



# DWIGHT CONNECTION

www.dwightmission.org

Fall 2011

## Guest Lodge Revamped

If you were here this summer, than you know, the Guest Lodge has had an overhaul, complete with new sinks and vanities, new window treatments, more storage, window air conditioning units, and a more comfortable feel. We had many people give of



their time for the rooms, not only as the designers, but also as carpenters, painters, plumbers, and whatever else needed to be

done. Each room has a different name and story to it. The First Presbyterian Church of Ponca City did 2 of the rooms. One room is featured as the Pioneer Woman room, and the other as Standing Bear. FPC Ponca City was inspired by the rich history of Dwight Mission and this is apparent in the décor. FPC Tulsa was another church that was inspired by Dwight Mission, especially in the many songs

(continued on pg 2)

## Dwight Mission Capital Campaign Underway!

On July 1, 2011, Dwight Mission began a Capital Campaign to raise \$4 million to renovate the Administration Building (the old school building) into classrooms, gathering spaces, a usable auditorium, a museum, to endow funds for repairs and maintenance and to build a lodge that will provide hotel-style accommodations.

Dwight has received a \$1 million challenge grant to upgrade the old school building. This renovation will stay true to the history and design of the building, keeping historical fixtures and design elements while bringing all systems up to date and making inside spaces user friendly. A new elevator will be added and the third floor auditorium will be restored.

There are several naming opportunities for the entire facility, individual rooms, hallways, elevators, stairs, and theatre seats.

Dwight has been of service for so many years to countless families. Now is YOUR chance to give back by making an investment in Dwight's future. (continued on pg 2)

## Keeping it Real through one HOT Summer!

This summer was a hot one in more ways than one. Sure we all learned what it feels like to live in the desert, but more importantly, we learned how God makes things real in our everyday lives. We had more campers attend summer camp this summer than we have had in over 5 years, meaning more campers walked away feeling God's love. This was our first year to hold a day camp for the local community, and we had 20 campers. We hope to continue to build on the momentum of Dwight Mission summer camps, and while it will be hard to top this year, we are already busy planning an even better experience for next summer! We feel like every child should have the opportunity to come to camp, and because of our scholarship program, we were able to help 38 families with camp fees. Even our campers got in on the action by donating their leftover canteen monies to help others come to camp which totaled approximately \$250. But even with the generosity of churches and a few individuals, we still have camperships that we are not able to cover. Please consider what amount you are able to give to help change the life of a child. We hope to continue in our rich camping tradition for years to come and you can help in that.

## Capital Campaign continued...

You may donate on the website or mail your check to  
Dwight Mission Capital Campaign  
100995 S. 4590 Rd  
Vian, OK 74962

Your current and continuing contributions will ensure that Dwight Mission will continue to serve the needs of all. Please direct questions to campaign chair Johnna Thurston at [dmlegacy@dwrightmission.org](mailto:dmlegacy@dwrightmission.org)

Yours in service,

Johnna Thurston



## Guest Lodge continued...

... has some key elements including several framed artworks highlighting some of the songs written at Dwight, including the Golden Broom Award and Another Day, both written by former staff members.

FPC Stillwater also had a hand in fixing a leak in the roof, as well as re-screening the entire porch area. And now that the porch area has been re-screened, we are looking for some volunteer groups to help out with the porch area. There is a lack of seating right now, and with the large screened-in porch, the space is perfect for some Adirondack style seating. We are looking for help with materials as well as building labor. Call our office if you or your group is interested.



The Heritage Center in 1917

## Other improvements

Dwight has worked hard to complete upgrades to several campus building in the last year and currently working to upgrade the dorms. Recent improvements include:

- New kitchen facilities in Oxley
  - Guest lodge room renovation & roof repair
  - Pool repair
  - Repairs and upgrades to the director's house
  - Repairs, upgrades and new air conditioning in the program director's house
  - Replace the roof on the Ping Pong Shelter
- Log Museum has been cleaned out, sealed, electricity, lights, and new deck added, ready for displays to be set back up.

## Dwight's Old Fashioned Christmas

After the success of last year's Old Fashioned Christmas event, we are excited to bring it back this year. New this year is a hall of Christmas trees, each decorated in different themes. We are still looking for donations of Christmas ornaments, lights, wreaths, and garland. One of the trees will be a Chrismon tree, which is a tree decorated with Chrismons, ornaments that represent Christian symbols. The Midwest City Wannabees (a quilting group) is volunteering time to make some of the Chrismons that will be used. If you would like to help, let us know and we will send you a kit to make a Chrismon to hang on the Chrismon tree. We will also be holding a "Hanging of the Greens" day here at Dwight to get ready for the Christmas season. Bring your family down on Saturday, November 26 for a day of Christmas cheer. The Old Fashioned Christmas will be held December 8-10, from 5pm to 8pm nightly.

## Oxley Kitchen Gets Facelift, Needs Supplies

In the fall of 2010, Oxley underwent some changes to provide better service to our groups looking to cook their own meals.

The closet that was located behind the kitchen was taken out to turn the once galley style kitchen into a more functional space complete with stove, new flooring, and

new entrance. The updates look great, but we are still in need of some items to complete the kitchen, including a new fridge, dishwasher, plates, bowls, pots and pans, etc. The Oxley Kitchen Wish list is listed below. All of the items listed are new, however, if you have something comparable that has been gently used, we are also taking gently used donations. The fridge and dishwasher are items from Lowes, the rest are from Wal-Mart. If you would like to purchase any of these items online, you can have them shipped directly to Dwight. 100995 S. 4590 Rd. Vian, OK 74962.



### Lowes

Frigidaire 18.2 Cu. Ft. Top Freezer Refrigerator (Color: White) (\$459)  
Hotpoint 24-Inch Built-In Dishwasher (Color: Black) ENERGY STAR (\$249)

### Wal-Mart

GE 1.1 cu. ft. Microwave Oven, WES1130 (\$75)  
Mainstays 7-Piece Stainless Steel Cookware Set (\$30)  
BakerEze 12-Piece Bakeware Set (\$30)  
GE 40-Cup Coffee Urn (\$40)  
Regalta 7-Piece Cutlery Set with Pine Wood Block (\$14)  
Silverware / Plates / Cups  
Sensations II 8-Piece Nesting Bowl Set, Rainbow (\$23)  
Fox Run Craftsmen Chop Chop Cutting Board (Set of 4) (\$20)  
Mugs  
Farberware 14-Piece Professional Tool and Gadget Set (\$20)

## Dwight Mission Blessed with Donations



Through a wonderful and thoughtful donation Dwight has received a used golf cart. This gently used, gas powered chariot will assist camp staff in accomplishing their jobs in style as they traverse the many acres that are the Dwight Mission campus.

With a recent visit of the Oklahoma Presbyterian Women Dwight Mission has received a squeezable soft donation of paper products. These thoughtful donation mean so much to those of us at Dwight.



**A Note from the Director:**

The fine history that is Dwight Mission summer camp continued this summer. We served over 500 campers. I believe that in these trying economic times that we live in, the fact that camper numbers were up this year is a strong testimony to how much Dwight Mission means to those that visit here. Anyone that has attended camp here knows that there is a quality here that is unique to Dwight Mission.

It is Dwight Mission policy to never turn a child away from a week at camp due to the inability to pay. With this policy in place we have been able to get kids to camp that in some circumstances would not have had the chance. However this policy does come at a price. We struggle each year to cover these "Scholarship," or "Campership," campers, Dwight Mission incurs a loss between \$8,000.00 and \$10,000.00 per year. This year the campership need was over \$11,000.00. We have been able to cover some of this cost. In the camping ministry we believe that a positive experience at camp, coupled with an active home church congregation can put a young person on the road not only to success but to a life grounded in faith and self confidence. In order to meet this need, Dwight Mission must raise the means to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to attend camp. You can help. After your monthly bills are paid, we encourage you to prayerfully consider a donation to the 2011 campership fund. If you are called to make a donation please send your gift, ear marked for "Camperships 2011", to Dwight Mission 100995 S. 4590 Rd. Vian, OK 74962. Your donation will change lives for Christ.

Impacting Generations for Jesus,  
-Peter R. Newbury



**Where Oh Where are the pumpkins?**

Did you know Dwight Mission has a pumpkin patch? Well, not only do we have a pumpkin patch, we have pumpkins in it! Dwight has been growing our own fall decorations. They look great. These pumpkins will be decorating tables and door steps around camp in the coming weeks.

Where you may not have known we had a pumpkin patch, SOME-ONE sure did. Some of our larger pumpkins have gone missing. Well, how does the old saying go? I guess they needed them more than we did? That must have been the case.



**Happy, Happy, Joy, Joy...**

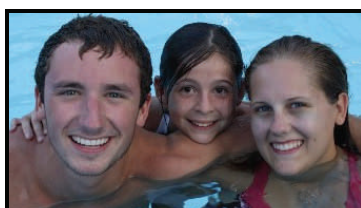
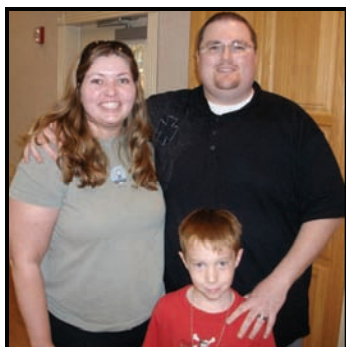
Inspired with a donation by Oklahoma's Presbyterian Women, Dwight Mission has new chairs. We now have 150 new chairs in our Dining Hall. The room has a new look about it with these rich brown chairs.

And we did not want to leave out the Oxley Center. We were also able to purchase 30 new fancy chairs to round off the needed 150 chairs in Oxley Center.



## Alumni News

- Josh and Tara Kerr welcomed their son, Kellan Gene Kerr on May 10th 2011.
- Leigh ( Woodruff) married Rick Harvey



## Dwight Time At Home



Summer camp at Dwight is over for yet another year, but is it really? We learned about how God is a gracious, hospitable, generous, and loving God, and how we can in turn share those things with others. We learned about welcoming others, and many signs, notes, and acts of kindness were shared between campers and their groups. We learned that we all have different gifts and that each one was specially chosen for us by God. We learned how God is present in our lives every day, all the time, 24-7. When we look again at our closing scripture of John 15:1-17, we hear the familiar verse about the vine and the branches, and how we are to love one another. John 15: 16 reminds us that we didn't choose God, but that he chose us. He carefully pruned and shaped us so that we can go out into the world and bear His fruit, showing all around us His infinite love and abounding joy. Reflecting back on this summer, it's not over, it's just beginning as we step out into the world and continue to share and pass on God's love.



## Weekend Dates Available

November 18-20

December 2-4

December 16-18

January 6-8

Book Your Event TODAY

## Save The Dates...

**Hanging of the Greens:** November 26

**An Old Fashioned Christmas:**

December 8-10, 2011

**College Quake:** January 3-5, 2012

**Confirmation Retreat:** February 17-19, 2012

**Spring Break Mission Camp:**

March 18-22, 2012

**Spring Quilting Retreat:** April 25-29, 2012

**Family Camp:** May 25-28, 2012



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100995 S. 4590 Rd.  
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[www.dwightmission.org](http://www.dwightmission.org)

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## The Tapestry of Dwight Mission

If you are receiving this newsletter you have a connection with Dwight Mission and this



connection is a thread woven in a colorful tapestry of a rich and powerful history. Your thread is interwoven with those of missionaries, Native Americans, campers, and supporters that span across 191 years and several continents. Did you know that Sam Houston was an Indian Agent and he visited Dwight Mission on numerous occasions or that Helen Walton, the wife of Sam Walton was a camper at Dwight? Did you also know that one of Oklahoma's first Senators, Robert Latham Owens mother, Narcissa Clarke Chisholm, attended school at Dwight Mission or that Cherokee Principal Chief Chad Smith's father also attended school at Dwight Mission and named one of his son's Dwight? These are just a few examples of the many individuals you share a connection with at Dwight Mission.

Dwight Mission has just begun to interpret its rich history and we need your help. We are currently working on several projects to present our history to the public, a walking tour with 11 points of interest that will highlight various locations around the main campus, updating the log museum, and the new state of the art museum in the Heritage Center. If you would be interested in helping with any of these projects please contact Deborah Swafford, Dwight Mission Historian at 918-775-2018 or [office@dwightmission.org](mailto:office@dwightmission.org).