

# The United Methodist News

VOLUME 20 NO. 3

MARCH, 2012

SERVING GOD 118 YEARS

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



**What's Inside**

Church Calendar.....2  
 Finance Report .....2  
 Children and Youth .....3  
 Correspondence .....3  
 Preschool Report.....4  
 Women of Faith.....4  
 Birthdays, Anniversaries .....4

## **PASTOR TO PEOPLE**

Author and retreat leader, J. Francis Stroud, shares this real-life story that occurred in the same time frame of writing one of his books. At the end of a workshop that taught participants to practice three-minute meditations for spiritual growth, a young woman approached Stroud. He noticed she looked about six months pregnant. She commented that she practiced the form of meditation that he was teaching.

She told him that a very religious aunt lived with her and would sit with a very large prayer book on her lap. The aunt would complain, "With all the running around you do, cleaning the house, caring for the children, preparing meals, when do you ever get time to pray?"

So this young woman told the very religious aunt, "I pray when I go into the shower and I focus my attention on my breath, the sounds of the water cascading from the spigot hitting the floor, the sensations I feel as the warm water runs down my back, and so forth."

When she finished her answer, the very religious aunt, with the large prayer book on her lap exclaimed, "You mean you pray naked!"

Stroud titled his next book, *Praying Naked*.

That story is symbolic of the season of Lent. During this season of reflection and preparation for the Easter celebration, we can stand before God stripped down. We can let go of our possessions and pretense, our egos and our fears. This is a time to stand before God, and with humility and trust, recognize and receive the love of God.

My hope is that the Lenten journey draws us closer to God and neighbor.

Grace and peace,



**REV. DR. GREGORY J. TENER**

# MARCH CHURCH CALENDAR

**WORSHIP BULLETIN DEADLINE:**

*10 a.m. each Thursday*

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**

*Third Friday of each month*

**• SUNDAY •**

**Weekly Communion, 9:10 a.m., Sanctuary**

(Except on first Sunday of the month)

**UMYF (CHAOS), 5 p.m.**

**7-Week Study: A Disciple's Path, 5 p.m.,  
Family Room**

**• MONDAY •**

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

**Boy Scouts, 7 p.m., CFLC**

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

**• TUESDAY •**

**Cub Scouts, 6 p.m., CFLC**

**Treble Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.**

**• WEDNESDAY •**

**LOGOS, 3:15 p.m.**

**Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.**

**A Praying Life, 6:15 p.m., Family Room**

**Rev. Alba's Hispanic Bible Study, 7 p.m.**

**• THURSDAY •**

**Senior Café, 10:00 - 12:30, CFLC**

**Girl Scouts, 4:00 p.m.**



	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
M					1	2	3
A							
R	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C							
H	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
2							
0	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1							
2	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 2 Women of Faith Day Group, 8 a.m. - 12 noon, World Day of Prayer, Sanctuary
- 5 Women of Faith Meeting and Luncheon, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., CFLC
- 6 Missions Committee Meeting, 5:15 p.m., CFLC
- 10 UMM Breakfast and Meeting, 8 a.m., CFLC
- 12 A Disciple's Path Study, 5 p.m., Family Room
- 15 Long Range Planning Committee Meeting, 5:15 p.m., CFLC
- 21 Membership Care Committee, 1 p.m., CFLC
- 17 Free Neighborhood Breakfast, 8 to 10, CFLC
- 26 Women on Fire, 5:30 p.m.
- 29 Board of Trustees Meeting, 5:15 p.m., CFLC

## MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 4 Jerry and Mary Ford
- 11 Lloyd and Dana Lee
- 18 Marvin and Janet DeSpain
- 25 Jerry and Phyllis Kemp



## LITURGISTS

- 11 Adult Reader
- 18 Kayla Alexander
- 25 Adult Reader



## ACOLYTES

- 4 Angela Price and Tabitha Zabala
- 11 Jessa Craig and Versile Johnson
- 18 Aiden Alexander and Luke Wheat
- 25 Jaydon Bandy and Baleigh Quarry



### ***Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for January 2012***

2012 Average Attendance Figures for January: 182  
 2012 Budget Requirements: \$397,000.00  
 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$7,634.62  
 Needed through January: \$30,538.48  
 January Receipts: \$52,701.26  
 January Expenditures: \$47,278.09  
***New Building Fund Figures:***  
 Deposits: \$1,102,223.66  
 Expenditures: \$2,557,931.81

### 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 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
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. Dr. Gregory J. Tener</b>
<b>Associate Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. Obed Alba</b>
<b>Youth &amp; Children's Director</b>	<b>Kimberly Hardaway</b>
<b>Music Director</b>	<b>Steve Clark</b>
<b>Church Secretary</b>	<b>Brenda Ferguson</b>
<b>Lead Nursery Attendant</b>	<b>Jayla Craig</b>
<b>Organist</b>	<b>Wendy Kelly</b>
<b>Custodian and Door Opener</b>	<b>Joe Powers</b>

District web page: [www.gbmg-umc.org/mc-dist/](http://www.gbmg-umc.org/mc-dist/)



# News of Children and Youth

By Kimberly Hardaway

UMYF (CHAOS) meets Sunday evenings and is for all youth 6th through 12th grade.

The schedule is as follows:

**MARCH**

- 4 CHAOS 5 to 7 p.m.; Meal: Holley Ambriz
- 11 Bonfire and Star Gazing at Hammonds, 5 to 8 p.m. Meet at church for ride.
- 18 No meeting - Spring Break Trips
- 25 No meeting - Spring Break Trips

**APRIL**

- 1 CHAOS 5 to 7 p.m.; Meal: Liz and Nikki Perry

• • •

**LOGOS**

**LOGOS** is from 3:30 until 6 p.m. for K through 8th grade on Wednesdays. Dinner is option for preschool if a parent or family member stays and eats with them. There is an option for snack at 3:15.

Themes for the month:

**MARCH**

- 7 Night at the Diner
- 14 Legos LOGOS
- 21 No LOGOS - Spring Break
- 28 All Around the World

**APRIL**

- 4 Easter

Lead in Worship: Preschool Choir will sing March 11th during worship.

**LOGOS Spotlight on Volunteers:  
Behind the Scenes**

Many people work behind the scenes each week to make LOGOS ready for the children. They work faithfully each week at various jobs to ensure LOGOS will happen and will be welcoming. They are the following:

Dining Hall Decorators – Katie Shore and Randee Hallmark; Henry and Rozelle Hardaway; Sheri Zabala and Rose Price.

Table Setters – Debbie Drew, Reedy Gothard, and Artie Stivers.

Dinner Dean – Kim Hardaway

Van Drivers – Ted Kilgore and Shanna Johnson.

Carpool Drivers – Eunice Alba, Jayla Craig, Lindsay Murray, Rose Price, Melanie Wheat, Dana Wheat and Sheri Zabala.

Bookkeeper and Registration – Kay Thomas.

• • •

**SUMMER CAMPS**

There are a lot of camp opportunities this summer. Find one that fits your schedule and needs and let Kim Hardaway know so you can get enrolled as quickly as possible! Camp costs range so go to <http://www.okumc.org/camp> to see more information (or you can ask Kim Hardaway).

Camp dates for this summer:

District Camp for 7th-12th: June 11-15 (Kim will be working at this camp.)

7th-8th grade Wilderness Camp: June 14-20

6th Grade Camp: June 18-22

JEM Middle School Leadership Camp: June 18-22. (Pastor Greg will be working at this camp.)

3rd-5th Grade Camp: June 20-22

High School Trek in Rocky Mtn. National Park: June 20-26 (Limited enrollment)

1st-2nd Grade Camp: June 23-24 or July 14-15

High School Lay Speaking Camp: July 2-6

Youth Force Mission Work Camp for grades 7th-12th: July 22-27 (Kim will be working at this camp.) This camp is based out of Okmulgee First Methodist Church.

High School Trek in Minnesota Boundary waters: July 20-Aug. 6. (Limited enrollment)

The church covers half the cost of camp for each attendee.



## Correspondence

Words are inadequate to describe how we feel about our church family. Thank you for the cards, calls, the love offering, and especially your prayers for us. We are so blessed to be a part of the Poteau United Methodist Church family. Thank you so much and may God continue his blessings on you and yours.

Lloyd and Dana Lee

United Methodist Church

**PRESCHOOL**

By  
Tracey Gilliam,  
Preschool  
Director

The classes at Preschool in March will be learning about the Weather, Outer Space and Spring. The letters we will focus on are T, U, and V. The classes will continue to work on their phone numbers and review numbers 1 – 10. The colors are yellow and green and the shape is the clover.

Preschool enrollment for the next school year, 2012-2013, begins this month. Children must be three and potty-trained by September 1st to attend the two-day program. Children must be potty-trained and turn four by the end of December to attend the four-day program.

Contact the Preschool at 918-647-2217 or Tracey Gilliam at 918-839-7424 for more information.

### United Methodist Women of Faith

The Women of Faith are planning on having a meeting March 5th. We have missed a couple of meetings due to weather and members being sick. The upcoming meeting will be in the FLC at the church at 10 and there will be a light lunch. Some members have said they would like to have the meetings earlier. Our group has some upcoming events that we need to talk about and plan.

Our group has been asked to host the McAlester District Meeting at our church. We will have ladies from churches in the McAlester District come for different sessions on faith renewal, networking and information about the function of United Methodist Women in the Church. Registration will start at 9:00 on April 21 at the church entrance. Sessions usually last until 3:00 with breaks and lunch, usually \$5.00. The number of women last year was 89. I feel more will attend for they would like to see our new church. A planning meeting will be held in the Family Life Center March 10th with lunch included. If you can come to this meeting let me know. Our UMW theme for this year is WALK WITH WHOLENESS.

The Women of Faith will be having a World Day of Prayer March 2 at the church. It will start at 8:00 and end at 12:00. Please come and

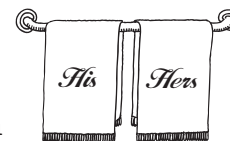
## March Birthdays

- 1 Tommy Clark, Jan Thompson and Ryker Holt
- 2 Jeff Roberts, Sarah Bradshaw and Josh Graham
- 3 Carol Garner and Mollie Forsberg
- 5 Janet Sockey, Maci Pickle and Jim Coggins
- 6 Jeff Shore and Jake McMillin
- 8 Daniel Ambriz
- 9 Samantha Stoughton and Matthew Houston
- 12 Dalton James
- 13 Bailey Baker, Kelsey Robinson and Dee Carsello
- 14 Todd Wright and Jean-Ann Shankle
- 16 Connor Wheat and Shannon Stubbs
- 18 Mike Lee, Tim Renfro, Jacob Sconyers and Gaytra Coggins
- 22 Joseph Sabatucci, Jr.
- 23 David Barnes
- 24 Carol Baker, Susan England, Debbie Wood and Carol Darrow
- 25 Bob Greenwood, Wayne Moore, Joshua Sconyers, Nathan Murray and Heather Robinson
- 26 Hank Harris and Robert Greenwood, Jr.
- 29 Coni McCarver and Mike Murray
- 31 Barbara Owens



## March Anniversaries

- 12 Mike and Kay Sullivan  
Jim and Gaytra Coggins
- 17 Jeremy and Kaycee Quarry  
Jason and Kelie Bandy
- 18 Jim and Andrea Skelton
- 21 Bill and Sandra Slater
- 22 Gary and Artheia Hageman
- 27 Ted and Jane Kilgore
- 30 Jack and Jane Hammond



pray with us. We do need ladies to sign up to be greeters. Please let Dorothy James or myself know if you can help.

The Women of Faith have local missions and support missions all over the world. But UMW's main purpose is to support missions of the world and locally. Our group now has purchased two new large cookers, mops and brooms for the kitchens.

We also have had some requests from the Crisis Center, and some needing school supplies and clothes.

Prayers for health,

Mary Ann Ford, UMW President