa, Japan for the remainder of my service. We thank Andy for his service to our country and for his service to his church.

This is Marta Ross Sullivan, she was a FUMC member from 1976-2000 and 2023 to present and is our Music Director. She is responsible for overseeing service music and music for special occasions as well as directing the Chancel Choir, Handbell choirs, and Children's choirs.

Marta spends her spare time gardening, reading, music (listening, singing, handbells, ukulele). She has two children and three grandchildren and have three siblings that all live nearby, along with numerous cousins.

Marta graduated from OSU with a degree in Medical Technology and worked in various labs before becoming a mother. She happily raised two children and then went back to school and received an AD from NOC in nursing. She worked as an RN at Stillwater Medical Center on the orthopedic unit and Via Christie/Integris Hospital on the Med/Surg and ER units. She served as Director of Nursing for Hospice of North Central Oklahoma (HNCO), eventually becoming the CEO. During her tenure at HNCO she earned her Hospice & Palliative Care accreditation. During these years she also served First Christian church as Music Director. She has loved and enjoyed every job she has ever had. Each had tasks she enjoyed doing more than others but overall, they have been extremely fulfilling and rewarding.

Marta is very happy to be a part of this congregation; this family and to be able to serve God through music.



The third excerpt from the Social Principles: The Political Community

Our involvement in political systems is rooted in the Gospel imperative to love our neighbors, to do justice and to care for the vulnerable. We acknowledge that love requires responsible political action and engagement aimed at the betterment of society and the promotion of the common good.

Government Responsibilities

We affirm that both church and state have vital distinct roles to play in relation to the larger society.

We affirm that every form of government stands under God's judgment and must therefore be held accountable for protecting the innocent, guaranteeing basic freedoms and liberties, protecting the natural world, and establishing just, equitable, and sustainable economies. We reject governmental use of threats, extortion, unlawful detentions, extrajudicial killings, and other forms of coercion to silence political opponents and those objecting to unlawful or immoral government policies and practices.

We encourage churches to speak out boldly on social issues from a Gospel perspective. We support those who, acting under the constraints of moral conscience or religious conviction and having exhausted all other legal avenues, feel compelled to disobey or protest unjust or immoral laws.

We encourage citizens to partner with law enforcement personnel to create alternatives to practices that emphasize retribution rather than restoration when relationships are violated or broken through crime or wrongdoing.

We are compelled to oppose capital punishment and imposition of the death penalty. We believe that offenders must be held accountable for criminal actions, particularly those that result in a loss of life for livelihood. While insisting on accountability, we are also committed to fair and proportional sentencing and to the humane treatment of those who are imprisoned. We encourage churches to be in the ministry with those who are incarcerated. The church deplores war and all other forms of violent conflict. We reject the use of war as an instrument of foreign policy. We urge all United Methodists to examine their own consciences and earnestly seek God's guidance when it comes to matter of military service.

We declare that all individuals are entitled to basic human rights and freedoms. We urge individuals, congregations, and other church bodies to advocate vigorously not only for their own rights, but also for the rights of those who are voiceless, or whose voices are unheard in society.

We affirm health care as a basic human right and vow to work toward expanded access to all forms of medical treatment. Clinics, hospitals, and medical services and treatments must be accessible, affordable and of good quality.

We call on church and society to support and advocate for the well-being of all children and young people and for their safety, nurture, agency, education, and participation in church and community life.

Elders have the right to support and protection against the vulnerabilities of aging, expressed in economic disparities, unjust inheritance practices, inadequate public health care, and systemic neglect based on gender, ethnicity, abilities and economic conditions.

We support equal opportunities and rights for all women and girls, regardless of national origin, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, physical ability or other characteristics. We affirm that men and boys make important contributions to both church and society. And support equal opportunities for all men and boys also.

We support the rights of indigenous, native, and aboriginal communities and affirm that like all people they must be afforded the basic right set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

We affirm the dignity, worth and rights of migrants, immigrants and refugees. We urge United Methodist to welcome migrants, refugees, and immigrants into their congregations and to commit themselves to providing concrete support, including help with navigating restrictive and often lengthy immigration policies, and assistance with securing food, housing, education, employment and other kinds of support. We oppose all laws and policies that attempt to criminalize, dehumanize or punish displaced individuals and families based on their status. We decry attempts to detain displaced people and hold them in inhumane and unsanitary conditions.

We call for the elimination of all barriers that prevent people with disabilities from participating fully in the life of local congregations and the broader society. Because all people are of sacred worth and certain basic human rights are due to everyone, we are committed to supporting the equal rights, liberties and protections of all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

We condemn actions by any individual, group or organization that denigrates or demeans those belonging to another faith.

Excerpts from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church (If you would like to read the Social Principles in their entirety they are available)

I used to be afraid of failing at something that really mattered to me, but now I'm more afraid of succeeding at things that don't matter. ~ Bob Goff

*First United Methodist
First Presbyterian*

Sock Hop

**Sunday
June 8
7:00pm**

**Wear your
DANCING
SHOES!**

Bring a Friend
Bring a Chair
Bring a Snack
to share
Drinks Provided

Pavillion
(the SE side of
parking lot)

Dance Music provided by
"Over the HILLcrest"

(The Lenharts, The Rues and more)

First United Methodist Church 200 S 6th, Ponca City 580-762-1681

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Flamingoes have arrived! And they would 'love' to come visit you or someone you choose. All monies raised go to the Child Development Center! Those flamingoes will be flying to yards or an office during May and June.

Three ways you can help;
donate and have those beautiful birds in someone's office for a day;
just donate;
donate and have the flamingoes visit a friend...

just let me know or call the Child Development Center, 580-765-7532.

I can't wait to hear from you...

thank you soooo much!~~

Mary Ann Holt...580-491-9850



When joy is a habit, love is a reflex.~ Bob Goff

June Author Highlight – Bob Goff



Bob Goff spent decades as an attorney, trying to figure out how to live a whimsical, impactful life. These days, he calls himself a “recovering lawyer” because after practicing law for 25 years, then becoming the Honorary Consul to Uganda, he gave up his law firm to pursue writing and speaking full time. He’s a New York Times bestselling author several times over, runs a popular weekly podcast, and recently turned farmer at The Oaks just outside San Diego, California.

Whether in his books or live talks, Bob Goff seems to have ten lifetimes worth of stories. He has an uncanny knack for putting himself in unlikely places with unlikely people. He talks to dozens of strangers every week, because he listed his cell phone number in the back of his New York Times bestselling book, *Love Does*. He teaches classes at Pepperdine University and San Quentin State Prison. After the Taliban took control of major cities in Afghanistan in 2021, Bob called them to ask if they would allow women to return to a school he helped launch there. They said yes.

Goff lives in California with his wife who he calls “Sweet Maria”. He is the author of several bestselling books including *Love Does*, *Everybody Always*, and *Live in Grace, Walk in Love – Daily Devotional Readings*.

To unsubscribe, please send an email to fumcpc.business@gmail.com. Flame articles should be submitted by 5 p.m. Sunday evening.

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