

The United Methodist News

VOLUME 17 NO. 5

May, 2009

Serving God 116 Years

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



*Mother's Day
 May 10*

**What's
 Inside**

Church Calendar..... 2
 Financial Report 2
 Welcome New Members..... 2
 Birth Announcement..... 2
 Preschool Report..... 2
 Children/Youth..... 3
 Membership Care 3
 Evelyn's Inspiration..... 3
 Correspondence..... 4
 Birthdays, Anniversaries 4

PASTOR TO PEOPLE

I am writing this newsletter just a short time after our Church Conference, a moment like so many others when the congregation reflects on and moves toward her future. For 116 years, this congregation has given thought to how to reach out to more people, to make a difference in the life of the community, and to be a place for worship and fellowship. This conference was a moment to consider such a future and the concept of building a new sanctuary building at the present site was approved overwhelmingly.

The next step in the process is to explore the options necessary to fund the project, which the architect has estimated to be about \$1,600,000. To do so, the Church Council will establish a committee that can be in conversation with local financial institutions, capital campaign fundraising firms, and others as needed. Based upon this group's findings, a recommendation will be made to a future church conference for a financial plan.

I know that there might be some questions unanswered and ideas to be shared. My door is open and I look forward to your continued input and conversation during this process.

Grace & peace,

Greg



REV. GREGORY J. TENER



Congratulations to the Clark Family

Steve and Nancy Clark announce the birth of a new granddaughter, Lyla Jean Clark, born April 14, 2009. She weighed 9 lbs. 10 ozs. and was 21-9/10" long.

Welcome New Members!

Our newest members are Buddy and Pat Shelton and daughters, Tatum and Taryn who joined the church on April 19. We are very happy to have them as part of our church family.

Also on April 19, the Confirmation Class was received into membership. They were Connor Bandy, Connor Wheat and Austin James.

United Methodist Church PRESCHOOL 	By Tracey Gilliam, Preschool Director
---	---

Preschool will be celebrating the end of school with lots of fun activities.

We will be learning about the Fruits of the Spirit, we will be going on a field trip to a farm, and we will be having a water play day.

Graduation celebrations are planned for the last week of school.

Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for March, 2009 2009 Average Attendance Figures for March: 158 2009 Budget Requirements: \$346,911.00 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$6,671.37 Needed through March: \$86,727.81 March Receipts: \$30,050.03 March Expenditures: \$44,264.67

THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS Published by the Communications Committee Carol Baker, Communications Coordinator/Editor FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 109 S. Harper, Poteau, OK 74953 Telephone 918-647-2217 e-mail: rogers2006@windstream.net website: www.poteaufumc.com Sunday School 9:30 – Morning Worship 10:30	
Bishop District Superintendent Pastor Youth & Children's Director Music Director Church Secretary Lead Nursery Attendant Organist Custodian and Door Opener District web page: 222.gbgn-umc.org/mc-dist/	Robert E. Hayes Sanford (Sandy) Wylie Gregory J. Tener Kimberly Hardaway Steve Clark Brenda Ferguson Jayla Craig Wendy Kelly Ted Kilgore



• 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, 4:00 p.m.
 (C.H.A.O.S.), 5:00 p.m.

• MONDAY – THURSDAY •

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

• MONDAY •

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

• TUESDAY •

Cub Scouts, 6:00 p.m., CFLC
 Mission and Purpose Study, 6:15 p.m.,
 (May 5th & 12th in F.H., 19th in J.N. Ross Class)

• WEDNESDAY •

Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.

• FRIDAY •

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

- 3 Pink Basket Day for Maci Pickle, 11:45 a.m.
- Poteau Choir Festival, 6 p.m., First Baptist Church
- 9 UMM Breakfast and Meeting, 8 p.m., CFLC
- 12 Membership Care Committee, 11 a.m., CFLC
- 14 Letters From Dad, 6 p.m., CFLC
- 17 Youth Council Meeting, 11:45 a.m., CFLC
- Bishop Hayes will be at FUMC Wister, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 OSU Extension Center Cooking School, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, CFLC
- 19, 20, 21 Preschool Graduation, 11 a.m., F.H.
- 20 United Methodist Women, 9:30 a.m., CFLC
- 24 Children's Council Meeting, 11:45 p.m., CFLC
- 24 – 28 OK Annual Conference, Oklahoma City
- 31 Worship Service at Oaks Healthcare, 2 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 3 Ben and Judy Curtis
- 10 Frank and Grace Dehart
- 17 Shannon and Amy Stubbs
- 24 Brian and Katie Shore
- 31 Alan and Clyta Ware



LITURGISTS

- 10 Kade McMillin
- 17 Taryn Shelton
- 24 Baleigh Quarry
- 31 Tatum Shelton



MORNING WORSHIP ACOLYTES

- 3 Katie Redhage
- 10 Taryn Shelton
- 17 Kylanna Hardaway
- 24 Lily Shore
- 31 Allison Matos



News of Children and Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway

UMYF (C.H.A.O.S.)

CHAOS meets Sunday evenings and is for all youth in 6th grade thru 12th grade.

May

- 3 C.H.A.O.S. from 5 to 7 p.m.
- 10 Mother's Day - No CHAOS
- 17 Youth Council meeting and luncheon following church
- 17 C.H.A.O.S. from 5 to 7 p.m.
- 24 No meeting
- 27 & 28 - Heifer Ranch Experience (Please sign up by May 13th)
- 31 VBS Mission Night - Help set up VBS at First Christian, 5:00 p.m.

June

- 7 Welcome Night for our incoming 6th graders! 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Wear old play clothes - and be prepared!)

...

30 Hour Famine

Results of our 30 hour famine: We raised \$460 to send to World Vision. We gathered 395 food items equaling about 450 pounds of food for our local food pantry. We increased awareness of poverty and hunger and our need to be involved.

...

Monthly Food Drive

The monthly food drive for the backpacks of food has concluded for the school year. It will resume next August. Thank you for your unceasing generosity.

...

Camp Dates for Summer

Poverty and Justice Event: June 12-14 at Canyon Camp, \$75 (New camp opportunity)

District Camp for 7th-12th: June 15-19, \$180

6th Grade Camp: July 13-17, \$206

3rd - 5th Grade Camp: July 13-15, \$118

1st - 2nd Grade Camp: July 25-26; \$45

Youth Force at Poteau for grades 6th-12th: July 19-24 (Housed at CASC), \$160

The church covers half the cost of all camps for our kids. **ALL CAMP REGISTRATIONS MUST BE IN BY MAY 27.**

...

VBS IS COMING - Are your kids ready to sink their teeth in BIG fun?

Crocodile Dock is filled with incredible Bible-learning that kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the Crocodile Dock activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see God in everyday life - something



we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot! Mark these dates on your calendar: June 1 - 5 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at First Christian Church. Look for registration area set up in the Chapel area of the church.

We are in need of about 48 brown grocery bags for decoration purposes. If you have any, please drop them by the church. Look near the registration area for other ways to help.

Evelyn's Inspiration

By Evelyn White

A Thought for Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Even though times are bad, we need to light our lamp, and clean our chimney, so our light can shine brightly - Shine! Not hidden behind a smoke screen.

Hello dear friends! It is fishing time. Is the fishing pole all rigged with line, hook, and sinker? So there will be fish to fry. My, my, not a bite. What kind of bait were we using? Same as last time? Or fresh live bait? Well . . . I just didn't have a very good week. So just didn't want to go and dig for fresh wigglers or go seine for live minnows . . . I'll just use "artificial bait". Wait, we had better think - no - pray about that! If we are to be Fishers of Men, Women and Children, it is going to take: Whatever is True - and Real - and Alive; and Joy in our relation with God who is always faithful to forgive us each time we ask. Even 70 x 70!

God loves us! Happy Fishin' - I love you!

Evelyn

Membership Care Committee

Meeting Tues., May 12, 11:00 a.m., CFLC

The purpose of the Membership Care Committee is to minister to the needs of those who are in poor health, homebound, or bereaved. The goal is that these persons will experience God's goodness through the kindness of others. We want them to know that they are still connected to the church.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may pick up visitation cards in the Membership Care box in the church office. Just sign the sheet to let us know whom you'll be visiting. Make a phone call, send a card, or visit in the home and brighten someone's day. Visitation cards may be returned to the office, or bring them with you to the next meeting (the 2nd Tuesday of every month). Also, if you know of someone who could benefit from a visit, a phone call, a card, or a prayer shawl, please let us know by calling Kay Thomas (647-3491) or Virginia Stanley (647-2618).

Correspondence



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl, the cards, calls, visits and goodies. It just made my Easter! I am very appreciative of everything. The membership care committee is doing a wonderful job.

Thanks again,
Eloine Crews

First United Methodist Church,

God is good! Thanks to you and many others, Grace Cottage has received \$68,594.74 in pledges and donations to purchase the house. Without individuals, churches and organizations working together to raise these funds, Grace Cottage would not be able to purchase this house and provide for the needs of the young women that we serve. The ability of those in this community to support the ministry of Grace Cottage in this manner affirms to these young women that they matter. It also reaffirms to them that God is at work. Thank you for sharing God's blessings with us.

God Bless,
Nancy Putman

Dear Church Family:

We want to thank you all for your loving support, prayers, cards, donations in Tommy's memory and other acts of kindness and sympathy that you have expressed to us since Dad's recent passing.

Thanks also to everyone who assisted with and participated in the family meal and Memorial Service.

Most of all, we can never thank you all enough for helping to ensure that Dad was able to continue enjoying the wonderful fellowship of the Poteau First United Methodist Church during these last four years. He loved the community of Poteau and he loved his church.

We will miss him dearly!

Love,
Julie and Dennis Rose

Thank you to all who helped during the preparation and presentation of our recent 2nd Annual Religious Art Show. With 34 artists from Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Tennessee, including 15 students from Poteau High School, we felt it was another successful show.

None of this could have been accomplished without the help of the members and friends of the church. You were great and I never cease to be amazed at all you do. If you have any comments or suggestions which you would like to make about this or future art shows, please let me know. I am anxious to hear from you.

Thanks again for your support.

Charles Meek,
Art Show Coordinator

May Birthdays



- 1 Cindy Stoughton
- 2 Kendrick Hardaway
- 3 Jessica Bridgman
- 4 Sarah Mixon
- 5 Steve Clark and Shirley Blackshare
- 6 Ryan Neurohr, Nikole Preston and Mikali Kemp
- 7 Jeff Mixon and Jerry Kemp
- 8 Mandy Wilson and Kennedy Whitefield
- 11 Robert Reed and Libby Bridgman
- 13 Gianna Reid
- 14 Nicholas Roberts
- 15 Tucker Garrett and Austin James
- 19 Jenci Quarry
- 20 Hayley Redhage
- 21 Emily Norgeot
- 22 Rhett Garner
- 25 Burke Perry, Brady Perry, and Cash Balentine
- 26 Kade McMillin and Katie Rust
- 27 Freda Ogle and Kawika Santos
- 28 Joey Hall
- 30 Charley Clark, Daz DeCamp, Cora Rolens, Ben Sumerford and Warrick Quarry

May Anniversaries

- 4 Will and Kela Miller
- 14 Jim and Ruth Ann DeCamp
Pete and Susan Norgeot
- 15 Jerry and Mary Ford
- 19 David and Lisa Barnes
- 20 Chad and Jennifer Cravens
- 22 Greg and Judy Tener
- 24 Scott and Jennifer Miller
- 28 Jerry and Jan Thompson
- 29 Bob and Deanna Reed
- 31 Jarrod and Alison Garrett

