

# CENTRAL CONNECTION

## Upcoming Events

### January 16

1-6pm Blood Drive - FUMC

### January 22

10am - Sunday school

11am - Worship

### UPCOMING

### January 24

Pastor's Local RCOM  
Committee

### January 29

Potluck after church

### February 6-12

Pastor on vacation

**Don't forget to check out  
our website or Facebook  
page to find worship  
services, newsletters and  
more!**



As I was watching tv yesterday getting ready for church, a commercial came on showing various movies, sketches and tv shows Tyler Perry has created, written, produced or starred in. The list is impressive. And whether you love him or hate him or wonder who on earth he is, he is by and far one of the actors who has used his "voice" the best in recent years.

He has tackled tough topics with grace and a depth of insight that bring clarity and can change perspectives while also being respectful and aware of the dynamics in the room - so to speak. And he does so through characters on a screen.

He has said he believes part of his responsibility as someone famous (with a platform and following) is to use that role to in ways that bring goodness and hope to the world. He has found his "voice" and in a sense preaches through his vocation of acting.

He's not perfect, but he uses the opportunities he has to do what he can speak truth. How can you use your opportunities this week to speak truth, to bring hope and goodness to the world? How can you use your "voice" through your gifts and abilities? How can you "preach" without being in the pulpit, but through your everyday life so that the world knows a better way to live? You don't have to be perfect at it, you just have to be faithful in trying every chance you get.

Pastor Lory

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Nation and World, Tammy Brockman, Nancy Atkison, Madison Wardell, Charlotte Reagan, Brylie, Bob Miller, CASA Kids, Laura Hunt, Tony Barker, Rios Family, Vivian Contareas, Sharon Brown, Raymond Gelo, Dieter Stratemann, Cameron Koch, Wes Morton, Crystal Shelton, Shirley Miller, Jerry Don Maness, Vicki Jones, Ken Backus, Debbie Major, Reese Handley, Debra Tramontana, Ronnye Benton, Gina Benton, Christy Hoff, Madison Brown and baby Dennison, Casey Parr, Chris Tettleton, Angel Dyer, Chad Brown, Mary Walker, Patty Johnson, Charlotte Reed, those with respiratory illness, Lynn Scott, Kal Luke, Joe, Kalal, Chris Elrod, Melinda Ray, Jimmie Sue Foster, Raenell Nunneley, Stacey Dyer, Larry Veale, Linda Benton

Families of: Charles Gilmore, Glen Perry

## Worship This Week:

Elders: Walker

Deacons: Fitts, Prine

Communion: Kabisch

Sermon Text: Matthew 4:12-23

Sun School: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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**Blood Drive  
TODAY  
1-6pm at FUMC.  
Walk ins are welcome!**

**BLOOD DONORS STAY ON THE "NICE" LIST...**


All donors receive their choice of a limited-edition, long-sleeve T-shirt\*

**Nocona Community Blood Drive**

Monday, January 16  
1 - 6 p.m.

First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

To schedule an appointment, contact Trena Henley at 940-232-8792.




As a new school semester is about to start in January, we will once again collect **feminine hygiene items** to help restock the nurse's office at NISD. Please bring items throughout January.

**Bring your  
Bibles as we dig  
into the first  
lectionary text  
reading for each  
Sunday worship  
service!**

**Grow in God's Word!  
Sunday School 10am  
Beginning January 15**



Thank you, Church, for allowing me the opportunity to go to Tulsa and continue my studies at Phillips. I have one course left before the project phase begins. The week away is always exhausting and refreshing at the same time and I am grateful for your support! - Pastor Lory