

The United Methodist News

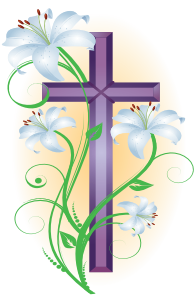
VOLUME 22 NO. 4

APRIL, 2014

SERVING GOD 121 YEARS

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

This month marks
121 years of our
church serving
God in this
community.



Happy
Easter!

See the church
calendar inside for
Easter activities

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PASTOR TO PEOPLE

Resurrection

Bishop Will Willimon tells about a conversation with a student during his days as dean of Duke University's School of Theology, in which he asked the student to summarize the gospel in a few words.

The student responded, "...in the Bible, it gets dark, then it gets very, very dark, then Jesus shows up!"

That's a wonderful summary but I would add that Jesus does more than just show up; he shows up for us!

I am reminded of the words from my favorite Psalm:

*Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
If I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
If I settle on the far side of the sea,
Even there your hand will guide me,
Your right hand will hold me fast.*

Psalm 139: 7-10 (NIV)

You see, the Good News is that there never has been nor will there ever be a time in which we are not in God's hands.

One of the most vivid affirmations to this fact, for me, occurred a few years ago as I was visiting a long time, faithful member of the church as he lay dying, his death only a few days away. Malcolm was telling me about his faith in Jesus and the absence of fear. It was one of those moments that didn't really need a response but I opened my mouth anyway. I don't remember exactly what I said to him but it was probably something like, "It's good that we can all have hope that our future is in God's hands." Whether he knew it or not, Malcolm's response proved to be a profound teaching moment to a young preacher.

"I'm not hopeful because of what I believe about the future," he said. "I'm hopeful because of what I've experienced in the past. I've made mistakes, strayed away from Jesus more than once. And every time He's found a way to get to me, He's looked for me, even when I wasn't looking for him. I don't think He'll let a little thing like death keep Him from lov-

(Continued on page 2)

REV. KYLE CLARK

PASTOR TO PEOPLE (Continued)

ing me like that.”

I may have been the one that had completed years of theological education and had the degree in Divinity, but this man was the one who most clearly understood Easter .

The Good News is that the story continues, by God’s grace. That’s what Jesus, the risen Savior does. He comes to us, comes back to us, keeps coming back to us – again and again and again - even those of us who betray Him and disappoint Him repeatedly. He finds us, grabs us, embraces us, holds onto us, and refuses to let us go. This is what the resurrection is and means for us! This Easter my prayer for you all is that you may experience this and know this great love that can only come because He Is Risen!

Shalom,



Kyle



Please get on the church email list if not on already! Email us at rogers2006@windstream.net. You will receive announcements and information that might not be in the newsletter.

Poteau F.U.M.C. Report for February 2014

Average Attendance Figures for February: 132
 2014 Budget Requirements: \$400,000.00
 Needed for Budget Each Week: \$7,692.31
 Needed through February: \$69,230.79
 February Receipts: \$23,069.23
 February Expenditures: \$33,241.78
New Building Fund Figures:
 Deposits: \$1,647,668.94
 Expenditures: \$2,578,657.93

THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS

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Carol Baker, Editor

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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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
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
Administrative Assistant	Reenea Thompson
Lead Nursery Attendant	Jayla Craig
Organist	Wendy Kelly
Custodian and Door Opener	Jason Dering

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



APRIL CHURCH CALENDAR

Worship Bulletin Deadline: 10 a.m. Thursday
Newsletter Deadline: Third Friday of month

• **SUNDAY** •

UMYF (CHAOS), 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

• **MONDAY** •

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

• **TUESDAY** •

Cub Scouts, 6 p.m., CFLC
Boy Scouts, 7 p.m., CFLC
Treble Choir Rehearsal, 6:30, Choir Room

• **WEDNESDAY** •

LOGOS, 3:30 - 6 p.m., CFLC
Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Women’s Bible Study, 6:15 p.m., Conf. Rm.

• **THURSDAY** •

Senior Café, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., CFLC
Girl Scouts, 4:00 p.m., CFLC

• **FRIDAY** •

Church office closes at noon

- 9 LOGOS Family Night Dinner and Program
- 14 Trustee Meeting, 6 p.m., Conference Rm.
- 16 Membership Care, 1 p.m., CFLC
- Women’s Bible Study (Last one until Fall)
- 16 Dress Rehearsal for Living Lord’s Supper Drama, 6:15 p.m.
- 17 Living Lord’s Supper Drama, 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Church office closed for Good Friday
- Youth 30-Hour Famine until Saturday a.m.
- 19 Neighborhood Free Breakfast, CFLC
- 20 Easter Sunday! Egg hunt for the children following morning worship
- 26 Annual Pancake Breakfast to benefit the Free Clinic, 6 to 10 a.m., CFLC

MORNING WORSHIP GREETERS

- 6 Mike and Linda Lee
- 13 Charles and Marilyn Meek
- 20 Don Baetz and David McNair
- 27 David and Patty Redhage



ACOLYTES

- 6 Nathan Murray and Wyatt Holt
- 13 Daniel Ambriz and Kylanina Hardaway
- 20 Benny Werner and Kanaan Hardaway
- 27 Katie Redhage and Demi Gilliam



From Tracy's Desk

By Tracy Hoskins

Director of Children and Family Ministries
thoskins@poteaufumc.com

Children's Ministry LOGOS Family Night – April 9

Everyone is invited to join us for burgers in true LOGOS fashion from 5 to 6 p.m. in the CFLC. Stay for the Children's musical, Camp Wise-n-up, at 6:30 in the sanctuary

Please RSVP to Tracy Hoskins regarding the meal.

Easter Egg Hunt

Our Easter Egg Hunt is just around the corner and we are in need of small individually wrapped candy to fill our eggs. Please bring the candy to the church office by April 16th. Thank you all for your generosity!

Toddlers through 5th grade will hunt on April 20 after worship service.

Bring your baskets and let's have some fun!

Sunday School Achievement Tree

This month some apples were added to the tree for attendance and bringing a Bible to Sunday School:

Congratulations
Kourtney Dering
Lexie Pickle
Journy Dering
Maci Pickle

Summer Events:

Vacation Bible School: June 2 – 6, 2014

District Camps: At Camp Egan - SonShine grades 1-2; Growin' in Grace grades 3-5; and T'weens Discover, grade 6.

Music Camp: Kindergarten and up

Day Camps: Three themed camps to grow children in God's Love, Pre-K through 5th grade.

For more information about any of these activities, contact Tracy Hoskins 918-647-2217 or thoskins@poteaufumc.com

Women's Bible Study

The final Women's Bible Study will be April 16th. We will start a new study in the fall.

I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go.

– Abraham Lincoln



Cards of Thanks

Dear Rev. Kyle Clark and members of First United Methodist Church

Thank you so much for your kindness and hospitality! We enjoyed our visit to your church and appreciate the opportunity to sing for you. You have a beautiful sanctuary and the acoustics were something special. We would love to return someday. May God richly bless you.

The Sterling College Chorale
Spring Tour 2014

To My Church Family:

I've enjoyed the Christmas cards so much. Every one who took the time to share, you are a blessing.

God bless you all,
Ruth Ann DeCamp

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:

- 6 Regular Meeting
- 13 Regular Meeting
- 20 Easter Sunday (Youth hide eggs during Sunday School) Donations of individually wrapped candy for the eggs appreciated.
- 27 Regular Meeting

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30-Hour Famine

April 18 - 19

Friday evening to Saturday morning

Our youth fast, do community service, and educate themselves about hunger and poverty for 30 hours.

This year's theme is "Release the Feast" based on Luke 14:15-24

30-Hour Famine is in conjunction with World Vision. 30-Hour Famine's motto is "Students loving God and fighting hunger."

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Summer Camps

Camp forms are here! Camps are for rising seventh graders through graduating seniors. The following is offered:

Youth Force (\$75) June 8 – 13 at OKC. Please sign up by May 4th with Kim Hardaway.

District Camp June 23-27 at Camp Egan. Please sign up by June 1st.

Contact Kim for additional information.

Living Lord's Supper

The annual Living Lord's Supper Drama will be Maundy Thursday, April 17th at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Thirteen men of our church portray Jesus and the disciples at the Last Supper.

Come and experience this unique dramatization.



Easter Lilies

If you would like to provide an Easter lily for the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please have it delivered on Thursday, April 17th.

If it is in honor or in memory of someone, give that information to the church office and it will be listed in the worship bulletin.

Remember – If you would like to provide wrapped candy for the children's Easter Egg Hunt, drop it off at the church office by April 16th. Thank you.

United Methodist Church

PRE-SCHOOL



By

**Tracey Gilliam,
Preschool Director**

April showers bring May flowers. Preschool students will be learning about many things in April. The students will learn about weather, animals that change, Easter, people from other places, and how seeds grow.

They will also finish learning the alphabet. The letters of the month are V, W, X, Y and Z. The oval is the shape and the colors are black and gray. April's memory verse is "Sing praises to the Lord."

Preschool pre-enrollment for the upcoming school year 2014-2015 will be held on April 8th between 5 and 7 p.m. in the Preschool rooms. If you need more information call Tracey Gilliam at 918-839-7424 or the church at 918-647-2217 between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Anyone who knows of someone who would benefit from a prayer shawl, whether a church member or not, should call Cindy Brody at 918-385-1542 or the church office at 647-2217.

April Birthdays

- 1 Janell Darneal
- 3 April Remy
- 4 Dorthea Sue O'Neal
- 5 Kendy Jo Traywick and Nathan Clark
- 6 Rece Ward and Haley Clark
- 7 Dana Wheat and Bill Lancaster
- 10 Jaxon Bradshaw and Jace Bandy
- 11 Drew DeCamp
- 12 Rachel Ware
- 13 Chad Bridges and Ted Bandy
- 14 Jean Whigham and Cindy Woolbright
- 15 Brian Shore and Kylanna Hardaway
- 16 Pat Shelton and Myrna Davis
- 18 Ron Cofer, Wayne Neuharth, Lily Shore and Kay Thomas
- 19 Melissa Reyes, Katie Cox, and Joshua Mixon
- 20 Brandon Fruen, Jaimie Downing and Dustin Green
- 22 Melissa Ward
- 23 Marilyn Meek
- 24 Khia Brookfield
- 26 Ashley Plumlee
- 27 Katie Redhage and Laurie Bandy
- 29 Kody Whitehead, Dorothy James and Kyle Clark



April Anniversaries

- 9 Gary and Linda Brown
- 11 Charlie and Katie Rust
- 11 Hank and Barbara Harris
- 18 Keith and Patty Wright
- 24 Bruce and Carol Darrow
- 28 Preston and Laney Plumlee
- 29 John and Nikki Perry



Volunteers Needed for the Annual Pancake Breakfast Benefit

Mark your calendars for April 26th, for the Pancake Breakfast Benefit for the Christian Free Clinic.

We are now recruiting folks to help sell tickets, cook, clean, and serve. This is a great mission project for our whole church to be involved in to help our community. We will have sign-up sheets at Sunday Worship and at the church office. See Randy Matos, David Barnes, or Lloyd Lee for more information.

The United Methodist Men have supported this effort for 25 years. It has outgrown the manpower of the UMM. We are now calling on all church members to assist with this great mission project of helping others.