



# The United Methodist News

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 4

APRIL, 2008

Serving God Our Second 100 Years

Sunday School  
9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship  
10:30 A.M.



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## PASTOR TO PEOPLE

The time to celebrate has arrived! Christ is risen and with the Church universal, we all shout, "Hallelujah!" Although we tend to think of Easter as being a one day event, in reality the great 50 days of Easter continue through Pentecost. Through this season of the Church year, Scripture and music focus on the Christ's continued ministry through the Church, which is empowered by the Holy Spirit.

As a local congregation, we also have reason to celebrate. On Sunday, April 13th we will celebrate our 115th Anniversary as a congregation and our 100th of being located at our present location. Many persons have been an important part of the life of this congregation. Through their efforts and ministries, Methodism has had a proud heritage in Poteau; we also have a strong future. To help us celebrate, Bishop Robert Hayes and his wife, Dee, will be with us in worship. Bishop Hayes is a dynamic preacher and I know that we will hear an important word for us that day. Immediately after worship, we will share dinner together in the Family Life Center. Meat, bread, and drinks will be provided. We are asking each family to provide side dishes, salads, and/or desserts, enough to share with others.

Finally, with the Annual Conference session approaching, each United Methodist in Oklahoma is being asked to participate in 40 days of prayer. During this year's session, a new strategic plan of ministry for the conference will be outlined and placed before the conference for approval. Devotion materials can be found in print form at the church or on line at [www.okumc.org](http://www.okumc.org)

So as we continue the celebration of Easter and the ministry of the Church, universal and local, I offer this prayer by James F. White:

"Lord of Life, submitting to death, you conquered the grave. By being lifted on a cross you draw all people to you. By being raised from the dead you restored to humanity all that we had lost through sin. Throughout these fifty days of Easter we proclaim the marvelous mystery of death and resurrection, For all praise is yours, now and throughout eternity. Amen."

Grace & peace,

REV. GREGORY J. TENER



## Financial Peace University Class

The Financial Peace University program is a biblically-based accountability curriculum that teaches you to manage God's money and resources in a godly way. It empowers you to make the right financial decisions to achieve your financial goals, teaching you to eliminate debt, build wealth, and give like never before. On average, families reduce their debt by \$5,300 and save \$2,700 in just 91 days.

Financial Peace University consists of a 13-week video curriculum taught by financial expert Dave Ramsey, via DVD, that incorporates small-group discussions to encourage accountability and discipleship. Most financial programs are boring, with confusing information and monotonous instructors. Financial Peace is very different! It is highly entertaining for everyone, with a unique combination of humor, informative financial advice, and biblical messages.

There will be an orientation class on May 4th at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary and the class will begin on May 18th. The books will be ordered following the May 4th class. The class will be led by Jeff and Susan Mixon and Alan Ware. Please call the Mixons at 647-7301 for information or to register.



## Our Sympathy Extended

We extend our sympathy to Nina Ritchie and family on the recent death of her daughter, Tammy Harman. You are in our prayers.

### Poteau F.U.M.C. Report For February, 2008

2008 Average Attendance Figures for February: 137  
 2008 Budget Requirements: \$336,245.22  
 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$6,466.26  
 Needed thru February: \$51,730.08  
 February Receipts: \$25,832.36  
 February Expenditures: \$34,065.28

### THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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 Carol Baker, Communications Coordinator/Editor

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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website address: www.poteaufumc.com

Sunday School 9:30 — Morning Worship 10:30

Bishop	Robert E. Hayes
District Superintendent	Sanford (Sandy) Wylie
Pastor	Gregory J. Tener
Youth & Children's Director	Kim Hardaway
Music Director	Steve Clark
Church Secretary	Brenda Ferguson
Lead Nursery Attendant	Jayla Craig
Organist	Wendy Kelly
Custodian and Door Opener	Ted Kilgore

District web page address: www.gbgn-umc.org/mc-dist/

## APRIL



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

### WORSHIP BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Sunday Worship Bulletin, 10 a.m. each Thursday

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

In order to provide an informative newsletter, information must be turned in by the **third Friday of every month** so the newsletter can be prepared and delivered by the first of the month. Thank you.

#### • SUNDAY •

Methodist Youth Fellowship, 5:00 p.m.  
 Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit, 5 p.m.

#### • MONDAY – FRIDAY •

Christian Preschool, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

#### • MONDAY •

Boy Scouts, 7:00 p.m., CFLC

#### • TUESDAY •

Cub Scouts, 6:30 p.m., CFLC

#### • WEDNESDAY •

LOGOS Program, 3:15

Handbell Practice, 5:15 p.m., Balcony

Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

- 2 Logos Children's Program, 6:30 p.m.
- 6 Study begins, "Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit", 5 p.m., Discovery Classroom
- 9 Logos Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 5:30, Western Sizzlin
- 12 Pancake Breakfast, 6:30 to 10:30 a.m., CFLC
- 13 Anniversary Celebration, Bishop Speaking, 10:30 Potluck dinner to follow worship
- 19 Cookson Hills Celebration, 11-2
- 20 Blue Basket Day for Cole Bridges and Nathaniel Hallmark following morning worship

## MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- April 6 Charles and Marilyn Meek
- April 13 Judy Curtis and Patty Wright
- April 20 Wayne and Joanne Neuharth
- April 27 Marvin and Janet DeSpain



## MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

- April 6 Josie Garrett
- April 13 Kanaan Hardaway
- April 20 Dawson Perry
- April 27 Charlee Gilliam



Thank you boys and girls for your important part in our worship service.



## Correspondence



To the Poteau Methodist Church Family,

Thank you so very much for the food, cards, flowers, memorial donations, and your prayers. We miss Tam so very much every day, but we know that she is with the Lord and no longer in pain or suffering.

Please continue your prayers that God will sustain us during this difficult time.

Sincerely, The Tammy Harman Family

### **From the General Board of Global Ministries:**

Ryan Clayburn will be completing his time of service as a Mission Intern this summer. Toward the completion of their term, the General Board of Global Ministries gathers the Mission Intern class together for End-Term event, which is a time of debriefing and discernment of their next steps.

This year we are asking Ryan's family and friends to participate in this event by gathering letters from those that have supported him throughout his time as a mission intern. These letters can come from family, friends, neighbors, churches or former employers. The letter can be advice for the future, encouragement, appreciation for them, etc.

The Youth and Young Adult office will present these letters to the Mission Interns during their End Term event. I would need all letters by Friday, May 2, 2008. Letters can be emailed to me at [acapone@gbgm-umc.org](mailto:acapone@gbgm-umc.org) or mailed to my attention at: General Board of Global Ministries; Attn: Alycia Capone, MIRAYAP; 475 Riverside Drive, Rm. 320; New York, NY 100115

## It's the Big Six O

### For Cookson Hills Center UM Mission

#### ***They extend this invitation:***

Please join us at the 60th Anniversary Celebration and Luncheon 11-2, Saturday, April 19.

We will be featuring The Cookson Mission Children's Choir; Joseph Harris, Asst. to Bishop Hayes; David Wilson, OIMC Superintendent; Chad Smith, Chief of the Cherokee Nation; Adam Neal, General Board of Global Ministry; Groundbreaking Ceremony, and Campus Tours.

RSVP to Donna at 918-457-5181  
or [cooksonmission@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cooksonmission@sbcglobal.net)

## Pancake Breakfast



The United Methodist Men's Pancake Breakfast will be April 12 from 6:30 to 10:30 in the CFLC. The proceeds will benefit the Christian Free Clinic.

## United Methodist Women

UMW met on Wednesday, March 19, in the Family Life Center, attended by five members who braved the inclement weather. A good fellowship was had by all. A brief program given by President Jane Kilgore was "Shopping for the Glory of God" from an article by Rev. Marti Zimmerman. We would like to share the high points of this program.

Some questions we should ask ourselves when shopping are:

1. Where did the item come from? We live in a global economy. We love bargains but must be aware that bargain shopping is related to globalization. Many around the world spend long days in the hot sun tilling fields or in freezing barns tending livestock; working extended hours in factories or mines earning barely enough when times are good to provide food and shelter for their families.

2. Do I need this or want it? A choice to buy something means not funding something else. The something else may be a mission project or ministry of my church.

3. Does this item fit my budget?

4. What happens to your purchases when you are through with them? Think about buying items with longevity and multiple uses, as well as whether items can be reused or recycled

5. A final key question when shopping for the glory of God: What does your purchase say about your relationship with God? We who have much are invited by Jesus to respond to God's good gifts by sharing much.

Shopping for the lonely and left out of our society is a gift to God. We are called to live out of our abundance and share it with others. When we shop, we should love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves.

United Methodist Church  
**PRESCHOOL**



By  
**Tracey Gilliam,  
Preschool  
Director**

The April memory verse is "Sing praises to the Lord." We will be learning the letters V, W, X, and Y. The colors are black and gray. We will be reviewing the numbers 1 - 10. The shapes of the month are an oval and a diamond.

*We must give God permission to do the work God wants to do with us because transformation will not be forced upon us. God will stand at those closed doors of our lives, and the love of God's grace will knock and knock and knock with the knock of confrontation upon those doors, but God will not force open the doors. (M. Robert Mulholland Jr.)*

## Youth and Children's News

**Kim Hardaway, Youth and Children's Director**

Thank you to all who donated candy and eggs for our annual church egg hunt. You were more than generous and the children had a grand time hunting and harvesting eggs!

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Twenty-nine out of the 58 attending the cruise were children and youth. Cruises are very restful and relaxing with lots of family time together. It was an experience none will forget! Our church is exploring the option of doing another family cruise for the year 2010. Please contact Tami this month, if you are interested. The price would be similar to this last cruise if you book this far in advance. The ship will port out of Galveston and be larger than the one we were on this time.

### UMYF

The schedule is as follows:

Mar. 30: Regular UMYF - Meal provided by Martha and Joe Renfro

Apr. 4 & 5: Heifer Ranch visit. (No UMYF on April 6th) (You must have already signed up to attend this event)

Apr. 13: Regular UMYF - Meal provided by Tami and Randy Matos

Apr. 20: Regular UMYF - Meal provided by Becky Bell and Susan England

Apr. 27: LASERQUEST in Tulsa from 1 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$20 (please sign up for this event by April 20)

### LOGOS

LOGOS themes and leading in worship dates:

Mar. 30: 4th and 5th grades will lead in worship

Apr. 2: Closing celebration/Luau

Children's program "The Music Machine" at 6:30 p.m.

Middle School handbells are opening prelude. All ages will lead in this worship.

Apr. 9: LOGOS Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Western Sizzlin, 5:30 p.m.

LOGOS comes to a close on the joyful note of our Spring Program. Everyone is invited to come at 6:30 p.m. on April 2nd and be a part of the fun! It will be an evening of song and blessings to those of you who come.

"Thank you" never seems to be enough to all of you who give so generously of your time, gifts and resources to our children and youth at LOGOS. May you be richly blessed in all you do and have the assurance that you have made a difference in countless lives.

### Mother's Day Out information

Fridays from 10 to 1 in the nursery rooms of the education building for ages 1 to 3. Cost is \$10 for the entire time. Bring a snack sack of food with child's name on it and a diaper bag with diapers and wipes.

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As spring is here and yard work begins, let us remind you that the UMM and youth are teaming up to provide help for local needs. Please contact the church office with handyman needs. We will then arrange a time and a group to help take care of it.



## Blue Basket Day

It is a blessing to welcome new babies into our church family. That blessing will be doubled on April 20 when we will hold a Double Blue Basket Sunday April 20 after worship for the precious baby boys of Chad and Julie Bridges and Todd and Randee Hallmark. There will be refreshments in the Fellowship Hall and baskets to place cards and gifts welcoming our newest arrivals.

### • PASTOR'S STUDY •

#### "LEADERSHIP IN THE WESLEYAN SPIRIT"

This four week study will begin on Sunday, April 6 at 5 p.m. We will meet in the Discovery classroom in the Family Life Center. A study book by Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr. is available for \$15, but not required.

The study focuses on four core questions:

- How do we relate to our community?
- How do we relate to one another?
- How do we help people relate to God?
- How do we serve God's mission?

Register through contacting the church office or completing an insert found in the worship bulletin.

### DINNER FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Dinner groups are being established that will be made up of six participants. This can be couples or individuals. Each group is encouraged to share one meal together per month. The group can decide to eat out or in homes. The groups will be redrawn quarterly. You can sign up through the church office or by completing an insert in the worship bulletin.

## April Birthdays

- 4 Dorthea Sue O'Neal
- 7 Dana Wheat
- 10 Jaxon Bradshaw
- 11 Drew DeCamp
- 12 Rachel Ware
- 13 Chad Bridges
- 14 Jean Whigham and Cindy Woolbright
- 15 Brian Shore and Kylanna Hardaway
- 18 Ron Cofer, Wayne Neuharth, and Lily Shore
- 19 Melissa Reyes, Katie Cox, and Joshua Mixon
- 20 Brandon Fruen and Jaimie Downing
- 23 Marilyn Meek
- 26 Mark Barkley and Ashlee Plumlee
- 27 Katie Redhage
- 29 Kody Whitehead and Dorothy James



## April Anniversaries

- 9 Gary and Linda Brown
- 16 Ellis and Jean Whigham
- 18 Keith and Patty Wright
- 27 Andy and Aimee Baker
- 28 Preston and Laney Plumlee
- 29 John and Nikki Perry

