

# The United Methodist News

VOLUME 21 NO. 8

AUGUST, 2013

SERVING GOD 120 YEARS

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

**Back To School Party**  
**Sunday, Aug. 11**  
**5 to 7:30 p.m.**  
**Our church will be helping kids in our community get ready for school.**

**In addition to food and games we will be offering free haircuts, free teeth and vision screenings, and goody bags with toiletries to those who need it.**

**Everyone come! (Toiletry item donations needed. See story on Page 4.)**

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## **PASTOR TO PEOPLE**

### **The Problem with Lists**

I'm not a big "list" kind of guy. I don't do lists because when I have tried to do lists I have failed. Maybe you know what I'm talking about:

Daily To-Do lists – (There is always an unexpected fire that flares up turning the rest of the daily list into so many ashes)

New Year's Resolutions – (Am I the only one who keeps making the same resolution year after year?)

Christmas Gift lists – (Sure, everyone gets what they want, but where is the creativity in that? Besides, who doesn't love returning gifts the first shopping day after Christmas? On second thought, maybe this is a good list!)

Who can forget maybe the biggest list of all, the Ten Commandments? This is a church newsletter article after all. Most of us do pretty good with the first two or three – at least that's what we keep telling ourselves. And I don't believe too many of us have committed murder, except for in our minds or maybe the occasional assassination of character from time to time (does that even count? hmmm). But, I'm pretty sure we all get bogged down in that whole lying thing from time to time. And coveting? Well, even preachers dream about bigger cars/trucks, nicer houses, larger congregations, and fatter wallets – we just don't often tell people that we do. So I trust my little secret is safe between us, okay?

While I admit my aversion to lists, for a whole variety of reasons, I recently came across a list that I thought was intriguing and certainly worth consideration and maybe even a good deal of discussion. It has to do with how we, as individuals and as a congregation or community of faith might answer the question, "How do you communicate your church's values?"

Craig Groeschel, Senior Pastor of Life Church, offers a list of ways in which his congregation (or any congregation for that matter) might consider as a way of living out our values as people of faith.

- We are faith-filled, big thinking, bet-the-farm risk takers. We'll never insult God with small thinking and safe living.
- We are all about the "capital C" Church! The local church is the hope of the world and we know we can accomplish infinitely more together than apart. This goes beyond denominational boundaries.
- We are spiritual contributors not spiritual consumers. The church does not exist for us. We are the church and we exist for the world.
- We give up things we love for things we love even more. It's an honor to sacrifice for Christ and His church.
- We will do anything short of sin to reach people who don't know Christ. To reach people one is reaching, we'll have to do things no one is doing.

*(Continued on page 3)*

**REV. KYLE CLARK**



# Message from Tracy

By Tracy Hoskins

Director of Children and Family Ministries

Wow! We've been here six weeks! Everyone has been so welcoming and loving that I already feel at home. I'm figuring it out, slowly but surely. I have developed some goals for me in cooperation with the church to develop quality, faith-based activities and programs for both areas; families and children.

Children's Ministry - The next big push for me is going to be getting LOGOS ready to go. I'm excited to jump right in and get going with it, but I'm going to need a lot of help. I've found out that LOGOS is a very important and wonderful program that nurtures children and youth and teaches Christian lessons and values. I know there are a lot of you that have volunteered helping with LOGOS throughout the years and I will be asking for your help

again this year. I will certainly need all of the experienced help to teach me the best way to manage LOGOS. I welcome any and all comments about LOGOS. The more I get to talk to and work with everyone involved in this program the more I learn and together we can continue to improve.

Family Ministries - The pool party and ice cream social was a great time. The kids really seemed to have fun, although they weren't the only ones that enjoyed the evening. I think the adults really enjoyed the fellowship time. Thank you, Tami Matos, for organizing it!

Ideas, ideas, ideas! Tell me your ideas of what you would like to do for a family activity. What do you need? How can we help encourage and nurture your family? Come talk to me anytime.

## AUGUST CHURCH CALENDAR

Worship Bulletin Deadline: 10 a.m. Thursday

Newsletter Deadline: Third Friday of month

• SUNDAY •

UMYF (CHAOS), 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

• WEDNESDAY •

Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

• THURSDAY •

Senior Café, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., CFLC

11 Back to School Bash, 5 to 7:30 p.m.

17 Free Neighborhood Breakfast, 8 to 10 a.m., CFLC

21 Membership Care Committee Meeting, 1 p.m., Conference Room

### Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for June 2013

Average Attendance Figures for May: 151

2013 Budget Requirements: \$400,000.00

Needed for Budget Each Week: \$7,692.31

Needed through June: \$200,000.06

June Receipts: \$30,269.52

June Expenditures: \$30,203.75

### New Building Fund Figures:

Deposits: \$1,524,766.77

Expenditures: \$2,575,994.94

### THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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Carol Baker, Editor

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Weekly Communion 9:10 a.m. except first Sunday

Bishop	Robert E. Hayes
District Superintendent	Darrell Cates
Senior Pastor	Rev. Kyle Clark
Director of Youth Ministries	Kimberly Hardaway
Director of Children and Family Ministries	Tracy Hoskins
Director of Music Ministries	Steve Clark
Church Secretary	Brenda Ferguson
Lead Nursery Attendant	Jayla Craig
Organist	Wendy Kelly
Custodian and Door Opener	Jason Dering

District web page: www.gb-gm-umc.org/mc-dist/

### MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

4 Paul Stottsberry and David McNair

11 Marvin and Janet DeSpain

18 Lloyd and Dana Lee

25 Liz Perry and Dorothy Gail James



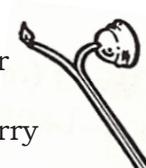
### ACOLYTES

4 Luke Wheat and Aiden Alexander

11 Katie Redhage and Jessa Craig

18 Tabitha Zabala and Baleigh Quarry

25 Maci White and Demi Gilliam



### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The church is currently seeking an administrative assistant. This is a full time position and requires: High school education, prior experience, strong communication and computer skills. Resumes will be accepted through August 6. They can be emailed to poteaufumc@windstream.net or mailed or delivered to the office.



*(Pastor to People, cont.)*

- We will lead the way with irrational generosity. We truly believe it is more blessed to give than to receive. I know, I know – no one likes it when the preacher talks about money, even though Jesus talked more about money and what we do with it than any other topic.

- We will laugh hard, loud and often. Nothing is more fun than serving God with people you love!

- We will be known for what we are for, not what we're against. There are already enough jerks in the world and sadly, too many of them call themselves Christians.

- We always bring our best. Striving for excellence in worship, in music, in study groups and Sunday School and missions and outreach, and well, you get it. Excellence honors God and inspires people.

- The only constant in our ministry is change. God is always doing a new thing. Why we do what we do never changes. How we do it must change.

- We don't recruit volunteers; we release leaders. Volunteers do good things but leaders change the world. You are a world changer. Pretty heady stuff, huh?

- We are living in the "good old days." We're thankful for God's blessings today and expect even more tomorrow.

I think Craig may be on to something. There is a lot to like about this list, also a lot that is challenging for any congregation. Regardless, however, as with any list it is only valuable and meaningful if it guides our actions. But I am curious what you think and I would love to hear your thoughts or have a conversation about this list over coffee sometime.

Shalom,

## News of Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway

UMYF (CHAOS) meets Sunday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. and is for all youth 6th through 12th grade.

The schedule is as follows:

### AUGUST

- 4 "Gilligan's Island" Bible Study  
NEED TO SIGN UP FOR ST YOOTZ BY AUGUST 4TH Cost: \$25
- 10 St. Yootz Day at Frontier City. Concert by LeCrae  
Cost: \$25. Leave at 8 a.m. Return TBA
- 11 No Meeting - Back-to-school mission evening for neighborhood
- 15 School begins
- 18 Youth council following church; 5 to 7 p.m. Pool Party at Holts; "Gilligan's Island" Bible Study
- 25 Parent volleyball night at youth; Potluck: everyone bring a favorite food. We play volleyball, have a parent meeting and sign liability papers for the year.

## Cards of Thanks

The service for our mother, grandmother, and great grandmother (Martha Kidd) was as good as it could possibly get. Our family will never, ever forget. The meal provided by the fantastic ladies was delicious. The opportunity for our family to bond one more time, in the church that brought back so many, many great memories of our mother and dad, was one we will cherish and take to heaven as well. We had asked Kyle for a 10 on the service meter and we got a 15 or 16.

We are so proud of where we came from and were raised, and if we are anything, Poteau First United Methodist was as big a factor as maybe even our parents. We wish we had the proper words. We wish we could be as eloquent as Kyle was. We wish we lived closer and could go to Poteau's First United Methodist Church.

What we got was a send-off to heaven that was so perfect words cannot describe. We will be in your debt forever. Thanks from the bottom of our hearts.

Martha Blakestad, Vic Kidd, Jim Kidd and family

Dear Poteau First United Methodist Church:

I'm sure most of you are already aware that my last full month as your church secretary will be August. I will be working part-time through September and October to assist the new administrative assistant in whatever might be needed. I want you to know that Poteau First United Methodist Church has been a wonderful place to work for the past 34 years and I shall miss all of you so very much.

But, time marches on and it is time for me to let someone else see what a unique and special place your church office is. Kyle has been awesome to work with and I feel so blessed that he has been the pastor for my last 16 months here. So, while I am sad to leave you, I feel the transition will go smoothly in the office with Kyle, Tracy and Jason here to help the new administrative assistant. And I know all of you will help with that also, because you have always been so good to me.

Thank you again and may God bless each of you as he has blessed me.

Love, Brenda

Dear Pastor Kyle, Miss Brenda and all who participated in your Vacation Bible School for the 112 food items that you collected for the Catholic Church Food Pantry. We also want to thank you for the funds of \$76.18 that you collected. Your gifts and remembrance of the people we serve are greatly appreciated. We were almost completely out of food when we received your blessing. It came at a time when we really needed the food to help the substantial increase of clients. You are truly the Hands of Christ for those who suffer.

Blessings and Thanks, Mary Saucier

## August Mission Event

On Sunday, August 11th from 5 to 7:30 our church will host a Back to School evening at our church where we will be helping others in our community get ready for school.

We will be offering free haircuts, free teeth and vision screenings, and goody bags with toiletries to those who need it.

We will have food and games for all. Please come join in the fun and in helping others.

Please remember our mission items for the month – full size toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes, soap, etc.) These items will be going in the goody bags. We hope to have a good supply to give away.

## Something New

We are working on making the sermon available to anyone who is hearing-impaired and wants or needs it in a written format in time for our Sunday morning worship. I will send a copy of my sermon manuscript by email to anyone who would like to receive it. I will send it out on Sunday mornings by 10:15 a.m. It will be sent in a Microsoft Word format. If you have an electronic device (Smartphone, Tablet or Pad) that is Wi-Fi capable, you can get connected, download the manuscript, and have it as I am preaching during worship! Pretty cool, huh?

We are offering this as an option while we continue to seek ways of better serving all of those who worship with us.

We are also seeking a tech-savvy individual or group of tech persons to help us record, electronically archive, and post our video recorded worship services as a link on our website. If you are blessed with the media know-how to do these things, your church needs you!

To sign up for the sermon manuscript or to volunteer to help out as part of our media team, please call the church office or shoot me an email at [revkc2003@yahoo.com](mailto:revkc2003@yahoo.com).

## Choir Notes

If you like to listen to music on youtube.com the choir has several songs on youtube. One of them, “God is our Refuge and Strength” recorded in the old sanctuary shortly before construction was started has had over 4,000 “hits”. To see any of the songs search: God is Our Refuge and Strength, Poteau. My Eternal King, Poteau. Peace in the Valley, Antioch Station Band. Saved, Antioch Station Band.

The newest recording of Dennis Loewen’s “Keep the Fire Burning” which featured Kenny McKenna, Marlin Butcher and Steve Clark this past June 30 should be on youtube by Aug. 1. Search: Den-



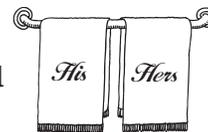
## August Birthdays

- 1 Allison Stone
- 2 Vernon Roberts, Jack Hammond and Bryce Holt
- 4 Josie Garrett
- 5 Tanya Brown and Terry Hall
- 8 Gary Brown, Sr.
- 10 Keith Wright
- 12 Patty Wright and William Slater
- 14 Lloyd Lee
- 15 Genny Dorsey and Clint Lawrence
- 16 Shirley James
- 17 Frances Thompson, Christie Williams and Emery Kay McDaniel
- 18 Nancy Shore, Derby Whitefield and Waylon Murray
- 19 Jake Thompson
- 20 Matt Stoughton, Kyle Hardaway and Wendy Kelly
- 21 Mallory Mixon, Haven Perry and Robert Holt
- 25 Lexe Pickle
- 26 Gary Blackshare and Taylor Darneal
- 27 Ryan Clayburn, Virginia Kidd and Janet DeSpain
- 28 Kimberly Hardaway and Peggy Gartner
- 29 Gerry Roberts, Lillian Green and Debbie Clark
- 30 Tami Holt
- 31 Luke Wheat



## August Anniversaries

- 3 Kyle and Debbie Clark
- 4 Steve and Nancy Clark  
Lloyd and Dana Lee
- 5 Orville and Linda McDonald
- 8 Jim and Jayla Craig
- 12 David and Patty Redhage
- 19 Shannon and Amy Stubbs
- 27 Ken and Susan Hammond
- 30 Blake and Tori White



**New address for Bessie Moreland:  
The Hearth @ Juday Creek  
6330 N. Fir Rd.  
Granger, IN. 46530**

nis Loewen, Keep the Fire Burning.

Mike Linzini, Robert Shearon and a Low Brass Choir shared in worship during July.

On Aug. 4 Nancy Powers will join us again for Special Music. She last sang at our church about a year ago and is a blessing to hear. On Aug. 11, our own “Harper Street Band” a Blue Grass/Dixieland Band featuring David McNair, Bill Lancaster, Robert Huston, Matthew Houston and Steve Clark will join us for Special Music at the regular 10:30 Worship Service.