



The United Methodist News

VOLUME 17 NO. 2

FEBRUARY, 2009

Serving God 115 Years

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

ash
 T
 wednesday
 February 25
 6:00 p.m.



LENT
 FEBRUARY 25 - APRIL 11

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PASTOR TO PEOPLE

The New Year has gotten off to a very exciting start. Our LOGOS and Sunday School attendance is growing. Worship attendance has continued to be strong. There are many volunteers that make the ministries possible and I appreciate your willingness to share your gifts and talents.

One way that these and other ministries continue to be evaluated and made more effective is through the discussion and dialogue of our working committees. Although there are sometimes lapses in time between meetings, the work continues on. I am hopeful that together we can be more consistent in meeting together. Last year we had several meetings immediately after Sunday morning worship and many people thought that was helpful to do. On Sunday, February 15th, the Evangelism committee is planning to meet after worship. The following Sunday, February 22nd, the PPRC, Finance and Trustee Committee will all do the same. If other committees would like to meet at either of these times, please contact the church office so that we have enough food for lunch.

Ash Wednesday is February 25th. This is the first day of Lent, a season of reflection and preparation for the celebration of Easter and the Resurrection of Christ. We will have an Ash Wednesday worship service at 6 p.m. that evening. Traditionally, ashes are placed on worshipers' foreheads as a sign of repentance and reconciliation. The church is confronted with the need for forgiveness and the unconditional, redeeming love of Jesus Christ.

As we each prepare for the Lenten season, I offer this prayer from the *United Methodist Book of Worship*:

"O merciful father, in compassion for your sinful children you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the Savior of the world. Grant us grace to feel and to lament our share of the evil that made it necessary for him to suffer and to die for our salvation. Help us by self-denial, prayer, and meditation to prepare our hearts for deeper penitence and a better life. And give us a true longing to be free from sin, through the deliverance won by Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen."



REV. GREGORY J. TENER

Welcome New Members!

Our newest members are Stan and Peggy Werline who joined the church on December 21 by profession of faith. We are very happy to have them as part of our church family.

Volunteers In Mission

We have another opportunity to partner with Chapel Hill United Methodist Church for a mission trip to Lake Charles, Louisiana from March 1 through March 7. The team will work on repairing hurricane damaged homes in that area.

The cost is only \$250.00 per person. This covers lodging (a local church) and meals during the week. Each person will need to pay for meals while traveling.

The tools needed are general carpentry and home wiring but really is determined by the skill level of the missionary. Work assignments are also based upon skill level. There is much work to be done after the series of storms through that area the past few years.

If you are interested in going, contact Peggy Talley at 647-4116 or the church office.

Thank You to Evelyn White who donated a push cart for the kitchen.

Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for December, 2008

2008 Average Attendance Figures for December: 144
 2008 Budget Requirements: \$336,245.22
 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$6,466.26
 Needed through December: \$336,245.52
 December Receipts: \$54,806.36
 December Expenditures: \$27,474.46

THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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Carol Baker, Communications Coordinator/Editor
 FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 109 S. Harper, Poteau, OK 74953
 Telephone 918-647-2217
 e-mail: rogers2006@alltel.net
 website: 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	Kimberly 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: 222.gbqm-umc.org/mc-dist/



• CHURCH CALENDAR •

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEADLINE:
 10 a.m. each Thursday

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
 Third Friday of each month

• SUNDAY •

Church Chat, 9:30 a.m., CFLC
 United Methodist Youth Fellowship
 Living the Questions Study, 5 p.m.
 (C.H.A.O.S.), 5:00 p.m.

• MONDAY – THURSDAY •

Christian Preschool, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.,
 Education Building

• MONDAY •

Handbell Practice, 5:15 p.m.
 Boy Scouts, 7:00 p.m., CFLC

• TUESDAY •

Cub Scouts, 6:00 p.m., CFLC

• WEDNESDAY •

LOGOS, 3:30 p.m.
 Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.,
 Sanctuary

• FRIDAY •

Mother's Day Out, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- 14 United Methodist Men, 8 a.m.
- 11 Church Chat, 9:30 a.m.
- 15 Evangelism Committee meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 22 PPRC, Finance, Trustee meetings, 11:30 a.m.
- 25 Ash Wednesday Service, 6 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 1 Gene and Dana Wheat
- 8 Vernon and Phyllis Roberts
- 15 Charles and Marilyn Meek
- 22 Frank and Grace Dehart



LITURGISTS

- 8 Megan Harreld
- 15 Jenny Harreld
- 22 Josh Graham



MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

- 1 Zack Harreld
- 8 Emily Harreld
- 15 Dawson Perry
- 22 Connor Matos



Sympathy Extended

The congregation extends their love and sympathy to the family of Elva Oehlschlager and the family of Daniel McCarver.



News of Children and Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway
UMYF (C.H.A.O.S.)

February

- 1 "Souper" Bowl Party 5:00 until ? (Cindy Darneal meal)
- 6, 7 Believe Conference in Tulsa for middle school
- 7, 8 Laserquest and OSU Wesley Foundation Student Day
- 8 No Youth Meeting in evening
- 13 Registration due for mid-winter SMAC camp retreat at Camp Egan
- 15 C.H.A.O.S. from 5 to 7 p.m.
- 20-22 Mid-winter SMAC camp retreat at Camp Egan
- 22 C.H.A.O.S. from 5 to 7 p.m.

Please see Kim if you would like to help with the youth meal ministry.

LOGOS

LOGOS is from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. for K thru 8th grade. Preschool meets from 3:30 until 5:00. Dinner is optional for preschool if a parent or family member stays and eats with them. There is an option for snack at 3:15 p.m.

LOGOS themes this month:

- 4 Air LOGOS
- 8 K - 5th lead in worship (Be there by 9:40)
- 11 Valentine's Party (wear red)
- 18 Tie Dye Night (wear neon colors or a tie-dyed shirt)
- 25 Ash Wednesday lessons followed by 6 p.m. service in the sanctuary

March

- 1 Middle School leads in worship (Be at church by 9:40)
- 4 Crazy Sock Night (show off your craziest socks)

If you are feeling a call to be involved with this mid-week ministry, there is always a need for volunteers. Cooking, kitchen clean-up, station helpers, table parents, washing linens, and special skills that kids could learn from you, are a few of the ways to be involved. Please see Kim for how you can use your call!

Mother's Day Out

Mother's Day Out is for 1 to 3 year olds on Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the nursery rooms of the education building. Cost is \$10 per visit or \$35 per month. Participants will need to provide a snack sack, diapers and wipes.

MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

A clearinghouse in Ft. Smith coordinates with local schools in making "sacks" of food to be sent home each week with children who need food. We have an opportunity to help supply the food that goes into the sacks. Each month two different items are collected so a steady supply of the necessary foods is maintained. **February's food items are: individual applesauce.**



Collection boxes are placed in the Chapel room, and inside the gym door of the CFLC. To date we have collected over 1200 food items that have been given to our local children!

Correspondence



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your phone calls, cards, food, visits, gifts, and most of all, your prayers. A special thanks to Rev. Tener for his visits and communion. The carolers were also much appreciated. The prayer shawl has also been a comfort to me.

I am slowly improving and hope to be back in church soon.

With love,
Susan England

Dear Ones,

I was so touched and uplifted by the beautiful faces and voices of the carolers who came to my home on 12-21. What a gift! Thanks to you all for sharing the love and promise of the season.

Peggy Talley

Dear FUMC:

Thank you for the Wal-Mart gift card. It is nice to know you all are thinking of me, and your gift was very practical for a college student.

Love,
Sarah Mixon

Thank you for the gift card.

Love,
Josh Mixon

Dear Friends,

I would like to express my gratitude to the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. You have also shown me your kindness during the recent illness and death of my father. It was an honor to me for the choir to place a hymnal in his memory. I thank you so much for all of your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,
Wendy Kelly

Dear Poteau UMC Family:

The church staff and families want to thank you for the very generous Christmas gift. The love offering was very much appreciated and has reminded us once again how fortunate we are to be a part of this congregation. Thank you for your generosity and kindness.

The staff of Poteau UMC

Second Annual Art Show

The Second Annual Religious Art Show has been set for March 27, 28 and 29. Artists high school age and older are eligible so start preparing your artwork entries and join the fun in March. All forms of artwork with a religious or inspirational theme can be entered. Entry forms are available in the church office.

If you are not an artist, mark your calendar to come and enjoy the art exhibit.

During the show, there will be drawings for donated art work to be given away and some art pieces will be for sale.

Charles Meek is in charge of the art show and the judge will be Daune Britton, winner of last year's "Best in Show" award.

The attendance and participation was good last year and is expected to be even better this time.

United Methodist Church PRESCHOOL 	By Tracey Gilliam, Preschool Director
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During February the Preschool will be working with the number 10, the colors pink and purple, and the shape heart. We will also be learning the letters N, O, P, and Q. We will also practice saying our phone numbers.

The weekly themes are:

1. The Bible helps me learn good and right ways to live.
2. Community Helper: The Postman
3. Our five senses: Sight, Hearing, Touch, Smelling and Taste.
4. Dinosaurs

Birth Announcements



Congratulations to Wayne and Joanne Neuharth who are the grandparents of Logan Jacob Cravens, son of Jennifer and Chad Cravens. Logan was born January 11, 2009 at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. He weighed 6 lbs. 9 ozs. and was 19-3/4 inches long.

Dorothy Gail James has announced the birth of a great granddaughter. Vyolt May was born January 19, 2009. She weighed 8 lbs. and was 19 inches long.

February Birthdays

- 1 Judy Hall
- 2 Nathaniel Hallmark
- 3 Rhonda Britton
- 4 Clyta Britton, Josh Barkley, Cole Bridges, and Kelie Bandy
- 5 Ann Vaughan and Dawson Perry
- 6 Marcella Widmar
- 8 Greg Tener
- 9 Tabitha Zabala
- 10 Denise Sullivan and Julie Bridges
- 11 Peter Norgeot
- 15 Clyda Ware
- 16 Jack Sizemore
- 18 Linda Johnston
- 19 Janell Glover
- 20 Marsha Cofer
- 21 Jean Potts
- 22 Joan McCarty, Gayle Smedley, and Caleb Bridges
- 24 Sandra Slater, Dana Lee, and Charles Meek
- 26 Megan Hebert
- 27 Trudy Mathies



February Anniversaries

- 2 Bob and Margaret Nichols
Bob and Vera Bullock
- 12 Versile and Shanna Johnson
- 14 Loney and Myra Gregory
- 28 Scott and Denise Sullivan



Prayer Shawl Ministry

A Blessing of the Prayer Shawls will be February 15. These prayer shawls are for anyone the congregation deems would be affected by the need of prayer for sickness, mourning or in any troubled circumstances. Donations for yarn are also needed for these shawls to be made. You may contact the church office or Cindy Brody at 918-385-1542 if you want to request a prayer shawl for someone. Thank you.

United Methodist Women

By Jane Kilgore, President

UMW mourns the loss of our stalwart member, Elva Oehlschlager. Elva was a faithful UMW attendee, bus driver to District Meetings, and a driving force behind the success of UMW's Fall Festival.

Poteau UMW will host the McAlester District Meeting on April 18, 2009. The District Leadership Committee met here on Saturday, January 17, to make plans for this meeting. Sounds like it will be a good one!