

REFLECTIONS

He made it through the seventh grade before he had to drop out of school to help support his family in rural Arkansas. Born in 1901, J. Ray Smith plowed his fields and learned to build barns. He married his wife of 60 years, Ola, in 1922. He began working as a laborer for a lumber yard, learning the intricacies of home building. He once told me that the hardest thing he ever did was sell his team of mules and move to Tulsa. He formed the Commercial Lumber Company at 12th and South Lewis and began supplying lumber in the prewar years of Tulsa's expansion. They joined our church in 1941 where he served as a deacon. Following the war, J. Ray and Ola organized a young adult Sunday School class that drew the young men from Spartan School of Aeronautics and the young ladies from all around. At that time he invested in the little community of Owasso, seeing the growth potential for low-cost housing to support the working families near the airport and American Airlines. He became a director of the First Bank of Owasso, and eventually opened the Owasso Lumber Company to meet the housing demands of the 1970's.

In 1972 the Smiths offered 60 acres of his Owasso land for the site of a new Baptist Children's Home. A few years later they donated 60 more acres for the addition of the Baptist Retirement Village. Ground was broken for the White City Cottage in 1973 and our church hosted the dedication and reception on June 2, 1974. Ola Smith organized and taught our Lighted Candles class for special needs children. J. Ray was a founder of the Tulsa Baptist Laymens Corporation, which secured Tulakogee Conference Center and the Baptist Student Union building at the University of Tulsa. He served as a director of the Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma and as a Trustee of Oklahoma Baptist University. He told me that he never imagined that he would be part of leading a university

At the time of their excitement with the unfolding of the children's home, J. Ray suffered a stroke. He bounced back quickly but took up walking with a cane. He was always sharp and used the knowledge that he appeared to be disabled to his advantage, surprising many with how savvy he really was. He succumbed to a massive stroke in 1983. Ola passed away in 1996. Although J. Ray and Ola Smith never had children of their own, their legacy has grown and flourished through these last fifty years. This September 7, a "Super Cottage" will be dedicated. It is built like a duplex; one side will be for boys and the other for girls.

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Serve faithfully. And let's experience the love and power of God together.

Bro. Darryl

PERIODICALS
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Tulsa, OK
USPS #180-140

The Evangel

Braden Park Baptist Church
4739 East Fifth Street (5th & Yale)
Tulsa, OK 74112-2716

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning	
Continental Breakfast	9:20 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Bible Study & Conversation	11:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening	
The People's Pantry	5:00 p.m.
The Clothes Closet Ministry	
Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.

Dr. Darryl DeBorde, Minister
Bill Ess, Music Minister

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The Evangel

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Braden Park Baptist Church
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*All
the
Believers
were one
in Heart
and Mind.*

Acts 4:32

Our Church Family

AT HOME

Kevin Avery
Alice Barrett
Elizabeth Burke
Marion Corbett
Lydia Ford

Paula McPherson
Georgia Metcalf
Bonnie Nutting
Margaret VanHorn
Leslie White

IN REHABILITATION CENTER

Bill Barrett Aspen Rehabilitation Center, (New) Room 253

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

SEPTEMBER

7 Molly Avery
10 Pam Yates
11 Terri Plummer Collins
15 Sherri Breedlove
21 Josef Lindholm



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

September 17 Bob and Casey Gilmore 53 Years

Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
10:00 a.m. **House By House By House**
—Acts 2:42-47

When did Jesus first talk about *the Church*? The founding story of *the Church* continues in the Upper Room on the Day of Pentecost. As that day concluded, the church of the New Testament was formed. But what is the church today? Invite your family and friends to church, and be blessed.

11:15 a.m. Conversations with the Pastor
Ladies Bible Study
11:55 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:45 a.m. Monday Morning Prayers
Call (712) 832-8330, then access code: 887-7647

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:00 p.m. Prayer for the Nations
Kevin Avery's Facebook Zoom link

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

5:00 p.m. People's Pantry Ministry
Clothes Closet Ministry
6:30 p.m. **Bible Study and Prayer**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

10:00 a.m. **The Promise of the Church**

Behind the Scenes

OWASSO BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME DEDICATION OF NEW SUPER COTTAGE SEPTEMBER 7 at 6:00 P.M.

You are invited to the *Baptist Children's Home in Owasso*, 12700 E. 76th Street North, for a **50th Birthday Celebration Party and Dedication of the New Super Cottage, September 7, 4-7 pm.** This is a time of food, family activities and open house. Our church, through the efforts of *Mr. and Mrs. J. Ray Smith*, helped found the Owasso campus and build the first cottage.

THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING GROCERIES FOR THE PEOPLE'S PANTRY

Thank you for the wonderful response to help restock the shelves with easy-open canned goods like chicken and tuna, vegetables, fruit, peanut butter and jelly. A special shout-out goes to the Girl Scouts who meet at the church, and to our youth for their volunteer assistance this summer.

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 2,050.00
General Receipts August 27	\$ 2,073.50
Special Offerings August 27	\$ 0.00

Thank You to all who are providing sustaining tithes and offerings.